

SPAIN

1. Measures to accelerate progress towards the MDGs by 2015

The Third Master Plan of Spanish Cooperation (2009-2012) was designed with the aim to help partner countries to achieve the MDGs and to ensure that all Spanish policies are consistent with this goal. To accelerate progress towards the MDGs, Spanish co-operation has made efforts to become more effective, to work on areas in which it has a comparative advantage, and to choose its partners strategically and with a focus on eradicating poverty. Spanish co-operation has mainly focused on developing partnerships, on multilateral cooperation, policy coherence for development, citizens' education for development, and research and innovation for development.

2. Changes in development policy, and what drives them:

In light of the MDG progress reports, the economic crisis and demands from development partners, Spanish cooperation has re-focused its efforts on food security, climate change and sustainable economic growth. It contributes actively to the debate on the reform of Global Economic Governance. At the same time, the Spanish government remains firmly committed to continuing its work on health, gender equality and education.

3. Measures to increase the predictability of aid

To ensure predictability of bilateral funding, Spain's four-year co-operation agreements with partner countries list all the resources that the partner country are likely to receive during that period, and are revised every year in a bilateral meeting.

Most recently, Spain has made efforts to enhance the predictability of its multilateral co-operation. Its new multilateral strategy sets up two mechanisms to that effect: (1) multi-annual budgetary planning with a) baselines and indicators for the allocation of funds; b) an explanation of how the criteria defined in the multilateral strategy are met - including predictability), and (2) multi-annual strategic frameworks with selected multilateral partners. In 2009, Spain has signed new strategic agreements with UNDP, UNICEF and UNIFEM, and is planning to do so with UNHCR and UNFPA as well.