



PROGRESS REPORT

The implementation of
the

2030

AGENDA

in Spain

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**SECRETARIAT OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION AND FOR IBEROAMERICA AND THE
CARIBBEAN**
**Directorate-General for Sustainable Development
Policies**

© Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and
Cooperation

NIPO, paper document: 108-19-065-9

NIPO online: 108-19-063-8

Legal deposit: M-29930-2019

Layout: Baética

Printer: Fragma Reprografía.



**PRESIDENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT
HIGH COMMISSION FOR THE 2030 AGENDA**

Catalogue of publications by the Central State Administration: <https://cpage.mpr.gob.es>

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Introduction

On 29 June 2018, the Council of Ministers approved the “**Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda**”¹ with the participation of all Ministerial Departments and of the Autonomous Communities, local entities and organisations representing the entire spectrum of social and economic agents. With this decision, and the presentation of the Action Plan to the international community via the Voluntary National Review at the United Nations High Level Political Forum on 18 July 2018, the Government and the society of Spain resolved to make the 2030 Agenda a national project.

Since then, national, regional and local administrations, citizens, social agents, businesses, universities, research centres and civil society organisations have joined forces and ideals in unprecedented unanimity in Spain to achieve the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Government of Spain has taken decisive steps towards fulfilling this commitment to the SDGs, with the firm conviction that people and the future of the planet must be at the heart of political concerns. The 2030 Agenda has become the focal point of our vision of State and represents the way in which we wish to act in the world.

This Progress Report represents a major commitment. Its purpose is to provide an account of the actions taken by the Government and by other agents and to reflect the progress achieved in fulfilling the Action Plan during its first year of existence. It also contains an annual compliance report by the Government, as called for in the Action Plan, taking into account that the urgent need to accelerate global progress requires stronger international monitoring and greater accountability.

Determining the present situation not only allows us to measure the progress made, but also, and more importantly, identifies the areas in which delays persist and reveals the aspects that need to be corrected in order to advance further. Monitoring, thus, is an important incentive, motivating us to join forces and to accelerate the progress and adaptation needed in response to complex, changing contexts.

The contents of this Report are structured around main four points.

The first concerns the institutional strengthening of the governance of the 2030 Agenda in Spain. The second point is the accountability of the Spanish Government’s action regarding the public policies carried out in the last twelve months. In the third point, the Report describes the progress made towards localising the SDGs. In this respect, the Autonomous Communities and the local entities (through the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces) narrate their own progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda. The fourth and final point focuses on the involvement of non-governmental agencies and of civil society.

¹ Available at: <https://www.agenda2030.gob.es/sites/default/files/recursos/PLAN%20DE%20ACCIÓN.pdf>



Mechanisms and instruments of strengthened coordination

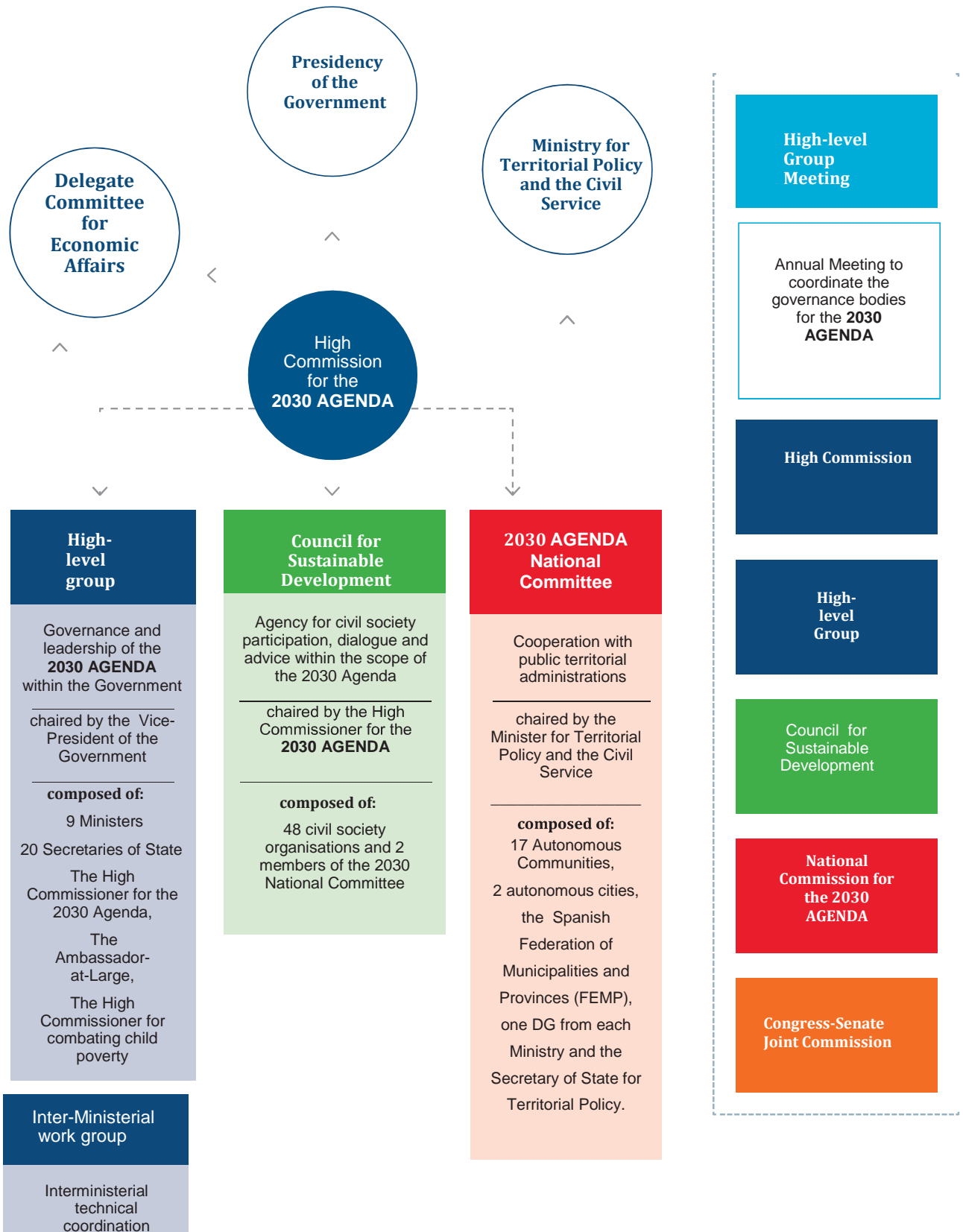
Following Spain's presentation of its Voluntary National Review to the High Level Political Forum in July 2018, the High Commission has worked to create a new structure for institutional governance. On 15 February 2019, to better coordinate the instruments and agencies for implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to avoid possible overlaps, the Council of Ministers issued its **"Report on coordination mechanisms and instruments for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Spain"**², describing the governance model to be used for the 2030 Agenda.

This governance model is structured as shown below:



² Available at: https://www.agenda2030.gob.es/sites/default/files/INFORME_DE_GOBERNANZA_AC_2030_1.pdf

Governance chart for the **2030 Agenda** in Spain



High-level Group

The High Level Group³ is chaired by the Vice-President of the Government, and includes nine Ministers, 20 senior government officials (Secretaries-General or Under-Secretaries). Other members of the Group include the High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda, the High Commissioner for Combating Child Poverty and the Ambassador-at-large for the 2030 Agenda. A schedule of two meetings per year is foreseen for addressing the following functions assigned to this Group:

- Distribute the content of the 2030 Agenda to the relevant departments.
- Promote the integration of the SDGs and their targets into the respective national policy frameworks.
- Analyse the plans and strategies submitted by the Delegate Committee for Economic Affairs to achieve the 2030 Agenda.
- Facilitate communication with civil society.
- Create working groups related to the SDGs, composed according to the topic to be addressed.

In addition, an **Interministerial Working Group for the 2030 Agenda** has been created, to promote technical collaboration and coordination among the Ministries involved. This Group is chaired by the High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda, and includes a representative from each of the Ministries, the High Commissioner for combating Child Poverty, the Commissioner for Demographic Challenge, the Ambassador on Special Mission for the 2030 Agenda and representatives from the Centre for Sociological Research (CIS), the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP) and the Economic and Social Council (CES).

Council for Sustainable Development

The Council for Sustainable Development⁴ is responsible for advising, assisting and providing a channel of communication for the participation of civil society in achieving the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. It has the following specific functions:

- To advise the High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda on the preparation and implementation of the plans and strategies necessary for the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda.
- To generate documents and analysis concerning policies to fulfil the 2030 Agenda.
- To contribute to universal information disclosure regarding the 2030 Agenda.
- To promote dialogue among all social, economic and cultural agents contributing to achievement of the SDGs.

The Council for Sustainable Development is chaired by the High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda and includes the following members:

- Representatives of civil society and two representatives from the agency for territorial cooperation (National Committee for the 2030 Agenda).

- 11 representatives of the business sector and the trades unions.
- 14 representatives of the leading third-sector citizen platforms and networks.
- 10 representatives of organisations of social interest elected via State advisory councils.
- 3 representatives of the Social Economy and Foundations sector.
- 3 representatives of the university system and research centres.
- 2 representatives of the networks of experts linked to the 2030 Agenda.
- 5 independent experts.

The Council for Sustainable Development was inaugurated in February 2019 by the President of the Government and by the UN Deputy Secretary General, Ms. Amina J Mohammed.

³Order PCI/383/2019, of 2 April, which published the decision taken by the Delegate Committee for Economic Affairs on 21 March 2019 to strengthen governance procedures for the 2030 Agenda, establishes the composition and operation of the High-level Group.

⁴Order PCI/169/2019, of 22 February, creating the Council for Sustainable Development.

National Commission for the 2030 Agenda

The National Commission for the 2030 Agenda⁵ promotes and facilitates cooperation in this respect between the Central Government, the Autonomous Communities, the cities of Ceuta and Melilla and local administrations. It has the following functions:

- To provide a channel for cooperation, collaboration, communication and information between the Central State Administration, the Autonomous Communities, the cities of Ceuta and Melilla and local administrations, to facilitate joint actions in pursuit of a common goal.
- To adopt joint plans, of a multilateral nature, between the Central State Administration, the Autonomous Communities, the cities of Ceuta and Melilla and local administrations, to facilitate joint actions in pursuit of a common goal.
- To provide information on the 2030 Agenda to raise awareness and enhance understanding of this issue within society.
- To promote efforts to address the SDGs by each of the Sectoral Conferences concerned.

This Commission is chaired by the Minister for Territorial Policy and the Civil Service and has three Vice-Presidencies, held by the High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda, a representative of the Autonomous Communities and a representative of the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP).

In order to improve coordination among administrations, the different SDGs will be assigned to the respective Sectoral Conferences by the Ministry of Territorial Policy and the Civil Service, thus providing sectoral and territorial linkage with the 2030 Agenda. This action will enhance the National Commission's effectiveness in promoting efforts to address the SDGs.

High-level Group Meeting

An annual meeting of the High-level Group will be held⁶ to prepare the annual report of the bodies coordinating the 2030 Agenda, as called for in the section of the Action Plan related to monitoring, accountability and evaluation.

This meeting will be coordinated by the Vice-President of the Government and will be attended by the High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda and by representatives of the High-level Group, the Council for Sustainable Development, the National Commission for the 2030 Agenda and the Senate-Congress Joint Commission.

Senate-Congress Joint Commission

Another of the fundamental institutional instruments involved in the construction of this new governance is the Senate-Congress Joint Commission.

In 2018, to put into effect the unanimous decision of the Senate, the High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda held meetings with the President of the Senate and the President of the Congress of Deputies to promote its implementation. In consequence, the **Joint Commission for the coordination and monitoring of the Spanish strategy to achieve the SDGs** was set up on 5 February 2019. This Commission met three times before Parliament was dissolved in March 2019.

From the outset, Parliament has played a fundamental role in promoting the 2030 Agenda, by putting into practice political and legislative initiatives and by preparing and approving the General State Budget.

⁵ Section II of the Report on coordination mechanisms and instruments to implement the 2030 Agenda in Spain requires the creation of the National Commission for the 2030 Agenda.

⁶ As required in section IV of the Report on coordination mechanisms and instruments to implement the 2030 Agenda in Spain.

The High Commission for the 2030 Agenda has conducted the following Parliamentary activity:

- **Appearance before the Senate Committee for International Development Cooperation**, to report on issues related to the Study Paper on defining, developing and coordinating the Spanish Strategy to achieve the SDGs. At this appearance, on 17 October, the High Commissioner emphasised the importance of her role as the driving force behind the 2030 Agenda in Spain. In addition, she explained the actions taken to put into practice the Action Plan for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda. She underscored the need to work in close coordination with all parties concerned, and highlighted the essential role to be played by Parliament and by the (at that time) proposed Senate-Congress Joint Commission.
- On 28 January 2019, **appearance before the International Cooperation Committee of the Congress of Deputies** to report on the 2019 General State Budget. In this first appearance, the High Commissioner explained how the 2030 Agenda was addressed in the draft 2019 General State Budget and presented the calculations made in the study performed in this respect. The High Commissioner observed that this was the first such exercise of alignment with a General Budget to be conducted. With respect to the 2020 budget, the High Commissioner proposed the creation of a method to be shared with other Ministries and public agencies to achieve this alignment, as a Transformative Measure within the 2030 Agenda Action Plan presented to the UN in July 2018.

Finally, and due to its international significance, it is important to note the visit made by the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, to the Congress of Deputies on 26 February, where she was welcomed by the President of the Government in support of efforts to fulfil the 2030 Agenda, not only by the Presidency but also by the leading national institutions.



Government action

The action taken by the Government of Spain is reflected, firstly, in the advances made towards carrying out the transformative measures and lever policies stipulated in the Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and secondly, in the measures adopted by the Council of Ministers that have a direct impact on the achievement of the SDGs. Chief among these are actions related to the approval of the “Programme for Change”⁷ that underpins the Government's economic programme within the framework of the 2030 Agenda.

Finally, the Government has taken action to improve territorial cohesion, such as the National Strategy in response to the Demographic Challenge.

In December 2018, the National Statistics Institute (INE) created a section on its website concerning the 2030 Agenda indicators, reporting the results obtained in this respect by Spain in the United Nations global framework. The indicators published were supplied both by INE and also by the relevant ministerial departments, referring to elements of the 2017-2020 National Statistical Plan. This list of indicators will subsequently be expanded to include those for which there is currently no information and for which existing statistical operations will need to be extended or new ones launched.

Monitoring the actions of those working to achieve the 2030 Agenda will reveal the progress achieved, identify the challenges remaining to be addressed and highlight negative aspects that must be corrected. Furthermore, the Action Plan has identified a set of **lever policies and transformative measures** that should be applied in key areas of action to speed up the implementation of the SDGs in Spain.

The purpose of the Official Credit Institute is to support and promote activities that contribute to the growth and distribution of national wealth. It does so by promoting innovative, sustainable and international business projects that make our country grow and which contribute directly to the achievement of the 17 SDGs, in the view that sustainability is of vital importance.

Given the integrated and transversal nature of these policies and measures, it should be noted that the efforts made to ensure the progress and implementation of the Action Plan were made with the active participation of various ministerial departments. The advances made are detailed below.

3.1 Monitoring the commitments made in the Government's Action Plan

Lever policies

Lever policies are those aimed at accelerating the implementation of the SDGs, promoting coherent sustainable development and achieving a faster and more sustained impact on key aspects, thus furthering progress within the 2030 Agenda. They should be viewed as transversal instruments that facilitate the generation of synergies,

thus connecting diverse actors, sectors and policies within an integral, common vision. As part of the Action Plan, nine such policies have been approved, but given the importance of some of the actions involved, these policies have been expanded. A major example of this is the 2018-2020 Master Plan for Decent Work, which was approved by the Council of Ministers at its meeting on 27 July 2018.

⁷http://www.mineco.gob.es/stfls/mineco/ministerio/ficheros/190208_agenda_del_cambio.pdf



LEVER POLICIES



I. PREVENTING AND COMBATING POVERTY, INEQUALITY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION



II. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES: STRATEGIC PLAN



III. THE URBAN AGENDA IN SPAIN



IV. THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY



V. LEGISLATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY TRANSITION



VI. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH FOR THE SDGs



VII. THE SOCIAL ECONOMY: STRATEGY 2017-2020



VIII. PLAN FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT



IX. SPANISH COOPERATION: A RENEWED APPROACH TO THE SDGs



I. Preventing and combating poverty, inequality and social exclusion



Advances, achievements and results

In March 2019, the **2019-2023 National Strategy to Prevent and Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion** was approved, in a broad-based participatory process. The aim of the Strategy is to achieve **cohesion and social progress**, meeting the needs of citizens, especially those of vulnerable groups in situations of poverty or exclusion. The Strategy is based on four main goals: **fighting poverty**, especially that affecting the most vulnerable areas of society; **social investment** in people (education, training and employment); consolidating a universal, high-quality **system of public healthcare, education and social services**; and **enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of policies**.

These lines of action will be addressed via annual operational plans, setting specific targets, allocating budgets and identifying the entities responsible for each of the tasks described in the strategy.

Ensuring that all citizens have equal access to an extensive catalogue of high-quality health services was one of the reasons why a universal National Health System was designed in Spain in the 1980s. The aim was to create a system of health services, and of primary health care in particular, to enable all citizens, regardless of their socioeconomic status, to access a shared space of quality service. When public services are used by people of all social backgrounds, the overall level of service quality rises. For this reason, the Government recovered the **universality of health care** through Royal Decree-Law 7/2018, approved on 27 July by the Council of Ministers, on **universal access to the National Health System**. This decision was taken as a matter of urgent necessity in view of the vital role played by health systems in alleviating the effects of other determinants of inequality.

Another factor taken into account is that the provision of adequate health care raises the income of all households; in Spain, the system raises the disposable income of the richest 20% of the population by 7% while that of the households in the poorest 20% of the population benefit by 35%.

It is also important to note that in December 2018 the Council of Ministers approved an **increase in the minimum wage to 900 euros per month for 2019**. This measure is intended to prevent poverty among those in work, to increase the standard of living of the lowest paid, such as women and young people, and to encourage a more dynamic pattern of salary growth, in line with international recommendations.

Other important actions taken in the last year include:

- The creation of the High Commission for Combating Child Poverty.
- The publication of a territorial map of child poverty, in collaboration with the National Statistics Institute (INE) and the National Tax Authority.
- The design and implementation during two consecutive summers of the Programme to Guarantee Children's Right to Food, Leisure and Culture during School Holidays (VECA), which offers vulnerable children leisure and cultural activities and guarantees them a healthy and balanced diet during the summer.
- An increase in the social benefits paid per dependent child.
- The approval of a National Strategy against Energy Poverty.
- The revaluation of over 10.3 million pensions.
- The reform of civil and procedural legislation regarding disability.

With respect to employment, the following major plans have been approved:

- The 2019-2021 Reincorporation Plan (*Back 2 Work*), to prevent and reduce long-term unemployment.
- The 2019 Annual Policy Plan for employment.
- The 2019-2020 Action Plan of the Spanish Strategy for Safety and Health at Work, during the period 2015-2020.
- The Plan for Youth Employment.
- The revaluation of pensions and an additional increase for minimum pensions.
- The recovery of employment benefits for those aged over 52 years.
- The recovery of Social Security rights for non-professional caregivers
- Improved social protection for the self-employed.
- Expanded family assistance for dependent children (part of the fight against child poverty).
- Extended rights in employment equality: prolongation of childbirth leave to 16 weeks; official recognition of real working hours; employment equality plans in companies with more than 50 workers; right to adapt the duration and distribution of the work day to materialise the right to the reconciliation of personal, family and work life.
- Plan for workers to return to Spain.

With respect to migration, which is a strategic issue for Spain, the following measures, among others, have been taken:

- Legislative Order for the collective management of employment contracts in the country of origin.
- The endowment of a State fund for the integration of immigrants.
- Royal Decrees providing financial assistance for those providing attention to immigrants.

Next steps

Following approval of the **2019-2023 National Strategy to Prevent and Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion**, the next step is to facilitate the Annual Operational Plans for its execution, specifying the actions, resources and indicators that will be needed. The Autonomous Communities and local authorities will be invited to collaborate in preparing the Operational Plans and their role in performing these activities will be considered.

In addition, the first drafts of the **Third National Strategic Plan for Children and Adolescents** and the **Second National Human Rights Plan** are being prepared. That of the **2019-2023 National Alzheimer's Plan** is also at an advanced stage.

In the 2019 Budget, the Ministry of Health, Consumer Affairs and Social Welfare proposed the progressive elimination of co-payments for Social Security beneficiaries. Specifically, this involved the elimination of the economic barriers posed by pharmaceutical co-payments for pensioners with incomes below €11,200 and for recipients of Social Security economic benefits for dependent children. This measure will be re-addressed in the forthcoming Budget. Efforts will also continue to promote the proposed draft Organic Law on the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents against Violence, the first reading of which was approved by the Council of Ministers on 28 December 2018 and for which all the mandatory reports have been produced.



II. Equal opportunities: Strategic Plan



Advances, achievements and results

Some of the most important measures in the **Strategic Plan for Equal Opportunities** were initiated in late 2018 and early 2019. The recent approval of Royal Decree-Law 6/2019, of March 1, on urgent measures to ensure equal treatment and opportunities between women and men in employment and occupation reflect the very important progress made in narrowing the wage gap and in guaranteeing workers' right to family conciliation and joint responsibility. The Royal Decree-Law extends birth and child care leave in a schedule by which the two parents will progressively achieve equal rights, introduces the concept of "work of equal value", requires the employer to maintain a salary record that workers can access, and extends the mandatory nature of Equality Plans to companies with 50 or more workers. Another major aspect of the Plan, within the framework of the new social pact, is its commitment to the full inclusion of women in the new economic environment, promoting the 4th Industrial Revolution with measures such as training programmes for women in scientific and technological skills in all stages of life and backing initiatives to raise the profile of leading women in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and mathematics).

Among other efforts to combat the violence suffered by women for reasons of gender, addressed in the State Pact against Gender Violence, several regulatory instruments have been approved, including Royal Decree-Law 9/2018, of 3 August, on Urgent Measures to Develop the State Pact regarding Gender Violence; Organic Law 5/2018, of 28 December, on the Reform of Organic Law 6/1985, of 1 July, on the Judiciary, on urgent measures to apply the State Pact in the field of gender violence, to put into effect all measures related to the training and specialisation of judicial officials; and Law 3/2019, of 1 March, on assisting children who are orphans as a result of gender violence and other forms of violence against women. In addition, budget schedules have been adopted to transfer to the Autonomous Communities and local authorities the funds allocated in the State Pact to develop the measures that are the responsibility of the territorial administrations.

Progress has been made in this area, intersecting with that produced by other sectoral policies. For example, the **First International Conference of Women in the Fisheries Industry** was organised in collaboration with FAO, and resulted in the publication of statistics on the sector with gender-specific information to highlight the current status and to provide a more solidly grounded basis for the policies to be applied in this area.

With respect to equal opportunities, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) has implemented measures aimed at facilitating the access of artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets, supporting initiatives such as the Lonja Project 4.0 and other measures to support producer organisations in the fisheries industry.

Next steps

The Strategic Plan for Equal Opportunities, to be applied in the next three years, is pending approval. This Plan is the instrument by which the Government defines, for areas that are the responsibility of the State, the objectives and priority measures to be taken to eliminate gender-based discrimination and to achieve the goal of equality between women and men (Article 17 of Organic Law 3/2007, of 22 March, for the effective equality of women and men). The Plan is composed of four main focuses of attention – **gender transversality**, a **new social pact**, **citizenship**, and **violence against women** - with 18 areas of intervention and 101 specific measures.

In addition, the MAFF is working on a forthcoming Action Plan for women in the rural environment. The measures contemplated in this Plan include the incorporation of the gender perspective into negotiations regarding the Common Agricultural Policy post 2020, as a specific objective of this policy; support for associations of women in rural areas; the development of multi-regional training plans; the award of prizes of excellence in innovation for women in rural areas; and work to raise awareness of the regime of shared ownership of agricultural holdings.

Another important event in this context is the sixth edition of the National Congress of the Spanish Women's Network in the Fisheries Industry, which will be held in Gijón on 5-6 November.

III. The urban agenda in Spain



Advances, achievements and results

The **Spanish Urban Agenda (SUA)** was approved by the Council of Ministers on 22 February 2019 as a national urban policy to **underpin and inspire sustainable urban policies with social, environmental and economic objectives**. This Agenda coordinates the competencies of all the agents involved and optimises channels of collaboration between territorial administrations.

The SUA⁸ is of a strongly transversal nature, as reflected in its ten strategic objectives: territory and biodiversity, urban planning, climate change, sustainable resource management and the circular economy, sustainable mobility, cohesion and social fairness, urban economy, housing, digital innovation and instruments for intervention and governance. The SUA focuses on over 90 of the 169 targets in the 2030 Agenda. Although this document is strategic and non-normative document, i.e. non-binding, proposals have been made for its implementation in certain municipalities (there exists a pilot project for the SUA Action Plan in A Coruña), universities (the SUA is included in the syllabus of the School of Architecture at Universidad Politécnica de Madrid), foundations (some already exist and are working with the SUA, while others are planned to do so) and Autonomous Communities (among others, Andalusia and the Basque Country). In addition, 173 towns and cities have been selected to develop strategies for sustainable, integrated urban development, and specific funding has been allocated to the corresponding projects. Progress has been made in this area, intersecting with that produced by other sectoral policies.

⁸<http://www.aue.gob.es>

Next steps

Taking into account the multilevel nature of the Agenda and its integration into the activities of all types of public administration, the development of action plans will first be promoted by the Autonomous Communities, the local authorities and other agents, both public and private, with the capacity to intervene in sustainable urban development. Furthermore, a specific Action Plan for the Central State Administration is being developed, in relation to regulatory modifications, improvements in planning and governance (aimed at improving collaboration among public administrations at all levels) and additional resources for training and information compilation and disclosure.

IV. The circular economy



Advances, achievements and results

The **Spanish Strategy for a Circular Economy** (SSCE) project has been prepared and is ready to be approved by the Council of Ministers. This strategy will strengthen the **Pact for a circular economy**, based on the adoption of circular measures in the productive sector and throughout society. The Strategy is accompanied by the First Action Plan, which will contribute to achieving SDGs 2, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of the 2030 Agenda. For this purpose, the Plan includes 74 lines of action and over 110 specific measures.

In addition, an **Action Plan for plastics** is being prepared, in accordance with the guidelines offered by the European Commission in its **European Plastics Strategy**, in order to address the serious problem posed to the environment by plastic waste. Work is also continuing to develop regulations for the criteria of “end-of-waste condition” for mechanically recycled plastics, as well for recovered paper and cardboard.

In this area, too, support is being offered for innovative projects to **improve the health of the oceans**, such as the ML STYLE Project, which seeks to clean up the oceans with the help of fishing boats and by encouraging the reuse of marine waste, such as nets and plastics, in the manufacture of fabrics and clothing.

Next steps

The next steps in this process include the formal approval of the SSCE and the Action Plan for plastics. The governance model for the SSCE will be complemented with the creation and implementation of the Circular Economy Council, a public-private partnership forum in which the Autonomous Communities will participate. The adoption of the SSCE is expected to lever the development of similar instruments at the regional and local levels.

In the coming months, bulletins on the circular economy will be issued, promoting awareness of good practices in this area. Regarding the treatment of wastewater, and to further align water policies with the ecological transition, the **National Plan for Purification, Sanitation, Efficiency, Saving and Reuse** (PSES Plan) is now being prepared.

Among other issues, special attention will be paid to making use of the potential of wastewater treatment to achieve advances in the circular economy, to use sewage sludge to generate energy and, potentially, to integrate these three phases to enhance global efficiency in terms of energy and resources. The draft Plan will be published in the spring of 2020, so that the results of this special planning process can be incorporated into the third cycle hydrological plans (2021-2027).

Finally, in line with the European strategy in this respect, work is currently under way on updating and reviewing the current Spanish strategy for bioeconomy, known as Horizon 2030, incorporating the principles of the circular economy and seeking to promote the efficient use of the biological resources derived from our agri-food and forestry sectors.

V. Legislation on climate change and energy transition



Advances, achievements and results

The **Strategic Energy and Climate Framework**, composed of the **Draft Law on Climate Change and Energy Transition**, the **National Integrated Plan for Energy and Climate** and the **Strategy for a Fair Transition**, is a fundamental instrument for promoting the transformation required of Spain by the 2030 Agenda.

The **Draft Law on Climate Change and Energy Transition**, which was presented in July 2018, was approved by the Council of Ministers on 22 February 2019. This law corresponds to Spain's international commitment to **decarbonise its economy**, and represents an economic opportunity to modernise the country and to reap social benefits from the resulting increase in employment.

The **Strategy for a Fair Transition** includes instruments to optimise the employment opportunities presented by the transition, through vocational training frameworks, active employment policies, support measures with a special focus on strategic sectors, and plans to reactivate the territories that may be affected by this process so that none are left behind. The Strategy, the first of its kind in the world, will be presented as a good practice at the UN Climate Action Summit to be held on 23 September 2019, at which Spain will head the Group for a Fair Transition.

The goals of the **National Integrated Plan for Energy and Climate 2021-2030** are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, expand the use of renewable energies and enhance energy efficiency. According to the European Climate Foundation, this Plan is the best of those presented by the EU Member States. The aim of this Foundation is to help Europe promote the development of a low-emission society and to foster even stronger international leadership to mitigate climate change.

Next steps

The Law on Climate Change and Energy Transition is currently passing through the mandatory parliamentary procedures, before its definitive approval by the Council of Ministers and presentation to Parliament for entry into force.

Work is also advancing on the final document of the National Integrated Plan for Energy and Climate so that it may be referred to the European Commission, and on the Strategy for a Fair Transition to be revised and updated following the process of public consultation.

VI. Scientific and technical research for the SDGs



Advances, achievements and results

Among others, the following urgent measures have been undertaken to reduce precariousness and achieve greater stability in knowledge acquisition and innovation: enabling indefinite employment contracts for researchers engaged in scientific projects; approving the Statute for Trainee Research Personnel; aligning salary scales for research personnel; stabilising and rejuvenating the staffing structure for scientific, technical and management personnel; and approving one of the largest public employment offers of recent years in public research organisations.

Another important initiative, in early 2019, was the approval of **Royal Decree-Law 3/2019 on urgent measures in the fields of science, technology, innovation and university**, aimed at simplifying the administrative burdens of science and facilitating the work of the scientific community. In March 2019, the **Spanish Strategy for R&D&I in Artificial Intelligence**, the embryo of the future National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence, was approved. On 10 January 2019, the **Women, Science and Innovation Observatory** was created. This web portal for gender equality seeks to raise the profile of women in scientific and technological fields and in universities, and to advocate regulatory changes to guarantee equal opportunities for women and to increase their presence in the scientific world.

It should be noted that on the occasion of the commemoration of World Science Day for Peace and Development, established in 2001 by the United Nations, all parliamentary groups signed an Institutional Declaration in the Senate supporting the human right to science.

R&D&I can play a fundamental role in addressing questions such as the demographic challenge and the differences between rural and urban areas. In this respect, the following measures have been taken:

- **The Digitalisation Agenda for the agri-food and forestry sectors and the rural environment** was approved by the Council of Ministers on 29 March. This Agenda has two main goals: firstly, to support and promote the digital transformation of the agri-food sector and the rural environment, to create attractive living and working conditions, thus promoting the stable existence of an active population in rural Spain; and at the same time, to contribute to the achievement of a more competitive and sustainable agri-food sector.
- **The National Rural Development Programme** has been created to foster the development of supra-regional operational groups and the execution of innovative projects in the agri-food, forestry and rural areas, within the framework of the European Commission's agricultural European Innovation Partnership (EIP-AGRI) initiative.
- In this regard, it is important to protect research results, through patents or utility models. We also call attention to the need to grant exclusive rights to protect creativity and innovation, through industrial brands or designs. By doing so, incentives can be created for the private and public sectors to allocate the resources needed to develop a long-term sustainable innovation strategy, thus contributing to achieving the

SDGs.

Next steps

Consideration is being given to the adoption of a **State Pact for Science and Innovation** with the following basic goals:

- To maintain and strengthen a ministerial structure that preserves and consolidates the integration of the entire knowledge and innovation system, including the universities.
- To generate a trend of sustained growth of the General State Budget in the fields of higher education, scientific research and civil innovation, to regain the allocation of 2.5% of the Budget to civil R&D&I.
- To encourage private investment to rise to at least 2% of GDP (current EU average), recovering as a strategic objective the European horizon of 3% of GDP.
- To guarantee the independence of agencies and organisations for science and innovation.

Work has begun on the preparation and adoption of the **Spanish Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation 2021-2027**, to ensure that State and regional plans and financing instruments are aligned with the SDGs. In the next programming period of EU funds, R&D will foreseeably play a major role.

Gender equality policies are expected to make further progress in eliminating the glass ceiling, narrowing the gender pay gap and promoting the presence of women in science. Other areas of interest include the definition and reinforcement of the scientific research career, from the outset, with stable contracts and fair and inclusive evaluations.

In addition, actions are planned to achieve international recognition of the human right to science, with particular reference to the SDGs. Moreover, steps will be taken to foster a more innovative and sustainable system of public procurement, incorporating social, ethical and environmental considerations into all its processes and phases.

The future **National Artificial Intelligence Strategy** will address the ethical dimension in a transversal way, situating the humanistic dimension at the focal point of the development of these technologies. This outlook will facilitate the provision of adequate resources and lead to concrete actions being taken in human and social sciences in the field of artificial intelligence.

At the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF), the first biennial action plan for the digitalisation strategy is being finalised, and its approval is expected before the end of the year, thus enabling the implementation of various aspects of the Strategy during the next two years.

Finally, the Secretariat-General for Fisheries, within MAFF, is developing an internal instrument to eliminate illegal, unreported, unregulated and destructive fishing practices. This instrument will integrate information from the last ten years of operations by ships from third countries, to perform a risk analysis not previously available from Spain's Integrated Fishing Information System.

VII. The 2017-2020 Social Economy Strategy



Advances, achievements and results

Beyond all doubt, the business model of the social economy, which is vital to well-being and employment, has a leading role to play in implementing the 2030 Agenda. In this respect, and within the framework of the **2017-2020 Social Economy Strategy**⁹, the following major actions have been undertaken:

- Activities to enhance the visibility of social economy entities and to communicate their activity, via the provision of statistical data, the edition of specific publications and presence at conferences, seminars, etc.
- The elimination of barriers preventing or limiting the development of social economy entities, for example by putting into practice a national on-line registry of cooperatives.
- Supporting business consolidation and growth in the social economy, especially by means of annual calls for applications for grants for associations of the self-employed, for the social economy and for corporate social responsibility.
- Promoting institutional participation in the social economy through presence in consultative bodies, at state and territorial levels, fostering collaboration and coordination.
- Developing the social economy, within the framework of the International Agenda, and especially in Latin America, Europe and the Mediterranean, through participation in groups, networks and programmes sharing this ambition, thus strengthening ties with other countries in this field.
- Participation by the social economy in implementing the SDGs, with presence at forums and conferences. Especially important in this respect is the involvement of the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security in the Monitoring Committee of the National Action Plan for Business and Human Rights .
- Support for research-based actions, in collaboration with universities, research centres and editorial boards.
- Issuance by the Official Credit institute (ICO) of social bonds. These bonds, issued in Spain for the first time between 2015 and 2019, have contributed to the preservation and/or generation of 270,000 jobs in the most disadvantaged regions of Spain, where GDP is below the national average.

Next steps

The Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security will continue to apply the **2017-2020 Social Economy Strategy**, with its 11 lines of action and 63 specific measures. When so required under the system of devolved government powers, the activities concerned will be undertaken by the Autonomous Communities.

⁹ Available at: https://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2018-3857



VIII. Plan for open government



Advances, achievements and results

Since Spain joined the Open Government Partnership in 2011, three Open Government Plans have been published. The **Third Plan (2017-2019)**, which is currently being applied, was designed with the participation of all levels of public administration – national, regional and local – and of civil society. It includes 223 measures, divided into 20 commitments and with five main priorities: collaboration, participation, transparency, accountability and training.

As of 31 March 2019, 136 of these measures (61%) had concluded and another 67 (30%) were continuing. Among others, the following advances have been made:

- The creation of an open government forum, providing a **space for dialogue and collaboration between government administrations and civil society**. The forum is composed of 64 members – 32 from civil society and 32 from public administrations – and operates in full assembly, via standing committees and via three collaborative, participatory working groups, working on transparency and accountability, training, and awareness-raising. These groups meet every three months to share experiences, to follow-up commitments made and to discuss future measures to be adopted.
- The development of the **education for open government project**, with activities in primary and secondary schools to promote skills for the exercise of democratic citizenship, demanding greater transparency of public authorities and playing an active role in public affairs.
- The celebration of **Open Administration week**, aimed at promoting transparency and accountability, collaboration and citizens' participation in public affairs.

With a view to increasing the efficiency of public administration and making it more responsive to citizens' needs, measures have been taken to defend and promote the independent, transparent provision of justice, such as the reform of the Judicial Process Act and actions to provide more judicial units and resources, and to raise staffing levels.

Next steps

The design has begun of the **2019-2021 Fourth Open Government Plan**, with the preparation of a consensus document for the administrations involved, national, regional and local, and civil society, to establish its priorities.

In addition to the objectives related to strengthening and improving the quality of citizen participation and transparency, open data and accountability, the plan aims to build a system of public integrity, strengthening ethical values and reinforcing the trust of citizens, as well as promoting greater awareness among public employees and society in general of the development of open government values and their contribution to the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda.

In addition, a consultation process has been initiated, as a result of which 130 citizens' proposals have been received for inclusion in this Fourth Plan. These proposals will be evaluated in the open government forum in accordance with the criteria published online, giving special consideration to actions aimed at promoting equality, social inclusion and compliance with the 2030 Agenda.



IX. Spanish Cooperation: a renewed approach to the SDGs



Advances, achievements and results

Since the presentation of the Voluntary National Review to the United Nations, Spain's international development cooperation policy has been reinvigorated. The forthcoming programme for Spanish Cooperation is set out in the **2019 Annual Communication**, which describes the substantial progress made in this respect, although the freezing of the General State Budget has severely limited the possibility of further boosting the quantitative recovery of Spain's Official Development Assistance. This regained activity has focused on restoring the former relationships among all those involved in international development cooperation, via ongoing dialogue and based on the express recognition that development cooperation policies must be constructed with the participation of the Autonomous Communities, municipal governments, NGOs, universities, the business world, trade unions, and all the individuals working in this field, both professionals and volunteers. The Secretariat of State for International Cooperation and for Latin America and the Caribbean (SECIPIC) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) are making all possible effort in this regard and the Development Cooperation Council has received a fresh impulse, with the full-hearted collaboration of Spanish Cooperation, setting up working groups on gender issues, childhood, system capabilities, education for development and the 2030 Agenda. In addition, frameworks for joint action have been renewed, with bodies such as the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE) and the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP). A strategic framework for collaboration with NGOs has also been drafted.

In the multilateral sphere, a strengthened, coherent and effective policy of sustainable development has been developed, particularly regarding European Union cooperation and the strategic alliance with the United Nations. Spain has expressed explicit, resolute support for the UN Reform Process in general and the Development System in particular, to adapt the UN to the 2030 Agenda. As a result of this commitment, a strategic alliance has been established with the Office of the Secretary-General, embodied in the Joint Communiqué between Spain and the United Nations to collaborate in sustainable development, which was made public following the Spanish Prime Minister's meeting with the Deputy Secretary-General during his visit of State to Spain in February 2019.

The first main tangible outcome of this alliance has been Spain's contribution of ten million euros to the UN Joint SDG Fund, making our country the fourth largest donor, together with support for reforming the system of resident coordinators, who provide the bedrock of UN actions for sustainable development.

The second visible result is the work undertaken to establish Strategic Partnership Frameworks with the main funds and programmes of the UN sustainable development system. In this respect, agreements have been signed with UN-Women, during the Commission on the Status of Women in March, and with UNDP in September. A similar framework agreement with UNICEF is expected to be signed before the end of 2019.

Fundamental relations with UNESCO in culture and development have been recovered, and Spain's commitment to the United Nations Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) has been renewed with an extraordinary contribution, at a particularly delicate time for this organisation.

In a third aspect of its international development cooperation actions, Spain has given international prominence to “localising the SDGs”, in multi-party collaborations and with an important role being played by the FEMP. A High-level Meeting on this subject was held in Seville in February 2019, an event that was hailed internationally as the “Seville Commitment”, reflecting the firm resolve of Spanish Cooperation to strengthen the localisation of the SDGs, at all levels, local, national and global.

In the European context, Spain is playing a leading role in the negotiations of the text of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) within the framework of the new European multiannual financial framework for the period 2021-2027. The 2030 Agenda has been reinforced as a benchmark, providing a methodological and evaluative framework for the new single instrument and incorporating the impact on development and the need for due diligence among the fundamental principles of the mobilisation of private investment.

The AECID presidency of the group of European development agencies (the “Practitioners Network”) since May 2019 has also helped strengthen dialogue with the European Commission. During its Presidency, AECID has sought to direct this network’s activities towards the “5 Ps” of the 2030 Agenda, by addressing issues such as migration, culture and development and knowledge management.

Another key point is the boost given to achieving to SDG 17, via alliances with our partner countries, with all parties and at all levels, to implement the 2030 Agenda in a consistent manner in our cooperation. After several years of absence, Country Association Framework agreements for development have been reached with Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Peru and Ecuador. Dialogue with Senegal and Cuba is at a very advanced stage and the corresponding agreements are expected to be signed shortly.

Spain has joined the EU Joint Programming process to strengthen the coordination and alignment of EU cooperation and Member States in the field, and also forms part of the United Nations Cooperation Framework (UNDAF).

The AECID is currently celebrating its 30th anniversary, and is playing a strong role in generating spaces for dialogue, knowledge and mutual recognition among public institutions, civil society, the academic world and the business sector. From this standpoint,

specific instruments for development partnerships have been promoted, such as the renewed Call for Innovation Actions for 2019, with greater participation by the private business sector, and further emphasis on public-private partnerships, a novel aspect of which is their current application to humanitarian action and the incorporation of technological innovation through the SHIRE Alliance. In addition, the agreement between the AECID and 10 Autonomous Communities to work together in promoting humanitarian action has been renewed, with the incorporation, moreover, of the FEMP. Among many other advances, AECID has recovered the dimension of culture as a catalytic element of the 2030 Agenda and has emphasised the inclusion of gender equality among its internal priorities and in its cooperation action.




Furthermore, the AECID has promoted a Cooperation Strategy for Africa, focused on West Africa and the Sahel; it will also support the Masar Water Programme in Africa and the Middle East, updating its gender component, and in Latin America, the Workshop Schools Programme 2030 is being carried out. Finally, a renewed strategic relationship framework will be agreed with the NGOs and other actors, including the private sector.

After a broad consultative process, the new Strategy for Humanitarian Action of Spanish Cooperation has been adopted, setting priority lines for the sectoral, geographical and strategic work of our action in this field. During 2019, Spain will chair the donor group in support of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, highlighting its commitment to humanitarian diplomacy.



TRANSFORMATIVE MEASURES

Transformative measures are actions and political initiatives intended for rapid implementation and which provide an extraordinarily high potential for change, in terms of laying the foundations for the successful deployment of lever policies and for the future Sustainable Development Strategy.

 <p>1. Locate the 2030 Agenda at the heart of Spain's identity in Europe, in the world and in multilateral politics</p>	 <p>2. Foster alliances for the SDGs among all parties, as transformation vectors</p>	 <p>3. Foster education for sustainable development as a fundamental pillar and achieve SDG 4.7 by 2025</p>
 <p>4. Inform to make known. Raise awareness to bring about change. Communicate to transform: a pact to convey the 2030 Agenda.</p>	 <p>5. Foster culture as a crucial aspect of transformation</p>	 <p>6. Develop a civil service with the knowledge and capabilities to implement the SDGs</p>
 <p>7. Budget appropriately for the SDGs: align the budgets of each of the ministerial departments</p>	 <p>8. Align public procurement with the SDGs.</p>	 <p>9. Require a mandatory report on the regulatory impact of legislative activity on the SDGs</p>
 <p>10. Align the 2030 Agenda and the National Reform Plan</p>		

1. Locate the 2030 Agenda at the heart of Spain's identity in Europe, in the world and in multilateral politics



Firmly support the progress, implementation and ambition of the 2030 Agenda in the EU and in all international forums and institutions

Advances, achievements and results

At a time like the present, global leadership in defence of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement and the values, principles and foundations of multilateralism is essential. From the outset, Spain has discharged its responsibility to defend, strengthen, foster and promote the 2030 Agenda and climate action. During the last twelve months, in all areas of international relations, whether bilateral or among multilateral forums and institutions, Spain has played a prominent role in promoting the 2030 Agenda. Our diplomatic services, public administrations, civil society, universities, private companies and many other elements of our society have joined forces to make the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at home and abroad a hallmark of our identity.

- **Europe's policy**

Among the EU Member States, Spain has strongly advocated placing the 2030 Agenda at the heart of the post-2020 EU strategy. To this end, it has promoted the formation of a group of eleven European countries "Friends of the 2030 Agenda", from which an active position on the 2030 Agenda has been coordinated both in the Council of the European Union and in the European Council. This work has been accompanied by tireless dialogue with Spanish and European civil society, with particular reference to the new strategic horizon "Europe 2019-2024".

Spain's commitment in this regard is demonstrated by the inclusion of the 2030 Agenda in the conclusions of the European Council of 18 October 2018 and in the Conclusions of the Council of the European Union on 9 April 2019, to promote an even more sustainable European Union by 2030. Sectorally, and through the various ministries, consideration of the 2030 Agenda, this level of involvement is evidenced by the inclusion of the 2030 Agenda in the conclusions of the European Council of 18 October 2018 and in the Conclusions of the Council of the European Union adopted on 9 April 2019, to promote an even more sustainable European Union by 2030. Sectorally, and through

the various ministries, consideration of the 2030 Agenda in various Council committees has been incorporated into the discussions of various Council committees and into some of the main EU governance mechanisms, such as the European Semester. In the context of the negotiations of the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework, Spain and other Member States have worked to persuade their partners that the main objective of negotiations on the new Neighbourhood Development and International Cooperation instrument (NDICI) should be to achieve the SDGs and that the reference framework for this should be the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

Spain's participation in the 2030 Agenda Working Group of the EU Council and in the Voluntary Task Force of the 2030 Agenda has also consolidated its leadership in all issues related to the the Agenda in Europe.

In addition, Spain has been a member of the Executive Committee of the European Sustainable Development Network, for the first time since its creation in 2002. In this context, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, via the Secretary of State for Trade, will argue that trade negotiations within the EU should take an ambitious approach towards issues related to sustainable development, trade, gender and SMEs, in accordance with the SDGs set out in the 2030 Agenda and with the Paris Agreement to combat climate change.

- **Multilateral policies**

This year, the 2030 Agenda and the Agreements on Climate Change have taken centre stage among the priority objectives of Spain's foreign action in multilateral institutions. At the United Nations, Spain has strongly supported monitoring the implementation of these Agreements and the reform process promoted by the Secretary General, in which the 2030 Agenda occupies a central place. In February 2019, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina J. Mohammed, made an official visit to Spain and held meetings with the

President of the Government, many members of the Council of Ministers, the joint Congress-Senate commission for the 2030 Agenda, the members of the Sustainable Development Council and others. This shared commitment is embodied in the Spain-United Nations Joint Communiqué for sustainable development, which constitutes a fundamental pillar of the multilateral policy for sustainable development that Spain will carry out in the coming years.

Furthermore, Spain has heightened its active participation in UN initiatives focused on the 2030 Agenda, via agencies and programmes such as UN Habitat, WTO, UN Women, FAO, SDG Campaign, ILO and UNESCO.

During the Japanese Presidency of the G20, Spain urged the Group to strengthen its role in driving the international implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In addition, at Spain's proposal, the G20 has resolved to make a fresh commitment to Education for Sustainable Development, and has taken part in a mutual learning exercise for the 2030 Agenda, together with Argentina and Japan.

Spain has also emphasised its commitment to the SDGs within the regional organisations of which it is a member, especially the OECD, NATO, OSCE, the Council of Europe, OAS and SEGIB, and also in many other organisations, technical bodies and international forums in which it takes part. Moreover, the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs feature prominently in Spain's bilateral relations worldwide, and numerous actions have been taken and agreements signed in this regard.

Some SDGs are especially relevant to Spain's foreign action last year. For example, with respect to SDG 2, Spain hosted the First Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition in October 2018, reflecting our commitment to the implementation of the right to food, via FAO projects financed by AECID such as the Hunger-Free Latin America and Caribbean Initiative. In addition, we have supported the FAO Office for the Right to Food, and the World Centre for Sustainable Urban Food has been created in Valencia, in partnership with FAO. With regard to SDG 3, in the field of health in International Humanitarian Law and in the protection of civilians, Spain has promoted programmes related to primary care and universal health coverage. In relation to SDG 4, education in conflict situations, Spain hosted the Third International Conference on Safe Schools and the G20 has renewed its commitment to Education for Sustainable Development. Regarding SDG 5, a strategic partnership agreement has been signed with UN Women, as part of the UN Agenda "Women, Peace and Security" and this has been developed at regional and bilateral levels.

Spain has also been active in fields such as SDG 6, on clean water and sanitation, with the MASAR Water program; SDG 8, on inclusive and resilient development, with the Third Plan Africa; SDG 13, in monitoring the outcomes of the Climate Change Summit, in promoting the Green Climate Fund and in supporting the Iberoamerican Network of Climate Change Offices. With respect to climate change, our diplomacy has been mobilised to obtain support for the three initiatives that Spain is co-heading with Peru for the Climate Action Summit convened by the UN Secretary-General, on health and climate, a fair transition, and gender issues and climate (these initiatives are related to SDGs 3, 8 and 5, respectively). Spain's diplomacy has been active regarding SDG 16, in areas such as participation in international operations and missions for the construction of peaceful and stable societies, in Africa, the Middle East and Southeast Europe, among other regions; the promotion of the rule of law and the development of solid institutions through civil missions and electoral observation, particularly in Latin America and Africa; the defence of human rights and support for civil society; combating all forms of violence and organised crime, especially human trafficking and smuggling networks in the Mediterranean; and support for the International Criminal Court and the Statute of Rome). Finally, concerning SDG 17, Spain has not only revitalised its development cooperation policy, but has lent support to the "localisation" of the SDGs, i.e. application of the 2030 Agenda at local and regional levels, by the authorities at those levels, thus promoting effective alliances among those directly involved.

Next steps

Spain's commitment to place the Agenda at the heart of its identity in the world requires us, on the one hand, to continue and extend the actions currently being undertaken and, on the other, to identify those areas in which significant further action may be taken. In this regard, Spain is promoting the 2030 Agenda as a focal aspect of international agendas, both multilateral and bilateral, and of commercial, financial, cooperation and other agreements that will be negotiated in the coming year. Consideration will be given to establishing mechanisms to monitor the progress achieved, and to contributing to further strategic actions aimed at the SDGs (reflection on long-term development, instruments to promote the Agenda, communication strategies, strengthening institutional commitment, etc.).

In relation to SDG 17, on strengthening the means of implementation, Spain will seek to implement the necessary coordination, promotion and monitoring mechanisms. This will require further theoretical and methodological examination, and the creation

of appropriate methods and indicators. One of the areas addressed in SDG17 is that of development cooperation, but its scope goes far beyond this, and if the Goal is to be achieved, other financial flows and their means of implementation must also be addressed.

2. Foster alliances for the SDGs among all parties, as transformation vectors



Firmly support multi-party inclusive alliances for the SDGs, with mutual accountability and well-defined actions

Advances, achievements and results

The transformation of the economy, the environment and our society in order to carry out the 2030 Agenda and achieve the SDGs can only be achieved through multi-actor alliances. During the last year, the High Commission has worked to lay the foundations for these alliances to be solid, lasting and involving all sectors, and in this respect has achieved tangible results.

In the business sector, progress is being made in the Business Alliance for the 2030 Agenda. Promoted by the High Commission for the 2030 Agenda, the aim of this Alliance is to directly involve the Spanish business sector (public and private) in innovative consensus-based solutions, within the framework of the 2030 Agenda. Preparations are now concluding for a “Public Companies Alliance for the 2030 Agenda”, which will identify fruitful areas for collaboration with the High Commission, prioritising compliance with measures from the public sector in support of sustainable progress and innovation.

In this regard, the High Commission has supported measures such as the Public Companies Action Group for CSR, coordinated by Forética and headed by ICO in 2018 and by ICO and Adif in 2019. In 2018, this body published its “Practical Guide for the contribution of public companies to the 2030 Agenda”, to foster the inclusion of the SDGs in the strategies of public companies, equipping them to act as levers for change, and fostering the alignment of other economic and social actors with the SDGs.

The private sector in Spain, too, has shown significant interest in working to implement the 2030 Agenda. Almost all of the Ibex 35 companies are committed to the 2030 Agenda and companies are working in this field and creating alliances with other actors, such as NGOs, universities and sectoral associations, to address the challenges set out in the 17 SDGs and their 169 targets. The first draft of the Alliance of Private Companies for the 2030 Agenda is currently being prepared.

In March 1918, the Council of Ministers approved the Action Plan for the Internationalisation of the Spanish Economy 2019-20, according to which the Secretariat of State for Trade and its dependent agencies must incorporate all three dimensions of sustainability into their business-related policies and programmes, constituting the transversal axis of the administration for matters concerning internationalisation. This Action Plan, moreover, contains various measures contributing to the fight against climate change.

Other significant alliances that have been formed include the Country Alliance against Child Poverty, which has already been subscribed to by over 20 public and private companies, together with many other third sector entities; the agreement with the Secretariat of State for Tourism, on the promotion of the SDGs through the Network of Smart Tourist Destinations, the reconversion of tourist destinations, the promotion of decent employment in the sector and the innovation of a sustainable tourism sector working with and supported by the High Commission. In addition to the above, specific agreements have been reached with companies, for example to promote the COP 24 Climate Summit, and to promote information disclosure at different levels about the 2030 Agenda.

Finally, special mention should be made of the official recognition by FAO in December 2018 of the “Millennial Olives Agricultural System of the Sénia Territory”, located at the confluence of the Spanish Autonomous Communities of Aragon, Catalonia and Valencia, as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS). This Agricultural System involves multiple actors and addresses cross-cutting aspects of vital importance in the international context of the 2030 Agenda, such as climate change, innovation and the sustainability of the agri-food sector.

Furthermore, many professionals, academics and third sector organisations provide long-term support for activities related to the 2030 Agenda, mainly in information disclosure and communication, in collaboration or alliance with the High Commission.

Next steps

Preparations are currently under way for a Framework Agreement with public companies, taking the form of an alliance, for coordination and support in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in this area. Work is also being done to coordinate an alliance with the private and public business sectors, which is scheduled to be launched before the end of the year.

3. Foster education for sustainable development as a fundamental pillar and achieve SDG 4.7 by 2025



Achieve SDG 4.7 in Spain by 2025, five years before the 2030 horizon

Advances, achievements and results

On 15 February, the Council of Ministers approved the draft Organic Law amending Organic Law 2/2006, of 3 May, on Education (LOMLOE). This Law seeks to modernise the educational system with the inclusion of “Education for global citizenship”. The 2030 Agenda is incorporated as one of the five transversal axes of this framework. The Sixth Additional Provision of LOMLOE is focused on education for sustainable development and for global citizenship, and includes the commitments set out in the Action Plan for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda regarding teacher training, creating a calendar for this

purpose.

Also significant in this context is the development of various Territorial Cooperation Programmes, financed and coordinated by the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, but managed by the Autonomous Communities. Examples include the Orientation and reinforcement programme to encourage the permanence of young people in the education system (PROA +); the Strategic Plan for Harmony within the School Community; and the Strategic Plan for healthy, sustainable lifestyles in school.

In 2018, for the first time in seven years, the Observatory of scholarships, grants and recognition of academic performance was convened, to review and revise the system of financial assistance in education. Finally, in order to encourage university researchers, whose inclusion of the 2030 Agenda in their activity is of crucial importance, the Knowledge Transfer Six-year Plan has been created to reward the excellence of university teachers and researchers, and to foster the transfer of knowledge to society.

Next steps

The LOMLOE must now be developed, with the following aims:

- Design a new curriculum focused on essential competencies.
- Reform the teaching profession (initial training, career development, continuing education and evaluation).
- Promote the minimum quality requirements (for schools and curricula) for the first stage of early childhood education.
- Approve a new Organic Law for the Universities. The first stage of this process will be to launch a public consultation. In this area, progress is being made in designing a new system of university governance, and in designing a model of finance and accountability in line with similar university systems elsewhere in Europe.
- Attract and retain talent. These goals will be addressed via a review of current mechanisms of evaluation and access to academic positions. A new Statute for teaching and research staff will be drafted.
- Promote internationalisation.
- Bring the university closer to society, such that it has a greater impact on regional economies and on the economic model.
- Include the gender perspective.

Steps will also be taken to ensure equal opportunities in access to university education, by increasing the provision of scholarships and grants, reducing the effect of income thresholds and providing sums that allow the best students to study where they choose. Moreover, the former minimum levels of tuition fees will be abolished.

Finally, a Royal Decree will be issued on the direct subsidies provided to the Spanish universities which form part of the alliances created within the European Universities programme of the European Commission (67.4% of these alliances involve at least one Spanish university). Fourteen universities benefit from these grants, for a total amount of three million euros, and the administration has pledged to continue supporting this initiative.



4. Inform to make known. Raise awareness to bring about change. Communicate to transform: a pact to convey the 2030 Agenda.

Reach an agreement to extend awareness of the 2030 Agenda among all levels of public administration and with private and civil society

Advances, achievements and results

Dissemination of the 2030 Agenda is a central element of the High Commission's activity, in the view that it is essential to promote awareness and understanding of the SDGs in order to ensure the participation of public and private sector actors, and of society as a whole. For this reason, and to maximise visibility, thus encouraging collective and individual actions, the High Commission has launched a comprehensive plan to explain the content of the Agenda, through social media, digital communications, multimedia campaigns and numerous interviews and articles in both general and specialised media.

It is important to remember that achieving the 2030 Agenda will not be possible, in Spain or anywhere else in Europe, unless small and medium-sized enterprises (which account for over 98% of companies) are suitably involved in this endeavour. In other words, SMEs must be well acquainted with the SDGs and align their activity and management practices accordingly. The existence of a sustainable long-term business fabric is essential to the generation of jobs, the economic growth and the social well-being that are necessary if the SDGs are to be achieved.

An outstanding development in this regard is the initiative taken by the Spanish Official Credit Institute, in partnership with the Global Compact, to help SMEs incorporate the SDGs into their management priorities. A web space (#ICOpymeODS) [#COsmeSDG] has been created to help construct a business fabric that is aligned with the common development needs of SMEs, enabling them to be more sustainable, competitive and committed to the climate, the environment and people.

According to the CIS Barometer (Study 3238, conducted in February 2019), only 13% of the Spanish population are aware of the 2030 Agenda, a degree of unfamiliarity that prompted the High Commission to make its publicity a central activity and to enter into numerous communication-related alliances. To this end, the symbols of the 17 SDGs have featured prominently in publicity given to Spain's public policies, enjoying pride of place in the press room at the Moncloa Complex and accompanying the logos of ministries and public bodies, thus reaffirming the Government's commitment to the 2030 Agenda. The High Commission has encouraged the use of the SDG symbols in all types of events and appearances related to sustainability, seeking to achieve the greatest possible acceptance by all areas of society. Strategically, and to enhance its impact, the international and national calendars feature activities to promote specific aspects of the Agenda (environmental, social and economic).

Main actions taken:

- Digital media: web page. Accounts on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, all operational since July 2018.
- Advertising campaigns at key moments of the calendar on Equality, Inclusion, Disability, biodiversity, oceans, the environment, Human Rights. The "Most important countdown of the year" campaign received an Honourable Mention at the SDG ACTION communication festival organised by the UN.

Next steps

Develop and detail the Agenda Communication plan; extend the acceptance of the SDG/Agenda 2030 brand among public and private organisations; consolidate the ODSÉATE [*SDGyourself*] campaign launched to coincide with the fourth anniversary of the SDGs (25 September 2019); reach wider audiences, especially young people and children, using new or adapted communication products.

Continue promoting the #ICOpymeODS initiative, which has been distributed among the 350,000 companies in the ICO database and which, with the help of the Global Compact, its stakeholders, ICO partners and the High Commission for the 2030 Agenda will make a real impact, with repercussions among a broad spectrum of the Spanish small business sector. In the near future, the ICO Foundation will publish a report on the circular economy and SMEs.

5. Foster culture as a crucial aspect of transformation



Decisively promote cultural action for the diffusion and ownership of the 2030 Agenda

Advances, achievements and results

For the Government of Spain, the role of culture in the 2030 Agenda is the basis and the instrument for achieving inclusive sustainable development. Culture enables us to consolidate the democratic values and social advances promoted by the 2030 Agenda, and therefore we wish to conceptualise these concepts and translate them into concrete actions. In this regard, on 14 March 2019 the President of the Government chaired a forum at the Moncloa complex, under the title “Culture and the 2030 Agenda”, with the participation of over 200 people from every dimension of culture.

Contacts have been established with personalities from the world of art, design and culture to consider and present models of sustainability in these areas.

In our external action, meetings have been held with the directors of the Cervantes Institutes, to reflect on the relation between the 2030 Agenda and the world of culture.

In March 2019, the Spanish Network for Sustainable Development (REDS) held its “Third Conference on Sustainability and Cultural Institutions”, presenting the declaration “Culture in support of the 2030 Agenda”, a manifesto setting out a commitment to sustainable development of

stakeholders in the field of culture.

Next steps

In order to advance our definition of culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development, we need to conceptualise it and create a roadmap to make culture a transformative instrument within the 2030 Agenda. Accordingly, actions are being considered to establish spaces for dialogue with relevant parties in different disciplines, to enhance our understanding of cultural realities and their contribution to our achieving inclusive, sustainable development.

It is also important to collaborate with other multilateral institutions in putting into practice declarations and action plans, reinforcing our position and developing further actions.

On 6 September 2019, the new “Sustainable Content and 2030 Agenda Award” was announced at the 11th FesTVAl Closing Gala of 2019, to encourage productions supporting the 2030 Agenda and sustainability. This action was supported by the High Commission for the 2030 Agenda and by the Ministry of Culture and Sport.

6. Develop a civil service with the knowledge and capabilities to implement the SDGs



By 2022, ensure that 100% of public employees, in government and public companies, are aware of the 2030 Agenda, and that those with direct responsibilities for its implementation have the necessary skills to do so

Advances, achievements and results

The National Institute of Public Administration (INAP) has stipulated that specific elements of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs should be incorporated as subjects for study, in the syllabus for public service entrance examinations and in selective courses for admission to some Ministerial departments, such as the National Agricultural Engineering Corps, the Diplomatic Corps, the National Executive Civil Administrators Corps, the Management Corps for Information Systems and Technologies and the Technical Scale of Management for Decentralised Organisations.

Within the Ministry of Employment, Migration and Social Security, the 2030 Agenda already forms part of its personnel selection processes and intake courses, for groups such as social security lawyers, social security technical personnel, social security comptrollers and auditors, social security and employment inspectors and employment subinspectors. In addition, public employees receive training on the SDGs, via a workshop aligning the INAP's activity with the 2030 Agenda.

These training processes have been brought to the attention of the other ministries that perform similar informative functions, such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Among other activities in this area, the Institute of Fiscal Studies organised a conference under the title "Sustainable Development and the 2030 Agenda", and in December 2018 a space was opened on the Intranet under the heading "Sustainable Development", providing basic information about the SDGs and related activities in Spain, with examples from Autonomous Communities and the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP), together with information on the role of civil society, the universities and the business sector.

Among the training courses offered for public managers, INAP imparts a module of the Certified Public Manager programme focused on the topic of "SDGs – Agenda for change". In this respect, too, the new Master's Degree in Public Management and Leadership was designed taking into consideration the skills required to promote and implement the 2030 Agenda.

The Training Plan for Public Employees in Open Government offers numerous courses related to the principles of the 2030 Agenda, especially SDG 16. In the course entitled "Strategic planning as a public management tool", the contents include the impact made on strategic planning by the commitments undertaken in the framework of the 2030 Agenda. Finally, through the INAP social network and its bulletin "The Administration Day-to-Day", a massive open online course (MOOC) is offered by the Centre for Innovation in Technology for Human Development, at Polytechnic University of Madrid.

In addition to the above, in 2018 the Diplomatic School began offering a specific course on the SDGs, implementing a joint project by the High Commission for the 2030 Agenda and the Spanish Network for Sustainable Development (REDS).

Next steps

Specific Agenda-related content is expected to be included in the 2019 Offer of Public Employment, by the following bodies:

- Management Corps of the National Civil Administration.
- Management Corps for Information Systems and Technologies of the National Administration.
- General Administrative Corps of the National Administration.

- General Auxiliary Corps of the National Administration.
- Corps of Auxiliary Computer Technicians of the National Administration.

The INAP will continue to align courses taught in the following areas with the 2030 Agenda: organisation and operation; public management and leadership; professional skills.

At the same time, preparations are under way to impart a MOOC on the SDGs, intended specifically for public sector personnel. Furthermore, courses will be offered on the territorialisation of the 2030 Agenda and on multilevel planning, incorporating public management methodologies and tools at national, regional and local levels, among others. Finally, specific content referring to the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs is expected to be included in the subjects addressed in entrance examinations for other areas of government.

7. Budget appropriately for the SDGs: align the budgets of each of the ministerial departments



The relationships between the SDGs and the corresponding spending policies and programmes will be established in 2020, facilitating the analysis of resource allocation

Advances, achievements and results

In 2018 and prior to the design of the basic structure for information provision and of the standardised method by which each ministerial department should annually report on this alignment of public resources, an analysis was conducted of the draft General State Budget for 2019.

During 2019, the first steps are being taken that will enable ministerial departments, during 2020, to **align their budgets with the SDGs**. This identification of how the budget assigned to each ministerial department will contribute to achieving the SDGs is an essential condition for the success of management policies adopted with this purpose in mind.

Next steps

During the year, under the coordination of the State Secretariat for Budgets and Expenditure, a methodology will be developed to align the General State Budget with the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. On the basis of this methodology, the “Order determining the rules for generating the General State Budgets”, in the section referring to the

“Documentation and durations for the preparation of the General State Budget”, will incorporate a new section entitled “**Impact Report for the Sustainable Development Goals**”.

To prepare this Impact Report, the relevant ministerial departments will analyse the impact made on the SDGs by their spending programmes, reporting their findings to the Ministry of State for Budgets and Expenditure, in the terms established for that purpose by the Secretariat of State.

These contributions by the ministerial departments will form the basis for the formulation by the Secretariat of State for Budgets and Expenditure of the SDG Impact Report. A working group will be established, with representatives from the Ministry of the Presidency, Relations with Parliament, and Equality; from the Secretariat of State for Budgets and Expenditure; from the Directorate-General for Budgets; and from the Office of the Minister of Finance, to agree on the final drafting of this report, which will accompany the preliminary draft of the General State Budget Law.

8. Align public procurement with the SDGs



The National Public Procurement Strategy will incorporate the 2030 Agenda and, in particular, SDG 12 (Target 12.7) within its general framework, objectives and targets, and will ensure the necessary measures are taken to make use of the possibilities offered by public procurement to support the SDGs

Advances, achievements and results Next steps

The government has taken measures to foster the transition towards business models and strategies that generate social and environmental value. For example, Royal Decree 94/2018, of 2 March created an **Interministerial Commission to promote the incorporation of social criteria into public procurement**. In addition, on 12 April 2019, the Council of Ministers approved a **plan to promote socially responsible public procurement**, aligned with SDG 8.

Also significant in this respect is the Interministerial Commission for the incorporation of ecological criteria within public procurement, which was created by Royal Decree 6/2018, of 12 January. On 7 December 2018, at the recommendation of the Plenary Assembly of this Interministerial Commission, the Council of Ministers approved the **Ecological Public Procurement Plan for the Central State Administration, its autonomous agencies and the managing entities of the Social Security administration 2018-2025**, aligning this procurement with SDG 12.

In order to achieve SDG 12 and “ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns”, the government will foster good practices for public procurement, to bring about a change in models of consumption. In this respect, guidelines will be issued for the application of social, environmental and ethical clauses, and the necessary mechanisms for their inclusion in the bidding processes will be created. This measure will also promote the creation of new, more sustainable models of production, thus supporting inclusive sustainable development. These guidelines will be designed and issued by the interministerial commissions for the incorporation of social and ecological criteria into public procurement, and their working groups, and with the maximum participation of and contributions from the different levels of public administration, the business sector and the social partners, thus advancing our commitment to responsible production and consumption models in all areas concerning public procurement.

9. Require a mandatory report on the regulatory impact of legislative activity on the SDGs



In 2019, it will be mandatory to accompany all regulations approved by Parliament, at the initiative of the Government, with an analysis of their normative impact on the 2030 Agenda and on the SDGs

Advances, achievements and results

A report on the regulatory impact of legislation on the 2030 Agenda is required in order to enhance policy coherence and to promote actions linked to each of the objectives of the Agenda. It will also contribute to aligning current public policies with the objectives and targets of the Agenda.

In addition, the Report will enhance normative practice, strengthen policy coherence and highlight the relationships among the different objectives.

Next steps

When this reporting system is fully operational, it will highlight the impact on the 2030 Agenda of all new government regulations, thus identifying the institutionalised advances achieved.

The Report will also provide valuable information for the analysis of policy coherence and of government action aimed at social, economic and environmental transformation.

10. Align the 2030 Agenda and the National Reform Plan



Implementation of the 2030 Agenda and progress towards the SDGs will be incorporated into the National Reform Programme that the Government of Spain is required to send to the European Union each year, from 2019

Advances, achievements and results

To implement the Agenda for Change and to put into practice the 2018 Specific Recommendations made to Spain by the Council of the European Union, the Government has set out its 2019 National Reform Programme (see table below), which is fully aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

One of the fundamental points of this Programme is the development of the European Pillar of Social Rights, which is structured around three main axes: equality of opportunities and access to the labour market (SDGs 8 and 10); the consolidation of fair working conditions (SDGs 1, 8 and 10); and social protection and inclusion (SDGs 1, 3, 8 and 10).

74% of persons aged 20-64 years in work			
Actions	SDGs		
Action Plan for youth employment	8	4	
Master Plan for decent work	8	16	
Additional support for Public Employment Service training programmes	8	4	17
Employment activation strategy	8	5	
2019 annual employment policy programme	8		
Shorten and simplify employment contract options	8	16	
Put into practice a capitalisation accounting system for employment mobility.	8	10	16
Reincorpora-T (<i>Back 2 Work</i>) programme	8		
New industrial policy	8	9	12
Strategic plan for the automobile sector	8	9	12
2030 strategic framework for SMEs	8	12	
19-20 trade modernisation plan	8	12	
Strategy for sustainable tourism	8	12	14
Royal Decree-Law (RDL) 20/2018 on competitiveness	8	9	12
Action Plan on internationalisation	8	17	
Strategy for a Fair Transition	7	10	13
RDL 25/2018 on Fair Transition	8	9	13
Investment of 2% GDP in R+D			
Actions	SDGs		
State Budget for R+D+I	9		
State commitment to R+D+I	9		
Employment stability and rejuvenation of research personnel	8	9	
RDL 3/2019 for science.	9		
RDL 103/2019 on research personnel	8	9	
Beatriz Galindo programme	4	8	9
Spain – Entrepreneurial Nation	8	9	10
Strategy for artificial intelligence	8	9	
Bill for the digital transformation of the financial system	9	16	
Targets to combat climate change (emissions, renewable energy and efficiency)			
Actions	SDGs		
National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) 2021-2030	7	13	
Bill for Action on Climate Change	7	13	
10% reduction in emissions by diffuse sectors with respect to 2005 (212.39 mill ton. CO2 equivalent in 2020)			
Actions	SDGs		
RDL 15/2018 on energy transition	7	12	13
MOVES programme	7	11	13
2020 route map for the diffuse sector	13		
Renewable energy 20% of total energy consumption			
Actions	SDGs		
RDL 15/2018 on energy transition	7	12	13
Non-peninsular electrical systems	7	10	
Energy efficiency: 20% reduction in primary energy consumption (on projected primary energy use in 2020): 119.8 MTEP			
Actions	SDGs		
RDL 15/2018 on energy transition.	7	12	13
Programme of assistance for energy efficiency	7	12	13
Rate of school dropout less than 15%			
Actions	SDGs		
Bill amending the Organic Law on Education	4	10	
Promotion for vocational training	4	8	
Plan for vocational training	4	8	
Universal education for children aged 0-3 years	4	5	10
Regional territorial cooperation programme	4	10	16
Updated catalogue of professional skills	4	8	
Higher education for 44% of persons aged 30-34 years			
Actions	SDGs		
University education law	4	8	9
New policy for university grants and fees	4	10	
Reduce the number of people in poverty or social exclusion by 1.4 m compared to 2009			
Actions	SDGs		
Raise the minimum wage	8	10	
National strategy against poverty	1	10	16
RDL 8/2019 on social protection	8	10	
Expansion of the social discount scheme for electricity and creation of a similar scheme for heating.	7	10	
National strategy to address the demographic challenge	8	11	15
Action Plan for the 2030 Agenda		All	
Further efforts to combat child poverty	1	10	
VECA programme	4	10	
Housing Plan	11		
RDL 7/2019 for housing and rentals	10	11	

CSR 1	
Actions	SDGs
Spending reviews	17
Enhanced framework for public procurement	12 16
Bill for a tax on financial transactions	16 17
Bill for a tax on certain digital services	16 17
Bill on measures to prevent and combat tax evasion	16 17
Reform of corporation tax	17
Reform of personal income tax	10 17
Increase revenue from wealth tax	17

CSR 2.1	
Actions	SDGs
Action Plan for youth employment	4 8
Additional support for Public Employment Service training programmes	4 8
Employment activation strategy	4 8 10
2019 annual employment policy programme	4 8 10

CSR 2.2	
Actions	SDGs
Master Plan for decent work	8 16
Shorten and simplify employment contract options	8 16
Capitalisation accounting system for employment mobility	8 10 16

CSR 2.3	
Actions	SDGs
Raise the minimum wage	8 10
Reinforce systems for social protection	1 10
Align paternity and maternity benefits	8 10
National strategy against poverty	1 10 16
Further efforts to combat child poverty	1 10
Increase benefits for dependent children	1 10
VECA programme	4 10
Action Plan for the 2030 Agenda	All
National strategy to address the demographic challenge	8 11 15
Strategy to eliminate energy poverty	1 7
Expansion of the social discount scheme for electricity and creation of a similar scheme for heating.	7 10
RDL 7/2019 on housing and rentals	10 11

CSR 2.4	
Actions	SDGs
Bill amending the Organic Law on Education	4 10
Promotion for vocational training	4 8
Plan for vocational training	4 8
Universal education for children aged 0-3 years	4 5 10
Regional territorial cooperation programme	4 10 16

CSR 3.1	
Actions	SDGs
State commitment to R+D+I	8 9
Employment stability and rejuvenation of research personnel	4 8 9
RDL 3/2019 for science.	4 8 9
RDL 103/2019 on research personnel	4 8 9
Spain – Entrepreneurial Nation	8 9
Cervera network	8 9
Actions by the Centre for Industrial Technological Development (CDTI)	8 9

CSR 3.2	
Actions	SDGs
Cooperation between the Universities Governing Council (CRUE) and the Spanish Confederation of Business Organisations (CEOE)	4 16
Support for industrial Ph.D.s	4 9
Business research institutes	4 9 12
Plan for vocational training	4 8
Updated catalogue of professional skills	4 8
Action Plan for youth employment	8 10

CSR 3.3	
Actions	SDGs
Sectoral conference on regulatory reforms and the business climate	16
Protection mechanisms for operators: Arts. 26 and 28 of the Law to protect and maintain the single internal market (LGUM)	16
Protection mechanisms for operators: Art. 27 of the LGUM.	16

3.2. Other significant measures approved by the Council of Ministers

As indicated above, the Government's actions this year are reflected, on the one hand, in the advances made with the transformative and lever policy measures stipulated in the Action Plan and, on the other, in the Council of Ministers' approval of other significant measures aimed at materialising its political, social and ethical commitments to promote inclusive prosperity, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Many of these measures are intended to reinvigorate social policies, promote the energy transition to combat climate change, improve the quality of institutions and boost the economy, within a framework of justice and equal opportunities.


The incorporation of the SDGs into public policies is a Government commitment, as a result of which over 320 measures were approved by the Council of Ministers from June 2018 to June 2019, as a meaningful contribution towards achieving the SDGs.


This outlook is broad based, seeking integrated, comprehensive actions to address problems taking into account the priorities of sustainable development policy, with input from all Government Ministries.

These Government measures, structured according to the SDGs addressed, are detailed in Annex 1 and summarised below.

NO POVERTY	DATE
National strategy to prevent and fight against poverty and social exclusion	22-03-19
RDL to reinstate benefit payments to those aged over 52 years	08-03-19
Urgent measures to alleviate the rising price of electricity, and to promote the energy transition	05-10-18
FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION	DATE

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	DATE
Strategic framework of primary health care	17-04-19
Universal access to the National Health System	27-07-18
QUALITY EDUCATION	DATE
Bill to amend the Organic Law on Education	15-02-19
Agreement between the Spanish Development Corporation (AECID) and the World Bank on the Global Partnership For Education Fund	21-12-18
Bill to reverse cuts in education budgets	14-09-18
Royal Decree establishing the regulatory basis for grants for multi-regional vocational training programmes in rural areas	17-05-19

 GENDER EQUALITY	DATE
Royal Decree regulating attention to equality within the General State Administration	12-04-19
RDL on equal opportunities in employment	01-03-19
Government statement on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	23-11-18
RDL on urgent measures for a State Pact against gender violence	03-08-18
Royal Decree approving the regulatory bases for subsidies to rural women's groups nationwide for activities of special interest to promote the role of women in rural development	15-03-19
Decision to formalise the distribution criteria and the resulting distribution of credits for the development of programmes and services that guarantee the right to comprehensive social assistance for victims of gender violence and care for minors; to improve the coordination and development of personalised plans; and to develop programmes to support victims of sexual assault or abuse.	12-03-2019
Decision to formalise the distribution criteria and the resulting distribution of credits for 100 million euros as part of the State Pact against gender violence. These credits are to be applied by the Autonomous Communities and by cities with a statute of autonomy.	12-03-2019
Decision to acknowledge Reports II and III on progress made in the 2015-2018 Comprehensive Plan to combat trafficking in women and girls for the purpose of sexual exploitation.	02-08-2019

 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	DATE
Approval of the 2019-2024 National Strategy against energy poverty.	05-04-19
Urgent measures to alleviate the rising price of electricity, and to promote the energy transition	05-10-18

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	DATE
Authorisation to contract the necessary services to ensure the supply of drinking water via the Alicante I and II desalination plants.	30-11-18
Authorisation to conclude the 6 th service contract for the operation and maintenance of the automatic hydrological information system of the Ebro basin.	30-11-18
Authorisation to sign the first addendum to the MAPA-SEIASA collaboration agreement to establish the general performance criteria for this public company in relation to the modernisation and consolidation of irrigation plant and to increase the capital stock of SEIASA by €18 million, funded by the General State Budget.	21-12-18

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	DATE
Plan to promote socially responsible public procurement	12-04-19
Plan "Reincorpora-t" (<i>Back 2 Work</i>)	05-04-19
Action Plan for the internationalisation of the Spanish economy	29-03-19
Annual Employment Policy Plan	08-03-19
Basic structure of the 2030 Strategy for Sustainable Tourism	18-01-19
Approval of the increase in the minimum wage to 900 euros for 2019	21-12-18
Approval of the 2019-2021 youth employment plan for vocational training and job placement for those aged under 30 years.	07-12-18
Master Plan for Decent Work	27-07-18


 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, INFRASTRUCTURE	DATE
Strategy to digitise the agri-food and forestry sector and the rural environment	29-03-19
General guidelines for the 2030 Spanish industrial policy	22-02-19

REDUCE INEQUALITY	DATE
Increase in the percentage applicable to the Regulatory Base of the widow's pension for persons aged 65 years or more.	20-07-18
Revaluation of over 10.3 million pensions.	28-12-18
Draft reform of Article 49 of the Constitution to provide greater protection for the rights of persons with disability.	07-12-18
Reform of civil and procedural legislation on disability-related issues.	21-09-18
Bill to combat new forms of tax evasion.	19-10-18

SUSTAINABLE CITIES	DATE
National Housing Plan 2018-2021	27-07-18
National strategy to address the demographic challenge	29-03-19
The urban agenda in Spain	22-02-19

RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION	DATE
Ecological Public Procurement Plan for the Central State Administration, its autonomous bodies and the Social Security management agencies.	04-02-19
Council of Ministers approval for the creation of Trade Observatory 4.0.	11-10-18

CLIMATE ACTION	DATE
Approval of the strategy for a fair transition	22-02-19
National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030	22-02-19

14 VIDA SUBMARINA	LIFE BELOW WATER	DATE
		
	Amendments to the Annex to the 1997 Protocol amending the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973.	01-03-19
	New regulation of bluefin tuna fisheries in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean	08-02-19
	Approval of Marine Strategies to ensure the healthy environmental state of our seas by 2020.	02-11-18
	The Mediterranean Cetacean Corridor declared a protected marine area.	29-06-18

LIFE ON LAND	DATE
2018 plan for action to prevent and fight forest fires	06-07-18
Royal Decree regulating the functions and composition of the National Forest Council	11-10-2018
2019 plan for action to prevent and fight forest fires	14-06-2019
Consideration of emergency declarations for the recovery of woodland affected by fires	Councils of Ministers in 2018-19

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	DATE
Strategy to modernise the justice system	12-04-19
Creation of the Directorate-General for historical memory	29-06-18

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	DATE
Bill for the digital transformation of the financial system	06-07-18
Agenda for Change	08-02-19
Approval of the "Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda: towards a Spanish strategy for sustainable development"	29-06-18

3.3. The Agenda for Change

With appropriate public policies, the challenges we face today – including climate change, globalisation, urban development and the technological revolution – provide opportunities to modernise and address structural reforms that will increase the potential of the Spanish economy. On 6 February 2019, in this understanding, the Council of Ministers published its **Agenda for Change**¹⁰, presenting it as a roadmap guiding the Government's approach towards the reforms set out in the 2030 Agenda, laying the foundations for sustainable development and resolving to improve people's lives, whilst ensuring that none are left behind.

With the Agenda for Change, economic policy is reoriented towards a model of inclusive growth that places the economy at the service of people and protects the environment. This Agenda, led by the Ministry of Economy and Business, is one of the three axes of the Government's economic programme, together with fiscal sustainability and social cohesion. Among other goals, it seeks to promote reforms in the fields of education, employment, innovation, gender equality, social welfare and models of production. All of these areas are addressed in the recommendations made by the European Commission, which urged Spain to take advantage of the current economic situation, to make its economy more resilient and strengthen productivity growth.

Based on a diagnosis of the economic situation in Spain, identifying its strengths and the imbalances that must be corrected in the medium term, the Agenda for Change outlines a proactive economic policy aimed at economic, environmental and social sustainability. It envisages structural reforms and details over 60 cross-cutting measures divided into six lines of action. The Government has resolved to implement these measures and in many respects has already made decisive progress, with significant initiatives being taken in each of the Agenda areas (see Annex 7):

- In that of **training and human capital**, the Government has approved initiatives to reform the education system and align qualifications with the needs of a constantly evolving labour market, especially in the field of vocational training (Bill to amend the Education Law, which has a high level of consensus in the sector, and Strategic Plan for Vocational Training).

- Another key lever is that of **scientific and technological progress**. The Government has promoted R&D, strengthening public research centres and paying special attention to key enabling technologies, such as artificial intelligence, and the deployment of digital networks. It has also taken measures to close the gender gap in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).
- The pillars of the **ecological transition** process have also been established, with the adoption of the Strategic Energy and Climate Framework, including a Bill on Climate Change and Energy Transition, a National Energy and Climate Plan and a Fair Transition Strategy. The Framework sets ambitious targets for emissions reduction and will stimulate investment in sectors of the future, while also providing instruments to support sectors and territories that require assistance. Measures to promote sustainable mobility and energy efficiency have also been adopted, and actions have been taken to develop the circular economy.
- Among measures to achieve an **efficient and fair labour market** are the historic increase in the minimum wage, reinforced inspection activity under the Master Plan for Decent Work, specific plans for young people and the long-term unemployed, and measures to ensure equal treatment and opportunities for men and women in employment.
- Stimulus to growth must be accompanied by measures to **reduce inequality**. In this respect, too, progress is being made, with increased benefits for dependent children, the adoption of a Strategy to Prevent and Fight against Poverty, a Strategy against Energy Poverty and the General Guidelines for a Future Strategy for demographic challenge, and actions to improve access to housing.

¹⁰ Available at: http://www.mineco.gob.es/stfls/mineco/ministerio/ficheros/190208_agenda_del_cambio.pdf

- Finally, there must be a **more efficient Government administration** to put these policies into practice and to provide a suitable framework for the proper functioning of the markets. Notable initiatives in this area include the creation of the Spanish Macroprudential Authority Financial Stability Council (AMCESFI) and the strengthening of the powers of the National Commission on Markets and Competition (CNMC) to regulate the energy sector. In addition, the transparency of aid and grant assistance has been strengthened, and the principles of good governance and corporate social responsibility have been incorporated into the public business sector.

The Agenda for Change has become consolidated as a framework for economic policy, ensuring the coherence of government actions and guiding efforts to achieve fairer and more sustainable growth.

Successful implementation of the measures set out in the Agenda requires the involvement of all levels of public administration – central, regional and local – as well as the support of citizens and businesses.

Given this, Spain can play a key role in guiding globalisation towards inclusion and sustainability, and will be at the forefront of the 2030 Agenda and the fight against climate change. The measures included in the Agenda and their relationship with the SDGs are shown in the table below.

Aims of the 2030 AGENDA and the measures contained in the Agenda for Change

(Source: Agenda for Change)

END POVERTY	4  QUALITY EDUCATION
Develop guaranteed minimum income benefit for each dependent child, for persons in severe poverty	Universal early childhood education (age 0 to 3 years)
School lunch grants	Education Reform Law
Grants for educational materials	Strategic Plan for Twin-track Vocational Training
Inclusive leisure activities during school holidays	Reform of the catalogue of professional skills
Social, cultural and sports activities for children in situations of vulnerability	University law
100% protection from energy poverty for vulnerable families	New policy on university grants and fees
Restore unemployment benefits for those aged over 52 years	
Support for vulnerable people threatened with eviction	
Mobilisation of public land for social or affordable rental housing	
Apply ICO-EIB instruments to promote the availability and uptake of housing rentals	
State Housing Plan 2018-21 to boost affordable rented housing	
Streamline bureaucratic procedures to encourage house building	
Measures to increase the transparency of information on rented housing	
Plan to support agreements between SAREB, the Autonomous Communities and municipalities for social housing	
Measures to support sustainability in the rural environment	

IGUALDAD
DE GÉNERO

GENDER EQUALITY

- Law on gender equality in the labour market

- Commitment to transfer funds to the municipalities to eradicate gender violence

- Assistance for work/family balance and rationalisation of working hours

- Establish the National Office to Combat Discrimination in Employment

- Measures to ensure the presence of at least 40% of women on Boards of Directors

- Laws to address the gender gap in employment

- Strategic Plan for Equal Opportunities

- Align paternity and maternity benefits

- Measures to close the gender gap in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics

- Observatory on "Women, Science and Innovation"

- Encourage science as a career option

- Agreement between the Foundation for Science and Technology and the Institute for Women

- Measures to avoid discrimination against researchers during maternity

- Programme to attract women towards entrepreneurship

- New line of support for women entrepreneurs in rural areas

- Laws to develop the State Pact against gender violence



CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

- National Plan for water treatment, sanitation, efficiency, saving and reuse

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

- New 'green' taxation

- Law on climate change and energy transition

- National Plan for energy and climate

- Regulation of self-consumption

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Plan for the modernisation of retail trade

- Issuance of ICO social bonds for the creation and maintenance of employment

- "Spain - Entrepreneur Nation" strategy

- Law on startups

- Law on digital transformation (sandbox) in the financial sector

- Repeal the most damaging aspects of the 2012 labour reform

- Action plan for youth employment

- Improve the efficiency and coordination of active employment policies

- Improve training by specialised centres and companies

- Raise the minimum wage

- Shorten and simplify employment contract options

- Promote the permanent seasonal contract

- Combat labour market fraud**

- Gradual implementation of a system of individual capitalisation accounts for mobility.

- Incentives for the active search for employment. Simplification of employment assistance.

- 21st Century Statute for Workers

- Plan for emigrant workers to return to Spain

- 2030 Strategy for sustainable tourism

- Plan for the internationalisation of the Spanish economy

- National Strategy to address the demographic challenge

- Creation of offices to combat depopulation

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- State commitment on investment in R+D+I: up to 2.5% in the General State Budget

- Development of the 14/2011 Law on Science

- Stabilisation and rejuvenation of research personnel

- 2019-2022 Action Programme on the logistic chain

- Review of the toll system for high capacity roads

- Measures to promote productive and sustainable investments in ports

- 2019-2025 Plan for suburban rail transport

- Liberalisation of rail transport of passengers

- Plan to deploy digital infrastructure

- Investment in priority technologies: blue economy, personalised medicine and disruptive technologies

- Strategy for artificial intelligence

- 2030 Industrial Agenda for Spain

- ICT and IoT for interconnectivity and intermodality

- Master Plan for irrigation

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

- Law on preventing and combating tax fraud
- Reform of corporation tax
- Reform of personal income tax
- Reform of wealth tax
- Tax on certain digital services
- Tax on financial transactions
- Reforms to ensure orderly and safe migration
- Forum on National Consolidation to combat rural depopulation
- Measures to promote the incorporation of young people and women (rural environment)
- Strategy for a fair energy transition
- Measures to promote the sustainability of the rural environment
- AXIS: Sustainability and Social Impact initiative (Euro 50 m) to invest in social impact funds. First CREAS approved fund.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

- Municipal initiatives for urban mobility

RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

- Strategy for a circular economy

CLIMATE ACTION

- 'Green' taxation policies
- Law on Climate Change and Energy Transition
- National Plan for Energy and Climate
- Plan for sustainable mobility
- Measures to promote alternative energies for vehicles
- Measures to promote the installation of charging points in urban areas
- Programmes for self-driving cars
- Environmental Damage Compensation Fund
- Issuance of OCO green bonds
- AXIS: Creation of FII (Euro 400 m) to foster sustainable investment and energy transition and of FII I, on circular economy and renewable energy projects.

LIFE BELOW WATER

- Strategy for blue growth and the sustainability of the fishing sector and coastal areas

LIFE ON LAND

- Environmental Damage Compensation Fund
- Measures for the sustainability of the agri-food and forestry sectors and rural areas

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

- Greater efficiency in public spending.
- Measures to eliminate cartels from public tenders
- Plan for the digitalisation of government administration
- Towards Open Government
- Redirectioning the activity of the ICO
- Single risk management centre
- Increased efficiency and impact of instruments for financial internationalisation and development aid
- Personal folder for administrative communications
- Application of principles of good governance and CSR in the public sector
- In public procurement, address issues related to the gender gap, the demographic challenge, the promotion of SMEs-startups, and innovative public purchase plans
- Publicity for institutional agendas
- Develop the Government Transparency Law
- IV Plan for Open Government
- White Paper on reforming regulatory and economic supervision agencies
- Enhanced competences for the National Commission on Markets and Competition (CNMC) in the supply of electricity and gas

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

- Leadership in combating international tax evasion and tax avoidance
- CSR Action Group for Public Companies, coordinated by Forética and led by ICO in 2018 and by ICO and Adif in 2019, which in 2018 published the first "Practical Guide for the contribution of public companies to the 2030 Agenda"
- #ICOpymeODS web space.

3.4 Territorial cohesion

As the Agenda for Change points out, one of the biggest challenges facing Spain concerns sociodemographic development, in areas such as rural depopulation, population aging, falling birth rates and territorial dispersion. These are all risks to our model of coexistence, which is based on territorial and social cohesion. Territorial demographic imbalances, aggravated by the significant abandonment of the rural environment that is currently affecting Spain, seriously jeopardise the achievement of the SDGs. There can be no sustainable development or territorial cohesion without a living, prosperous rural environment, managing and preserving assets that are of fundamental importance for our society. In parallel, the demographic challenge cannot be met without serious endeavours, in the medium and long term, to achieve the SDGs.

However, demographic changes also offer an opportunity to modernise the country and increase its potential, if they can be addressed taking a cross-cutting, integrated approach, as set out in the 2030 Agenda, focusing on families, digitalisation, emigration and entrepreneurship.

Taking this view, the Government Commissioner for the Demographic Challenge is working to design and implement the **National Strategy to combat the Demographic Challenge**, a global, cross-cutting strategy that has arisen from the agreement reached with the Autonomous Communities and the Municipalities at the 6th Conference of Presidents in January 2017.

To achieve this goal, on 29 March 2019 the Council of Ministers approved an Agreement on the **General Guidelines for the National Strategy to combat the Demographic Challenge**¹¹, to progress in three major areas:

- Define a work method and model of participatory governance, applicable horizontally with all ministerial departments, vertically with the Autonomous Communities and the municipalities and transversely with civil society and the private sector.
- The general objective of the Strategy is to lay the foundations for a nationwide project to ensure equal opportunities and the free exercise of citizenship rights throughout the country, via coordination and cooperation among all government agencies, the sustainable use of native resources and close collaboration between the public and private sectors. Lines of action

have been established to address the three demographic challenges identified at the 2017 Conference of Presidents: progressive aging, depopulation and the effects of the floating population.

- The objectives and lines of action of the Strategy have been aligned with seven SDGs and 11 specific targets and with the 2030 Agenda.

In addition, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA) has undertaken the following measures to revitalise the rural development:

- Creation of the National Depopulation Forum, within the framework of the National Rural Network, as a forum for dialogue among representative stakeholders in rural affairs.
- Promotion of generational change in agricultural activity: aid for the incorporation of young farmers and complementary payments for young people (within the Common Agricultural Policy); tax benefits for agricultural activity in rural areas; enhanced access to credit for young people through the MAPA centralised financial management instrument; and improved training facilities and advice for young people, among other measures.
- Support for innovation and digitalisation in the rural environment, via the Digitalisation Strategy for the agri-food and forestry sectors and rural areas in general, through its first two-year Action Plan.
- Support for women in rural areas, via measures in the future Action Plan in this respect.
- Application of the National Rural Development Programme and financial support for the Spanish Rural Development Programmes.
- Support for family farming and irrigation. The forthcoming Master Plan for irrigation will set out objective criteria for investments in irrigation, by reference to their environmental, economic and social sustainability.

¹¹ Available at: http://www.mptfp.es/dam/es/portal/reto_demografico/Estrategia_Nacional/directrices_generales_estrategia.pdf

- The review and updating of the strategic planning documents ‘Spanish forestry strategy’ and ‘Spanish forestry plan’, in collaboration with the Autonomous Communities and representatives of the sector.
- Support for the Autonomous Communities in the prevention and extinction of forest fires, and financial contribution by MAPA for the restoration of areas affected by large-scale forest fires.
- Implementation of the 2018-2020 Strategy for Ecological Production.

The following measures will be taken to align the proposed National Strategy to combat the Demographic Challenge with the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda.

CROSS-CUTTING OBJECTIVES	TARGET
1. Ensure full territorial connectivity, with adequate coverage of broadband internet and mobile telephony throughout Spain, in accordance with the European Digital Agenda 2020.	9.c
2. Ensure the appropriate, equitable provision of basic services to the entire population, according to the characteristics of each territory.	10.2
3. Incorporate demographic considerations into the development of investment laws, plans and programmes.	16.6
4. Further regulatory and administrative simplification for small municipalities.	16.6
5. Eliminate stereotypes and enhance the image and reputation of the territories most affected by demographic risks.	
6. Improve mechanisms for greater public-private collaboration, promoting the incorporation of demographic factors into the social responsibility of the private sector, to convert all territories into scenarios of opportunity.	17.1
7. Align the areas of action of the Strategy with the fulfillment of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda.	All

Next steps

Following approval, the General Guidelines were communicated to the Autonomous Communities and the FEMP, for them to make the contributions deemed necessary, within the framework of their competences.

In the coming months, the Institutional Working Group composed of the Autonomous Communities and the FEMP will prepare the **Final Strategy Document**, to be presented at the next Conference of Presidents. The cross-cutting nature of the Strategy means it must be carried out in a coordinated way, via numerous multi-scale action plans. In addition, pilot projects are being designed, with a bottom-up philosophy and close public-private collaboration, which will facilitate progress in the implementation and evaluation of good practices, despite the extent and complexity of the demographic challenges presented.

Finally, the MAPA is working constantly to support young people and generational change in agricultural activity, with specific measures both within the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and with its own initiatives. In addition, this Ministry, in collaboration with the Autonomous Communities and the main agents and representatives in the sector, has initiated the design of the future National Strategic Plan for the post-2020 CAP.



Localising the 2030 Agenda: a multi-level action

Due to their proximity, decentralised government administrations play a crucial role in society. The work carried out by the Autonomous Communities and local governments in Spain contributes very significantly to the multi-level nature of the actions taken and their locations. In this respect, local communities and entities act as catalysts, promoting actions with immediate repercussions and visibility and inspiring the involvement of local citizens and organisations.

For these reasons, the Government of Spain considers the localisation of the SDGs to be an essential dimension in assuring the success of the 2030 Agenda, and of related strategies such as the Urban Agenda and the Circular Economy.

As concluded in the “Sevilla Commitment”, the Final Declaration of the High Level Event on Localising the SDGs, held in Spain in February 2019¹², the SDGs can only be achieved through institutional and intersectoral coordination, in which an essential role must be played by dialogue and complementarity among local, national and international stakeholders, and by collaboration with the public and private sectors and with civil society.

In 2018, local and regional governments made important efforts in their respective fields towards advancing the implementation of the Agenda. This progress is detailed below.

4.1. Advances in the Autonomous Communities

Summary of the main actions carried out by the Autonomous Communities. The complete documents are shown in ANNEX 2.

Andalusia

In June 2018, the Andalusian Government approved its **Sustainable Development Strategy** for 2030 (EADS), to guide public and private policies towards a type of socioeconomic development incorporating economic prosperity, social inclusion, gender equality and environmental protection. The Strategy includes 37 lines of action, with 226 measures assigned to areas of priority and aligned with the SDGs.

The Strategy outcomes will be monitored and evaluated by means of 46 indicators, with biannual reports and an intermediate evaluation. The Strategy was adopted following consultation with several Ministries within the Andalusian Government. It was also open to social participation and received contributions and suggestions from a range of interested parties.

¹² Available at:

https://www.agenda2030.gob.es/sites/default/files/recursos/Compromiso%20de%20Sevilla.%2027%2002%202019_0.pdf

According to Presidential Decree 2/2019, of 21 January, the Andalusian Vice-Minister for Equality, Social Policies and Conciliation is responsible for the promotion and coordination of actions to achieve the SDGs, and for their representation before higher-ranking government bodies.

Preparation has begun of the **Andalusian Plan for International Development Cooperation 2019-2022**. This Plan will focus on the 17 SDGs, including instrumental aspects of SDG 17 aimed at strengthening instrumental resources and at revitalising the Global Alliance for Sustainable Development.

The Plan will leverage the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Andalusia in two strategic areas: on the one hand, by contributing to the fight against poverty and promoting sustainable human development in the priority countries for Andalusian cooperation (in conjunction with the UNDP); and on the other, by fostering a well-informed, educated society that is committed to sustainable human development

Implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Andalusia will be complemented by the Andalusian System of Sustainable Development Indicators for the 2030 Agenda¹³, which currently includes 102 indicators. These regional indicators are aligned with those established by Spain and other EU countries, thus facilitating comparison.



Aragón

The Aragón Strategy for Sustainable Development contains some twenty actions to be undertaken, most of which are well advanced. Of these measures, four that have been promoted in the last year are especially significant:

- **EBRO 2030**: This strategic plan is composed of three major programmes: Ribera Verde (a 185 km green corridor along the banks of the river Ebro, passing through Zaragoza, the longest of its kind in Spain); Expo Innova, a park focused on innovation, education and sustainable family leisure; and the Water Innovation Conference, to be held in December 2019. In addition, the “Council for the Future” has been created, with 17 advisors, one for each SDG.
- **CVOL**: a digital platform that accredits the time spent by volunteers in identifying, quantifying and communicating thousands of social, environmental and educational projects. The platform can also be used to download a certificate acknowledging the volunteers’ skills and knowledge and their contribution to the 2030 Agenda.
- **ATLAS of Citizens’ Initiatives**: a map locating hyper-local actions of citizen innovation or social innovation, by reference to the corresponding SDGs.
- **2030 Alliance** between **Aragonese Federation for Solidarity (FAS)** and **ECODES**. The FAS has organised a roadshow to publicise the 2030 Agenda, carried out by the “Restaurante Mundo” workshop in the 33 districts of Aragón. Together with ECODES, FAS is the driving force in Aragón for the 2030 Alliance.

¹³ <https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/institutoestadisticaycartografia/ods/index.htm>



Balearic Isles

The Government of the Balearic Islands is currently formulating a governance model to incorporate the SDGs into government action in a cross-cutting, systematic way. Significant measures taken so far include:

- **Plan to combat prostitution and the trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation** (SDG 5).
- **Law on climate change and energy transition** (Law 10/2019, of 22 February), to address the causes of climate change within the current model of energy production and consumption. The Government's aim is to eradicate the use of fossil fuels by 2050 (SDGs 7 and 13).
- **Law on health and safety at work** (Law 7/2018, of 31 July). This Law is intended to reduce the currently high rates of accidents in the workplace in the Balearic Islands and to enhance mechanisms for the detection of occupational diseases (SDG 8).
- **Law on micro-cooperatives** (Law 4/2019, of 31 January), to foster the creation and consolidation of small cooperatives and of systems for communal land use (SDG 8).
- **Law on support for families** (Law 8/2018, of 31 July), providing measures of social and economic protection for vulnerable families (SDG 10).
- **Law on services to people in the social field** (Law 12/2018, of 15 November), regulating the system for coordinated action by government administrations and the third (social) sector to develop a portfolio of high-quality social services (SDG 10).
- **Decree 15/2018, on the special scheme for international development cooperation and solidarity** (SDG 10).
- **Law on housing** (Law 5/2018, of 8 February), to provide solutions to the problem of access to housing (SDS 10).
- **Law on the environmental and economic sustainability of the island of Formentera** (Law 7/2019, of 8 February), with measures to reduce the massification of visitors and vehicles on the island of Formentera during the tourist season (SDG 11).
- **Law on waste disposal and contaminated soils** (Law 8/2019, of 19 February) to manage waste according to criteria of the circular economy, and to reduce the impact of contaminated and degraded soils (SDG 11).
- **Law on agricultural activities** (Law 3/2019, of 31 January), to ensure the continuity of sustainable agricultural activities and of local food production (SDG 15).



Cantabria

Within the framework of Cantabria's Strategy for Sustainable Human Development, the following advances have been made:

Ownership:

- **Approval of the Education Strategy for development and social transformation** and the development of two action plans, for formal and non-formal/informal fields.
- Creation of a **working group in the Cantabria Local Sustainability Network** (RLSC), to align sustainability indicators for municipal activities with the SDGs. In addition, training courses on the 2030 Agenda are being held.

Policy coherence:

- Preparations are under way to approve a Decree creating an **agency to coordinate and take decisions** on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
- **An alliance has been forged** between the Cantabria Cooperative Fund Foundation (a public sector foundation) and the Cantabrian Coordinator of DNGOs for training on the 2030 Agenda.

Multidimensional focus:

- The agents and actions of Education for Development in Cantabria are being mapped, extending the diagnostic range to actions and policies related to the SDGs. At the municipal level, indicators of sustainability are being aligned with the SDGs.

Culture of learning:

- An agency is being created to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the SDGs in Cantabria, among other functions.

Among future actions, the 2030 Plan for the Sustainable Human Development of Cantabria, based on regional and multi-stakeholder dialogue, is expected to be approved in 2020. Thus, the SDGs will be tackled through concrete, multidimensional measures. In this respect, accountability will be assured by the creation of a standing committee for this purpose in the Parliament of Cantabria.



Castilla y León

The Government of Castilla y León is working to implement the 2030 Agenda in four main areas: Governance, Policy Coherence, Training and Information/Awareness. In each of these, the aim is to strengthen the attachment of the Agenda in the territory and thus contribute to achieving the SDGs. In this field, the following notable advances were made in 2018:

- **Policy coherence**, with the publication of “Guidelines for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Castilla y León”¹⁴.
- **Training for key stakeholders**, including:
 - Training for public-sector workers, expressly incorporating 2030 Agenda values into the training programmes of all departments.
 - Training for DNGOs and other organisations within civil society, promoting SDG-related activities, focusing on their cross-cutting nature and addressing related communication methodologies, helping interested parties align their actions with the 2030 Agenda.
- Training for the educational community: sessions aimed at teachers, management and the educational community in general on the content and effective transmission of the Agenda. A **Network of Schools and Colleges for Development** has been created, with centres committed to the 2030 Agenda, to involve students in the co-responsibility of achieving the SDGs.
- **Informing and raising awareness:**
 - Subsidies for DNGOs and educational institutions.
 - Diversification of informative public actions, in collaboration with the DNGO Coordinator of Castilla y León and with other agencies in civil society.

¹⁴ www.jcyl.es/agenda2030



Castilla - La Mancha

A Monitoring Committee, chaired by the First Vice-President, has been created under Decree 38/2018, of 5 June, to promote and record the actions taken towards fulfilling the 2030 Agenda, with representatives of all the agencies of the regional administration. Reporting to this Committee, Working Groups for the SDGs have been created, coordinated by the different Regional Government Ministries, to coordinate the participation of all involved.

On 13 March 2019, the Monitoring Committee for the 2030 Agenda issued its report “Goals to transform our world: Castilla-La Mancha, committed to the 2030 Agenda”¹⁵, an analysis of the progress made, towards each SDG and target, in all the actions conducted since 2015.

Finally, a Strategy for the implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda in Castilla-La Mancha is being prepared, including an Action Plan, its corresponding roadmap, a communication plan and a code of good practices.



Catalonia

Since July 2018, the Catalan Government has finalised its National Plan for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including over 800 specific commitments, domestic and international, related to territorial and sectoral regulations and planning, the Government’s Plan and departmental plans.

On 9 November 2018, the Catalan Parliament passed **Motion 20/XII on the 2030 Agenda**, resolving to:

- Integrate the SDGs in its legislative action.
- Create a working group within the Committee on External Action, Institutional Relations and Transparency, to study means of integrating the SDGs into all areas of parliamentary activity.
- Promote the 2030 Agenda in the international and European associations and working groups in which it participates.

In the same motion, Parliament urged the Government to:

- As a cross-cutting measure, include considerations of gender and sexual diversity in the National Plan for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

- Ensure that members of the Government take stock of the degree of achievement of the SDGs in their appearances before Parliamentary committees.
- Obtain a twice-yearly report from the Advisory Council for Sustainable Development (CADS), on the progress made towards achieving the SDGs.
- Prepare the baseline document of the National Agreement for the 2030 Agenda in Catalonia, and energise the Catalonia 2030 Alliance, which the Government began preparing in May 2019 with the involvement of stakeholders in civil society.

In April 2019, the Catalan Institute of Statistics and the CADS began calculating the 99 Eurostat SDG indicators for Catalonia.

In 2020, the following challenges will be addressed:

- Conduct an internal review and update of the Plan, within the Interdepartmental Committee for the 2030 Agenda and related consultative processes, with the participation of relevant agencies established by the Catalan Government.

¹⁵<https://www.castillalamancha.es/gobierno/vicepresidenciaprime-ra/estructura/dgvriae/actuaciones/agenda-2030>.

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- Encourage public and private actors to sign the National Agreement for the 2030 Agenda. Create and energise the Catalonia 2030 Alliance.
 - Achieve the socialisation of the SDGs among citizens, MPs and leading figures in civil society.
 - Calculate and publish the Eurostat SDG indicators.



Valencia

The following documents have been published:

- Map of progress made in Valencia towards achieving the SDGs.
- Government policies and actions in 2018 with respect to the SDGs.
- Map of SDG-related activities by the public administration in Valencia in 2018.

These documents, prepared by the Directorate-General for Cooperation and Solidarity, provide statistical information on areas concerning the SDGs, with particular reference to the 5Ps of the 2030 Agenda - people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships, and present indicators reflecting levels of poverty, nutrition, life expectancy, education, wage gaps between men and women, unemployment, access to energy in the home, the implementation and use of new technologies, pollution, responsible consumption, crime and public-sector transparency, among other issues.

In December 2018, the High Advisory Council for the development of the 2030 Agenda¹⁶ was formed. This Council has 35 members, representing the ministries of the regional government, other public bodies, the trade unions and the business sector. The Council also has six experts in economics, the environment, children's rights and the social sector, who are currently working in areas related to the 2030 Agenda or are conducting research in these areas. The Council is chaired by the President of the Government of Valencia.

Among other challenges to be addressed, the Government of Valencia will:

- Develop a regional strategy for sustainable development, defining policies for the planning, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs and their targets.
- Coordinate and lend coherence to sectoral policies and to the Government's legislative initiatives, by drafting roadmaps or similar documents for action, seeking to incorporate the SDGs and their targets into the Administration's planning and budgeting instruments.
- Monitor and evaluate the degree of achievement of the SDGs in the region.
- Evaluate the alignment between the High Advisory Council's policies and the SDGs.
- Establish transparency mechanisms on the Government's implementation of SDG-related activities.

¹⁶ Decree 94/2018, of 20 July, creating advisory and participation bodies for the Sustainable Development Goals.



Extremadura

The Government of Extremadura will localise and promote the 2030 Agenda in the region via measures expressing the Coherence of Public Policy for Development (CPPD). This approach is composed of four main areas, in which the following are particularly significant:

- **Governance framework for the 2030 Agenda**

A Secretariat, reporting to the Office of the President of Extremadura, has been set up to lead, coordinate and articulate commitment to the CPPD and to the 2030 Agenda. Political agreements will be reached within the Regional Assembly, giving rise to legislation and budgets aimed at achieving compliance with the SDGs. Furthermore, participatory spaces will be designed to facilitate the representation of all stakeholders in the region.

- **Strategy to advance the 2030 Agenda**

Work has begun on defining political orientations and major lines of action to achieve the Agenda.

In addition, a major commitment has been made in the field of knowledge generation, focusing on two main aspects: generating a knowledge system that helps promote the CPPD and the Agenda, via specific research and reports; and strengthening academic and research activities in universities and other knowledge centres in the region.

- **Mapping lines of action to localise the SDGs and promote the 2030 Agenda**

Appropriate policies have been mapped and their contribution and impact on the SDGs identified. Progress is now being made to implement structures ensuring that the transformations made and the resources deployed are aligned with the priorities set out in the CPPD.

In terms of capacity building, the Public Administration School provides specific training courses on the 2030 Agenda, the CPPD and human rights, mainstreaming the perspective of sustainable development and prioritising the development of skills and competencies needed to apply the new ways of thinking required by the 2030 Agenda.

- **Report on progress in implementing the CPPD and the 2030 Agenda**

The preparation of a monitoring and accountability report on compliance with the 2030 Agenda by the Extremadura Government is a central part of its road map to promote the CPPD. With the support of the Extremadura Institute of Statistics and the staff units responsible for the CPPD and the 2030 Agenda, the Secretariat for the 2030 Agenda will support and coordinate the Report on progress and results achieved.



Galicia

In 2019, an Interdepartmental Commission was set up to monitor compliance with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs in Galicia, and to propose new actions in this respect. This measure fulfils one of the recommendations made in the study “The implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development by the Government of Galicia”, published in 2018.

To ensure the appropriate and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda, specific training courses have been taken by the members of the Commission and of the working groups. In addition, the course “How to implement the 2030 Agenda in the public administration” has been addressed to staff

within the regional administration, local governments and the universities of Galicia. The 2030 Agenda for Galicia, currently being finalised, provides an exhaustive diagnosis of the environmental and social situation in the region, and presents a set of indicators, based on those proposed by the UN, adapted to the situation in Galicia.

Other projects or lines of work associated with the 2030 Agenda include:

- The Galician Strategy for Climate Change and Energy 2050. The main objective of this Strategy is to transform Galicia into a climate-neutral region by 2050.
- Technical Coordination Office of the Pact of Mayors for Climate and Energy. Staff from this TCO will visit municipalities to discuss the 2030 Agenda and highlight its importance at the local level.
- Galician Strategy for the Circular Economy 2030, drafted in collaboration with the three universities of the region. This Strategy is being made public for general information.
- Galician Strategy for Corporate Social Responsibility 2019-2021, encouraging Galician companies to grow in equilibrium with economic, environmental and social variables and with principles of good governance.
- Galicia Strategy for Green Infrastructure, based on a network of strategically-planned natural and semi-natural areas, in order to sustainably manage ecosystems and the services they provide.
- Energy Guidelines for Galicia 2020-2030, to optimise the use of the region's energy potential.
- Galician Culture Strategy 21, to protect, promote and develop cultural diversity, strengthening alliances to foster social participation (especially by the most vulnerable citizens) and enhancing the social function of cultural institutions.
- Fourth Master Plan of Galician Cooperation 2018-2021, incorporating the principal values of the 2030 Agenda, in particular, that of "No-one left behind".
- Galician Digital Strategy for 2030, a roadmap to address the challenges of digitalisation by fostering and achieving a strong digital ecosystem. This Strategy is currently being prepared.
- Seventh Strategic Plan for equal opportunities between women and men 2017-2020 and the Galician Plan for Conciliation and Co-responsibility 2018-2020.



Madrid

Order 1864/2018, of 6 November, of the Ministry of Environment and Territorial Planning, created the Advisory Council for the Development of the 2030 Agenda in the Community of Madrid, to monitor and support compliance with the SDGs. The Council includes representatives from the Regional Government, NGOs, social agents and the Third Sector. At the first meeting of this Council, on 15 March 2019, the Regional Government presented the document "**170 Measures by the Community of Madrid for Sustainable Development**", representing the starting point for action by Madrid towards achieving the SDGs. Of these 170 measures, the following are particularly significant:

- Strategy for Sustainable Waste Management in Madrid 2017-2024 (Measure 121), for more responsible and sustainable production and consumption and to move towards a circular economy model, with the ultimate aim of "zero waste".
- Protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, via measures such as the Master Plan for the Use and Management of Sierra de Guadarrama. In addition, the protected area in the region will increase from 48% to 52% with the expansion of the Biosphere Reserves of the upper basins of the Manzanares, Lozoya and Guadarrama rivers and of the Sierra del Rincón Reserve (Measures 143, 144 and 145). One of the greatest challenges to be addressed is that of maintaining and conserving these protected areas, whilst avoiding depopulation. One measure taken in this respect is the Strategy to Revitalise Rural Municipalities (Measure 103), with a target date of 2021.
- Measures to combat climate change, such as support for efficient, low-emission mobility, with subsidies to acquire less polluting vehicles (Measure 129), the Parking Deterrent Plan (Measure 123), the Energy Saving and Efficiency Plan for Public Buildings (Measure 128), the Electric Vehicle Promotion Board (Measure 130) and the improvement and expansion of the Air Quality Control and Surveillance Network (Measure 140).



Murcia

The Regional Administration of Murcia has implemented the following actions:

- An agreement has been reached with the Development Studies Centre of the University of Murcia to conduct a study to analyse the sustainability of the region and to ascertain the degree of compliance of its sectoral policies with the SDGs and their targets. According to the findings of this study, the Administration's objectives and plans may be modified. This study will also address the Region's ability to promote lines of action related to the SDGs.
- On 30 May 2019, the Administration presented a proposal for lines of action that will constitute the **2019-2020 Action Plan** for the 2030 Agenda.
- Training and awareness courses are being provided for staff in regional and municipal administrations, organised by the Training and Innovation School of the Regional Public Administration), and also for civil society, with the active participation of the educational, associative and corporate sectors.
- Related events that have been organised include the 1st National Conference on Development Cooperation and SDGs, the SDG-Health and Pharmaceutical Commitment Conference, and the SDG-World Refugee Day.

Actions taken to raise awareness in this field include:

- Collaboration Agreements with the University of Murcia, the Polytechnic University of Cartagena and the San Antonio Catholic University, for the generation and transfer of knowledge about the 2030 Agenda through study, research and communication activities.
- The Integra Foundation has expressed its support for the *CompromeTICODS* manifesto, a commitment by the agents of the information society to incorporate good practices, for a society that is ethical, fair and respectful towards the environment.

- Between November 2018 and June 2019, the Administration promoted a wide-ranging **participatory process** with public-sector personnel, organised civil society (professional colleges, social and environmental organisations, the business sector, trades unions, etc.) and the general public to discuss the weaknesses and strengths of the regional government and to make proposals for the 2019-2020 Action Plan and the 2030 Strategy for a Sustainable Murcia.
- On 14 March 2019, the Regional Assembly approved the **Master Plan for International Development Cooperation of the Region of Murcia 2019-2022**.

Among other actions to address future challenges, the Administration will:

- Align the plans and programmes of existing sectoral policies with the SDGs.
- Improve coordination with government bodies and obtain synergies among the various departments.
- Prepare a 2019-2020 Training Plan for public-sector workers.
- Develop a 2019-2020 SDG Communication and Awareness Plan.



Navarra

On 30 April 2019, the Government of Navarra adopted an **Agreement to adhere to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**. This Agreement approved the report “*Alignment of the public policies of the Government of Navarra with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*” prepared by the Interdepartmental Commission, which reflects the current status of the SDGs in Navarra and analyses each one, with its specific targets, with respect to the internal and the external contexts. In addition, the report includes a list of indicators based on those published by the European Union, together with some that are specific to the region of Navarra.

The Government has also approved the **Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda** in its public policies, which includes the following areas of activity:

- **Governance**, consisting of the Interdepartmental Commission (created on 15 March 2017), the Committee (created on 30 April 2019) and the Multi-Agency Platform.
- **Monitoring system**, via a list of indicators¹⁷.
- **Localisation**. For the first progress report, a proposal will be made to identify goals that may be subject to territorialisation. Certain specific indicators have been introduced for this purpose.
- **Interiorisation of the message**, by all departments. To achieve this:
 - Strategic references will be made to the SDGs and their targets in the 2020 budget programmes for the region.
 - A framework for issuing sustainable bonds or loans, with references to the 2030 Agenda, has been created.
 - Training in the priorities of the 2030 Agenda has begun for public-sector workers, via the Navarra Institute of Public Administration.

- **Communicating the 2030 Agenda.**

- Information on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and on the corresponding indicators, is included on the website of the Government of Navarra. In addition, information leaflets have been produced and the 2030 Agenda logo is included in the corporate image.
- The Directorate-General for Culture has launched an awareness-raising programme for the libraries of Navarra, under the title, “This library supports the SDGs”.
- The development education programme “Solidarity in Schools” has dedicated this year to publicising the 2030 Agenda; moreover, the Navarra International Prize for Solidarity has been aligned with the 2030 Agenda.
- In autumn 2019, a communication and dissemination plan will be presented by the Directorate-General for Communications and Institutional Relations and the Navarra Institute of Sports and Youth.

¹⁷<http://ods-agenda2030.navarra.es/> <http://gih-2030agenda.navarra.es/>



Basque Country

In March 2019, within the framework of the Basque Country 2030 Agenda, the first **annual monitoring report**, corresponding to 2017, was presented to the Basque Parliament, detailing 100 major actions, 56 planning instruments and six legislative initiatives. The 2018 report was scheduled to be available by July 2019, listing 100 significant actions, 66 planning instruments and 16 legislative initiatives. Each report provides data on the 50 indicators contained in the Agenda. Important advances in this area include the following:

Training

- Public Administration Personal Training Course, provided by the Basque Institute of Public Administration on the 2030 Agenda.
- Summer Course at the University of the Basque Country under the title “The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals: Making our Public Policies more efficient”. Collaborators with this course include representatives of international organisations (UNDP, UN Global Compact, etc); networks (REDS), other institutions, local government and public companies (Ihobe, Emakunde, AVCD).

Collaboration agreement

An agreement has been reached between the Basque Government Department for Economic Development, the UN Global Compact and employers’ organisations (CEBEK, ADEGI, SEA), to develop the following activities, between March and December 2019: create an online training platform; adapt the training/monitoring module for online use; adapt the online SDG management tool; provide advice on the management tool and monitor its use.

Inter-institutional Project

The Inter-institutional Committee initiated this project, in support of a Basque Country 2030 Agenda, in conjunction with provincial and city councils. Its main aim is to strengthen the localisation of the SDGs by emphasising the role of multilevel governance and by projecting an international image of the Basque Country as a region that is closely aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

Diagnosis and guidance for Basque municipalities

In June 2018, the Udalsarea 2030 Network, created almost 20 years ago to represent the 251 Basque Municipalities, published a document analysing the contribution made by Basque municipalities to the SDGs through their Plans for Local Sustainability Action, taking the 2015 data as a benchmark. In addition, a Guide has been produced to facilitate the alignment of these local sustainability action plans with the 2030 Agenda.



La Rioja

The following actions were carried out during 2018:

- **Communication and divulgation:** advertising campaign, with celebrities, launched in December 2018 to publicise the 2030 Agenda.¹⁸
- **Awareness raising:** Programme of grants for NGO projects related to education for development, within the SDGs. In the last three years, the budget for this programme has been tripled and the implementation of SDG-related projects has been prioritised. In this context, 41 projects have been carried out, in collaboration with 19 NGOs.
- **Education for Citizenship:** A training programme in this area was launched in 2018, in association with the Foundation of the University of La Rioja.

In this context, the course “Governance and working methods for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in La Rioja” is aimed at public-sector personnel and representatives of the public and private sectors. The aim of the course is to address theoretical and practical aspects of incorporating the SDGs into the planning, monitoring and execution of public policies, and to assess the degree to which this has been achieved.

Within the framework of the SDGs, two themed networks have been created. One is focused on mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda at the University of La Rioja, through three areas of action: education, research and service, while the other addresses the practical difficulties that may be encountered in including the 2030 Agenda in the activities of daily life.

Following the success of this initiative, a new course is planned for 2019.

- **Strategic planning with a focus on sustainable development:** All the actions taken by the Regional Government have been catalogued according to their relevance to the SDGs and their targets, thus making it possible to determine which aspects of the regional budget (and which actions taken by the regional administration) are aimed at the implementation of each SDG and its targets¹⁹. This planning exercise has inspired a process of reflection and, in many cases, has resulted in the administration redefining its actions and intentions. As a tangible outcome of this exercise, an SDG scorecard has been made available to the Regional Governing Council enabling it to evaluate the Government's actions concerning the SDGs.

¹⁸ Available at: <https://www.larioja.org/larioja-client/cm/publicidad/images?idMmedia=1118523>, <https://www.larioja.org/publicidad/es/campanas-publicidad/campanas-2018/dia-derechos-humanos>

¹⁹ This classification can be consulted at: <https://www.larioja.org/larioja-client/cm/hacienda/images?idMmedia=1063056>

4.2 Local governments

The Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP), which is the national association of local governments and also the Spanish section of the Council of Municipalities and Regions of Europe (CMRE), as well as an active member of the group United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), is an effective agency for the promotion of the 2030 Agenda within the local framework. The FEMP Strategy for the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda has been designed, developed and implemented with the following aims in mind (see full text in Annex 4):

- **Institutional strengthening and awareness raising**

In order to enhance political involvement, raise awareness and provide support and advice to its members regarding the formulation and development of local strategies for 2030, the FEMP organised various significant actions in 2018-2019. For example, the Local Week for the 2030 Agenda²⁰ was held in October 2018 to promote exchanges of information and to foster learning about the local implementation of the SDGs and to approve the Local Strategy for a Circular Economy²¹.

- **Strengthening the role of local administrations in the development of the 2030 Agenda**

The FEMP has played an active role in supporting governance at the national level. Among other activities, it has promoted the participation of local governments in preparing documents, in performing voluntary reviews and strategies and in encouraging multilevel dialogue, within local, regional, national, European and international administrations. Of outstanding importance in this area is the FEMP's participation in the work group of the Spanish Urban Agenda, in the Global Forum of Local Governments²² and in organising the international meeting "Think Europe 2019: Commitment 2030"²³.

- **Generating and exchanging knowledge via a local Observatory monitoring the 2030 Agenda**

In order to establish a local SDG Observatory, the FEMP has created a diagnostic map of localisation actions associated with the 2030 Agenda, a training school on SDG-related issues and a digital platform for Ibero-American cities and the SDGs. In addition, it has promoted decentralised cooperation to work for the SDGs. Among other actions, a collaboration alliance has been forged between the FEMP and the Sustainable Cities network (REDS) to exchange experiences and develop diagnostic tools and knowledge about local governance for the promotion of the SDGs. The FEMP/REDS Alliance has published the report 'The SDGs in 100 Spanish cities'²⁴ and has agreed to conduct a joint working strategy. In addition, the Community of Practice on Transparency and Local Open Government²⁵ is working for sustainable development within the framework of UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments), promoting SDG 16 as a lever for the local implementation of the SDGs. This activity has resulted in the publication of the White Paper on Transparency and Open Government at the Local Level²⁶, by Urban 20. The local governments have also made valuable contributions within the national and global contexts, for example in technical consultations for the preparation of a report on the localisation of SDG 16, to be presented at the 2019 High-level Political Forum, and the documentation of good practices on the localisation of SDG 16 in Spain.

²⁰ <http://localizandoods.es/>

²¹ <http://www.femp.es/comunicacion/noticias/la-estrategia-local-de-economia-circular>

²² <http://forodegobiernoslocalessevilla.com/>

²³ <http://thinkeurope.es/>

²⁴ <https://proyectos.irispressmz.com/thinkeurope/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Informe-urbano-REDS-ODS-2018-parte-I.pdf>

²⁵ <https://proyectos.irispressmz.com/thinkeurope/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Informe-urbano-REDS-ODS-2018-parte-I.pdf>

²⁶ https://opengov.uclg.org/sites/opengov.uclg.org/files/2019-02/U20_WP_Transparency_in_cities.pdf

- **Promoting alliances and international cooperation**

The FEMP plays an active role in international networks of local authorities by participating in European and international projects to promote the 2030 Agenda. In this respect, it has strengthened alliances with international organisations and programmes engaged in SDG localisation, and has promoted open dialogue and collaborative endeavours with those working to achieve the SDGs and to influence the future European policy for post-2020 social cohesion and the relation with the 2030 Agenda. Advances made in this area include the approval of a new framework for collaboration between the FEMP and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). Another significant achievement is the FEMP - Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) - Ibero-American City of Knowledge initiative for sustainable development, leadership and joint work with projects, international organisations and support networks for the localisation of the SDGs (such as PLATFORMA, Art-UNDP, UN-Habitat, LOCAL 2030). Finally, the FEMP has collaborated with the “Alliance for Open Government” to promote open government at the local level as a strategy for the implementation of the SDGs. This partnership has resulted in the development of training, political and knowledge-acquiring activities.

Another challenge to be addressed is that of strengthening the Local Observatory so that it can properly monitor the implementation of the 2030 Agenda as a space for promoting knowledge, developing instruments and providing training for the implementation of 2030 Agenda-oriented local plans in Spain. This Observatory will also support the creation of a Local Agency for International Development Cooperation to align local cooperation plans with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda.

Challenges for 2019-2020

The FEMP has emphasised the need to ensure its political actions during the period 2019-2023 are compatible with promoting the necessary reforms to expand the current level of decentralisation, enhance skills, allocate appropriate resources and take decisions on public spending and investment within the framework of a multi-level approach towards fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda. A key aspect of these tasks will be the coordinated efforts made with the Ibero-American General Secretariat, fostering multi-stakeholder alliances and creating inclusive projects capable of mobilising resources and generating innovative responses in order to achieve the SDGs. In addition, the FEMP will seek further advances in its generation of a national-level cohesion policy regarding the 2030 Agenda, thus enabling the regions and other territories of Spain to make effective progress towards the SDGs.



The commitment of all sectors

The Sustainable Development Council was created as a collegiate body to materialise the participation of civil society in achieving the SDGs. This Council reflects the diversity of organisations representing social interests in Spanish society and provides a channel for the commitment of all partners working to achieve the 2030 Agenda. The preparation of the Action Plan to implement the 2030 Agenda was inspired by the wish to combine and coordinate the efforts of different areas of society,

focusing on the common ideals represented in the Agenda. Many of the parties involved, whether or not members of the Sustainable Development Council, contributed to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda during 2018. This section of the Progress Report describes the main actions performed by some of these bodies. Annex 5 contains a more detailed account of their contributions.

5.1 Business sector

a. Spanish Confederation of Business Organisations (CEOE)

With the renewal of the CEOE management team in December 2018, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Spanish companies as an element of competitiveness has become one of the organisation's strategic priorities for the next eight years.

To pilot this strategy, the CEOE, as well as creating a Sustainability Directorate within its board of directors, has invited well-known entrepreneurs, experts in international organisations and climate change, to join its Executive Committee.

Among its first operational measures, the Executive Committee has set up two working groups on SDGs and the 2030 Agenda among the CEOE committees: one on Sustainability and the other on Sustainable Development and the Environment.

In addition, a framework for regular collaboration has been initiated with the Spanish Global Compact Network, which takes part in the meetings of the CEOE's CSR Committee and will advise the 2030 Agenda working groups. The CEOE has agreed to join the Multisectoral Forum of the Global Compact as the sole business organisation to be represented.

The CEOE is also collaborating with the Spanish High Commission for the 2030 Agenda and with the future "Business Alliance", in which it will play a key role as a "facilitator" to ensure the 2030 Agenda makes the greatest possible impact among Spanish companies.

b. Spanish Confederation of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (CEPYME)

The most important advance by this organisation during 2018 was its elaboration of an Action Plan, according to which the CEPYME will collaborate with the PGS Group, in the project "Invest in Cities", to support the business fabric in cities with growth potential.

Other highlights of 2019 include the Collaboration Agreement signed by CEPYME and the Spanish Global Compact Network, and the design and implementation of a questionnaire for the CEPYME 500 Network, to determine the actions taken by these companies in relation to the SDGs.

c. Professional Union

During 2018, the Professional Union (the national association of Spanish professional colleges) presented its Strategic Plan 2018-2020, which includes an SDG Working Group to coordinate the actions of the association related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It also urged its members to work to achieve the 2030 Agenda, in the context of a partnership agreement reached between the World Union of Liberal Professions (UMPL) and the European Council of the Liberal Professions (CEPLIS)²⁷.

In addition, the Professional Union has organised diverse awareness-raising activities, such as its presentation “The work of the Professional Councils and Colleges to achieve the SDGs on the climate”²⁸ at the National Environment Congress (CONAMA). This action led to the Professional Union being included in the special dossier of good practices on SDG 13 by the Spanish Global Compact Network²⁹.

Other notable activities performed in this area were the “Professions and Equality” session, related to SDG 5, held on International Women's Day³⁰; the conference “United professions for a changing world”³¹, focused on SDG 17; and a communiqué on SDG values, the professions and diversity, issued on the occasion of the World Day of the Liberal Professions³². Finally, the SDGs were a major element of Internet Day³³.

d. Spanish Global Compact Network

During 2018, the Spanish Global Compact Network was active in three main fields: training/divulgateion, the publication of reports and reference documents, and the generation and evaluation of stakeholder alliances.

With respect to training and awareness-raising, the Global Compact and its partner associations organised five general courses, with 927 participants, launched campaigns such as #Companies4SDGs and presented the first Go!SDG awards.

Among others, the following documents on the 2030 Agenda have been published: “SDG Year 3: A global alliance for the 2030 Agenda” and “NGOs and the SDGs: Communicating Progress 2018, an integrated vision in sustainability and reporting”. The Network has also published the compendium COMparte, presenting over 370 good practices, and has assessed the actions carried out by companies signatories to the Global Compact, through an exhaustive analysis of the sustainability reports of the leading companies in the Spanish economy (the IBEX 35 firms) and of the data compiled in the 2018 Progress Report.

Finally, the Global Compact has continued to foster the generation of stakeholder alliances to work for the SDGs, notably in its collaboration with the Official Credit Institute of Spain (ICO) to create the “#ICOpymeODS” web space, and in its promotion of two platforms focused on SDG 13: “The Community for the Climate” and “The Spanish Platform for Climate Action”, with the participation of the Ministry for Ecological Transition.

²⁷ <http://www.unionprofesional.com/posicionamientoconjunto-de-la-umpl-y-ceplis-sobre-la-agenda-2030-delas-naciones-unidas-para-el-desarrollo-sostenible/>

²⁸ <http://www.unionprofesional.com/union-profesionalaborda-los-ods-climaticos-en-conama-2018/>

²⁹ <http://www.unionprofesional.com/union-profesionalaborda-los-ods-climaticos-en-conama-2018/>

³⁰ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJ82Gzd0XAU>

³¹ <http://www.unionprofesional.com/la-union-mundial-de-las-profesiones-liberales-marca-su-hoja-de-ruta-global/>

³² <http://www.unionprofesional.com/los-objetivos-de-desarrollo-sostenible-en-el-dia-mundial-de-las-profesiones/>

³³ <http://www.unionprofesional.com/los-objetivos-de-desarrollo-sostenible-protagonistas-del-dia-de-internet/>

5.2. The trade unions

a. General Union of Workers (UGT)

The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs are of undoubted importance to the work of the UGT, which has created an internal group as an initial step towards including these goals, targets and indicators in all its activities.

This internal group for the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, created in March 2019, will consider these questions and seek to involve the entire organisation with two main aims: to incorporate the SDGs into union work, with a horizontal focus; and to ensure that they are effectively addressed within each trade union affiliate.

b. Workers' Commissions (CCOO)

Regarding the 2030 Agenda, the Workers' Commission Confederation of Trade Unions (CS-CCOO) acts in accordance with the resolution passed by its Executive Commission on the International Agenda for Sustainable Development³⁴, which was approved on 24 March 2017.

CCOO took part in the meetings of the High-level Group to draft its Action Plan for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In July 2018, in conjunction with UGT and USO, it prepared a summary sheet to be published by the Trade Union Network for Development Cooperation (RSCD), which is part of the International Trade Union Confederation, on the situation of the SDGs and their application in Spain, on the occasion of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, "Trade unions and the SDGs: the view from Spain"³⁵.

In October 2018, the "2018 Trade Union Report on the SDGs, from discourse to action in CCOO" was published³⁶. The CCOO initiatives on the 2030 Agenda were transmitted to the High Commission for the 2030 Agenda in November 2018.

5.3 Universities and research centres

During 2018, in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE) acted on behalf of the university sector as a whole, regardless of the actions carried out by individual institutions. These actions were mainly focused on making further progress in the areas defined for the universities in the Action Plan for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Spain.

For this purpose, the 2030 Agenda inter-sector committee was created, within CRUE, as an internal coordination space to promote the implementation of the SDGs within the university system. Various instruments have been developed to determine the status of the SDGs in the universities, and work has been done to strengthen the link between Spanish universities and other agents, via the following national alliances or links: the Spanish Office on Climate Change, AECID, the Spanish Network of Healthy

Universities and the Inter-university Network of Environmental Volunteer Work. In addition, there are European alliances or links: the Copernicus Alliance, the European University Network for Sustainable Mobility and the European Climate Foundation; and international alliances or links such as IAU-HESD and the Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability.

Campaigns to raise awareness and to consolidate public debate on the 2030 Agenda have continued among the university community, through the organisation of, and participation by CRUE representatives in, conferences, congresses, lectures and debates. Finally, CRUE has worked to implement various indicators and accountability mechanisms with respect to the SDGs.

³⁴ https://www.ccoo.es/noticia:234840--Resolucion_de_la_Comision_Ejecutiva_de_CCOO_ante_la_Agenda_Internacional_de_Desarrollo_Sostenible

³⁵ <https://www.ccoo.es/121e983a4624e08001e4aaa8d573ea85000001.pdf>

³⁶ <http://www.1mayo.ccoo.es/ac624d121bf82d5fd2c698bab6c6789f9000001.pdf>

5.4 Third-sector platforms and citizens' networks

a. The Third-Sector Platform (TSP)

The Third-Sector Platform is working to achieve the SDGs, by applying its internal strength, i.e. its cohesion, dedication and effectiveness, to generate concrete proposals and transformative policies aimed at combating poverty, inequality and discrimination and promoting sustainability.

In 2018, the TSP's internal SDG group, established by its Standing Committee, published the document "Alignment of the 2030 Agenda with the social agenda, and the Third Sector Platform's action plan for 2019". In accordance with this action plan, contributions have been made to the National Strategy to Prevent and Combat Poverty, to the 2019-2020 National Strategy against Energy Poverty and to the 4th Open Government Plan. The revised Social Charter, aligned with the 2030 Agenda, was also approved in 2018.

The TSP has promoted alliances with other Third-Sector organisations, such as the G5 Group, the SDG Alliance and Future in Common. In addition, it has collaborated with the Spanish Volunteer Platform and La Liga Foundation to produce a Guide for voluntary work in sports and third-sector activities, in line with the priorities of the 2030 Agenda.

The TSP has also worked to raise the profile of the 2030 Agenda and its transformative impact, participating in the organisation and promotion of various events.

Finally, the Platform has incorporated a transversal approach into its work, in areas such as manifestos for national, regional and local elections, in social programmes funded from the 0.7% of personal income tax assigned to this purpose, and in the campaign "Give an X for Solidarity" to foster contributions by companies in their tax returns.

b. Platform of Social Action Organisations

In 2019, the Platform took part in various forums, such as Future in Common, created to identify the challenges for our country, to take stock of the actions taken so far and to propose a system of governance that will give the Agenda a solid foundation. From this involvement, an integrative framework of analysis has been developed and priority measures defined.

In 2019, in collaboration with the Global Compact, the Platform has published "NGOs and the SDGs", a guide for NGOs to contribute to achieving the SDGs. This approach is intended to consolidate the framework of priority tasks to be adopted in networks and forums, thus enhancing their impact and furthering progress towards the SDGs.

c. Platform of Organisations for Children's Rights

The Platform for Children's Rights works in three main areas: political advocacy; organisational structuring and reinforcement; and participation by children. Among these three areas, the following actions are especially significant:

- Taking an active role in the preparation of the Government's 2019-2023 National Strategy to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion, which will impact on SDGs 1, 4 and 10 in particular. The 2019 and 2020 plans are currently being drawn up.
- Promoting a Non-Legislative Motion for a State Pact for Children, to reduce child poverty and to promote early education (for 0-3 year-olds), impacting on SDGs 4 and 10. This Motion was passed unanimously.
- Participating in drafting the Bill for an Organic Law on the Integral Protection of Children and Adolescence against Violence (relevant to SDG 16).
- Contributing to the 2nd Human Rights Plan, the 2018 National Reform Plan 2018 and the National Report on Spain by the European Commission. These plans relate to children's rights, and SDGs 1, 4, 10 and 16.
- Promoting the visit of the Special Representative of the UN General-Secretary to support an Organic Law on the Integral Protection of Children and Adolescents against Violence (relevant to SDG 16).
- Organising an appearance by children and adolescents in the Congress of Deputies, to present their views to the Committee for Children. This activity is relevant to SDGs 4, 5, 13 and 16.

d. Spanish Platform for Voluntary Work (PVE)

The most significant action carried out by the PVE during 2018 was to prepare the Guide for voluntary work in sports and third-sector activities, in line with the 2030 Agenda, in collaboration with La

Liga

Foundation and the Third-Sector Platform, and the launch of the “ODS and Fundraising” online training programme, as part of the Values in Play project, developed jointly with La Liga Foundation. The aim of this project is to work with sports organisations offering programmes for young people, and to raise awareness among these organisations about the SDGs and their relevance to young people, thus contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

e. European Network to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion (EAPN-ES)

The European Network to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion in Spain (EAPN-ES) has incorporated the 2030 Agenda into its work plan and is currently preparing the “Guide to the SDGs and the fight against poverty and inequality: taking action locally and worldwide”.

EAPN-ES has worked to enhance institutional encounters and to expand the spaces for dialogue and collaboration within all levels of government. To this end, it has collaborated in events such as the April 2019 meeting on child poverty and the 2030 Agenda, organised by the Presidency of the Government.

EAPN-ES has also continued to support the promotion of alliances to raise awareness of the SDGs and to encourage reflection on the policies needed to achieve them. In the European context, as members of the platform SDG Watch Europe, EAPN-ES has helped monitor strategic EU documents related to the 2030 Agenda (for example, the EU Action Plan and the reflection document “Towards a more sustainable Europe by 2030”). In Spain, and within the Future in Common framework, it has collaborated in the preparation of the 2018 Civil Society report “A transforming 2030 Agenda for people and the planet: proposals for political action” and in that of “Key elements for a transformative development of the 2030 Agenda”.

f. Spanish Committee of Representatives of Persons with Disabilities (CERMI)

In relation to the 2030 Agenda, CERMI has been active in two main areas: political advocacy and the preparation of reports and reference documents.

In this regard, CERMI has made proposals to include disability in the political and public agendas, with documents such as “The political agenda of disability in the European Union 2019-2024: elections to the European Parliament”, “Human Rights and Disability: Spain 2018” and the “Alternative Report on the Independent Mechanism for the second review of Spain by the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”.

Another field in which CERMI has been working is that of gender issues and defending the rights of women and girls with disabilities – see for example the “Spain 2018 Report”. Various actions to combat gender violence have been undertaken within the framework of the State Pact against Gender Violence and the 2nd Social Forum for Women and Girls with Disabilities. An important document in the context of SDG 11 is the “Report on technical assistance to develop a strategy for the accessibility and inclusion of women with disabilities in the Ciudad Mujer Centres in the Dominican Republic”.

Finally, CERMI has supported the publications “The SDGs and Disability, a Work Plan” and “Sustainable Development Goals and the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities”.

g. Spanish Coordinator of Development Cooperation Organisations (CONGDE)

In 2018, CONGDE supported the intersectoral work promoted by Future in Common, with other social platforms in Spain, in drafting the report “A Transformative Agenda for people and the planet”, which formed part of Spain’s National Voluntary Review presented at the High Level Political Forum in July 2018.

In addition, CONGDE supported Concord, the platform for European DNGOs and part of the European Multisectoral Platform, to consider common proposals on how the Agenda should best be implemented in Europe. Moreover, it presented the report “Are you going to prioritise sustainable development?”, an open letter to European leaders urging greater emphasis on sustainable development in the 2019-2024 Strategic Agenda. As part of SDG Watch Europe, it published a manifesto for a Sustainable Europe and for its citizens to be at the heart of concerns during the electoral period in the EU.

Together with FORUS (the International Forum of Platforms), CONGDE took part in the debate on the Global Initiative. The Index of Policy Coherence with Sustainable Development (ICPDS), to be presented in autumn 2019, is currently being updated.

The regional coordinators, within the national organisation, have promoted the prioritisation of the SDGs by regional and local authorities. Coinciding with the municipal and regional elections, these coordinators have issued the document “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in decentralised cooperation”, setting out their views in this respect to the political parties standing in the elections.

h. Spanish Family Planning Federation (FPFE)

During 2018, the FPFE undertook various cross-cutting activities in the framework of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, but with particular impact on SDGs 3 and 5. New programmes were initiated to prevent and detect gender violence, including mixed interventions combining direct attention with the organisation of specific workshops. In this field, too, a MED-RES programme was launched to combat sexual and gender-based violence, and the FPFE coordinated responses made by the migrant reception systems of Mediterranean countries for persons who are victims of sexual or gender-based violence.

In the national and international contexts, and as part of the consortium Countdown 2030 Europe³⁷, the FPFE has analysed the contributions to sexual and reproductive health made by the development and funding policies of European countries. In addition, it has participated in the sessions of the UN Commission on the Status of Women and in the International Parliamentarians Conference on the Implementation of the ICPD³⁸.

Finally, workshops have been held to raise awareness worldwide and to extend the principles and objectives of the 2030 Agenda, in relation to sexual and reproductive health and rights³⁹.

i. Federation of Associations for the Defence and Promotion of Human Rights in Spain

The Federation works to promote peaceful and inclusive societies by working to protect human rights defenders at risk. The achievements of the Federation and its constituent organisations form two main groups:

On the one hand, by contributing to lever policies: the Federation has special consultative status with the United Nations and has submitted written declarations in defence of equality and non-discrimination under the title "Provide skills training to ensure inclusion and equality". Each of the Federation's organisations conducts initiatives to support vulnerable population groups, especially refugee and immigrant populations, and always from a gender perspective.

Furthermore, the Federation contributes to assuring compliance with the transformative measures of the Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Regarding the promotion of alliances for the SDGs, the Federation has participated in the multinational project "Europe in the World" - *Engaging in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda Cross sectoral CSO coalitions to engage European citizens and decision-makers in implementing the SDG*, funded by the European Union.

j. Future in Common

The following main actions have been taken following approval of the Action Plan:

- Presentation of the Civil Society Report "A transformative agenda for people and the planet".
- Preparation of contributions to the preparation of the Sustainable Development Strategy, which are included in the document "Key elements for a transformative development of the 2030 Agenda".
- Inclusion of the views of Future in Common on the 2030 Agenda, in the social media conversation and in public discussion.
- Organisation of an electoral debate with the main national political parties, emphasising the need to incorporate sustainable development into government programmes, highlighting the importance of the 2030 Agenda as the framework lending coherence to public policies.
- Participation in the mobilisation of European civil society for the inclusion of the 2030 Agenda and the principles of sustainable development in the 2019-2024 Strategic Agenda.

³⁷ <https://www.countdown2030europe.org/>

³⁸ <http://intergruposalud.es/declaracion-de-ottawa-parlamentarias-os-se-comprometen-a-enfrentar-los-retos/>

³⁹ <http://www.fpfe.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/2018.-Recomendaciones-2030.pdf>

5.5. Organisations representing social interests through State Advisory Councils

The Sustainable Development Council works in diverse areas of special interest for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, through Consultative Councils and Observatories with a national focus. The Council provides a channel of expression for young people, consumers and women's groups, among other areas of society. The work of some of these Councils is described below.

a. National Schools Council

The National Schools Council publishes an annual report on the state of the education system, referring to the preceding academic year. This Report contains information from administration bodies, teaching/management personnel and other public and private agents with responsibilities for the regulation, financing and provision of services to guarantee the right to education in Spain, and for the measures and actions implemented in this regard. The 2019 Report contains a section dedicated to the 2030 Agenda, and to SDG 4 in particular. In addition, the chapter discussing the results of the education system dedicates space to the evolution in Spain of the indicators for both agendas. The results for these indicators and Spain's commitments to the 2030 Agenda are subject to revision and the final proposals made in the 2019 Council Report.

The Board also publishes the "Educational Participation" Magazine, the 2019 edition of which is entitled "Educational Participation and Improvement. 2030 Agenda", highlighting the future challenges to education identified in the Agenda, in SDG 4 in particular.

b. Spanish Youth Council

The Spanish Youth Council (SYC), a national and regional platform of youth organisations and councils, is working to achieve the greatest possible involvement of young people in the 2030 Agenda and to highlight this commitment, both with the 2030 Agenda and also with the 11 Youth Goals targeted in the EU Youth Strategy for 2019-2027 (these Goals are interrelated and correspond directly with the SDGs). The SYC encourages its members to promote the 2030 Agenda through training activities and emphasises the specific needs of young people via campaigns such as the Youth Agenda.

Among other actions, the SYC conducts research and considers the policy implications of SDGs 1 and 10. In this respect, the Report on Youth Poverty and the work performed by the Observatory of Emancipation are particularly important. The SYC has also focused on SDG 5, seeking to raise awareness on gender equality in education via the campaign #NoTeloContóPero [*They didn't tell you but!*] and the creation of the Non-Mixed Operational Group for the empowerment of women in youth organisations.

c. Council for Consumer Affairs

The organisations within the Council for Consumer Affairs have undertaken numerous activities aimed at achieving the SDGs, either through their representative role or via the direct execution of projects and programmes. In addition, they have launched informative and training campaigns to defend the basic right of all consumers of goods and services, in all areas of business activity, and to ensure universal access to basic resources, such as water, energy and the internet.

This Council has done significant work in the field of SDG 12 (Responsible production and consumption), which it views as a fundamental aspect of the work performed by its member organisations. Specifically, the Council seeks to promote responsible, sustainable forms of consumption and the better management and more efficient use of available resources, in the context of a circular economy.

d. Library Cooperation Council

In 2018, the Library Cooperation Council presented its "National Strategy for Information and Libraries", in response to the basic principles of acknowledging the value of access to information and promoting universal literacy. These are fundamental pillars of the planning and provision of library services in Spain, underpinning the transformation of society called for in the 2030 Agenda.

In this year too, the Council set up the Strategic Working Group “Libraries and the 2030 Agenda”⁴⁰, in the framework of its 2nd Strategic Plan 2016-2018, and defined the four work areas in which the

library sector must be active. This Plan is aimed not only at the institutions and public administrations concerned, but also at professional associations and colleges, the private sector, universities and research institutes.

5.6 Social economy and foundations

a. Spanish Social Economy Employers’ Confederation (CEPES)

Within the framework of the 2030 Agenda, the Confederation generates reports, provides training and conducts dissemination and awareness-raising activities. CEPES has published the document “The contribution of the social economy to the SDGs through development cooperation”⁴¹, detailing how these actions in third countries contribute to 14 of the 17 SDGs. Among the training activities undertaken, CEPES organised the course entitled “The Social Economy in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Challenges and Opportunities”.

The Confederation has also participated in diverse institutional meetings, such as that of a private sector working group, coordinated by the Spanish Global Compact Network, created to analyse and promote the role of Spanish companies in working to achieve the SDGs.

Finally, CEPES has worked to raise awareness among its member organisations, for example with a plan of activities for 2019 to highlight the importance of the 2030 Agenda for the Social Economy sector and to emphasise its role in this context.

b. Spanish Association of Foundations (AEF)

The AEF has committed to the SDGs by identifying, highlighting and defending these goals and targets, towards which the Spanish foundations are currently working. As well as its direct involvement in training, awareness-raising and the generation and dissemination of knowledge, the Association makes a significant contribution to enhancing the institutional environment in this area. Furthermore, the AEF conducted the following important activities during 2018: DEMOS 2018, with special attention to the 2030 Agenda; the Specialisation Course in Foundation Management for managers; the 10th Hispanic-Portuguese Foundation Meeting “The Foundations and the SDGs: Synergies and opportunities presented by common challenges”, held in Mérida, with the participation of over 70 Spanish and Portuguese institutions, to discuss the challenges, opportunities and synergies for the foundations with respect to the 2030 Agenda; and, in conjunction with Impact Hub Madrid, the publication of a guide to good SDG practices.

⁴⁰ <http://www.ccbiblio.es/grupos-de-trabajo/estrategicos/bibliotecas-agenda-2030/>

⁴¹ <https://www.cepes.es/files/publicaciones/105.pdf>

5.7 Groups of experts associated with the 2030 Agenda

a. Spanish Network for Sustainable Development

Of the actions carried out in 2018 by the Spanish Network for Sustainable Development (REDS), the Spanish branch of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) which is associated with over 50 universities and research centres, an outstanding element is its publication of the pioneering report “The SDGs in 100 Spanish cities”. This document was promoted and coordinated by the Technical Secretariat of REDS, in collaboration with a group composed of academics from the Autonomous and Polytechnic universities of Madrid and with other public and private institutions. REDS has also edited technical documents, articles and other publications related to the 2030 Agenda, such as the “Guide to implementing the SDGs in the cities” (2018) and “Environmental education in Spain: reflections and proposals” (2019).

In addition, REDS organises an annual meeting to present its “Report on the Status of the SDGs”⁴², and in the July 2018 presentation, it hosted the first public debate with the High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda. In July 2019, together with other civil society agencies, it organised the first SDG Multiactor Forum, which brought together more than a hundred experts in sustainable development, from the fields of politics, public administration, the private sector, academia and civil society, as a contribution to the future National Strategy for Sustainable Development. At this Forum, the High Commissioner participated both in the specialised work groups and in the public event. Another REDS event was the international seminar *Acelera 2030*, focused on the role of research and innovation.

Finally, REDS holds annual conferences on cultural institutions and sustainable development, to extend knowledge among cultural agents about the 2030 Agenda and its implementation in the sector.

b. COTEC Foundation for Innovation

One of the main areas addressed in the 2019-2021 Strategic Review of the COTEC Foundation is the 2030 Agenda. Thus, the Review declares its aim to “... strengthen activities related to the social impact of innovation, promote inclusive innovation and prevent inequality (between genders, territories, and groups), aligning the Foundation’s programme as closely as possible with the 2030 Agenda”. In addition to cross-cutting projects, specific initiatives related to the SDGs have been undertaken, such as “The COTEC 100”, which seeks to incorporate experts on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs in the COTEC network.

Together with the Atlántida Project, the COTEC Foundation is working to develop a Curriculum for Sustainable Human Development. This curricular proposal addresses all the SDGs and offers a didactic framework for the development of World Citizenship and Sustainable Development. The Foundation has also organised dissemination and awareness activities in diverse formats, such as “The essentials”, innovation-themed festivals and flagship events.

⁴² 2019 Report on Sustainable development available at : <http://reds-sdsn.es/sdg-index-2019>



Conclusions and future action: accelerate to accomplish

Following the fourth anniversary of the approval of the 2030 Agenda, a new stage in its schedule has been reached. In the next decade, action must be taken to realise the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The coming decade is one for action, in which we all have a role to play in accelerating the necessary implementation.

Since the start of the first SDG Implementation Plan in June 2018, Spain has been applying it with renewed vigour and determination. Public administrations and civil society in general have committed themselves to making the changes needed to accomplish the SDGs. This first Progress Report reflects the advances made and the major challenges that have emerged.

In particular, the High Commission draws attention to the following major aspects of the Report:

- I) The transformations needed to accomplish the 17 SDGs and their 169 targets will be difficult to achieve unless the planned **execution rates** are accelerated. Public policies currently in progress will require a more energetic approach. New public policies must be activated and, at the same time, it is essential to mobilise society in general and citizens' organisations and the private sector in particular.
- II) Spain's system of governance already facilitates **connection and coordination** among the different levels of public administration. This is of fundamental importance, due to the degree of decentralisation of the country and the major importance of local action to achieve the 2030 Agenda. The Sustainable Development Council, a vital part of the governance mechanism, provides a channel for communication and an instrument for mobilising organised civil society. For maximum effectiveness, these structures must be deployed to fully apply their integrative capabilities, so that public policies may be coordinated and implemented effectively. To ensure this, the central government, and the High Commission in particular, must provide decisive leadership.

- III) **Renewed momentum for public policies** in the areas presenting greatest urgency will enable us to effectively address the challenges arising in the SDGs. Task organisation in transformative measures and lever policies, led by the Central Administration of the State (AGE), has facilitated the acceleration of processes and actions in this regard. However, progress has been uneven as it is subject to legislative, political and administrative procedures. The following areas of priority attention have been identified:

- Action to consolidate **sustainable, inclusive development**, with special attention to the weakest and most vulnerable. The **prosperity** of society as a whole must be our main ambition, from a perspective of equal opportunities in every context, including that of gender. The aim must be to reduce inequality, strengthen the welfare state, overcome the **socio-demographic challenge** and underpin advances in **health and education**.
- **A fair energy transition** and the fight against the **climate emergency** through renewable and sustainable models of energy supply. The health of the land, seas and rivers, and the richness of the country's biodiversity, are vital to our future. This effort also contributes to the collective commitment to address climate challenges worldwide.
- The promotion of the **circular economy, sustainable mobility** and the **purpose economy**, seeking responsible consumption and production. In this, we wish to promote an socioecological outlook and framework of economic activity, placing people at the centre of attention.
- Fostering scientific and technological advance to further modernisation of the country, through **research, innovation and development of the information and knowledge society**, from an inclusive and ethical perspective on technological transition.

- A firm commitment to make **lifelong education** a right, advancing people and society.
 - A system of **public administration that is efficient and transparent**, uses resources reasonably and ensures that they are available to all citizens, thus generating the confidence necessary for the 2030 Agenda to be achieved.
- IV) The drafting of a “**Strategy for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (2020-2030)**” is an immediate priority. This Strategy must align existing sectoral strategies within a single framework and at the same time guide future ones, establishing a shared vision and mechanisms for localising and implementing the 2030 Agenda. In this respect, broad-based participation is needed, so that the drafting and consultation process will provide the basis for real consensus among the public sector, all levels of administration, the private sector and civil society in general.
- V) In this process, it will be essential to generate transformative ecosystems, through the creation of **multi-stakeholder alliances**, thus facilitating global mobilisation. Public administrations, civil society and the private sector, progressively, must take ownership of the SDGs, making it their own agenda. To do so, the impact generated by existing partnerships must be multiplied and the pace of change accelerated.
- VI) **Information, communication and awareness-raising activities** should continue and if possible be intensified. Only through greater public awareness can the values and objectives of the 2030 Agenda really form part of society as a whole. Moreover, greater knowledge will enhance compliance, as people will not only participate but demand that others do so too. Universal ownership of the SDGs, thus, is crucial to their success.
- VII) The actions and changes described will require an information and monitoring system in accordance with the indicators established by the United Nations. In this respect, the National Institute of Statistics has launched a statistical information system for the 2030 Agenda, but this should be reinforced by the creation of a map of indicators, based on quantitative and qualitative information, reflecting the actions taken and the results achieved by each of the actors and institutions working towards the SDGs (see Annex 6).

- VIII) During 2018, local and regional elections were held throughout Spain. In addition, the new EU legislature was inaugurated on 1 November. This **coincidence of new mandates** provides an opportunity to effectively combine public action and social mobilisation, producing a multiplier effect, and enabling us to accelerate towards achieving the SDGs in Spain, in Europe and in the world.
- IX) There must be greater **coherence between internal and international action**, strengthening the incorporation of the SDG perspective within foreign policy and development cooperation policies, in bilateral and multilateral contexts, such that Europe is firmly committed to sustainable development. The coherence of external and internal action must be sought on all fronts and in all international spaces, but especially within the United Nations. Appropriate measures should be taken to monitor and ensure compliance with commitments undertaken, via the necessary provision of resources. In this respect, too, the EU’s sustainable development strategy will be further encouraged.
- X) The **international community**, in forums such as the United Nations, the G-20 and other regional organisations, has acknowledged **Spain’s input** in these areas, the positive energy displayed and its inclusive, collaborative approach. This contribution has been especially significant in the EU and its institutions, where Spain has proposed and supported highly ambitious commitments regarding the SDGs. Spain holds the view that the approach to the 2030 Agenda must form part of both the internal and the external action of the EU. Ideally, the European financial framework (2021-27), currently being discussed among the Member States and the European budgetary authority, should incorporate the priorities that will act as a transformative lever for the achievement of the SDGs.

This, then, is the vision held by the Government of Spain: one based on inclusive, sustainable development, ensuring that no one is left behind. As we enter this fifth year of the 2030 Agenda, there is broad satisfaction with the degree of progress made by all concerned. The collaborative work described, led by the Government, whose commitment is shared by all levels of public administration and of civil society, and with resolute support for multi-stakeholder alliances, has underpinned Spain’s progress towards achieving the SDGs.



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