

# KEY QUESTIONS

## the big six



### How much ODA does Spain provide?

**Net ODA reached record-high level in 2016 due to exceptionally high debt relief to Cuba**

Spain’s official development assistance (ODA) stood at US\$4.1 billion in 2016 (in 2016 prices; US\$4.0 billion in 2015 prices),<sup>1</sup> making it the 10th-largest donor country. Due to its economic crisis, Spain’s ODA drastically declined in past years: ODA was cut in half between 2011 and 2015 (US\$3.6 billion to US\$1.8 billion). Net ODA increased again by 192% compared to 2015, largely due to exceptional debt relief for Cuba. This brings Spain’s net ODA to 0.33% of its GNI in 2016, a share expected to decrease to 0.21% in 2017.

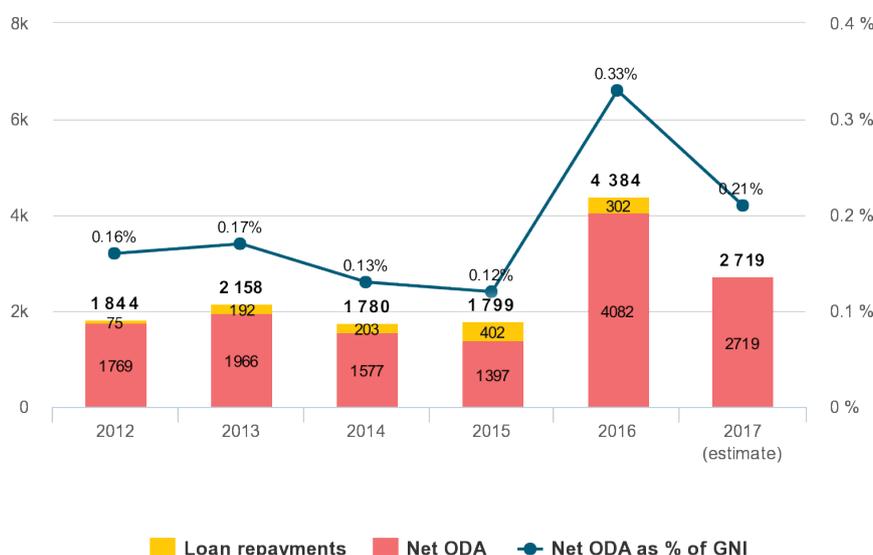
In tune with the current economic recovery (Spain’s gross domestic product grew 3.2% in 2016 and is expected to grow at 2.3% in 2017 and 2.1% in 2018), ODA may keep rising in the coming years. However, administrative bur-

dens have continuously prevented Spain from disbursing the entire budget, thereby inflating yearly ODA estimates.

The new political environment resulting from recent general elections is likely to benefit development policy. After a 10-month political stalemate and two general elections, a government was formed in November 2016. Spain’s Prime Minister, Rajoy (conservative People’s Party, PP) now leads a minority conservative government. Under a minority government, Parliament is now in a key, strategic position to influence the budget, including for ODA. The new parliament is more supportive of development issues than the previous one. In November 2016, the Congress’ Development Committee approved a non-binding resolution to increase ODA levels to reach 0.40% of the country’s GNI by 2020.

### SPAIN'S GROSS/NET ODA DISBURSEMENTS

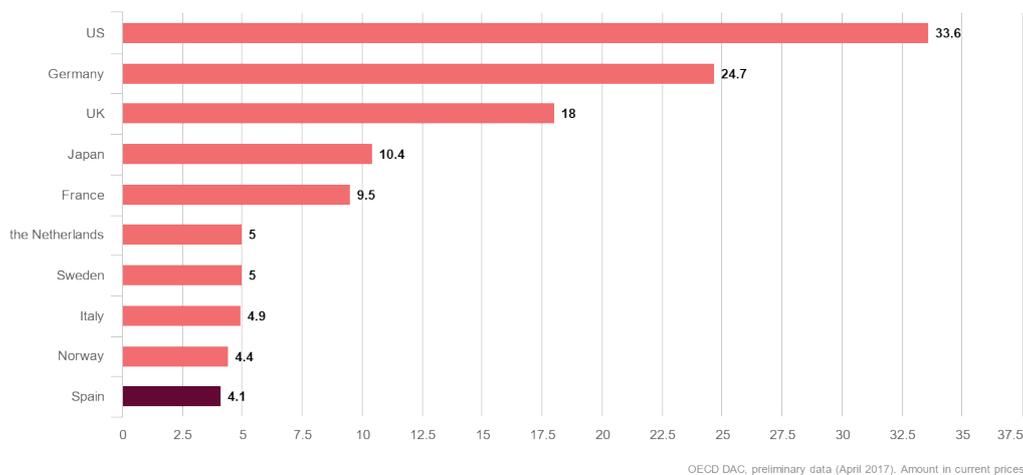
US\$ millions; in 2015 prices



OECD DAC. 2016 data according to OECD preliminary data (April 2017). ODA estimates for 2017 are based on government data.

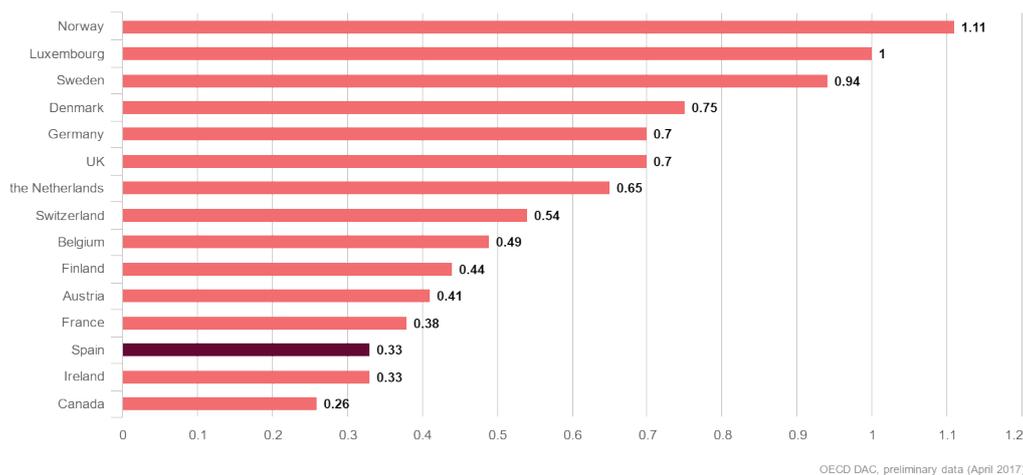
TOP 10 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2016

Net ODA disbursements; US\$ billions; 2016 prices



TOP 15 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2016

Net ODA as % of GNI



<sup>1</sup> '2016 prices' refers to the actual ODA amount disbursed in 2016. This figure is commonly used when comparing ODA across donors in 2016. To compare ODA levels in 2016 with ODA levels provided in previous years, figures need to be measured in constant prices. This means that the ODA amounts for each year are adjusted to take into account the effect of inflation and of exchange rate fluctuations. In this profile, we generally state ODA figures in '2015 prices', meaning that we use 2015 as a base year, to ensure data is comparable over time.