

**Grand Bargain in 2021:**  
**Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary**

**Name of Institution:** AECID (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation).

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(NB. Please limit your answer to no more than **4 pages in total** – anything over this word limit will not be considered. Please respond to all of the questions below.)

### **Grand Bargain in 2021**

**Question 1: Reflecting on the information you have provided in the Excel spreadsheet, please highlight the 2 or 3 key outcomes or results relating to the Grand Bargain that your institution achieved in 2021?**

Keeping last year's good pace, we have continued enhancing our localization and unearmarking efforts. We have started distinguishing and keeping track of full and soft earmarking. Furthermore, as explained in question 4, Spain has made renewed efforts to maintain its commitment with gender mainstreaming and gender equality. Finally, we have continued with the implementation of the Single Form to simplify the reporting process.

**Question 2: Briefly explain how the outcomes contribute to achieving the Grand Bargain 2.0 enabling priority 1 (quality funding).**

*Enabling priority 1: A critical mass of quality funding is reached that allows an effective and efficient response, ensuring visibility and accountability.*

*(For ease of reference, see Senior Officials Meeting recommendations [here](#).)*

As stated in the spreadsheet, our actions have guided us to full compliance with the Grand Bargain commitments in terms of unearmarking and localization. This is in line with recommendations 1 and 3 of the Senior Officials Meeting on June 2021. We have also followed recommendation 4, as almost 10% of our funds have been allocated to Country-based pooled funds and the IFRC DERF. Apart from these, the vast majority of funds are awarded to multipurpose regional or country appeals, or NGO-identified projects that leave our partners at the centre of the decision-making and spending process, therefore granting efficiency when spending our funds. We still have room for improvement in terms of multi-year planning although our improvement has been limited by legal constraints.

**Question 3: Briefly explain how the outcomes contribute to achieving the Grand Bargain 2.0 enabling priority 2 (localisation and participation).**

*Enabling priority 2: Greater support is provided for the leadership, delivery and capacity of local responders and the participation of affected communities in addressing humanitarian needs.*

The Spanish humanitarian office considers crucial to allocate funds as direct as possible to ensure a local perspective when talking local needs. Both our grants and multi-year agreements include localization requisites to different extents.

Our emphasis on localization has pushed partners to put us in contact with local NGOs so we can directly allocate funds. This is working particularly well in the Occupied Territories, with especial emphasis on youth, women and girls.

### **Grand Bargain and cross-cutting issues**

**Question 4: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment<sup>1</sup> in humanitarian settings through its implementation of the Grand Bargain? What results/outcomes have been achieved in this regard? (Please outline specific initiatives or changes in practice and their outcomes/results).** Please refer to the Guidelines for definitions of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, which are included in this self-report template package.

Spain is firmly committed to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in humanitarian action, and their protection from gender based violence. This commitment is included in the Spanish Development Cooperation's Humanitarian Action Strategy (2019-2026).

In addition, in 2021 our Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation has published, the "Feminist Foreign Policy Guide" which also includes the need to apply a feminist approach in humanitarian action. Furthermore, gender mainstreaming is a requirement in all our humanitarian forms in order to access funding. In addition, working with local entities is encouraged.

We have adopted the IASC and ECHO gender markers and through their use and systematisation of data we can be held accountable for the implementation of our national and international commitments.

In 2021, Spain has financed vertical gender projects for an amount of €2.7M, and interventions that effectively mainstream gender for an amount of €24.9M.

In february 2021, Spain organized a workshop on Cash and vouchers transfer program. Due to the importance of the potential impact of the use of cash transfers on gender equality, this workshop included a round table aimed at discussing the progress and challenges of gender mainstreaming in this aid modality.

In May 2021, Spain organised, together with the Institute for Studies on Conflict and Humanitarian Action (IECAH), a specialisation Workshop: "Feminist Agenda in Humanitarian Action" The aim of the workshop was to open a space for reflection on opportunities and challenges of humanitarian action with a feminist

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to the IASC definitions of gender equality and women empowerment, available [here](#).

approach. Experts in gender and humanitarian action from all ac attended the workshop from decentralised Spanish cooperation, NGOs and UN agencies.

In terms of women's empowerment, we have funded a project, together with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to strengthen gender equality in this organisation. The objective is promote specifically women's access to and retention in leadership positions in Red Cross emergency response in the Americas, given the low presence of women in leadership positions in disaster response operations.

**Question 5: How has the humanitarian-development nexus been strategically mainstreamed in your institutional implementation of the Grand Bargain commitments?** Please explain how your institution has linked commitments 10.1 - 10.5 with other commitments from other workstreams.

The Humanitarian-development nexus is a priority of both the Spanish Cooperation Director plan as well as the Spanish Humanitarian Strategy 2019-2026.

The nexus approach is still in process of being fully mainstreamed throughout all AECID's work. We have studied the possibility of creating several pilot countries such as Niger or Colombia to start with partial nexus programming. In the former, joint programing has resulted in financing a development fund for food security that redirects funds in case of humanitarian emergencies. In the latter, refugees and displaced people have benefitted from this joint programing as development and humanitarian allocations to IMO, UNHCR and OHCHR have guaranteed a nexus approach to their needs. Apart from these, the conditions of some other contexts, such as Afghanistan, have demanded full coordination between humanitarian and development approaches.

The humanitarian office is also focusing on promoting Disaster Risk reduction, anticipatory action and nature based solutions as approaches with strong nexus considerations.

**Question 6: Has your institution taken any steps towards improving risk sharing with its partners? If so, please describe how.** *(For ease of reference, please see a set of actions to enhance risk sharing as suggested in the Netherlands and the ICRC [Statement on risk sharing](#).)*<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> During the 2021 Annual meeting and in consultation leading up to this Signatories have expressed a strong interest in advancing the risk-sharing agenda. As communicated, the Netherlands, ICRC and InterAction are in the process of setting up a Risk Sharing Platform. This work will benefit greatly from an inventory of Signatories' risk-sharing practices.