
Water and Sanitation

Spanish
Cooperation in
Latin America
and the
Caribbean



spanish aid



Spanish Cooperation, from the outset, has been firmly committed to the water and sanitation sector. The 4th Master Plan (2013-2016) once again points to this sector as strategic and a priority, because it is not only a human right, but also key in achieving others such as health, education and nutrition.

A reflection of this priority is, for example, support for the Millennium Development Goals, and support for recognition of the human right to water and sanitation, which has been one of Spanish Cooperation's hallmarks in this sector. The United Nations General Assembly's approval, in 2010, of Resolution 64/292 has marked a turning point, giving political and legal impetus to efforts to guarantee universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

According to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Report 2013 -and even though the target of halving the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water has been achieved- 768 million people, most of them in rural areas, are still lacking this basic service, and nearly half of the people in developing regions, some 2.5 billion people, do not have improved sanitation facilities. These figures are unacceptable, and that is why Spanish Cooperation continues to work in this sector and supports its inclusion in the post-2015 goals.

Spanish Cooperation's most important commitment in this regard is the Cooperation Fund for Water and Sanitation in Latin America and the Caribbean (FCAS). The aim of this initiative is to contribute to the realization of the human right to water, and to accompany Spanish Cooperation's partner countries in Latin America on their journey towards this goal.

This Fund, present in 19 countries through a portfolio of 67 programmes, constitutes an unprecedented initiative, because never before had cooperation focused so many funds on water and sanitation in the Latin American region, with approximately 800 million euros disbursed to date.

Spanish Cooperation has focused its efforts on the most underprivileged areas, giving priority to rural and peri-urban areas, which have the lowest access rates, and paying special attention to non-exclusion and sustainability.

In this brochure, we have summarized our history of water cooperation as a starting point for promoting dialogue, experience-sharing and synergies among actors, so that the knowledge and experience gained by all over this period may be applied to designing the development framework of the future, contributing to ongoing international processes, and enhancing the quality of our assistance.

Water for Life

Water is a basic element for life. We need water to drink, to cook, for our hygiene, to produce food, to obtain energy, etc.



Water is a vital natural resource and a key factor in development. Access to water and sanitation is a determining factor in the fight against poverty

Water management is one of the major worldwide challenges. While 768 million people are still suffering supply problems, new challenges are emerging, such as environmental sustainability and adaptation to climate change.

Lack of water and sanitation is one of the basic needs affecting the greatest number of people in the world. Its implications for the different dimensions of poverty give it an influence on development that multiplies its impact wherever investments are made in this sector. For every dollar invested in water and sanitation, up to 34 dollars can be saved on health, education and economic development.

Source: WHO (World Health Organization) Reports



For the Spanish Cooperation, water is a strategic and priority sector, and that is why the 4th Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation sets forth as a goal “Promoting a strategy to foster the implementation of the human right to water and sanitation, giving priority to the most vulnerable and excluded sectors”.

“Now our children are guaranteed one of the most important rights”

Nélida Flores. Sanitation Council of Santa Catalina, Guairá. Paraguay

Water as a basic human right

Spain promotes the legally-binding international recognition of the right to water and sanitation as a fundamental and universal basic human right. The Spanish Cooperation is working to mainstream this rights-based approach into its water and sanitation projects.



The human right to water “entitles everyone to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic uses”

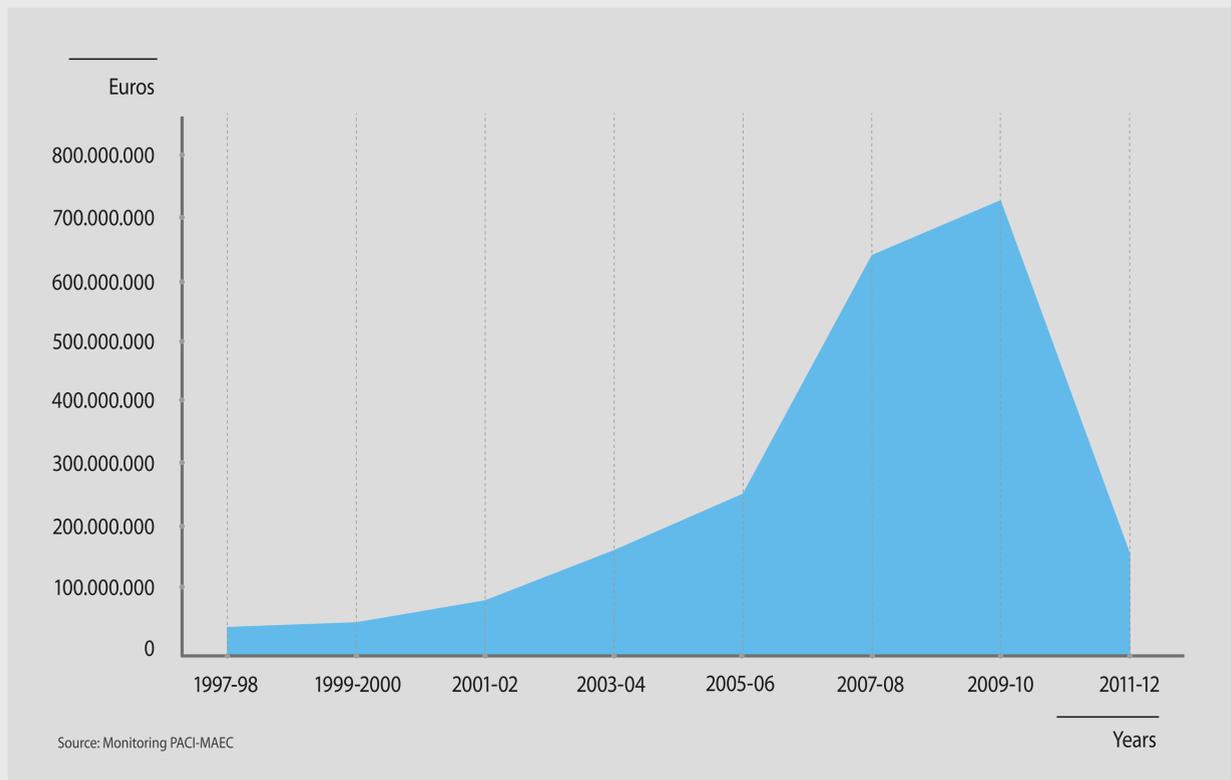
(General Comment No. 15 of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights)

Characteristics of this rights-based approach:

- ▶ **Availability:** continuous supply of a vital minimum to cover needs. The basic supply is 20 litres per person per day although the intermediate level established by the WHO to ensure health is not at risk is 50 litres per person per day, always guaranteeing the existence of sanitation facilities.
- ▶ **Accessibility:** water and sanitation facilities nearby and within safe reach.
- ▶ **Quality/safety:** water free from health risks.
- ▶ **Affordability:** ensure that the cost of services does not exceed 3-5% of household income. Possible subsidies for the most impoverished sectors.
- ▶ **Acceptability:** facilities must be culturally acceptable.
- ▶ **Non-discrimination/equality.**
- ▶ **Participation in and access to public information.**
- ▶ **Responsibility and accountability.**
- ▶ **Sustainability:** economic, environmental and social.

Spanish Cooperation experience; more than 2 billion euros in drops of water

The Spanish Cooperation has always borne in mind the importance of water and sanitation as a prerequisite for human development, for a life that is decent, disease-free, and has the right conditions to prosper, get good nutrition, etc.



*"We were carrying water from far away.
Now we are happy to see water in
our own house"*

Delfidia Bonilla. Water Council of La Unión,
Comayagua. Honduras

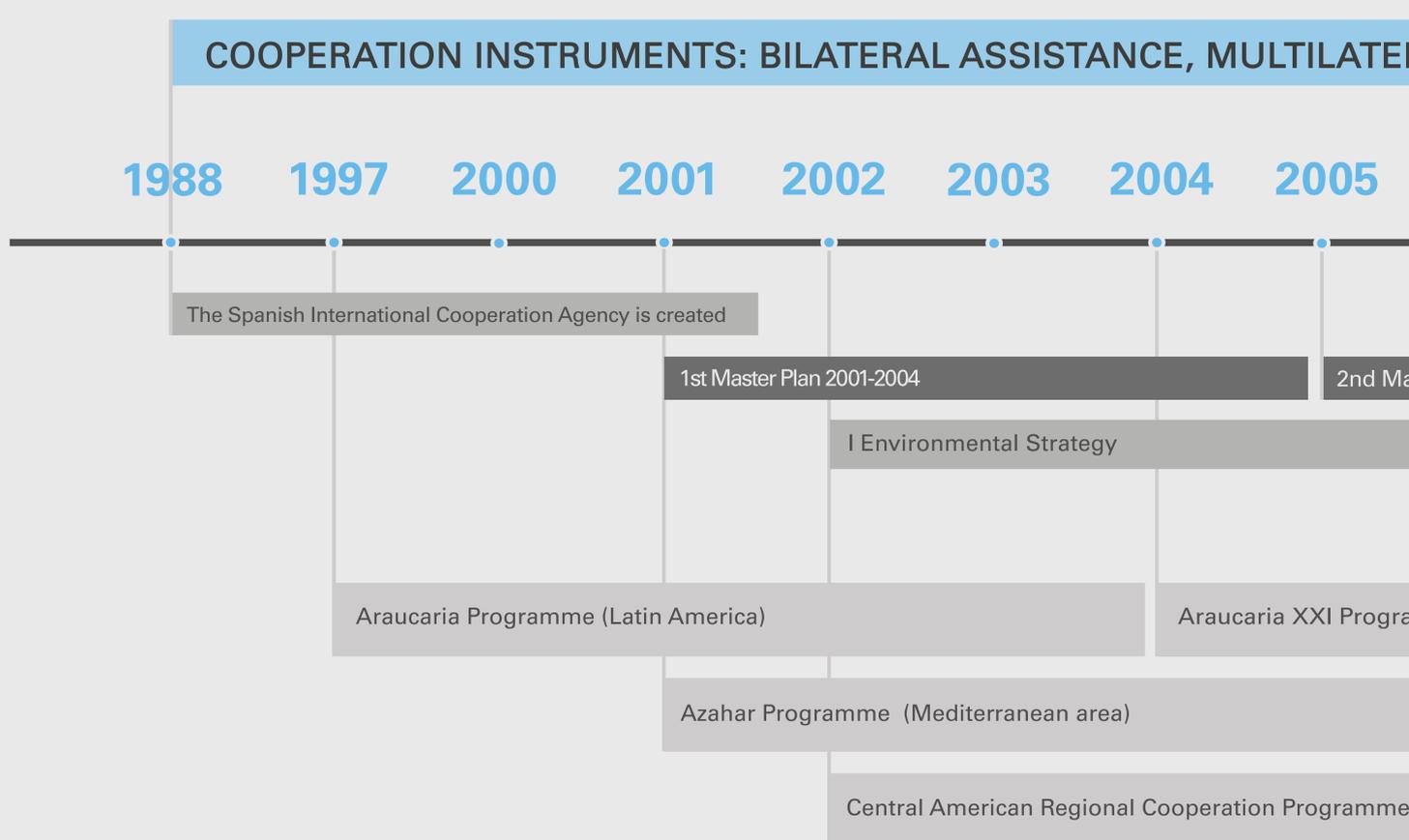
"Life without water was very difficult"
Calixta Durán. Beneficiary District 7, El Alto. Bolivia



Using different instruments, through subsidies to NGDOs, with multilateral agreements, or through direct bilateral cooperation, in its 25 years of history, the Spanish Cooperation has allocated €2.086 billion to guaranteeing access to water and sanitation for millions of people in more than 80 countries



Path of the Spanish Cooperation



INTERNATIONAL MILESTONES IN THE WATER SECTOR

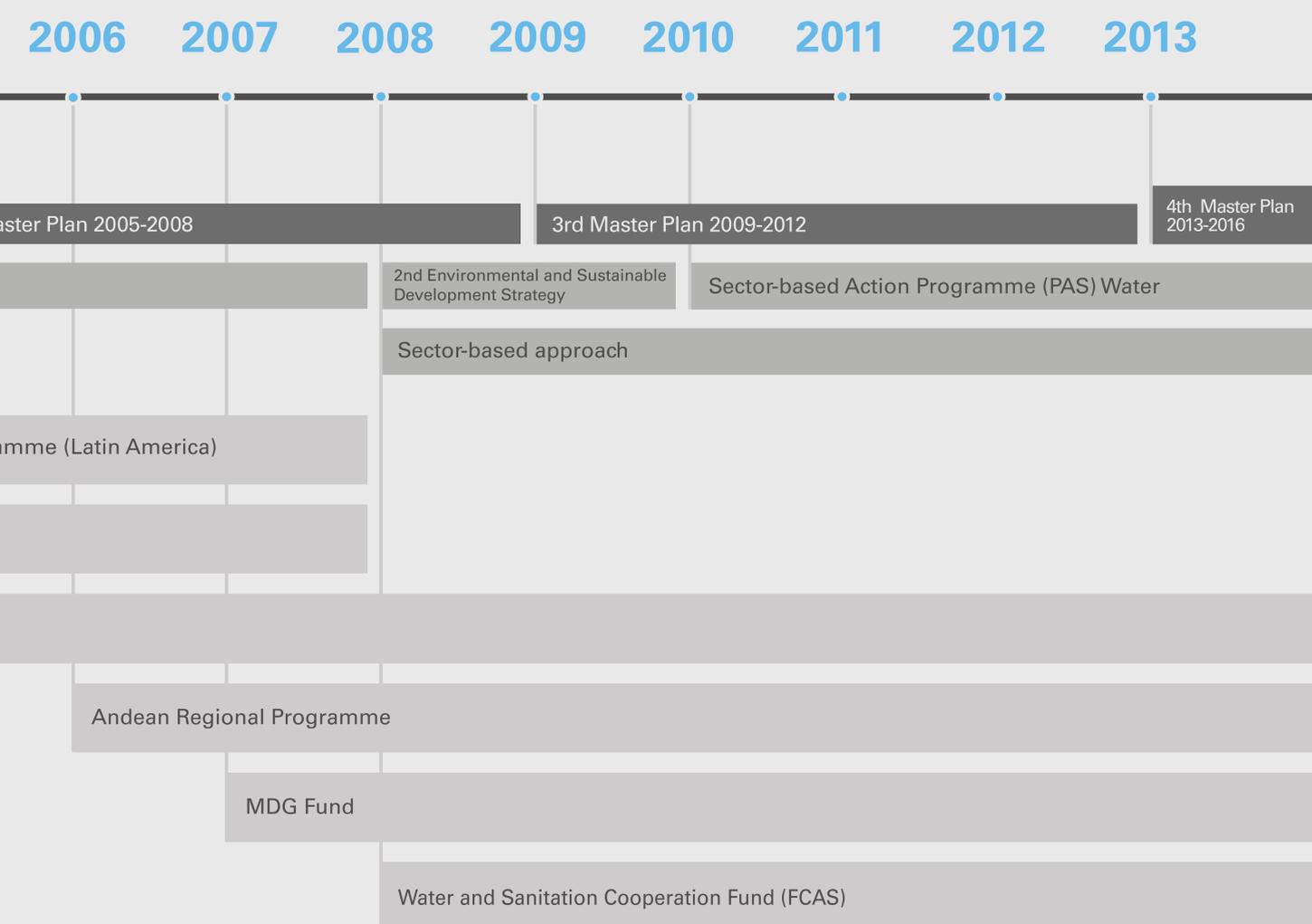
- 1981-90. International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade.
- 1992. International Conference on Water and the Environment, Dublin.
- 1992. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Agenda 21.
- 1996. Rome Declaration on World Food Security.
- 1997. 1st World Water Forum, Marrakech.
- 2000. 2nd World Water Forum, The Hague.
- 2000. United Nations Millennium Declaration.

MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability. Target 3. Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

- 2001. International Conference on Freshwater (Dublin +10), Bonn.
- 2002. World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio +10) Johannesburg.
- 2003. 3rd World Water Forum, Kyoto.
- 2005-2015. Decade for Action "Water for Life". Venue: Zaragoza.
- 2006. 4th World Water Forum, Mexico. Declaration on the implementation of a joint strategy between Latin America and the European Union regarding water resources and sanitation.
- 2009. 5th World Water Forum, Istanbul.
- 2010. Acknowledgment of the human right to water and sanitation by the UN Assembly
- 2012. World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), Brazil SDGs.
- 2012. 6th World Water Forum, Marseille.
- 2013. International Year of Water Cooperation.

in Water and Sanitation

RAJONAL PROGRAMMES, CALL FOR NGDO PROPOSALS



Spanish cooperation has always worked in water and sanitation sector, as it is an essential factor for economic development and for the well-being of humankind, key to attaining the aim of reducing poverty, as well as a basic requirement to preserve the integrity of ecosystems and to ensure their functioning.

The different cooperation instruments have allocated part of development assistance to water and sanitation actions. This is why the Spanish Cooperation has provided itself with different regulatory frameworks in which to incorporate its action. From a broad framework defined by the coverage of basic social needs, as set forth in its 1st Master Plan (2001-2004), to promoting the Human Right to Water and Sanitation, as reflected in its 4th Master Plan (2013-2016).

Environmental strategies focused on environmental governance and on sustainability goals, on considering water resources a basic component of the natural environment, and as direct support for the Human Right to Water. But its definition as a priority sector in Spanish Cooperation is marked by the Water Sector Action Plan, which sets forth an integrated river basin approach for the sustainability of water resources, bearing in mind environmental, social and economic interests.



Photo: A. Díez Parra

Working with NGDOs

Access to safe drinking water and improving basic sanitation conditions are the traditional arena for NGDO action thus materializing civil society's commitment to the basic needs of the most impoverished populations.

By means of project subsidies and collaboration agreements, the Spanish Cooperation has a close relationship with NGDOs that are highly relevant not only in the technical management of projects, but also in evaluating, discussing and proposing the general guidelines for cooperation in water-related cooperation, through CONGDE, the Sectoral Group for Water of the Spanish Coordinator of Development NGOs.



TERRENA PROGRAMME

Is aimed at reducing the vulnerability of impoverished areas by giving them access to safe drinking water, sanitation and the sustainable management of land and water resources with a river basin approach.

RESULTS

- ▶ Supplying water to 11 communities by means of 5 gravity aqueducts and 5 aqueducts with electrically-powered pumps, expanding the range to 3,222 people.
- ▶ 24 Safe Drinking Water Committees in 3 municipalities.
- ▶ 1,860 families benefitting from sanitation infrastructure (ecological water toilets) using the FECSA (Healthy Families, Schools and Communities) methodology.
- ▶ Network of 62 community developers for the improvement of hygiene and sanitation practices.
- ▶ Reinforcement plan for the 3 Water and Sanitation Municipal Units.
- ▶ 114 students benefitting from the overhaul and improvement of school latrines.
- ▶ Preparation and approval of the Sustainable Management Plan for the Protected Area of Cerros de Yalí benefitting the 54,000 people of three municipalities in the area.



Jinotega, Nicaragua

LOCATION

3.447.025 €

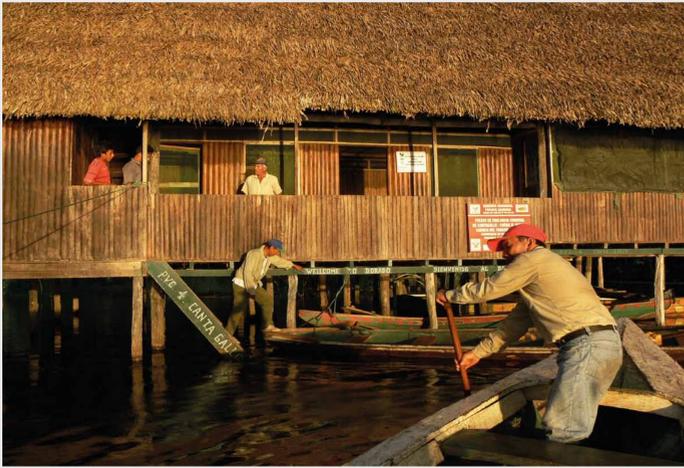
AMOUNT FUNDED BY SPANISH COOPERATION

ONGAWA

INGENIERIA PARA EL DESARROLLO HUMANO
(ENGINEERING FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT)

NGDO

ARAUCARIA Programme



The ARAUCARIA Programme for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development in Latin America was born in 1997. It focused on promoting the conservation of aquatic ecosystems in order to favour human wellbeing and improve the quality of life of the most vulnerable populations.

In its first stage, 11 integrated projects were launched in inhabited areas that are rich in biodiversity and representative of Latin America's principal ecosystems. Afterwards, more than 30 sector-based projects, with five thematic lines, were implemented: environmental planning and management, indigenous peoples and biodiversity, ecotourism, sustainable production, and renewable energy.



ARAUCARIA incorporated an "eco-efficiency" line, which included access to safe drinking water and sanitation in rural areas, as well as training professionals in the sector through specific courses

One of ARAUCARIA's main achievements was to combine in this field the participation of all the actors of Spanish Cooperation (Ministries, Autonomous Communities, NGOs, Municipalities, Foundations, Universities and companies).



ARAUCARIA envisaged Water as a fundamental component, with lines of action including integrated water cycle management, institutional capacity-building, environmental education, and access to safe drinking water and sanitation



Sustainable Development of the Savegre River Basin, Costa Rica

This integrated project within the Araucaria Programme was born in 1998 with the aim of developing the Savegre River basin, in Costa Rica, environmentally, socially and sustainably.

The project had three major components:

- ▶ **Biodiversity:** the Land-Use Plan and Management Plan of the Savegre River basin were approved by the municipalities, the principal institutions and the grassroots groups; the system of protected areas was strengthened; the protection and surveillance system was enhanced; and the aquifer recharge zones of the headwaters of the principal communities were demarcated.
- ▶ **Production systems:** a Sector-based Tourism Plan was created, to promote sustainable tourism in the river basin; a production network was launched, comprising more than 15 projects.
- ▶ **Local management and participation:** Municipalities were strengthened, and an inter-municipal figure was created, to work jointly on river basin conservation; 10 local associations involved in the Savegre River basin production network were articulated; and safe drinking water supply, land communications and telephone communications in the Savegre River basin were improved.



Araucaria Savegre River

1998-2005

PERIOD

1.699.002 \$

AECID SUBSIDY CONTRIBUTION

1.070.709 \$

DEBT SWAP

Bi-National Land-Use, Management and Development Project of the Catamayo-Chira River Basin, Ecuador-Peru

The fundamental purpose of this project is to achieve the Integrated Management of this River Basin in order to overcome the existing socio-economic and environmental problems, thus improving living conditions and consolidating peace between Ecuador and Peru.

In 2001, the first actions of this bi-national project were launched in a border zone between Ecuador and Peru where the land occupation and use model was making a population of more than 500,000 people suffer high rates of poverty.

The project had six areas of action:

- ▶ Integrated water resources management; safe drinking water systems, effluent management, waste management, irrigation systems, hydro-meteorological information, water quality management, and environmental services.
- ▶ Natural resources management; conservation and risk control.
- ▶ Promotion of socio-economic and production development, ecotourism.
- ▶ Institutional strengthening; establishment of a Bi-National River Basin Management Authority and gender mainstreaming, empowering women's organizations in management.
- ▶ Capacity-building, promotion of technical training for the population.
- ▶ Information systems to facilitate community participation and organization.



Araucaria Catamayo- Chira

2001-2011

PERIOD

13.574.692 \$

AECID CONTRIBUTION

Ibero-American Water Training Programme

One of AECID's lines of action in the Water and Sanitation sector is directly related to the skills development and technical training of staff who is to manage water resources.

The Ibero-American Specialized Technical Training Programme (PIFTE), developed by the Spanish Cooperation, aims to provide technical training to human resources in the different Ibero-American public institutions, civil society organizations, private companies and other entities involved in public affairs, thus contributing to modernizing and strengthening said institutions and, consequently, improving the provision of public services to citizens.



OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Strengthening local, regional and national authorities in water planning and governance.
- ▶ Fostering dialogue between countries and experience-sharing.
- ▶ Training all of Ibero-America in integrated water management.
- ▶ Supporting the Conference of Ibero-American Water Directors and the work of its Technical Secretariat.

Most of the courses take place at the Ibero-American Training Centres of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation: Antigua, Guatemala; Cartagena de Indias, Colombia; Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia; and Montevideo, Uruguay.

This training programme is also supported by the Directorate-General for Water of Spain's Ministry of Agriculture, Food and the Environment and by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Courses taught

2009-2013

PERIOD

45

Nº OF COURSES



The Ibero-American
Water Training
Programme is included
in PIFTE as a specific line
stemming from
collaboration with the
Conference of
Ibero-American Water
Directors (CODIA)





Photo: A. Díez Parra

Supporting International Organisations

Water is a vital resource for the entire planet, and its management and good governance is a key factor in combating poverty, where the international community needs to work as one. For this reason, Spain is working with different international organisations, in addition to the Inter-American Development Bank, strategic partner in the Cooperation Fund for Water and Sanitation, supporting initiatives regarding water and sanitation.

- ▶ **ONU-HABITAT.** The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, has an office in Barcelona to implement the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA), which comprises business organisations (public and private) linked to water and sanitation management, especially in urban areas.
- ▶ **The United Nations Office to support the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" 2005-2015,** based in Zaragoza, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and the Environment.
- ▶ **OECD: Support for the Initiative on Water Governance.** This initiative establishes a policy forum on water management based on the conclusions of the 6th World Water Forum -Marseille 2012- to share experiences and best practices on water management.
- ▶ **United Nations Environment Programme -UNEP-** which is one of the institutional partners of the Ibero-American Water Training Programme.
- ▶ **MDG Achievement Fund,** through which Spain collaborates with 13 United Nations agencies.





MANCUERNA
*Trabajando por el agua para
presentes y futuras generaciones*



Gobierno de Guatemala

FIODM

FONDO PARA EL LOGRO DE LOS ODM

PROGRAMA CONJUNTO

**“Fortaleciendo Capacidades con el
Pueblo Mam para la gobernabilidad
Económica en agua y Saneamiento”**



MDG Achievement Fund (MDG-F)

The MDG Fund was set up in 2007 as a result of an agreement between the United Nations System and the Government of Spain, to speed up progress in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Governance is one of the lines of work of the MDG-F because it is a crucial challenge for institutions to guarantee universal access to public goods and basic services.



Programmes have been carried out through the MDG-F that have reinforced the capacity of national institutions to design and implement water policies and regulatory frameworks, aimed at bringing efficient water and sanitation services to communities.

MDG-F programmes have sought to involve communities in planning, managing and maintaining water services, addressing the problems of access by women and indigenous populations.

RESULTS

- ▶ **USD 59.6 million** invested in 11 programmes.
- ▶ **11 countries:** Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and the Philippines have improved their **water resource management**.
- ▶ **440,000 more people** have affordable **safe drinking water**.
- ▶ **31.7 million people** have benefited from 41 laws, 78 policies and 157 plans aimed at promoting water and sanitation.
- ▶ **669 community organizations** and **665 local suppliers** have been strengthened to participate in water management.

Water and Sanitation Cooperation Fund

It was set up in 2008 and is a resolute commitment to a key sector in combating poverty.



The Water Fund (FCAS) works bilaterally, directly with partner countries, or multilaterally through its strategic partner in the region, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

ACTION LINES

- ▶ **Promoting integrated water resources management**, adopting a river basin approach in the management and use of water, respecting the environment and taking the entire water cycle into account.
- ▶ **Access to water and sanitation.** Construction and renovation of water and sanitation services so as to ensure basic services and coverage. System management support to ensure the quality and sustainability of the service.
- ▶ **Institutional capacity-building** to improve the management of water resources and supply and sanitation services. Both nationally and more locally, by training staff, improving the legal and regulatory framework, and providing operational and planning tools that guarantee effective and transparent public management, supporting community participation.

The Water Fund (FCAS) in numbers



796 million euros in donations by the Spanish Government. The Human Right to Water and Sanitation and Integrated Water Resources Management as action pillars

3 million people will have access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation



1.150 schools provided with safe drinking water and sanitation services

Over 11.000 professionals in institutions in charge of safe drinking water and sanitation will receive training



Over 640,000 people will be trained in hygiene and environmental education

800 Water Committees will include women in their structures

67 projects in 19 partner-beneficiary countries



Water Fund in Bolivia

The Water Fund supports the Government of Bolivia with several actions to carry out its 2008-2015 National Basic Sanitation Plan, from an integrated approach to address the needs identified in the three areas defined in their strategy: peri-urban, small localities and rural.



HEALTH WITH WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAMME

The inadequate coverage and quality of drinking water services, together with insufficient sanitation and waste disposal services, are slowing down the development capacity of the poorest rural communities and compromises the overall health of families, especially affecting children.

AIM

To contribute to reducing morbidity and mortality rates among children of under five years old from rural communities in the extreme poverty segment, and, also, to improving the health conditions of the population as a whole through access to water.



RESULTS

- 69 safe drinking water systems have been built or expanded.
- Construction of 5,150 latrines in 73 communities, two sewage systems benefiting 297 families and a 1,000-student education centre and 60 environmentally-sound waste landfills.
- Have been organized Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation Committees through training workshops in health education and systems maintenance.
- Awareness has been raised among communities and municipal authorities about the benefits and sustainability of water services that contribute to municipal and community strengthening.



24.040

BENEFICIARY POPULATION

83

RURAL COMMUNITIES IN LA PAZ Y COCHABAMBA

87,7 € Million

TOTAL PORTFOLIO FCAS IN BOLIVIA

16,7 € Million

BILATERAL PORTFOLIO

71,0 € Million

MULTILATERAL PORTFOLIO (BID)

3.142.183 €

FCAS PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTION

Water Fund in Haiti

The cholera epidemic has highlighted the urgency of endowing Haiti with proper safe drinking water and sanitation services. Only 63% of the population has access to safe drinking water, and 27% to adequate sanitation services.



RURAL WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAMME

To improve the quality and increase the coverage of water services, Haiti has taken on an in-depth reform of the water and sanitation sector, for which it has received the support of AECID, through the Fund. Capacity-building of the National Directorate for Drinking Water and Sanitation (DINEPA), together with the communities themselves and the local authorities for water management, is one of the pillars to guarantee access by rural populations.



AIM

To improve the quality of life and health conditions in rural communities by supplying sustainable safe drinking water and sanitation services. Increasing the amount of households with access to water and sanitation.

RESULTS

- Construction of water and sanitation systems; construction of toilets at public schools and health centres in beneficiary communities; and protection of water sources.
- Creation and strengthening of local water committees through participative processes; training and technical assistance; dissemination programmes aimed at raising awareness about environmental and public health.
- Institutional capacity-building for the establishment of a DINEPA rural division.
- Education in hygiene and guaranteed access: eradication of parasites transmitted by contact with soil affecting 33% of the Artibonite population.



60.000

BENEFICIARY POPULATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ARTIBONITE

123,1 € Million

TOTAL PORTFOLIO FCAS IN HAITI

10.000.000 \$

FCAS PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTION

70,0 € Million

BILATERAL PORTFOLIO

53,1 € Million

MULTILATERAL PORTFOLIO (BID)

Water Fund in El Salvador

Actions by the Fund in El Salvador have a significant component of institutional capacity-building targeting implementing agencies and local governments in order to guarantee Integrated and Sustainable Water Management Policy. Support for this country's government emphasizes the sectors that are most excluded from basic safe drinking water and sanitation services.



SAFE DRINKING WATER AND BASIC SANITATION IN RURAL AND PERI-URBAN AREAS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME

It is estimated that 84% of the people who live in the areas of action has an inadequate supply of safe drinking water, and 89% has inadequate sanitation infrastructure. In addition to deficient infrastructure, there is the lack of maintenance and the deficient capacity of the administrative boards for water management.

AIM

Improving Safe Drinking Water and Basic Sanitation services in areas classified as poor, by introducing, improving, renovating and/or enlarging water and sewage systems, as well as the capacity-building of management institutions.

RESULTS

- Improvement, renovation and/or enlargement of 21 drinking water systems, 5 sewage systems and the installation of latrines and domestic greywater management systems in 12 localities.
- Capacity-building of ANDA (National Administration for Aqueducts and Sewers) and FISDL (Social Investment Fund for Local Development) through courses and workshops for management, administration, operation and maintenance of the Drinking Water and Sanitation systems.



60.000

BENEFICIARY POPULATION
10.000 RURAL AREAS Y 50.000 PERI-URBAN AREAS

56,6 € Million

TOTAL PORTFOLIO FCAS IN EL SALVADOR

16.238.160 €

FCAS PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTION

40,2 € Million

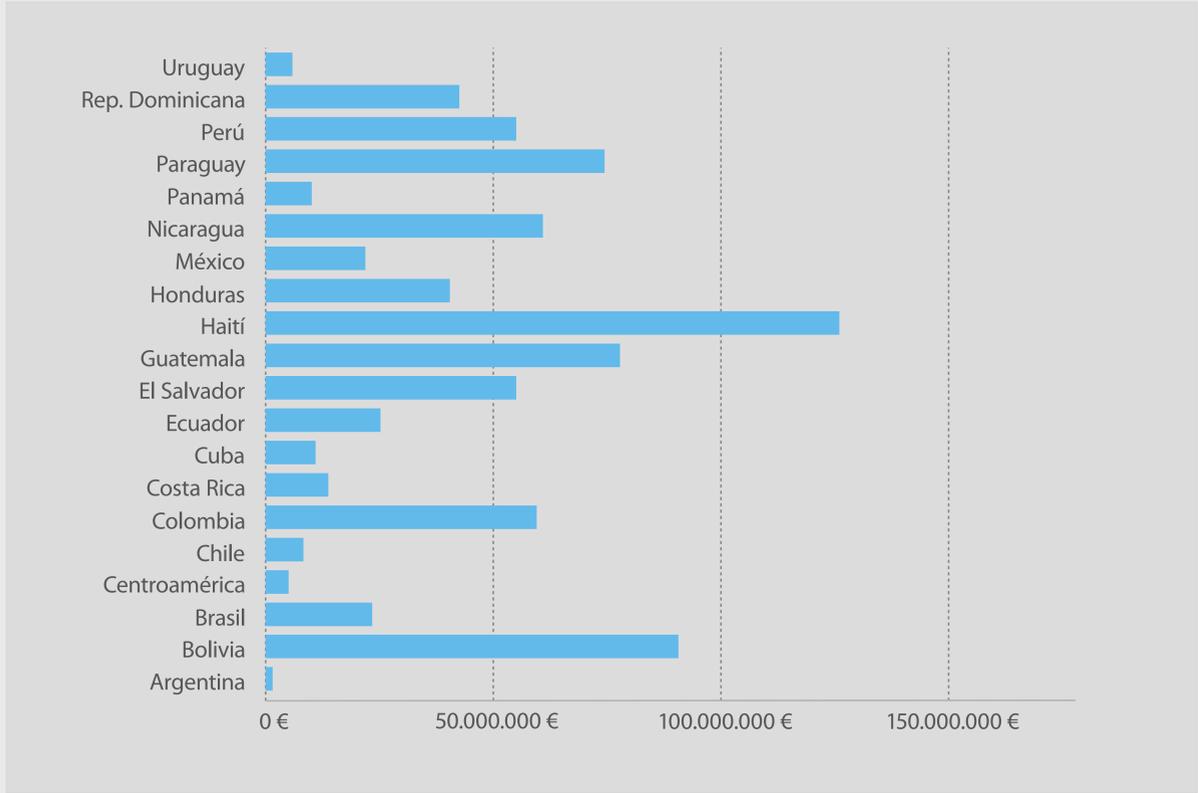
BILATERAL PORTFOLIO

16,4 € Million

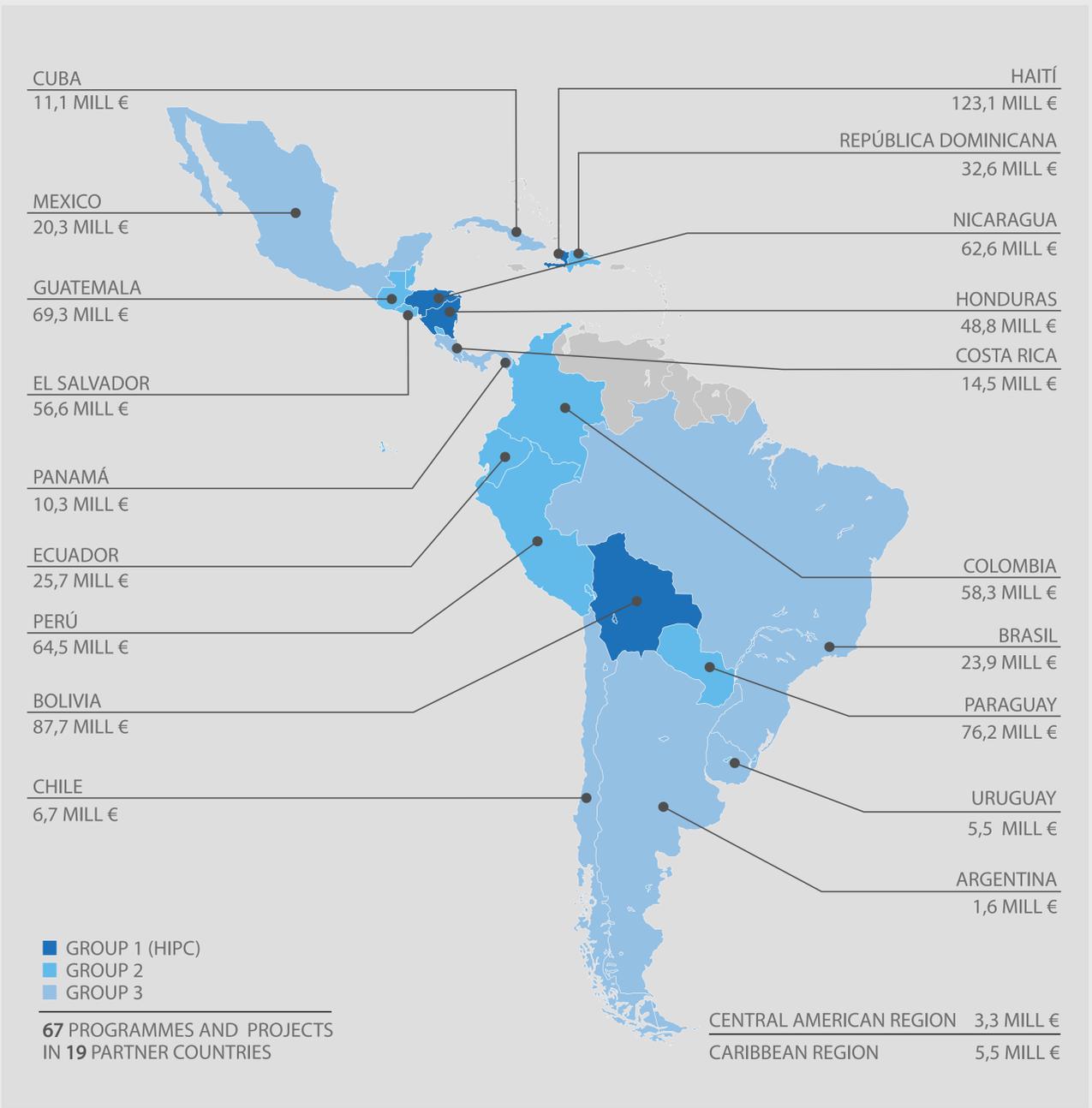
MULTILATERAL PORTFOLIO (BID)

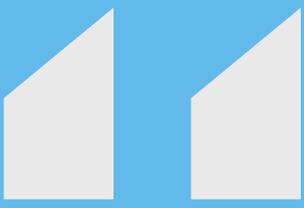
Where it is most needed

WATER FUND ACTION BY COUNTRIES IN MILLIONS OF EUROS



WATER IN RURAL AND PERI-URBAN AREAS





The Water and Sanitation Cooperation Fund (FCAS) is a Spanish Development Cooperation instrument whose main objective is to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation by the poorest populations in Latin America and the Caribbean





Water, commitment to the future



There are still 768 million people who LACK sustainable access to safe drinking water

2.5 billion people in the world DO NOT HAVE basic sanitation

Despite the achievements, we still need many drops to fill the sea that can guarantee that all the population has the water they need for a healthy and decent life.

Water is an element that is essential to development, a vital factor in the struggle against poverty as it is decisive for health, equality, access to education, and economic and productive development.

The 4th Master Plan of Spanish Cooperation (2013-2016) considers that access to water and sanitation is a basic human right, and proposes three strategic lines to continue its work. It will mainstream the gender approach, actions against climate change, and benefits to health:

- ▶ Integrated water resources management
- ▶ Access to water and sanitation
- ▶ Governance and the human right to water

After the progress achieved by the MDGs, it is important for the post-2015 Agenda to continue with the aim of universal access to water and sanitation as a human right. Achieving this goal also clearly requires integrating the Sustainable Development Goals produced by the Rio+20 Summit, where the water sector is a clear example of the interrelationship between the environmental need for the integrated water resources management and the need to, in turn, guarantee access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

“With water people have a chance”

María Valnice da Silva. Beneficiary of the Cisternas Programme, Ceará. Brasil

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MINISTERIO
DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES
Y DE COOPERACIÓN

