# SPAIN

# Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

## General section

1. Spain hereby voluntarily *joins the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty* and states its dedication to pursue the Alliance's mission, objectives and principles, as *expressed* in the Global Alliance's Terms of Reference and Governance Framework, and to collaborate with other members to achieve lasting solutions to poverty and hunger worldwide, as expressed below.

   Spain:

2. *Recognizes* that hunger and malnutrition are the perverse manifestations of persistent, structural poverty and inequality, and recognizes the need to end poverty and hunger in all their forms and dimensions and to fully and effectively implement the 2030 Agenda.

3. *Acknowledges* the alarming growth in the number of people facing food insecurity and poverty in recent years, noting that, despite all significant past and current efforts, the world is not on track to meet SDG 1 and 2 targets, inequality is also on the rise (SDG 10), and a significant increase in collective ambition, as well as improvement in collective alignment and coordination for the fight against hunger and poverty, is urgently needed.

4. To that effect, *endorses* the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty and its mission to *support and accelerate efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty (SDGs 1 and 2) while reducing inequalities (SDG 10), contributing to revitalize global partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17) and to the achievement of other interlinked SDGs, and championing sustainable, inclusive and just transitions*.

5. *Notes* that it is crucial for the world to unite behind large-scale, integrated approaches combining international, regional, national, and local levels, that recognize the interconnected nature of challenges and solutions to hunger and poverty and pair social protection with access to goods and services that can help the poor and vulnerable populations to overcome structural barriers and drive responsible investment in their productive capacity. These complementary services include but are not limited to interventions for poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, early childhood support, education and skills development, employment services, health and care services, as well as family

farmers and smallholders' access to finance, extension services, research and/or agricultural inputs, in line with international commitments and obligations.

6. *Particularly recognizes* the high value and positive impact of quality implementation of national and local country-owned, inclusive policy instruments and programmes, focused on the poorest and most vulnerable, in the fields of poverty reduction, social protection, food security and nutrition, gender equality, decent work in the agri-food sector, skills development, family farming and smallholder agriculture, food systems transformation, health and care services and resilience building.

7. Also *acknowledges* the Global Alliance's reference basket of such policies as a collectively built, ongoing collection of examples with robust evidence to reduce hunger and poverty, and as a useful basis to guide joint action and increase alignment of the international community at country level. This acknowledgement is applicable to the policy basket approach as a general guide to action and does not imply endorsement of any specific policy instrument or programme contained in the basket.

8. Therefore, by joining the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, *commits* to do its best efforts, in its own field of action, and according to its own mandate, capacities, priorities, preferences, procedures, and legal arrangements and framework, to support the implementation of policy instruments and programmes at country level as appropriate, including by the promotion of shared learning and the mobilization of resources, public and private, at scale.

   In particular:

## Domestic policy implementation commitments

Spain acknowledges its role in the national-level implementation of policies and programmes against hunger and poverty, as well as for providing guidance and support to sub-national level policies and programmes.

Spain:

*Commits* to make its best efforts to implement, improve, and/or scale-up the implementation of policy instruments and programmes from among those contained in the Global Alliance's policy basket in our national context. These policy instruments and programme suggestions would be adapted to the specific conditions, realities and opportunities presented in our country.

*In particular, Spain commits to implement, improve, or scale-up the implementation of the following policy instruments or programmes, referenced in the Global Alliance's reference basket:*

1) **Law 16/2021, of December 14, on measures to improve the functioning of the food chain (update of Law 12/2013)**

The "Food Chain Law" aims at fairer and more transparent food chain, strengthening the position of the most vulnerable operators and promoting fair trade relations in the sector. It aims to improve the functioning and structuring of the food chain, to increase the efficiency and competitiveness of the Spanish agri-food sector and reduce the imbalance in commercial relations between the different operators in the value chain. In order to achieve fair prices for all operators, particularly those in a weaker negotiating position, the regulation generally prohibits the destruction of value in the food chain. In this way, production costs form the basis for the negotiation of written contracts. The catalogue of prohibited unfair commercial practices is widened to avoid possible commercial abuses and the role of the Food Information and Control Agency is strengthened.

**https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/alimentacion/temas/cadena-alimentaria/ley-cadena-alimentaria/**

**BOE-A-2021-20630 Ley 16/2021, de 14 de diciembre, por la que se modifica la Ley 12/2013, de 2 de agosto, de medidas para mejorar el funcionamiento de la cadena alimentaria.**

2) **School meals program:** support and complement the school meals programs of educational centers through the School Program. The RD of the school program (Royal Decree 511/2017, which develops the application in Spain of the regulations of the European Union related to the school program for the consumption of fruits, vegetables, and milk) specifically establishes that the products that are financed with public funds are not distributed along with meals, to differentiate what is a school cafeteria from what is the program since they cannot replace the usual supply of the cafeteria.

**https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/alimentacion/temas/promo-alimentos/programa-escolar/**

3) **"Desafío Mujer Rural" program ("Rural Women Challenge Program")**

The program aims to the female business fabric in rural areas, in order to overcome the gender gap in employment and entrepreneurship. Its specific objectives include to: a) remove the obstacles that hinder effective gender equality; b) promote the labour insertion of women in rural areas, encouraging entrepreneurship; c) promote the associative fabric and networks of rural women entrepreneurs and businesswomen; d) showcase the achievements and talent of rural women entrepreneurs.

https://desafiomujerrural.es/program/

4) **Promotion and access to healthy diets through food promotion campaigns.** Furthermore, at a regulatory level, standards guarantee the quality of food products and encourage **the reduction of food waste** by promoting donations.

**https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/alimentacion/temas/desperdicio/**

*Commits* to observe good practices throughout the implementation of such policy instruments and programmes, including maintaining effective governance, seeking avenues for domestic resource mobilization for funding such programs and providing for appropriate monitoring and evaluation, with adaptation and learning based on social involvement and consultation, local stakeholder engagement, minimizing negative impacts and seeking to adequately manage policy trade-offs.

## Policy cooperation and support commitments

*Commits* to, within its capacities, share its own learnings and otherwise provide appropriate help and support, within its means, to other Global Alliance member countries to implement, improve, or scale-up the implementation of policies and programmes referenced in the Alliance's basket.

## Financial support commitments

Spain:

*Commits* to make its best efforts to improve the destination, allocation and alignment of the use of its resources, including through coordination and cooperation facilitated by the Global Alliance, to support member countries to implement, improve, or scale-up the implementation of select programmes or policy instruments in the Alliance's reference basket to drive the fight against hunger and poverty, in line with sustainable country-led financing and implementation strategies.

[1] Informs that an estimated[1] amount of EUR 581.994.186 of financial resources under its guidance (Spanish Cooperation Master Plans), management or control is currently

[1] *This amount includes the ODA estimated currently being employed as the result of the implementation of FY 2023 budgets and of the implementation/immediate implementation corresponding to FY 2024. Estimates of FY 2025 cannot be advanced at the moment of preparing this State of Commitment as FY 2025 public budget negotiation is ongoing.*
*These figures represent all ODA public budget, including the National, Autonomous Communities, Municipalities and Universities´ ODA budgets. Actual disbursements to SDG 1 and 2 reported to the OECD-DAC are currently being assessed.*

being employed and/or may be allocated in the reference of 2023 to provide international development support applicable to the fight against hunger and poverty under SDGs 1 and 2. If the scope is extended to include all efforts in combating multidimensional poverty[2], covering SDG 1 trough SDG 11, the estimated amount rises to EUR 1.571.396.883. Similar provisional amounts are anticipated for 2024, due to the rollover of the budget.

The amount above is the best possible estimation considering different applicable modalities, allocations and budget cycles, and is subject to changing circumstances and budgets. It is not to be considered a pledge of new and additional resources.

Spain's Law on Co-operation for Sustainable Development and Global Solidarity (Ley 1/2023) gives legal status to its commitment to allocate 0.7% of gross national income (GNI) to official development assistance (ODA) by 2030, at least 10% of which earmarked for humanitarian action. Among its core objectives, it includes: 1. To promote sustainable human development by combating poverty and inequality, in all its dimensions, leaving no one behind; 2. Promote social justice, the fight against hunger and all forms of malnutrition; 3. Support food security, as well as sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems, including fisheries and family farming.

[2] Announces that it will contribute financially to the Alliance's Supporting Mechanism with an initial sum of USD 850,000 in FY 2024, to be fully disbursed in 2024. Contributions in FY 2025 and further years are expected, and will be determined in the corresponding annual budgets.

In addition to the above, informs and commits to implementing the following actions, programmes, and other activities in support of SDGs 1 and 2 and the Global Alliance´s objectives:

[3] Confirms that it will contribute, amongst others[3]:

- € 16 million to the UN Joint SDG Fund in 2024, with provisions to continue in 2025 as part of the € 120 million committed by Spain from 2019 to 2027.

[2] *Spain considers multidimensional poverty to be the core of its approach to the fight against poverty. These figures include estimates of contributions to SDGs 1 to 11.*
[3] *All multi-year pledges are approved by the Council of Ministers, to be disbursed subject to budgetary availability in the corresponding fiscal year.*

- € 20 million to the International Fund for Agricultural Development IFAD 13th replenishment, to the empowerment of smallholder and family farmers and sustainable, inclusive, climate-resilient agri-food systems.

- € 12 million (2024 to 2026) to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program-GAFSP for the support to smallholder farmers and agri-food programs.

- € 2.1 million (2024 to 2026) to FAO Initiative "América Latina sin Hambre"

- € 0.4 million to the FAO Right to Food Unit in 2024, a program intended to be continued with 2025 and 2026 budgets.

- € 0.675 million to the FAO, Water and Food Security in Wester Africa Program in 2024, a program intended to be continued with 2025 and 2026 budgets.

- € 0.1 million to the Committee on Food Security in 2024.

- € 0.125 million to the FAO Indigenous People Food Security Program in 2024.

- € 16.47 million to the WFP in humanitarian and emergency aid for operations in Africa, including the Sahel region, the Middle East and Latin America and the Caribbean in 2024.

[4] **Debt Pause Clauses:** Spain has introduced debt pause clauses in its new sovereign loan agreements. These clauses will offer low- and lower-middle-income countries the ability to defer repayments in the event of a severe climate crisis or natural disaster or health emergency, but also, as a novelty, in the event of food crisis. These clauses allow a country affected by a crisis to temporarily defer payment of its debt service and, in this way, quickly free up resources to meet the urgent needs of its population. Therefore, these clauses help affected countries to respond quickly at a time of maximum urgency, such as a famine.

[4] **Debt-for-Nutrition Swap Programme:** Spain has a long experience with debt-for-development swaps, also in food security. Spain has signed a specific Debt for Nutrition Swap Programme managed by the World Food Programme (WFP). This debt swap has implied that Spain has cancelled its debt with the debtor and the debtor has contributed a smaller amount of the cancelled debt to the WFP to support its activities aimed at achieving food security and improving nutrition in the debtor's country. Spain is committed to swiftly implement these debt swaps.

## Knowledge support commitments

Spain:

*Commits* to make its best efforts to co-create and provide technical assistance, capacity building and strengthening, training and/or knowledge-sharing on voluntary and mutually agreed terms in response to requests by Global Alliance member countries that choose to implement policy instruments and programmes in the Alliance's policy basket that are compatible with its areas of expertise, primarily through the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).

*Commits* to make its best efforts to improve the alignment of its actions, including through the Global Alliance's coordination mechanisms, leveraging, and partnering with other actors to better support large scale, country-owned implementation of policies and programmes in the reference basket by Global Alliance member countries, aiming at enhancing country-level outcomes.

*Commits* to collaborate with other Alliance members to develop innovative solutions and share good practices in learning and knowledge exchange and dissemination on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, data collection and analysis, including by leveraging existing local, national, and international knowledge networks, coalitions, communities and other fora related to aspects relevant to the fight against hunger and poverty.

## General acknowledgments

*Recognizes* the possibility to, including through the mechanisms available to Global Alliance members, coordinate, partner with and/or seek support from the Global Alliance's other members, within their respective capacities, availability, and fields of activity, to carry out the present commitments with greater effectiveness.

While recognizing that the above commitments are voluntary and non-legally binding, being subject to and carried out under its own capacities, regulations, priorities, and modalities, as well as to the availability of appropriate resourcing, *strives* to seriously consider, as appropriate, and according to its own legal frameworks and governance process, to review its procedures and priorities as found necessary to better deliver on the present commitments, enhance synergies and joint efforts with other entities and initiatives, and improve outcomes on the collective fight against hunger and poverty.