

KEY QUESTIONS

the big six



How much ODA does Spain provide?

Net ODA surged in 2016 due to exceptionally high debt relief to Cuba

Spain's official development assistance (ODA) stood at US\$2.41 billion in 2017 (in current prices, US\$2.35 billion in 2016 prices), making it the 13th-largest donor country. Due to its economic crisis, Spain's ODA drastically declined in the past years: ODA was cut by nearly three-quarters between 2008 and 2015 (US\$5.4 billion to US\$1.4 billion). In 2016, net ODA surged by 205% compared to 2015, reaching US\$4.3 billion (+US\$2.9 billion). This was largely due to exceptional debt relief for Cuba (US\$2.1 billion), but also to increased core contributions to multilaterals.

Spain's contributions to EU institutions went up by 26%, from US\$910 million to US\$1.1 billion. This significant increase came to fund the EU's response to unprecedented arrivals of asylum seekers starting in 2015, which triggered higher spending from the EU, including for humanitarian assistance (among other sectors). Spain also dramatically increased contributions to the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA), from US\$11 million in 2015 to US\$293 million in 2016, returning to its 2011 levels after four years of very low contributions in the wake of budgetary austerity. These increases brought Spain's net ODA to 0.35% of its GNI, and their exceptional nature also explains the drop in 2017, when Spain's ODA

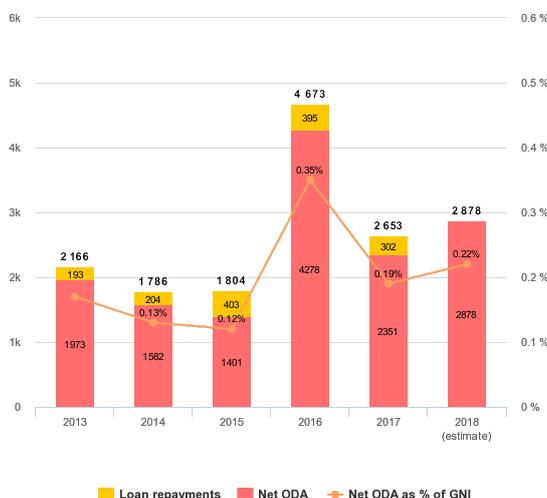
as a share of its GNI fell back to 0.19%. Nonetheless, development funding increased by 68% between 2015 and 2017, up from US\$1.4 billion.

In tune with the current economic recovery (Spain's gross domestic product grew 3.1% in 2017 and is expected to grow at 2.7% in 2018), ODA may keep rising in the coming years, as its drastic decline coincided with budgetary constraints induced by the economic crisis. The 2018 budget set ODA at €2.6 billion (US\$2.9 billion), 0.22% of GNI.

The new political environment resulting from recent general elections and the replacement of conservative Mariano Rajoy's government with the socialist Pedro Sánchez are likely to benefit development policy. Spain has been governed by minority governments since 2016 elections produced indecisive results. Under a minority government, Parliament is in a strategic position to influence the budget, including for ODA. The current parliament is more supportive of development issues than the previous one: since November 2016, for example, the Congress' Development Committee has been unanimously calling for ODA increases in order to reach 0.40% of the country's GNI by 2020.

SPAIN'S GROSS/NET ODA DISBURSEMENTS

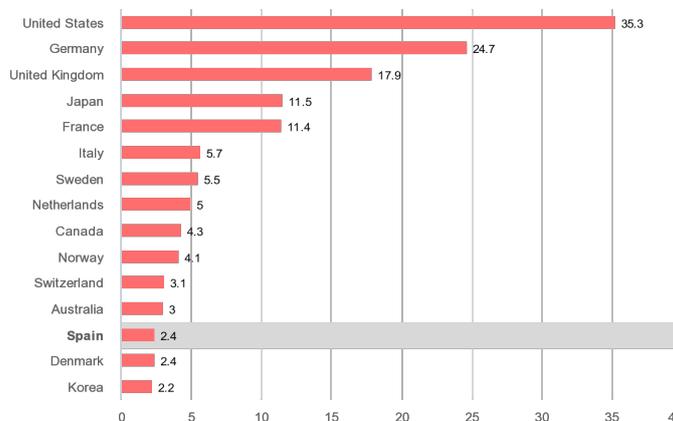
US\$ millions; in 2016 prices



OECD DAC. ODA for 2017 based on OECD DAC preliminary data (April 2018). ODA estimates for 2018 are based on government data.

TOP 15 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2017

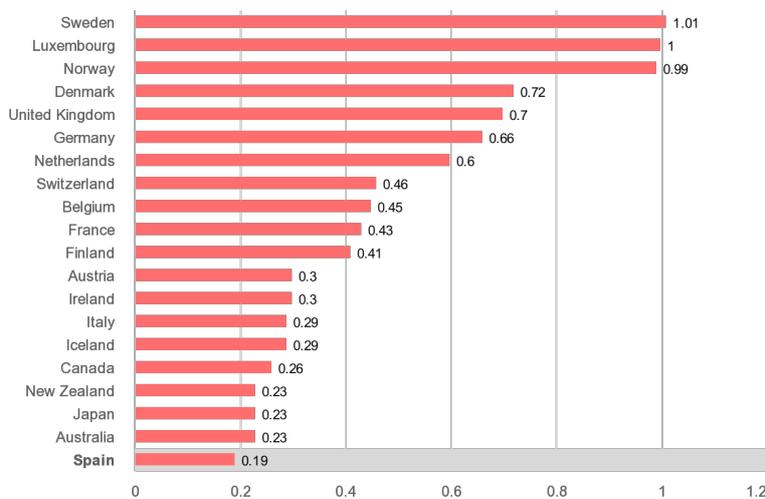
Net ODA Disbursements; US\$ billions; in current prices



OECD DAC preliminary data (April 2018).

TOP 20 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2017

Net ODA as % of GNI



OECD DAC preliminary data (April 2018).

Further information: 2016 prices

To compare ODA levels in any given year with ODA levels provided in other years, figures need to be adjusted to account for inflation and exchange rate fluctuations. The OECD provides data that accounts for these fluctuations. In this profile, and unless indicated otherwise, figures are stated using 2016 prices.