

United Nations Development Programme


 ARGENTINA/RBLAC
 Initiation Plan

Project Title: THE CASE FOR ACCESS TO JUSTICE DIMENSION WITHIN NATIONAL POVERTY SURVEYS: targeting SDG 16.3.3

Expected UNDAF/CP Outcome(s): Accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development.

Expected CPD Output(s): Output 4.2 Human rights-based approach and equal access to justice for all and for human security are strengthened with an intercultural and gender perspective.

Initiation Plan Start/End Dates: 1 January 2022 - 31 December 2022

Implementing Partner: UNDP Argentina

Brief Description

The project will contribute to showcase the link between poverty and access to justice, considering justice at the heart of sustainable development. It will take on a people-centered approach, putting people at the center of justice instead of institutions.

Access to justice will be, for the first time, a dimension to be assessed not only in the Social Debt Survey but in any nationwide surveys on human development in Argentina. Moreover, the project will pave the way to discuss different tools to measure progress on Sustainable Development Goal 16.3.3 *vis a vis* human development indicator in the country.

In order to do that the project will: (i) explore the link between poverty, social needs and access to justice, (ii) discuss on methodology to assess and measure progress and; (iii) pilot a new module to be included in Social Debt Surveys annually reported by the Observatory of the Argentine Social Debt, at the Catholic University of Argentina.

Programme Period:	12 months
Atlas Project Number:	137516
Atlas Output ID:	127970
Gender Marker:	GEN1

Total resources required	U\$S 100.000
Total allocated resources:	U\$S 100.000
• Regular	_____
• Other:	_____
○ Donor	_____
○ Donor	_____
○ Government	_____
Unfunded budget:	_____
In-kind Contributions	_____

Agreed by UNDP:

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Valentin Gonzalez Leon
 Deputy Resident Representative

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I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

Argentina is a presidential Republic, composed by 23 provinces and 1 autonomous city (*Ciudad Autonoma de Buenos Aires*); it is ruled by a civil law system based on West European legal systems. Suffrage is universal and compulsory from 18 to 70 years of age and optional at 16. In September 2021 primaries will be held and mid-term elections will be on November 12th. Argentines will vote for 127 seats at the Chamber of Deputies and 24 seats for the Senate. The incumbent government – *Frente de Todos*- has majority at the Senate. Opposition alliances and parties aim to challenge current majority at the Senate and increase their seats at the Chamber of Deputies.

The COVID19 health emergency turned into an economic and social crisis. Access to vaccines has been limited though improving last month. Inflation, unemployment and poverty figures have been deteriorating while public schools have been mostly closed during the pandemic with minimum access to digital technologies on behalf of the students. Access to justice has also been limited due to the emergency aggravating the already fragile situation of the poor people who had no access to education, labor and effective prevention of domestic and gender violence.

The project will contribute to showcase the link between poverty and access to justice, considering justice at the heart of sustainable development. It will take on a people-centered approach, putting people at the center of justice instead of institutions.

As elaborated by the Task Force on Justice, *Justice for All, Final Report*, a people-centered approach to justice starts with an understanding of people's problems to design responsive solutions to their needs. Therefore, justice systems are to be open and inclusive and willing to connect with health, education, housing, and employment sectors.

Moreover, as stated in the Report: *Innovation, resilience and urgent transformations towards inclusive justice in Latin America and the Caribbean* (UNDP 2020): "In times of greater social conflict, the resilience of the justice sector is a necessary condition to achieve an inclusive and fair social contract. Access to justice is an enabling condition to consolidate the social fabric".

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The Agenda 2030, SDG 16.3 calls on countries to "*Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.*" While there is no single definition of access to justice, the concept includes: "the ability of people to defend and enforce their rights and obtain fair resolutions of justiciable problems in compliance with human rights standards; if necessary, through impartial formal or informal institutions of justice and with appropriate legal support."

The overall goal of this project is helping amplify and accelerate the design and piloting of a new module to be included in Social Debt Surveys annually reported by the Observatory of the Argentine Social Debt. The project will build on a preliminary test in 2019 financed by the Argentina National Government with technical support of UNDP. The expected result is a national survey on access to justice and poverty to contribute to the measuring efforts for the SDG16.3.3 adopted by the UN in March 2020. Argentina Country Office will closely work with the Observatory team to provide technical assistance on access to justice.

Key activities are:

1. Design a national methodology to measure SDG 16.3.3 within poverty surveys.

This activity includes: (i) define the theoretical and methodological framework of the study and, (ii) develop a research plan. Moreover, different strategies will be assessed such as incorporating a module in the current Observatory Surveys ([Encuesta de la Deuda Social Argentina](#)) or developing a new and separated study to biannually measure the evolution until 2030.

Workshops with experts in access to justice and development will gather practitioners, government, academia and civil society in order to debate scope and definition of the phenomena we want to measure, pros and cons of proposed methodologies, quality assurance of the chosen tools, among other issues.

Special consideration will be given to children, elderly, persons with disability and women.

2. Elaborate a Handbook to showcase the project highlighting the national adaptation of SDG 16.3.3:

It will include reports from workshops and learning seminars, design of relevant materials, guidelines, and a set of training materials. The handbook will be translated into English and French to be shared among Communities of Practice as well as UNDP HQ and RBLAC.

3. Foster a strategic network to improve Global Cooperation and exchange of good practices on SDG16.

The project will contribute to the international debate on how to measure SDG16 as well as the link/role of access to justice in social policies.

The network will bring together academia, specialized civil society organizations and practitioners from the public sector from ministries of justice, ministries of social development, judiciary, ombudspersons offices, public defense, etc.

Resources will be allocated to professional fees, to discuss and elaborate a proposed methodology and research plan, translations services and edition and design of audiovisual and printed materials. Estimation include at least one senior international consultant, five national senior consultants and 2 young professionals.

The expected outcomes of the project are:

- a) Access to justice dimension included in poverty and social policies surveys.
- b) Propose a new tool to bi-annually measure progress on SDG13.3.3
- c) Start a fluid dialogue between governance and social experts.

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The proposed intervention will be implemented utilizing UNDP's Direct Implementation Modality (DIM). Implementation through DIM allows the project easy access to knowledge networks and facilitating Country Offices exchange of experiences support rapid roll out of proposed interventions. Project implementation will be guided by an established National Project Steering Committee which is comprised of key stakeholders in the chain of justice.

UNDP will jointly work with [the Observatory of Social Debt of Argentina](#), a widely respected Department within the Catholic University of Argentina leading research, public debate and knowledge production on social policies. Topics include poverty, marginalization, social

disintegration and economic inequality. For further reference, please access: <http://uca.edu.ar/es/observatorio-de-la-deuda-social-argentina>

Argentina CO and RBLAC will advocate for outreach activities as well as replicating the project among stakeholders such as Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies, the Conferencia de Ministros de Justicia de los Países Iberoamericanos (COMJIB), Asociación Ibero-Americana de Ministerios Públicos (AIAMP), the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

III. MONITORING

In accordance with UNDP programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans.

Activity of Monitoring	Goal	Frecuence	Risk management	Associates (if it were a set)	Cost (if any)
Track progress in achieving results	Gather and analyze data on the progress made in order to evaluate the progress of the project in relation to the achievement of the agreed outputs	In the course of execution	Project managers will analyze any delays that affect the expected progress of the project.		
Gestión del Riesgo Risk Monitoring and Management	Identify specific risks that may compromise the achievement of the expected results. Identify and monitor risk management measures through a risk register. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required under UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. The audits will be conducted in accordance with the UNDP audit policy for managing financial risk.	En el curso de ejecución	Project managers will identify risks and take steps to control them. An active record will be kept to monitor the risks identified and the measures taken.		
Learning process	Knowledge, good practices and lessons learned from other projects and implementing partners will be regularly captured and integrated into this project.	At the end of the project	Project managers will capture relevant lessons that will be used to make informed management decisions.		
Review and revise in the course of action	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to ensure informed decision making.	In the course of execution	The UNDP, together with the Observatory of Social Debt, will discuss the performance data, risks, lessons and quality that will be used to correct the course of action.		
Project report	A Project Report will be made including data on the progress made that reflect the results achieved and any evaluation or review report prepared during the period.	At the end of the project			
Project Revision	UNDP will conduct periodic reviews of the project to evaluate its performance and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting throughout the life of the project. Over the course of the final year of the project, a final project review will be conducted to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities to scale up and socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant stakeholders.	At least once a year	UNDP, together with the Observatory of Social Debt, will discuss any concerns regarding quality or progress slower than expected and agree on management measures to address the issues identified.		

In addition, monitoring/spot check visits will be conducted by UNDP Country Office Team from the Democratic Governance Unit as well as regular check-in teleconferences to discuss progress and challenges.

IV. WORK PLAN

Product	Activities	Accions	Budgets 2022 (USD)	IA	TOTAL budget in US\$		
					Fund source	Funds allocation	amount
Access to Justice dimension within a national poverty survey tested.	1. Design a national methodology to measure SDG 16.3.3 within poverty surveys.	Workshops to (i) define the theoretical and methodological framework of the study and, (ii) develop a research plan. Moreover, different strategies will be assessed such as incorporating a module in the current Observatory Surveys (Encuesta de la Deuda Social Argentina) or developing a new and separated study to biannually measure the evolution until 2030.	50.000,0	UNDP	Rule of Law Fund	72100 - Consultants	70.000,0
	2.Elaborate a Handbook to showcase the project highlighting the national adaptation of SDG 16.3.3	Reports from workshops and learning seminars, design of relevant materials, guidelines, and a set of training materials. The handbook will be translated into English and French to be shared among Communities of Practice as well as UNDP HQ and RBLAC.	30.000,0			75700 - Capacitations and workshops	10.000,0
	3.Foster a strategic network to improve Global Cooperation and exchange of good practices on SDG16.	International/national presentations - workshops to advocate for mainstreaming access to justice in social surveys and policy recommendations. Advancing SDG16 measuring	12.592,59			74500 - Miscellaneous	2.592,59
						74200 - Production of printed and audiovisual materials	10.000,0
Subtotal			92.592,59			92.592,59	
GMS			7407,4072			7.407,4	
Total			100.000,00			100.000,0	