

COOPERATION PROGRAMME WITH PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT



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01

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SPANISH COOPERATION WITH PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

Although statistics vary, it is currently estimated that there are approximately 134 million people of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean, representing more than one fifth of the region's total population.

Despite the progress made in recent decades, people of African descent are among the most vulnerable groups in the region, as a result of economic and social inequalities and underrepresentation in many decision-making spaces, in addition to patterns of exclusion that are closely tied to racism, xenophobia and related practices of both intolerance and discrimination.

For this reason, in 2007, the Second Spanish Cooperation Framework Plan introduced a specific line of work with people of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean, which took the form of AECID's Cooperation Programme with People of African Descent.

Since then, and with this differentiated instrument, Spanish Cooperation has maintained a firm commitment to the human rights of people of African descent.

MAIN INTERNATIONAL REFERENCE FRAMEWORKS

- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965).
- Declaration of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and the Durban Programme of Action (2001).
- International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024), proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2013 and the Programme of Activities for the Decade.
- Plan of Action for the Decade for People of African Descent in the Americas (2016-2025) of the Organization of American States (OAS).
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Declarations adopted by the Ibero-American Summits of Heads of State and Government.

REFERENCE FRAMEWORKS IN SPAIN

- Spanish Cooperation Framework Plans have reaffirmed the protection of cultural diversity and the human rights approach as the basic cross-cutting principles of all Spanish Cooperation actions.
- AECID's Guide for Mainstreaming Cultural Diversity (2020).



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AECID PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION WITH PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

The programme is based on values such as interculturality, social justice, equality, sustainable development and democracy, and works in accordance with the following strategic lines of action:

- 1 Promotion of public policies for equality and the construction of equal and inclusive societies focused on human rights.
- 2 Strengthening of organisations for people of African descent and support for their participation in all decision-making processes in political, economic, cultural and social areas.
- 3 Sustainable development and respect for the environment with a focus on territory and recognition of traditional knowledge for the preservation of biodiversity.
- 4 A gender approach for the empowerment of women in all their diversity, from an intersectional perspective.

These strategic lines and approaches seek to respond to the main challenges faced in the region: closing gaps, implementation of inclusive public policies, adoption of legal and regulatory frameworks adapted to international standards, recognition of cultural diversity, meaningful participation, access to justice and effective exercise of rights.

A comprehensive knowledge management and innovation policy is carried out by the knowledge area of people of African descent regarding the Interconecta Plan, reinforcing policy dialogue and the regional focus of the programme.

In this same line, AECID's thematic network of Indigenous Peoples and people of African descent is an important tool for regional programme coordination.

MAIN STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Internationally, AECID's main partner organisations for the promotion of the rights of people of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean are:

- Regional institutions: Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB), Organization of American States (OEA)
- United Nations
- European Union
- NGO and international human rights platforms

Likewise, the Cooperation Programme with People of African Descent promotes the collaboration between different Spanish Cooperation agents: Public Administrations, NGOs and other civil society organisations, universities, etc.

The interventions within the framework of the Programme are identified, formulated and executed with the participation of the Spanish Cooperation Offices, Training Centres and Cultural Centres in Latin America and the Caribbean, in conversation with their counterparts in partner countries (civil society organisations, networks of organisations for people of African descent, ministries, National Offices against Racial Inequality and local authorities).

COOPERATION PROGRAMME WITH PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS

TOTAL AMOUNT (2014-2022)

4.574.287 €

