

ARGENTINA

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

COUNTRY REPORT 2007



Millennium Development Goals

Country Report 2007



Consejo Nacional de
Coordinación de
Políticas Sociales
Presidencia de la Nación

Millennium Development Goals

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NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICIES

The Office of the President

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- Speech of the Resident Coordinator of the System of the United Nations in Argentina

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(*)This goal has been added by Argentina, therefore our country has 9 Millennium Development Goals and so the terminology has been modified for the rest of the goals compared to the other countries that adhered to the Declaration of the Millennium.

Speech of Mr. President of the Nation Dr. Néstor Kirchner before the 62° General Assembly of the United Nations

Mister President,

(...)

As in every year of our office, we attend to this General Assembly with the aim of revitalising this area of global representation, with the belief that this will contribute to the effectiveness of the international law as an instrument capable of settling struggles and in this way to be able to fight successfully against the threatening to the peace.

The world is facing problems. The only hope that they could be solved is based in the respect to the multi-laterality, the adherence to the several local rules, the respect of all the countries to rules and international conventions and, above all, the complete respect to human rights.

For each country in particular, as for the world, the peace will be possible as long as equality is promoted and there is a fight to eradicate poverty, indigence and exclusion.

The world cannot and should not be the scenario for the global achievement of the human rights. The peace and the cohabitation are constructed and preserved only understanding the true concept of solidarity between the nations, from a human conception much wider than the purely military concept or a predominantly unilateral concept.

Our foreign policy is based on values of representative democracy with popular sovereignty, as regards the fundamental human rights and the active defence of the peace and the international security.

These principles, shared by the immense majority of the Argentine people, keep an orientation to the acts of government and are the foundation of the decisions that the Argentine Republic takes in the international field.

We support with the strong belief the construction of a fairer society, more equitable and with a better distribution of the benefits of the economic growth. We know that each country should have the right to pursue their own development model, without external conditionings.

These years have been of great intensity and of a very important effort, with the purpose of raising a nation that only five years ago was immersed in an economic and social crisis never seen before. In that moment, many thought that this recovery might be impossible.

Day after day, with great determination, with high humility we re-started the productive forces of a ruined country due to economic recipes which were imposed and plagued our future of conditionings and limitations.

Argentina, which compared to other developing countries had demonstrated the certain possibility of a social upgrade, a country of immigration in which the workers could send their children to the university, a country in which there was no illiteracy and there was practically no childhood death rate, saw their workers without expectations due to unemployment, children begging in the streets and out of the school, our elderly with their extremely stingy retirement fees becoming in supporters of their sons and grandchildren.

We faced an empty state due to the rigid application of the recipes of the International Monetary Fund and as a result, there could be seen violence in the street and there was an institutional crisis in which the presidents lasted days. Argentina, for the first time compelled their own sons to think of the possibility of an unknown economic exile.

Today we are able to say that the Argentine State has achieved autonomy with the ability to administer macroeconomy variables, in a sovereign way as long as the present world situation allows it, with a solid economy policy, organized and predictable in a democratic and constant institutional framework.

Our capacity of recovery had the result that, although we didn't receive any funds, we started a cancellation of the net debt with the International Organisms, even to be able to pay, with anticipation, all the debt with the International Monetary Fund. An International Monetary Fund that supported and promoted the governments that sustained, adjusting and reorganising the public accounts to the risk of increasing the poverty of the people, provoking the lack of industrialisation and putting the country in a state of indebtedness in an irresponsible way.

Before the critical incredulity of the promoters of orthodox recipes, Argentina, as from of precautionary monetary policies, an organized public expenditure and a high fiscal surplus that allows us to face or diminish possible external crisis, has been going out of debt and growing at a rate close to 9%, resulting in the strongest constant economic expansion period of the last 100 years.

We constitute today the empiric proof that there is life after the Fund, the certification that there are other ways towards the development and that integration is possible, the evidence of the inaccuracy of the applications of specimen recipes with the aim of having a universal validity, the resettlement of the right of the countries of choosing their own way, basing on the international experience but with the priority of the circumstances and the national interests about any other interest.

We can show the case that evidences the necessity of the reform of the international financial architecture, in particular on the International Monetary Fund, a model of an old world order not updated any longer.

We can illustrate the case that allows the verification of the necessity of change of the multilateral financial organisms so that they allow to contribute in the development of the nations of lesser resources, to combat poverty and to generate true progress options.

This is not reduced to the mere fact of an economic growth that can be recognized by technicians or historians of the economy. It is about a strongly sustainable growth in the social and equity areas where results are focused on citizens. In this way unemployment has been reduced to the 7.8% since the beginning of our administration, in which almost a quarter of the active population was suffering the humiliation which meant to be out of work.

We don't mean any kind of employment, but of dignified employment, registered, decent employment like the one we have encouraged in the last summit of the Americas held in our country.

As from a productive policy which generates an added value and that besides, focuses on the social responsibility of the private enterprises we are reindustrialising the Argentine Republic. The economic indicators that our country is showing nowadays would be impossible to achieve without the complementary action between the state and the private sector.

Our sales to every destination have doubled during the last 4 years, with a growth of the 16% annually; investments, have registered important progress; the fixed internal gross investment has been increasing constantly in the last seventeen trimesters; there is a relationship between investment and the Internal Net Product which is of about 20 and 23 %; which implies a notorious contrast with the level of the year 2002 in which only achieved a little more than 11%.

When we had to face that crisis almost five years ago, the urgency made us keep assistance policies essential for the most vulnerable sectors of the population. We do not deny them, but

today we can say that the true solution to the biggest social problems which our country is suffering, like many others in the world, are solved with employment, health and education.

As regards health, the implementation of a national policy on medicines which includes their prescription by generic name and the free supply of those which are essential as well as the strengthening of the maternal and child programs and in general in everything focused on the primary health care as a factor of equity and protection, has enabled us to make up partially, the chaotic situation in which public health was involved in

Of course, education is the special point in the social and moral reestablishment of the country, even when their effects are seen with a greater temporary horizon than those of other public policies.

To solve such a dramatic situation which besides acted as a signal of the social decomposition and of the lack of attention of the state on the protection of the most vulnerable, it is the passing of a new National Education Act whose goal is again the equality of opportunities by guaranteeing the general quality of the contents in all the national territory, the link with the world of work and the excellence in the teachers' training. From this law, we have given ourselves a period up to the year 2010 so that the 6% of the Internal Gross Product could be spent for financing education.

In this context of progressive recovery, the foreign policy has started a way of strengthening and expansion a clear and convincing commitment to the national interest.

In our action the regional integration has a priority place. In the last two decades, as from the MERCOSUR, Argentina has consolidated strong commercial relationships with the countries of the region.

But business transactions go beyond the regional boundaries and in this sense, the multilateral negotiations in the field of the World Trade Organization has a particular signification as it depends on them the liberalization of the agricultural markets, a sector in which our country has competitive advantages and the achievement of an adequate flexibility to implement our industrial policies.

For Argentina a result that guaranties a fairer and more equitable rules for the international commerce is of great importance, it is because of that that we take part actively in the multilateral economic business transactions with the firm goal of achieving equity in the rules that govern the world commerce and changing the situation of discrimination suffered by our main exportation products due to barriers to commerce and other instruments of commerce distortion which the developed countries specially apply.

Argentina will always be present in all the multilateral sectors in which it participates trying to achieve more equitable and democratic rules of the game at decisions' time. The multilateralism is the most efficient instrument to be able to win the battle against hunger, poverty, exclusion and environmental degradation.

(...)

((Extract of the Speech of Mr. President of the Nation
Before the 62° General Assembly of the United Nations,
September 25, 2007)

Prologue

The true dimension of a social policy has to take into account all the faces of the reality, whether it is an economic, social or also political aspect, as the approach of just one of them always has an impact on the others. That is why we should not limit ourselves to implement a limited policy, for example on education, health, work, support and temporary coverage or permanent of the basic social needs, and many others without taking in to consideration the interrelation of the problems and of political and economic aspects, it will not only be a focused and limited action but it will give more support to the acts with the purpose of providing assistance.

The set of actions of the policies of the State must be then analyzed and implemented from the perspective of welfare and development of the citizenship, through an administration associated with shared responsibilities on the part of the different national ministries, which are seeking to consolidate a Federal Network of Public Policies with the people as a main goal.

With this approach it is overcome the concept that has the intention of reducing the application of the social policy in programs by sectors, like for example an income plan which in no way represents the totality of a social policy. It is not possible to standardize answers before the particularities and different realities; the social policy is much more complex and our challenge is to go beyond those that attempt to homogenise them.

Today, the State has recovered its strength to produce changes and to interpret and to approach to our complex social reality. That is why to contribute to human development, we should provide education, health, work, based on rights and duties, using the articulation and equity to obtain cohesion of the social background.

We are convinced that by the generation of equality of opportunities and in the application of social rights, the social justice is achieved; that is why our ordinary agenda of work, which includes all the ministries involved in social matters, chooses benefits, services and actions implemented with responsibility and commitment arising from an ethical practice.

There is remaining a road to consolidate in the consensus: a civil society and a State implementing, designing, proposing and executing social policies that go beyond the mere discussion of focused or universalistic concepts. A civil society and a State that act integrated, facing the complex reality and diverse reality of our country.

The Millennium Development Goals provide an excellent opportunity for that.

Dra. Alicia Margarita Kirchner
Chairperson National Council for
the Coordination of Social Policies
The Office of the President

Forewords by Dr. Carlos Felipe Martínez

This report of the Millennium Development Goals for Argentina constitutes a milestone provided that in June 2007 there must be done the so called “evaluation of half term”. It also coincides with the end of a four years’ management which implied challenges oriented to overcome the effects of a crisis, which almost questioned the democratic system itself. This is why, for the Systems of United Nations, there are some predominant issues important to be stressed.

The first one is the recognition to the commitment of achieving the Millennium Development Goals that President Kirchner set up in 2003, not only taking the goals which were fixed in an universal way by the subscribing countries, but also by imposing goals much more demanding than in the majority of the variables involved. There was also included an additional goal: “To promote decent employment”, defined as a series of indicators of quantity and quality of employment, in this set of constitutive variables of human development in the broadest and most comprehensive interpretation of the term.

From the operative area, this commitment is shown in the actions that are executed with the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies, as well as in the different projects of the agenda of the system of United Nations, that search through technical support and substantive contributions, to support the efforts of the country in the different jurisdictional levels, to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

The second issue to mention is the consistency and continuity that shows the recovery of Argentine economy and appears in almost every indicator considered in this report. Compensating the detriment suffered during the crisis. The last decades showed in general, but in Argentina in particular, that there may exist economic growth at the same time that there are some central social indicators which are deteriorated. Household welfare and comprehensive population development are not isolated from the standards of economic growth that is being carried out. That is why we are pleased with the outcomes that happened in the country in the last years.

Nevertheless there are some challenges to be taken. A so big and diverse country like Argentina, still faces disparities and inequalities situations that demand to focus the attention, but without due to that, losing the conception of integrity of the public interventions. The human development is an objective that depends on the integration of the resources, the capacities and the opportunities that the population may have access, in the most diverse public and private sectors, where it is crucial the democratic institutional system and oriented to equity goals.

This focus requires of important active public policies with a strategic view and with a high commitment of the society with its social security and fiscal duties as well as an active role of the State focusing on the human development as the core of its interventions.

As it is highlighted in the Report, we are on the road. We strongly believe that the possible country is build day after day and with the MDG as their functional goal. The United Nations promote peace, dialogue, positive construction of relationships between different nations. But we should go deeper to the inner side because peace cannot be consolidated as long as the fundamental rights are not guaranteed.

As it was mentioned before, this Report coincides with the end of an office that is not the end of the desire of continuing building together a citizenship full with justice, development and progress for everyone.

Dr. Carlos Felipe Martínez
Resident Coordinator of
the System of United Nations in Argentina

General data of Argentina



Extension

North-South: 3.694 km.

East-West: 1.423 Km.

Source: Instituto Geográfico Militar
(Military Geographic Institute)

Territorial surface

American Continental: 2.791.810 Km²

Antarctic Continental: 969.464 Km²

Total: 3.761.274 Km²

Source: Instituto Geográfico Militar

Official language: Spanish

Local Currency: peso (\$)

Fiscal year: January – December

Religion: Catholic

(Freedom of worship is acknowledged)

Form of government: Federal

Demographic indicators

Total average annual growth rate of the population (2001): 10,1 per thousand.

Gross Birth Rate per thousand (2001): 18, 2

Gross Mortality Rate per thousand (2001): 7, 6

Life expectancy at birth (both sexes):

74, 1 years.

Source: INDEC, National Census (Censo Nacional de Población, Hogares y Vivienda) 1991 y 2001.

Total population per sex, reason of masculinity and population density per province. Argentina. Year 2001

Total	Sex		Reason of masculinity	Surface Km ²	Population Density per Km ²
	Women	Men			
36.260.130	18.601.058	17.659.027	94.9	2.780.403	13.0

Source: INDEC, Censo Nacional de Población, Hogares y Viviendas 2001. (INDEC- National Population, Household and Housing Census 2001). Instituto Geográfico Militar (IGM) (Military Geographic Institute)

Composition of the population per age segments. Argentina. Year 2001

Age	Percentage
0 -14 years	28.3
15 – 64 years	61.8
65 years or over	9.9

Source: INDEC, Censo Nacional de Población, Hogares y Viviendas 2001. (National Census 2004)

Size and growth rate of Urban and Rural population. Argentina. Years 1970-2010

Territorial political division	Population (in thousands)					Average Annual Growth Rate (%)			Relative variation (%)				
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	1970 1980	1980 1990	1990 2000	1970 1980	1980 1990	1990 2000	2000 2010	
Total country	23.364	27.947	32.527	37.032	41.474	18.0	15.8	13.1	11.4	19.6	16.4	13.8	12.0
Urban	18.454	23.193	28.257	33.166	37.891	23.0	20.6	16.1	13.4	25.7	21.8	17.4	14.2
Rural	4.910	4.270	4.270	3.866	3.582	-3.2	-11.0	-9.9	-7.6	-3.2	-10.2	-9.5	-7.3

Source: INDEC, National Census (Censo Nacional de Población, Hogares y Vivienda) 1970 y 1980 e INDEC – CELADE, Surveys on population by sex and age groups: urban- rural and economically active (1990 – 2025) and by province (1990 – 2010) (Revised version – February 1996). Serie Análisis Demográfico. Demographic Analysis Series.

Macroeconomic Context and Social Investment

In the decade of the nineties there were carried out a numerous set of amendments in the field of economic policies which affected decisively the life conditions of the population, apart from transforming deeply the macroeconomic operation to short term and the evolution of the economy to medium term.

There were implemented several structural changes: privatizations at a large scale, State reform and modification of the pension plans just to mention the most important. The process of pro-market amendments included also a set of deregulation measures, with a strong emphasis on the labour market. The component of macroeconomic stabilisation of the plan was based on the implementation of a fixed exchange rate as the nominal anchor for the prices and there were implemented policies of commercial and financial liberalization.

The set of policies carried out provoked a unsustainable macroeconomic dynamic. The strongly delayed real exchange rate promoted systematic and growing deficits in current account, opposed to the unsustainable growth of the public and private external indebtedness. To this there must be added the extreme fragility which supported the financial system.

As a consequence, the economy not only showed an extraordinary increase of the volatility of the growth but it also, as an average, showed the growth in the headcount rate which was 0,5% per year higher than the average of the decade of the 80.

The unsustainable dynamic of the social economic model of the 90s had a complete effect by 2001, when after four constant recession years there was a financial and external crisis never seen in the Argentine history, which worsened drastically the still existing unacceptable social situation. The result was record unemployment rates, levels of poverty and indigence without precedence and a significant iniquity growth in income distribution.

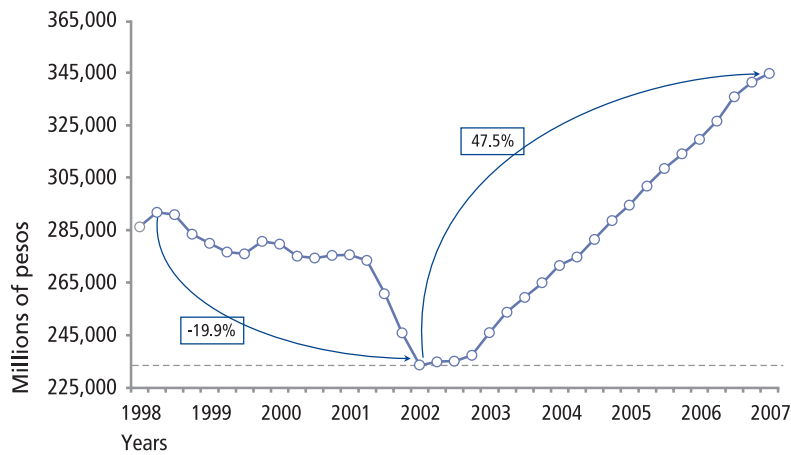
The present macroeconomic strategy lies on three fundamental axis. The first is the support of a competitive change rate, which stimulates the balanced expansion of tradable and non tradable sectors of the economy, that promotes the genuine creation of employment and settles the conditions for the generation of public and private savings rates in accordance to the above mentioned expansion rate.

The second axis is the support of the fiscal precaution. Since 2003 there is a sustainable systematic financial surplus, which enables the nominal reduction of the public debt and the execution of public investment in infrastructure and human asset.

The third axis of the model consists in income policies that pursue two main goals; firstly, to assure the dissemination of growth benefits in the different social levels, and secondly, to play the role of mediator in the distribution conflict so as to moderate the creation of inflationary expectations.

In 2006 the Argentine economy achieved another year of extraordinary growth, with a 8.5% of annual variation completing four years with rates close to 9.0% annually and it is expected another year of growth and elevated rates in 2007. The sustainable growth during the last years allowed to overcome the total decrease of the gross domestic product seen between 1998 and 2002 (Graph 0.1). The change of relative prices enabled, at the same time, the recovery of the domestic production through the impulse of the substitution of imports and to the demand annexed to all its components.

Graph 01. Gross Domestic Product. Years 1998 – 2006. In millions of pesos at constant price of 1993. Data without taking into consideration any season.

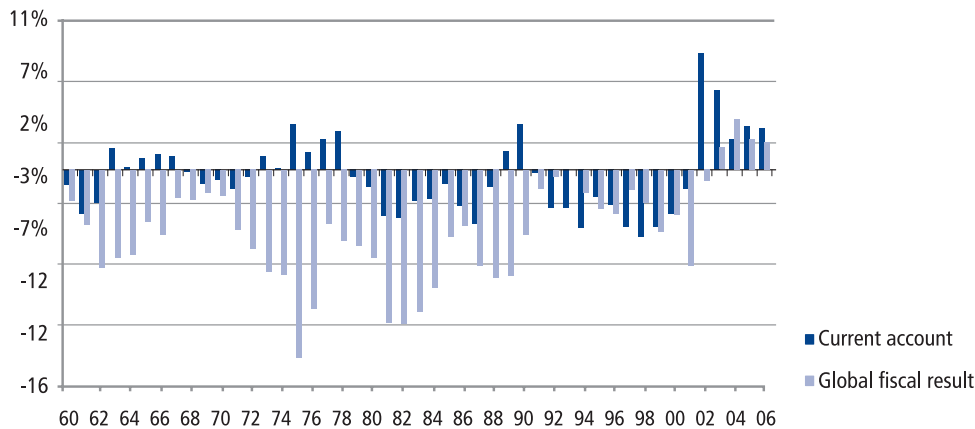


Source: INDEC.

In the framework of a process of sustainable economic growth, it is important to point out the persistence of surplus of current account of the balance of payments, which is around 3.0% of the gross domestic product, with an important growth of the exports, which expanded at an average rate of almost a 15.0% per year.

Together to the external surplus, there was, for the first time in more than four decades, a fiscal result which was consolidated positive for four years (Graph 0.2). On the revenue sector, there was evidenced an extraordinary increase of tax income collection of and of the contributions to the social security. On the expenditure sector, the re-structure of the public debt reduced in a significant way the payment of interests of the public debt that turned to represent the 22.0 % of the tributary revenue in 2001 to only 9.0 % in the first trimester of the year 2007. This has allowed to focus the fiscal efforts on the recovery of the social and productive infrastructure of the country.

Graph 02. Fiscal and External Results. In percentage of the Gross Domestic Product. 1960 – 2006 selected years.



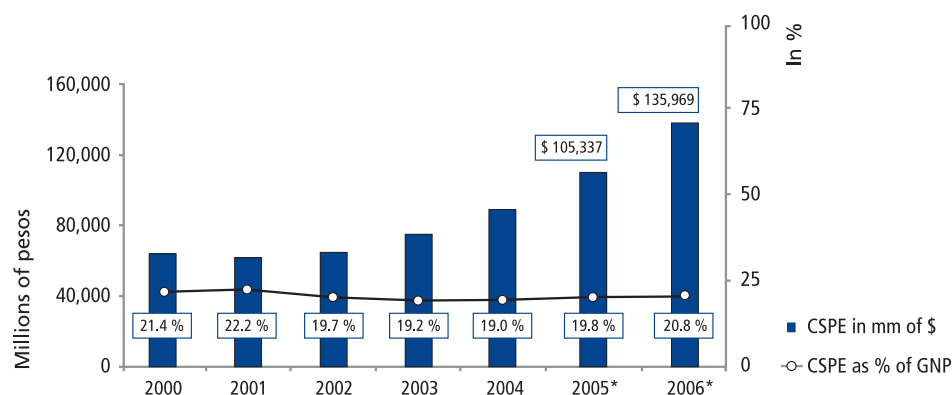
Source : INDEC y Secretaría de Hacienda del Ministerio de Economía y Producción.

The good results achieved at a macroeconomic level, together with the income policies proposed by the Government (like for example, the increase of the minimum wage, the rise of the pension fees or the broadening of the coverage arising from the implementation of “Plan de Inclusión Previsional” (Inclusion Tributary Plan), to quote some of the policies of greater impact), which allowed a quick recovery of social indicators. The increase in the level of activity reduced the unemployment rate which derived in a very significant decrease of the poverty and indigence and made an improvement in the distribution of income possible.

Social Investment of Argentine Government

The social public expenditure reflected the economic effort that the State performs so as to improve the population living conditions and to promote collective welfare. In the last four years, the Consolidated Social Public Expenditure grew constantly registering an accumulated increase of 88.6% between the years 2003 and 2006. In terms of the Gross Domestic Product, the share of the Consolidated Social Public Expenditure stayed at values close to 20% during the period 2000 – 2006, with exception of 2001 where, due to the sudden fall that the Gross Domestic Product (5.5%) registered, rose over 22 points.

Graph 03. Consolidated Social Public Expenditure. Years 2000 – 2006. Current values.

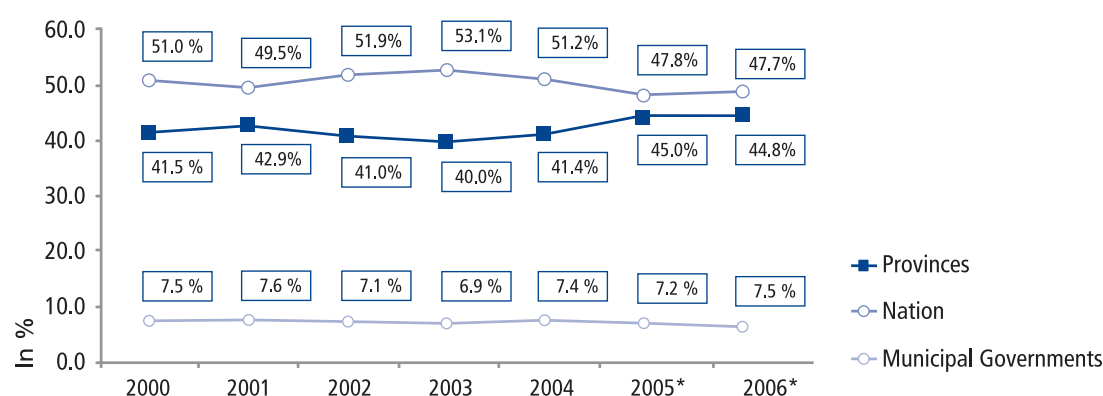


Note: (*) Provisory numbers.

Source: Dirección de Análisis de Gasto Público y Programas Sociales – Secretaría de Política Económica, Ministerio de Economía y Producción. (Analysis of the Public Expenditure and Social Programs Department- Secretary of Economic Policy- Ministry of Economy and Production).

The social public expenditure can be analyzed from different dimensions. First, due to the federal characteristic of Argentina, the social public expenditure arises from a fiscal effort shared by all the levels of government. In 2006 the National Government concentrated 47.7%, the provinces supplied 44.8% and their remaining 7.5% belonged to municipal governments. The increase noted in the relative participation of the National Government between the years 2002 and 2004 is the result of policies implemented to face the effects of the socioeconomic crisis.

Gráfico 04. Consolidated Social Public Expenditure classified by level of government. Years 2000 – 2006 according to percentages.



Note: (*) Provisory values.

Source: Dirección de Análisis de Gasto Público y Programas Sociales – Secretaría de Política Económica, Ministerio de Economía y Producción. (Direction of Analysis of the Public Expenditure and Social Programs- Secretary of Economic Policy- Ministry of Economy and Production).

A second dimension consists in analysing the expenditure according to the social sector to which it is allocated. In 2006, as usual, the most relevant function in budget terms was Social Security, which concentrated 31.0% of the Consolidated Social Public Expenditure, followed by Education, Culture and Science and Technique and Health, with shares of 24.4% and 22.1% respectively.

In 2002 there was noticed an increase in the participation of the functions of Work and Promotion and Social Care as the consequence of the efforts performed by the State to weaken the impact of the economic crisis over the less protected sectors, in particular, due the actions focused in forms of direct interchange of income and in species.

As from 2004, together with the economic recovery, there was a significant increase in the incidence of the functions of Housing and Urbanism and Drinking Water and Sewerage, as well as those executed by Education, Culture and Science and Technique in the structure of the Consolidated Social Public Expenditure. This shows a bigger public investment to the broadening and improvement of the quality of the basic infrastructure and of the human asset. Besides, the participation of the function of Promotion and Social Care kept on increasing.

Table 01. Consolidated Social Public Expenditure classified per function. Years 2000 – 2006

In million of pesos and percentage structure

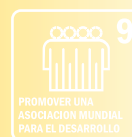
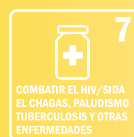
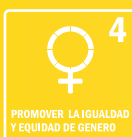
Consolidated Social Public Expenditure	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005*		2006*	
	In mm of \$	Estr. %	In mm of \$	Estr. %	In mm of \$	Estr. %	In mm of \$	Estr. %	In mm of \$	Estr. %	In mm of \$	Estr. %	In mm of \$	Estr. %
Education, Culture, Science and Technical	14,179,5	23,3	13,964,9	23,4	13,745,9	22,3	15,180,6	21,1	18,588,7	21,8	25,299,3	24,0	33,162,8	24,4
Health	14,802,9	23,1	13,718,3	23,0	13,968,0	22,6	13,304,3	22,6	19,450,8	22,8	23,928,2	22,7	29,994,9	22,1
Drinking Water and Sewerage	294,0	0,5	263,5	0,4	344,4	0,6	437,1	0,6	607,3	0,7	681,5	0,6	1,372,9	1,0
Housing and urbanism	1,085,3	1,8	1,089,2	1,8	729,9	1,2	1,146,3	1,6	1,805,0	2,1	3,311,5	3,1	4,818,8	3,5
Promotion and social care	3,556,5	5,8	3,483,8	5,8	3,841,1	6,2	5,296,2	7,3	6,625,4	7,8	8,846,8	8,4	12,473,6	9,2
Social security	22,515,8	37,0	21,871,4	36,7	22,066,5	35,7	24,690,4	34,2	28,325,6	33,2	32,525,1	30,9	42,131,3	31,0
Work	2,720,8	4,5	2,794,6	4,7	4,725,0	7,7	6,379,1	8,8	6,492,6	7,6	6,969,2	6,6	7,368,2	5,4
Other urban services	2,430,9	4,0	2,411,2	4,0	2,304,7	3,7	2,670,6	3,7	3,331,6	3,9	3,775,1	3,6	4,646,4	3,4
Total	60,865,7	100,0	59,596,8	100,0	61,725,4	100,0	72,104,6	100,0	85,227,1	100,0	105,336,7	100,0	135,968,9	100,0

Note: (*) Provisory numbers.

Source: Dirección de Análisis de Gasto Público y Programas Sociales – Secretaría de Política Económica, Ministerio de Economía y Producción. (Analysis of the Public Expenditure and Social Programs Department. Secretary of Economic Policy, Ministry of Economy and Production).

GOAL 1

ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY & HUNGER



Argentine Goals

Eradicate indigence and hunger.

Reduce poverty to less than the 20%.

Introduction

The aim of this government arises from a conception of Social Policy which is opposed to the consequences derived from three decades of neo liberalism where the exercise of citizens' basic rights had been breached. The Social Policies are focused to overcome social fragmentation, inequality, loss of citizenship, unemployment, indigence and poverty of broad sectors of the Argentine society which provoked the general crisis of the year 2001.

Current Situation and Trends

Table 1.1. Indicators of follow up. Years 1990 and 2000 – 2006

Indicators	Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger							
	Year							
	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Poverty gap coefficient (*)	0,356	0,415	0,438	0,534	0,445	0,446	0,434	0,416
Gini Coefficient (**)	0,461	0,479	0,503	0,526	0,517	0,495	0,490	0,478
Income gap (**)	13,0	14,4	17,3	23,1	17,4	15,4	14,6	14,3
Percentage of population below the indigence line (*)	12,7	9,0	11,6	24,8	20,5	15,0	12,2	8,7
Percentage of population below the poverty line	42,6	33,4	35,9	53,0	47,8	40,2	33,8	26,9

Notes: The data of 1990 corresponds to Greater Buenos Aires (GBA). The data of 1990, 2000, 2001 and 2002 corresponds to the month of May. The data of 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 corresponds to the second semester of each year.

Source: (*) EPH – INDEC. www.indec.mecon.ar

(**) The Gini Coefficient and the income gap were processed by SIEMPRO – CNCPS, based on the data of EPH, INDEC.

As from the second semester of 2003 and in four years of administration, the model of economic and social development implemented, starts to show its advantages. In such period, poverty was reduced in a 47%. This means that 5.7 millions of citizens have abandoned such a condition¹.

As regards indigence, it is noted a decrease which continues dropping without any interruptions as from May 2003. Between this year and 2006, there was a reduction of 67%, that is to say, 4,2 millions of people have started to cover their basic food needs.

In the first semester of 2007, poverty and indigence continued decreasing, registering values lower in more than a 10% as regards the year 2006.

The progressive decrease of poverty and indigence highlights that such economic growth is detected in higher levels of social integration evidencing the deepening of a virtuous circle in the relation growth-integration.

On the other hand, income distribution also showed, for the year 2006, an improvement of importance, due to the increase in the level of activity that promoted a rise of the employment and those wages which were lagging further behind.

The pursue of the more equitable community is expressed in the improvement of the Gini Coefficient, which dropped in the last four years from 0.517 to 0.478, registering the lowest value since April 1996.

¹ Within the urban conglomerates according to National Institute for Statistics and Census (INDEC), for the family homes permanent survey (Encuesta Permanente de Hogares)

Programs and Supporting Actions

The fight against hunger, the promotion of social inclusion through the generation of employment and income aiming their efforts at the families in poverty conditions and of social vulnerability and the recovery of the citizenship rights have highlighted developed social actions.

The Ministry of Social Development continues implementing three national plans that grant opportunities for human and social development recovery.

The National Families Plan aims to strengthen the family nucleus in their potential as generator of values and as a primary environment for the social integration and development of persons. The different lines of action are oriented to prevention, care and promotion of children, adolescents and the elderly.

A significant progress is made by the passing of the Act N° 26.061 in October 2005 on the *Complete Protection of the Rights of Boys, Girls and Adolescents*. This Act institutionalises the decision of the present administration of creating conditions for the complete functioning of the Integral Protection System, arising from an interdisciplinary approach, recognizing adolescent boys and girls as subjects full of rights, abandoning patronage doctrine .

In this framework, the institutional practices for the boys, girls and adolescents that require special protection by the State, are being transformed into a model of complete protection. As part of this process, it has been strengthened the decentralization of functions between the state levels. On December 15, 2006, it was created the Consejo Federal de Niñez y Familia (Federal Board of Childhood, Adolescence and Family), assuming the 24 Governments and their Provinces and of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, the commitment of guaranteeing rights, principles and warranties enshrined in the Convention of Childhood Rights.

The contention of youngsters, in the framework of social policies of this administration, is understood as the care and attention of the set of necessities of the person. Ethical, intellectual, social, expressive, cultural, and those linked to the health and environmental preservation.

These actions are oriented to youngsters capacities' development as historical subjects, and origin of social and community transformation.

Through the Non-Contributive Pensions it is given an answer to necessities of adults over 70 years of age, to mothers with seven or more children and to persons with disabilities who do not have enough resources for their subsistence.

During the year 2006, there were granted 102,725 new pensions, a 100% more than the previous year, achieving a total of 526,000 pensioners nowadays. In addition to this, in the year 2003, the 54% of the pensions applications were granted while this percentage was raised to 78% in the year 2006, and between 2003 and 2007, the benefits pensioners perceive increased two and a half times.

El Programa Familias por la Inclusión Social (The Program Families for the Social Inclusion) promotes integral protection arising from the health, education and capacities development. It generates conditions, through a non remunerative income that allows families to assume the commitment with education and health of the minors under their charge. Besides, adults who co-live in their homes have the support to access to education and to professional qualification. The program has increased its scope in a 68% last year, arising from 270,310 homes to more than 450,000 at present. At the same time, new incorporations were defined and the criteria for social risk definition and vulnerability of the potential addressed families were broadened.

El Plan Nacional de Desarrollo Local y Economía Social “Manos a la Obra” (The National Plan of Local Development and Social Economy “Let’s do it!”) attempts to solve the challenge of strengthening productive areas promoting the creation of plans of integral development, focusing projects on the construction of territorial development, identifying the productive profile of each locality and decentralizing and strengthening the local institutions with the purpose of a joined assessment for financing and upgrading basic social services of the local experiences.

As from the passing of the Act N° 26.117 which promotes the microcredit, Administration Boards were settled in most of the provinces, for funds management at local level. In this way, there will be increased possibilities of the social productive development to least resourceful sectors which are not entitled to credit from the mercantile approach in the financial world.

The perspective of this administration is to give priority to the productive work over financial evaluation, promoting social economy on solidarity basis, strengthening the development of organizational capacities in associations and encouraging values that contribute to the social integration.

Apart from the support for the mechanisms for commercialization, the Plan Manos a la Obra is an answer to the challenge of sustainability of productive enterprises, creating the Monotributo Social. This special tax system allows entrepreneurs to enter formal economy through the issuance of invoices, giving them the possibility of being suppliers of public and private enterprises.

The Food Safety National Plan (Plan Nacional de Seguridad Alimentaria) fosters the access to the right to safe and sufficient nutrition, giving emphasis on health care and provision of adequate and qualified nourishment. The recovery of family nourishment constitutes one of their main purposes. In this line it is highlighted the growing usage of magnetic cards that allow families to do their own shopping. Nineteen provinces have chosen this style, trend that is being promoted for the rest of the country. During the year 2007 community food centres were reduced in 26.0% as they were supported by the Plan (from 2,300 to 1,700) and at the same time, projects on self food production were increased which worked in those community centres of social organizations (for example, children care centres, day centres, nursing homes for the elderly, etc.). On the other hand, the conditions of functioning of the Social Organizations with food services were improved, not only in the security and hygiene but also in the aspects concerning their sustainability and local administration capacity.

The lines of work associated to self food production, to family farms, to production at schools and community farms have been deepened all over the country as well as actions oriented to education and training on the food nutrition aspects.

New institutionalization of Social Policies

With the purpose of strengthening the organization in the local community sectors and to promote the recovery of the citizenship it is encouraged the creation of a new institutionalization of the integral Social Policies in the territory. In this sense it can be mentioned the creation of the Reference Centres of the Ministry of Social Development of the Nation in each of the provinces all over the country (Centros de Referencia del Ministerio de Desarrollo Social de la Nación) which will deepen the creation of the Federal Network of Social Policies and Community Integration Centres, spaces oriented to build a model of comprehensive administration of social policies on local sectors of the most needy communities.

Through the Community Integration Centres there are articulated national, provincial and municipal programs, linked to areas of social development, health, education, work and

infrastructure, developing community capacities and caring fostering specific demands of the different groups according to age and cultural features.

Challenges

The intermediate goal proposed for the year 2007, to reduce to 30% the population with an income below poverty line was already achieved due to this – if we continue following the same lines of action and enhancing the better income distribution- it is estimated that the final goal of reduction of poverty will be satisfactorily achieved. The same can be said about indigence.

The most important challenge is constituted, maybe, for the sustainability of the policies developed by the government in all the levels, specially those connected with education, generation of genuine employment, equitable distribution of wealth, entrenchment of solidarity bounds, recovery of the family as the core of the social life and of the care of the environment, factors for which the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals are essential.

Table 1.2. Indicators of follow up: intermediate goals and finals.

Indicators	Goals	
	2007 (*)	2015 (**)
Percentage of population living below the poverty line	<30.0%	<20.0%
Percentage of population living below the indigence line	<10.8%	Eradicate

Source: (*) Estimaciones Sistema de Información, Evaluación y Monitoreo de Programas Sociales (SIEMPRO).

(**) Ministerio de Desarrollo Social; Ministerio de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social; y Ministerio de Economía y Producción.(*) Estimates System of Information, Assessment and Monitoring of Social Programs . (**) Ministry of Social Development; Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security; and Ministry of Economy and Production.



GOAL 2

ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION



Argentine Goals

2007	2010-2015
Increase the attendance to pre-school of kids of 5 years of age towards the university.	Assure that in the year 2010,,every child and adolescent is able to complete 10 years of mandatory schooling.
Increase the ratio of students who reach 5th grade/year, specially in the regions of Northeast of Argentina and Northwest of Argentina.	Promote, by 2015, that every child and adolescent is able to complete the Secondary level of Education.
Improve the quantity of youngsters who enrol and complete the Secondary Level of Education.	

Introduction

The crisis of the end of the XX century and in the beginning of the XXI century has left strong marks in our boys and girls, in our youngsters and in their families. The economic situation has affected life conditions of millions of Argentines and inequalities and social polarization acted as an obstacle to think about a future of integration and citizenship participation. Education was not indifferent to this situation. Many of the cases and scholastic experiences children and youngsters had to undergo, expressed an overview of educational inequality which represented the situation of social injustice. A clear sample of the crisis impacts never seen before is shown nowadays in classrooms. Nevertheless, schools and education continue being privileged spaces as they boost the possibilities of social and cultural development of the whole citizenship.

To the special context of Argentina, there must be added other several transformations that in the last decade have occurred in the worlds of work, technology, science, communication and the cultural world in general which make it necessary to revise the ways of thinking and acting in the framework of institutions such as the school and the State. We are suffering a time of uncertainties but we know that, in the definition of future, the school plays an essential role.

Current Situation and Trends

For the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, it has been a priority to place education and teaching in the core of the discussion and of the public action, because this would allow to open the debate about the social project and the future that we are expecting as a country. In this context, Argentina has passed a new National Education Act (LEN, N° 26.206 enacted by the Congress of the Nation on December 14, 2006). This act was the result of the process of more than six months of debates, consultations and suggestions in which all the sectors of the society participated. This act is the product of collective work and, consequently, we are all committed to the enforcement of all the provisions. Their proposals are clearly oriented to focus on the problems of fragmentation and inequality which have affected the educational system for many decades and to face the challenges of the society where the universal access to an education of good quality is the basic requirement for the full social integration.

In accordance to this, the LEN establishes between the aims and objectives of the national educational policies: *“to assure an education of quality with equality of opportunities and possibilities, without regional differences or social iniquities; to strengthen national identity based on the respect for the cultural diversity and to the local particularities, open to universal values and regional and Latin American integration; to guarantee educational inclusion through universal policies and pedagogical strategies and resources allocation which give priority to the least favoured sectors of the society; to assure conditions of equality, respecting the differences between the persons without admitting any sort of gender discrimination or of any other kind; to guarantee everyone access and conditions for the stay and completion of the different levels of the educational system, assuring the free service of the State administration in all levels and modalities”* (Section 11).

The LEN makes a step towards the integration of the system (fragmented at present in a variety of organizational structures arising from the application of the previous Federal Education Law) and comprises of four levels: Preliminary Education, Primary Education, Secondary Education and Upper Education (Section 17), considering secondary level as an organizational and pedagogical unit. Such level constitutes a fundamental step in the process of recovery of the education and goes even further of the commitment assumed with the Millennium Goals, deciding that *“mandatory education period covers from the age of five until the conclusion of Secondary Education level”* (Section 16). The universal concept of education in these three levels (preliminary, primary and secondary) implies the commitment of the State of guaranteeing the right to education for all children and youngsters. This responsibility

is prolonged by LEN when disposing that the “Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and the competent jurisdictional authorities will ensure the fulfilment of the scholastic mandatory education through the institutional, pedagogical alternatives and of the promotion of their rights which are adjusted to local and community, urban and rural requirements through actions that facilitate to achieve quality results similar all over the country and in every social situation” (Section 16).

Together with this law, the Act N° 26.075 of Educational Financing (passed in December 2005) and the Act N° 26.058 of Technical Education (passed in September of the same year) constitute the normative framework which will permit to work on the consolidation of a more fair society.

Table 2.1. Follow up Indicators. Years 1990 and 2000-2005.

Indicators	Year						
	1990 ¹	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Net enrolment rate of 5	72.6	-	90.8	-	-	-	-
Net enrolment rate in general Basic Education (EGB 1 and 2)	96.6 ²	-	98.1	-	-	-	-
Net enrolment rate in general basic education (EGB)	-	-	96.7	-	-	-	-
Net combined attendance rate to general basic education and polymodal (EGB + P)	86.8	-	91.5	-	-	-	-
Schooling rate (6-14 years)	94.1	-	96.8	-	-	-	-
Schooling rate (6-11 years)	97.1	-	98.4	-	-	-	-
Schooling rate (12-14 years)	88.2	-	93.6	-	-	-	-
Literacy rate of youths (between 15 and 24 years old)	98.3	-	98.9	-	-	-	-
Attendants Femininity rate (EGB 1 and 2)	96.3 ³	-	96.3	-	-	-	-
Attendants Femininity rate (EGB)	-	-	97.4	-	-	-	-
Attendants Femininity rate (Polymodal)	-	-	106.6	-	-	-	-
Permanence in schools to 5 year/grade	-	93.2	92.1	92.0	94.1	94.1	94.9
Enrolment variation rate (EGB 1 and 2)	-	0.4	0.3	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.6
Permanence rate (EGB 1 and 2)	-	87.8	88.3	88.1	90.3	90.1	91.0
Graduation rate (EGB 1 and 2)	-	86.1	86.7	86.8	88.9	88.9	90.7
Enrolment variation rate (EGB)	-	1.0	1.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.4
Permanence rate (EGB)	-	72.8	72.3	73.0	72.5	71.8	69.3
Graduation rate (EGB)	-	66.3	67.0	67.5	66.8	66.3	64.4
Enrolment variation rate (Polymodal) ⁴	-	3.6	2.5	0.9	-1.7	-1.5	-0.5
Permanence rate (Polymodal)	-	64.9	75.1	72.3	64.9	63.3	63.9
Graduation rate (Polymodal)	-	50.8	60.1	57.4	49.7	47.6	48.5

Source: Elaboración DINIECE, Ministerio de Educación, Ciencia y Tecnología. (Made by DINIECE Ministry of Education, Science and Technology)

Notes: ¹ D 1 Datos del Censo de Población y Vivienda 1991. (Data of the Census of Population and Housing 1991)

² Corresponds to the students from 6 to 11 years of age who attended primary level.

³ Corresponds to students from 6 to 11 years of age who attended primary level.

⁴ Includes the data of enrolment of minors students under 20 years of age corresponding to the level in the Education for Adults which as from the passing of the National Education Act has been incorporated as a modality of Universal Education.

Programs and Supporting Actions

Before and in cooperation with the passing of the Law, there have been developed policies which had as articulated axis to contribute to recover the role of the State in the construction of equal horizons for all the society. In this sense, the inclusion policies carried out were oriented to provide fundamental material conditions for the effective exercise of the rights of access and transit of boys, girls and youngsters to a dignified scholastic experience, and –at the same time- they aimed to guarantee symbolic conditions to promote an educational proposal completely equal and democratic. In this way, it was an objective that educational equality implied for boys, girls and youngsters their formal inclusion in the system and also their complete participation in the universe of our culture.

In relation to strategies developed to achieve both the stay in the school of students undergoing the most vulnerable situations due to social economic situation and to promote the reinsertion of those who abandoned educational instruction prematurely, the scholarships granting system was strengthened. In spite of the fact that higher resources had been allotted to students of secondary level –where there exist the biggest problems related to drop-out rates- the population that attends other levels of the educational system has also been considered as beneficiaries of these policies. During the year 2007, between the Program of Scholarships for Retention, the National Program of Educational Inclusion, Scholarships, INET and the National Program of Bilingual Intercultural Education (Programa Becas de Retención, Programa Nacional de Inclusión Educativa, Becas INET y el Programa Nacional de Educación Intercultural Bilingüe) a total of 630.282 scholarships were granted.

The significant rise of the financial effort in education, addressed fundamentally but not exclusively to teachers' salaries, infrastructure, scholarships and resources of different categories, has always been accompanied by actions of technical cooperation with the provincial teams and with pedagogical actions of strengthening educational policies in the universe of schools.

Particularly, as regards social and educational fragmentation, the definition of Priority Learning Nucleus has been part of the educational policy that seeks to guarantee a set of core significant knowledge for all the children of the country. Beyond this decision, there exists a deliberate selection of knowledge based on appreciations which are the conceptual tools that best compensate those we consider valuable to be transmitted at school. In addition to this, an intention of placing the teaching in the centre of public discussion about the future we expect and the social project of the country we seek. For this, all the teachers and schools of basic education of the country have received supportive material to strengthen their teaching.

Challenges

Argentina will soon be meeting its Millennium Goal of “Achieve universal basic education for the year 2015”. LEN and the educational policies developed, provide the basis to confirm that we are oriented to the achievement of such goals.

Table 2.2. Proposed goals to achieve universal Basic education.

Goals	
2007	2010 - 2015
Increase the attendance to pre-school of kids of 5 years of age towards the university.	Assure that in the year 2010, every child and adolescent is able to complete 10 years of mandatory schooling.
Increase the ratio of students who reach 5th grade/year, specially in the regions of Northeast of Argentina and Northwest of Argentina.	Promote, by 2015, every child and adolescent is able to complete the Secondary level of Education.
Improve the quantity of youngsters who enrol and complete the Secondary Level of Education.	

GOAL 3

PROMOTE DECENT EMPLOYMENT



Argentine Goals

Reduce unemployment rate to less than 10.0% by 2015.

Reduce unregistered employment rate to less than 30.0%.

Improve social security coverage to 60.0% of the unemployed population by 2015.

Reduce the proportion of workers who earn salaries below the basic basket to less than 30.0%.

Eradicate child labour.

Introduction

In 2006 there was seen a notorious advance in the goal of promoting decent employment in Argentina. In fact, during the last year, practically the totality of the indicators defined for the follow up of this goal have come closer to the established goals. The evolution of the indicators shows the continuity of the tendency of creation of decent employment which started three years ago, this indicates that policies implemented so far, promote progressive reduction of work precariousness, although the same continues being an extended problem.

In this chapter it is described the evolution during the year 2006 of the indicators defined for the follow up of the Millennium Development Goals III "Promote decent employment" and the most important administration actions for their effective promotion.

Current Situation and Trends

The group of primary indicators used for the follow up of the Millennium Development Goals III consists of: the unemployment rate, percentage of workers who earn wages below the basic family basket, percentage of unemployed population that is covered by any social security program, unregistered employment rate and child labour rate.

The average unemployment rate of the year 2006 reached 11.0% which implied that the same was reduced 2.2 percentage points as regards the previous year and 9.7 percentage points with relation to 2003. The evidenced reduction during the year 2006 enabled to reach the fixed intermediate goal for such indicator one year before it had been established and if these conditions continue like this, we would be very close to the accomplishment of the final goal defined for the year 2015 (having into consideration that the present rate should only be reduced in a little more than one percentage point) (Table 3.1 and Table 3.2). This reflects that we are oriented to solve one of the most serious problems of the Argentine labour market- the insufficient creation of work positions to incorporate unemployed population.

Besides, the decrease of unemployment rate at national level is shown in practically all the regions; where the intermediate goal for the year 2007 has been achieved in the year 2006 (with the only exception of Greater Buenos Aires).

Table 3.1. Evolution of follow up indicator of "MDG III, Promote decent employment"

Indicators	Years				Goals	
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2015
Unemployment rate	20.7	16.3	13.5	11.0	12.0	<10.0
Proportion of workers earning salaries lower the total Basic Basket	66.3	60.4	54.9	52.2	48.0	<30.0
Percentage of unemployed population with social security coverage	17.1	16.5	11.8	7.8	28.0	60.0
Unregistered employment rate	42.8	43.4	42.8	40.6	39.0	<30.0
Children Employment Rate (5 to 14 years of age)	s/d	4.7	s/d	s/d	3.0	Eradicate

Source: Subsecretaría de Programación Técnica y Estudios Laborales, MTEySS. Subsecretary of Technical Planning and Work Studies. (*) Encuesta de Actividades de Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes (MTEySS y el INDEC). Survey on Activities for Boys, Girls and Adolescents. Subsecretaría de Programación Técnica y Estudios Laborales, MTEySS, en base a datos de EPH, INDEC. Subsecretary of Technical Planning and Work Studies

² According to data Publisher by INDEC, in the second trimestre of 2007, the Unemployment Rate, Hypothesis "A", of the total Urban Conglomerates was 8.5% which registers a drop of almost two percentile points as regards the same period in the previous year.

On the other hand, the percentage of workers who earn a wage lower than the total basic basket has been reduced to 2.7 percentage points as regards 2005. As well as in the year 2006, the

52.2% of dependant workers earned an insufficient income to purchase the total basic family basket for a typical family (which consists of two adults and two minors of eight years of age). The decrease of this indicator was due basically to the increase of the real salary not only for registered but also for unregistered workers.

The notorious decrease in the last year means a significant approach to the intermediate goal; as the same is a little more than 4 percentage points from the rate established for 2007. In this sense, there must be noted the significant reduction as from the year 2003, when the difference as regards the intermediate goal was over 18 percentage points.

As regards “the unregistered employment rate” there is seen a decrease in 2006, reaching the 40.6% of total employment; value near to the intermediate goal of 39.0%. After a slight increase in the first year of economic recovery (2003), the rate started a descending tendency that extended up to the last analyzed year, when it was reduced 2.2 percentage points in relation to 2005.

Therefore, it is noted an improvement in employees’ working conditions, as a result of a progressive reversion of the process of labour precariousness occurred during 1990s. Thus, while in the first years of the new cycle of economic growth, the increase of the employment with a salary was promoted in a significant way by the growth of unregistered work; when the time passed and the consolidation of the standard of economic growth, the generation of registered work was the reason that encouraged expansion while unregistered work started to show a contractive tendency.

The result of this change in the behaviour of the labour market can be noted by comparing the composition of the net growth of employment with a salary during the term of the conversion system as regards the occupational dynamics of the last four years. In the period between 1991 and 2001, only 5 employments with a salary were registered out 100 employments created; while this relation changed drastically between 2003 and 2006, when out of 100 new employments, 89 were registered.

On the other hand, the of unemployed population with coverage of the social security system is the only indicator that in 2006 is far away from the established goals. Between this year and the previous one, the coverage lowered 4 percentage points reaching 7.8% of the unemployed population. Nevertheless, the contraction of the indicator is not a worrying data bearing in mind that it corresponds to a period in which there was a significant modification in the content and in the objectives of the policies focused on the unemployed population. Such a change implied a passage from merely caring logistics to another one focused on improving employment conditions of unemployed workers. This implied the creation of new programs and strengthening and repositioning labour institutions (described in the next section) affecting, temporarily the coverage of unemployed population. Nevertheless, it is expected that through the programs already established and their extension to the totality of unemployed population, the indicator accomplishes the intermediate goal of 28% in the year 2007.

Unfortunately, information is not available for the calculation of children employment rate corresponding to the year 2006. The last data is from 2004 when it was 4.7%. With the purpose of reaching the intermediate goal of 3.0% and the final goal for the year 2015 which determines the total eradication of this problem, the National State has launched a “Plan Nacional para la Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil” (National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour) which will be described in the next section.

³ It should be noted that the value of the Basic basket represents a salaries reference parameter, this situation does not imply that the workers who earn salaries lower than the basic basket are below the poverty line.

Programs and Supporting Actions

The general accomplishment of the indicators to the fixed goals is the result of actions and programs made effective by the National State in the last years for the promotion of



decent employment in Argentina. There follow the most relevant programs developed since the year 2003.

The improvement of the purchasing power of the salaries was promoted from the National Government through different measures: on one hand, the increase of the Minimum, Vital and Mobile Salary (SMVM) and, on the other hand, the diffusion of the negotiations over salaries between the Collective Agreements of Work. In fact, the SMVM was multiplied by four between the years 2003 and 2006, rising from 200 pesos to 800 pesos and in real terms during this period, it had an increase of 30.4%. On the other hand, collective negotiations provoked that between 2003 and 2006, almost 4.2 millions of registered private employees had an improvement in their income by means of this negotiation way, becoming, together with SMVM, in one of the main mechanisms of improvement of the purchasing power of the salary and income distribution. As a consequence of the improvements obtained in the salaries because of the agreements in 2006, the minimum levels of remunerations established in every agreement were placed over the value of the basic family basket.

In this framework it is important to point out the deepening of labor inspection as a policy of the State through the Plan Nacional de Regularización del Trabajo (PNRT) (National Plan of Labour Regulation). The goal of this plan is to combat unregistered employment by the reorganization of the controlling capacity of the state. Controls made between the years 2005 and 2006 involved a total of 238,000 enterprises and 749,000 workers.

Another action performed with the purpose of reducing unregistered employment is the implementation of the Programa de Simplificación Registral (Simple Registration Program), which defines a new enrolment scheme that offers a unique procedure which facilitates workers registration, employers identification and the control over the fulfilment of the provisions in effect, making the registration procedures easier so as to reduce informal work.

At the same time, during the year 2006, actions oriented to improve the reinsertion of unemployed who were facing the biggest difficulties to access quality employment were implemented. With this purpose, it was implemented the Seguro de Capacitación y Empleo (Insurance for Training and Employment), whose goals are the support in the active search of employment and improvement in the training and the job capacities. Between the designed benefits there can be mentioned labor intermediation which links demands of the companies and the capacities of unemployed, formation and job training and guidance on work to unemployed persons.

In an articulated way in these initiatives, it is carried out the development and strengthening and the Red de Servicios de Empleo (Employment Services Network) that creates and articulates the Municipal Employment Offices. The task of the offices interrelates the set of tools of active employment policies and job opportunities arising in the private sector of the economy with unemployed persons or those who are seeking to improve their labor situation giving information and orientation for the job and training on a free basis. At the same time, they are a means of information and access to different social programs that the State carries out with the aim of improving employment and the condition of being employed. In this sense, the services are oriented to out-of-work persons, active workers who need to change their job and enterprises or employers who need to hire staff. At present, the Services of Employment Network has 168 offices of Municipal Employment opened all over the country.

The “National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor” (Plan Nacional para la Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil) which was set forth in the year

2006 has as a general objective to prevent and eradicate children employment in every possible way, through the development of actions that enable the participation of different social organizations in the country.

The plan has as an objective to become the reference framework for programs and national, provincial and local projects connected directly or indirectly with prevention and eradication of child labor. It has the intention of being a tool that –within the provisions made effective at national and international levels- points out possible orientations of actions to be fulfilled. Between their specific goals it is settled a model of intervention that contemplates awareness over the seriousness of the problem of child employment, the comprehensive approach, the multisectors participation, the constitution of social networks and the intervention in the local level. It also privileges the strengthening of family group, adults' job insertion and also boys and girls educational inclusion.

To conclude, it continues with the development and strengthening of Employment Services Network that creates and articulates the Municipal Job Offices. The task of the offices is to interrelate the set of tools of active labor policies and the creation of job opportunities arising in the private sector of the economy with unemployed persons or those who are trying to improve their job situation, providing information and guidance about employment and training at no cost. At the same time, they are a means of information and access to the different social programs implemented by the State, in order to increase employment and the condition of being employed. In this sense, their services are oriented to out-of-work persons; active workers who need to change their job or employers who require to hire staff. At the present, the Employment Services Network has 168 Offices of Municipal Employment opened all over the country.

Challenges

In the year 2006 substantive advances were achieved in the promotion of decent employment. In this year there was a reduction in employment incidence and in job precariousness, at the same time that there were registered rises in the salaries.

In spite of the improvements, there still continues an important lack of decent employment in Argentina; which is reflected in the existing gap between the present values of certain follow up indicators as regards the final goal established for 2015. In this sense, the challenges which will demand the biggest efforts in the following years are focused on the reduction of unregistered employment rate to less than 30.0%, on extending the coverage of social programs to 60.0% of the unemployed population and on the definitive eradication of child labor. It is due to these challenges that the National State through the Ministry of Work, Employment and Social Security will go deeper into their policies and actions in the next years.

Table 3.2. Follow up indicators: intermediate and final goals.

Indicator	Goals	
	2007	2015
Unemployment rate	12.0	<10.0
Proportion of workers earning salaries below the total Basic Basket	48.0	<30.0
Percentage unemployed population with social security coverage	28.0	60.0
Unregistered employment rate	39.0	<30.0
Children Employment Rate (5 to 14 years of age)	3.0	Eradicate

Source: Subsecretaría de Programación Técnica y Estudios Laborales, MTEySS. Secretary of Technical Programs and Labor Studies.

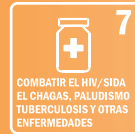


3



GOAL 4

PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY



Argentine Goals

Reach by 2015 a higher gender equity by the better economic participation of women and the narrowing of the gap in the salaries between men and women, while keeping the levels of gender equality achieved until 2000 in the educational sector.

Increase women's participation in decision-taking levels (in companies and public and private institutions).

Introduction

It has been recognized that gender equity, apart from being a goal itself, constitutes a condition for the achievement of the established goals and objectives. On one hand, the specific Millennium Development Goal on gender focuses on decisive matters for the equity which have an impact not only on women's lives but on the whole society as well.

In Argentina there are registered important achievements as regards gender equity, but there are still some challenges left. The goals of educational equity have been achieved and there is a favourable tendency in many of the follow up indicators. Nevertheless, it is necessary to guarantee that the advances in the educational equality are reflected in a more balanced insertion of women in labor market, an improvement in salary equities and higher participation in decision-taking sectors.

Current Situation and Trends

The following table shows the current situation and their evolution in the period 2000 – 2006.

Table 4.1. Follow up Indicators. Years 2000-2006.

Indicators	Year						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Female percentage in the EGB and Polymodal educational level, combined. Urban Total (*)	93.6	97.7	101.4	95.2	104.0	98.0	96.0
Female ratio in EGB and Polymodal, Terciary and University educational level, combined. Urban Total (*)	101.4	103.7	106.7	102.2	111.3	104.2	111.0
Literacy percentage of men 15-24 of age. Urban Total (*)	99.1	99.2	99.1	99.3	99.8	99.2	99.4
Literacy percentage of women 15-24 of age. Urban Total (*)	99.4	99.3	99.5	99.6	99.9	99.5	99.5
Share of women in wage employments in the non-agricultural sector. Urban Total (*)	40.1	40.3	41.3	43.0	42.6	42.5	42.4
Income wages gap between women and men. Urban Total (*)	0.76	0.76	0.77	0.71	0.66	0.66	0.70
Ratio between women and men in private and public executive positions. Urban Total (*)	0.50	0.53	0.55	0.45	0.40	0.35	0.41
Percentage of seats held by women in the National Congress (**)	n/d	30.6	30.6	35.3	35.3	35.0	n/d
Percentage of seats occupied by women in the Provincial Legislatures (**)	22.2	22.1	22.1	26.1	26.6	26.6	n/d

Note: s/d No data

Source: Elaboración del SIEMPRO en base a datos EPH- INDEC. Made by SIEMPRO based on data EPH-INDEC. (**) Elaboración del Consejo Nacional de la Mujer (CNM) a partir de datos de Poderes Legislativos Nacional y Poderes Legislativos Provinciales. Made by the National Women Council (CNM) on data of the National Legislative Powers and Provincial Legislative Powers

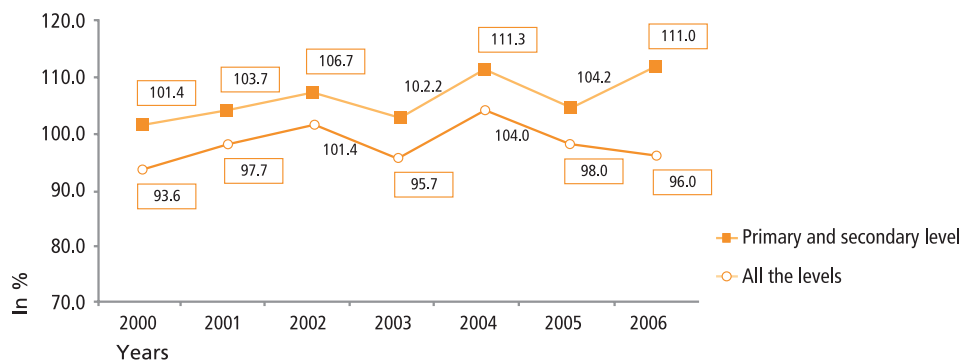
Participation in education

The access to education is one condition to promote welfare and complete social insertion of women. It not only constitutes a factor which is potentially promoter of the best possibilities of economic participation but it also contributes to the real exercise of decision-taking on essential aspects of their life (chores, cultural issues, citizenship exercise, among others).

The formal education has, in the country, a wide coverage between women and it has stayed the same in the last years. The lesser female presence in the levels of EGB and Polymodal may be explained due to demographic factors, as at those ages, the reason of femininity of the population is 96.8%. Nevertheless, should all levels be considered, including the higher

level (tertiary and university) women's participation is substantially higher than men's participation according to all the reference years. In the year 2006 in the scholastic attendance in the upper level, the ratio of femininity was almost 124.0 and 110.0 considering all levels jointly (graph 4.1).

Graph 4.1. Female ratio in the different levels of formal education. Total urban. Years 2000 - 2006



Source: Made by CNM with data of SIEMPRO based on data provided by EPH-INDEC.

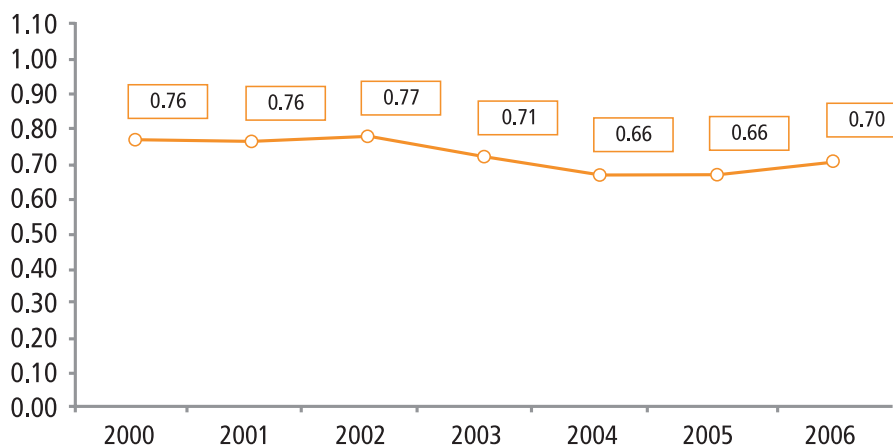
In spite to this parity –and even this feminine superiority- in the educational formation, the job sub-qualification affects with higher intensity to women. In the second semester of 2006 the percentage of sub qualified women (identified as women with secondary level or higher that perform non-qualified activities) was of 17.1% while that between the men, this situation affected the 10.5% of employees (according to data provided by EPH-INDEC).

Economic Participation

The share of women in the total of paid employment within the scope of the non-agricultural sector shows a relatively sustained behaviour during the last years: going from 40.1% in the year 2000, to 42.4% in 2006. The highest peak is registered in the year 2003 where it reached 43.0%.

The occupational structure continues showing differential gender features. Women are overrepresented in non-qualified occupations like the domestic employment and in the greater majority of services and the counterpart relates to the manufacturing, financial and real estate-related services. The disadvantageous participation of women in the labor market is evidenced in a tangible way in the differences in the wages they earn compared to men. Although that in the long term this gap has been closing, during the last years there have been fluctuations that keep on showing important differences between men and women. In this period the nearest values between these groups are registered during the economic crisis of 2001 – 2002, which may mean that the differences become smaller when men's income decreases.

Graph 4.2. Evolution of the income wages gap between men and women. Total Urban Years 2000-2006.



Source: Made by CNM with data of SIEMPRO based on data provided by EPH-INDEC.

Participation in top management positions in the public and private sectors

Considering the indicator reached by the data provided by the EPH, women share in hierarchical positions (that includes school headmistresses, bank managers and even business women) registers a sustained decrease from 2002 to 2005 (going from 55.0% to 35.0% respectively) to grow from 35.0% to 41.0% in 2006. Due to the situations heterogeneity contemplated by this indicator it is difficult to explain these fluctuations but once again the highest women's presence in those positions is registered in the period of the economic crisis of 2001-2002 (with 53% and 55% respectively), which might be associated to an expulsion or fall of these positions specially when they are connected to private sectors or the industry where men are more likely to take part.

Political participation

As a result of the Ley de Cupo (Quotas Law) passed in 1991 and their ruling decrees, in the elections of the year 2004 it was exceeded the level of 30.0% and reached the level of the Chamber of Deputies of the Nation to 35.0% and the seats of the Senators 42.0%, with previous registers to the application of the law of 6.2% and 4.4% respectively. The achieved percentages are still in effect and also a woman holds the position of First Vice-president of the Chamber of Deputies. In the month of October of 2007 there will be a new election for the renewal of the National Congress, in the greater part of the provincial legislatures, in the Presidency of the Nation, governors and local governments; therefore only from that moment there will be the possibility to assess the results of participation of male and women in the legislative scenario.

At the level of the Executive Powers the women share in decision-taking positions is low. Nevertheless, the National Executive Power has incorporated women in charge of strategic areas as it is the case of the Ministries of Social Development, Defence and previously Economy, and at present there are registered seven women who are in charge of Secretaries of State, including the Environment Secretary. On the other hand, 38.0% of the National Positions with executive functions which are registered in the different levels are performed by women.

Other positions of relevance that have been occupied by women in the current Government administration are the President of the Banco Nación and of the Banco Hipotecario Sociedad Anónima, the Instituto Nacional de Jubilados y Pensionados (National Social Security Institute) and the National Anti-Discrimination Institute and the National Agency of Investments Development.

Participation in the private sector

In the sector of the private relationships there has been an advance in the definition of seats quota to enable an easier access of women to leading positions. The Law on Trade Union Quotas has begun to be implemented with a variety of results. According to data of the Secretary of Syndicate Affairs of MTESS for the month of July 2006, women held 21.76% of the total of the positions in the syndicates, federations and confederations; but in every case women's participation grows as it descends the hierarchy of charges. Among the positions of general secretary they occupy 9.4%; while in the scale of secretaries, sub secretaries and board members they reached 24.6%. At the level of General Labour Confederation (CGT) out of 22 secretaries, 4 are held by women. Out of the 5 members of the Account Audit Commission one is a woman, while in the Centre of Argentine Workers (CTA) of 19 secretaries, 6 are occupied by women.

The Public School of Lawyers is a positive example of women's higher participation. At present, women take part in the following organs: Board of Directors, in the charges of first vice-president and second and in the pro secretary; Delegate Assembly, the First Vice-president

and the Secretary of Records and the Discipline Court, the first and second presidency and vice-presidency. It is also worth mentioning the Consejo Profesional de Ciencias Económicas de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires (National Council of Economic Sciences of the City of Buenos Aires) which has raised the participation of women in the leading organs: in the Board of Directors Table of 7 members, where 3 are women who hold the office of first and second vice-president and the treasurer.

On the other hand, the women's participation in the business organizations continues being very low; and there are also registered no important amendments as regards a greater women's share in leading positions in the public and private universities.

Programs and Supporting Actions

For the fulfilment of the Convention about the Elimination of Every Form of Discrimination against women (CEDAW), with constitutional rank, the National Women Council (CNM) of the National Government designs, proposes and implements public policies tending to achieve the gender equality and equity goal in coordination with other governmental areas and with the provinces represented in the Federal Women Council (Consejo Federal de la Mujer). The women's organizations participate in different activities or as the projects' beneficiaries.

The main work axis refers to the promotion of women's rights : perspective of gender, rights, citizenship and political participation; productive insertion; reproductive health and responsible procreation; prevention and care of violence against women and institutional strengthening of the women's areas , provincial and municipal and of the organization of the civil society.

The National Program "Woman, Equity and Work" (MET) continues being implemented all over the country. It provides the possibility to women for getting job opportunities and the generation of genuine income, at the same time that strengthens their autonomy and decision capacity. It promotes creation of networks, organization of a data base of productive projects and survey of sources of credit and/or sponsors for productive development. It articulates with the Plan Manos a la Obra and with the National Promotion of the Microcredit for the Social Economy Fund that has as main objective the access to credit of excluded sectors, strengthening Social Economy and Local Development.

The National Program of Training, Technical Assistance and Awareness about Violence against Women of the CNM (Programa Nacional de Capacitación, Asistencia técnica y Sensibilización sobre la Violencia contra las Mujeres) has made progress with different actions to position gender violence in the national and provincial public agenda. Thus, it has been presented the National Guide of Resources and Services for the Attention of Women Victims of Domestic Violence, by provinces, to provide information and deviation through the other areas of women and technical assistance for the implementation of Guidance, Attention and Deviation Offices of cases of violence against women and the development of institutional and social networks. It has been implemented the proposal of extension of the Unified Register of Domestic Violence Cases to national and provincial public organisms and to the security forces.

There have also been trained more than 1500 agents of the security forces all over the country on violence against women within the National Program of Training, Educational Assistance and Professional Update of Police and Security Forces depending on the Domestic Security Council and they presented a proposal of Protocol with the aim of optimising the attention, support and deviation of women victims of violence.

There have also been diffusion Campaigns of high impact articulated with the Media Secretary of the Presidency of the Nation, the Secretary of Social Communication of the Social Ministry

of Social Development, the Provincial Women Areas and the participation of civil society organizations and social movements: publication of graphic products about “the rights to live a life free from violence” in national newspapers, cultural magazines and general interests as well as posters in the streets, banners and informative leaflets (2006-2007).

There has been opened an Observatory of Discrimination that sends out alerts about gender discrimination and violence with the radial and television media and it has been signed an agreement between Federal Committee of broadcasting (COMFER), the National Institute against Discrimination (INADI) and the National Women Council.

It has been developed, in all the country, the Program Juana Azurduy of the National Council of Coordination of Social Policies (CNCPS), about the promotion of women’s rights.

The Tripartite Commission of Quality Treatment and Opportunities between men and women in the labour world –CTIO- has created a Guidance Office on Job Violence that includes sexual harassment and that performed the corresponding deviations as well as the installation of Tripartite Commissions in 6 provinces.

It has been launched in the year 2006 the Program “Victims against Violence” depending on the Domestic Affairs Ministry in which different dependencies of the Federal Police and specialized professionals participate.

There continues the Federal Women Program for the institutional strengthening of provincial and municipal women areas, other governmental areas and civil society organizations , and there have been held Six Regional Meetings over “Policies and Strategies for Gender Equity in the Framework of Local Development”, that covered all the country and nine seminars –workshops on “Awareness about Gender Discrimination ”, addressed to officers or governmental areas, at national and provincial level (Defence, Social Development, Security Secretary, Family Plans, etc.), celebrated with the Association of Female Magistrates of the Argentine Republic.

It was finished in the year 2006 the Program of Promotion of Family Strengthening and the Social Capital addressed to support local management capacities and associative networks for the design and execution of projects to strengthen families in a poverty condition with a focus on gender. There were in total 217 projects for an amount of approximately U\$S 3,900,000, allotted to 140,000 direct beneficiaries. The main issues worked were: Reproductive Health, Gender Violence, Rights and Productive Projects Promotion. It is the aim to constitute thematic networks with governmental and non-governmental organizations that participated.

Challenges

As regards the gender equality and equity, a great part of the goals 2007 and also the part of the proposals for the 2015 have been accomplished.

Nevertheless, if you take as a reference the goals fixed for 2015, there can still seen some challenges left: as regards the participation indicators in non-agricultural jobs, there is a sustained tendency towards their accomplishment; with reference to the income gap, although in every year the expected goal for 2007 is overcome, the indexes are still below those designed for 2015 and the same happens with the participation indicators in hierarchical positions.

In connection to political participation, the goals until 2007 have already been achieved in advance in the national legislatures. In relation to the provincial legislatures there do not exist

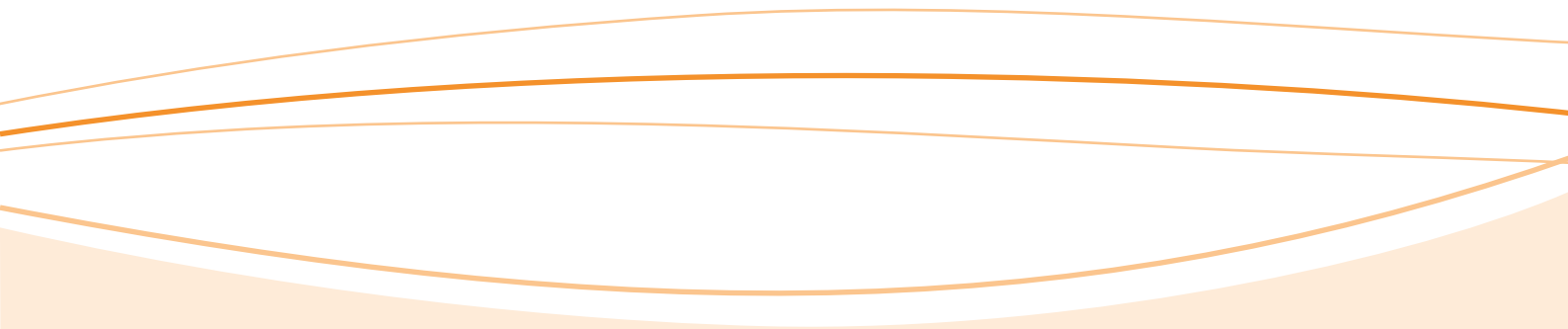
any updated information as they are undergoing an election process at national level which will end in the month of October; due to this the goals shall be assessed at the end of that process.

Table 4.2. Follow up indicators: intermediate and final goals.

Indicators	Goals	
	Year	
	2007	2015
Femininity ratio in EGB and Polymodal. Urban Total (*)	100.0%	100.0%
Femininity ratio in EGB and Polymodal, Terciary and University. Urban Total (*)	100.0%	100.0%
Male ratio 15-24 literate. Urban Total (*)	100.0%	100.0%
Female ratio 15-24 literate. Urban Total (*)	100.0%	100.0%
Ratio of women with remunerated jobs of non-agricultural sector. Urban Total (*)	40.0%	45.0%
Income wages gap between women and men. Urban Total (*)	0,6	0,8
Ratio between women and men in private and public hierarchical positions. Urban Total (*)	0,4	0,6
Percentage of seats occupied by women in the National Congress (**)	30.0%	45.0%
Percentage of seats occupied by women in the Provincial Legislatures (**)	30.0%	45.0%

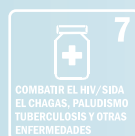
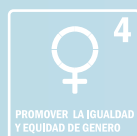
Source: Consejo Nacional de la Mujer, Presidencia de la Nación National Women Council Office of the President.

As regards the pending challenges, there is a proposal to continue deepening the achieved agreements with the organisms that produce information and the different representatives of the government, for the inclusion of gender equality and equity as matters of interest of every and each of the sectors related to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. In the same way, the governments and the provincial gender areas should be encouraged so that equity achievements are evidenced at national level were reflected in an equitable and homogeneous way in the different provinces and places of the country.



GOAL 5

REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY



Argentine Goals

Reduce by two-thirds child mortality rate and the mortality of children under 5 from 1990 to 2015.

Reduce disparity among provinces to 10%.

Introduction

Child mortality should be understood as a biological result of a process that is strongly connected to the economic and social structure of the country or region, because a child's development is very sensitive to the life conditions that their society may offer and it registers notorious regional specifications.

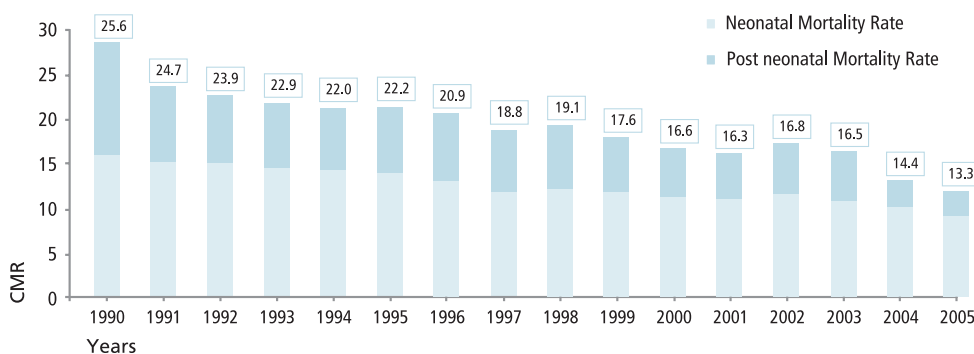
The reduction of child mortality has occupied a priority place among the goals designed by the National Government and due to that there has been implemented a set of policies addressed to reduce mortality rates based on the neonatal mortality, post neonatal and children under 5. Among other adopted actions, there has been done some work on prevention and treatment at due time of the different pathologies with the highest incidence on children's health. Besides, the improvement has been promoted in every health care level, although there has been a special emphasis on primary level.

These actions are outlined in the Millennium Development Goals for the year 2015, in which there is established as a goal the reduction by two-thirds of the infant mortality rates and the mortality rates of children under 5 years old, together with the narrowing of the gaps among the provinces. Nevertheless, the commitment adopted by Argentina is higher and it is expressed in the goals and follow up indicators proposed for 2007, developed as follows.

Current Situation and Trends

In Argentina, in the framework of the Federal Health Plan, it has been established as an intermediate goal for the year 2007 to reach a child mortality rate of 12.6 per one thousand live births which has been practically accomplished according to the trend shown by such indicator up to this moment.

Gráph.5.1. Child Mortality Rate (per a thousand live births). Total country. Years 1990-2005.



Source: Dirección de Estadísticas e Información en Salud. Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

In the year 2005 child mortality rate was 13.3 children per a thousand live births, evidencing in this way a clear reduction compared to the 25.6 registered in 1990. It is very notorious that the child mortality should be understood according to its components, neonatal and post-neonatal mortality, which have also followed a descending trend during the analyzed period, but with a higher average development of the neonatal. Among the implemented actions to achieve such a reduction, there must be noted the relevance of promotion of diagnosis and due treatment actions carried out during the pregnancy, labor and puerperium.

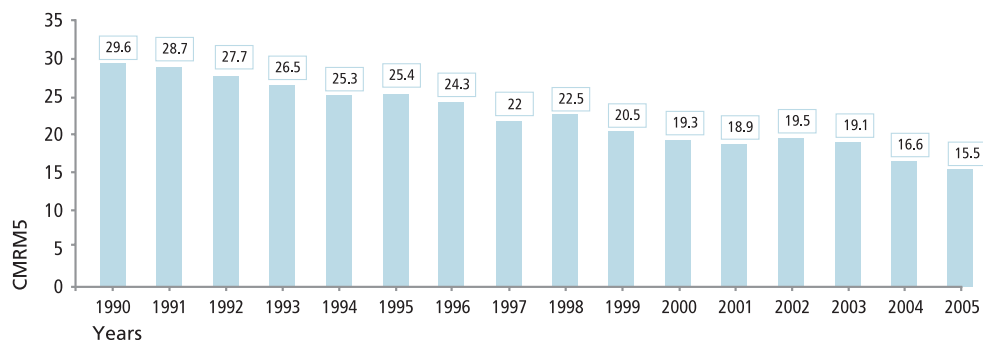
Rate reduction continues in the year 2006 as child mortality was placed in 12.9 decreases per each thousand live births and due to this, the goal for 2007 is almost about to be accomplished.

⁴ Sources of the Federal Health Plan 2004-2007. Office of the President, Argentina, 2004

⁵ The factors prevailing in the neonatal mortality are associated to both congenital and health care conditions (the mother's health, pregnancy control, assistance during delivery and the baby's first days of life). In post-neonatal mortality, environmental and social-economic conditions have a greater impact on the infants' health.

It is worth mentioning that the Graph 5.1 has been made without the inclusion of this last data because at the moment of this publication there were no neonatal and post-neonatal mortality rates.

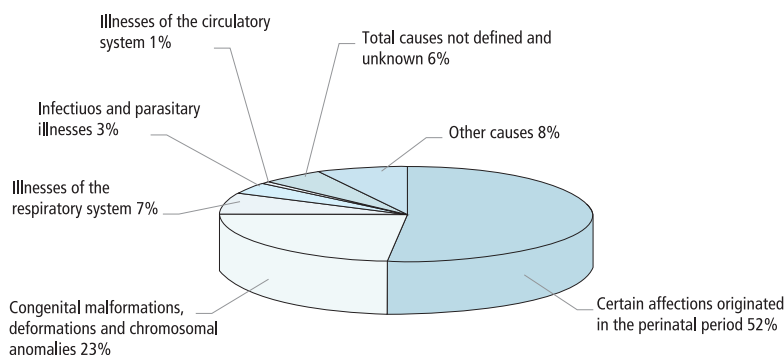
Gráfico 5.2. Child Mortality Rate of minors under 5 years of age (per a thousand live births). Total country Years 1990-2005



Source: Dirección de Estadísticas e Información en Salud. Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

As regards the causes that determined child mortality during 2005, it can be seen in the following graphic that there are predominant affections originated in the perinatal period as they represent more than 50% of child deceases, followed by congenital malformations, deformities and chromosomal abnormalities, that as the whole, represent almost a 20%.

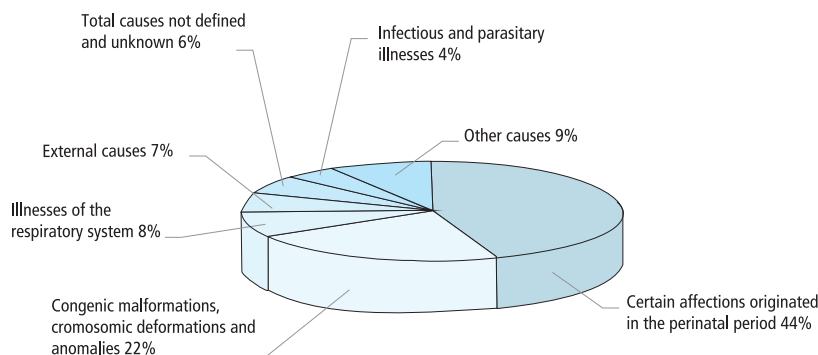
Gráfico 5.3. Main causes of Child Mortality. Total Country Year 2005.



Source: Dirección de Estadísticas e Información en Salud. Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. Direction of Statistics and Information on Health. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

Besides, the causes of children under 5 mortality show in some groups similar percentages to the ones seen for child mortality causes, because of the significant importance of deceases of children under 1 compared to the total of children under 5.

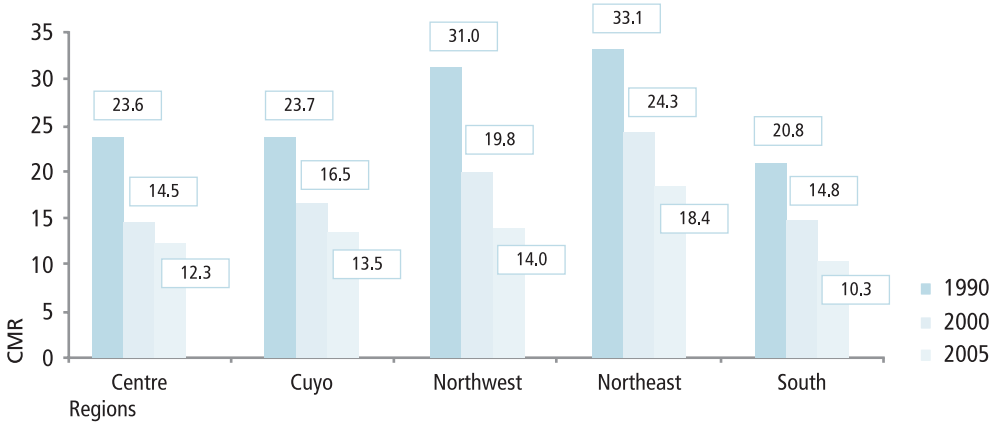
Gráfico 5.4. Main causes of Mortality in minors of 5 years of age. Total Country. Year 2005.



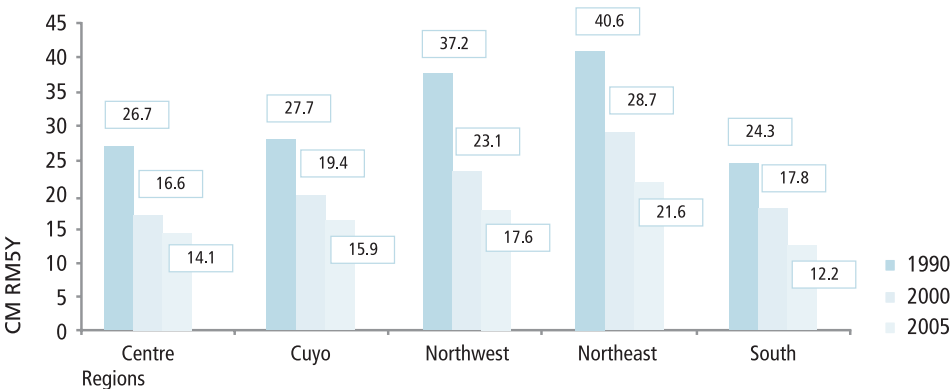
Source: Dirección de Estadísticas e Información en Salud. Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

Besides, the analysis of child mortality evolution should be approached by gaps study of the human development that co exist within the limits of Argentina which is possible by establishing a division of 5 regional groups taking into consideration territorial logics and resources.

Graph 5.5. Child Mortality Rate per region (per a thousand live births) Years 1990, 2000 and 2005⁶



Graph 5.6. Child Mortality Rate of Minors of 5 years of age per region (per a thousand live births) Years 1990, 2000 and 2005



Source: Dirección de Estadísticas e Información en Salud. Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

The regions of Northwestern of Argentina and Northeastern of Argentina are the ones that show the least favorable social indicators, as it is evidenced in the relatively high children mortality rates and mortality rate of children under 5, compared with the rest of the regions of the country. Nevertheless, during 1990’s, such indicators had experienced a relatively higher reduction for these regions as regards the rest which is an advantageous sign of the work performed lately to reduce disparity among provinces.

The national government has incorporated the Gini Coefficient as an indicator to measure the inequity of the distribution of children mortality rate among the provinces and in this way to monitor their evolution. Such coefficient reached a peak of 0.130 in the year 2002 which represents its highest level of inter-provincial inequality since the beginning of 1990’s, which has been due to the socio-economic crisis of 2001-2002. Nevertheless, in very little time the trend could be modified, verifying during 2005 a Gini Coefficient of 0.104, even closer to the registered during 1990 (0.100), achieving also the goal proposed for 2007.

Table 5.1. Gini coefficient for the CMR. Total Country. Years 1990 and 2000-2005.

Years						
1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
0.100	0.124	0.122	0.130	0.118	0.117	0.104

Source: Dirección de Estadísticas e Información en Salud. Ministerio de Salud de la Nación.

⁶ The regions are formed as follows: Región Centro (Central Region): Buenos Aires, Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (CABA), Córdoba, Santa Fe and Entre Ríos; Región Cuyo (Cuyo Region): La Rioja, San Juan, San Luis and Mendoza; Región Noroeste (Argentina) (NOA) (Northwestern Region): Catamarca, Santiago del Estero, Tucumán, Jujuy and Salta; Región Noreste Argentina (NEA) (Northeastern Region): Formosa, Chaco, Corrientes, and Misiones; Región Sur (South Region): Tierra del Fuego, Santa Cruz, Río Negro, La Pampa, Neuquén and Chubut.

For the case of mortality of children under 5 years old, distribution among the provinces has had a similar behavior related to children mortality rate. Nevertheless, in 2005 Gini coefficient was already placed below its value in 1990 and the one proposed for the year 2007.

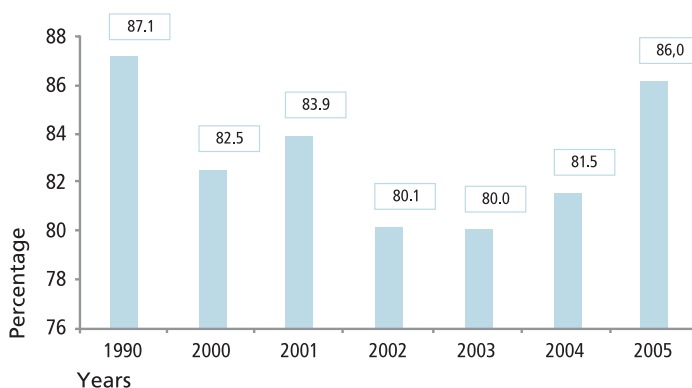
Table 5.2. Gini coefficient for CMR under 5. Total Country. Years 1990 and 2000-2005

Years						
1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
0.113	0.126	0.127	0.132	0.120	0.118	0.102

Source: Dirección de Estadísticas e Información en Salud. Ministerio de Salud de la Nación Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

The National Immunization Program is a joint initiative of the Nation and the provinces with the purpose of achieving universal vaccination coverage in all the national territory to reduce mortality and morbidity rates by control and eradication of immune-predictable diseases. In this sense, the percentage of 18 months of age children vaccinated with all the doses of triple Viral vaccine or quadruple (DBThib) vaccine was placed in 86% in the year 2005, percentage consistent with the goal established in the MDG, where it is expected to reach higher coverage than 90% for the year 2015.

Graph 5.7. Percentage of children of 18 months of age with all the doses of triple/ quadruple vaccine. Total Country. Years 1990 and 2000-2005

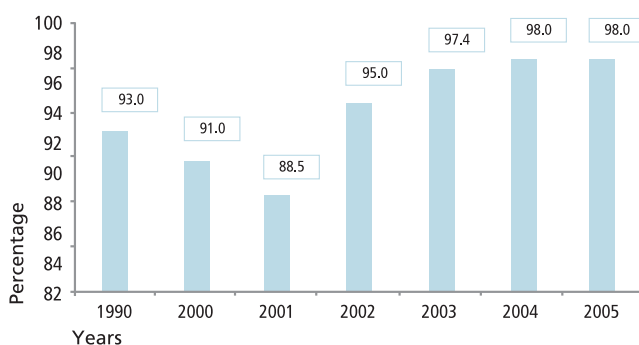


Source: Departamento de Inmunizaciones. Ministerio de Salud de la Nación Immunizations Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

Among substantive actions developed during 2006, by the National Calendar of Vaccination together with the different campaigns focused on this, it was possible to maintain high levels of immunity in children population.

In the same sense, the level of vaccine coverage against measles in under-one children accounts for a growing tendency as from the year 1990.

Graph 5.8. Percentage of children of one year of age vaccinated against measles. Total Country. Years 1990 and 2000-2005



Source: Departamento de Inmunizaciones. Ministerio de Salud de la Nación Immunizations Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

Although there have been significant setbacks by the end of 1990's, in 2005 it was reached a growing percentage over 98%, higher than the coverage goal of 95% established for 2015.

Programs and Supporting Actions

With the objective of strengthening the national sanitary system, the President of the Nation together with the Federal Health Counseling (COFESA) agreed in the year 2004 the implementation of the Federal Health Plan, where there have been established the health goals projected up to 2007, and because of that they have joined their efforts to perform several actions in accordance to what has been established in the Millennium Development Goals.

The Federal Health Plan (Plan Federal de Salud) has intended to redesign the sanitary model arising from the construction and strengthening of health care networks, in the pursuit of a better efficiency and equity when rendering the public service and the increase of population coverage. Within this framework there were evenly fixed goals for 2007 related to the reduction of children and under-five mortality for the total of the country, simultaneously with the narrowing of the gap among the provinces. The current results of children and under-five mortality account for that the country has almost achieved the proposed goals.

Among the main programs designed in the area of COFESA it is worth mentioning: the Newly-born Plan (Plan Nacer), the Perinatal Health Program (Programa de Salud Perinatal), the Integral Child Health Program (Programa de Salud Integral del Niño), the National Immunizations Program (Programa Nacional de Inmunizaciones), the National Measles Program (Programa Nacional de Sarampión), the Project of Essential Functions (de Funciones Esenciales), and Public Health Programs (Programas de Salud Pública) and the National Food and Nutritional Education Program (Programa Nacional de Educación Alimentaria y Nutricional).

Globally, such programs have the aim of improving the health system in every level by the transfer of financial resources and basic supplies from the central level to the provinces with the purpose of improving care and development of human resources improvement programs and tasks coordination. Such actions point to the priority goal of achieving universal child population access to a qualified sanitary care system in due time, for which the actions have been focusing specially on the most vulnerable sectors.

During the year 2007 it has been implemented the Essential Functions Project and Public Health Programs (Proyecto de Funciones Esenciales y Programas de Salud Pública), which arose as the national government initiative to give an answer to the new challenges of the health area. Their goals are to assure universal coverage and reduce mortality and morbidity of the population due to exposure to risk factors, emphasizing in their application in a Priority Set of Public Health Programs (Conjunto Priorizado de Programas de Salud Pública). For that, the main actions consist in strengthening the Nation and Provincial ruling capacity to fulfill the essential health functions and to carry out the programs, improving the federal infrastructure, incorporating modifications in the administration and providing financial support that assures the supplies availability.

Challenges

The values achieved at present by children and under-five mortality rates indicators as well as the inter provincial distribution gaps account for a clear tendency towards their fulfillment.

Table 5.3. Follow up indicators: intermediate and final goals

Indicador	Goals	
	2007	2015
Infant Mortality Rate	12.6	8.5
Children under 5 Mortality Rate	14.6	9.9
Gini Coefficient applied to Child Mortality Rate	0.116	0.090
Gini Coefficient applied to Children under 5 Mortality Rate	0.117	0.102

Source: Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

GOAL 6

IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH



Argentine Goals

Reduce maternal mortality by three-quarters from 1990 to 2015.

Reduce disparity among provinces in 10%.

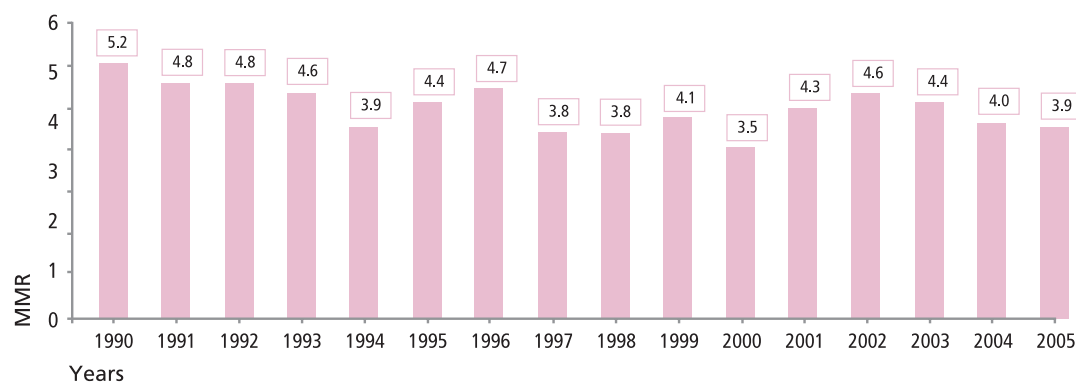
Introduction

The reduction of maternal mortality has a priority place in the national sanitary agenda. To fulfill such a goal, from the National government, there have been structured actions from a comprehensive overview of women's health during the different stages of their vital cycle and based on the knowledge that a high percentage of deceases can be reduced by preventive actions and the adequate care during pregnancy and delivery. As regards the causes of maternal mortality, it is influenced both by biological factors and socio- economical conditions and basically health care: access and quality. The first ones are associated with natural pregnancy-inherent risks, while the second ones arise from the environment and access disparities to sanitary services.

Current Situation and Trends

Maternal mortality rate shows a slightly decreasing tendency during the period 1990-2005.

Graph 6.1. Maternal Mortality Rate (per 10.000 live births). Total Country. Years 1990-2005.

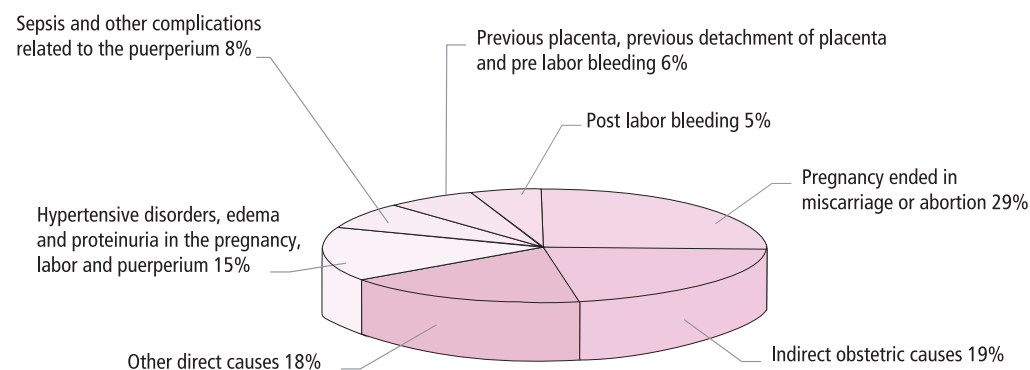


Source: Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

In this way, the value of such indicator reached in 2005, suggests that the accomplishment of the intermediate goal⁷ designed in the Federal Health Plan⁸ for 2007 is likely to be achieved.

Related to causes of maternal mortality in Argentina, pregnancy ending in miscarriage or abortion is in the first place, accounting for a social problem that has been present for years.

Graph 6.2. Causes of Maternal Mortality. Total Country. Year 2005.



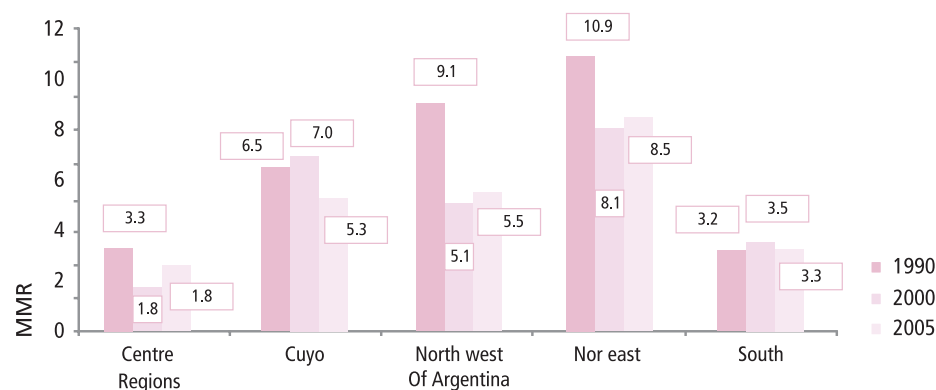
Source: Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

According to data from 2005, the regional distribution of maternal mortality is largely heterogeneous since the poorest provinces are the worst-affected supporting average ratios relatively higher than the rest.

⁷ The Federal Health Plan 2004-2007 set forth the goal of reducing maternal mortality to 3.7 deaths per 10,000 live births for 2007.

⁸ Sources of the Federal Health Plan 2004-2007. Office of the President, Argentina, 2004

Graph 6.3. Maternal Mortality Rate per regions (per 10.000 live births). Total country. Years 1990, 2000 and 2005.



Source: Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

The goal established for the year 2015 of Gini Coefficient reduction to 0.311 has already been reached in 2005 according to what has been outlined in Table 6.1. In spite of such a good performance, it is important to go deeper into the actions so as to reduce even more disparities among provinces.

Table 6.1. Gini Coefficient for the TMM. Total country. Years 1990 and 2000-2005

Years						
1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
0.346	0.436	0.401	0.300	0.363	0.303	0.311

Source: Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

Another proposed indicator for monitoring maternal health goals refers to the percentage of births attended by physicians or midwives, as it is closely related to women risk death to give life. Connected to this, and as it is shown in Table 6.2., it has been years since Argentina reached the goal established for 2015, of coverage of 99% of the deliveries attended by skilled health care personnel.

Table 6.2. Gini Coefficient for the TMM. Total country. Years 1990 and 2000-2005.

Years						
1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
96,9	99,1	98,9	99,0	99,1	99,1	99,1

Source: Statistics and Health Information Department. Ministry of Health of the Nation.

Programs and Supporting Actions

In the framework of the Federal Health Plan and together with the Millennium Development Goals, the Health Ministers all over the country have settled down as an intermediate goal, maternal mortality ratio of 3.7 (per 10000 live births) for the period 2002-2007, commitment that has made the government carry out a wide set of actions in order to guarantee and improve women's health services access through a regional system with equalitarian care and outstanding quality.

Among the implemented policies, it is worth mentioning the focus the attention process not only on physical aspects but also on emotional and social aspects and family-related issues, taking ethnical and cultural differences into consideration. Furthermore, there should be highlighted the promotion of actions tending to guarantee the right of the population to decide on sexual health care and responsible procreation matters (by emphasizing the prevention

of undesired pregnancy and widening the scope of information broadcasts and the access to contraceptive materials) and non-discriminatory, humanized, effective care with coaching for women who have undergone an abortion, with undiscriminating, humanized and effective access to assistance and to guarantee them the access to proper assistance of decriminalized abortion cases by state hospitals.

Besides, there must be noted the actions carried out to strengthen the Primary Health Care Strategy (APS) with the goal of ensuring greater coverage, precocity, periodicity and quality in the prenatal and puerperal control and to guarantee team work with other levels of complexity. In relation to this, it is the aim to provide safe care in the delivery and with management of complications in an emergency (blood transfusion at due time, fully equipped medical facility, etc.). On the other hand, it is promoted surveillance systems consolidation with the goal of providing information to maternal death analysis committees that encourage the diffusion of the proposals and the diagnosis which may arise of them, to create an informative perinatal system and to train health teams and community organizations

For the achievement of such goals, the national government is carrying out a wide set of programs which can be mentioned among many others: National Sexual Health and Responsible Procreation Program, Gender and Reproductive Health Training Plan, Perinatal Health Program, Giving Birth Plan and the Project of Essential Functions and Public Health Programs.

Between the substantive actions performed, it is worth mentioning the National Sexual Health and Responsible Procreation Program which provides technical and financial assistance to the provincial referents so as to strengthen the team work existing and as a consequence of this, the provincial maternal health programs. In addition to this, there was created a Board of Counselors as an aid for guidance and permanent support.

In 2006 the program managed to incorporate all the provinces, including more than 6,100 Health Centers and Hospitals and providing attendance to more than 1.900.000 users. It also assured the coverage for users of the system of social security and health insurance by the Compulsory Medical Program.

Besides, in that year, the National Congress passed the Law No 26.130 of Surgical Contraception and the Law No 26.150 of Integral Sexual Education and it was approved the Facultative Protocol of the Convention for the Elimination of Every kind of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).The Project of Essential Functions and Public Health Programs (FESP), became effective at the beginning of 2007, with the objective of reducing population morbidity and mortality due to exposure to the main risk factors, to promote improvements in the regulatory system and to strengthen the leadership role of the central government in the national public health system. In such context, it is expected the strengthening of the National Sexual Health and Responsible Procreation Program, among others.

Challenges

It is established an important challenge as regards the accomplishment of the goal by 2015 as regards the reduction of maternal mortality rate, a consequence of the difficulties to decrease such ratio has been evidenced not only in Argentina but also worldwide lately.

Table 6.3. Follow up indicators : intermediate and final goals.

Indicators	Goals	
	2007	2015
MMR per ten thousands live births	3.7	1.3
Percentage of live births assisted by medical doctors or midwives	99.0	99.0
Gini Coefficient applied for MMR	0.344	0.311

Source: Ministry of Health of the Nation.

GOAL 7

COMBAT HIV/AIDS, THE CHAGAS DISEASE, TUBERCULOSIS, MALARIA, AND OTHER DISEASES



Argentine Goals

AIDS: Reduce between 2005 and 2015, prevalence of HIV in pregnant women between 15-24 years old in 10%. Reduce, between 2005 and 2015, mortality caused by HIV/AIDS in 12.5% and the incidence rate of HIV/AIDS in 20%. Increase, between 2003 and 2015, the use of preservatives by youths at their last sexual intercourse in 25%.

TUBERCULOSIS: Reduce tuberculosis by 8% annual average. Reduce tuberculosis mortality rate to 10% annual average. Cure 90% of the tuberculosis cases under directly-observed treatment strategy.

Malaria: Keep the Parasitic Annual Index under 1 per 1,000 in risk areas.

Chagas: Certify the interruption of vector transmission of Chagas in 19 provinces.

Introduction

In the Declaration of the Millennium of the year 2000, the world leaders identified a set of infectious illnesses that, due to their incidence over the poorest countries' population, should receive priority care. HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria are some of these affections, to which each country member of the Declaration could incorporate any others taking into consideration their own social reality. Argentina, for example, included the Chagas disease.

Such illnesses are a direct consequence of development gaps that exist among countries and, at the same time, within each territory. The greatest impact of these illnesses concentrates, in general, on communities with greater difficulties to access to dignified living conditions as regards health, nutrition, education and habitat, all of them arising as result of poverty.

All over the world, HIV/AIDS represents a great sanitary challenge due to the quickness it has spread in the last decades. According to the information provided by the World Health Organization, it is estimated that in 2006 there were 4,3 millions of new infected and due to this, the number of persons living with HIV/AIDS would be around 39,5 millions all over the world. At the same time, Tuberculosis has been another one of the illnesses with a notorious propagation in the last years; it is estimated that every year more than 8 millions of persons suffer this illness, while 2 millions of the infected persons die.

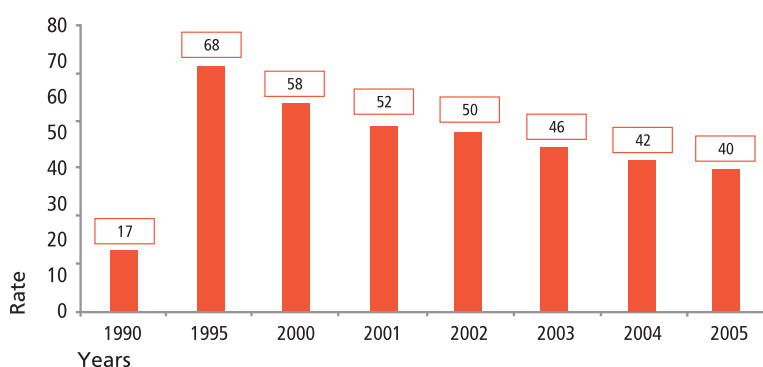
To conclude, the commitment towards world health expressed in the Declaration of the Millennium, together with the goals created for its monitoring, stays clear and in due time, for that reason, it should be refrained with daily nations work and international support.

Current Situation and Trends

At national level, the HIV/AIDS has had two outstanding features. The first one refers to the quickness in which it has evolved in the last two decades, being the incidence rate three times more between 1990 and 1995. On the other hand, it should be important to highlight the change shown in the transmission ways, as up to the first years of the decade of 1990s the main cause was the use of intravenous drugs while at present such a place is held by unprotected sexual intercourses.

However, there can be seen a decreasing tendency in the incidence rate of HIV/AIDS in the last years, which may be attributed to the task performed by the National Program of Fight Against Human Retrovirus (RH) and HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (ETS), focused on strengthening the prevention mechanisms, diagnosis and improvement in the treatment.

Graph 7.1. AIDS incidence Rate (every 1.000.000 inhabitants) Years 1990, 1995 and 2000-2005

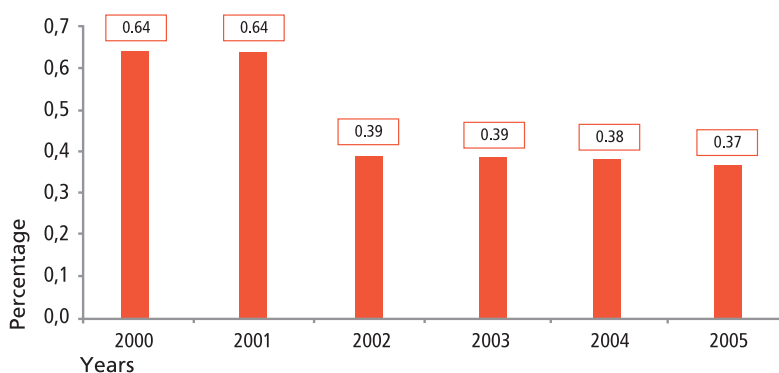


Source: National Program of Fight against HR, AIDS and STD. Ministry of Health of the Nation

The Program has developed in 2006 a set of policies and substantive actions by which it could strengthen provincial strategies focused to broaden access to diagnosis of HIV/AIDS in the general population and for specific groups and to improve the treatment by means of the systematic supply of tests kits and medicines. There was also some work on awareness and prevention of HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases by means of media campaigns, at the same time it started to promote joint strategies development with provincial programs directors.

The HIV incidence rate in pregnant women has been decreasing gradually improvement as from 2005, in spite of the higher rigidity to diminish noted in the last years, compared with the beginnings of the decade. Such a behavior contributes in a significant way for the execution of the goal stated in the Federal Health Plan to reduce maternal mortality rate in Argentina.

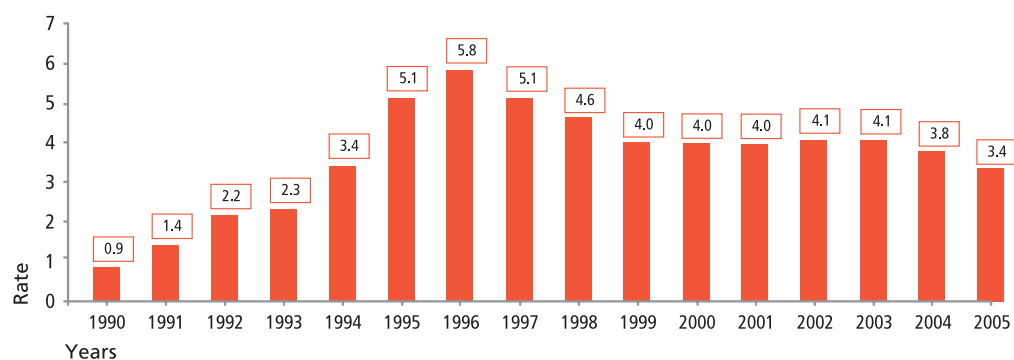
Graph 7.2. Percentage of HIV pregnant women between 15 and 24 years of age with respect of the total of tested pregnant women between 15 and 24. Years 2000-2005



Source: Program of Fight against HR, AIDS and STD. Ministry of Health of the Nation

As regards the evolution of HIV/AIDS mortality rate for the total of the country, it is outlined that after a first stage in which such rate rose in an accelerated way (1990-1996), there was a period in which the tendency reverted, starting a softened decrease phase.

Graph 7.3. HIV/AIDS Mortality rate (per 100.000 inhabitants). Years 1990- 2005

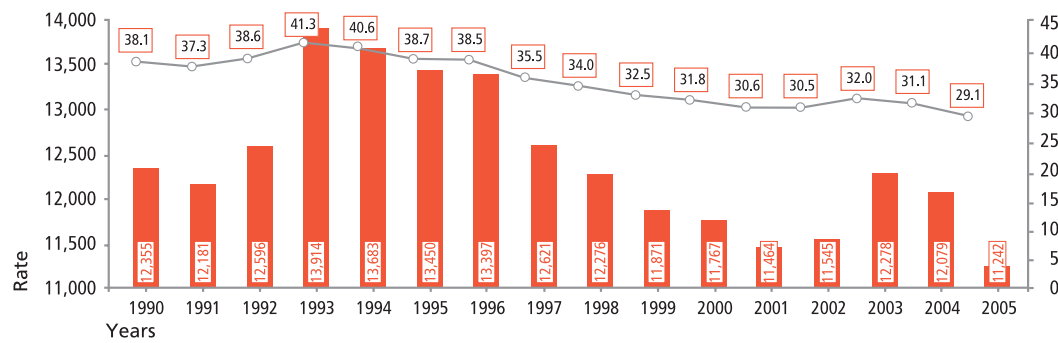


Source: National Program of Fight against HR, AIDS and STD. Ministry of Health of the Nation

With regard to Tuberculosis in all its forms, the Federal Health Plan established as a goal for 2007 the achievement of morbidity ratio of 32.2 persons per 100,000 inhabitants and a mortality rate of 2.1 persons per each 100,000 inhabitants.

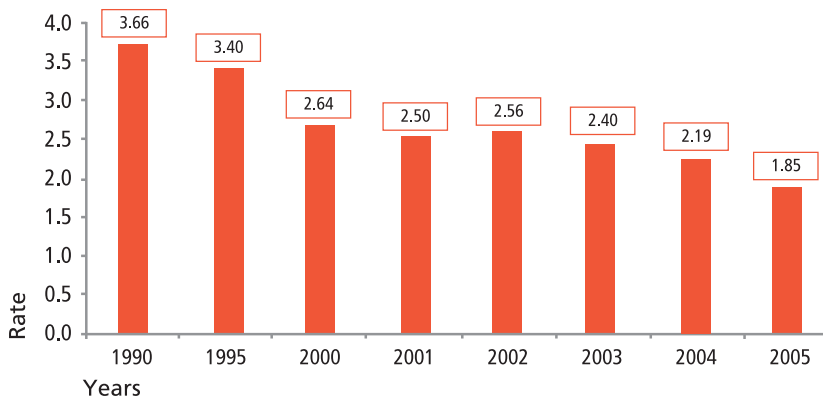
In this sense, the actions designed by the National Government have enabled to fulfill the established goal in such Plan, allowing then to foresee goals execution by the year 2015, settled down in the Millennium Development Goals.

Graph 7.4. Number of cases of Tuberculosis reported and rate per 100.000 inhabitants. Years 1990 -



Source: Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias "Emilio Coni" – Adm. Nac. de Laboratorios e Institutos de Salud (ANLIS) – Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. National Institute of Respiratory Diseases "Emilio Coni". National Administration of Laboratories and Health Institutes (ANLIS) Ministry of Health of the Nation

Graph 7.5. Mortality Rate for Tuberculosis (per 100.000 inhabitants). Years 1990, 1995 and 2000 – 2005

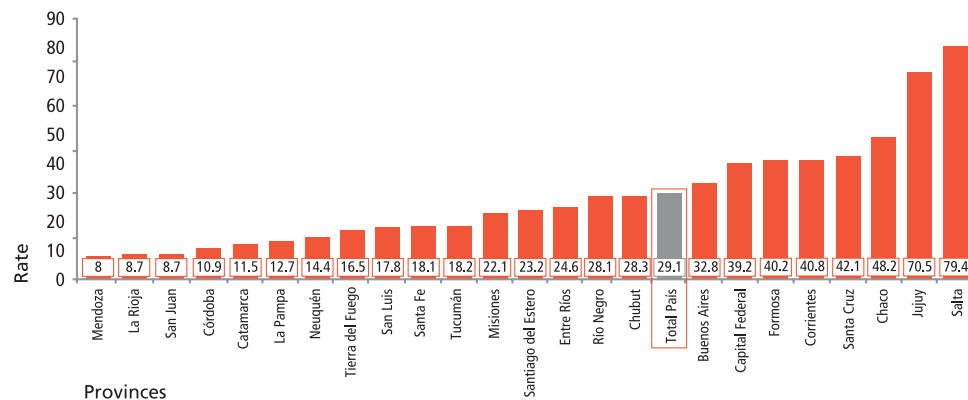


Source: Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias "Emilio Coni" – ANLIS – Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. National Institute of Respiratory Diseases "Emilio Coni". ANLIS Ministry of Health of the Nation

The Tuberculosis control⁹ in Argentina is responsibility of the National Control of Tuberculosis Program (PNCTB). During the last years, this program followed the proposals of the World Program against Tuberculosis designed by the World Health Organization in 1993, in which this illness was declared as a worldwide emergency and they started to promote directly-observed treatment strategies (TAES), at present effective in 24 national jurisdictions.

The geographical distribution of the reported cases of Tuberculosis for the year 2005 indicates that the Northwestern and Northeastern regions of Argentine have the highest indicators, while on the other extreme, it is placed the region of Cuyo. Such a situation is evidenced when comparing provinces investigations where Mendoza, La Rioja and San Juan are the ones which have the lowest ratios, at the same time that Chaco, Jujuy and Salta had to face the least favorable values.

Graph 7.6. Rate of cases of Tuberculosis reported per province (per 100.000 inhabitants). Year 2005

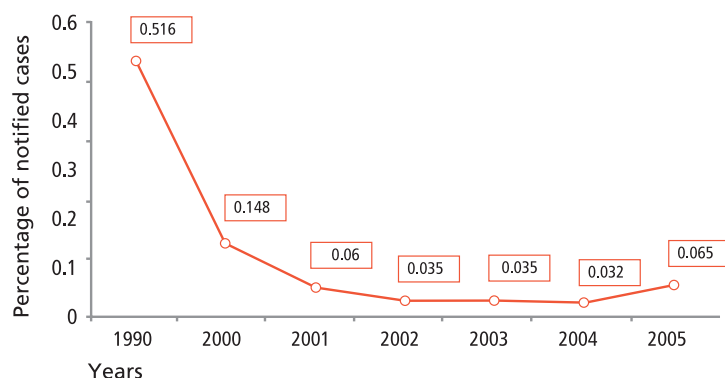


Source: Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias "Emilio Coni" – ANLIS – Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. National Institute of Respiratory Illnesses "Emilio Coni" Ministry of Health of the Nation.

⁹ In 2006, the National Institute of Respiratory Diseases "Emilio Coni" was appointed as the Coordination Center of the OPS/OMS in epidemiology and Tuberculosis Control. From the Micro-bacteria Service of the National Institute of Infectious Diseases it was transferred to the World Health Organization the legal rules designed to monitor the tuberculosis culture quality which were adopted worldwide and it was assumed the coordination of the supranational net of Tuberculosis Laboratories in Latin America.

The situation as regards Malaria has improved significantly in the last years, evidencing no mortality ratios and from 2004 diminishing morbidity ratios in the affected regions, a result of sanitary policies strengthening, designed to control the infection by means of Malaria Program National Control.

Graph 7.7. Evolution of Parasite Annual Index. Total country. Years 1990 and 2000-2005



Note: The figures do not coincide with the one Publisher in "Report Pais 2005" due to changes in the measurement methodology of the Index

Source: Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias "Emilio Coni" – ANLIS – Ministerio de Salud de la Nación. . National Institute of Respiratory Diseases "Emilio Coni". ANLIS Ministry of Health of the Nation

Although Malaria Parasite Annual Index (IPA) has had a slight rebound during 2005, its level is placed below the fixed goal, which consisted in value reduction of Parasite Annual Index under 0.1% (Federal Health Plan, 2004).

There have always been important efforts related to the Chagas disease; nevertheless we are still far from achieving the goal established for 2015, in which it proposed to certify the interruption of the vector transmission in all the national territory.

In 2005, only five provinces have¹⁰ obtained the certificate that indicates their interruption, over a total of nineteen endemic provinces.

Programs and Supporting Actions

With the aim of reducing the consequences that each illness provokes on the health of the population, in the last four years the Government has carried out a series of specific programs for each of them and at the same time has reinforced others. In general, there have been made huge attempts from the public sectors to promote universal access to quality sanitary service, with emphasis on the information systems and on prevention as well as diagnosis at due time. Because of this, each program considered actions focused on strengthening different levels of attention, for which basic supplies are transferred and continuous training campaigns are developed for the effectors. The most important programs are: National Fight Against the Human Retrovirus Program , HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Illnesses; National Tuberculosis Control Program; National Chagas Program; National Malaria control Program; National System of Health Surveillance ; Control of Vectors; Project on Public Health Essential Functions (FESP).

Nowadays, Argentina has a new National Chagas Program that gives an orientation to the fight against the Chagas disease arising from the strategies based on education, information and society commitment, for which the budget has been quadruplicated, reaching 68 millions of pesos. Such an effort is associated with the conclusions of the IX International Symposium on the Epidemiological Control of Vectors, held in August 2006 in Buenos Aires. On the other hand, in December 2006 the Consulting Board of the Federal Chagas Program was created, oriented to be an interchange space to define strategies.

¹⁰ Entre Ríos, Jujuy, La Pampa, Neuquén, Río Negro.

The Project of Essential Functions and Public Health Program started at the beginning of 2007, as a management tool of the National Government to give an answer to the new challenges to the area of public health, arising from a work agenda to medium and long term, together with the provincial governments and ending by 2011.

The general mission of the Project FESP is to reduce population morbidity and mortality due to exposure to main risk factors, to promote improvement of the regulatory environment and the leadership role of the National Government in the public health system, for which it emphasizes the optimization of the management and infrastructure at different levels, at the same time it promotes the application of a priority set of Essential Public Health Programs some of which have a direct relationship with the fulfillment of the MDG VII: National Tuberculosis Program; National Program of Fight Against the Human Retrovirus, AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Federal Chagas Program.

The National Health Surveillance System (SNVS) has been developed with the purpose of establishing an instance for different sources interrelation, sectors and strategies with the aim of producing information that permits to improve analysis and decision-taking. During 2006, there were included, Immunizations, Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Programs in the National System of Health Surveillance.

Table 7.1. follow up indicators: intermediate and final goals.

Indicator	Goals	
	2007	2015
HIV/AIDS		
HIV Prevalence rate in pregnant women between 15 and 24 years of age (%)	0.35	0.32
Prevalence rate for the use of preservatives by youths between 15 and 24 years of age (%)	67.0	75.0
HIV Mortality Rate (every 100,000 inhabitants)	3.8	3.5
HIHIV/ASIDS incidence rate (every 1,000,000 inhabitants)	42.0	37.0
TUBERCULOSIS		
Morbidity Rate (every 100,000 inhabitants)	32.2	23.1
Mortality Rate (every 100,000 inhabitants)	2.1	1.21
Percentage of TB cases detected and cured through a directly observed treatment strategy	82.0	90.0
Malaria		
Mortality Rate (every 100,000 inhabitants)	0.0	0.0
Proportion of the population of risk areas who apply efficient prevention measures and treatment.	100.0	100.0
Annual Parasite Index (every 1,000 inhabitants)	<0.1	<0.1
Chagas		
Proportion of endemic provinces that certified the interruption of the vector Chagas transmission	42.1	100.0

Source: Ministerio de Salud de la Nación Ministry of Health of the Nation

Challenges

The biggest challenge is presented in the field of TB, as the planned goals for 2015 are still lagging behind in the fulfillment of those objectives, but the tendency of the last years show that it is feasible to achieve such goals.

At the same time, the other great challenge refers to the number of provinces that certified Chagas vector interruption, as in 2005 the indicator reached a 5%, while the goal 2015 is 100%.

GOAL 8

ENSURE ENVIROMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



Argentine Goals

Have achieved, by 2015, all policies and programs at national level, to integrate principles of sustainable development and have reversed the loss of natural (environmental) resources.

Reduce by two thirds the proportion of the population without access to safe drinking water from 1990 to 2015.

Reduce by two thirds, the proportion of the population without access to sewerages from 1990 to 2015.

Halve the proportion of household residing at inadequate housing units under irregular tenure conditions by 2015.

Introduction

The National Government has returned to the State the conducting role of the environmental policy and human rights warrantor, stating that population's surroundings are a key factor to determine their quality of life and to define the standards of dignity and social justice.

Due to that, the preservation of the environment has become in a multi interdisciplinary work where the State, private persons, non-governmental organizations and professionals focus their efforts to build an environmental-responsible Argentina, towards a sustainable growth that promotes economic development, guarantees natural resources rational utilization and at the same time, protects health and welfare of the people residing in our communities.

Our Nation acquires the definition of sustainable development by taking the commitment of preserving, making a reasonable utilization of the natural resources, the environmental asset for the future generations to inherit the possibility of using them, giving an intergenerational feature to such compromise.

In that sense, from the Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Nation there are supporting actions that contribute to the productive policies, of health promotion, of employment generation, of poverty elimination, of public service access and efficient resources utilization that are executed by other organisms of the National State and that offer a better care and protection of the Natural assets and enable social, economical and environmental prosperity in a context of full exercise of human rights.

Current Situation and Trends

Taking in consideration that one of the goals for 2015 is to have achieved that all the policies and country programs have integrated the principles of sustainable development and that the loss of natural (environmental) resources has been reverted, such follow up indicators have been included in this chapter:

Table 8.1

Indicators	Ensure environmental sustainability							
	Year							
	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Proportion of surface covered by native forest (*) (1)	n/d	n/d	n/d	10.85	n/d	10.69	n/d	n/d
Proportion of total surface of area protected for biodiversity per year (2)	4.39	6.30	6.53	6.56	6.56	6.79	7.67	7.71
Energetic intensity (equivalent tons of oil every \$1000 GIP (3)	0.221	0.223	0.220	0.238	0.237	0.224	0.217	n/d
Percentage of the participation of the renewable Sources in OTEP (**) (4)	7.3	9.27	9.33	9.30	8.58	7.83	8.29	n/d
Total emission of GEI per capita in tons of Co2 Equivalent year per capita (***) (****) (5)	6.64	6.49	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d
Percentage of households residing at inadequate housing units under irregular tenure (6)	7.6	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	6.1	5.9	5.75

Notes: The present data refers of the presented in MDG 2005 as they corresponded to the preliminary inventory 1998.

(**) The present series differs from the published in the Informe País 2005 due to modifications introduced in the methodology used to make the National Energetic Sheet.

(***) There are modified the units of measure as regards the previous edition. The emissions are presented as the total of gases with greenhouse effects in Tons equivalents to Co2 according to the information of INVGEI presented for the 2° National Communication to CMNUCC considering the CUSS. Only available data for the years 1990, 1994, 1997, 2000.

The total emissions of Co2 for the years 1990, 1994 and 1997 differ from those presented in Informe País 2005, due to the inventory of gases With greenhouse effect which has incorporated improvements in the methodology for the calculation of the gases of greenhouse effect (GEI), due to the Advances produced and revision of INVGEI of the previous years, with the purpose of being able to be compared among themselves and to Improve the quality of the information.

- Source:** (1) UMSEF - Bureau of Forests, SAyDS (Office of the Secretary of Environment and Development)
 (2) Federal System of protected areas, National Parks Administration
 (3) National Bureau of Prospects, Department of Energy and National Bureau of National Accounts, INDEC
 (4) Department of Energy and National Bureau of National Accounts, National Energy Balance sheet
 (5) Secretary of Climate Changes, (SAyDS), 2nd. CNCC
 (6) National Census on Population, Household and Housing of 1991 and 2001

The forests conservation constitutes a key aspect to guarantee sustainable development. It is like this because the forests are essential for the development of life on earth, the maintenance of biodiversity and for the regulation of the planetarium climate. Nevertheless, in Argentina there has not been a clear awareness about Native Forests environmental value. The long time failure to have plans for the rational use of this valuable resource implied a detriment in the forests quality and in the lack of control in the conversion in the use of the soil. The expansion of the agricultural borders has been one of the main deforestation factors in Argentina. This process has received a strong impulse in the last two decades, with the benefit provoked by technological changes in the productive processes and a favorable context in the world market. To be aware of the significant relevance that this issue reached in the last years, it is interesting to highlight that in the four decades from 1937 to 1987 the proportion of the covered surface by Native Forest reduced to less than a percentage point (0.8 %), while that between last year and 2002, that is to say 15 years, the covered surface reduction by Native Forest was of one percentage point¹¹.

The country has data about native forest surface for the years 1937, 1987, 1998 and 2002 from several sources.

In the year 2002, with satellite images corresponding to 1998, there was obtained the first genuine data of the mentioned indicator and there was performed a wood-covered surface survey. It is estimated that the updating will be performed every four year.

The data corresponding to the covered surface with native forest is presented in table 8.2.

Table 8.2. Proportional area covered by native forest. Selected years.

Years			
1937	1987	1998 (*)	2002 (*)
37,535,308	35,180,000	31,444,000	30,304,000

Notes: They are not definitive data.

Source: UMSEF Direccion de Bosques Management Unit of the Forestry Evaluation System. Bureau of Forests.

As it can be observed, the decrease of the proportion of native forest means, in real terms, that Argentina is facing in the last decades one of the strongest deforestation processes in its history. This change of use of the soil of forest lands to agricultural ones has been benefited by the investment in infrastructure, technological changes (transgenic and direct plowing) international context (globalization) and the displacement of isohyets towards the northeastern region of the country¹², which has broadened the climatic frontiers of agricultural activities performed in dry barren land.¹³

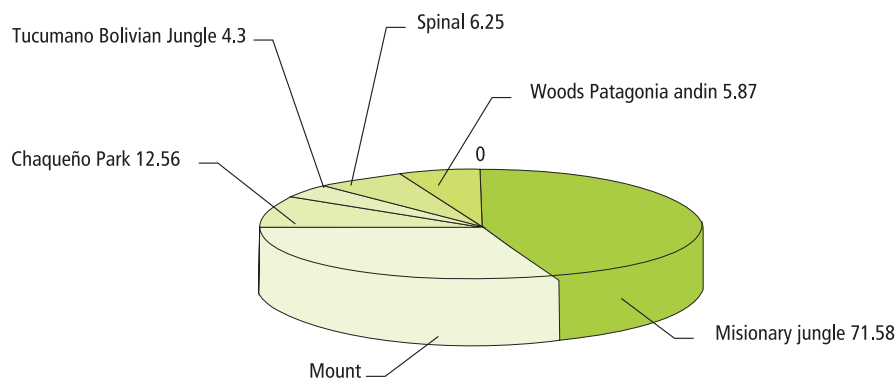
The region of the Parque Chaqueño is the one that presents the biggest native forests surface in the country and at the same time where it is registered the highest deforestation rate (UMSEF; 2004), followed by the jungle tucumano-boliviano. The other regions show a little significant deforestation rate according to preliminary studies. In the graph 8.1 there can be seen deforestation data about the mentioned regions.

¹¹ The furnished data are considered comparable, although they differ as to their reliability and the same are provided by UMSEF (Management Unit of the Forestry Evaluation), Bureau of Forests, SAyDS (Office of the Secretary of Environment and Development)

¹² There has been scientific evidence of an increase in the level of precipitation in the North western region of the country in the last years (Villalba R.; Grau, H. R.; Boninsegna, J. A.; Jacoby, G. J. & Ripalta A. 1998. Tree-ring evidence for long-term precipitation changes in Subtropical South America. International Journal of Climatology 18:1463-1478.), which broadened the frontiers of the precipitation area convenient for agriculture due to the displacement of the isohyets towards the northeastern regions.

¹³ This does not necessarily imply that the soils in the new areas are fit for agricultural development purposes

Graph 8.1. Distribution of native Forest per region Year 2002 (*).



Notes: They are not definitive date.

Source: UMSEF - Dirección de Bosques - SAyDS. Management Unit of the Forestry Evaluation System.

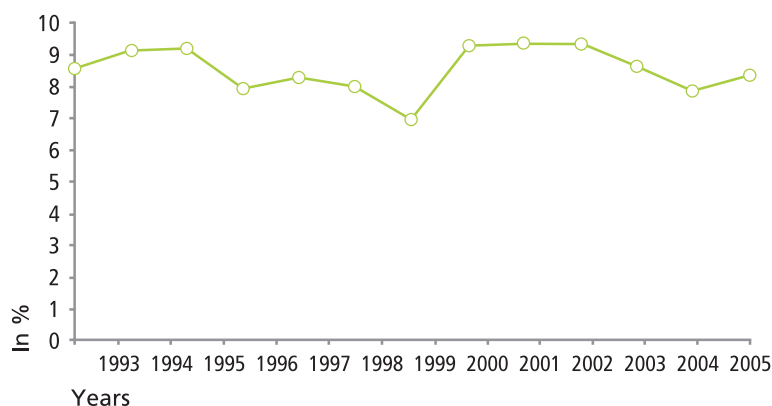
From the point of view of biodiversity conservation, the forest is the habitat of a great variety of uncultivated vegetation and animals and therefore an irrational use of this resource implies extinction risk of a great number of species.

The biodiversity conservation demands active policies by the State, that's why a relevant indicator is the proportion of the total surface of the territory protected to keep the biodiversity. This indicator has experienced a very positive evolution as the percentage of the protected surface raised 4.4% in 1990 to 6.6% in 2003 and 7.7% in 2006 (See Table 8.1), although it is still below the world average estimated in about 12% on one hand and the goal that on the other hand was recommended to be achieved by 2010 the COP 7 of CDB (in their Strategic Plan, Decision VII/30 Appendix II), of a 10% of efficient conservation of each ecological region.

Another key aspect for environment conservation and productive future capacities is the diffusion of renewable sources of energy use. Although during the first years of the present decade there was noted a slight increase of renewable energies participation compared to the year 1990, from 2003 in a context of strong economic growth, the alternative energy sources have slightly diminished, as a consequence that in the country the renewable energies still show a strong dependency on hydraulic annual offer.

As regards the indicator Participation of renewable sources in the Primary Energy Total Offer (OTEP), it is worth mentioning that in those same years it is observed a slight tendency to the growth of the participation of the renewable energies in the country, although this still shows a strong dependence on the hydraulic annual offer¹⁴.

Graph 8.2. Participation of renewable sources in OTEP.



Source: Secretary of Energy- Nacional Direction of Perspectiva- Nacional Energetic Balance.

¹⁴As from 2001, the participation of energy renewable sources in the Primary Energy Total Offer was over 10% for the first time

The sustainable development promotes as one of their main goals the improvement of population life quality. This includes access to safe drinking water networks, to sewerages and to adequate housing units. In the last two Population Census (1991-2001) there was a significant increment in the percentage of the population with access to services of safe drinking water by public network, from 66.2 % to 78.4%. Although, access to sewerage is quite more limited and its evolution between the census was from 34.3% to 42.5%.

Table 8.3. Percentage of population with coverage of safe drinking water and sewerage.

Indicators	Ensure environmental sustainability							
	Year							
	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Percentage of population with coverage of safe drinking water of public network (+)	66.2	66.2	78.4	77.5	76.7	75.9	77.0	79.0
Percentage of population with coverage of sewerage (+)	34.3	34.3	42.5	42.0	41.5	41.1	42.5	45.0

Source: Ente Nacional de Obras Hídricas y Saneamiento (ENOHSA) Nacional Entity of Hydraulic Works and Sanitation.

To conclude, according to the data of the Sub secretary of Urban Development and Housing, between 1990 and 2006 there was a reduction in the percentage of deficitary housing units, that changed from 7.6% to 5.75%. In such a way, it is deduced to have fulfilled the established goal for the year 2007. The analysis of the data over these aspects enables to qualify and quantify housing deficit, that is to say to identify all the households units that do not meet the average standards expected due to a variety of situations which vary from irregular tenure to extremely inadequate levels of housing units so, in both cases there must be replaced.

Programs and Supporting Actions

The preservation of the environment and the sustainable development constitute a central dimension of the public policies which have been carried out by the present National Government.

As regards native forests, SAyDS accomplished the social forests program that has as a goal the sustainable exploitation of native forests and employment promotion. This double purpose lies in the necessity of creating job positions that support rural areas population and to reverse degradation processes of the native forests that have been registered since the end of 19th century, which respond to reasons related to complex economic, social, political, institutional and technological frameworks.

It also develops the project Native Forests, which includes activities of study of the legislation in effect about Native Forests that consists of the amendment of the legislation connected to Native Forests through the law "Promotion to Sustainable Forest Administration", that has economic and financial promotion elements to encourage the quali-quantitative improvement of country forests ecosystems. Besides, the information generated at regional and national level by the Direction of Forests of SAyDS has been the foundation for the projects of the laws of Minimum Budgets for the Native Forest, at present in the Congress.

Other activities of the mentioned Project are the inclusion of new curricular contents in the programs of study at the levels of education EGB and Polymodal, Plan of implementation of Policies on Forests of SAyDS and its Agenda, Payments for environmental services that are provided by native forests, Diffusion of activities and achievements of the Project. It is in full process the Regional Node of Forestal Inventory of the Parque Chaqueño, with the Universities of Santiago del Estero, Formosa and Tucuman, in the field of the institute of the Flatness of the Parque Chaqueño.

On the other hand, there is progress with the World Bank about a new Project designed to strengthen the national and provincial public institutions with competence on the matter, with emphasis on the region of the Parque Chaqueño, due to its high socio-environmental priority.

The Project Sustainable Forests Administration, to be executed between the years 2006-2010, was designed to support the sustainable plantations in Argentina, generating benefits for the rural inhabitants and protecting global importance biodiversity

Apart from the mentioned actions, there are also being performed tasks connected to fire prevention in forests, the species control that are a menace to preservation of these places and environmental institutionalization order on the territory as a genuine tool to stop the advance of the agricultural border on native forests.

There are policies tending to the broadening of the protected surfaces to preserve the biodiversity, the programs implementation that promotes the use of renewable energies both in rural and urban areas, reduction in carbon dioxide emissions , implementation of a bio security system for the agriculture, soil conservation and even regulation of sustainable tourism.

Argentina has also started actions tending to promote programs addressed to the efficient use of energy and the development of new and renewable sources for which it has been created the Program of Energetic Saving and Efficiency (PAyEE). Among the priority goals, it is not only to achieve a significant reduction of Co2 emissions and other gases of Greenhouse effect, but also, from a local view, to reduce the cost of energetic services used, contributing to improve access of the poorest to the services of energy and to diminish investment necessities in capacity of production and electricity transportation and natural gas.

The current actions with a tendency to increase the use of renewable energies have been observed in a series of actions like the Program of Renewable Energies in Rural Markets (PERMER) and the law 25.019 of Promotion of the Aeolic and Solar Energy, to which it is added the development of projects of hydro electric produce and of the regulatory framework that guarantees a minimum participation of the alternative energetic sources. In this sense and according to the goals of the Energetic policy, the National Congress has passed Act 26.190 on December 2006, also called "System of National Promotion for the Use of Renewable Sources of Energy", which proposes that in ten years, 8% of the National Electric Generation originates in renewable sources (excluding the calculations to the bigger hydro electric centrals) that was a goal assumed by the country in the celebration of the World Summit on Renewable Energies held in Bonn, Germany in 2004. At the same time, the Regional Follow up Meeting of the World Summit about Sustainable Development, organized by the Government of Brazil in Brasilia on October 2003, as part of the Latin American and the Caribbean initiative for the sustainable development (ILACDS), approved the platform of Brasilia about renewable energies, which encourages the execution of the regional goal of 10% of participation of renewable energies in the Internal Offer of Primary Energy by 2010. The historical evolution of this indicator reveals the participation of the order of the assumed goal, although it is strongly dependant on the production of hydro electrical annual generation.

As regards the environmental preservation and recovery, one of the most urgent and delayed problem has been the pollution of the Riachuelo which directly affects 23 jurisdictions with a population of over seven millions of inhabitants, two millions of them residing in risk areas.

In a historical event never seen before in cooperation with the National Government, the Government of the Province of Buenos Aires and the Government of the City of Buenos Aires have coordinated their efforts to elaborate an integral plan for the draining of the Mouth of the river Matanza- Riachuelo. Although the plan has as a goal to provide a comprehensive answer to high contamination levels produced by industrial waste, clandestine

garbage dumps and sewage, at the beginning the actions were focused on the most vulnerable sectors and that suffer in a direct and disproportional way the effects of the environmental degradation. Specifically the plan includes, among other aspects infrastructure works for the improvement of sewerage services, provision of safe drinking water programs, works on storm water drainage for flooding, sanitary care and environmental education control to prevent illnesses and to reduce contamination risks and the implementation of a Program of reorganization of companies to incorporate cleaner technologies and if it were not possible, their relocation.

Making efforts to provide alternatives to all communities, from the Secretary of Sustainable Environment and Development, it was launched Sustainable Municipalities Program that will provide technical and financial tools for Municipal administrations to execute the tasks for the different areas such as generation of the environmental asset, implementation of plans of protected areas, introduction of reduction of the energetic consumption programs in all their dependencies, water sanitation and execution of access plans to safe drinking water of universal coverage and the design and integral plans implementation that focus on minimizing generation, reutilization and recycling

As regards the programs focused on increasing coverage of safe drinking water and sewerage, there must be mentioned different actions that were developed in a continuous way in different country regions since 2004. The same consist of Assistance Programs in areas with sanitary risk and the Plan Water + Work, that aim to networks expansion through the creation of cooperative associations work.

The plan W+W plans to broaden its extension to the urban centers of the provinces of the country and implementation of new programs designed to increase the coverage of both services.

As regards housing, there are developing programs focused to solve the deficitary housing problems arising in the country. The Federal Plan of Housing Solidarity, whose application area are the regions of North Eastern of Argentina and North Western of Argentina is focused on the provision of houses and urban infrastructure and the Program of Social Development in border areas (PROSOFA) provides financial support for works in these regions.

As regards the attention of the families residing in shantytowns and precarious settlements whose housing situation is characterized by precarious housing units quality and irregular tenure, the National Government, together with the provincial and municipal governments, is developing two programs, whose purpose is to improve residing conditions in those irregular settlements.

Through the Subprogram of Urbanization of Shantytowns and precarious Settlements and Improvement of Neighborhoods Program (PROMEBA) there are performed actions that include to follow the provisions to access title to property , the opening of internal streets, the provision of infrastructure: water, sewerage, electricity, gas, housing construction and replacement of those in really bad conditions and improvement of the existing ones.

As regards housing construction there has been implemented, since 2003, the Federal Program of Housing Emergency, whose objective is to cover dwelling needs and reinsertion of cooperatives members in the genuine work circuit through the creation of work association cooperatives for such purpose.

On the other hand, there were developed different programs focused on improving the housing and urban conditions in shantytowns and precarious settlements and to provide networks connection for deficitary housing units.

As regards policies of greenhouse effect gases mitigation, SAyDS works from different areas

¹⁵ The main principles of the plan were presented before the Supreme Court of the Argentine Republic by the Environment and Sustainable Development Department in the month of September 2006.

promoting actions and measures that contribute to reduce emissions at sector level, through national programs, and at the level of projects through the Argentine Carbon Fund. In both cases, small and medium enterprise is the priority objective for the execution of both policies, while, they constitute the tool for the achievement of a variety of purposes of general characteristics which globally are materialized in their contribution to the sustainable country development.

In the national mitigation programs, a set of policies can be grouped around three main axis: 1) with national public organisms (secretaries of energy, transport, agriculture, housing, etc) that have national programs in execution and that may include implicitly a mitigation complement; 2) with the provincial governments to identify, develop and implement programs of energetic efficiency, development of new sources of energy, management of urban and agro industrial waste and others potentially mitigating; 3) with private organisms of national scope with business chambers, industrial associations, non-governmental organisms, etc.

As regards the Argentine Carbon Fund, it is an initiative promoted by the national government tending to facilitate new investment development projects in Argentina. Through their implementation it is increased the use of Clean Development Mechanism (MDL) established by Kyoto protocol, at the same time that it contributes to the sustainable country development. Their main function is to contribute to finance projects designed to industrial productive capacity expansion, to increase energetic efficiency, to substitute conventional energies by renewable sources energies and to widen the energetic offer, in the framework of sustainable production.

Challenges

There appears as follows the set of goals which has been defined to reach sustainable development based on growth with equity principle.

Such goals have been the result of the consensus agreed by the National State, Provincial States, the civil society and the private sector.

With the objective of restraining the decreasing tendency of the acres covered by native forests, one of Argentina priorities is to implement policies that rule and act as a guide to future soil changes, by territorial organization and forest exploitation.

If the national macroeconomic conditions remain constant and the context of international prices of the agro industrial commodities stay the same, it is expected that for 2007, it is little feasible to have the possibility of perceiving the effects of promotion policies of native forest and emerging markets incentive (economy of carbon).

By 2011 there will be evidence of policies and programs implementation described before. On the basis of this projection it is calculated the goal for the year 2011.

Although the reduction is not very important in quantity terms, it will be a step towards the accomplishment of the goal established internationally which has the expectation of reversing native forests loss.

As regards the actual trends in energetic use intensity, it is part of the national concern for the environment and therefore of the design of the policies and programs to reach sustainable development.

On this matter it is expected by the year 2011 a reduction in the energetic intensity of 12%, considering the implementation of energetic efficiency policies and programs.

Table 8.3. Follow up indicators: intermediate and final goals

Indicador	Goals		
	2007	2011	2015
Proportional area covered with native forest (1)	10.4 %	10.2 %	10.0 %
Total Proportional surface of territory to keep the biodiversity per year (2)	7.3 %	8.3 %	> del 10%
Energetic intensity (tons equivalent in oil every \$1000 PIB) (3)	0.213	0.209	0.205
Percentage of renewable sources participation in the Energetic Total Offer (4)	(*)	>10 %	>10 %
Percentage of the population with access to safe drinking water from the public network (5)	80 %	83 %	90.0 %
Percentage of the population with access to sewerage (6)	48 %	62 %	75.0 %
Percentage of households residing at inadequate housing units and irregular tenure(7)	5.6	4.8 %	3.9 %

Note: *It has not been defined a goal for 2007

Source: (1) The goals have been established by the Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development and differ from the previous publication due to data updating.

(2) The goals have been established by the Administration of National Parks (Secretary of Tourism). There is no established goal for the year 2007. The published value in the previous edition corresponds to a projection of series made by Secretary of Energy.

(3 & 4) The goals have been established by the Office of the Secretary of Energy

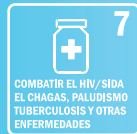
(5 & 6) The goals have been established by the National Hydraulical Sanitary Works Entity (ENOHSA)

(7) The goals have been established by Sub secretary of Housing.



GOAL 9

PROMOTE A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT



Goals

Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory financial and trading system.

Support special needs of the least developed countries.

Address the special necessities of the countries, landlocked and small island developing States.

To face in a general way, the problems of developing countries' debts, national and international measures should be taken with the aim of providing sustainable debt relief.

In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth.

In cooperation with the private sector, support those who may benefit with the new technologies, especially information and communications.

Provide access to essential affordable drugs in developing countries in cooperation with pharmaceutical companies.

Introduction

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Worship of the Argentine Republic declares that the IX Millennium Development Goal: “Promote a global partnership for development” is strategic to contribute to the fulfillment of the remaining eight goals, through the articulation of the different actors of the International Technical Cooperation (CTI) and their consequent disparity in the procedures with national and local public development policies.

In this framework, there has been done some work in a continuous way so that the cooperative countries make up their actions with the national, provincial and municipal development strategies and at the same time, harmonize their practices so that they avoid the multiplication and duplication of efforts in negotiation and technical cooperation management.

Argentina has declared that the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals will be sustainable as long as it is understood their accomplishment within a framework of a national development policy and in an international context where the most developed countries assume the responsibility of modifying the adverse international context, characterized by the growing inequality and exclusion and decreasing flows of cooperation.

That is why, one of the methods of improving the cooperation with Middle-Income Countries (PRM) like Argentina, must lie on a promotion of changes in trade provisions, finance and transfer of technology and in the demand to the most advanced countries, to accomplish the compromise assumed, more than 30 years ago, of contributing with 0.7% of their gross domestic product (PIB) for development aid.

At the same time, Argentina stands for the importance that the PRM are better represented in the systems of government of the multilateral institutions so that it is clearer and more conclusive the fight against poverty and therefore the accomplishment of the Millennium Development Goals.

In the international forum, Argentina has proposed with determination that for the CTI to be efficient, it should accompany the national policies, emphasizing development rights of each and every country, supporting in this way the ethical challenge of development. There is not only one unique development model. Middle Income Countries have specific needs that must be cared efficiently.

In that sense, there have been conversations with the best internationally available technical co-operations to give an answer, among others of no lesser importance, to the following challenges: economic and social insertion of young people, increase of quality production rates (inclusion of innovative technologies, increase of productive chain added value as regards the environment); active policies integration to guarantee decent employment; answer to the own challenges of big urban crowds and strengthen the inclusion of children and women at risk, who are the most vulnerable society sectors.

A frequent problem of middle income countries is to balance economic growth with social development. That is to say, to achieve simultaneously progress with equity. Both are pre-conditions of sustainable development and conducive negotiation principles of cooperation that Argentina historically takes and gives.

For the PRM to have a sustained development, it is necessary to consolidate growth processes with added support on scientific, technical and technological cooperation. The demands of approach of this development are becoming the central axis of the international technical cooperation for countries like Argentina. These are concentrated on the promotion of local development, the democratization of access to technological innovation and investment in the personal capacities and in the social asset.

For these specific challenges, Argentina has negotiated and obtained from their traditional supporters, institutional strengthening programs of local development mechanisms, of encouragement to social business responsibility practices, inclusion of universities, investigation centers and civil society organizations as key development actors for different offices of the National State (www.cancilleria.gov.ar/dgcin.html).

In the field of international cooperation, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals is the responsibility of all the countries and organisms, both at a bilateral and multilateral level. There is a mutual responsibility: to ignore the poverty is a breach to human rights; as everyone is not aware of the results of development. Due to this, in cooperation with the most important international agencies, in their capacity of partners of the cooperation, it has been investigated, as a whole their justification, guidance and contents, allotting more than 80% of the same for the achievement of such goals.

The rent per capita, that is the indicator internationally used to qualify as a recipient of cooperation, is necessary but not enough for the evaluation of nations development and consequently of the necessities of cooperation of each of them. Argentina declared that there must be included the social, cultural, political dimensions and the regional/provincial differences of the countries so as not to be hostages of quantity and macro economical categories that simplify the analysis. Argentina qualified as a receiver of CTI in the biennium 2000-2001 because of its rent per capita, in spite of showing great internal unbalances. In 2002, international solidarity accompanied countries in the re qualification. It is worth mentioning the support provided by Spain, Italy, Japan and the European Nations, this one reassigning funds to give an answer to the deep social situation.

For the PRM, the volume of technical cooperation is a minor source of financing, because being global partners for the development means to appraise and support actively the most promising and innovative cooperation ways, as the ones that the country is systematically supporting, such as the Sur-Sur through the Argentine Fund of Horizontal Cooperation (FO-AR). In each one of these scenarios Argentina keeps proactive and innovative positions for the region, achieving to accomplish several opportunities both in the quality of the receiver and in the donor, as it is demonstrated in the graphs of the following insert.

Argentina always made process, with global vision, and positive agenda, promoting the achievement of agreements to give political legitimacy to the cooperation. Argentina visualizes the conception of cooperation as a community of values that is why it has contributed for the construction of a system of coherent international cooperation, which promotes compatible incentives with the Millennium Development Goals, decriminalizing the levels of development obtained by the countries. To contribute to development consolidation of middle income countries is a strategy, as this may help to multiply better cooperation scenarios, with their participation as givers in the global association to reach 2015 with a better level of accomplishment of the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals.

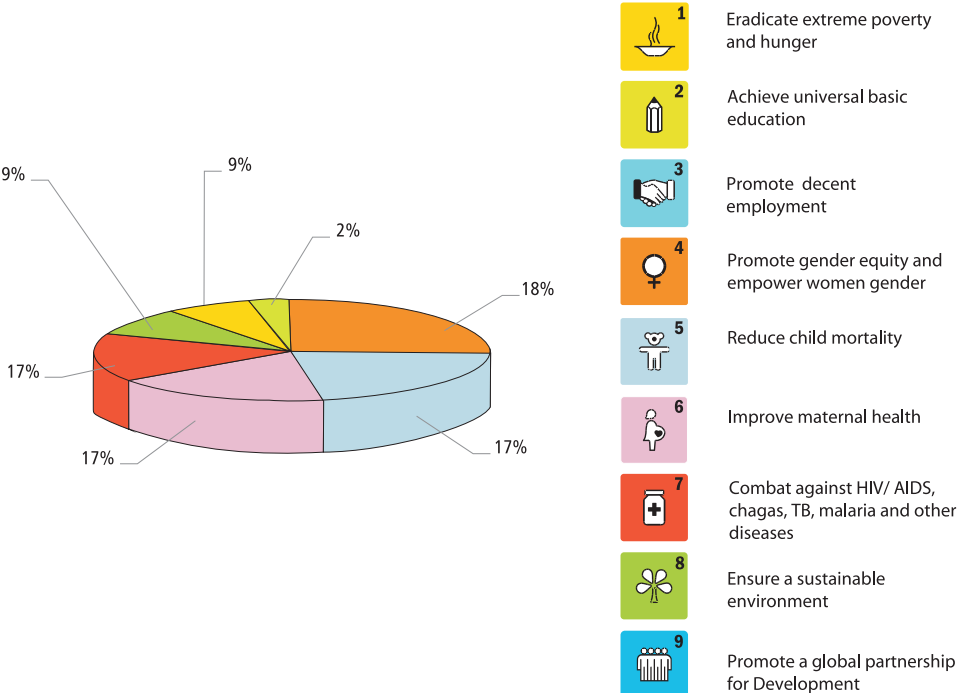
Current Situation and Trends

The goal "Promote a global partnership for the development" includes a series of goals and of specific indicators. For Argentina their accomplishment is made through the development and distribution of more and better technical cooperation for the fulfillment of each of the remaining eight Millennium Development Goals.

The total of the reimbursable and non reimbursable international, financial and technical cooperation managed by the General Direction of International Cooperation (DGCIN) in the last six years' period is of 603.9 millions of dollars that have been applied to 291 projects both through the national and provincial governments and also by civil society organizations.

The 88% of this quantity is assigned to the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals, which evidences the commitment of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Foreign Trade and Worship within the framework of the governmental social management.

Graph. 9.1. International Cooperation according to the Millennium Development Goals (in percentages). Years 2000-2006.



Source: General Department of International Cooperation- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship. Argentine Republic- July 2007.

It is important to mention that according to the baseline of the analysis of the goals stated in each project of international cooperation, there has been designed an allocation criteria to each Millennium Development Goal. The quantities shown in the previous graphic correspond to those projects of technical cooperation whose goals are somehow related to the Millennium Development Goals.

The 603.9 millions of dollars of cooperation that the DGCIN has managed, are distributed by agreement negotiations according to what has been expressed in Table 9.1. Such amount includes 194 millions of dollars reimbursable in the way of assistance loans, granted by Italy and Spain, to give an answer to the crisis occurring in our country in the year 2001.

Table 9.1. Distribution of the amounts, in dollars , of the international cooperation for the Millennium Development Goals per sources. Years 2000-2006.

Source	Amount in US\$ (*)
Spanish Cooperation	171,243,912
Italian Cooperation	127,159,394
World Fund for the Environment (FMAM-GEF)	73,102,699
European Union (UE)	60,855,400
Japanese Cooperation	39,676,767
German Cooperation	28,400,100
United Nations Childhood Fund (UNICEF)	12,275,243
Canadian Cooperation	6,805,991
United Nations Agriculture and Food Organization (FAO)	3,442,090
Program of the United Nations for the Development (PNUD). TRAC funds (**)	1,433,049

Notes: Exchange rate in July 2007: US dollar \$3,10, Canadian dollar US\$1,15 and euro US\$1,37

(**) The funds of PNUD correspond only to the so called TRAC (Target Resource Assignment Core-Asignación de Recursos de Fondos Propios del PNUD para Objetivos Específicos) that were granted to our country in the year 2002 due to the social and economic crisis to be implemented by the Chancery. Such funds do not include the total cooperation that the PNUD grants to Argentina.

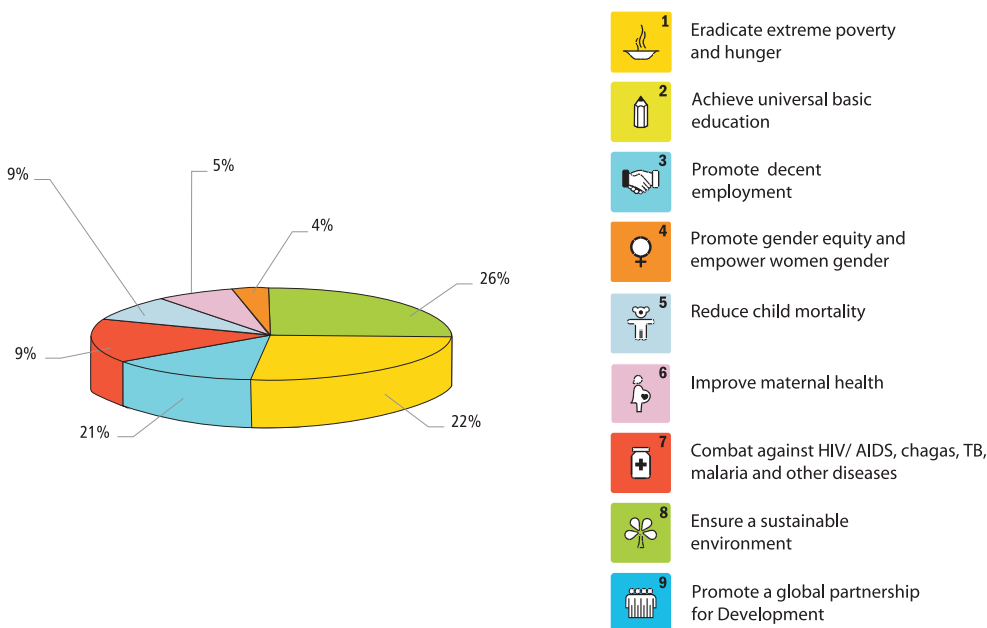
Source: General Department of International Cooperation- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship. Argentina Republic- July 2007.

Contribution to the Global Development Association through the Argentine Horizontal Cooperation Fund (FO-AR)

The FO-AR in its 15 years of life, has executed more than 4000 actions of technical cooperation in 55 countries, within a wide thematic spectrum, contributing for the accomplishment of the Millennium Development Goals in such nations.

From the year 2000 to now FO-AR's actions have reached a total of 1451. In Graphic 9.2 there is shown the distribution of 815 actions which are strictly addressed to contribute to the Millennium Development Goals accomplishment in the countries that have demanded the presence of our experts in different disciplines.

Graph 9.2. Contribution of the FO-AR to the Millennium Development Goals. Years 2000 – 2006.



Source: General Department of International Cooperation- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship. Argentina Republic - July 2007.

It is worth mentioning that the rest of the Program of FO-AR is assigned for the support of the technological and scientific technological progress, which allows to create the structure that backs up the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals in the demanding countries. Part of this assistance is developed on triangular cooperation basis.

Challenges

A new architecture for the international cooperation

As it has been recognized by the international community, the present structure of the cooperation must perform a change that enables to recognize the economic and social complexity that it is facing. In this sense, the construction of its new structure becomes the biggest challenge that the countries have to solve to achieve the development goals, in the broader framework of sub regional, regional and interregional development.

To redefine and adequate this process implies a valuable reflection exercise over the strategies, methodologies and ways of intervention to be carried out so that the international cooperation fulfils the key goal of meeting the national needs in the framework of public policies defined by the government.

As a result of the reading of the previous chapters, our country has been developing the necessary events to make this challenge operative, from an ethical perspective and respect-based solidarity to promote the construction of an exclusive society where all the members have the right of exercising a full citizenship, synthesis of the Millennium Goals.

According to this perspective, CTI implies a separation of the traditional logics based on the follow up of economic indicators, as traditionally the Cooperation Norte-Sur worked, towards the recognition of a variety of factors that explains the asymmetries in national and international levels. The different adopted association forms reflect this conception that implies coherence and articulation of the different cooperation ways considering countries welfare.

The FO-AR was created with the spirit of cooperation Sur-Sur proposed by Buenos Aires Action Plan (1978) which elicited values promotion established in the Chart of the United Nations so that the cooperation were the tool of a wider freedom concept, with the purpose of ensuring a long lasting peace. The growing cooperation with American countries, shows the intention of the country of supporting the agreement of Cooperación Sur-Sur keeping a strategic vision that enables to articulate the proposed activities to achieve the regional integration in Mercosur framework. At the same time, the impulse to the cooperation with the countries of Africa, combines efforts towards poverty reduction within the framework of the initiatives oriented to accomplish the Millennium Development Goals.

In this sense, Argentina declares that a great emphasis should be set in the use of the scheme of the Triangular Cooperation which has proved to be a valid formula to carry out activities of technical assistance and of development of major projects. To associate two countries to assist a third one in the pursuit of its development, allows a diversity of links that, among others, may articulate two developed countries or bilateral or multilateral organisms with middle income countries, evidencing the necessary solidarity of the processes of cooperation in all its dimensions.

The Cooperation Sur-Sur has also allowed the development of new intervention modalities in which all the social actors of the community participate where it is shared the assistance or the organism associated to the development. To carry out these processes requires the strengthening of the capacities of the actors involved in the issues about the democratization of the knowledge, for this reason there must be provided the necessary tools which allow to plan, assess and monitor both public policies and projects, having as goal to achieve the highest communities development in the accomplishment of their own needs.

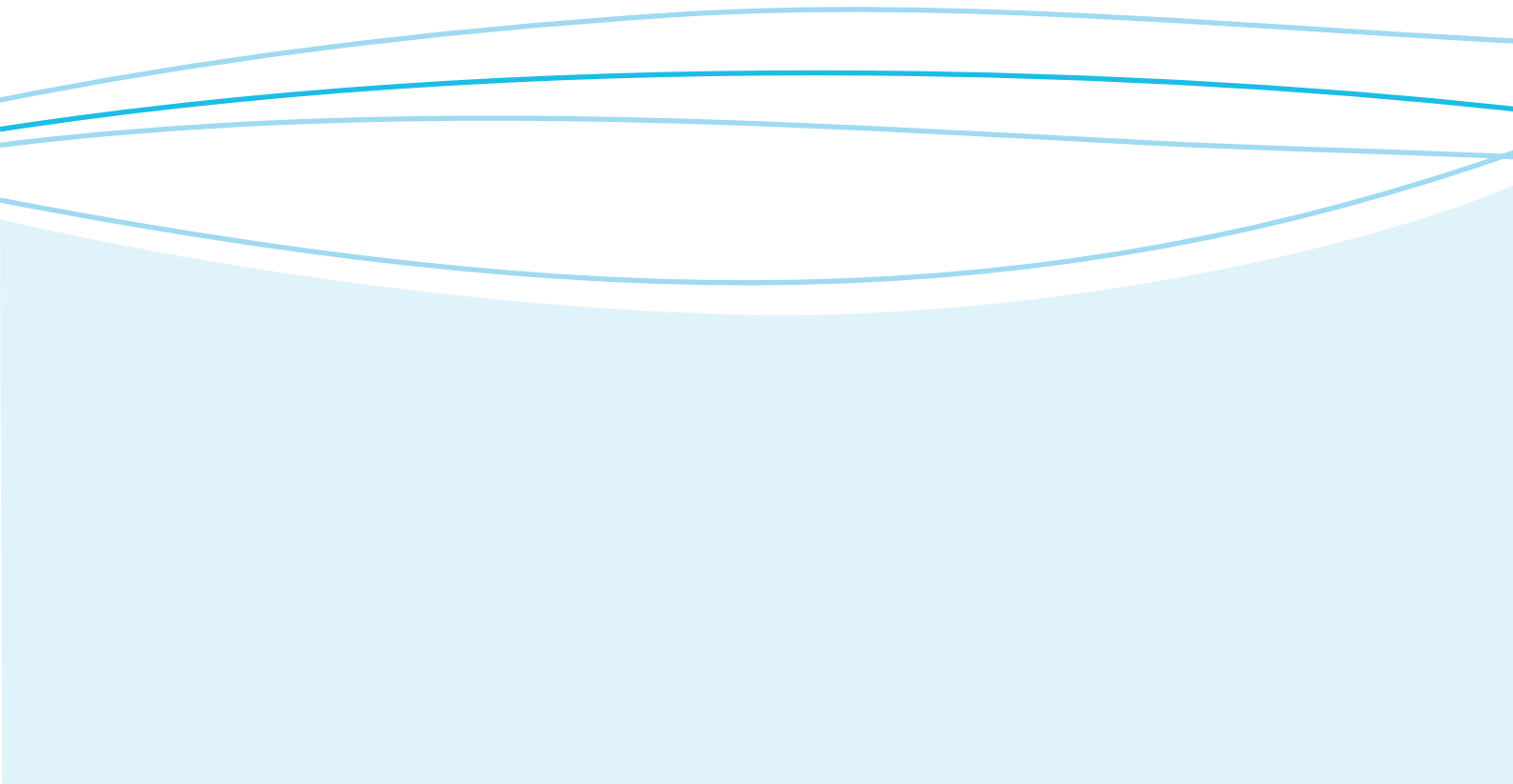
To shape this challenge, a Federal Program was created by which the cooperative associations in Argentina are performing a process of training in methodologies for the elaboration of projects and strategic planning, not only in the provincial but also in the municipal governments, with the purpose that the network of focal points of international cooperation in the country and the diverse social actors requiring this cooperation, may get to know and benefit from these processes. This technical assistance has also been requested by many Latin-American countries and some of them are receiving the assistance which arises from the joint elaboration with the counter parts of the projects' design to be executed later

With this same objective, with the purpose of promoting local development, it was also incorporated the new method that implies the Decentralized Cooperation, which according to its definition, planning trends are shaped in facts taking into consideration local and regional development processes with the priority of territorial necessities and their social asset. The

implementation form of this cooperation implies a great methodological challenge and follow up, so as to avoid the fragmentation in the global association for the development of the country, it is necessary to respect the local demand taking into consideration the broader national policies framework.

In this sense, it is worth mentioning that the execution of these forms' diversity implies at the same time the challenge of transforming the cooperation into Development Programs, avoiding pulverized actions and supporting an integral perspective of their processes. It would be still pending, however, to face the major challenge that is to make the countries which are able to finance this plural construction of cooperation to accomplish the compromises which have assumed so that a continuous process can be started so as to overcome the existing obstacles for the achievement of the Millennium Goals.

We consider that not only the problems but also the positive results that are being achieved in the application of this new cooperation architecture should act as awareness factors for their accomplishment. If there is emphasis in the harmonization of the processes, the internal coherence immersed in them and the permanent articulation both at the level of the country and of the region and of the international community, the synergy necessary for performing the best utilization of the resources that guarantee the way towards the sustainable development of our countries will surely be achieved.



APPENDICES



Implementation of MDGs in the Jurisdictions

Argentina is a federal country composed by 23 provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. This transforms it in a display of situations and administrations with different results of human development. In this way we can find districts that show a level of human development close to the one of the European countries and others with very low levels and similar to the indicators of the poorest countries of the Latin American region.

The process of adaptation of the Millennium Goals turns to be a facilitator of the coordination and articulation of public policies between the Nation and the provinces. In this sense, the proposed goals for the year 2015 for our country will only be achieved as long as the provincial states and the national state, committed with the achievement of the MDGs, gather and coordinate their efforts.

The country has made progress in the achievement of the MDGs. However, despite of the positive signals, the indicators show a diversity of situations among the provinces and the regions. The commitment of these governments contributes to the development of strategies consistent with the plans and national programs and a better supply of public services.

The implementation process of the MDGs in the provinces promoted by the National Government started in the year 2005. The starting point is the settlement of an agreement between CNCPS and the provincial Government. Once subscribed it, the process starts and has the technical support of the team of MDGs of CNCPS for each of the stages to be developed as follows.

In general, with variations among the different experiences, the following stages can be outlined:

- Creation of a Technical team in charge of the implementation of provincial initiatives.
- Identification of follow-up indicators for the harmonization of conceptual and operational definitions according to National Metadata.
- Identification of data sources suppliers.
- Data gathering and processing.
- Provincial goals Definition
- Elaboration of programs repertoire.
- Programs Reorientation according to ODM.
- Creation of a monitoring and assessment system of the follow up indicators of the ODM
- Callings to other actors involved: civil society, universities, public sector.

By the end of the year 2007 there were 12 provinces that joined the initiative: Buenos Aires, Córdoba, Corrientes, Chubut, Entre Ríos, Jujuy, La Rioja, Mendoza, Salta, San Juan, Santa Fe and Tucumán.

They show different advance levels in relation to the implementation of the MDGs, there are provinces with an already made provincial report that includes established goals and others in the stage of selecting the indicators and defining their goals.

Implementation of the MDGs in the Province of Jujuy

As a consequence of the Declaration of the Millennium and the renewal of the commitment assumed by the National State with the international community regarding the respect to human dignity, the Province of Jujuy in a progressive way and in accordance to those outlines, assumed from its jurisdiction, the challenge of implementing in its Policy of State, concrete actions oriented to the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals.

This is achieved by adapting such policies to the existing social situation in the Province, with the determination that a fair society is constructed guaranteeing better possibilities to all their inhabitants.

On December 19, 2005, the Province of Jujuy subscribed with the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies, an Agreement designed to settle, between the parties, actions of relationship and cooperation that allowed the adjustment of the national objectives of the MDG to the Provincial reality.

The Executive Power of the Province of Jujuy, through the Decree N° 6370/06, strongly recommended the Ministry of Social Development and the Secretary of Planning of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Planning the fulfillment of the provisions established in the previously mentioned agreement, giving its officers the capacity to demand the assistance which could be necessary to the different Ministries of the Provincial Executive Power.

In order to start the activities that enabled the implementation of those objectives and goals in the Province, on October 31, 2006 the first meeting was held with the representatives of different areas of the Government, so as to inform them about the goals addressed to obtain social cohesion and development without exclusions of any kind.

At the same time, and although such call was coordinated by the Ministries of Social Development and The Ministry of Infrastructure and Planning through its Secretary of Planning, according to what has been established in the beforementioned Provincial Decree, there attended the Minister of Health, the Secretary of Protection of the Citizenship of the Ministry of Government, Justice and Education; the Secretary of Coordination of the Government, the Secretaries of Public Income and Expenditures of the Ministry of Economy, the Secretary of Environment of the Ministry of Production and Environment, the Coordinator of the Unit of Provincial Coordination of the System of National Tributary and Social Information(SINTyS); the Sub-Director of Statistics and Census of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Planning and the technical team of the Agency of Information Systems, Evaluation and Monitoring of Social Programs (SIEMPRO) Jujuy, who convinced that to progress in the development of these goals it is necessary the multi-sector cooperation from different areas of intervention, offered their active participation with the purpose of promoting the accomplishment of such noble goals.

In this opportunity, it was clearly outlined the commitment assumed by the National State as to face the established challenges arising from the Declaration of the Millennium and the interest of the Province of accompanying this implementation process.

With the intention of approaching this challenge in a coordinated way, it was agreed, with the different representatives of each Government sector, the appointment of two responsible persons in each area to assure an important active participation in the technical meetings to be held in that sense and in the elaboration of a project of progressive implementation being November 8, 2006 the date for the first meeting

For the celebration of such meetings, by the involved organisms, it was proposed that the

Agencia SIEMPRO Jujuy and SINTYS would be the adequate place for the coordination of the same, as well as the venue for the meetings of the technicians on the matter.

The Inter ministerial Technical Team of the Province of Jujuy, coordinated jointly by representatives of SINTYS and of the Provincial Direction of Statistics and Census depending on the Ministry of Infrastructure and Planning, is conformed by the following sectors:

- Secretary of Coordination of the Provincial Government
- Secretary of Education of the Ministry of Education.
- Provincial Work Department of the Ministry of Government and Justice.
- Food Security Department and Economic and Social Development Department of the Ministry of Social Development
- System of Information and data bank of the Industry and Environment Department of the Ministry of Production and Environment.
- Department of Epidemiological Surveillance, Biochemistry Department Ministry of Health
- Operative Control Unit of the Administration of Agua de los Andes S.A

The meetings of the Inter ministerial Technical Team allow to share the information by areas and to analyze the indicators that arise in each of them.

With the purpose of going deeper in the analysis, there were held meetings by areas in order to overcome the special difficulties that arise in each of them for the elaboration of the Provincial Report.

There can be mentioned that the main obstacles in the task are related with Team members rotation and the lack of a computerized registers to establish the baseline as from the year 1990. Without prejudice to the foregoing, in the month of June of the present year there was launched a first version of the Millennium Development Goals of the Provincial Report before the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies.

In this way, the Province of Jujuy has reaffirmed their determination of assuming the Millennium Development Goals, as an expression of the expectations of the society that is willing to believe and contribute to the eradication of differences and exclusions that conspires against the possibilities of development of several sectors.

The road is long, progressive and without doubt there is much more yet to be done for the achievement of such high goals but it is clear that in the North of our country and specially in this Province the first steps have been stamped to achieve these goals without skimping efforts for their accomplishment.

Implementation of the MDGs in the Province of Mendoza

The MDGs were included in the governmental agenda of the Government of Mendoza at request of the former Sub secretary of Social Development that established a work agenda on the matter that still continues effective.

In the contents there was settled an instance of assisted coordination by members of the different ministries with general counseling functions. In its creation, there was an attempt to include the governmental references with an academic profile on the matter.

The stage of follow up was formed by:

- A Coordination exercised by the Secretary of Social Development.
- A main counselor belonging to the provincial SIEMPRO.
- Expert counselors. In this sense, they offer their specific contributions, professionals of the Statistics and Economic Investigations Department, of the Provincial Housing Institute, of the Provincial Maternity and Childhood Department, of Sanity and Environmental Department, of the Provincial Institute of Gender Equity and of the Ministries of Economy and Social Development.

The job modality was organized according to meetings that were made by the coordination with the purpose of launching the thematic program in public agendas, to gain awareness about the necessity of setting the goals and the elaboration of the indicators. The meetings were held in two ways, that is to say: plenary and thematic. In the first category it started with a meeting dealing with general features and with the presence of the members of all the areas (plenary). In the second opportunity they worked on thematic axis.

The factors that facilitated the work are connected with the relative thematic innovation, the global perspective of the subject and the technical interchange as regards the goals and indicators.

The relative innovation is connected to the fact that it is almost an unpublished subject in the governmental areas, in spite of the academic tradition previously seen on the matter. The international diffusion campaign of the MDGs evidently has and used to have a significant incidence in the collective imaginary of local officers.

The global perspective on the subject provoked enthusiasm in the task because it is performed and corresponds to an area of diffuse and prestigious limits.

The technical meetings about the goals and indicators also contributed to create a work atmosphere not so usual in the organizations and the fact of including them in a common paradigm- the MDG- provoked that they facilitated the processes of collective planning, even less frequent, in the public administration.

As a hindrance to the task there must be mentioned the scarce echo reflected in the political local representatives. In fact, the MDGs seem not to have generated constant and committed supports, beyond the usual gestures of understanding on the matter. At the same time, it has not made a contribution to the task of the MDG (without prejudice of being an opportunity), the fact that the Province of Mendoza lacks the sustained tradition of strategic planning and coordination on the matter of public policies. On the other hand, the public tradition of executing policies without diagnosis, goals and precise tools, acts against the whole process. Of this process the areas connected with social policies, health and housing are exempted.

Nevertheless, the construction of consensus about the MDGs –mainly when there are settled feasible, viable and challenging goals- has constituted a profitable exercise which turns back all the previous processes.

The relationship with Statistics and Economic Investigations Department (DEIE) of the Government of Mendoza has been excellent as the same provided all the data and necessary supplies required for the provincial report elaboration, apart from the characteristic and usual organism technical expertise.

The main difficulties in data collection are related mainly with the periodicity and geographic availability.

Once the old public tradition of centralizing the information (in the DEIE) was established and therefore certain thematic areas were given priority due to the natural limitation of technical resources, the same has exceeded different governmental areas expectations.

Due to this, each ministry has been generating and collecting its own data. In this process, the result has been different and unlike. While in some areas it has been possible to establish financing or accessing to data mechanisms provided by national or international organisms, others have been improvising tools and resources to gather valuable information.

On the other hand, and without prejudice to the recent efforts, the availability of the information related to rural areas is also limited. Nevertheless, it seems that this is connected with a national and international difficulty that offers big costs for its reversion.

So far objectives, goals and indicators have been elaborated. The provincial report is in the elaboration and final correction process.

Implementation of the MDGs in the Province of San Juan

The MDGs were implemented in the governmental Agenda of the province of San Juan by decision of the Governor, Jose Luis Gioja, interested in coordinating and articulating public policies with the Nation and the management of Lic. Eduardo Bustelo, counselor in social policies of the government.

With that purpose there was subscribed an association and cooperation agreement with the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies, to join and adjust the initiative established in the Declaration of the Millennium assumed by the country. To carry out the Work Plan designed to achieve this goal, the task was centralized in the Ministry of the Production and the Economic Development under the charge of Antonio Jimenez and there was formed a technical team coordinated by the Institute of Economic Investigations and Statistics (IIEE), in charge of Carlos F. Oyarzún as the Provincial Coordinator.

This technical team had the participation of four professional investigators (an economist; an expert in social statistics, a social scientist and a sociologist) and had under its charge the continuous monitoring of the process, the Final Report elaboration with the inclusion of the final and intermediate goals and the adjustment of long term goals.

The Inter ministerial Cabinet with representatives of each Ministry accompanied the task where Secretaries, Sub-secretaries, Directors, counselors and experts by areas participated.

The Work plan started with the creation of a Technical Team of professionals and the formation of an Inter-ministerial Cabinet; the design of an action plan, their discussion and agreement; the elaboration of a general and methodological proposal; Work Agenda design; the distribution of tasks and chronogram; technical team periodic meetings; and of the inter-ministerial commission and meetings with information suppliers; gathering, processing and analysis of the information and data; elaboration and presentation of preliminary and definitive reports.

In this process there could be identified some factors which facilitated the tasks and some which hindered the assignments, as follows:

▪ Facilitators

- Provincial Government and Governor's Political Decision/ Willingness,
- MDG as an innovative Project for the province;
- Necessity of overcoming isolation of different ministries or areas;
- Awareness of the importance of statistics data practical use

▪ Hindrances

- Weakness of the traditional Statistics System of San Juan;
- Strong dependence on the Nation in the data systematization;
- Impossibility of reconstructing the register of previous Plans and Social Programs to the present administration;
- Lack of knowledge of statistics data practical uses;
- Obstacles/ Delays in the requested information presentation.

At present the Final Report is at consideration of the Executive with the elaboration of a diagnosis of the evolution of the social indicators of the province and the definition of the intermediate and final goals.

Implementation of the MDGs in the Province of Tucumán

The Government of the Province of Tucumán started to work on the Millennium Development Goals in the month of November 2005. The starting point was the decision of the Governor of the Province to elaborate the foundations for a social and productive province development plan because of the National Independence bicentennial. In this line of work, the MDG constitute the core of this plan's strategic points.

With the permanent support of the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies and the Program of the United Nations for the Development, the task was carried out. There was constituted an inter-ministerial team, formed by officers of the areas of Economy, Health, Education, social Policies and Production and coordinated by the Secretary of Planning of the Province and a technical team depending on this Secretary and in charge of the operational work implementation. The technical team was in charge of the implementation of the different stages proposed in the document of the National Council about the application of the MDGs in the provinces and the inter-ministerial team assessed the work result and enabled access to each area of government when it was necessary. The first one has been a full-time work team; the second by the members which conformed it, they held meetings regularly and talked about the improvements and reports elaborated by the technical team. The Provincial Statistics Department, because of depending on the Secretary of Planning, has participated actively in both teams' tasks. The hiring of an external consultant, who is an economist, has been of great importance to the work performed by the technical team.

In the month of March 2006 there were concluded and presented the diagnosis stages of the social indicators and the definition of intermediate and final goals. The diagnosis and goals have been defined taking into consideration certain factors. On one hand, the international context and the evolution of other regions of the world, particularly Latin American, with social and economic conditions similar to the ones of our province and also, national circumstances and the provinces of our country. Both factors, but particularly the last one, have provided us the opportunity to have a critical comparative element at the moment of setting our own objectives and goals. In a special way, the same MDGs established for Argentina itself have been used to create the provincial goals. Specifically, they enable to establish a limit that our proposals cannot exceed as they are part of the same national reality. But at the same time they constitute the framework against which we have decided to measure our own local improvements. In fact, although each province depends on the circumstances and decisions that the country may take as a whole for the fulfillment of our own social and productive goals, on the other hand, we also consider, as a provincial jurisdiction, to close progressively the gaps in respect to the national averages and in this way to measure our own advances and drawbacks.

Arising from the diagnosis and the established goals, they started to work on the inventory of plans and governmental programs through which the provincial State gives an answer to the different realities included in the MDGs, that concluded in an important document of qualitative and quantitative analysis on that situation in the month of November 2006. This constituted one of the most important moments in the provincial implementation of the MDG, as that stage provided the necessary information to assess government actions that should be redesigned to accomplish the established final and intermediate goals.

The conclusions of this work were presented to the person in charge of the different areas of government.

At that moment, November of 2006, the Governor of the Province took a relevant decision for the implementation of the MDGs in Tucumán. All the diagnosis work and setting of the goals made up to that moment would constitute the Strategic Outlines for the Social and



Productive Development of the Province, from which the different areas of government would perform their own specific plans. At the same time and specifically with the objective of being as rigorous as possible in the fulfillment of the MDGs, he decided to include a new Provincial goal related more directly to the productive area and to the economic growth. The goal has been defined as “improve the competitiveness of the Province”, for which there have been established analysis variables, made a situation diagnosis, set goals by 2016 and made an inventory of plans and programs related with the same. This appendix arises from the determination that their evenly accomplishment would allow to generate better structural adequate conditions for the achievement of the other remaining goals at due time.

At present, mid of 2007, The Strategic Outlines have been finished and presented to the Governor of the Province who will announce them shortly.

At the same time, these Outlines have opened three successive lines of work and related among each other. The first one is connected with an internal Government action: to revise, modify and consolidate all those Government actions which might be necessary from the inventory and, the evaluation of plans and programs previously mentioned , to ensure the achievement of the objectives and goals by the year 2015. This line of work has become the framework foundation for specific government plans that each area is performing for the next administration years. The same will be launched by the second half of 2007.

In the second place, as a post- task, the opening to the dialogue with civil society sectors so as to disclosure, share and talk about the present proposals and those of each government area. The greater part of the social and productive goals are impossible to be fulfilled without the jointly assistance of the civil society and the Provincial State.

Finally and also towards the State’s core itself, both the Strategic Outlines and the goals and actions of each area of government will permit a regular and progressive follow up of the public policies and of the fulfillment of the goals through the control mechanisms and periodic assessment.

The Millennium Development Goals and national statistics strengthening

In the Declaration of the Millennium there are identified objectives and goals related with countries development. Follow up responsibility of the MDGs in Argentina has been assigned to the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies (CNCPS) depending on the Office of the President.

The National Statistics System (SEN) should produce the necessary information for the calculation of the indicators that enable to monitor up to which extent the established objectives in these goals are accomplished. For this there must be incorporated the MDG thematic in the usual development of their statistics activities.

The SEN –established by Act N 17.622- is formed mainly by INDEC; by the statistics services of the Ministries and Secretaries of State and statistics services of provincial and municipal governments.

The follow up of the established goals for the MDGs represents a challenge for the SEN in different aspects: maximization of the exploitation and articulation of the statistics sources, identification of the information gaps that limit some indicators elaboration and additional efforts for the improvement of the sector and own statistics of INDEC.

National Field

INDEC has participated since the year 2005 in the meetings of the National Inter-institutional Follow Up Commission of the Millennium Development Goals coordinated by the CNCPS.

Being INDEC responsible of the methodological and normative development for the production of official statistics, it plays a role which goes even further than the participation in interchange meetings and in giving an answer to the demands of statistics information produced by the Institute.

The tasks related to the MDGs included activities such as:

- Elaboration of data about the MDGs for the Second Report País (Country Report).
- Participation in the teams coordinated by the CNCPS for: a) analysis of methodological aspects that arise from the elaboration of the indicators: relevance, feasibility of their calculation and identification of Basic information gaps, conceptual and operational definitions, used sources and variables, etc. and b) elaboration of Metadata.
- Identification of indicators to be included when monitoring the advances of the MDG and to be replaced for not being feasible of being elaborated with the available information.

Provincial Field

The CNCPS has promoted the participation of the provinces in the Project of follow up of the Millennium Goals. Due to this country federal feature, there are many provinces whose Governors decided to define goals for their jurisdictions and to create the indicators for their monitoring. In these provinces, INDEC participates in a significant way supporting the Provincial Statistics Department (DPE).

In this framework INDEC held the following meetings in order to promote and encourage the work in the provinces:

- Joint Session CNCPS-INDEC about the Millennium Development Goals on occasion of the plenary meeting of Provincial Statistics Directors held on October 12, 2005 in Buenos

Aires. There also attended representatives of statistics offices of the Ministries and National Secretaries to this meeting

- First Meeting of Technical Follow up Indicators of the MDG. Meeting of the Region NWA-Cuyo with the provinces that subscribed agreements with the CNCPS to implement the MDG in the governmental and public agendas. Buenos Aires, August 28 and 29, 2006.

In these meetings there were agreements about the necessity of creating conditions that enabled to make inter-provincial comparisons, for which there are required identification tasks of the sources and harmonization of methodological guidelines. This process constitutes an important technical challenge that will have as a consequence a higher coherence among the National Report and the Provincial Reports that may be elaborated to explain the follow up process in the purposes accomplishment designed for the MDG.

The answer to this technical challenge that will enable to have the possibility of having statistics information –in many cases not available at present- for the calculation of provincial indicators in conditions of methodological uniformity, requires the strengthening of SEN. In this way, there will be better conditions that contribute to improvements monitoring of the achievement of the objectives fixed for each one of the Millennium Development Goals.

Additionally, in those Provinces which have joined the initiative, the respective DPE have considered that the activities involved in the process of monitoring the indicators contribute to promote generation and/or strengthening of local statistics, both in their technical and institutional aspects.

International Field

On one hand, INDEC has participated in two international meetings about the MDGs organized by CNCPS;

- Meeting of MDG MERCOSUR 2006. Buenos Aires, September 11 and 12, 2006. Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela participated.
- Millennium Development Goals and Gender Equity. Buenos Aires, 18-20 October, 2006. In cooperation with the Economic Commission for Latin America (CEPAL) and the National Women Council (CNM).

Besides, INDEC has organized international meetings to which the members of CNCPS have attended.

First Joint Meeting of Governmental Experts of the Countries of MERCOSUR: Directors and technicians of the National Statistics Institutes of the four countries with the Responsible persons in charge of developing Social Policies. This Meeting corresponds to the Action 3.5.1 of the Operative Annual Plan of Cooperation Project CE-MERCOSUR on Subject Statistics II. Buenos Aires March 13, 2007.

Workshop “Poverty measurement in Latin America: Poverty Lines and Multidimensional Methods”, organized in cooperation with the Executive Committee of the Conference on Statistics of the Americas (CEA) of CEPAL and Inter American Development Bank (IDB) with the support of the Regional Public Assets Plan of IDB. Buenos Aires 28-30 March, 2007.

These international events had the aim of providing the opportunities to be aware of the statistics possibilities for the construction of the indicators in each of the country members, to make progress in the harmonized treatment of the same and to connect producers and users of statistics information.

In all both national and international meetings, professionals of the National Statistics of Life Conditions Department, Permanent Households Survey Department, Vector Statistics

Department, Statistics of the Primary Sector Department and Institutional Relations Coordination Department and technical cooperation of INDEC have had an active participation. The Coordination Department of the National Statistics System shared the organization of the meeting with the Provincial Statistics Departments and the Department of Statistics on Population and the Studies of Income and Household Expenditure Departments presented their papers in the Workshop for measuring the Poverty in Latin America. The articulation of the activities between CNCPS and INDEC was made through the Coordination Department of Institutional Relations and Technical Cooperation.

Elaboration of National Metadata

Metadata is defined in general as “information over information”¹⁶. It is defined as the set of technical files made for each one of the MDGs follow up indicators.

The Metadata provides basic information for each indicator about the following aspects:

- definition
- justification for their use
- calculation method
- data source
- frequency of their measurement
- comments and limitations

In relation with the Millennium Development Goals, Argentina made a number of modifications: the incorporation of a new MDG, the reformulation of internationally agreed goals, the amendments, tightening and adoption of additional goals and some related with equity and incorporation of the necessary follow up indicators.

The indicators were defined by Ministries competent areas based on the following criteria:

- That they provided a sound idea of the dimension of the process towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
- That they were based on recommendations, standards and the best international practices.
- That they were built from genuine sources, that they were quantifiable and consistent to allow the long term follow up.

The elaboration of the Report País 2005 (Country Report 2005) included in its appendix the main conceptual and operational aspects for the calculation and analysis of each indicator. At the implementation of the initiative at provincial levels it was observed that the before mentioned appendix required deeper developments. At the same time, as from the participation of the country in different regional and international meetings there was evidenced the necessity of harmonization of the methodology aspects involved in the monitoring of the indicators of the MDG.

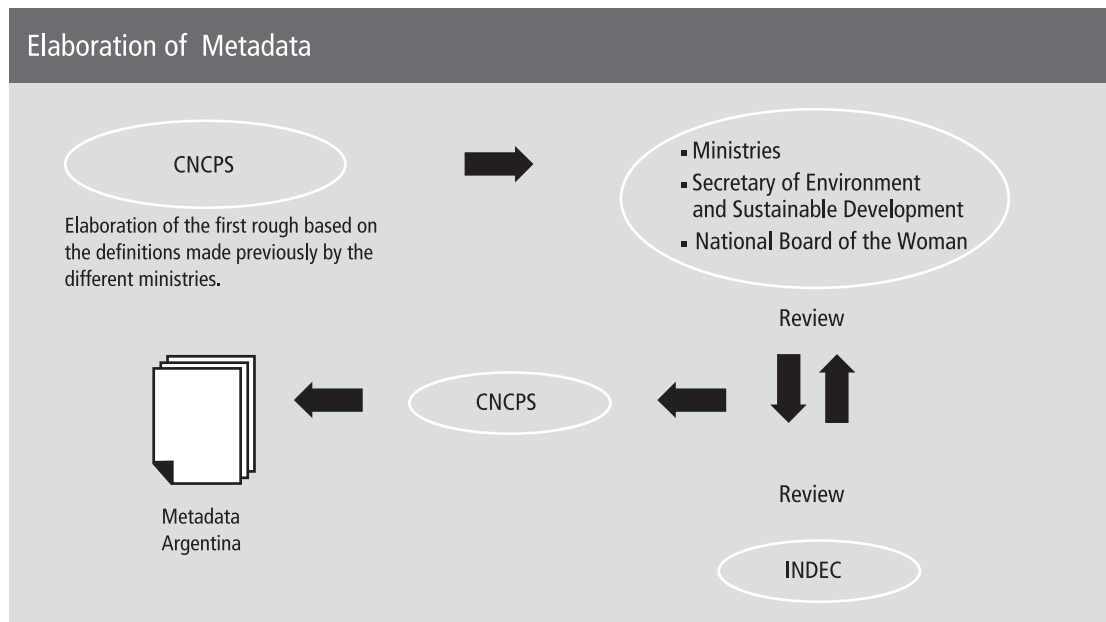
It was then when the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies decided to start the elaboration of Metadata in order to facilitate the interchange among the areas of data producers and users to enable the inter-temporal, inter-provincial, regional and international follow up and to guide the calculation of the indicators in the provincial and local levels.

The elaboration of Metadata was coordinated by the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies with the participation of professionals of the following organisms:

- Ministry of Social Development
- Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
- Ministry of Work, Employment and Social Security
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Federal Planning, Public Investment and Services
- National Statistics and Census Institute (INDEC)
- Environment and Sustainable Development Secretary
- National Women Council

¹⁶“Understanding Metadata”
by National Information
Standards Organization,
www.niso.org

Graph A.1. The elaboration process may be described in the following graph:



Source: Own elaboration

This process was characterized by the effort of interchange and agreement among the involved parties, at the same time it contributed to give more strength to the inter-institutional agreements entered into to go deeper into collaborative work modality among different governmental stages and to strengthen the national statistics capacity.

General framework in relation to empower women's rights and advances in their exercise.

To reach the goals of gender equity, it is required the elimination of basic and deeply-long existing disparities in our social organization to achieve effective gender equality of opportunities. These are supported in two principles. One, in relation to the economic sector, refers to the sexual division of work between women and men. The other, in relation to the cultural sector, refers to the devaluation of "feminine" opposed to "masculine" in the social world: at work, economy, politics and education.

At present there is an important increase of women's participation in the economic activity, improvements in their education levels and in their political participation. However, it has still been difficult to shorten distances with men. Women continue suffering the highest burden of work (includes non-remunerated domestic work and community work), disparities in income level, lesser benefits in social security systems and great differences in decisions-making positions in different private and public sectors.

The analysis of these disparities from gender perspective does not limit itself to the mere comparison between women and men within the social reality supported by the statistics that provide the opportunity for the visibility of the differences but also, highlights the differential effects of the policies in the diverse fields of the society. Such analysis points out that women, regardless their social group, are object of discrimination and remain in a disadvantage condition as regards men.

Such discrimination towards women may be avoided through equity policies that go further the mere roles modification in favor of structural and cultural transformations, implemented in all society sectors and their institutions.

Gender equity is a necessary part of social equity

The adoption of a Human Rights policy as a central axis of the State's administration, as from the assumption of President Kirchner in the year 2003, had, as a necessary correlative, an active policy of promotion of equality and equity between men and women, both at national and international level. In the first place, there was lifted the reticence imposed by our country in 1995 with relation to the Platform of World Action of Beijing, on the matter of definitions of concepts such as sexual health, reproductive health, sexual education and it is promoted with determination in the international forum the effective accomplishment of women's rights, specially, as regards their sexual and reproductive health, access to decent employment, to live a life free from violence and a better harmonization between work and family life. The National Congress passed in the year 2006 the Facultative Protocol of the Convention against the Elimination of Any Kind of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

At an internal level, the National Executive Power has ruled resolutions and provisions, as well as the National Congress has passed laws and rules that impact either directly or indirectly on the condition and position of women in the country.

Rules about the recognition of women's rights made effective as from the year 2003

A) Comprehensive Women Health

The passing of the National Act N° 25.673 which creates Sexual Health and Responsible Procreation Program and of its ruling decree N1282/2003 of the National Executive Power, represents an effective progress in the execution of the respect to human rights of the persons, promoting maternal mortality reduction, lowering the number of hospitalizations due to abortions and undesired adolescence pregnancy. Its importance resides in emphasizing prevention, provision

of contraceptive methods at no cost and in a universal way, access to information and counseling, early detection of cervix Cancer and of Breast Cancer, encouragement to feminine participation in decisions related to their health, quality and coverage of sexual and reproductive health.

In the year 2004 the National Act N° 25.929 was passed about mothers, fathers and sons' rights during birth process known as "humanized labor". It points out the rights of women to be accompanied in and during the labor work by their couple or whoever they may appoint. For this, it is determined to train professionals and to adapt the physical resources in the Nation Health System.

In the year 2006 the National Act N° 26.130 was passed about the Ligature of the Fallopian Tubes to women and of the deferent conducts or the Vasectomy in men. The provinces may regulate this right but not restrain it.

B) Education

The National Act N° 26.058 of Professional Technical Education of the year 2005 in its article 40 concerning the Equality of Opportunities establishes the execution of a line of action to promote the incorporation of women as students in the professional technical education in their different modalities.

The National Act N° 26.150 of the year 2006 creates the National Program of Integral Sexual Education of obligatory application in all the country, in all educational levels and from the 5 years of age. This Law, which will have an impact on the process of acquisition and transformation of knowledge, of attitudes and values regards sexual and reproductive rights, has the aim of generating a higher level of equity in the social relations between men and women.

The National Education Act N° 26.206 enacted in 2006, expressly incorporates in its articles the perspective of gender:

The principles, rights and guarantees established in the National Constitution and in the International Treaties incorporated, compose a legal framework which also includes the Convention about the Elimination of all ways of discrimination against Women.

In its article 11 about the "objectives and goals of the national educational policy", subsection f, establishes: "to ensure equality conditions, respecting the differences between the persons without permitting discrimination of gender and of any other kind".

As regards education quality, in section 84 establishes: "The state should guarantee the material and cultural conditions so that all the students achieve general knowledge of good quality, regardless their social origin, geographical residence, gender or cultural identity". In section 92 it is established that there will be included, in the contents of the general curricula to all the jurisdictions, "the contents and approaches that contribute to generate relations based on equality, solidarity and respect between the sexes, according to the Convention of the Elimination of All the Ways of Discrimination against Women, with constitutional level and the Inter American Convention to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Violence against Women (Act 24.632) and the Facultative Protocol of CEDAW (Law 26.171)".

As regards the permanent education of youths and adults, the programs and educational actions of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology include in their approaches and basic contents "gender equity and cultural diversity" (subsection d, section 48).

Regarding rural education, it is given special importance to gender equity : in section 50, subsection d) there is mentioned "to promote the equality of opportunities and possibilities assuring the gender equity", and in section 51, subsection d), among the general criteria to achieve quality levels similar to the urban, there is mentioned "to organize non-formal

education services that contribute to work training and cultural promotion of rural population, paying special attention to women condition”

C) Work

Once set in forth the National Act N° 25.674 of the Quota for Women in Trade Unions ruled by the decree N° 514/03 of the National Executive Power, there is established a minimum number of feminine integration and participation in syndicate activities and in the delegations for the collective negotiations with the employers’ associations.

The domestic service is a relevant matter of concern in the feminine employment, representing 17.2% of the total of busy women and 22.7% of the total of the employees all over the country. The precariousness of work is one of the characteristics of the conditions in which this occupation is performed. In the year 2005, the National Act N° 26.063 is passed which adds an important incentive for registering household servants, which allows the employer to deduce the amounts of money paid to workers as remuneration from the services rendered from the amount of the income tax and to assign the quantities of the employers’ contributions to a social security special system for household employees. The goal is to provide medical coverage and social security coverage to workers that work as a minimum 6 weekly hours. With an additional payment there can also be obtained coverage for their family.

The National Act N° 26.117 creates the National Program of “Micro credit Promotion” for the Development of the Social Economy and the Local Development, and has a goal the promotion and regulation of a Micro credit as another tool of the Program Manos a la Obra that provides support and benefits to those most vulnerable and abandoned sectors of the society. It creates the National Committee for the Program Coordination that is the organism in charge of managing, accomplishing the goals, follow up and monitoring and designing finance, technical assistance and training programs. The National Women Council is a member of this Committee through its board of directors providing their vision of gender and the inclusion of organizations that work for the equity of opportunities between men and women and the areas of women both municipal and provincial.

D) Gender Violence

In our country there is not either national or provincial legislation about gender violence. The Argentine provinces have laws about family violence and perform several actions for the diffusion of women’s rights and the access to different services: legal assistance, medical care and psychological treatment to victims, by public organisms and/or non-governmental organizations specialized but still in a disarticulated and scarce method. The Inter American Convention to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Violence against Women, where our country has become a member, constitutes the legal framework for the development of actions related to gender violence, considering the state’s duties for the adoption of measures for their accomplishment.

The issue has become significant and generates demands by women all over the country. There appears in this way the need to elaborate and execute a National Plan for the Prevention, Assistance and Eradication of Violence against Women.

In this sense, the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies has created an inter-institutional Committee for the interchange between the different matter-related organisms coordinated by the CNM.

The proposal takes into consideration the necessity of providing comprehensive and coordinated answers to women victims of violence and to their family groups.

Finally, all these actions and measures mentioned account for a strong political determination

of achieving the equity between men and women through the inclusion of broad sectors of the society so as to receive development benefits, the promotion of women participation in political and syndicate representation spheres, the recognition and effective exercise of their health, education, decent employment and a life free from violence rights. All these cooperate with the fulfillment of the compromise with poverty eradication, social inclusion and non-discrimination.

Millennium Development Goals and Human Rights

The MDGs highlight a feature which puts into motion previous international commitments on development matters: their political aspect. The lack of legal obligatory which results both from the nature of the document that gives origin to it –a resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations- and the terms used therein, made Azzam (2005:23) 17 to declare that “The document about the MDGs refers to human rights and to the State of Law in a very light way, but it does not include mechanisms that guarantee the citizens the condition of fairness of those rights and in general lines, it does not adopt legal terminology”.

Nevertheless, there are nowadays interesting vias and still not satisfactorily explored that can provide a legal support, which might help to back up those eight political commitments –nine in the case of Argentina- on related-international legal provisions. One of the most interesting cases appears when the MDGs are approached from a perspective based on Human Rights (DDHH).

Mehr Khan Williams, High Co-Commissionaire of the United Nations for Human Rights tells us that “the MDGs offer one of the most important opportunities in history to achieve human rights of millions of persons, including the right to development” (2005:104)¹⁸, attitude connected with the support provided by United Nations Development Program (PNUD), in the Report of Human Development 2003 when declaring that the values presented by the Declaration of the Millennium as a backup of the MDGs are the same ones that underlie in the Human Rights and therefore, should be used as standards for their axiological assessment¹⁹.

Among these values, the Report mentions freedom, force idea beyond the civil and political Human Rights; equality, which is mentioned after the economic, social and cultural rights; solidarity and common responsibility, foundation base of the “third generation” of Human Rights.

This statement is strengthened if we remember what Antonio Remiro Brotons (1997) ²⁰ states as the pre conceptual ideas on which the protection and promotion of Human Rights lies: universality, indivisibility and interdependence.

Due to this, it is declared that Human Rights are equal for everyone that cannot be analyzed in an individual way but as a unique corpus in which each specific right is in close relationship with the others.

Each one of the principles is present not only in the nature but also in the methodology assumed for the MDGs.

This parallelism between MDGs and Human Rights can be projected towards normative fields. In this way, the interpretation of the generic obligation to establish an international order guaranteeing the accomplishment of Human Rights that appears both in section 28 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in section 2 of the National Treaty of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – documents that together with the International Treaty of Civil and Political Rights constitute the “Human Rights Magna Chart”- acquire an irrefutable condition given by the MDGs.

The fact that Argentina has decided at international level to include a new goal about creation of decent employment, is a contribution whose relevance can be clearly noticed when considering the MDGs as “representations” of fundamental rights, the following table is of great help because direct correlations are introduced among MDGs and the main international treaties on Human Rights.

¹⁷ AZZAM, F. (2005) “The human rights in the Millennium Development Goals Implementation” in Magazine Sur, Year 2, N 2. Digital version in <http://www.surjournal.org>

¹⁸ KHAN WILLIAMS, M. (2005) “The Millennium Development Goals and Human Rights” en Achieving the Internationally Agreed Development Goals. Dialogues at the Economic and Social Council, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Nueva York.

¹⁹ United Nations Program for the Development (2003). Human Development Report. The Millennium Development Goals: an agreement among the nations to eradicate poverty. Multiprensa, Madrid.

²⁰ REMIRO BROTONS, A. (1997) *Internacional Law*, Mc Graw-Hill, Madrid.

Table A.1. Relations among Millennium Development Goals, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Treaty of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Treaty of Civil and Political Rights.

ODM (United Nations)	ODM (Argentina)	Corresponding rules to the DUDH, the PIDESEC and the PIDCP
Eradicate extreme poverty & hunger (Objective 1)		DUDH, section 25 (1); PIDESEC, section 11
To achieve the universal primary education (objective 2)	To achieve the basic universal education (Objective 2)	DUDH, section 25 (1); PIDESEC, section 13 and 14
	To promote the decent work (Objective 3)	PIDESEC, section 6, 7, 9 and 10; PIDESEC, section 8
To promote the equality between the genders and the autonomy of the woman (Objective 3)	To promote the equality and equity of gender (Objective 4)	DUDH, section 2; PIDESEC, section 3 and; PIDCP, section 3
To reduce the child death (Objective 4)	(Objective 5)	DUDH, section 25; PIDESEC, section 12 (2a); PIDCP, section 24 (1)
To improve the maternal health (Objective 5)	(Objective 6)	DUDH, section 25; PIDESEC, section 10 and 12
To fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria and other illnesses (Objective 6)	To fight against HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria and chagas disease (Objective 7)	DUDH, section 25; PIDESEC, section 12
To guarantee the sustainability of the environment (Objective 7)	To assure a sustainable environment (Objective 8)	DUDH, section 25 (1); PIDESEC, section 1, 11 (1) and 12
To promote the world association for the development (Objective 8)	(Objective 9)	DUDH, section 22 and 28; PIDESEC, section 2 (1), 11 (1), 15 (4), 22 and 23

Notes: DUDH: Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos; PIDESEC: Pacto Internacional de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales; PIDCP: Pacto Internacional de Derechos Civiles y Políticos. (Universal Declaration of Human Rights. International Treaty of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. International Agreement of Civil and Political Rights)

Source: Made according to the table that was presented by Shetty (2005)24

Furthermore, while the international conventions about the economic, social and cultural rights mention a progressive advance towards their performance, the MDGs have made progress when establishing a deadline for their accomplishment: the year 2015.

These lines that are herein scarcely outlined make us naturally think over an approach to the rights in the development policies, which implies to recognize that the same should “accomplish the right of respecting, protecting and enforcing human rights and that their holders may demand such respect, protection and performance” (Artigas, 2005:15)21.

An approach to the right of social policies has the benefit of establishing sustainable framework within international standards on Human Rights; therefore it is oriented to a time towards the development and to promotion and protection of Human Rights, now operationally integrated within social policies, politically in the programs of development and internationally respectful of obligations of the State as regards Human Rights. In the same way, it is necessary not to forget that “to assure that the message about the goals is established within Human Rights context as it constitutes the only way to guarantee that these are achieved in a wider and more sustainable way” (Shetty, 2005:8)22.

Finally, like Samir Amin (2005:259)23 stated “the capitalism created all the means that allowed to solve the biggest problems of all countries worldwide; but simultaneously the logics which governs it made this potential unable to be used in such a way”, to strengthen the relationship between the MDGs and the Human Rights, shows a way that will permit to consolidate in a legal way, political commitments on vital issues within the only logics that one or others should consider: the finest respect for the value of the human being.

²¹ ARTIGAS, C (2005) A vision on the social protection arising from the human rights and other international contexts, CEPAL, Serial: Social Policies, number 110, Santiago de Chile.

²² SHETTY, S. (2005) “Declaration and Millennium Development Goals: Opportunities for the Human rights” in Magazine Sur, Year 2, N 2. digital version in <http://www.surjournal.org>.

²³ AMIN, S. (2005) Beyond senile capitalism: For an American XXI century, Paidós, Buenos Aires-México-Barc.

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▪ **MDG 3: Promote decent employment**

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▪ **MDG 4: Promote gender equity and empower women.**

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▪ **MDG 5: Reduce child mortality**

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▪ **MDG 6: Improve maternal Health**

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▪ **MDG 7: Combat HIV/ AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria, Chagas disease and other diseases**

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▪ **MDG 8: Ensure environmental sustainability**

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Acronyms

Acronym	Complete Name
APS	Primary Health Care (Atención Primaria de la Salud)
AHE	Emergency Hormonal Contraception (Anticoncepción Hormonal de Emergencia)
ANLIS	National Administration of Laboratories and Health Institutes
BID	Interamerican Development Bank (Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo)
CABA	Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires)
CEPAL	Economic committee for Latin America and the Caribbean
CDB	Biological Diversity Agreement (Convenio de Diversidad Biológica)
COP	Parties Conference (Conferencia de Partes)
CEDAW	Convention of Elimination of any kind of Discrimination against Women
GEI	Greenhouse Effect Gas (Gas Efecto Invernadero)
CGT	General Labor Association (Confederación General del Trabajo)
CTIO	Triparted Committee of Equitable Treatment and Opportunities
CTI	International Technical Cooperation (Cooperación Técnica Internacional)
CNCPS	National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies
CNM	National Women Council (Consejo Nacional de la Mujer)
COFESA	Federal Health Board (Consejo Federal de Salud)
CMNUCC	Convention Framework United Nations on Climate Changes
CO2	Carbon Dioxide (Dióxido de Carbono)
COMFER	Federal Broadcasting Committee (Comité Federal de Radiodifusión)
CUSS	Changes in usage of the soil and silvicultura(Cambios en el uso del suelo y la silvicultura)
CEPRES	Councillors of Regional Plans of Upper Education
DINIECE	National Office of Information and Assessment of Educational Quality
DEIE	Statistics and Economic Investigation Department
DDHH	Human Rights (Derechos Humanos)
DUDH	Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos)
DGCIN	General Office of International Cooperation
EGB	Basic General Education (Educación General Básica)
EPH	Permanent Household Survey (Encuesta Permanente de Hogares)
ETS	Sexually Trasmitted Diseases (Enfermedades de Transmisión Sexual)
ENOHSA	National Entity of Hydraulic Work and Sanity
FESP	Essential Funtions of Public Health (Funciones Esenciales de Salud Pública)
FO-AR	Argentine Fund of Horizontal Cooperation (Fdo Argentino de Cooperación Horizontal)
GBA	Greater Buenos Aires (Gran Buenos Aires)
GEI	Greenhouse Effect Gases (Gases Efecto Invernadero)
GPSC	Consolidated Social Public Expenditure (Gasto Público Social Consolidado)
INADI	National Institute against Discrimination (Instituto Nacional contra la Discriminación)
INDEC	National Statistics and Census Institute (Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos)
INVGEI	National Inventory of Greenhouse Gases
IGM	Military Geographic Institute (Instituto Geográfico Militar)
IPA	Annual Parasitary Index (Índice Parasitario Anual)
IIEE	Economic and Statistics Investigations Institute
MERCOSUR	South Common Market (Mercado Común del Sur)
MET	Woman, Equity and Labor (Mujer, Equidad y Trabajo)
MDL	Mechanism for Clean Develoment (Mecanismo para un Desarrollo Limpio)

Acronyms	
Acronym	Complete Name
MTCE	Equivalent Carbon Megatons (Megatoneladas de Carbono Equivalentes)
MTESS	Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security
NEA	Northeastern region of Argentina (Noreste Argentino)
NOA	Northwestern region of Argentina (Noroeste Argentino)
N.V.	Live births (Nacido vivo)
ODM	Millennium Development Goals
ONGs	Non-governmental organizations
OTEP	Total Offer of Primary Energy (Oferta Total de Energía Primaria)
PIB	Gross Domestic Product (Producto Bruto Interno)
PIIE	Comprehensive Program for Educational Equality
PIDCP	International Agreement of Civil and Political Rights
PIDESC	International Agreement of Economic, Social and Cultural R
PJJHD	Unemployed Heads Households Program
PNBE	National Scholarships Program (Programa Nacional de Becas)
PNCTB	National Tuberculosis Control Program (Prog Nac. de Control)
PNIE	National Educational Inclusion Program (Prog Nac de Inclusión Educativa)
PNUD	United Nations Development Program (Prog N U para el Desarrollo)
PRM	Middle Income Countries (Países de Renta Media)
PROSOBO	Social Program for Forests (Programa Social de Bosques)
PROSOFA	Program of Social Development on border areas
PAYEE	National Program of Saving and Energetic Efficiency
PYME	Small and Medium Enterprises (Pequeñas y Medianas Empresas)
PMO	Obligatory Medical Program (Programa Médico Obligatorio)
PAYEE	National Program of Saving and Energetic Efficiency
SAyDS	Sustainable Environment and Development Secretary
SIEMPRO	System of Information, Assessment and Evaluation of Social Programs
SYNTIS	System of National Tributary and Social Information
SIFAP	Federal System of Protected Areas (Sistema Federal de Áreas Protegidas)
SEN	National Statistics System (Sistema Estadístico Nacional)
SNVS	National Health Surveillance System (Sist. Nac de Vigilancia de la Salud)
SMVM	Minimun, Living and Movable Wage (Salario Mínimo Vital y Móvil)
TAES	Directly-observed Treatment Strategy (Trat Abreviado Supervisado)
TEP	Fuel Equivalent Tons (Toneladas Equivalentes de Petróleo)
TMI	Child Mortality Rate (Tasa de Mortalidad Infantil)
TMM	Maternal Mortality Rate (Tasa de Mortalidad Materna)
TMM5	Child Under five mortality rate(Mortalidad de Menores de Cinco años)
TRAC	Target Resource Assignment Core – Asignación de Recursos de Fondos Propios
UMSEF	Management Unit of Forest Assessment System
UCC	Climate Change Unit (Unidad de Cambio Climático)

