



Cooperación
Española

COORDINATION, EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPACT

KEY ASPECTS OF EU FUNDING DELEGATED TO SPAIN



Picture: AECID

The European Union is the world's largest development cooperation donor. The wide-ranging and diverse challenges presented by international circumstances, and the Agenda for Sustainable Development assumed by the international community and –therefore– by the European Union (EU) and its Member States, call for coordinated and effective cooperation, with real impact, in order to attain the specific development outcomes that are sought.

One way of achieving this is through entities, such as the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), certified by the European Commission to manage such development funds.

Spain ranks third, after Germany and France, in the volume of EU delegated cooperation funds managed

Since 2010, AECID has managed development cooperation initiatives funded by other Member States, as well as by the EU itself.

The management of funds delegated to AECID, **521.4 million euros in total**, has increased the

effectiveness of Spanish Cooperation, improved **coordination and harmonization** between donors, and reduced **transaction costs**.

WHAT IS IT, THE DELEGATED COOPERATION?

Delegated Cooperation is a means of providing **Official Development Assistance (ODA)**. In it one or several agencies (“silent donors”) entrust another (a “lead donor”) with undertaking all or part of the activities of the aid.

WHERE DO WE COOPERATE

Initially AECID's management of delegated funds was initially focused on **Latin America** – region that continues to present the highest accumulated total of delegated funding.

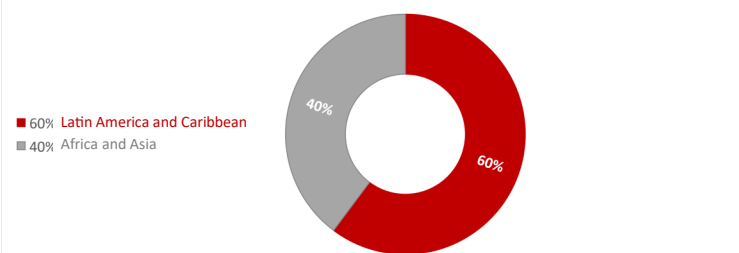
However, the creation of the EU Regional Trust Fund, in Response to the Syrian Crisis ("the Madad Fund") in 2014, and of the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and for addressing the root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa in 2015, raised the profile of **Africa and Asia**.

The figures for 2021 allows us to confirm the growing significance of the management of delegated funds by AECID.

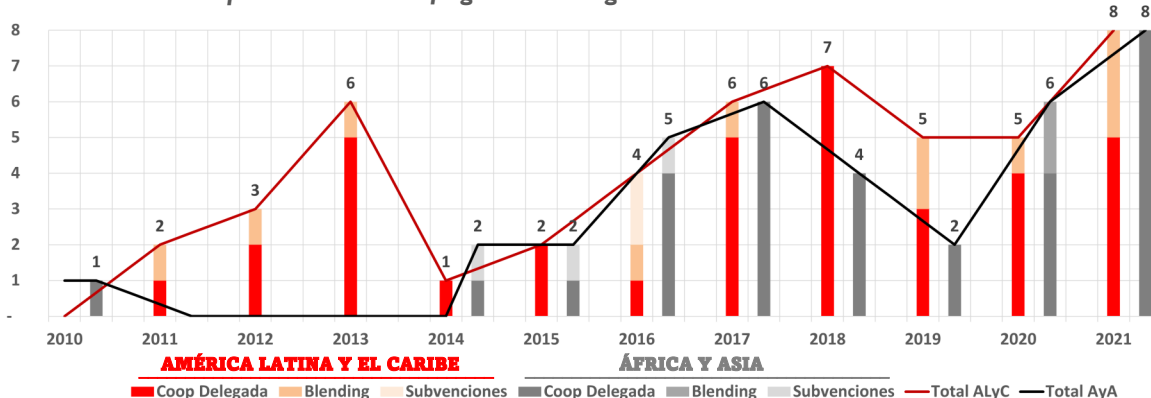
In 2021 **6 agreements** per a total of **64.1 million euros** were signed:

- Latin America: 8 contribution agreements (5 delegated cooperation and 3 of blending), **38.6 millions**
- Africa and Asia: 8 contribution agreements, **25.5 millions**

Graphic 2. Geographic distribution of delegated funds in 2021 (in Millions of euros).



Graphic 1. Number of agreements signed to date.



EUROSAN - food security, Honduras

This project aims to include in 39 municipal governments, actions in food and nutritional security for groups in greater vulnerable situations, improving technical-financial capacities for the promotion and strengthening of local economic development. More than 700,000 people is benefitted, including 42,000 children under 5 years of age.



EU4YOUth

The project seeks to strengthen the participation in public life of young Tunisians in vulnerable situations through creation, culture and sport. It is articulated in three axes: strengthening municipal public policies to generate spaces for consultation and innovation; support for civil society and youth actors; employability and vocational training in the fields of culture and sport.



PROMOPÊCHE

Promotion of employment and improvement of the living conditions of artisanal fishermen, young people and women around the protected natural areas of Northern Mauritania. It benefits 9000 schoolchildren, 288 teachers, 850 artisanal fishermen, 700 fresh fish sellers, 50 families dedicated to salt production and 30 cooperatives selling and processing artisanal fish.



PROYECTO SHIRE

Improving living conditions in Kobe and Hilaweyn refugee camps (Dollo Ado, Ethiopia's border with Somalia) increasing access to household energy and community services as well as outdoor lighting, reducing carbon emissions and improving the protection of women and children. Promotion of businesses linked to solar energy among the refugee population and host communities".

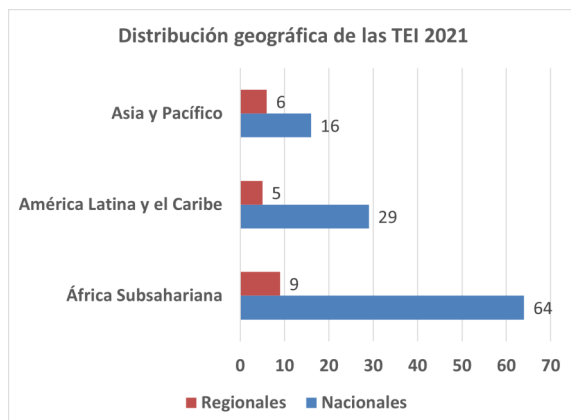


TEAM EUROPE APPROACH

The year 2021 has been marked by the new Team Europe approach, which was born as a result of the joint response adopted by the European Commission to the pandemic caused by COVID-19. It is based on the joint work between European institutions, Member States and their implementing agencies and development finance institutions.

The Team Europe vision seeks to define synergies in the strategic interests of its members so that the resources contributed to achieve a sustainable impact in a country or region are optimized. It aims to convey a strong message of unity and solidarity that responds to human development priorities, building together in a fair, sustainable, inclusive and ecological way, reinforcing the visibility of European interventions.

In 2021, 130 Team Europe Initiatives (TEI) were defined: 109 national, 20 regional and 1 global.



THE EU AND SPAIN, PARTNERS FOR STRATEGIC COOPERATION

The steady increase in the volume of funds managed, and in the number of operations formalized, by AECID **has reaffirmed the strategic value of our partnerships**, both with **the EU and with other Member States**, as regards our experience and our level of responsibility. Such partnerships have highlighted the value of the work carried out by the Spanish Cooperation over the years, as well as its high degree of dialogue with **partner country institutions**.

Spain currently ranks third in the volume of delegated EU cooperation funds managed, after Germany and France. This position highlights the effectiveness of our work system, which is committed to the principle of harmonization, and it is in line with the national procedures of the countries with which we collaborate. For this reason these countries frequently propose AECID as a Delegated Entity

AECID is member of the Network of European Cooperation Agencies' **"Practitioners' Network" (PN)**, which chaired from May 2019 to May 2020. The PN provides an ideal forum for sharing experiences and best practices with other Agencies and with the European Commission.

SPANISH COOPERATION'S REGENERATION

In 2011 AECID successfully completed the European Commission's 6-pillar assessment – a prerequisite for receiving and managing EU cooperation funds. Since then, there has been a steady increase in the number of operations of delegated cooperation. In these, AECID has received funds from other donors, primarily from the European Union, to finance development initiatives. In 2016 the accreditation in the financial pillar was achieved. In 2021 reaccreditation of the existing pillars and accreditation of new pillars was completed.

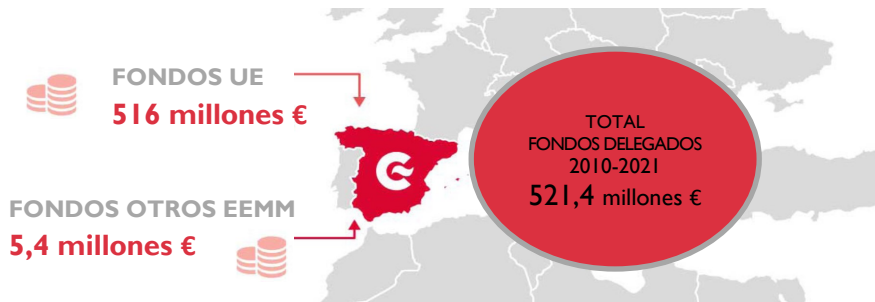
AECID – Spanish Official Development Assistance's key organization – has created specific work mechanisms and models in order to adapt to this new instrument. AECID has also reviewed and adapted its tools and procedures to this new way of working. A roadmap has been launched that is transforming our model of cooperation with our partners in Spanish Cooperation's priority countries.

GLOBAL DATA

Today, the **management of delegated funds** is a key instrument for AECID. In December 2021 AECID had **86 ongoing agreements with a total of 521.4 million euros**. Most of the projects – 82 out of 86 – are **development initiatives formalized with the European Union, with AECID managing 516 million euros**.

TYPES OF DELEGATED COOPERATION

Delegated funds are articulated through the signing of agreements between the European Union or the donor Member State and AECID. They can take the form of delegated cooperation, blended cooperation – combined funding – or grants.



Delegated cooperation, a form of technical-financial cooperation entailing the transfer of both resources and the responsibility for oversight, is the modality most commonly used by AECID and its European partners – in 67 out of 86 operations formalized. This form of cooperation accounts for **68% of the total delegated funds managed, or 354.6 million euros**.

Blended cooperation combines repayable and non-repayable cooperation funds in order to leverage funds, with lower finance costs for the recipient. This form of financing represents 30,8% of the EU cooperation funds delegated to AECID—a total of 160.7 million euros deriving from 13 agreements.

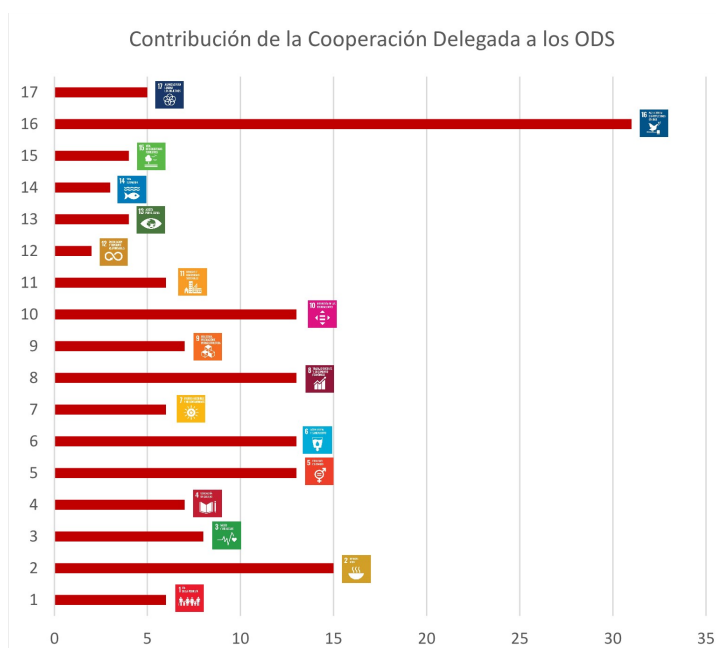
Grants from “silent donors” or direct awards of funds through a “call for proposals” represent the management model that to date has received the lowest volume of funds, with the 6 operations agreed accounting for a total of 6.1 million euros delegated to AECID, i.e., 1,2% of the funds delegated to the Spanish institution.

DELEGATED COOPERATION AND THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

The **2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development requires effective instruments that contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) it proposes. In this new universal agenda, donor countries play a crucial role in ensuring that the most vulnerable countries can meet the goals considered for global sustainable development.

The role of new financing instruments, such as those relating to delegated funds, is key to achieving this development through coordinated and effective actions with the greatest possible impact.

The suitability of this modality is reinforced by its inclusion in **SDG 17, which seeks to revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development**.



The graph shows the extent to which the Delegated Cooperation projects managed by AECID contribute to the achievement of the SDGs