

# Spain - country profile

**1 General background and who's who.** In Spain the Consejo de Cooperación Bibliotecaria (CCB), including representatives from the Regions (Comunidades autónomas), the Ministry of Culture and FESABID, the Spanish Library Association, is the organisation in charge of elaborating an SDG-oriented library policy. A working group, Bibliotecas y Agenda 2030, is coordinating library activities. It can be said that Spanish libraries are implementing SDGs in a convincing and active way.<sup>1</sup>

## **2 SDG priorities and policies in Spanish libraries.**

According to CCB, SDG-oriented policies should focus on:

- Library collections, and
- Projects in co-creation with partners/citizens (digital inclusion; digital citizenship).

In addition to that, CCB is developing a special plan for rural areas where there is a lack of library services.<sup>2</sup>

The following SDGs are considered a priority for SDG-oriented library projects:

SDG 4. Quality Education: Inclusive education to enable upward social mobility and end poverty,

SDG 5. Gender Equality: Education regardless of gender, advancement of equality laws, fairer representation of women,

SDG 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth: Creating jobs for all to improve living standards, providing sustainable economic growth,

SDG 10. Reduced Inequalities: Reducing income and other inequalities, within and between countries,

SDG 16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: Inclusive societies, strong institutions and equal access to justice.

**3 SDG-oriented projects.** Since 2017, CCB assigns a seal to libraries having carried activities or projects of particular impact on Spanish society — innovative library projects which have already been implemented and can serve as models of good practice.<sup>3</sup>

In particular, the seal is assigned on the basis of the following criteria:

- Experiences of social dynamisation of libraries;
- Presence of library collections and services in the digital universe;
- Dissemination of the socio-economic impact of libraries;
- Cooperation between libraries from different sectors;
- Innovative experiences with minimal additional resources;
- Projects that contribute to the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN Agenda 2030.

What follows is the list of projects having received a CCB “seal” whose orientation is explicitly linked with the attainment of SDGs in Spain.

- 1. #readytoreadyfor (SDG 4).** The project intends to promote a general development plan intending to distribute knowledge, competences, skills and transversal values which are imparted at the Polytechnic University of Madrid through social networks. The selection, organisation and distribution on social networks the university community will be made by the University Library.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ccbiblio.es/estructura-del-consejo/grupos-detrabajo/estrategicos-grupos-trabajo-ccb/bibliotecas-agenda2030>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ccbiblio.es/estructura-del-consejo/grupos-detrabajo/estrategicos-grupos-trabajo-ccb/plan-atencionmundo-rural>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ccbiblio.es/mapa-sello-ccb>

**2. Biblioteca de Acogida (SDG 4, 5, 10).** “Biblioteca de Acogida” (First Prize Social Library 2017) is a project that turns the Public Library of Purchena into a space of peace and exchange between young immigrants/young people at risk of social exclusion and local young people. The project is promoted by the Biblioteca Pública Municipal de Purchena.

**3. Innovative services in university libraries: the Seed Library of the Escuela Politécnica Superior (University of Zaragoza) (SDG 2, 15).** The Seed Library of the Escuela Politécnica Superior (EPS) was born in May 2017 as a new service of the Library that aims to lend seeds of horticultural plants from Aragon to the university community, University of Zaragoza Library.

**4. Healthy walks. Social and community inclusion project from the Library of the Severo Ochoa University Hospital and the Municipal Archive of Leganés (SDG 3, 4).** Libraries are open spaces where people’s access to knowledge and information is welcomed. It is a place where inequalities are balanced. Library’s scope transcend physical space and cover a wide spectrum of uses and users through the enhancement of resources. The Municipal Archive-Technical Library of the Leganés Town Council had similar concerns. A cooperation was triggered, involving librarians and archivists into the social texture of the population that circulates in the city hospital and the municipal environment. A set of activities carried out in real spaces of everyday life that relate health, social, cultural and historical aspects in Leganés, relying on the knowledge, technical resources and human capital available, at no additional financial cost to the Severo Ochoa University Hospital Library and the Municipal Archives of Leganés.

**5. Bibliographic exhibition ‘Women and the trades of the book’ (SDG 5, 8).** Books being displayed in the exhibition contain the work of women who have carried out tasks and trades traditionally performed by men. The craft of writing, across all genres, is the most recognised, from Sappho to Rosalía de Castro in poetry, the captivating work of Saint Teresa of Jesus, the narrative written under the pseudonym of Cecilia Böhl de Faber, or in the travel literature of Marie Catherine D’Aulnoy in the 17th century. There are other equally interesting examples, such as the case of great illustrators like Luisa Morales or Ana Heylan. The exhibition highlights the work of translators into other languages carried out by women, first in their family environment and, from the end of the 19th century onwards, in a professional manner, such as Joaquina García Balmaseda. So-called master printers in the art of typography are also important, as Manuela Contera, widow of Joaquín Ibarra, and the birth of the first feminist movements.

**6. A room of one’s own. A space for equality: a meeting and awareness-raising space (SDG 3, 4, 5, 10).** “A room of one’s own” is an open and free space for meeting and awareness-raising for all audiences having a specialised background in equality and gender violence. Its proximity to the community makes the room a fundamental piece in the fight against inequality and a challenge for a more democratic and egalitarian society, Municipal Library ‘Rafael Azcona’ Location (Province): Logroño.

**4 Funding sources and evaluation.** SDG-oriented projects are normally funded through libraries’ ordinary budget. If additional funding is provided, support is provided by the cultural department of various Ministries. CCB is also making an attempt to review data provided by libraries, to process and evaluate them within the category “special services” as described by ISO 2789 terms.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ccbiblio.es/estructura-del-consejo/grupos-detrabajo/estables/grupo-de-trabajo-sibe>