

Grand Bargain in 2020:
Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary

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(NB. Please limit your answer to no more than **3 pages in total** – anything over this word limit will not be considered by ODI in their analysis. Please respond to all of the questions below.)

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 2019?

Firstly, the publication in March 2019 of Spain's new Strategy for Humanitarian Action 2019-2026¹ was a milestone for our humanitarian aid. This Strategy was drafted from a multilateral perspective, including Grand Bargain commitments amongst its key priorities, namely: resilience and the humanitarian-development nexus, localization, cash-based transfer assistance, gender equality and participation.

Secondly, Spain is presiding over OCHA's donor support group (ODSG) from July 2019 to June 2020. We have taken the opportunity to promote some of the Grand Bargain issues from our position at the head of this strategic group.

Amongst some of the priorities of our chairmanship are the following: ensuring robust synergies with humanitarian boards, and other coordination mechanisms to avoid duplication and to optimize messaging and advocacy; mainstreaming gender in humanitarian action; supporting OCHA to strengthen the humanitarian program cycle, particular enhancement awareness on its work on emergency preparedness response, promoting OCHA's tools and mechanisms, while reinforcing local and regional capacities; or promoting coordination among donors, ensuring predictable, multi-year funding commitments and exploring innovative financing mechanisms. All of them are in line with Grand Bargain commitments.

Thirdly, in terms of working on nexus implementation, AECID participated actively in the process which led to the approval of the DAC Recommendation on Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus; it forms part of the INCAF working group on implementation of the Nexus. We are also having internal discussions and reflections on the possibility to create some national pilot projects in countries where we have humanitarian and development presence.

Question 2: Please explain how the outcomes/results have or will lead to long-term institutional changes in policy and/or practice.

Spain's Strategy for Humanitarian Action 2019-2026 will guide our aid in the next 6 years. This time will allow us to work on the long term, reflecting on structural issues, and will enable the consolidation of humanitarian action as a State policy, agreed by consensus with all national humanitarian actors.

¹ <http://www.aecid.es/Centro-Documentacion/Documentos/Divulgacion/Comunicacion/EAH%20CE%202019-2026.pdf>

Spain is also reviewing some of its partnership agreements with international organizations willing to simplify and harmonise some of the procedures and management costs (e.g. World Food Program; or the International Federation of the Red Cross). This exercise will render our relationship with these organisations easier and more efficient.

In 2019, Spain allocated 29% of its total humanitarian funding to unearmarked contributions (2.5 percentage points of it was allocated through softly earmarked contributions), which constitutes an important increase from 22% in 2018 and 15.07% in 2017.

Question 3: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment² 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.

As the chairman of OCHA's donor support group, Spain is prioritizing in his work plan the strengthening of gender needs assessments in the Humanitarian project cycle as well as the Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs).

Moreover, in terms of localization, Spain regularly defends in humanitarian fora that the voice of local women's associations should always be present in the interventions. In this sense, the participation of local women's organizations is a criterion taken into account when selecting projects from AECID's call for humanitarian proposals.

Finally, another noteworthy good practice is that AECID funded two multi-year protection/gender-based violence interventions across humanitarian action and development. This help out aid to work on the nexus as well as the strengthening of multi-year aid.

Question 4: 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.

Spain's Strategy for Humanitarian Action 2019-2026 set a commitment on promoting common analyses between humanitarian and development actors in fragile settings and the drafting of common response plans for chronic crises. This is a clear point that strategically guides our work on this issue.

² Refer to the IASC definitions of gender equality and women empowerment, available [here](#).

There is increased awareness in various units in headquarters and field about the importance of having a Nexus approach. It was an integral topic in the course sponsored by the Humanitarian Office on Humanitarian Action in which staff from many units participated.

One important result is that we have integrated analysis related to humanitarian action and development in Spain's methodology for country framework agreements.

Another significant step forward was the elaboration of an internal position paper on the nexus that seeks to bring together several units from the Agency to convene on some pilot countries where we can implement nexus projects. We are currently working on the plan to implement the recommendations of this internal position paper with the idea