





enlargement of personal capabilities and opportunities, in other words, the “empowerment” of persons and institutions.

So, knowing that we have a strong mandate from the government for fighting poverty, understood in the same sense the international community does, we got down to work. In a nutshell, we have taken four big steps; building on consensus,

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In the framework of this Action Against Hunger and Poverty, Spain has firmly supported the “**International Financing Facility for Immunization**”, that seeks to obtain additional resources for massive immunization against deadly diseases for children in many developing countries. Furthermore, Spain is studying mechanisms to turn the enormous flow of **migrants’ remittances** into a tool and engine for development in the recipient communities, through easier and cheaper channels to send these flows, as well as public resources to support and complement them.

**Thirdly**, we are deeply committed to improve the quality of our aid. To borrow from a well-known commercial, ODA without quality is nothing. In this respect, Spain has enhanced the quality of its aid by:

- a) Improving its instruments of planning and evaluation;
- b) building on the principles of ownership, complementarity, harmonisation and alignment, that is sticking to the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.
- c) resorting to new instruments of cooperation,
- d) and promoting policy coherence.

a) Spain has strengthened its instruments of **planning and evaluation** of development policies, so that we can maximize our efforts and be more predictable and effective. It took some revamping of our system, in particular, boosting the policy planning department. The result has been a set of documents in which we find where and how we should spend our funds.

b) Secondly, Spain has also sought to improve aid **effectiveness, as spelt out in the Paris Declaration**, built from the principle of “**ownership**” of partner countries in their own process of development, which inspire the Millennium Development Goals. For that, you need to listen to them. We have arranged a system of joint commissions with every recipient country so that we agree with them upon the objectives and strategic lines to be pursued in common.

We are also working on **deeper harmonization and complementarity among donors**, whether they are States or international organisations, through the permanent dialogue with other donors and local governments and institutions. We have instructed our field offices to start joint programming with the European Commission.

c) We’ve also been refining our instruments. Starting from scratch in 2004, we have built quite a large pool of **new instruments of cooperation**, such as sector-wide approaches and participation in public-private alliances. In addition to that, we have enhanced our approach to NGOs to count on them as full time partners

