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Cascading climate risks:  
Towards adaptive and  
resilient European Societies



# Spanish responses to cross-border climate impacts in the agri-food sector

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Cross-border climate change impacts and systemic risks in Europe and beyond.  
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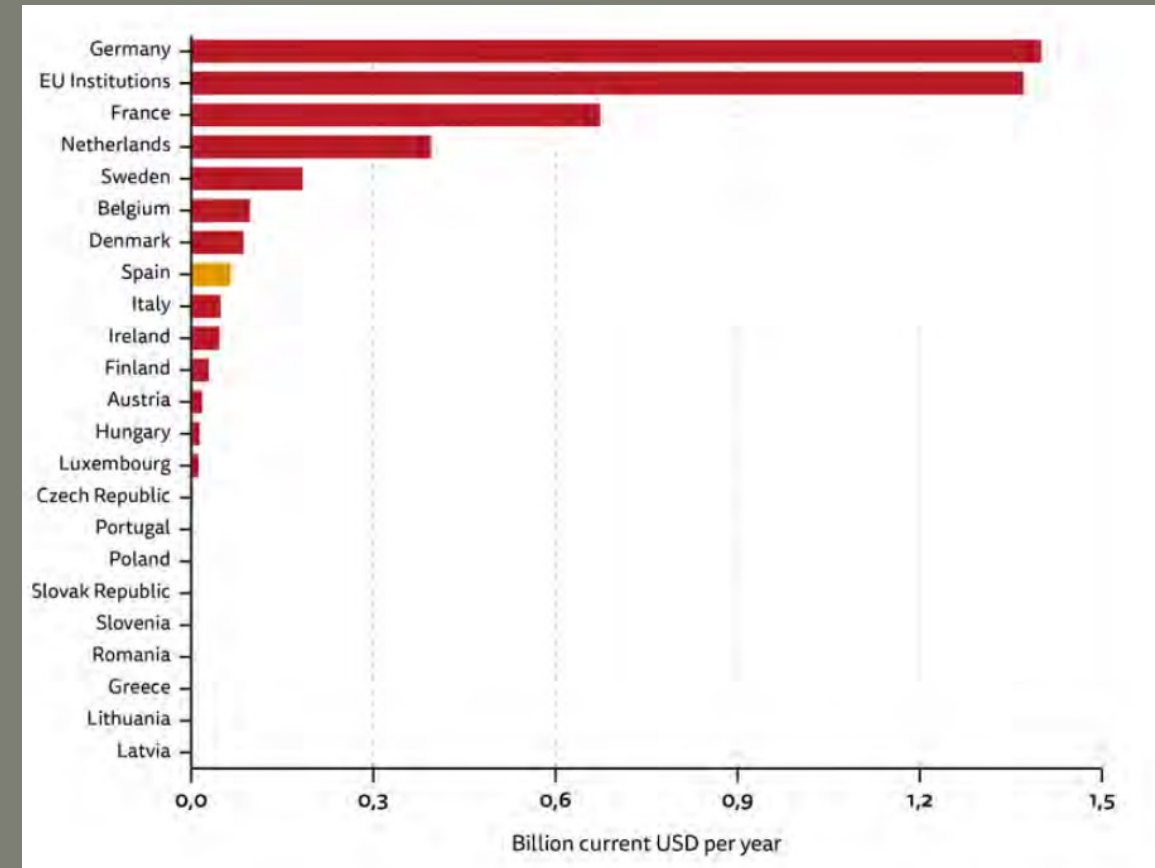


# Outline

1. Spanish support for climate resilience of agri-food systems abroad
2. Climate adaptation of agri-food systems in regional strategies
3. Obstacles, risks and opportunities for Spanish support to climate-resilient agri-food systems
4. Conclusion and policy recommendations

# Spanish support for climate resilience of agri-food systems abroad

- Spain's position is number 8 in Europe
- Remains below average, within the OECD DAC. Since 2008, the ODA budget has been reduced, impacting climate adaptation initiatives.
- AECID, autonomous communities and ministry of foreign affairs and international cooperation.
- Since 2019, €161 million to the UN adaptation fund and the Green Climate Fund.



EU27 bilateral ODA commitments to agricultural projects with a significant climate adaptation component (2012-2020)

Source: Morales-Munoz, H. (2023). Spanish responses to cross-border climate impacts in the agri- food sector. In: The role of Europe in building system-wide resilience to cross-border climate impacts. Cascades. Brussels.

# Climate adaptation of agri-food systems in regional strategies

- Expertise in Latin America on:
  - Contribution to the Cooperation Fund for Water and Sanitation (FCAS)
  - **Risk management of climate impacts** and infrastructure protection for water access projects. (E.g. ARAUCLIMA, EUROCLIMA)
  - **Participation of community agricultural organisations** in the design of financial protection schemes
  - **Agricultural diversity** and soil improvement.
  - **Food security** and synergies with National Climate Change Adaptation Plans (NAPAs) and National Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs).

# Climate adaptation of agri-food systems in regional strategies

- Africa:
  - **Closely linked** with its security and foreign policies, military, asylum, or **migration policies**.
  - **Spanish companies' resilience** by supporting the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCTA).
  - Transfer of experiences to water management, food security and restoration in **MENA (Morocco and Algeria)**
  - E.g. temporal migration program in Senegal (2015-2020)

# Obstacles, risks and opportunities for Spanish support to climate-resilient agri-food systems

- **Obstacles:**
  - Rural development → number five of the commitments of climate adaptation by sector (MAEUEC 2019b).
  - In the third Africa Plan, climate adaptation is not an objective in itself.
  - Outdated sectoral action plans of AECID
  - Spain **still needs a dedicated strategy for supporting crossborder climate adaptation of agricultural and food systems in countries outside of Europe.**

# Obstacles, risks and opportunities for Spanish support to climate-resilient agri-food systems

- **Risks**

- Spanish farming industry' vulnerability. EU tends to substitute products with less climate-sensitive imports.
- Spanish public development incentives for companies investing in developing countries clash with priorities that may hinder rural community adaptation. E.g. **Disruptions in large company purchases that move to other country leaving smallholders exposed in times of disaster.**
- Spanish companies' competitive pricing in African markets may impact climate adaptation for local small-scale producers.

# Obstacles, risks and opportunities for Spanish support to climate-resilient agri-food systems

- **Opportunities**
  - “(...) *cooperation has been focused on social issues, and it is necessary for us to be greener*” (Leis 2022)
  - 5th Master Plan for Cooperation (2018- 2021) **resilience** is highlighted + technical guidance.
  - Politically: interest to support communities as long as it can (indirectly or directly) prevent them from migrating internationally.
  - Potential to leverage **microfinance** investments of FONPRDOE’s → **adaptation capacities of small rural producers, especially women and youth.**



# Conclusion and policy recommendations

- **Boost overall ODA;** Increase contributions to global funds: Green Climate Fund, prioritize system-wide resilience.
- Increase allocation to cooperation instruments FONPRODE and **Cooperation Fund for Water and Sanitation.** Streamline bureaucratic processes in FONPRODE to enhance impact, incorporating multi-sectoral coordination and recipient countries' priorities.

# Conclusion and policy recommendations

- Develop **expertise** and conduct training on climate adaptation and its linkages with other sectors, **emphasizing cross-border climate impacts on security, trade, and migration.**
- Develop more programs on the intersection between **rural development and private enterprises that benefit small farmers' suppliers in the global south** in a just manner (food industry and sourcing).
- Promote coherence between sustainability standards for private companies in the EU and outside. **Dialogue platforms.**



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