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THE SPANISH COOPERATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

Summary of Activities

MAY 2016

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The Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

According to the *Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation 2013-2016*, the Philippines is the only priority country in Asia. The first mutual Cooperation Agreement dates back to 1974, and in 1992 this relationship was strengthened with the opening of the Technical Cooperation Office of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) in Manila. For the past 20 years, the Spanish Cooperation has consistently conducted programs and projects which have made the Philippines one of the major beneficiaries of Spanish Cooperation worldwide.

The **Partnership Framework for the Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines 2014-2017** foresees the work in three different pillars:

- Bilateral Cooperation.
- Cooperation channeled via NGOs.
- Multilateral Cooperation.

Additionally, it is important to highlight the actions conducted in humanitarian and emergency aid.



Bilateral cooperation

Significant actions on areas such as governance, support to the peace process, education and health were implemented bilaterally by AECID with Philippine government institutions, which cover human resources development, social participation and the upgrading of facilities and infrastructure. To be more efficient in the aims of the Partnership Framework signed in March 2014, a concentration in the two priority sectors is being carried out.

Projects such as *Escuela Taller* and various activities of scientific and academic cooperation make the Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines one of the most comprehensive in terms of aid modalities and financing instruments.

Cooperation channeled via NGOs

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) account prominently in the Spanish Cooperation activities in the country, managing an average of around 1/3 of the Spanish Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the country.

There are currently 14 Spanish NGOs implementing development projects in the Philippines in close partnership with Philippine Civil Society Organizations, 11 of which have permanent representation in the country. AECID funding to NGOs is channeled through Multiannual Cooperation Agreements and Annual Calls for Projects.



Multilateral Cooperation

Significant Spanish ODA resources have also been invested through the United Nations agencies. Spain has been one of the main funders to the UN System's multilateral programs in the Philippines, with a contribution of approximately 24 million Euros in the last two decades. Amongst them, the **Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund (MDG-F)** stands out the most. The new **Sustainable Development Goals Fund (MDGF)** started with an intervention in water and sanitation for \$ 3 Million. There are also ongoing projects with UN Habitat and UN Women.



The Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

Strategic Objectives of the Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

The main goal of the Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines in the last decade was to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, in accordance with the International Agenda on Quality and Aid Effectiveness. The current priorities are defined in the **Country Partnership Framework for the Spanish Cooperation with the Philippines 2014-2017**, which is aligned with the global and sectorial priorities outlined in the Philippine Development Plan 2011-2016.

The general objective of the Spanish Cooperation is to contribute to poverty reduction through human development and sustainable management of natural resources

The Partnership Framework is the basis for our country strategic planning, that puts into effect the mission of the Spanish Cooperation on the field, provides greater sectorial concentration through results oriented development cooperation and defines the priorities and sectors of concentration of our cooperation with the Philippines for the period 2014-2017.

The process of geographical and sectorial concentration was jointly defined with the Philippine authorities through a close dialogue, with the participation of all stakeholders, the actor of the Spanish Cooperation in the country and other international donors.



The **priority sectors** in which the Spanish Cooperation focus its interventions are:

- ✓ Governance, in the next strategic objectives:
 - ✓ Strengthening of the Public Sector.
 - ✓ To promote the rule of law and safeguard of Human Rights.
 - ✓ Support to the Peace Process.
 - ✓ Gender and Development
- ✓ Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).
- ✓ Quality response to humanitarian crisis.



The Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

Geographical areas of concentration of the Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

To be more effective, the Spanish Cooperation, in coordination with the Government of the Philippines, has identified two priority areas of intervention: the Bicol Region and the island of Mindanao, with special focus on the Caraga Region and the Zamboanga Peninsula.

BICOL Region

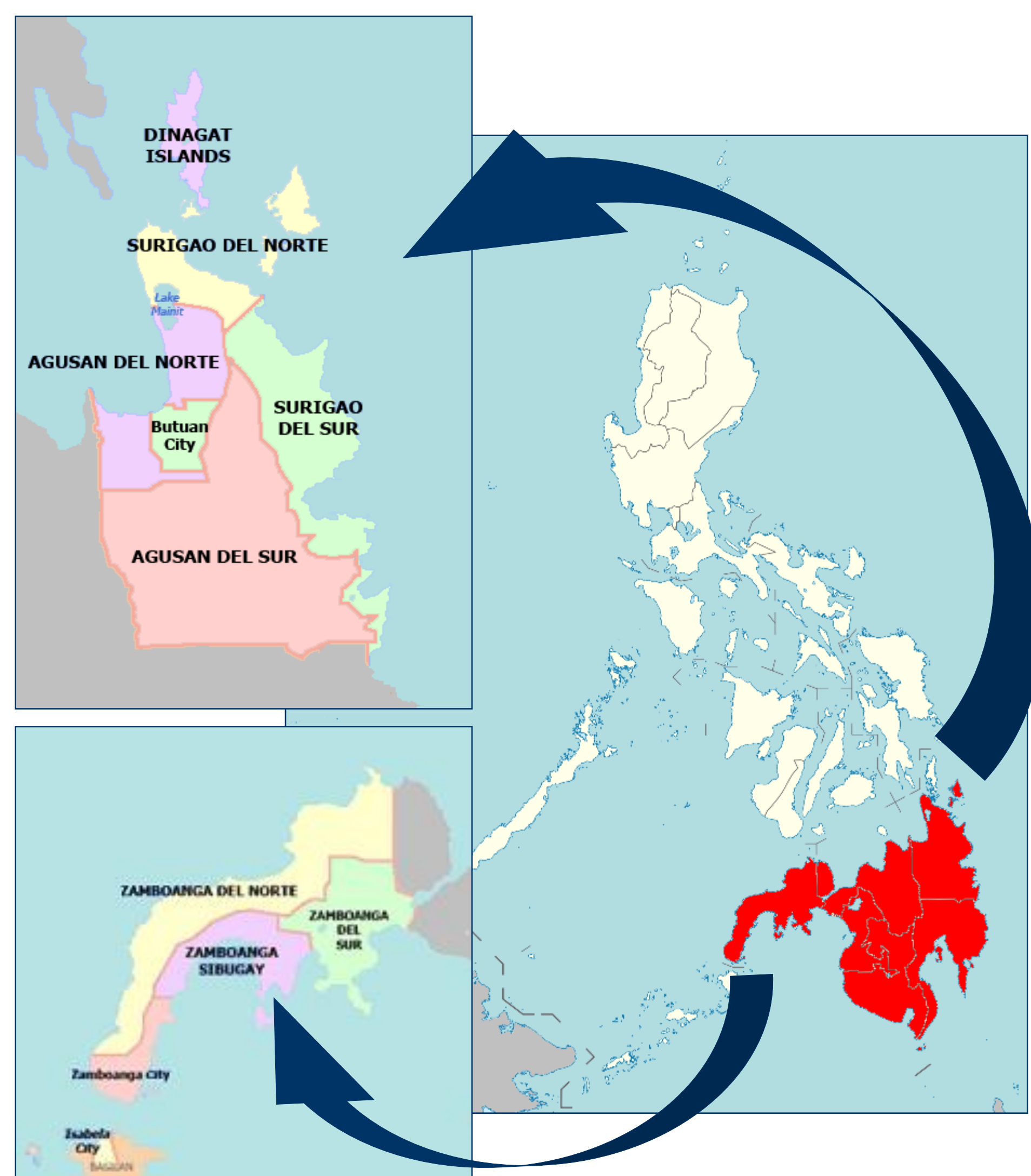
Located in the southeast part of Luzon, Bicol has 6 provinces: Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Sorsogon, and the island-provinces of Masbate and Catanduanes. Major cities are Legazpi, as political and administrative center, and Naga, as the cultural and business center. AECID maintains a Regional Office in Legazpi.



The Bicol Region is one of the most disaster-prone areas in the Philippines. The region records a significant seismic and volcanic activity which seriously affects the daily life of its population. It is also frequently exposed to tropical storms and typhoons which often victimize its people and cause damage to properties and livelihood. The prevention of natural disasters is a key component for development, sustained growth and poverty reduction.

MINDANAO, with special focus on the CARAGA Region and ZAMBOANGA

The Caraga Region is located in the northeast part of Mindanao. With Butuan as the capital city, it has 5 provinces: Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur and the island-province of Dinagat. Zamboanga has been a long-time recipient of the Spanish Cooperation in various sectors, mainly health, education, fisheries and water and sanitation.



Despite being rich in natural resources and having a unique business and tourism potential, Mindanao still has poverty indicators below the national average. The Spanish Cooperation will continue working in Mindanao by supporting the implementation of public policies (education, health and social protection) and encouraging the civil society participation to improve the coverage of basic social needs. Particularly we will support the strengthening of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) interventions.

The Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

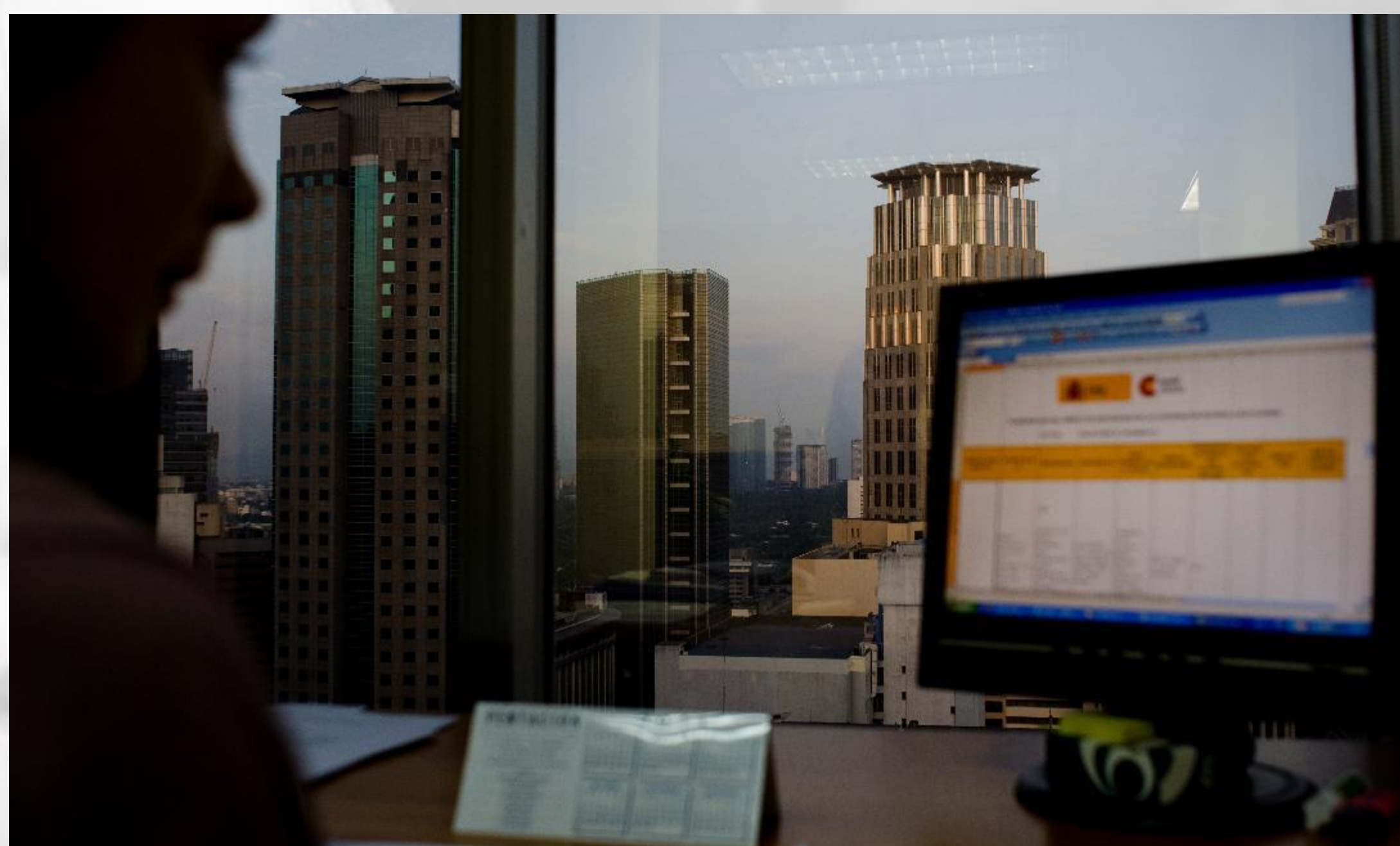
Facts and figures of the Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

Although we put first the quality of the projects instead of the actual resources employed, it is necessary to illustrate in figures the relevance of the Spanish Cooperation's Programs and Projects in the Philippines. Since 2005, the Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the Philippines has amounted over 190 million euros, equivalent to approximately 10 billion Philippine Pesos.

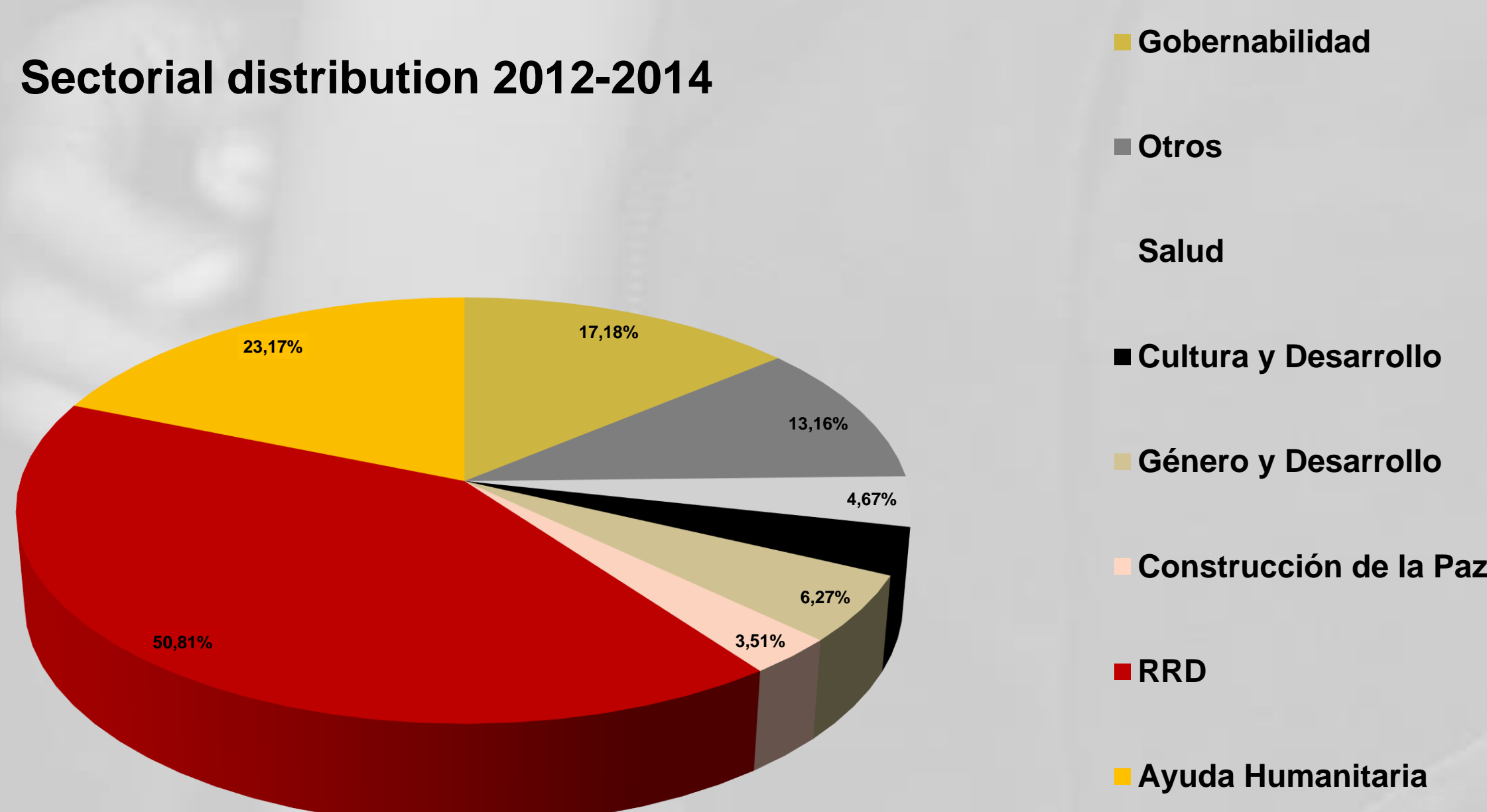
In 2010, the Official Development Assistance to the Philippines exceeded 25 m€. In 2011, the contributions amounted 19.5 m€, and in 2012, despite budgetary constraints, it reached approximately 10.1 m€.

Spain is an important bilateral partner of the Philippines. The ODA contributions allocated placed Spain in 2011 as the 7^o international donor, and the second bilateral donor of ODA grants amongst the EU member states. Despite the context of budgetary constraints in recent years due to the economic crisis, the Spanish Cooperation holds a significant commitment to the Philippines.

According to DAC, Spain was ranked in 2011 the 7th donor worldwide, and 2nd from the European Union in terms of ODA grants to the Philippines



Sectorial distribution 2012-2014



Between 2012 and 2014 more than 50% of Spanish ODA was allocated to Disaster Risk Reduction, while 17% was allocated to Governance, with a 23% investment in Humanitarian Aid.

The Spanish ODA in the Philippines has been channeled mainly through grants. The framework of the Spanish Cooperation with the Philippines 2014-2017 opens up the possibility of incorporating **reimbursable aid**, more suitable for some of the Spanish Cooperation's interventions in the Philippines. One operation is currently in the identification process.

The Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

Consolidating democratic processes and the rule of law. Good governance

The consolidations of democratic processes and the rule of law is one of the priority sectors in the Strategic Framework 2014-2017 of the Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines.

CONTEXT



The Spanish Cooperation has been working on the governance sector in the Philippines for many years, where all key players are bilaterally and multilaterally involved.

To the Spanish NGOs, Governance has been a traditional sector of intervention in the local development planning and community organization improvement.

MAIN ACTIONS IN THE SECTOR

Through Bilateral Cooperation, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) is currently implementing three institutional strengthening projects that are worth highlighting:

-“Institutional Strengthening of National and Local Governance on Human Rights and Economic Empowerment with Gender Focus: Implementing the Magna Carta of Women”. The project aims to support the role of the **Philippine Commission on Women (PCW)** shaping public policy on gender mainstreaming and women empowerment.

-“Mainstreaming Peace and Development in Local Governance in the Philippines”. The project supports the **Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP)** and the implementation of the PAMANA initiative as the national government program and framework for peace and development.

-“Institutional strengthening of the **Commission on Human Rights (CHR)**”. The project aims to support the institutional, technical and operational capacities of the CHR, with special emphasis on its monitoring and evaluation mandate, to better promote and protect Human Rights and to boost its presence at the regional, municipal and community levels.

The success of this latest project gave rise to the formulation of the “GOJUST” programme between the European Union and AECID, within the Rule of Law sector. The 4th component of this programme, on Human Rights, is implemented by AECID through a delegated cooperation mechanism, and focuses on the strengthening of the CHR and the Regional Human Rights Commission of ARMM, as well as the support to civil society organizations.

AECID actively participates in the multidonor **KaSaMa Initiative**, promoting human rights innovative projects of the civil society organizations in the Philippines. Spain is currently funding KaSaMa’s Technical Secretariat.



The Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

Strengthening the Disaster Risk Response Capabilities (DRR) in the Philippines from the Spanish Aid

The Spanish Cooperation has been working in the DRR sector for over a decade, and in the context of the new Country Partnership Framework with the Philippines 2014-2017, Disaster Risk Reduction is one of the two priority sectors.

CONTEXT

The Philippines is one of the most vulnerable countries to natural disasters worldwide. Philippine authorities are aware of the vulnerability of the country and, increasingly, the prevention and preparedness to disasters take a greater role in the government's agenda, both national and local. In fact after the disaster in November 2013 caused by Typhoon Haiyan, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) has become a major national priority and the strategy to follow for the reconstruction of the affected areas.

The Spanish Cooperation has an extensive working experience with the national institutions responsible for the management of disasters, as well as with the specialized UN agencies, the provincial governments, municipalities and NGOs.



INTERVENTIONS IN THE DRR SECTOR

- **NATIONAL:** Strengthening the national strategy on prevention, preparedness and response to natural disasters, through the support to the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) for the response component, and through the replication of the Clark logistic base model in other areas of the country (The Clark base is part of the strengthening of the Philippine national system, so that it becomes the first pilot referral center that can be replicated in the rest of country).
- **REGIONAL:** Support at the regional level in the aspects of prevention, preparedness and response to natural disasters, through the replication of the successful models of the provinces of Albay and Nueva Ecija, both implemented and funded through recent projects of the Spanish Cooperation.
- **LOCAL:** Support to local governments in the prevention, preparedness and response to natural disasters, through support to DILG-LGA.

All these levels will be supported through bilateral and multilateral projects (through OCHA, WFP and UNICEF) and through the Spanish NGOs.

Up to now, the Spanish cooperation efforts have been funded through donations. Since the signing of the Country Partnership Framework 2014-2017, the Spanish Cooperation has made available a highly concessional credits of FONPRODE instrument to the Philippine government

MECHANISMS

- Bilateral Cooperation
- Multilateral Cooperation
- Grants to NGOs
- Reimbursable Aid- FONPRODE



The Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

Humanitarian and Emergency Aid in the Philippines

The Philippines usually tops the list as one of the most vulnerable countries to natural disasters mainly caused by typhoons and tropical storms, and also by earthquakes and volcanic eruptions (in 2012 and 2013 it ranked first in loss of life caused by natural disasters worldwide), thus making it one of the main recipients of the Spanish Humanitarian Aid.

Spain was the top bilateral donor in the response to the effects of tropical storm Sendong in December 2011 with a grant contribution of 1.4 million euros and one of the top donors after typhoon Bopha in December 2012, with donations amounting to 1.84 million euros. President Aquino himself thanked our collaboration on this occasion. Also, Spain was an important donor during the emergency response to the devastating effects of the super Typhoon Haiyan in November 2013, with a total contribution amounting to 3.34 million euros. This figure rises to 15.9 million if we include Spanish private donations.

AECID maintains long term humanitarian agreements with three Spanish NGOs with expertise in the field of humanitarian and emergency aid (Acción contra el Hambre-Action Against Hunger, Spanish Red Cross and Save the Children-Spain), which are activated as the need arises. The said NGOs activated these agreements in 2011 due to the floods and the damages caused by typhoons Pedring, Quiel and Washi (Sendong) in Central Mindanao, and again in 2012 after the Tropical Storm Bopha.

The last activation was done in November 2013 to mitigate the effects left by Super Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda). Other humanitarian Spanish NGOs, such as Doctors Without Borders-Spain, Intermon-Oxfam and *Médicos del Mundo*, came in addition to the three already present in the country.



Also in 2013, the earthquake in Bohol and the displaced population emergency due to the armed conflict in Zamboanga triggered the Spanish humanitarian aid. For 2014-2017, the AECID approved three agreements with NGOs which include disaster preparation and response.

Additional humanitarian aid has been provided through the UN System. UNICEF, WFP, UNHCR and OCHA have implemented emergency interventions funded by AECID. Through these actions we are contributing to improve the living conditions of internally displaced persons and other vulnerable groups in conflict and natural disasters-affected areas in the country.

To prevent disasters, various comprehensive programs have been implemented in Disaster Preparedness and Response. For example, in the Province of Albay, Bicol Region, the capabilities of local authorities have been strengthened and several public schools have been rehabilitated to serve as evacuation centers equipped with basic facilities. Other programme of Disaster Risk Reduction has been implemented in the province of Nueva Ecija, while in the Clark Air Base a Logistical Center for Emergencies has been installed.



The Spanish Cooperation in the Philippines

Humanitarian Response of the Spanish Cooperation during Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) emergency

The Typhoon Haiyan, with its devastating consequences, generated a great display of solidarity in Spain. Institutions and individuals widely mobilized their resources and funds to assist the victims. Not only public institutions such as AECID, but also NGOs and private companies mobilized resources. This is a brief description of the various interventions implemented by the Spanish society.

BACKGROUND

On November 8, 2013 Typhoon Haiyan (local name Yolanda) hit the Philippines, particularly the Visayas region composed of different islands. One of the hardest hit areas was the Region VIII (Leyte and Samar Islands) Tacloban City being the most damaged in the Visayas region. The typhoon Haiyan was the strongest recorded typhoon in the Philippines. Nine of the 17 administrative regions have been affected by this unprecedented typhoon which crossed the country from east to west causing destruction and death.

Four days before the arrival of the typhoon, the Embassy, through the TCO issued two early warnings to both the Spanish NGOs and the Spanish staff working in International Organizations in the Philippines as well as to AECID headquarters warning of the virulence of the phenomenon and advising certain safety and prevention measures. This early warning was also communicated to the Delegation of the European Union in The Philippines and the rest of its Member States.

Apart from human lives, the Typhoon has left very great damage to infrastructure and agriculture (approximately amounting Php 40 Billion, or 664 million Euros). 6,201 deaths were officially reported and 1,785 missing. Over 4 million people are displaced (about 930,000 families).

INTERVENTION OF THE SPANISH AID

- **Bilateral:** Regional Hospital of Tacloban (Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center-EVRMC-) the highest referral medical institution in Region VIII. The Spanish bilateral aid has focused on providing healthcare and support for the resumption of its regular hospital services. A Spanish medical team of 35 members was deployed to the EVRMC during the emergency. Additionally, hospital basic services such as water and electricity were restored and the operation of delivery rooms, operating rooms and ward that have suffered minor damage were also restored. In addition, several tons of drugs (Reina Sofia Foundation) and emergency medical equipment (AECID) were also donated.



- **Multilateral:** WFP (150.000 €), UNICEF (150.000 €)
- **Via NGOs:** Activation of Humanitarian Agreements from Action Against Hunger Spain, Save The Children Spain, Spanish Red Cross, Intermón Oxfam, Doctors without Borders Spain and Médicos del Mundo



Contributions of the Spanish Aid to the emergency

1. AECID: 3.038.693€

- **Bilateral contribution: 754.000€**
- **NGOs : 1.984.693€**
- **Multilateral (WFP, UNICEF): 300.000€**

2. Spanish Regional Governments: 297.336,86€

TOTAL ODA: 3.336.029€

3. Others CE* (Fundación Reina Sofia, CARITAS, CRE, Zabalketa, INDRA): 1.476.000€.

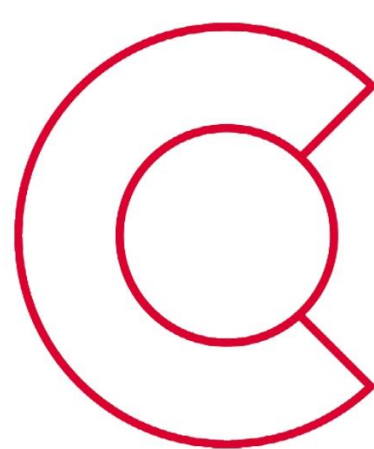
**Preliminary figures from TCO*

4.- Private contributions channeled via Spanish NGOS and UN agencies (Spanish Red Cross and UNICEF): 11.097.000€

TOTAL: 15.909.029 €



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