

Philippines-Spain Development Cooperation

People, Prosperity, Our Planet and Peace

Gender and Development

The promotion of women's rights and gender equality is one of the hallmarks of Spanish Cooperation. In this regard, the Fifth Master Plan of Spanish Cooperation (2018-2021) shares the same values and principles as the 2030 Agenda and the goals set in SDG No. 5, supporting as a strategic line of action gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as their protection so that they can fully exercise their rights.

Context

The Philippines has made a special commitment to achieve gender equality, and it has performed positively compared to other countries in the region. In terms of governance, the Philippines made enormous progress through the Magna Carta of Women. There are 26 legislations which exclusively refer to the human rights of women. In spite of this significant progress, several challenges remain.

Women are directly and indirectly affected by gender-based violence, as well as the various forms of violence affecting the Philippines. According to the PSA, 9,324 cases of rape were identified in 2016. Victims of human trafficking are also predominantly women. Some legislation related to family law have a negative impact on women, specifically on marriage and divorce, age of marriage for women under Sharia law and adultery.

In the recent Country Partnership Framework 2014-2019, bilateral work has been carried out directly with the Philippine Commission for Women (PCW), supporting the effective implementation of public gender policy in the Philippines (both at the national level and in 18 local governments), and indirectly through the NGOs and civil society organizations.

Strategic Approach

The Spanish Cooperation has a relevant experience in contributing to making gender perspectives and gender equality crucial for cooperation activities: policy development, advocacy/dialogue, legislation, planning and monitoring of programs and projects. Training and awareness-raising processes in: gender and development, women's rights, gender analysis, planning, budget, implementation and gender monitoring, are areas of expertise.

The new Country Partnership Framework 2020-2023 between Spain and the Philippines is aligned with the Agenda 2030 and SDG No. 5. Interventions targeting the most vulnerable persons as a basis for achieving a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.

Gender as a cross-cutting priority is key, including improving the skills of women and men on human rights, peace-building and governance from a gender perspective. Some of the areas of work that led to results are women's access to justice, protection of women's rights in the context of armed conflict, domestic violence and the incorporation of the gender equality approach and inclusion in recovery interventions after the crises caused by disasters or conflicts.

To this end, the emphasis on the increase of participation of women and in gender mainstreaming at national and local government, is one of the main outcomes to achieve in this area.



Philippines-Spain Development Cooperation

People, Prosperity, Our Planet and Peace

Gender and Development Main Actions

In agreement with the priority lines of the gender and development strategy, several interventions are in the process of identification and formulation, building on present partnerships. Among them, we underscore the intervention Support to Bangsamoro Transition program, “SUBATRA Justice and Society” (jointly funded by the European Union and the Spanish Cooperation through Delegated Cooperation), which emphasizes the access to justice for women.

In this regard, ongoing interventions in gender and development are guided by the following priority lines:

- Increased participation of women in political and economic governance at local level in the most vulnerable areas, specifically in the plans for resilient development, disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change.
- Mainstreamed gender equality in local governance and the private sector.
- Increased women’s contribution to the preservation of cultural and natural heritage.
- Increased access to justice for women.
- Improved livelihoods for women in vulnerable situations.
- Enhanced women’s protection strategies, including the reduction of trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and girls.

Main Implementation partner	Intervention title	Total Grant	Location
Sulong CARHRIHL	Support to indigenous women for participation in human rights, peace and development. Phase I and II	815.000 €	Quezon, Oriental Mindoro, Negros Occidental, Bukidnon, North Cotabato, Agusan del Sur, Compostela Valley
Consortio y Libertad	Strengthening professional skills, civic engagement and employability of youth and displaced women	587.000 €	Marawi and Zamboanga (Mindanao)
Peace and Development	Resilient communities under gender, diversity and good governance approaches i	320.000 €	Caraga (Mindanao)
Spanish Red Cross	Strengthening resilience and gender equality of indigenous communities	450.000 €	Bukidnon (Mindanao)