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# Fifth National Action Plan of Open Government



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## Commitments

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# 1. Introduction

This publication presents a **new edition** of the Fifth National Action Plan of Open Government (2022-2024), which **incorporates a new commitment to Open State**, jointly assumed by the National Directorate of Open Government (DNGA) of the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers and the Directorate of Municipal Affairs of the Ministry of the Interior. According to the criteria established by the Open Government Partnership (OGP), modifications to commitments are feasible during the first year of Plan implementation. In this regard, and given the relevance of the issue for the government and civil society organizations, it was decided to incorporate this commitment following the methodology proposed by the National Roundtable of Open Government (MN) for the Fifth National Action Plan (2022-2024).

The approach to open government issues in the Argentine state has taken a decade. During these years, various advances were made in the agenda and at the institutional level. Argentina joined the Open Government Partnership in 2012, presented four national action plans, and established the National Roundtable of Open Government, a multi-actor forum that coordinates work between the government and civil society on the subject.

Also, from the National Directorate of Open Government of the Undersecretariat of Services and Digital Country - which depends on the Secretariat of Public Innovation - the focal point to the Alliance and the area responsible for the national open government strategy, various initiatives were promoted. The Strategic Open Government Plan (2020-2023) was collaboratively designed to mainstream this approach in public administration. Together with the Ministry of the Interior, the Federal Open Government Program (PFGA) was launched, which originated from a commitment in the Fourth Plan and involved the development of a public policy from scratch. The Federal Program was collaboratively designed with the participation of different actors and accompanied for over a year 50 provincial and local jurisdictions in the development of open government initiatives.

This journey, with achievements and challenges, has transcended various national administrations, a sign that open government is a state policy. It has remained on the public agenda and at the same time has evolved with the social context to address new challenges. Today, its value lies in understanding that sectoral policies are enhanced by incorporating this perspective, can be more effective, have better quality, and align with citizen needs.

The Fifth National Action Plan of Open Government (2022-2024) is the result of collaborative work led by the National Roundtable of Open Government, but the protagonists were the more than 340 participants from 18 provinces who co-created the Plan's commitments. The process included 30 civil society organizations and 8 areas of the national government.



The National Roundtable developed the methodology, evaluated the proposals received, participated in workshops for identifying challenges, dialogue meetings, drafting commitments, and systematized contributions received in the public consultation stage. After presenting the Plan to OGP, the National Roundtable, along with civil society organizations, will monitor the implementation of commitments.

This new edition of the Fifth National Action Plan brings together **seven commitments** aimed at implementing transformative policies to address public issues. The Plan includes novel themes such as: addressing deinstitutionalization processes and social inclusion of people with mental disorders (Ministry of Health); public participation in environmental decision-making within the framework of the Escazú Agreement (Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development); access to information regarding health system providers - on facilities and professionals - contributing to the exercise of the right to health of citizens (Ministry of Health).

It also deepens efforts in terms of gender and diversity perspective policies. In this regard, two commitments are included that address the generation and availability of information to visualize gender gaps and build evidence-based public policies to reduce these inequalities. One commitment addresses gender gaps in the productive system of our country (Ministry of Economy), the other seeks to improve access to information in care policies (Ministry of Women, Genders, and Diversity).

The federal perspective of this Fifth Plan deserves special mention. On the one hand, as mentioned, an Open State commitment is incorporated that seeks to continue and expand the work developed under the Federal Open Government Program. On the other hand, commitments made by national bodies address, in almost all cases, coordinated work in the territory with provincial and local governments. In this sense, a commitment is included whose focus is on citizen participation and control in public works in coordination with provincial governments and other civil society actors (Ministry of Public Works). Federalization was also reflected in the diversity of the participants' origin, one of the challenges posed by the methodology.



## 2. Efforts made to date

The progress made in recent years - from December 2020 to date - in relation to the open government agenda is described below. The achievements made in transparency, accountability, and citizen participation in the national and international agenda are highlighted.

This section brings together the policies and actions promoted by both the National Directorate of Open Government and those developed by other government areas involved in the agenda.

### Transparency and Integrity

The Anti-Corruption Office (OA by its acronym in Spanish) is a decentralized body under the National Executive Power with the aim of strengthening the ethics and integrity of the National Public Administration through the formulation of transparency policies and the prevention and investigation of corruption.

One of the main initiatives promoted by the OA is the [Registry of Integrity and Transparency of Companies and Entities \(RITE\)](#), a voluntary, free, and collaboratively built federal platform that has been available since January 2023.

RITE is the result of a multi-actor collective action and has the support of the World Bank, the IDB, and the UNDP. Its objective is to contribute to the development and improvement of integrity programs, the exchange of best practices, and the promotion of transparent environments in companies and the market.

It is approached through two main sections: firstly, the registry itself, allowing companies and entities to showcase their commitment to business ethics through a self-administered questionnaire divided into three modules: Integrity Program, Gender, and Due Diligence. These modules address issues of integrity and human rights and were developed with the participation of companies, civil society organizations, academic institutions, experts, and public bodies related to the topic. Secondly, the platform has a "toolbox" not only to facilitate registration but also to support companies and entities in the development of their internal policies and enable public bodies throughout the country to have a better understanding of the integrity of companies for their contracts. Currently, 100 companies are registered, 80% of which are private and the remaining 20% public.

The Anti-Corruption Office also opened a collective construction space for the [reform of Law 25.188 on Ethics in the Exercise of Public Function](#) with the intention of overcoming the obstacles and challenges that currently arise in the application of the current law. This process was framed under the guidelines of the Participatory Standards Development Procedure (Decree 1172/2003). In this line, the OA drafted and published a draft text of the



Law on Integrity and Public Ethics so that any individual or legal entity, public or private, interested could contribute to the new normative text with opinions, comments, and suggestions.

For this purpose, for 149 days, the OA enabled two communication channels and held various face-to-face and virtual meetings that facilitated the exchange of ideas. The contribution reception process resulted in 232 comments submitted by 44 participants from various fields, including academia, the private sector, the public sector, civil society, and the general public. In summary, 83 articles out of the 124 that make up the draft document were observed, and 61 articles of the [Draft Law Project](#) were subjected to changes and/or additions.

## National Integrity Strategy

The OA worked on the [National Integrity Strategy \(ENI by its acronym in Spanish\)](#), a comprehensive and preventive public policy aimed at generating policies and promoting practices that act as a barrier to corruption. The ENI is an initiative coordinated with the Undersecretariat of Institutional Strengthening (SSFI) under the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers. It deploys a core set of actions that can be cross-cutting, shared, and implemented with the greatest capillarity and breadth possible among organizations, companies with state participation, and other state entities of the National Public Administration.

As part of the ENI design, work was done to form an Advisory Council to ensure a federal, plural, and balanced representation in its relationship with various social sectors, unions, civil society organizations, and academic centers and with a gender perspective.

To date, the ENI has 90 integrity initiatives from 50 national administration agencies and over 1000 tracking indicators, with a compliance rate exceeding 75%. It is worth noting that the [State Action Map \(MAE by its acronym in Spanish\)](#) is the platform that hosts all the initiatives presented by organizations within the framework of the ENI, along with their degree of progress.

## A New Model for Public Works Management

Since December 2019, the Ministry of Public Works (MOP by its acronym in Spanish) has been consolidating a new model of public works management: one that is close, innovative, and federal, with a strong commitment to reducing inequality gaps, improving people's quality of life, and driving Argentine development through the opportunities and challenges presented by public works.

Initially, within the Secretariat of Administrative Management, the MOP created a National Directorate of Integrity and Transparency to institutionalize integrity and transparency policies and coordinate open government actions to strengthen citizen trust and promote a collective construction of public policies.



In 2020, the ministry conducted, for the first time in Argentina, the MAPS Evaluation, identifying opportunities for continuous improvement. Based on this analysis, a series of actions were initiated to reduce existing gaps in Argentine public procurement compared to international best practices. Additionally, the MOP evaluates and provides feedback on projects based on federal, intersectoral, and internal contributions, with a focus on continuous improvement.

In this context, the MOP promotes a set of policies that encourage citizen participation, transparency, and accountability to enhance institutional quality, strengthen citizen trust, and multiply the impact and sustainability of public works. This perspective has been institutionalized through the creation of the Strategic Plan for Institutional Strengthening, Integrity, and Transparency of the MOP, framing the highlighted open government initiatives below.

Firstly, at the beginning of its administration, the MOP created the [Observatory of Public Works \(Resolution 31/20\)](#), an institutionalized space for participation that fosters dialogue and collaboration among relevant sector stakeholders: business chambers, unions, universities, civil society organizations, federations, and cooperatives. Through joint work, participants seek to implement improvements, strengthen the agency's proposals, and build consensus around MOP policies, tools, and initiatives.

From this space, the Observatory developed Federal Workshops with provincial and municipal governments to incorporate local voices, perspectives, and challenges into the public policy construction process, promoting participation and amplifying the tools of the new management model.

Over these four years, and through collaboration within the Observatory, concrete actions were promoted, such as the first [Code of Ethics for Public Works](#), strengthening the culture of ethics and integrity within the ministry. [The Bank of Experiences of Citizen Participation and Control in Public Works](#) was established, publishing relevant information about experiences involving civil society in the life cycle of works. [The National Award for Participation and Citizen Control in Public Works for Provincial and Local Governments](#) was created, recognizing innovative experiences of participation and citizen control in public works promoted by provincial and local governments (municipalities and communes) related to projects financed by the MOP, among others.

It's important to mention that the ministry promotes the development of sustainable works that meet present needs without compromising future generations. With this goal in mind, work was done to systematize a [Bank of Environmental Practices](#), providing the public with practices that promote environmental perspectives, sustainable development, and climate change in public works.

Additionally, the MOP works on the development of an integrated ecosystem of technological solutions for a more transparent, participatory, and efficient management of public works, adapting to the requirements and opportunities of the 21st century. In this context, a [Strategic Digital Transformation Plan](#) was developed, encompassing various actions in that direction.

Alongside the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the MOP created [MapalInversiones Argentina](#), a freely accessible platform that allows citizens to monitor in real-time where and how the ministry invests, generate comments, send suggestions, and make complaints. Since





its launch, this initiative, which enhances citizen control and accountability, has received more than 2 million visits.

In addition, the [Works Management System \(SGO by its acronym in Spanish\)](#) was developed, a platform that centralizes all projects and works promoted by the ministry, allowing interoperability with other tools, such as MapalInversiones, providing greater efficiency and transparency to the public works cycle.

Furthermore, the MOP launched [GEOMOP, a Map for Territorial Analysis](#), offering open and geolocated data for territorial analysis to facilitate and enhance strategic planning and, thus, strengthen decision-making in public works management. This site is fed by the Open and Geolocated Data Catalog of the Ministry of Public Works, an inventory that organizes and makes available to the public the data offerings.

To digitize and facilitate the management of procedures for provincial governments, municipalities, and contracting companies, the MOP created the [Virtual Office](#). Through this platform, process tracking can be carried out 24 hours a day and remotely, providing greater transparency to the management process.

Moreover, the MOP promotes a set of initiatives aimed at strengthening management capacities in integrity and transparency. For this purpose, it has formed the Network of Areas of Integrity and Transparency of Public Works, composed of the MOP, its decentralized bodies, and companies. This network works on the construction and amplification of integrity tools, citizen participation, accountability, monitoring, and evaluation, among others. Additionally, the MOP has developed its own training platform, offering a variety of training courses.

Finally, to strengthen evidence-based decision-making processes and improve accountability, the [Monitoring and Evaluation Program of Public Policies](#) of the MOP was implemented. The focus is on infrastructure gaps to prioritize investment by generating multidimensional indices, identifying investment gaps in public works, developing an Employment Estimator for Public Works, and contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030, among other initiatives<sup>1</sup>

## Citizen Participation in Climate Policy, Environmental Assessment Procedures, and Implementation of the Escazú Agreement at the National Level

Between 2021 and 2022, the Secretariat of Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Innovation (Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Nation) carried out a variety of participatory actions and spaces, some regulated and others not. Since the entry into force of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation, and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement), participatory processes are designed to gradually involve citizens from the early

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<sup>1</sup> For more information, you can refer to the [publications of the Ministry of Public Works](#)..



stages of decision-making, including territorial instances that reflect the federal nature of the country.

Within the missions and functions of the department is the implementation of the provisions of Law 27,520 on Minimum Budgets for Adaptation and Mitigation to Global Climate Change. In this context, over the past years, various coordination instances have been generated between different areas of the national government, the Federal Council for the Environment, and a diversity of civil society actors. An example is the [Expanded National Cabinet for Climate Change](#), which aims to promote debate with all interested parties (academic sector, civil society, representatives of political parties, unions, municipalities, indigenous communities, private sector, among others) regarding how cross-cutting issues can permeate the design and execution of the [National Plan for Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change](#)<sup>2</sup>. In 2021 and 2022, three meetings of the Cabinet were held, with the participation of more than 2000 people.

Regarding the adaptation component of the Plan, 4 intercultural dialogues were conducted in different regions of the country. These dialogues involved the exchange of knowledge and experiences with representatives of indigenous organizations and communities, collectively diagnosing the risks and impacts of climate change from their perspective and identifying their ways of responding to them. Representatives of 10 indigenous peoples in the NOA region, 13 in the Center region, 11 in the South region, and 11 in the NEA region participated in these dialogues.

In compliance with Law 27,520, which emphasizes the need to prepare society for future climate changes, promote a new environmental awareness to reduce impacts, and increase adaptation through information, public participation, awareness, and capacity-building, the process of developing the National Climate Empowerment Action Strategy (ENACE by its acronym in Spanish) was carried out in 2022. ENACE is an instrument that cuts across public policies for climate action with the purpose of generating and coordinating capacities and skills that drive transformative action against climate change. During this process, 4 workshops were held with provincial representatives, 2 meetings with civil society organizations, 69 self-guided workshops for the general public, and 1 public consultation. In total, more than 1600 people were involved in the [collaborative construction of ENACE](#).

Furthermore, the Secretariat is responsible for promoting and implementing [environmental assessment](#) procedures for nationally jurisdictional projects, ensuring that development initiatives incorporate environmental guidelines in their design, implementation, and management. The environmental impact assessment aims to identify, predict, evaluate, and mitigate the potential impacts that a project or activity may cause to the environment in the short, medium, and long term before deciding whether or not to execute it. In this context,

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<sup>2</sup> The National Plan for Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change to 2030 summarizes the country's policies to limit Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and generate coordinated responses that adapt to vulnerable territories, ecosystems, sectors and communities against the impacts of climate change. climate change.



participatory instances are mandatory and must be carried out before authorizing activities that may have significant impacts on the environment. Until 2021, the only participatory instance that took place was a public hearing in the final stage of the procedures. From 2022, virtual public consultations before the review of the environmental impact assessment were added, and 3 public consultations were conducted, with the participation of almost 1000 people.

In 2022, the Secretariat of Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Innovation was designated as the technical focal point for the Escazú Agreement, which incorporates tools aimed at facilitating access to information, strengthening public participation in environmental decision-making processes, and ensuring access to justice in environmental matters. In this regard, a proactive commitment has been assumed to promote a progressive but effective implementation of the [Escazú Agreement](#) throughout the public administration, both at the national and subnational levels.

As part of its essence, the Agreement puts people at the center and focuses specifically on ensuring significant public participation in all decisions on environmental issues. Thus, in the framework of the construction of the Escazú Agreement implementation plan in Argentina, a diagnosis of compliance with its provisions was carried out in 2022. Based on this diagnosis, opportunities for improvement were identified, and actions were proposed to work towards this improvement. In line with the provisions of the Agreement, these proposals were subject to a [virtual public consultation](#), accessed by more than 2500 people, during which the proposed actions were prioritized.

## Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative - EITI

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is a global standard that provides a framework for governments and companies to commit to and fulfill obligations to publish information about the value chain of extractive activities. Argentina joined EITI in February 2019 as an implementing country. The initiative is overseen by the Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) EITI Argentina, composed of representatives from the public sector, industry, and civil society, jointly led by the Secretariat of Mining and the Secretariat of Energy, both belonging to the Ministry of Economy of the Nation.

In 2019, the MSG, through EITI leaders, undertook the commitment to transparency in Extractive Industries in the Fourth National Open Government Action Plan. The goal was to publish information related to economic, legal, and tax aspects of extractive activities, as well as evaluations of the fiscal costs and benefits of the mining investment regime (Law 24,196) based on a methodology co-created with civil society organizations (CSOs). The initiative also aimed to systematize and make available existing social and environmental information in the Undersecretariat of Mining Development (SDM) on projects requesting the benefit of fiscal



stability under this regime. The overall objective guiding the commitment was to contribute to the governance and transparency of these industries in our country.

Here are the key milestones in the implementation of the EITI standard in Argentina:

**Publication of EITI Reports:**

- Publication of the [First EITI Argentina Report](#) (fiscal year 2018).
- Publication of the [Second EITI Argentina Report](#) (fiscal year 2019).
- Publication of the [Third EITI Argentina Report](#) (fiscal years 2020-2021).

**Provincial Adherence to the Standard:** After working collaboratively with the provinces, on March 2, 2022, Catamarca, Salta, San Juan, and Santa Cruz signed a Commitment Letter to adhere to the standard with the aim of developing a progressive Work Plan (2022-2025) tailored to local priorities.

**Argentina's Validation:** Between January and June 2022, the validation process for Argentina took place, an external assessment mechanism that verifies that member countries are implementing the standard in compliance with its requirements. In June 2022, during the 53rd EITI Board Meeting, Argentina was validated by the EITI Board with a score of 73/100.

**Information Transparency and Open Data:** To facilitate access to information and transparency in the extractive sector, modifications were made to the [EITI Argentina](#) website to make it more user-friendly and accessible to the public. This included adding a glossary, a video "What is EITI?", a section on EITI in numbers, and new visualizations.

In terms of open data, the Secretariat of Energy published the legal and fiscal framework and made available in open format the figures for production and export, as well as non-tax revenues from offshore oil and gas. Similarly, the Secretariat of Mining linked the EITI portal to the [Open Community Mining Activity Information System in Argentina \(SIACAM\)](#) to strengthen the system with tax information from mining companies.

**Adherence to the Opening Extractives Program for Beneficial Ownership Disclosure:** A roadmap was developed to meet the standard's requirement 2.5. Furthermore, as part of the program's adherence, in 2022, the document "Analysis of the legal and institutional framework to advance in the disclosure of beneficial owners of the extractive sector" was prepared. Currently, collaborative work is underway with all stakeholders on a proposal for regulatory amendments.

**Strengthening Initiatives for Gender Equality:** The work plan of EITI Argentina for the years 2022-2023 incorporates not only a specific component to address structural gender inequalities regarding access to formal employment in the mining industry, the consolidation of violence-free, secure, and inclusive work environments, and the inclusion of a gender perspective in the socio-environmental governance of the activity; but it also seeks to mainstream gender perspective in all proposed plan objectives. Activities to date include training sessions in collaboration with provincial governments, both in-person in the province of San Juan and



virtually in the province of Catamarca. Additionally, various studies were conducted to analyze employment and skills in the large-scale mining sector in Argentina disaggregated by gender, diagnose the status of mining companies, among other aspects. In this regard, the report "[Gender Equity in the Argentine Mining Industry: Data for Action](#)" by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is shared.

## Transparency and Citizen Participation in Gender and Diversity Policies

Since its inception, the Ministry of Women, Gender, and Diversity (MMGyD by its acronym in Spanish) has maintained a sustained commitment to the principles of open government, promoting the integration of transparency, integrity, and gender agendas. It was a pioneer in creating a Transparency and Accountability Program ([Resolution 139](#)), the strengthening of which serves as the framework for initiatives and projects to promote transparency, citizen participation, and accountability in the policies developed by the Ministry.

In terms of transparency, the Ministry first projected the design of circuits, procedures, and guidelines to ensure, from the organization, the effective right of access to public information for citizens. In this regard, the Ministry proactively provides reports, infographics, and maps on its website, presenting information about its public policies and their scope. Examples include the 2021 Management Report, "[MMGyD in numbers 2022](#)", [the 2022 Statistical Report of the Integrated System of Gender Violence Cases \(SICVG\)](#), the 2022 Report of [the Registered Program](#), the 2022 Monitoring Report of the Technical Coordination Table led by the Ministry of Women, Gender, and Diversity on "[Institutionality and mainstreaming of the Gender and Diversity Perspective in the National Public Administration](#)", [the Federal Care Map](#), and [the Generate Map](#).

As part of the initiatives assumed by the Ministry in the 2020-2023 Open Government Strategic Plan, the Open Data Catalog was published, including the release of 144 hotline data on the [open data portal](#). This dataset publication prioritizes information most demanded by civil society. The 144 hotline is an assistance, accompaniment, and advisory service on gender-based violence, in compliance with Law 26,485 for the Comprehensive Protection to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Violence against Women and LGBTQIA+ People in their interpersonal relationships. It is a free service operating 24/7 throughout the country, celebrating its 10 years of existence.

The Ministry also initiated the project to publish statistics based on the [Integrated System of Cases of Violence for gender reasons \(SICVG\)](#), making available the annual global report for 2022, two interactive and dynamic dashboards with data on gender-based violence cases, queries, and reports, disaggregated by province and municipality (updated quarterly), and statistics from the Accompany Program ([Programa AcompañAR](#)).

Regarding participatory processes for co-building public policies, various federal participation instances were held between 2012 and 2022. In 2021, virtual federal participatory forums took place for the design of the Equality in Diversity Plan (2021-2023), attended by more than 1000



people contributing their knowledge and experiences to identify needs and propose solutions to close gaps.

Nine regional "Territorial Care Parliaments" (Patagonia, NEA, NOA) were also organized as part of the [Care in Equality Campaign](#), joined by parliaments in the Province of Buenos Aires (Quilmes) and Santa Fe. The goal was to gather federal contributions for the development of the "Care in Equality" bill and the creation of the Integral [System of Care Policies in Argentina \(SINCA\)](#). Three descriptive reports were published, summarizing diagnoses, detailing participating actors, and presenting geographical distribution. In addition to the eleven organized parliaments, 105 rounds of sectorial exchange and reflection were held, with an estimated total participation of over 1600 people.

In 2022, participatory provincial forums were organized for the co-construction of the National Action Plan against Gender-based Violence 2022-2024. A total of 23 in-person forums and one virtual forum (Formosa) took place in 23 provinces and CABA, attended by 3484 people. Twenty-four partial reports were produced during the process, and the final systematization report is yet to be published.

Finally, it is worth mentioning the experience within the framework of Participatory Workshops of the Federal Open Government Program. In 2021 and 2022, in collaboration with the National Directorate of Open Government, a talk and a workshop were organized for the incorporation of gender and diversity perspectives into Open Government projects. Ninety representatives from provinces and municipalities enrolled in the Federal Open Government Program participated. Tools for mainstreaming gender perspective in local projects were provided, emphasizing that open government tools and the gender and diversity approach are key to integrating all voices and moving towards an open, federal, and inclusive state.

Additionally, the MMGYD collaborates with initiatives from other government areas, incorporating information into the [State Action Map](#) (Mapa de Acción Estatal), whose citizen interface allows monitoring strategic actions by thematic areas, including gender and diversity. It also contributed initiatives to the National Integrity Strategy related to the collaborative construction of the Gender module in the Integrity and Transparency Register for Companies (RITE II) and the Gender and Diversity Budget agenda. The ministry actively participates in the Transparency and Access to Information Networks, the Integrity Link Network, and the Open Data Node Network.

## Strategic Plan of Open Government (2020-2023)

The Strategic Plan of Open Government (PEGA) materializes the national open government strategy by articulating the lines of work and initiatives of the National Directorate of Open Government. It is framed within the institutional responsibilities of the Directorate and serves as a guiding tool to mainstream the open government approach in the policy cycle of the National Public Administration (APN) and in different areas and institutions of the State.

The plan was collaboratively developed during 2020 through workshops involving over 100 representatives from various public bodies, provincial and local governments, legislative and



judicial branches, academia, and civil society organizations involved in the open government agenda.

Through the Strategic Plan, the aim is to build a common vision of the open government agenda, generate synergy among agents leading transformations in the field, strengthen the open government ecosystem, and highlight best practices.

In this context, the National Directorate of Open Government (DNGA) reviewed definitions from specialized literature and international organizations (OGP, OECD, OAS, CLAD, ECLAC), surveyed experiences in the field based on testimonials from various actors, and considered the management guidelines of the Secretariat of Public Innovation to draft a conceptual definition of open government. This conceptualization was presented in the public consultation on the PEGA open to the public, which received 4235 users and a total of 200 comments and suggestions. Based on the feedback received, the definition was enriched and finalized as follows:

**Open government is an approach that seeks to strengthen and democratize institutions, involve citizens in public policies, and increase trust and collaboration between governments and society.**

**This approach promotes citizen participation, transparency, and accountability as means to innovate in public management and build an open, present, and federal state that develops effective policies, generates well-being and inclusion, and expands rights.**

Projects in the area are developed based on this collaboratively elaborated conceptualization. The promotion of the agenda in the public sector includes awareness-raising, training, and practical implementation. The initiatives launched by the National Directorate in recent years focused on strengthening collaboration and participation with various actors and citizens and the federalization of the open government approach. The guiding principle for the Directorate's work is the incorporation of the open government approach into public policies as a means to contribute to the inclusion and expansion of citizens' rights.

In this line, the PEGA was structured into five axes, presented as major areas of articulation to carry out the agenda: national open government, federal open government, open state, international open government, and open government ecosystem.

Among the actions and initiatives developed under the PEGA, notable mentions include: the national open data policy promoted by the DNGA through the Open Data Directorate; the launch of "Comunidad Abierta," a collaborative map that gathers and highlights initiatives with the open government approach carried out by governmental and non-governmental actors; the development of synergies and collaboration with areas of the National Public Administration, such as the Ministry of Women, Gender, and Diversity, the Ministry of Public Works, and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, with whom various exchanges and joint initiatives were conducted.



Coordination of actions with provinces through the Federal Council of Public Function (CoFeFuP) and the execution of the Federal Open Government Program, collaborative work with the Federal Citizen Participation Table, and the Federal Lab are also part of the PEGA's scope.

## Open Data

The national open data policy aims to facilitate citizens, civil society organizations, journalists, and the private sector in reusing and generating value and information from the data produced by the national government. Since the implementation of the Right to Access Public Information Law, the foundations were laid for public data held by National Public Administration (APN) agencies to be available in ways, formats, and under licenses that facilitate consultation, access, and reuse.

In this context, the National Open Data Portal ([datos.gob.ar](https://datos.gob.ar)) was implemented as an access point to facilitate the search and consultation of national government data. As of May 2023, the portal has 1173 datasets and 5868 distributions (files) published and documented, involving 36 public agencies. Simultaneously, efforts were made to disseminate guides, recommendations, and technical platforms to facilitate the publication of open data by ministries and line agencies.

It is noteworthy that two data services (Web services or APIs) based entirely on code and open data were incorporated, representing a qualitative leap in the availability, quality, and reusability of government data. The first, the [Time Series API](#), allows querying indicators with chronological evolution published in open formats by APN agencies, facilitating programmatic access to thousands of statistical series compiled from their original source. The second, the [GeoRef API](#), allows normalizing territorial units such as provinces, departments, municipalities, and other entities like localities, settlements, streets, and georeferencing addresses within the Argentine territory, services highly demanded by the public and private sectors.

In addition, to facilitate the publication of open data by provincial and municipal governments, the "Andino Platform" was developed ([andino.datos.gob.ar](https://andino.datos.gob.ar)): a redistributable portal developed by the Data team to assist State agencies at all levels and branches in the process of opening their data. Andino is built on CKAN, the platform chosen by the world's leading experts in open data, and adapted to the experience of opening data at the local level. Currently, the Andino platform is operational on the National Portal, in 17 Ministries, Secretariats, and other APN agencies, in 6 provincial governments, and in 70 municipalities.





### **DATOS.GOB.AR in numbers**

- 1173 datasets
- 5868 data assets
- 3.1 million historical unique users

## National Public Data Infrastructure Program (INDAP)

As of this publication, the National Public Data Infrastructure Program (INDAP) is in the final stage of the participatory process—this last stage consists of a public consultation open to the public—co-creating the regulations for the program. The goal is to update the National Data Public System (SINDAP), which currently has almost 10 years of validity.

This new program will have a broader scope, forming an infrastructure that reflects the current dynamics of the National Open Data Policy and formalizes the spaces for design, planning, execution, and monitoring of data opening promoted by the Open Data Directorate. It works on technologies, methodologies, and open standards. It also seeks to formalize working spaces with technical and political references from the National Public Administration (APN) and those at different levels of government, civil society, the academic sector, among other stakeholders involved in open data matters. It will also highlight existing guidelines with recommendations and formalize them as application guidelines for the publication of data assets.

### Work Axes and Components of the Regulation

The National Public Data Infrastructure Program (INDAP) is formed based on Work Axes with two major dimensions, one that includes technological components within data opening and another that involves those who promote these policies inside and outside the public sector:

#### Technical Dimension

- Open Use Licenses: Criteria will be defined for adopting open-use licenses in publishing assets on the National Data Portal (datos.gob.ar).
- National Metadata Profile for Open Data: The existing profile will be updated, and different governmental jurisdictions will be invited to adopt it.
- Data Quality: Guidelines for publishing data in open formats and identifying and using interoperable entities will be formalized.
- Catalogue of High-Value Data (CDAV): Assets of data that, due to transparency criteria, thematic value, and public interest, should be published in open formats will be identified.



## Executing Dimension

- Opening Roles: Roles within data opening processes in the National Public Administration (APN) will be identified and defined, along with the different functions of each.
- Network of Open Data Referees of the National Public Administration (APN): The working group formed by the referees of data opening within the National Public Administration (APN) and the Open Data Directorate will be formalized, creating a space for work, discussion, and exchange to improve the data opening strategy within the national government.
- Argentine Open Data Roundtable (MADA): A space will be created that will allow articulation between the members of the Network of Open Data Referees of the National Public Administration (APN) and other sectors of society interested in discussing and reflecting on the implementation of policies aimed at data opening at different levels of the State, as well as on their reuse by society, in order to make a significant contribution to economic, educational, technological, and social development.

## Collaborative Working Groups

As mentioned in the previous sections, the development of the National Public Data Infrastructure (INDAP) draws on proposals, ideas, suggestions, and recommendations from various actors in civil society, academia, government, and the private sector. During the months of March and April 2023, four virtual Working Groups were held as part of the co-creation process of INDAP. The conducted Working Groups were as follows:

- Working Group 1: Network of Open Data Champions (for te ones from the National Public Administration).
- Working Group 2: Argentine Open Data Roundtable + High-Value Data.
- Working Group 3: Metadata.
- Working Group 4: INDAP Foundations.

Representatives from different government levels, as well as members of civil society organizations, academia, private companies, and individuals without any representation, participated in these working groups.

The Working Group focused on National Public Administration (APN) was attended by 23 people from 15 organizations. In contrast, the three open Working Groups involved 90 people from different backgrounds. The results of the working groups were made available in the [public consultation](#) to receive contributions and suggestions from the public.



## Digital Citizen Participation

To promote citizen participation in public policies, the National Directorate of Open Government manages the "[Public Consultation Platform](#)," a channel for dialogue and debate that enables interaction between the government and the community. Its objective is to strengthen participatory and deliberative democracy through the plurality of voices and the inclusion of various perspectives, social actors, or interested citizens.

On this platform, projects, ideas, initiatives, or regulations from government agencies and institutions that wish to receive inputs from citizens in the planning (or eventual implementation) of policies can be debated. As part of the PEGA, there was a proposal to enhance the use of the platform in the National Public Administration (APN).

From its creation until April 2023, 57 public consultations were conducted, and the first two Federal Public Consultation platforms were set up in the municipalities of Pergamino and Bariloche.

## Articulation and co-creation with civil society

The [National Roundtable of Open Government](#) serves as the coordination instance between the government and civil society, functioning as a multi-stakeholder forum to lead the open government process in Argentina. It emerged in early 2017, within the co-creation framework of the Third National Action Plan and was formalized through Resolution 132/2018. In this way, a coordination instance between the Government and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) was institutionalized to coordinate actions within the framework of Argentina's participation in the Open Government Partnership, as well as to promote open government policies beyond the Partnership.

The National Roundtable respects a balanced composition of sectors, and currently, representatives from the Undersecretariat of Services and Digital Nation of the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers (which replaced the former Undersecretariat of Open Government and Digital Country, assuming its functions), the Secretary of Political Affairs of the Ministry of the Interior, the Anti-Corruption Office, and the Access to Public Information Agency participate as representatives of the national government. Representing civil society, from January 2021 to April 2023, participants included Acción Colectiva, Fundación Huésped, Fundación para el Desarrollo de Políticas Sustentables (Fundeps), and Democracia en Red. For the next two years, elected from the Network of Civil Society Organizations for an Open State in Argentina, the participants will be: Democracia en Red (renewing its mandate) along with Directorio Legislativo, Asociación Civil Somos Pares, and Red Ciudadana Nuestra Córdoba.

It is worth noting that the presidency of the National Roundtable of Open Government is held by the head of the Undersecretariat of Services and Digital Nation. Meanwhile, the National Directorate of Open Government is responsible for executing actions for the



implementation of Action Plans, representing the chair at various forums, and providing the necessary support to fulfill the commitments made to the Open Government Partnership, among other responsibilities. The National Roundtable led the co-creation process of the Fifth Action Plan: it developed the methodology, agreed on key themes from which to convene participatory workshops to identify challenges, participated in moderating the workshops, systematized the information, agreed with the responsible organization on the challenge to be addressed in each theme based on the prioritized ones in the workshops, evaluated the proposals received for each challenge, participated in the dialogue meetings where each organization presented a draft commitment, and agreed on the final wording of the commitments.

## Open Community

A collaborative map aimed at visualizing projects that incorporate the open government approach. It gathers initiatives on transparency and open data, accountability, innovation, or citizen participation implemented in Argentina by government agencies at different levels of government and branches of the State, civil society organizations, and academia.

[Open Community](#) emerged as a proposal in the diagnosis stage of the Strategic Plan, stemming from the need of those involved in the Open Government Ecosystem to generate new spaces for collaboration and intersectoral dialogues to expand and strengthen networks. It also arose from the demand to make experiences in open government visible. Currently, 72 initiatives are mapped. One of the components of the Federal Open State Program of the Fifth Plan includes expanding this collaborative map.

## Federal Open Government

Since the beginning of the new administration, achieving a more federal and inclusive country has been set as one of the priorities. In this regard, the federalization of open government tools and principles has been a fundamental axis for provinces and municipalities to design and implement policies for openness, accountability, and citizen collaboration.

The National Directorate of Open Government (DNGA) worked within the framework of the Strategic Plan for Open Government, on the one hand, in the execution of the commitment of the Fourth National Open Government Action Plan, which involved the participatory design and implementation of a federal-level open government program. On the other hand, it worked on the development of synergies and collaborations between the national government and the provinces within the framework of the Federal Council of Public Administration (COFEFUP), an articulation space that seeks to ensure the federal construction of public policies and the strengthening of the State.



## Federal Open Government Program

The [Federal Open Government Program](#) emerged as a commitment of the Fourth National Open Government Action Plan (2019-2022), assumed by the National Directorate of Open Government (Chief of Cabinet of Ministers) and the Directorate of Municipal Training (Ministry of the Interior). This commitment also materialized the [OGP Local Strategy](#) in its national-local articulation component.

The diagnosis identified the uneven development of open government tools and principles in federal-level public policies as an issue. The Program aimed to promote the co-creation of policies between the government and civil society organizations and citizen participation in the public policy cycle. It also sought to diversify the actors who feel addressed as an open government community of practice.

In this sense, the Federal Program was [designed](#) through a participatory and sequential process during 2020. First, in-depth interviews were conducted to incorporate the perspectives, needs, and visions on the open government approach from representatives of provincial and municipal governments, academic institutions, and civil society organizations. Second, an online questionnaire was developed to diversify, weigh, redefine, and/or validate the findings obtained in the interviews, which received 554 responses. Finally, an open public consultation was held for the public, which had more than 4000 visits and 130 contributions from the community.

As a result of the participatory process, a phased approach was proposed. The first stage consisted of a synchronous course "Introduction to the open government approach," which took place between May and June 2021 through the [Virtual Learning Platform](#). It involved the participation of more than 770 representatives from provincial and municipal governments, as well as civil society organizations, academia, and other spaces. The second stage addressed a course on the Methodology for the design of open government projects, held in virtual format between June and August 2021, with the participation of more than 130 representatives from provincial and municipal governments. Towards the end, participants presented original open government projects, many of which were nominated for the third part.

After the synchronous editions, the courses were published in a self-managed format on the Virtual Learning Platform and involved the participation of more than 4000 people from across the country. The third and final stage involved the implementation of provincial and local projects that incorporate some of the principles of open government. A [Jury](#) -composed of individuals with recognized experience in open government- selected 50 projects from nine provinces and 35 municipalities, eleven of which were co-created with civil society. The teams responsible for the projects received training and technical support during the implementation process, and the progress of each initiative was documented on the commitment's website.



At the end of the Program, the Jury evaluated the projects for the awards, distinguishing five initiatives in the categories of accountability, citizen participation, innovation, transparency, and open data. At the same time, ten initiatives were distinguished in other categories related to the agenda..

### Program Results

Over 2000 people trained in Introduction to the open government approach

Over 2700 people trained in the Methodology for the design of open government projects

Implementation of 50 projects from 9 provinces and 35 municipalities

15 distinguished initiatives in different categories

### Outstanding Commitment of the Fourth National Open Government Action Plan

The Federal Open Government Program was one of the commitments that achieved the best implementation results and significant government openness.

In this Fifth Plan, the National Directorate of Open Government and the Directorate of Municipal Affairs of the Ministry of the Interior have taken on a new commitment called the **Federal Open State Program**, which proposes to continue and deepen the work done. One of the proposed goals is to cover new jurisdictions through the implementation of 70 projects and include more institutions from the legislative and judicial branches.

### Federal Work and Collaboration Spaces

Within the framework of the Open Government and Innovation Commission of COFEFUP, which brings together representatives from the 23 provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, activities are carried out to expand the agenda and mainstream the principles of transparency, innovation, and citizen participation in the territory. One of the main products developed by the Commission was the survey of federal indicators for access to information, open data, integrity, citizen participation, collaboration, and innovation.

During 2021 and 2022, various meetings, workshops, and discussions were held on topics such as open public innovation, citizen participation, Sustainable Development Goals, and opening budgetary data, among others. The DNGA supported the Commission in the design and implementation of projects and participated in various meetings and workshops. Another space for coordination and collaborative work is the Federal Table of Citizen Participation, composed of political-executive representatives of provinces and municipalities responsible for civic participation initiatives. Throughout the development of the Federal Program, the Table's support was obtained, and activities were carried out to promote citizen participation in decision-making at the federal level.



## Outstanding Commitments of the Fourth National Action Plan of Open Government

The Fourth National Action Plan of Open Government (2019-2022) resulted from a co-creation process in 2019, with 16 commitments originally planned to be completed by 2021. Due to the change in the national administration and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the execution deadlines were extended by one year according to OGP mechanisms. Modifications were also made during the first year of the Plan's implementation, as per OGP mechanisms. Two additional commitments were incorporated in agreement with civil society: one on Comprehensive Sex Education assumed by the Ministry of Education and another that emerged from the split of the Open Congress Plan into commitments by the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. Thus, the Fourth Plan consisted of 18 commitments with an execution deadline until August 2022. The National Roundtable of Open Government agreed on the methodology for possible modifications to commitments as well as virtual implementation.

Among the commitments that achieved significant results were:

- **Open Congress Action Plan of the Chamber of Deputies:** The objective was to design and implement the first [Open Congress Action Plan of the Chamber of Deputies](#) through a participatory process. The commitment was made up of five milestones on the co-creation of the plan and one on its implementation. The process resulted in an action plan with five commitments to be implemented over a year and a half. The commitments substantially implemented, according to the OGP IRM evaluation, covered themes such as gender equality and sexual diversity, openness, accessibility, and interoperability of legislative documents, citizen participation in the legislative process, access to public information from commissions, and the Virtual Open Agenda. The Open Parliament Network and various areas of the Chamber of Deputies participated in the process.
- **Federal Open Government Program:** Covered in the previous section.
- **Federal Observatory for the Implementation of Comprehensive Sex Education:** The commitment aimed to create a Federal Observatory for the Implementation of Comprehensive Sex Education (OFESI), composed of various actors linked to the educational community and civil society in general. OFESI sought to collect and systematize information to monitor the national and jurisdictional implementation of Law 26,150 on Comprehensive Sex Education. OFESI was formed and formalized through [Resolution 1789/21](#) of the Ministry of Education. Regulations for its operation were established, and various committees



held meetings. [Key indicators](#) were identified, and databases on the implementation of Comprehensive Sex Education were published, as well as [summary information on the jurisdictional ESI 2020 form](#) at the provincial level. This commitment had been proposed by civil society on several occasions but was initially excluded due to a lack of consensus during the co-creation of the Fourth Action Plan in 2019. However, after the change in national authorities in 2020 and the opportunity to make modifications to the Fourth Action Plan during its first year of implementation, consensus was reached between the government and civil society, leading to the co-creation of the OFESI commitment with the Ministry of Education as the lead.

## International Open Government

In 2021 and 2022, Argentina participated in multilateral spaces, maintained bilateral exchange and collaboration on open government matters.

In collaboration with the OECD, Argentina, along with Colombia, participated in 2021 as a reviewing country in the [Open Government Review for Brazil](#). Numerous meetings and interviews were conducted to outline the state of the open government agenda in the neighboring country, analyzing policies and practices over the last decade. Results were presented in a [virtual-in person event](#) in September 2022. In early 2023, the 6th Meeting of the Open Government Working Group was held, where 31 countries participated in person and virtually. There were exchanges and interventions in various sessions on the design of holistic open government strategies, measuring the impact of reforms, incorporating citizen participation and deliberation in public decision-making, and protecting civic space at the national level.

As part of Argentina's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), from October 2020 to September 2021, the country co-chaired, alongside Blair Glencorse of Accountability Lab, the Thematic Leadership Subcommittee of the OGP Steering Committee. This subcommittee aimed to promote key themes that encourage national commitments and coordinate agendas with other forums and multilateral organizations to promote open government values and principles. In this role, coordination work was carried out with the [Action Network](#), a pilot program recognizing and supporting the work of governments and civil society organizations driving specific reforms and inspiring in thematic areas.

Additionally, between September 26 and 29, 2022, the [Regional Meeting of the Open Government Partnership "Open America"](#) was held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Argentina participated in the ["Open State and Local Governments"](#) panel, presenting the





work carried out in the design and implementation of the Federal Open Government Program as a materialization of the national-local strategy promoted by OGP. The meeting brought together various communities on essential topics such as transparency, integrity, corruption prevention and fight, protection of rights and freedoms, democratic governance, data and technology for the common good, inclusion of vulnerable groups, citizen participation and collaboration, environmental protection, and sustainable development.

Finally, bilateral meetings were held with different countries in the region, including Peru, Canada, and Brazil, where discussions focused on the importance of implementing National Open Government Strategies for the consolidation of agendas, and best practices were shared in the field.



## 3. Methodological development

The methodology used for the co-creation of commitments in the Fifth National Action Plan of Open Government (2022-2024) was collaboratively developed by the National Roundtable of Open Government<sup>3</sup>, a multi-stakeholder forum consisting of representatives from civil society and the government. The National Board was formalized through Resolution 130/2018.

Following the methodological recommendations of the Alliance's Points of Contact (POC) Manual (2022) and taking into account the Participation and Co-creation Standards - validated in January 2022 - it was agreed to include a maximum of ten (10) commitments in the Fifth Action Plan, each of which could include up to five (5) milestones. In this regard, OGP emphasizes that to achieve a high-quality action plan, between 5 and 15 commitments should be included. Additionally, this number facilitates monitoring by the involved actors as well as interested citizens.

The National Board established in writing the prioritization criteria for topics to be included, assessed their relevance and potential to be part of the Fifth Action Plan. In this line, it was agreed that commitments should address a public interest issue, have a transformative impact, be specific, viable, and highlight the principles of transparency, citizen participation, and/or accountability. Also, the actions to be implemented must have measurable impacts.

The methodological proposal structured the co-creation of commitments in different participatory and sequential stages. Therefore, within the framework of the National Board, topics were defined to convene participatory workshops where the main challenges in the theme were identified. Subsequently, a call for citizen proposals with solutions to the identified challenges was made. Finally, virtual dialogue meetings and a public consultation were conducted where responsible entities received comments, contributions, and suggestions on the commitment drafts from citizens and organizations.

In this way, the process aimed to **strengthen participation in identifying the problems** to be addressed in order to generate more informed proposals and broaden the involvement of different actors in the early stages of the co-creation process.

Thus, the aspiration was to include new groups and individuals interested in the themes, under the premise that a participation instance focused on thematic challenges could provide more tools for sustained involvement and generate commitments that effectively respond to public problems.

In this regard, the methodological design took into account the recommendations made by the Independent Review Mechanism (IRM) of OGP in the Design Report of the Fourth

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<sup>3</sup> The National Roundtable of Open Government at the time of designing the methodology and carrying out the co-creation process was formed as follows: representing the Government, the Undersecretary of Services and Digital Country, the Anti-Corruption Office, the Ministry of the Interior and the Access to public information; and representing the CSOs were Acción Colectiva, Democracia en Red, Fundación Huésped and Fundeps.



National Open Government Action Plan<sup>4</sup>. There, the IRM recommended that commitments focus on defining problems that admit open government solutions and designing strategies focused on recruiting social actors to improve both the quantity and quality of participation (p.4).

In order to enhance **federal participation** in the co-creation process, instances open to the public were held in digital format, using platforms for virtual meetings, a [section on argentina.gov.ar](#), and the public [consultation portal](#).

Also, the methodology incorporated an innovation regarding the implementation of commitments. Based on institutional experience from previous plans and the results of a workshop with organizations from the Network to evaluate the Fourth Plan's process, it was concluded that civil society participation was higher during the co-creation stage of the plan and lower during implementation.

Therefore, with the aim of strengthening participation during the implementation (and monitoring) of the Action Plan - in line with OGP's<sup>5</sup> participation and co-creation standards - the National Board agreed to incorporate a **participatory component** in all commitments, which would be reflected in their final wording. The component (dialogue table, meeting, workshop, co-creation instances, among others) was defined in the co-creation process of each commitment.

In summary, this methodological proposal is ambitious regarding the co-creation process and addresses the challenge - shared by the National Board and the Civil Society Organizations Network for an Open State - of expanding participation and involving actors from different spaces and locations in the country. It also seeks to ensure that organizations and citizens can have at least one open dialogue instance with the responsible entity during the implementation of the Plan<sup>6</sup>.

The information and documentation of the Fifth Action Plan's process are available on the official portal of the Argentine State (Argentina.gov.ar), in [the web section of the Fifth Plan](#), which is updated as news occurs to keep citizens informed.

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<sup>4</sup> See Design [Report of the Fourth National Open Government Action Plan](#). At the time of the methodology development process that was developed between March and May 2022, only the Design Report of the Fourth Plan was available. In August 2022, the IRM recommendations for the co-creation process were received via email. By that time, the process of co-creation of the Fifth Plan was underway and the methodology had already been developed and published.

<sup>5</sup> According to the Participation and Co-creation Standards (OGP, 2022), standard 5 refers to: "Offer inclusive and informed opportunities for dialogue and constant collaboration during the implementation and monitoring of the action plan" (p. 3). Available in <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Esta%CC%81ndares-de-participacio%CC%81n-y-cocreacio%CC%81n.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> The document Standards of Participation and Co-Creation (OGP 2022) mentions that research on OGP processes showed that public participation during the implementation stage improves the results of the commitments.



# Co-creation process of the Plan

## Stage 1. Prioritization of Topics

As the initial step in the co-creation of the Fifth National Action Plan of Open Government (2022-2024), the National Roundtable of Open Government established in writing the criteria for prioritizing topics to address in the Plan:

- **Relevance:** The importance of the topic was analyzed concerning the priorities of public policies for government management and commitments made by Argentina on regional and global levels.
- **Pertinence:** Evaluation based on the potential contribution to the values promoted by the Open Government Partnership (transparency, accountability, citizen participation).
- **Feasibility:** The execution capacity of the topic was considered based on shared interest among government and civil society actors.

Potential themes emerged from the analysis of results from a workshop with civil society organizations held in March 2022, aimed at extracting lessons from the Fourth Plan's process for designing the methodology for the Fifth Plan. Surveys were also conducted with organizations in the Civil Society Organizations Network for an Open State in Argentina. Once a list of themes was compiled, it was analyzed among National Board members in light of the defined criteria (relevance, pertinence, and feasibility), and a priority order was established based on consensus.

The following nine topics were prioritized:

- Access to information about healthcare providers.
- Escazú Agreement.
- Water.
- Healthy eating (implementation of the Healthy Eating Promotion Law).
- Open State.
- Care policies.
- Public works.
- Mental health.
- Access to information about healthcare providers.



## 1.2 Raising awareness about open government and co-creation of the Fifth Plan

The National Directorate of Open Government held awareness meetings with the responsible areas for the prioritized thematic agendas to invite them to participate and explain the co-creation process of the Fifth Plan. This ensured the involvement of decision-makers in various stages.

In this regard, an [informative brochure](#) was developed explaining Argentina's participation in the Open Government Partnership, introducing the National Roundtable of Open Government, providing examples of open government commitments, and describing the co-creation methodology of the Fifth Plan along with the dates of the process stages and the responsibilities of participating organizations. This material was sent via email to officials from agencies responsible for prioritized topics and made available on the website.

It was also shared with organizations in the National Board to disseminate to the Civil Society Organizations Network for an Open State in Argentina. A specific meeting on the Fifth Plan was held with this network to contribute to informed participation by civil society in the process.

### Stage 2. Participatory Workshops to Identify Challenges

Based on the themes prioritized by the National Roundtable of Open Government (see Stage 1), citizens were invited to participate in virtual workshops to collaboratively identify the main challenges for each theme. The goal was to promote informed participation, starting with the definition of public problems and then collectively thinking and building solutions (commitments).

In this sense, the concept of a challenge was defined as "a situation to be resolved, a problem understood as an improvement opportunity. A starting point to think about solutions from various perspectives and thus solve a problem considering different facets." This definition was explained and disseminated in various participatory and informative instances developed throughout the Plan, as well as shared on the website.

To organize the workshops and the call for participation, the potentially responsible agency proposed, with the agreement of the National Roundtable of Open Government, a title that framed the theme/workshop. The workshop dynamics and a participation protocol (coexistence rules) were also made available on the website to provide interested citizens with this information. Meetings were also held with agencies to explain the dynamics.

The call was published on [Argentina.gov.ar](#) in advance, along with a form to register for participation in the workshops (those who registered received an email with the virtual room access link and materials). It was also disseminated through the National Directorate of Open



Government's mailing list, and members of the National Board and potentially responsible agencies for commitments were asked to contribute to the dissemination.

More than 300 people participated in the workshops, including civil society organizations, interested citizens, national agencies responsible for the thematic agenda, members of the National Board (who moderated), and, in some cases, members of academia and municipalities who joined the co-creation process.

The workshop dynamics lasted approximately 2.30 hours and were structured in two moments: an expositional one where the current situation (diagnosis) on the theme was presented, and another for group discussion (up to ten participants) to dialogue and identify the main challenges of the agenda. Prior to this, the National Directorate of Open Government provided an introduction to the meeting's objectives, a brief video with key notions about Open Government and the OGP process, and an explanation of the workshop's coexistence rules.

The expositional moment was led by the potentially responsible agency for the commitment and a civil society organization involved in the theme. They shared their views on the subject, reported progress on the agenda, and future challenges. Participants could ask questions or make comments via chat.

In the second moment, participants were divided into groups of 10 people to discuss the main challenges of the agenda in virtual rooms moderated by the National Directorate of Open Government team and National Board members (two moderators per room). The first 20 minutes of this segment were devoted to open discussion or brainstorming, which was recorded on a digital canvas (Jamboard) for visualization and subsequent grouping of similar ideas (concepts) according to the group's agreement. Subsequently, among the identified challenges, up to three per room were prioritized in a feasibility and impact matrix (in terms of implementation by the agency and in relation to the agenda and interest, respectively). A spokesperson was chosen for the common presentation. Finally, participants in the main room shared the results and challenges arising from each group and prioritized up to three challenges in a new feasibility and impact matrix.

Nine thematic workshops were held between August and September 2022:

- Environmental Democracy: Citizen Participation and the Escazú Agreement (Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development).
- Participation and Citizen Oversight in Public Works (Ministry of Public Works).
- Data and Surveys on Care Spaces and Infrastructures (Ministry of Women, Genders, and Diversity).
- Mental Health and Deinstitutionalization Processes for People with Mental Health Issues in the Key of Social Inclusion (Ministry of Health).
- Access to Information and Healthcare Service Providers (Ministry of Health).
- Strengthening Federalization and Expanding the Open Government Community of Practice (Chief of Cabinet of Ministers and Ministry of the Interior).



- Access to Information and Transparency in the Management of Water and Sanitation in the AMBA (Argentine Metropolitan Area) - (Water and Sanitation Argentina -AySA-).
- Citizen Participation in the Implementation of the Healthy Eating Promotion Law (Ministry of Health).
- Women in the Federal Productive System: More Evidence, Less Gap (Ministry of Economy).

### Stage 3: Public Instance for Receiving Proposals

The National Roundtable systematized the results of the workshops and, together with the responsible body, selected a challenge for each topic, among those already prioritized in previous meetings.

The thematic challenges were published on the [Fifth Plan's website](#), along with a brief explanation of the concepts of open government and challenge.

- Environmental Democracy: Citizen Participation and the Escazú Agreement (Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development). Challenge: How to expand the federal participation base by promoting involvement from the early participation stage to decision-making in environmental matters?
- Participation and Citizen Control in Public Works (Ministry of Public Works). Challenge: How can the Ministry of Public Works, in coordination with provincial and local governments, strengthen mechanisms of citizen participation at different stages of the public works cycle?
- Data and Surveys on Care Spaces and Infrastructure (Ministry of Women, Genders, and Diversity). Challenge: How to improve the accessibility, centrality, currency, and completeness of information on care spaces, considering both current and under-construction supply and demand (current, potential, satisfied, unsatisfied)?
- Mental Health and Processes of Deinstitutionalization of People with Mental Health Issues in the Key of Social Inclusion (Ministry of Health). Challenge: How can we promote community support in the deinstitutionalization process of people with mental health issues and collectively strengthen support systems within the framework of the National Mental Health Law implementation?
- Access to Information and Transparency in the Management of Water and Sanitation in the AMBA (Argentine Metropolitan Area) - (Argentine Water and Sanitation - AySA). Challenge: How to improve, together with citizens, access to useful and understandable information about the service and systems for water and sanitation for end-users? (Includes monitoring of works and financing opportunities for popular



neighborhoods).

- Citizen Participation in the Implementation of the Law for the Promotion of Healthy Eating (Ministry of Health). Challenge: How can an institutionalized space be generated to guarantee citizen participation in the implementation and monitoring of the Law to achieve its effective compliance throughout the country?
- Women in the Federal Productive System: More Evidence, Less Gap (Ministry of Economy). Challenge: How can we coordinate and work with the private sector, provincial and local governments, and civil society organizations to identify productive public policies at the local level and data with a gender focus?

Citizens were invited to submit **proposals for actions or commitment ideas** to address each of the selected challenges through a form collaboratively designed by the National Roundtable. The call took place between October 3 and 26 and was disseminated through the DNGA mailing list. As in other instances, responsible commitment bodies and organizations that are part of the National Roundtable were requested to collaborate with dissemination.

The National Roundtable also defined the criteria for selecting proposals, which were published on the website:

- Relevance: Refers to one of the selected challenges and includes one or more open government principles.
- Viability:
  - a) The proposal is within the mission and functions of the organization that will assume the commitment.
  - b) It is feasible to be executed within two years (until December 2024).
  - c) Resources.

In addition, it was established that viability would be evaluated jointly with the potential commitment body.

According to the established criteria, proposals had to respond to the posed challenge (or contribute to a response) through one of the open government principles. The form included guiding questions to be answered, aiming to guide their elaboration. This sought to inquire about the objectives of the proposals, which open government principle/s they were linked to, what ideas/solutions were proposed to address the challenge, and whether the proposals had an impact or affected women, LGBTIQ+ communities, and how, or whether they included a gender and diversity perspective. These guiding questions aimed to encourage reflection on the ideas proposed by citizens, ensuring their consideration from the initial stage of commitment design.





The received proposals were published on the [Fifth Plan's website](#) for citizens to review. Over 70 proposals were received, initially analyzed by the National Roundtable according to the established criteria. Subsequently, they were sent to the responsible bodies for possible incorporation—either fully or partially—into the commitment's wording, with timely responses in case of non-selection. The responses were published on the same website where the received proposals were made available.

### 3.1 Virtual Session

With the aim of promoting informed participation, a virtual and open informational session was conducted on October 11 by the National Directorate of Open Government. The session was broadcasted on the Secretariat of Public Innovation's YouTube channel and recorded, garnering over 360 views.

During the session, concepts of open government and challenges, the role of OGP, the Fifth Plan process, selected thematic challenges, and information on proposal submissions were briefly shared. The YouTube chat was utilized for participants to ask questions.

### Stage 4: Preliminary Drafting of Commitments

The responsible body, along with the National Roundtable, analyzed the proposals received in the public instance based on their viability and impact<sup>7</sup>. As mentioned earlier, proposals could be taken partially or completely, provided they met the established selection criteria (see Stage 3). Out of the 70 proposals received, 20 were assessed as relevant and viable and were fully or partially incorporated into one of the commitments. The remaining proposals could not be included either because they did not address the posed challenge—this was the majority of cases—or because they exceeded the competencies of the potentially responsible areas for the commitments<sup>8</sup>.

With the proposals and inputs from the workshops, each responsible body **drafted a commitment outline** in the OGP model template, following the guidelines set in this

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<sup>7</sup> In this instance, after having carried out the challenge workshops and the call to receive proposals, it is pertinent to clarify that a consensus was not established around the following topics: Open State (JGM, M. del Interior), Water and Sanitation (AYSA) and Healthy Eating (Front Food Labeling Law (M. Health). The proposals received in the virtual instance in the cases of Open State and Water and Sanitation mostly do not respond to the challenge posed (criterion of relevance) and others do not meet the feasibility criterion. Since consensus was not reached within the deadlines required by the Action Plan process, it was proposed within the framework of the National Roundtable to continue the co-creation process with the other six themes and carry out efforts to advance the remaining issues outside the process of co-creation of the Plan. In this context, the civil society organizations that had been participating in the process were informed by email and a meeting was held to discuss with the CSOs in pursuit of continue the co-design of the Plan. However, conversations continued within the framework of the National Table after December 2022, and a consensus was achieved regarding the issue of an open State to carry out the pending instances of the co-creation process during the months of February and March 2023. , a commitment that added to this new edition of the Fifth Plan.

<sup>8</sup> The proposals and their responses are published [here](#).



methodology. Commitments were required to include a maximum of five milestones, with concrete and measurable expected results and completion dates within the framework of the Plan's execution timelines. Additionally, each commitment had to include a participatory component. Throughout this process, organizations received guidance from National Roundtable members.

It's worth noting that both the National Roundtable of Open Government and the responsible organizations participated in a workshop conducted by the OGP Country Support and Independent Review Mechanism teams to share best practices for commitment design.

## Stage 5: Public Consultation and Dialogues on Commitments

The commitment drafts were published on the [Public Consultation](#) portal to gather input and suggestions from the public for two weeks, from December 1 to 15, 2022. Eighteen comments were received, compiled by the National Roundtable, and forwarded to the responsible bodies for analysis regarding their relevance for incorporation into the commitments. For the commitment on open government, the consultation was available from March 10 to 31, 2023, receiving 35 comments from 24 participants.

After the public consultation, a conclusion report summarizing the process was prepared and is available on the platform. It records whether the comment was incorporated into the commitment (in the case of modification suggestions) or not<sup>9</sup>.

During the public consultation, **virtual open dialogue meetings** were held for the public, where each responsible body presented the commitment draft. The meetings aimed to discuss the process through which drafts were developed and receive feedback, questions, and contributions from organizations and stakeholders interested in participating. To facilitate the work, the spreadsheet was shared on the screen, and comments were recorded by moderators—members of the National Roundtable and the Open Government National Directorate team—visible to all participants.

One virtual meeting was held for each commitment, lasting 1.30 hours each. Prior to this, the schedule with meeting dates and the registration form were published on the [Fifth Plan website](#). Reminders were sent through the DNGA databases, and National Roundtable members, civil society organizations, and responsible bodies were asked to contribute to the dissemination.

Representatives from the National Roundtable, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), responsible bodies, and interested citizens participated in the seven dialogue meetings. In

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<sup>9</sup> Two closure reports are published on the platform that summarize the results of the consultation carried out in December 2022 ([see closure report](#)) and another with [the report on the open State commitment](#). It is noted whether the comment was incorporated into the commitment (in case of suggestions for modifications) or not. In the latter case, the reasons why it was decided not to include the suggestion or contribution will be briefly justified.



most cases, the bodies received contributions from participants that were incorporated into the commitments. They also answered queries and clarified why some suggestions could not be included.

## Stage 6: Consolidation and Plan Presentation

After the dialogue meetings, once the public consultation was completed, and comments and contributions were evaluated, the responsible bodies, together with the National Roundtable, consolidated the drafting of commitments according to the guidelines established by OGP. The Plan document was drafted, and the first version was submitted to the Open Government Partnership in December 2022. This updated edition will be presented in May 2023.



# Commitments





# 1. Public participation in environmental decision-making within the framework of the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Argentina

<b>Commitment number and name</b>	<b>1. Public participation in environmental decision-making within the framework of the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Argentina</b>		
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	This commitment aims to generate and enable conditions to advance broad federal participation in environmental decision-making processes from their initial stages.		
<b>Commitment leader</b>	<b>Cecilia Nicolini</b> Secretary of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development <a href="mailto:sccdsei@ambiente.gob.ar">sccdsei@ambiente.gob.ar</a>		
<b>Supporting stakeholders</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Civil society</b>	<b>Other Stakeholders</b>
	Secretariat of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Fundeps  Acción Colectiva	N/A
<b>Covered period</b>	December 2022 - december 2024		



## Definition of the problem

### 1. What is the problem that the commitment seeks to address?

In April 2021, the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (better known as the Escazú Agreement) came into force, approved by our country by Law. 27566. The Escazú Agreement marks a fundamental milestone in the strengthening of environmental democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean, through the incorporation of tools aimed at facilitating access to information, strengthening public participation in environmental decision-making processes and guarantee access to justice in environmental matters.

This Agreement places a series of obligations on the State and requires proactive actions for the effective implementation of these access rights, among them, implementing open and inclusive participation from the initial stages of the decision-making process, so that Public observations are duly considered and contribute to said processes, understanding that early participation strengthens the governability of public policies, gives them legitimacy, allows potential conflicts to be anticipated,



and contributes to greater citizen empowerment.

From the latest experiences of our Secretariat in the generation and facilitation of participatory processes, both regulated and unregulated, data emerge that justify the need to generate conditions that allow expanding the base of federal participation in environmental decision-making.

Some examples:

- Public hearings in environmental evaluation procedures: 60% of the participation corresponded to people from the province of Buenos Aires, 26% to the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (CABA) and the rest was distributed among the other provinces.
- Public consultations in environmental evaluation procedures: the highest percentages of participation also correspond to the provinces of Buenos Aires and CABA, adding values close to 50% between both jurisdictions.
- Expanded Tables of the National Climate Change Cabinet (2021): more than 1,100 registrations were registered with representation of 24% of the province of Buenos Aires, 22% of CABA, 8% of Córdoba, and the rest distributed in the other provinces.
- Climate Action Weeks: the participation of the province of Buenos Aires together with the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (CABA) amounts to between 34% and 67% participation (2021 and 2022, respectively), and the rest is distributed among the others provinces, highlighting Córdoba and Entre Ríos.
- Public consultation on the National Action Strategy for Climate Empowerment: CABA (40%) and the province of Buenos Aires (25%) stand out, while the rest of the provinces represented 35%

Regarding ensuring early participation in decision-making processes, this is a permanent demand of Argentine civil society and is also an obligation included in the Escazú Agreement. However, there is still no consensus regarding the timing of the process that is considered “early,” especially considering that there are different types of environmental decisions and stakeholders involved. That is why it becomes necessary, as a first step, to construct in a participatory manner a concept of “early participation”, at least for the two large groups of decisions considered by the Agreement: those that require an environmental permit or license, and those that are linked to other matters of public interest (such as strategies, standards, programs, regulations, among others).

Consequently, increasing the levels of citizen participation and expanding the scope of the calls will only be possible if the conceptual foundations of early participation are previously laid and the enabling institutional conditions are generated so that every decision with potential socio-environmental impact includes participatory processes from beginning to end.

## **2. What are the causes of the problem?**

Although Argentina has an extensive regulatory history in the recognition of access rights (access to public environmental information, citizen participation in environmental decision-making processes, and access to justice in environmental matters), there are still some challenges ahead. in the full and effective exercise thereof. Added to this is the fact that the Escazú Agreement came into force very recently, leaving multiple measures and actions ahead for its effective implementation.

From a diagnostic exercise that the Secretariat is carrying out on the current state of compliance with the provisions of the Agreement in Argentina, it emerges that the first of these challenges consists of creating and strengthening national capacities.



These actions constitute a driving force for the progressive implementation of the Agreement and a transversal pillar of all its provisions.

This not only applies to the subjects bound by the Agreement (governments), but also to its legal subjects (individuals). Knowing and understanding the national regulations on access rights and the related procedures and mechanisms is the fundamental basis for exercising them effectively, promoting accountability.

### Commitment description

#### 1. What has been done so far to solve the problem?

Between 2021 and 2022, the Secretariat has launched a variety of actions and participatory spaces linked to its substantive powers, some regulated and others unregulated. In all cases, since the entry into force of the Escazú Agreement, we have begun to design our participatory processes in such a way that citizens are gradually involved from the earliest stages of decision-making. Likewise, we have added territorial bodies that allow us to reflect the federal character of the country.

Some examples of them are:

- Meetings of the Expanded Board of the National Climate Change Cabinet: they had the participation of more than 2,000 representatives of the academic sector, workers, civil society, representatives of political parties, unions, local governments, indigenous communities, private sector, among others, who have been involved in the entire process of designing inputs for the national climate policy (National Determined Contribution - NDC, Long-Term Strategy to 2050, National Plan for Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change).
- Preparation of the National Action Strategy for Climate Empowerment (ENACE). It included workshops with provincial leaders by region, self-guided workshops for the general public, a public consultation, among others.
- Construction of the adaptation component of the National Plan for Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change: intercultural dialogues were held in different regions of the country, in order to exchange knowledge and experiences between representatives of indigenous organizations and communities and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS), to collectively carry out a diagnosis of the risks and impacts of climate change from the perspective of Indigenous Peoples, and identify their ways of responding to them.
- Environmental assessment procedures: until 2021, the only participatory instance was a public hearing in the final stage of the procedure. In the last year, we added prior public consultations during the review of the environmental impact study.

It should be noted that all these actions are based on the principles of non-regression and progressivity that guide the implementation of the Escazú Agreement. The principle of non-regression recognizes a minimum level of environmental protection that must be respected, and proposes that the advances and standards achieved in this regard do not have setbacks and are maintained over time. From this starting point, the principle of progressivity implies going one step further and represents a positive obligation for the State, which translates into the search for gradual, constant and systematic advances towards continuous improvement in the full realization of human rights. environmental.

Added to the above is that in 2022, the Secretariat of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation (SCCDSEI) was designated technical focal point of the Escazú Agreement.





In the first instance, a process of articulation has begun with the areas of the national government with jurisdiction in the matter, with the purpose of promoting implementation of the Agreement in a transversal manner throughout the public administration. At the same time, different actions have been carried out to strengthen institutional capacities and disseminate the Agreement in different areas of the national government and provincial and local government teams.

## **2. What solution does the commitment seek?**

An effective implementation of the Escazú Agreement will only be possible in a gradual and progressive manner, in order to ensure the robustness of the mechanisms and actions that are put in place to comply with the obligations assumed by Argentina as a State Party. Furthermore, in the case of a country like ours, with a federal government system, it will be necessary to promote devices that allow an adequate arrival of these actions at the territorial level.

Thus, the Secretariat's proposal aims to lay the foundations for the promotion of broad, inclusive, informed and accessible citizen participation during the decision-making process on environmental matters, in line with what is established by the Escazú Agreement.

Specifically, it is proposed to:

- Participatively build the notion of “early participation”, in order to have a consensual starting point when designing decision-making processes in environmental matters.
- Strengthen the capacities of public organizations in terms of access rights, with special focus on promoting the right to citizen participation from the early stages of the decision-making process.
- Increase the dissemination of information, resources, news, and the promotion of access rights in environmental matters to advance greater citizen empowerment.
- Generate enabling conditions to expand the base of federal participation by promoting spaces for institutional articulation with representation at the provincial level.

## **3. What results do we want to achieve with the implementation of this commitment?**

By strengthening the capacities of national and jurisdictional officials and technical teams, it is expected that they will be able to promote the adequate exercise and protection of access rights in environmental matters.

Furthermore, through the construction of a specific website on the Escazú Agreement and access rights in Argentina, along with the availability of training open to the public, it is expected to increase and strengthen the informed participation of citizens in environmental matters.

Once these minimum conditions have been generated, a process will begin to designate territorial focal points (both public and civil society) for the Escazú Agreement, in the spirit of making firm progress towards local actions to comply with its provisions.

<b>Commitment Analysis</b>	
<b>Questions</b>	<b>Responses (if not applicable, respond N/A)</b>
1. How will the commitment promote transparency?	Starting with the creation of a website, which will contain updated information about the Escazú Agreement, access rights in environmental matters, links to available environmental information systems, news and any other relevant information. On the other hand, including participatory instances throughout the commitment will also contribute in this sense.



2. How will the commitment help foster accountability?	N/A
3. How will the commitment improve citizen participation in the definition, implementation and tracking of solutions?	<p>The collaborative construction of the conceptual bases of “early participation” will provide greater solidity to future participatory processes, since it will be a consensual guideline with social legitimacy.</p> <p>In parallel, the strengthening of capacities within public organizations will promote the understanding of the breadth of participation and the identification of different modalities, according to the characteristics of the decision to be made and the potentially impacted community.</p> <p>In this same sense, but from a citizen perspective, participation will only be effective if it is done in an informed manner. For this reason, it is essential to generate a space that consolidates and integrates all the information available on access rights in environmental matters, as well as awareness-raising and training options on the matter.</p>

Commitment Analysis		
Milestones	Expected Results	Expected completion date
1. Collaborative construction of the conceptual bases of the notion of early participation in environmental issues.	<p>1a. Carrying out at least 1 in-person workshop and at least 2 virtual ones, in which civil society organizations, the academic sector, public organizations, the private sector, among others, will be invited to participate by April 2023</p> <p>1.b. Document prepared with the bases conceptual concepts for a definition of early participation elaborated.</p>	June 2023
2. Development of a website that disseminates information related to the access rights that make up the Escazú Agreement and the actions carried out for its implementation.	2a. Website hosted on the page of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAyDS), with clear language and diversity of resources for all citizens, and whose contents comply with the provisions of Law 26,653 on Accessibility of Information on Web Pages . (it will incorporate a counter of actions, workshops, training, etc., as well as news and updated information on activities linked to access rights)	April 2023



<p>3. Training of public administration officials and technical teams for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement at all levels of government, with special focus on the public participation pillar.</p>	<p>3.a Publication of a virtual course on the MAYDS campus, aimed at public administration officials and technical teams, with synchronous and asynchronous instances by April 2023</p> <p>3b. Holding at least 6 talks and workshops aimed at national, provincial and local teams by December 2023</p> <p>3c. Carrying out at least 6 editions of the course (3 for each year of the commitment)</p> <p><i>(All progress and results of this milestone will be communicated on the milestone 2 website)</i></p>	<p>December 2024</p>
<p>4. Citizen awareness and training on the provisions of the Escazú Agreement and the exercise of access rights in environmental matters.</p>	<p>4.a. Publication of a virtual course on the MAYS campus, open to the general public in August 2023</p> <p>4b. Distribution of information in physical format through existing territorial devices as of December 2023</p> <p>4c. Carrying out at least 6 editions of the course (3 for each year of the commitment).</p>	<p>December 2024</p>
<p>5. Designate focal points in the jurisdictions, both in the public sphere and in civil society, to promote the creation of a federal network for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement.</p>	<p>5.a. Design and implementation of the election process for civil society focal points by June 2024.</p> <p>5.b. Invitation to jurisdictions to designate public sector focal points by August 2024.</p> <p>5.c. Election of civil society focal points, through an open process of nominations and voting.</p>	<p>December 2024</p>



## 2. Participation and citizen control in public works

<b>Commitment number and name</b>	<b>2. Participation and citizen control in public works</b>		
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	The commitment seeks to expand the scope of citizen participation and control in the different stages of public works, through the strengthening of the mechanisms, spaces and tools established together with citizens and key actors in the sector.		
<b>Commitment leader</b>	<b>Roxana Mazzola</b> National Director of Transparency Ministry of Public Works <a href="mailto:rmazzola@obraspublicas.gob.ar">rmazzola@obraspublicas.gob.ar</a>		
<b>Supporting stakeholders</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Civil Society</b>	<b>Other Stakeholders</b>
	National Directorate of Transparency, Ministry of Public Works (MOP)	Red Ciudadana Nuestra Córdoba  Asociación Civil por la Igualdad y la Justicia (ACIJ)  Directorio Legislativo	N/A
<b>Covered period</b>	December 2022 - December 2024		

Problem definition
<p><b>1. What is the problem that the commitment seeks to address?</b></p> <p>Public works are an instrument of economic growth and job creation, but also of equalizing access to basic services, mobility, public spaces and sanitation for the entire population. In particular, they can influence the reduction of infrastructure gaps that affect the most vulnerable population and reduce structural inequalities of gender, age and territory.</p> <p>Participation is conceived from a comprehensive vision: as a resource to improve public management, a democratic guarantee and a key tool to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of investment, promote transparency and accountability.</p> <p>However, there is a growing citizen distrust in the management of resources allocated to Public Works in the region, and in Argentina in particular.</p> <p>That is why the main problems to be addressed are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Low participation and involvement of citizens in the Public Works cycle.</li> <li>- Limited monitoring and supervision by civil society over public resources.</li> </ul>



These problems are linked to the gaps identified by the MAPS evaluation (Methodology for the Evaluation of Public Procurement Systems) when analyzing accountability, citizen participation, integrity and transparency in public procurement in Argentina. The Ministry of Public Works of the Nation (MOP) carried out the [prospective and comprehensive evaluation](#) of the contracting of public works with MAPS methodology during the year 2020.

## 2. What are the causes of the problem?

- Citizen distrust in the management of Public Works.
- Lack of an active policy of citizen participation and control institutionalized and sustained over time by governments.
- Practices of citizen participation and control in Public Works with heterogeneous modalities and approaches.
- Skepticism about the impact capacity of citizen participation in public decision-making.
- Lack of knowledge of tools, mechanisms and spaces for citizen participation and control.

### Commitment description

#### 1. What has been done so far to solve the problem?

Since the new administration took office in December 2019, the Ministry of Public Works has promoted a new management model that is established on the principles of integrity, transparency, open data, evidence-based decision making with citizen participation and control, to generate sustainable public works with federal scope that close inequality gaps.

In this framework, citizen participation and control is a transversal axis of public works management. This perspective is realized through the promotion of initiatives that improve institutional quality throughout the public works cycle and prioritizes its triple impact: social, economic and environmental.

In 2020, the ministry created the [Public Works Observatory](#), a space for plural participation and inter-institutional coordination, made up of universities, unions, business chambers and civil society organizations, within the framework of which recommendations and contributions were made from the integration of views, approaches and experiences, regarding a set of thematic proposals. Since then, decision-making based on exchange and consensus with relevant actors in the sector has been encouraged.

Another initiative is [MapalInversiones](#), a georeferenced information platform developed in conjunction with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). This tool makes available to citizens the knowledge and control of the works and projects carried out by the MOP, providing information on the location of public works, the amount invested and their progress status (physical and financial) through images, and updated data. In addition, it enables a channel for participation and permanent monitoring by citizens, who can make comments or complaints if they notice any irregular situation.

[Citizen Participation and Control Experience Bank](#) is another initiative which arose from the need to design and promote a common citizen participation and control policy linked to public works. A Bank of Practices was built to compile, systematize and make available citizen participation and control experiences developed in the Ministry of Public Works, its decentralized organizations and companies. In this way, we sought to make visible, value and typify existing experiences, standardize methodologies and promote the recognition of good practices. During 2021, a survey was carried out that allowed us to identify the conception and



approach that each area or promoting organization has regarding citizen participation, and provide information on their strengths and vacancy areas for a better design of the participation policy. and citizen control in Public Works. ([See more information about the Experience Bank](#))

In addition to this, in 2022, the [National Award for Citizen Participation and Control in Public Works for Provincial and Local Governments](#) (municipalities and communes) was launched with the aim of identifying, highlighting and making visible innovative experiences of participation and citizen control in Public Works promoted by the provincial and local governments of our country.

During 2020 and 2021, basic consensus and main guidelines for the construction and formulation of the Public Works Code of Ethics were established within the framework of the Observatory. The Code includes in its text the multiple contributions and suggestions formulated within the framework of the aforementioned participatory process and is the result of the shared effort of the different actors committed to national public works.

Likewise, the [Ethics Code](#) stands out for having an expanded perspective of ethics, since it not only upholds the values of integrity, transparency and accountability, but also incorporates those related to the perspective of gender, democracy, sustainability and the environment. , and in particular assumes citizen participation as an ethical principle.

## **2. What solution does the commitment seek?**

The Ministry of Public Works, through the National Directorate of Transparency, proposes the creation of new spaces, mechanisms and tools, as well as the consolidation and institutionalization of a set of policies that allow greater involvement of civil society in the management and the control of public works.

Along these lines, the expansion and institutionalization of some of the promoted strategies is foreseen. From these, it is expected to achieve a greater scope and impact of the promoted actions. At this point it stands out:

- Development in MapalInversiones of the Citizen Control in Territory module.
- Consolidation of the Public Works Observatory as an instrument of inter-institutional participation for the improvement of public works and transparency policies with local, federal and international scope.

On the other hand, the development of new strategies:

- Citizen Participation and Control Program in Public Works.
- Training and awareness-raising events aimed at the substantive areas of the MOP, its decentralized organizations and companies, as well as provincial and local governments, citizens and civil society organizations.
- Manual of Standards of Citizen Participation and Control in Public Works with the objective of facilitating the incorporation of participatory criteria and procedures in the planning and management of public works within the scope of the Ministry, its decentralized organizations, entities and companies, provincial and local governments .

## **3. What results do we want to achieve with the implementation of this commitment?**

- Improving transparency in public works.
- Increase in citizen confidence in the management of public resources.
- Greater efficiency and effectiveness of investment in public works.
- Institutionalization of spaces, mechanisms and tools for citizen participation.



- Strengthening public debate, consensus, citizen trust and legitimacy in decision-making.
- Active involvement of citizens in the entire cycle of Public Works.

Commitment Analysis	
Questions	Responses (if not applicable, respond N/A)
1. How will the commitment promote transparency?	<p>The commitment is based on a conception of citizen participation and control from a comprehensive vision: as a resource to improve public management, a democratic guarantee and a key tool to promote transparency and accountability.</p> <p>In this sense, the commitment promotes different strategies aimed at generating more and better mechanisms, participation tools aimed at guaranteeing access to information and the active and direct involvement of the different actors and/or citizens in the stages of the cycle of the public work.</p>
2. How will the commitment help foster accountability?	<p>The commitment promotes accountability as it encourages citizens to be directly involved in the monitoring and control of the works.</p> <p>For example, through the development of the Citizen Audit Module in MapalInversiones, citizens will be able to make a report to verify the accessibility, existence and/or inconsistency of the information provided by the platform. They may also include comments, photographs and notable information about the work and its impact on community development.</p>
3. How will the commitment improve citizen participation in the definition, implementation and tracking of solutions?	<p>Commitment drives different strategies aimed at generating the active and direct involvement of the different actors and/or citizens in the stages of the public works cycle.</p> <p>Its implementation will improve citizen participation and control as it seeks to expand the scope and impact of participatory processes and instances. To do this, it is necessary to generate the conditions that make citizen participation and control possible/enable, as well as provide content and tools that allow the appropriation of the different participation mechanisms, spaces and tools.</p>



	That is why the commitment also addresses the need to deploy a training and awareness strategy aimed at different levels of government, citizens and civil society organizations, to reflect, encourage and promote citizen participation and control in the different instances. of the public works cycle.
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Commitment Planning		
Milestones	Expected Results	Expected completion date
1. Promote a program of citizen participation and control in Public Works to promote transparency, accountability and citizen trust within the framework of an open government management model.	1a. Citizen Participation and Control Program in Public Works approved by resolution that establishes minimum standards of citizen participation and control in Public Works financed by the Ministry, its decentralized organizations and companies, taking into account the national and international guidelines and good practices on the matter.	June 2023
2. Develop in a participatory manner with civil society actors the Manual of Standards for Citizen Participation and Control in Public Works aimed at provincial and local governments.	2.a. Two (2) workshops with civil society organizations to define the contents and scope of the Manual of Standards for Citizen Participation and Control in Public Works.  2.b. Report that systematizes the participants involved, the scope, contributions and recommendations made.  2.b. Manual of Standards of Citizen Participation and Control in Public Works approved by resolution.	December 2023
3. Carry out dissemination activities for the Manual of Standards for Citizen Participation and Control in the Work.	3a. Presentation of the Manual in at least 2 (two) instances with provincial and local governments and actors in the sector.	June 2024
4. Carry out citizen control instances in the territory in at least 10 Mapa Inversiones Works. Works that have total or partial financing from the MOP will be considered, based on a federal territorial representation.	4a. Publication of the report of the citizen control bodies carried out in the territory.	December 2024





<p>5. Expand the scope of the Public Works Observatory by incorporating the representation of local actors (provincial and municipal)</p>	<p>5.a At least 5 (five) meetings by December 2023 and 5 (five) meetings by December 2024 of the Public Works Observatory reaching 10 (ten) provinces of the country.</p> <p>5.b Development of 3 (three) Local Public Works Observatories as a result of strengthening local management capacities.</p>	<p>December 2024</p>
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### 3. Women in the federal productive system: more evidence, less gap

<b>Commitment number and name</b>	<b>3. Women in the federal productive system: more evidence, less gap</b>		
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	Through a federal diagnosis, the Ministry of Industry and Productive Development will systematize, analyze and disseminate a mapping of productive policies with a gender focus implemented in the provinces of Argentina. The survey will be carried out collaboratively with the provinces and will contain information on sectoral and industrial policies that address occupational, sectoral and income segregation based on gender in the provincial territories. It will allow us to detect and analyze the scope and degree of gender institutionality of the provinces' productive strategies, evaluate the potential of the productive sectors to expand employment opportunities for women and people of non-binary identities, and strengthen government capacities to adapt policy tools to the federal context.		
<b>Commitment leader</b>	<p><b>Natalia Aquilino</b> National Director of Management Monitoring and Evaluation <a href="mailto:naquilino@produccion.gob.ar">naquilino@produccion.gob.ar</a></p> <p><b>Paula Basaldúa</b> Coordinator for the Gender Cabinet <a href="mailto:pbasaldua@produccion.gob.ar">pbasaldua@produccion.gob.ar</a></p> <p>Secretariat of Industry and Productive Development Ministry of Economy</p>		
<b>Supporting stakeholders</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Civil Society</b>	<b>Other Stakeholders</b>
	National Directorate of Management Monitoring and Evaluation, Undersecretary of Analysis and Productive Planning, Secretariat of Industry and Productive Development, Ministry of Economy	Fundación Acindar	N/A
<b>Covered period</b>	December 2022 - December 2024		



## Problem definition

### **1. What is the problem that the commitment seeks to address?**

The Argentine productive structure is heterogeneous between and within sectors and between the regions that make it up. These heterogeneities are reflected in three major inequalities: income, territorial and gender.

Among the multiple factors that hinder the achievement of gender equality in the productive sphere, we find hierarchical social relations, the sexual division of labor, violence against women and its intersection with other inequalities.

For economies to achieve the objectives of gender equality, it will be necessary to organize production around the principles of decent work and respect for the rights of workers, paying particular attention to the conditions of inclusion of women in the workforce (Elson and Seth 2019, ILO 2019). For this to happen, it is not enough to address supply-side constraints to improve women's participation in the workforce, as that does not necessarily guarantee that there are enough positions to absorb their work.

Demand-side policies that stimulate employment, inclusive growth, and address occupational and sectoral segregation are key to women's access to the labor market (Esquivel 2017; ILO 2021c). Information on the institutionality and scope of these types of policies in the Argentine provinces is scarce today. For this reason, the federal diagnosis of productive policies with a gender focus seeks, among other things, to cover this gap in evidence to improve the design and implementation of policies with a gender focus and government capacities. Public policies are not neutral in terms of the impact they generate on men, women and non-binary identities; Therefore, its design, planning, execution and evaluation must consider the unequal starting points from which each one starts as well as the territorial inequalities that affect the execution of the actions.

### **2. What are the causes of the problem?**

In Argentina, there is a structural difference in the participation that women and men have in the labor market: of every 10 salaried people registered in private companies, 7 are men and 3 are women. Likewise, in the Argentine productive structure there is a cultural matrix that is very biased in sectoral terms regarding the insertion of women, and the existence of barriers for women's participation in certain jobs and for access to hierarchical positions. When the composition by qualification of the position is analyzed, it is observed that almost 30 percent of women are inserted in unskilled positions while that proportion is 15 percent for men. Furthermore, women find themselves in low-wage positions in a greater proportion than men (Trombetta and Cabezón Cruz, 2020, p. 14-15). On the other hand, according to data from the CEP XXI on the feminization rate by productive branch, it is observed that this decreases significantly in high productivity and exporting sectors, such as the manufacturing industry, oil and mining, and construction.

Among the multiple factors that hinder the achievement of gender equality in our society, and in the field of production in particular, the following stand out:

- Hierarchical social relations
- A sexual division of labor
- Violence against women in different types and modalities
- The intersection of gender inequalities with others such as socioeconomic level, education, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age.

At the same time, the structure of a federal country means that standards are not shared to systematize and publish information between the provinces on actions regarding gender. This means that the data we have is not homogeneous and is not available at the same time:



- Not all provincial State websites present information on policies with a gender perspective
- Those who do do not follow standard parameters
- Access to information and the ability to learn in a comparative way from other provinces is difficult
- National organizations and citizens cannot compare data on the implementation of these policies between the territories in which they operate.

## Commitment description

### 1. What has been done so far to solve the problem?

In October 2020, through [Resolution 584/2020](#), the [Gender Cabinet](#) was created, with the objective of developing and implementing productive policies with a gender focus.

A month later, the [Productive Development Plan with a Gender Approach](#) was published, which began with 39 public policy initiatives; and it escalated rapidly until reaching, at the end of 2021, a total of 79 initiatives with a gender focus.

These initiatives include: a) the application of gender-sensitive measures in companies benefiting from the productive portfolio programs; b) benefits to SMEs led by women; c) training with a gender perspective; d) production of reports that reflect the situation of women in the federal productive system; e) the generation of primary information through the incorporation of fields in administrative records and own surveys.

Annually, the Gender Cabinet and the DN of Management Monitoring and Evaluation work together on the planning and monitoring of productive policies with a gender perspective that are developed within the scope of the Ministry of Industry and Productive Development.

In April 2021, the Advisory Council for the mainstreaming of national development policies with a gender focus in the productive sector was created to articulate concrete actions with representatives of the business chambers, the SME Women's Networks, the cooperative and mutual sector and the financial entities. It is a space for exchange and develop inclusive and transformative public policies with participation that take into account the different territorial and sectoral realities, as well as to disseminate current gender-focused programs throughout the country.

In December 2021, the [1st federal diagnosis of productive policies with a gender focus](#) was published in Argentina with quantitative indicators (gender distribution of officials and employees who perform functions in Ministries of Production and provincial equivalents; number of initiatives) and qualitative indicators (advantages/opportunities; challenges and alliances) that is a baseline for know the progress at the provincial level.

### 2. What solution does the commitment seek?

It is proposed to work on the generation, publication and availability of information linked to the federal productive system with a gender perspective in open formats.

Likewise, it is planned, in coordination with the provinces, to survey the situation regarding the three inequalities: income, territorial and gender.

The production of new information with the participation of the provinces and its availability in open format in a new gender section on the Secretariat's website will contribute to the design of public policies, research and informed public debate.



### 3. What results do we want to achieve with the implementation of this commitment?

- Put in the public domain territorial actions with a gender perspective that are being implemented in the provinces so that social actors can increase their impact on the agenda of reducing inequalities.
- Based on the evidence generated, disseminate the results of the federal diagnosis and train provincial teams in tools and methodological approaches to incorporate the gender perspective into local productive policies.

Commitment Analysis	
Questions	Responses (if not applicable, respond N/A)
1. How will the commitment promote transparency?	<p>Making gender gaps visible is key to reducing them and promoting equity. Increasing the quality of existing information and improving its visualization and availability in open format will enrich public policies aimed at reducing gender gaps, the quality of research and advocacy by civil society.</p> <p>Likewise, based on the information produced, spaces for dissemination and dialogue will be promoted about the results of the federal diagnosis, with the participation of territorial actors, both governmental and civil society.</p>
2. How will the commitment help foster accountability?	N/A
3. How will the commitment improve citizen participation in the definition, implementation and tracking of solutions?	N/A

Commitment Planning		
Milestones	Expected Results	Expected completion date
1. Systematization and visualization in open format of the data produced from the second federal diagnosis of productive policies with a gender focus in Argentina	<p>1.a. A Dataset with detailed information on productive policies with a gender focus in the provinces.</p> <p>1.b. A report on the scope, sustainability and gender institutionality in the provinces.</p> <p>1.c.. Updated SIDP website and open data portal with a dataset and an interactive map containing productive policies and some minimum indicators with a gender focus in Argentina published.</p>	July 2023



<p>2. Publication and dissemination of the results of the federal diagnosis and their comparison vis-à-vis 2021.</p>	<p>2.a. A Webinar with the participation of the provinces and civil society to discuss the results of the second federal survey.</p> <p>2.b. Five (5) regional workshops with the provinces to share good practices and analyze the challenges that arise from the survey.</p> <p>2.c. One (1) open day to identify possible improvements to be incorporated in a third study, with participation of the Advisory Council for the mainstreaming of policies with a gender focus in the productive sector and other interested actors.</p>	<p>October 2023</p>
<p>3. Design and implementation of training workshops, aimed at technical teams of provincial governments for the design of productive policies with a gender perspective.</p>	<p>3.a. Trainings given in at least six (6) provinces, with three (3) meetings each (3 trainings as of December 2023 and 3 as of December 2024).</p> <p>3.b. Six (6) productive policy projects designed with a gender focus, based on the workshops held.</p> <p>3.c. One (1) contact base of the people who participated in the training to share between the provinces and promote the creation of a network of teams sensitized in planning with a gender perspective.</p>	<p>December 2024</p>
<p>4. Implementation of open conversations with women entrepreneurs, businesswomen and cooperative members from the provinces to identify challenges, opportunities, strengths and weaknesses for the incorporation of the gender perspective in productive policies.</p>	<p>4.a. At least 6 open conversations held (3 conversations in December 2023 and 3 in December 2024).</p>	<p>December 2024</p>



## 4. Mental Health: deinstitutionalization and social inclusion of people with mental illness.

<b>Commitment number and name</b>	<b>4. Mental Health: deinstitutionalization and social inclusion of people with mental illness.</b>		
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	The commitment aims to promote the social inclusion of people with mental illness in the process of deinstitutionalization, through the implementation of intersectoral tables in which governmental and non-governmental actors will participate. It is proposed to strengthen the jurisdictions from the National State to consolidate the deinstitutionalization processes, promote the support that civil associations can provide and jointly design the indicators to monitor the progress of said processes.		
<b>Commitment leader</b>	<b>Dra. Mariana Moreno</b> National Director for the Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health and Problematic Consumption Ministry of Health <a href="mailto:memoreno@msal.gov.ar">memoreno@msal.gov.ar</a>		
<b>Supporting stakeholders</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Civil Society</b>	<b>Other Stakeholders</b>
	National Directorate for the Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health and Problematic Consumption Ministry of Health	Asociación Civil por la Igualdad y la Justicia (ACIJ)  Democracia en Red	N/A
<b>Covered period</b>	December 2022 - December 2024		

### Problem definition

#### 1. What is the problem that the commitment seeks to address?

In our country there are 12,035 people who still live in monovalent mental health institutions for “social” reasons such as lack of housing, support networks, and economic support, according to the First National Census of People Hospitalized for Mental Health Reasons. carried out in 2019.

It is also clear from the Census that in Argentina there are 162 monovalent mental health inpatient institutions. Of these, 41 are from the public sector and 121 are from the private sector. Of the people hospitalized, 69% reported receiving some income. Of this group, 27% reported managing their income while the rest reported that they were managed by a third party. Of the total number of people housed in single-purpose institutions, 37.2% were hospitalized for social or housing reasons, that is, due to the lack of a support system that favors full social inclusion.



In this sense, the prolongation of this situation over time has violated the rights of these people to live in community.

The National Mental Health Law No. 26,657, sanctioned and promulgated in 2010, establishes the bases for the reform of the mental health system in Argentina based on the protection of the mental health of the entire population and respect for Rights. Humans of people with mental illness. It also points out the prohibition of the creation of new asylums, neuropsychiatric hospitals or single-purpose institutionalization, public or private, and the need for adaptation until their definitive replacement of the existing ones (art.27).

Likewise, the national State promotes cooperation agreements with the provinces to guarantee the development of joint actions aimed at implementing the principles set forth in the law. (art.41).

Based on the problem raised regarding the institutionalization of people hospitalized for these causes, the lack of intermediate devices and containment networks, the need to work together with the provinces for the full implementation of the law and its consequent objective of promoting the rights and social inclusion of people confined in these institutions.

## **2. What are the causes of the problem?**

Main causes of the problem:

-Historically in the world, in our region and in our country, a medical-hegemonic/tutelary paradigm prevailed, focused on the biological aspects of mental suffering that considered asylum institutions (neuropsychiatric or monovalent), as the only possible responses to address in a manner effective “mental illness”. Therefore, confinement, separation from families and community settings was part of the treatment offered to address people with mental illness. This perspective, in addition to depriving freedom, favored the chronicification of unrest and constituted a space of deprivation of rights. This paradigm was questioned starting in the middle of the 20th century, when the biological perspective began to be problematized regarding the causes of mental suffering and social problems were introduced -lack of work, housing, inclusion in the educational system, different types of violence. , social exclusion, among others-, as producers of mental illness; so it itself begins to be understood as psychosocial suffering<sup>10</sup>

-Discrimination and stigmatization towards people with mental illness by the community in general. Despite advances in the field of science and medicine, social reforms and improvements in legislation,

<sup>10</sup> United Nations Principles for the Protection of the Mentally Ill and for the Improvement of Mental Health Care -1991-, Caracas Declaration of the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization, for Restructuring of Psychiatric Care within Local Health Systems -1990, Brasilia Guiding Principles; for the Development of Mental Health Care in the Americas -1990-. WHO: World health report. Mental Health: new knowledge, new hopes -2001- First epidemiological study of mental health in the general population of the Argentine Republic (2018) <https://apsa.org.ar/docs/vertex142.pdf> National Census of People Hospitalized for Mental Health Reasons

<https://bancos.salud.gob.ar/sites/default/files/2020-01/primer-censo-nacional-personas-internadas-por-motivos-de-salud-mental-2019.pdf>

<https://bancos.salud.gob.ar/sites/default/files/2020-01/informe-ejecutivo-censo-salud-mental-2019.pdf>





mental illness continues to be considered a stigma from which the person is “labeled” as crazy, and on many occasions, as marginal. That is, as someone who can be dangerous and therefore must be removed from the community, without the ability to lead a life similar to any other citizen, developing in different areas or social facets (work, recreation, etc.)<sup>11</sup>.

-Stigmatizing view of people with mental illness from the media centered on their dangerousness. Although it can be said that in recent years some advances have been perceived in the media treatment of mental health, an erroneous and negative concept of mental illness continues to be transmitted at a general level, which reinforces stereotypes and false beliefs, producing greater degrees of discrimination. . In addition, it is common to find inappropriate use of terms/diagnoses from the field of mental health in other contexts. Thus, news that does not refer to mental health problems, but rather to sports, political or cultural issues, uses specific terminology from that field to describe situations that are foreign to it. For example, this is the case of the use of diagnoses such as: “schizophrenic, delusional, paranoid, perverse, etc.”, which are often used to describe various chaotic, extravagant or emotional overflow situations.<sup>12</sup>

-Absence of alternative devices to the asylum logic in the community (day centers; community centers; halfway houses; assisted housing; productive enterprises; work cooperatives; etc.). Definitely leaving behind the logic of care based on the asylum necessarily implies the development and/or strengthening of intermediate and community-based devices, that is, located in the community and in permanent articulation and exchange. It should be noted that, in Argentina, as in the region and in the world, there is still a vacancy in this type of devices, both in the number and territorial distribution necessary, so that each person who needs it can access them in their own home. community, generating greater possibilities of accessibility to the health/mental health system<sup>13</sup>

-Poor development/implementation of support systems for the lives of people with mental illness in the community. The International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - which in Argentina has constitutional status as of 2014 - is very clear when it establishes the importance of the development and maintenance of a support system that enables the social inclusion of people with mental illness. , on equal terms with the others, based on having the necessary support for the development of the greatest possible degree of autonomy and its recovery in the community. Support systems refer to a combination of strategies, methodologies and resources provided by organizations of the socio-health network and/or members of the closest social network whose objective is to promote development, education, participation, well-being, fulfillment. aspirations and performance with a greater degree of autonomy in everyday environments, guaranteeing a system that effectively respects the will and decision-making of users of mental health services in accordance with the National Mental Health Law No. 26,657 and the Convention Disability Rights International<sup>14</sup>.

<sup>11</sup> Recommendations for the treatment of mental health issues in the media. Available in: [https://www.msal.gob.ar/images/stories/ryc/graficos/0000000799cnt-2018\\_recomendaciones-tratamiento-salud-mental-in-the-media.pdf](https://www.msal.gob.ar/images/stories/ryc/graficos/0000000799cnt-2018_recomendaciones-tratamiento-salud-mental-in-the-media.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> Idem.

<sup>13</sup> WHO: World mental health report: transforming mental health for all: overview. <https://www.who.int/es/publications/i/item/9789240050860>

<sup>14</sup> Idem.



## Commitment description

### 1. What has been done so far to solve the problem?

In 2010, the National Mental Health Law No. 26,657 was sanctioned and promulgated, which promotes a paradigm of community mental health care. In 2013 it was regulated by Decree 603/13. From there, a series of actions were triggered in favor of the social inclusion of people with mental illness:

- Implementation of the National Review Body of Law No. 26,657 within the scope of the Public Ministry of Defense (2013).
- Implementation of the National Interministerial Commission on Mental Health and Addictions Policies (CONISMA) within the Head of the Cabinet of Ministers (2013).
- Launch of the Honorary Advisory Council on Mental Health and Addictions (2014).
- Creation of the National Directorate of Mental Health and Addictions through Presidential Decree 457/2010.
- Preparation of the National Mental Health Plan 2013-2018 (approved by Resolution of the Ministry of Health of the Nation 2177/2013).
- Implementation of the Federal Strategy for a Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health (2022).

It is worth mentioning that the reform of the mental health system is closely linked to the reform of the health system in general and to the material conditions of people's existence. Hence, the "solution" to the problem cannot be understood without contextualizing it socially and politically. However, the points noted above, although they did not solve the problem, mark a turning point for change in the approach to mental health in general and the social inclusion of people with mental illness in particular.

### 2. What solution does the commitment seek?

To advance in the solution of the problem, it is specifically proposed to promote and/or strengthen the accompaniment of the processes of deinstitutionalization of people with mental illness through the formation of intersectoral work groups centered on the co-participation between the National State, the jurisdictions and civil society. The objective of these tables is to define concrete actions for the deinstitutionalization process. This proposed solution is understood as a continuity of good practices in mental health and social inclusion and not a break with previous efforts. The problem will not be resolved in its entirety. The solution will be one of the possible axes of work to continue modifying the paradigm of mental health care towards one that is community-based.

### 3. What results do we want to achieve with the implementation of this commitment?

The implementation of a system of cooperation between the National State, jurisdictions and civil associations through the formation of intersectoral working groups that strengthen the process of effective social inclusion of people with mental illness and their deinstitutionalization.

In relation to changes in knowledge, skills and abilities, it is expected to promote the highest degree of autonomy possible in people with mental illness who participate in the process.



Commitment Analysis	
Questions	Responses (if not applicable, respond N/A)
1. How will the commitment promote transparency?	N/A
2. How will the commitment help foster accountability?	N/A
3. How will the commitment improve citizen participation in the definition, implementation and tracking of solutions?	The intersectoral table as a work space will improve the participation of civil society as a key actor in the process of social inclusion of people with mental illness in the process of outpatient/deinstitutionalization since practices linked to promoting horizontal and democratic exchange will be favored. respect for knowledge and good practices within the framework of diversity.

Commitment Planning		
Milestones	Expected Results	Expected completion date
1. Agree with which jurisdictions the experience of setting up intersectoral tables will be carried out to promote the deinstitutionalization and social inclusion of people with mental illness.	1.a. At least two jurisdictions from different geographical areas of the country selected through meetings held with the provinces.	April 2023
2. Form intersectoral tables between the National State, jurisdictions and civil associations.	2.a. At least one table per jurisdiction made up of at least one representative from the Nation, Jurisdictions and at least two representatives from civil society through a work agreement as of June 2023.  2.b. At least two meetings per year of the intersectoral tables held.	December 2024



<p>3. Define actions of the intersectoral table to strengthen and/or consolidate health/mental health service networks.</p>	<p>3.a. A work plan by intersectoral table prepared and published in which objectives, goals, actors involved, strategies and indicators of the deinstitutionalization process are defined by September 2023.</p> <p>3.b. Resource mapping of the mental health services network of at least two jurisdictions prepared and published as of March 2024.</p> <p>3.c Report on semiannual results of the implementation of the actions of the intersectoral table prepared and published. (Support of the board in the process of deinstitutionalization and spaces for review of practices).</p>	<p>December 2024</p>
<p>4. Design a tool for monitoring sustainable externalization in a participatory manner with the actors that make up the intersectoral table to monitor the progress of the deinstitutionalization process.</p>	<p>4a. Methodological document with indicators of the sustainable outsourcing process prepared and published.</p>	<p>December 2024</p>



## 5. Access to information and care policies

<b>Commitment number and name</b>	<b>5. Access to information and care policies</b>		
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	The commitment seeks, on the one hand, to improve the tool that contains information on the offer of care spaces and services for early childhood, older people and people with disabilities and care training spaces (Federal Care Map). On the other hand, design a tool that links the supply of services with the potential demand for care and thus be able to identify gaps in coverage. and critical knots.		
<b>Commitment leader</b>	<b>Cristian Silva Moreno</b> Director of Federal Care Mapping Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity <a href="mailto:crsilva@mingeneros.gob.ar">crsilva@mingeneros.gob.ar</a> <a href="mailto:mapeofederaldelcuidado@mingeneros.gob.ar">mapeofederaldelcuidado@mingeneros.gob.ar</a>		
<b>Partes interesadas de apoyo</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Civil Society</b>	<b>Other Stakeholders</b>
	Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity (MMGYD)	Equipo Latinoamericano de Justicia y Género (ELA)	N/A
<b>Covered period</b>	December 2022 - December 2024		

### Problem definition

#### 1. What is the problem that the commitment seeks to address?

The social organization of care is marked by social and gender inequalities since care responsibilities fall mainly on families and within them, on women and LGBTI+. These inequalities are also conditioned by the unequal distribution of people and families in the territories. Both organize their lives in a situated space and the resources and services found there set limits on the strategies they can adopt to resolve their care needs.

In this sense, having information that allows us to know where the gaps are in terms of access is essential for the design of public policies based on evidence. As well as providing citizens with adequate information about the provision of care for decision-making that is accessible, located and as exhaustive as possible.

The absence of this type of information in an accessible manner motivated the MMGYD to create the Federal Care Map that today allows locating the offer of more than 34,000 care spaces and services for early childhood, older people and people with disabilities and more than 1000 spaces deformation. However, we know that this Map is not yet complete because there is information that is not available.



On the other hand, information on the supply of care spaces must be crossed with information on potential demand for care that varies depending on the age and number of dependent people in the homes. Today this information does not exist and being able to make this link will allow us to define critical areas in terms of service coverage.

## **2. What are the causes of the problem?**

The unequal distribution of care constitutes the central node of gender inequalities. Time use surveys carried out in the countries of the region have proven that a large part of the demand for care is met by households, and that these demands also fall largely on women and LGBTQIIA+. The enormous daily workload that these activities entail determines a large part of the lack of economic, physical and political autonomy of women.

In Argentina, according to data from the First Time Use Survey (2021), 90% of women perform unpaid care work, and only 70% of men perform these tasks. However, the average number of daily hours dedicated to this task is much higher in women (4.06 hours versus 2.38). This demand for care needs intensifies even more in the lowest socioeconomic strata: women from the poorest income quintile dedicate eight hours a day to unpaid care work as they do not have public options, while women from the highest quintile dedicate only three, since they can pay for said external care services or for a private home worker 5 (Rodríguez Enriquez and Marzonetto, 2015).

According to data from the National Survey on Social Structure (2015), 26% of high-income households hire private household staff, while only 3% of the poorest can do so. And if we analyze the care of older people, only 19% manage to access an external care service, registering a wide difference between the highest income sectors (58%) versus the middle and low ones (13% and 20% respectively). ) (Faur and Pereyra, 2018 cited by MIPC, 2020) taking into account that 43% of the country's departments do not have public or private long-stay residences for the elderly (Federal Care Map, 2022).

According to data from the Federal Care Map (2022), only 5% of children from 0 to 2 years old and 40% of 3-year-old children attend an educational and care establishment nationwide.

In light of this information, we can note that the information on care spaces and services is not yet complete and that it is not yet accessible to have information on all the ways in which care is resolved in a georeferenced manner.



## Commitment description

### 1. What has been done so far to solve the problem?

Creation of the Interministerial Care Policies Table made up of: Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity; Ministry of Social Development; Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Economy and the agencies: National Institute of Social Services for Retirees and Pensioners (PAMI); ANDIS (National Disability Agency); ANSES (National Social Security Administration); AFIP (Federal Administration of Public Revenues); INAES (National Institute of Associationism and Social Economy), and the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies.

The objective of this Roundtable is to debate and plan policies that contribute to a fairer social organization of care, that achieve a better family and social redistribution of the task, as well as better redistribution between genders, and that contribute to recognizing care as a necessity, as a job and as a right. Its main achievements are reflected in the reports: The 100 actions in care 2020-2021 and Second Annual Report 2021- 2022<sup>15</sup>

- Creation and implementation of the [Federal Care Map](#)<sup>16</sup> which has approximately 34,000 care spaces and infrastructures and around 1,000 georeferenced care training spaces.

### 2. What solution does the commitment seek?

On the one hand, improve the scope of the Federal Care Map and the existing information. To do this, it will be necessary to coordinate with local governments to facilitate access to, for example, community care spaces that are central when it comes to resolving care needs. In this sense, it is proposed to design participatory instances with local governments to carry out participatory mapping of care spaces and services and then include them in the Map. Representatives of local governments, civil society organizations, social organizations, and citizens in general will participate in these instances. Likewise, different dissemination actions will be carried out to facilitate access to this tool.

On the other hand, develop and implement a tool that allows generating the intersection between the supply of care services and the potential demand that contributes to identifying coverage gaps. With this information, documents and reports will be prepared with the main findings that will be publicly accessible and will be discussed in participatory instances with key actors.

In short, having this information will allow us, on the one hand, to facilitate access to relevant information to resolve care needs in the territory. And on the other hand, being able to identify critical priority areas of intervention, contributing to the development of evidence for decision-making and the design of policies that promote a more just and equitable social organization.

It is also expected to make this tool known by carrying out a campaign to improve its reach and ensure that as many people as possible have access to this type of information.

On the other hand, it is expected to discuss in participatory sessions with civil society organizations the main findings and recommendations of the diagnostic study that measures the intensity of care at the national, provincial and municipal levels. In this way, we can have inputs that allow us to think about how to improve access to information on care infrastructures for the design of public policies that contribute to promoting a more fair and equitable social organization of care.

<sup>15</sup> Disponibles en:

[https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/2020/07/100\\_acciones\\_en\\_materia\\_de\\_cuidados.pdf](https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/2020/07/100_acciones_en_materia_de_cuidados.pdf) y <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/2020/07/informemesainterministerial2022.pdf>

<sup>16</sup> Disponible en: <https://mapafederaldelcuidado.mingeneros.gob.ar/>



### 3. What results do we want to achieve with the implementation of this commitment?

It is hoped to contribute to making visible the importance that care has for the sustainability of life and to the recognition of care as a job, a need and a right. To this end, it is expected to improve access and information contained in the Federal Care Map in order to facilitate decision-making by citizens when resolving care needs through an accessible, complete and comprehensive tool. simple to use. To achieve this objective, participatory mapping will be carried out that will allow us to work with local governments and organizations in the territory and thus be able to nourish the information on the map.

It is also expected to make this tool known by carrying out a campaign to improve its reach and ensure that as many people as possible have access to this type of information.

On the other hand, it is expected to discuss in participatory sessions with civil society organizations the main findings and recommendations of the diagnostic study that measures the intensity of care at the national, provincial and municipal levels. In this way, we can have inputs that allow us to think about how to improve access to information on care infrastructures for the design of public policies that contribute to promoting a more fair and equitable social organization of care.

Commitment Analysis	
Questions	Responses (if not applicable, respond N/A)
1. How will the commitment promote transparency?	<p>The commitment contributes to facilitating access to information for citizens in order to resolve care needs.</p> <p>The Federal Care Map is now available so citizens will be able to monitor the progress in incorporating information into the Map.</p>
2. How will the commitment help foster accountability?	N/A
3. How will the commitment improve citizen participation in the definition, implementation and tracking of solutions?	<p>Through coordination with local governments and organizations in the territory that will provide information on care spaces and services in the territory.</p> <p>It is proposed to carry out participatory mapping instances in which the map of care spaces and services is co-designed together with organizations, citizens and local governments.</p>





Commitment Planning		
Milestones	Expected Results	Expected completion date
1. Development of participatory mapping through the implementation of working groups <sup>17</sup> with local governments and civil society organizations to collect information on care spaces.	1.a. Development of at least 8 participatory mappings (at least 4 mappings by December 2023)  1.b. Incorporation of at least 20% more care spaces to the federal care map (at least 10% by December 2023)	December 2024
2. Dissemination campaign for the federal care map at the national level aimed at citizens in general.	2a. A Map dissemination campaign carried out (social media campaign, distribution of brochures).	December 2023
3. Update of the tool that allows estimating the potential georeferenced demand for care incorporating data from ENUT and the 2022 Census.	3.a. Updated care supply and demand linking tool	December 2023
4. Preparation of documents and reports with main findings and policy recommendations.	4.a. A document with main findings prepared	December 2023
5. Discussion of the document that contains main findings in participatory instances that provide input for the design of public policies and development of public tools that include indicators.	5a. At least 4 Conferences with the participation of civil society organizations held in virtual mode (at least 2 conferences by December 2023).  5b. Public information tool that includes indicators agreed upon with civil society organizations and statistical and geolocated information on different aspects of the social organization of care published by December 2023.	December 2024

<sup>17</sup> The formation of these tables will be carried out according to criteria established by each of the local governments, but government actors, social organizations, academia, civil society organizations, and citizens in general are expected to participate.



## 6. Access to information and health service providers

<b>Commitment number and name</b>	<b>6. Access to information and health service providers</b>		
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>The commitment seeks to provide citizens with access to information about health service providers as a key element to guarantee the exercise of the right to health.</p> <p>The aim is to optimize the communication mechanisms/tools developed by the National State to make contact with citizens, considering their needs, in order to make public and accessible the information referring to health establishments and health professionals, with the objective of validating information and making health providers known to citizens.</p>		
<b>Commitment leader</b>	<p><b>María Teresita Ithurburu</b>  National Director of Quality in Health Services and Health Regulation  Ministry of Health  <a href="mailto:mithurburu@msal.gov.ar">mithurburu@msal.gov.ar</a></p>		
<b>Supporting stakeholders</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Civil Society</b>	<b>Other Stakeholders</b>
	Ministry of Health	Fundación Huésped  Directorio Legislativo	N/A
<b>Covered period</b>	December 2022 - December 2024		

### Problem definition

#### 1. What is the problem that the commitment seeks to address?

The National Ministry of Health, in joint work with the jurisdictions' oversight areas and law schools, has reached agreements for the registration of information regarding health establishments and professionals. This information is centralized and available; However, it has not been possible to build dialogue strategies with citizens, so that they access and provide feedback on the information from provider records.

Therefore, the aim is to promote the accessibility and dissemination of information about authorized health-providing establishments and registered professionals. This problem affects citizens in general in their exercise of the right to health, given that they cannot access in a timely manner the information available in national registries about health service providers, whether establishments and/or professionals, services deployed in the territory and the security of the care required.



This problem has been recorded for several years and the existence of national registries, although it has made more information available, has not achieved citizen appropriation.

## **2. What are the causes of the problem?**

We managed to identify ineffective communication as a primarily visible cause, which arises from the results of evaluations carried out on the requirements and usability of the available information. The communication methodology has not achieved awareness among the population that they have the information available. In this sense, it is considered that more fundamental aspects that are linked to the federal scheme of competencies in the registration and qualification of professionals and establishments collaborate with this dynamic, which in the face of the citizen can atomize the information, generating ignorance of the alternative of centrally access information in national registries.

Furthermore, delving into these basic conditions, the fragmentation and segmentation of the health system collaborates with these causes in conjunction with the historical weakening that hegemonic medical models generated in the empowerment of patients, which sought to limit them to the path of bureaucracies linked to access to information. scarce or with privileges.

### **Commitment description**

#### **1. What has been done so far to solve the problem?**

As strategies, two spaces were developed where the information was made available:

- Open data: <http://datos.salud.gob.ar/dataset?tags=establecimientos>
- SISA Health Agenda: <https://sisa.msal.gov.ar/sisa/#sisa>

Through SISA we have Web Service (WS) for consultations that are “consumed” by establishments and organizations, for example, social works or prepaid medicine companies, and some minor consultations by citizens.

#### **2. What solution does the commitment seek?**

Achieving mediation of access to information through applications and communication strategies with citizens developed by other agents of the National State, will make it possible to make use of the knowledge and experience gained by them in order to build channels of dialogue, validations or complaints with the and citizens, even taking into account the necessary support for those people who have a disability.

Reaching agreements with the Mi Argentina and Tina app allows us to solve the accessibility problem, strengthening these strategies and offering accessible information to citizens from the channels institutionalized by the national government. These applications have followed a path of trust with citizens and have allowed them to access various information, making them an appropriate and secure channel.

is a technological tool that constitutes the Digital Citizen profile, from where users who have an Argentine National Identity Document (DNI), can access official and approved personal documents in digital format, according to what each organization , state agency and/or competent jurisdiction make available.



In turn, users will be able to fully access information related to their health. Currently, it is used by more than 18,282,000 people.

TINA was developed by the Secretariat of Public Innovation of the Chief of Cabinet Office, the virtual assistant of the National State offers information and the possibility of carrying out automated procedures in more than 200 national organizations throughout the country 24 hours a day. 365 days a year. "Tina" seeks to provide effective, simple, safe and inclusive solutions throughout the national territory.

### **3. What results do we want to achieve with the implementation of this commitment?**

As a first concrete result, we hope that citizens take ownership of the information available to the National Ministry of Health in relation to the provision of health services in the different jurisdictions of the country. In this process, a fundamental goal will be to stimulate access through clear and precise information about health providers. With this, the result will also strengthen citizens in the exercise of their right to health, to know the authorized health establishments and registered professionals, in order to co-produce their health, as well as supervise and participate in quality processes in the attention.

Strengthening communication channels will allow citizens to more adequately dispose of the available health resources, as well as assume an active role in the construction of safer health services with better quality of service.

The accessibility and consequent use of this data will help stimulate its updating by its owners, as part of a virtuous cycle of information management.

<b>Commitment Analysis</b>	
<b>Questions</b>	<b>Responses (if not applicable, respond N/A)</b>
1. How will the commitment promote transparency?	<p>Through the availability and dissemination of accessible information on mobile applications and on the official website of the Ministry of Health.</p> <p>Access to updated information and feedback with citizens about establishments and professionals will increase the transparency of the establishment authorization mechanisms and the registration or sanction processes of health professionals, favoring the exercise of the right to health.</p>
2. How will the commitment help foster accountability?	<p>The provision of information and validation by citizens allows the creation of a feedback channel that includes citizen complaints about establishments and professionals that do not comply with current regulations. These will be strategies that make the actions taken by the areas transparent. inspection (authorization of health establishments) and administrative processes in relation to health professionals who have sanctions.</p>



<p>3. How will the commitment improve citizen participation in the definition, implementation and tracking of solutions?</p>	<p>The impact of citizen participation will be reflected in its collaboration with the permanent updating of information available. Likewise, through process indicators and results it will be possible to evaluate the functioning of the access, transparency and citizen control and its impact on the Information available. You can also collaborate with the interaction patient associations.</p>
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Commitment Planning			
Milestones	Expected Results	Expected completion date	Engaged stakeholders
<p>1. Carrying out at least two work tables in virtual mode with civil society organizations and patient organizations to agree on a management model and visualization of information.</p>	<p>1.a. Document agreed upon with OSC with management model and information visualization design prepared (for example, identifying user types and data structure for each type of user)</p>	<p>June 2023</p>	
<p>2. Carrying out at least two virtual work tables with civil society organizations and patient organizations to listen to potential users and identify the limitations/barriers they encounter in accessing information.</p>	<p>2.a. A document that includes the information available in the records in clear language prepared.</p> <p>2.b. A document with dissemination strategies prepared collaboratively to publicize how to access information.</p>	<p>August 2023</p>	
<p>3. Implementation of improvements on the Ministry's website based on the management model developed in the work tables.</p>	<p>3.a. Improvements identified in conjunction with CSOs implemented on the Ministry's website, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishments that have assisted fertility benefits.</li> <li>- Hormone therapy</li> <li>- ILE - IVE</li> <li>- Vaccinations</li> <li>- Professionals with X specialty</li> </ul> <p>3.b. An updated dataset with health facilities published in open formats with the variables modified collaboratively.</p>	<p>September 2023</p>	



<p>4. Implementation of a channel in the Mi Argentina App and/or in the Tina chatbot to make inquiries or reports about health establishments and professionals.</p>	<p>4.a. A reporting channel for unregistered or incongruent information available to citizens through Mi Argentina and/or Tina.</p> <p>4.b. A protocol for attention to reports and response to citizens developed and implemented.</p>	<p>July 2024</p>	<p><u>Leader</u> National Director of Quality in Health Services and Health Regulation Ministry of Health</p> <hr/> <p><u>Supportive Stakeholders</u></p> <p>National Directorate of Digital Country, Undersecretary of Services and Digital Country, Secretariat of Public Innovation, (CCO)</p>
<p>5. Working group with social works, law schools and other actors in the health system, in order to give greater dissemination to the tool, in the web environments most used by citizens, depending on the health subsystem used.</p>	<p>5.a. Incorporation and dissemination of the web link in the web spaces of civil society organizations, social works, law schools and other actors in the health system in order to strengthen the proposed device</p> <p>5.b. An indicator with actors who have incorporated the tool on their website/ total actors contacted published</p>	<p>December 2024</p>	<p></p> <hr/> <p></p> <hr/> <p></p>



## 7. Federal Open State Program

<b>Commitment number and name</b>	<b>7. Federal Open State Program</b>		
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	The commitment seeks to provide conceptual, practical and methodological tools for the mainstreaming of the Open State approach in the design and implementation of provincial and local public policies, emphasizing the participation of other powers and civil society organizations.		
<b>Commitment leader</b>	<p><b>Delfina Perez</b> National Director of Open Government Chief of Cabinet Office <a href="mailto:Perezde@jefatura.gob.ar">Perezde@jefatura.gob.ar</a></p> <p><b>Lina María Montoya</b> Open Government Leader Directorate of Municipal Affairs Ministry of Interior <a href="mailto:lmontoya@mininteior.gob.ar">lmontoya@mininteior.gob.ar</a></p>		
<b>Supporting stakeholders</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Civil Society</b>	<b>Other Stakeholders</b>
<b>Covered period</b>	December 2022 - December 2024		

### Problem definition

#### 1. What is the problem that the commitment seeks to address?

Argentina has a long history of implementing open government policies and, in the last 5 years, progress has been made in addressing the issue at provincial and local levels. However, knowledge about the Open State approach and its implementation remains disparate, focused on the executive branch and with few experiences in relation to all local governments (2,311) and provincial jurisdictions (24). According to the information found in the “[Open Community](#)”<sup>10</sup> collaborative map, 52 opening initiatives have been registered at provincial and local levels that are currently being implemented in the executive branch.

<sup>10</sup>Participatory map prepared by the National Directorate of Open Government that seeks to make visible the projects that incorporate the open government approach and are carried out by various actors who participate in the agenda throughout the country. This mapping does not record projects that are in the design process, nor actors that make up the community of practice.



This shows, on the one hand, a low development of Open State public policies and on the other, a low systematization of openness initiatives and of actors that make up the ecosystem.

Finally, a low diversification and articulation between the different actors is identified that make up the community of practice.

## 2. What are the causes of the problem?

- Insufficient spaces for comprehensive training and training on the State approach Open.
- Disarticulation between the powers of the State and absence of a comprehensive work agenda referring to the paradigm.
- Little planning for the design and implementation of Open State policies.
- Lack of institutionalized federal diagnosis of the actors and initiatives that are developed in the different regions of the country.
- Openness policies and initiatives not identified as part of the State approach Open.
- Disarticulation in the work areas of civil society organizations and the agendas of public administrations.
- Difficulty for civil society organizations and State areas to appropriate and involve in the issues related to the Open State.

## Commitment description

### 2. What has been done so far to solve the problem?

Public policies linked to Open Government began to materialize in Argentina after the presentation of the [First National Action Plan \(2013-2015\)](#) to the Open Government Partnership (OGP). It is from the [Third National Action Plan \(2017-2019\)](#), where we begin to delve deeper into the implementation of open government practices at subnational levels through 11 commitments.

Within the framework of the [Fourth National Action Plan \(2019-2022\)](#), the [Federal Program of Open Government](#) (PFGA) was consolidated as a commitment, which, from a participatory approach, accompanied 50 provincial and municipal jurisdictions in the design of open government projects.

In 2021, the first stage of the Program was developed, in which conceptual, practical and methodological training was provided to more than 4,500 people from all over the country. This allowed both government officials, representatives from different fields and citizens in general to acquire tools and learn more about the open government approach. Currently these courses are available on the [Virtual Learning Platform](#) and are free, to ensure that anyone interested can access them.

In turn, the National Directorate of Open Government (Chief of the Cabinet Office) and the Directorate of Municipal Affairs (Ministry of the Interior) designed complementary resources such as practical guides, editorials, federal training in open government, participatory budgeting and participation. citizen.

In the third stage of the Program, after an open call, 50 projects from 9 provinces and 35 municipalities were selected by a Jury, thus joining a work network and receiving technical assistance and tools to promote effective implementation in the territory. These projects were mostly implemented by areas belonging to the executive branch and to a lesser extent by Deliberative Councils.

These [initiatives](#) addressed local challenges through open government practices and incorporated citizen participation through various mechanisms, this being one of the requirements for implementation. In this way, the co-creation of policies between the government, civil society organizations and citizens in





general was promoted and openness policies were diversified, transparency, accountability, citizen participation and innovation projects were implemented.

To close the PFGA, a public event was held to recognize and award projects, where [15 initiatives were awarded](#) in different categories: 13 belonging to areas of the executive branch and 2 belonging to the legislative branch.

Throughout the entire process, articulation and collaboration with national, provincial and local institutions was a central axis. An Advisory Committee was formed made up of representatives from national institutions that enabled the exchange of tools and experiences and the coordination between the three levels of government and strategic alliances were carried out with key actors such as the Federal Citizen Participation Table and the Federal Council of the Public Function (COFEFUP).

## **2. What solution does the commitment seek?**

This proposal deepens, with respect to previous initiatives, the federalization processes and proposes, through regional territorial workshops, training spaces and technical support, to provide conceptual, practical and methodological tools for approaching and mainstreaming the Open State paradigm in the design and implementation of public policies in provinces and local governments.

Likewise, by proposing a federal diagnosis accompanied by collaborative territorial mapping, the aim is to consolidate and update a knowledge base and georeferenced information on opening policies and the actors that make up the ecosystem.

Finally, collaboratively identify the territorial requirements for the project implementation process during the year 2024, anticipating possible management changes due to the electoral calendar.



### 3. What results do we want to achieve with the implementation of this commitment?

With the implementation of this commitment, we seek to achieve the following results:

- Territorial and virtual training spaces in the Open State approach.
- Methodological tools for the design, implementation and mainstreaming of the Open State approach in projects/plans and public policies.
- Collaborative mapping of both actors and regional Open State initiatives.
- Linking civil society organizations with provincial and local public administrations for the design of public policies with an Open State approach.
- Technical support of initiatives that transcend actions in the executive branch, to promote Open State practices that lay the foundations for the federalization of the paradigm.
- Expanding the percentage of local and provincial governments that mainstream the Open State approach in their policies.

Commitment Analysis	
Questions	Responses (if not applicable, respond N/A)
1. How will the commitment promote transparency?	Among the actions that make up this commitment is the implementation of open data training aimed at officials and civil society organizations, among other actors, to reinforce the incorporation of open data principles in administration policies. and encourage the reuse of public data by citizens.
2. How will the commitment help foster accountability?	<p>This principle is present in all instances of the commitment.</p> <p>On the one hand, territorial work will be carried out in the five regions of the country (NOA, NEA, Cuyo, Center and Patagonia) in which officials and technicians from the three branches of government, organizations of the civil society, academia and citizens in general to carry out a collaborative mapping and a participatory diagnosis that reveals needs and requirements for the mainstreaming of the Open State approach.</p> <p>This will serve as an input not only for decision-making at the federal level but also for the design of the format that the implementation and planning of the commitment actions will have during 2024. An instance of virtual participation is also proposed through the use of the public consultation platform with the objective of adding contributions from citizens and co-designing the format that will have the implementation and monitoring of provincial and local projects.</p> <p>On the other hand, the projects of local and provincial jurisdictions that are presented within the framework of the Program will be required to incorporate a component of citizen participation, either in the diagnosis or in the execution of the initiative they apply for.</p>



<p>3. How will the commitment improve citizen participation in the definition, implementation and tracking of solutions?</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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Commitment Planning		
Milestones	Expected Results	Expected completion date
<p>1. Conducting meetings in territory distributed throughout each of the regions of the country.</p>	<p>1.a. Program with content and methodology of training and workshops in Open State, citizen participation and open data published.</p> <p>1 B. At least four workshops in the territory open to everyone to provide conceptual and practical tools related to the open state, citizen participation and open data.</p> <p>1 C. Report of each meeting published on the Program website.</p>	<p>October 2023</p>
<p>2. Collaborative mapping of actors and initiatives and participatory diagnosis of requirements for the mainstreaming of the Open State approach.</p>	<p>2.a. Expansion of the collaborative map “Open Community” of actors and initiatives of the Open State agenda by identifying the community of practice and the community of interest.</p> <p>2.b. Document with the systematization of the participatory diagnosis carried out in the territorial meetings published on the Program website.</p>	<p>December 2023</p>



<p>4. Participatory design of the format that the implementation will have and monitoring provincial and local projects.</p>	<p>4.a. At least one virtual consultation with actors working on the open state agenda carried out.</p> <p>4.b. A public consultation to receive input on the modality of implementation and recognition of the projects carried out.</p>	<p>March 2024</p>
<p>5. Assist and monitor the implementation of provincial and local projects with an open State approach; and recognition of outstanding initiatives.</p>	<p>5.a. Quarterly report of assisting activities published on the Program website.</p> <p>5.b. At least 70 initiatives implemented at the local and provincial level, of which at least 25 must be part of the Legislative or Judicial Branch.</p> <p>5.c. Project progress report published on the Program website.</p> <p>5 d. Document with selection/evaluation criteria of the initiatives prepared and published on the Program website.</p> <p>5.e. Closing event to recognize at least 30 initiatives.</p>	<p>December 2024</p>



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**ARGENTINA** 2022 - 2024

# Fifth National Action Plan of Open Government



Jefatura de  
Gabinete de Ministros  
Argentina

Secretaría de  
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