

Grand Bargain in 2019:
Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary

Name of Institution: AECID (Spain)

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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 2018.

The Master Plan for the Spanish Cooperation 2018-2021 includes for the first time GB principles that must inspire our humanitarian response.

At the same time, one of the latest deliverables for the Spanish cooperation in relation to the Grand Bargain has been the publication in March 2019 of its new Humanitarian Strategy 2019-2026¹.

The Strategy has been 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.

Thirdly, in 2018, AECID appointed three focal points for some of the main areas of work of the Grand Bargain: humanitarian-development nexus, aid localization and cash-based transfers. This was part of a major effort to rationalize and consolidate our internal reflections and work on these issues.

In this framework, AECID has also drafted three internal position papers on these areas in order to reflect on the main challenges, objectives and lines of work that Spanish aid has in these fields.

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

The new Spanish Humanitarian Strategy for 2019-2026 intends to consolidate the humanitarian action as a State policy, agreed by consensus with all national humanitarian actors.

Since many of the GB commitments require a sustainable and continuous action, our Strategy will help us reflect on challenges in the long term, obliging us to strive in achieving our commitments.

Another noteworthy line of work has been the organization of training sessions targeting the Spanish humanitarian community on some of the main GB commitments and workstreams. In 2018, AECID held several training sessions on cash-based transfers, humanitarian-development nexus or gender, granting NGOs, experts and our staff specific know-how to work on a daily basis for the implementation of the Grand Bargain.

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

Spain has also been very involved on efficiency and accountability in the humanitarian sector. In this sense, AECID funded in 2017 and 2018 specific training sessions on the Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) and the new Sphere Guidelines for the Spanish humanitarian community and civil society.

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.*

Although Spain and the Spanish humanitarian action prioritize gender aspects as one of their priorities in foreign policy and international cooperation, AECID has carried out so far a limited follow-up of the work carried out by the "Gendering the Grand Bargain" group.

However, this year this work was analyzed for the first time and we consider it would be necessary to develop specific guidelines on how to mainstream gender in the various GB commitments.

In any case, we point out in our report some good practices that AECID is developing in terms of gender mainstreaming in the GB workstreams.

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.*

The Master Plan for the Spanish Cooperation 2018-21³ includes resilience as an overall and cross-cutting objective.

Secondly, the new Humanitarian Strategy 2019-2026 includes humanitarian-development nexus as a central part of one of its strategic priorities. Indeed, the Strategy sets noteworthy commitments on this area such as the promotion of common analyses between humanitarian and development actors in fragile settings and the drafting of common response plans for chronic crises.

Also, an internal position paper on the humanitarian-development nexus was finalized by AECID, which will be a corner stone for our work on the area from a practical point of view. AECID is currently planning to implement the

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

³

<http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Portal/es/SalaDePrensa/ElMinisterioInforma/Documents/V%20Plan%20Director%20de%20la%20Cooperacio%CC%81n%20Espan%CC%83ola.pdf>

recommendations of this position paper on a pilot basis in several countries. AECID has also drafted a reflection paper on humanitarian aid and SDG to better comprehend linkages between these two agendas.

On the other hand, the unit in charge of development policies within our Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also released in 2018 a document on resilience guidelines⁴ for the Spanish cooperation which will be very useful from a policy perspective.

Finally, there have been several initiatives within AECID to link humanitarian assistance and development in various contexts, for instance with regards to the issue of migration or DRR which are overall priorities.

⁴ https://www.cooperacionespanola.es/sites/default/files/directrices_resiliencia_cooperacion_espanola.pdf