

ARGENTINA

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

Argentina is a federal representative republic with a two-tiered subnational government structure. The 23 autonomous provinces, plus the government of the city of Buenos Aires, have their own executive, legislative and judicial powers. They are subdivided into 2,327 local governments, with directly-elected authorities.¹



































Unless otherwise indicated, all the information in this profile is taken from the previously published Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).²

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

In 2016, Argentina started to implement the 2030 Agenda. After the election of a new government, a new process of aligning the SDG targets and national strategies began in June 2020. A new national matrix for the execution of the 2030 Agenda and monitoring of progress was established, which includes indicators, public policies aimed at achieving the 17 SDGs, and budgetary investment linked to each target. A greater number of the goals for each SDG and a larger coverage of critical areas were achieved, reflecting the SDGs' centrality in the Argentine people and in the expansion of rights.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

The National Inter-institutional Commission for the Implementation and Monitoring of the SDGs includes the Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers, 20 ministries, the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC) and the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies (CNCPS). The CNCPS, designated in 2015 and ratified in 2017 and 2020, ensures the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the national level and promotes strategies of "territorialization".

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

As in previous reviews, the preparation of the 2022 VNR was in charge of the national SDG team of the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies (CNCPS), with the supervision of the National Inter-institutional Commission for the Implementation and Monitoring of the SDGs.

1.3 MONITORING

The CNCPS and the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC) are in charge of monitoring the progress towards the SDGs. The Ministry of External Relations also participates to follow sensible issues related to external policies, as well as the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights, Women, Gender and Diversity, to follow human rights perspectives. After a first prioritization process in 2019, in 2022 121 targets (72%) and 251 indicators have been prioritized; 19 of them have been adapted to the national context. For the follow-up of budget commitments, the CNCPS coordinates with the National Directorate for the Coordination of the National Budget (DNCPN) of the Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers, through the Directorate of Studies and Evaluation of the National Budget (DEyEPN).

2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

To promote the "territorialization" of the SDGs, the CNCPS signs tripartite or bipartite agreements with the provinces and municipalities. Twenty-two agreements were signed with the provinces between 2020-2022 (including with the government of the city of Buenos Aires). The provinces' engagement begins with the designation of a focal point responsible for implementing

^{1.} See: https://www.sng-wofi.org/country-profiles/

^{2.} See: https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2021/16117Argentina.pdf (2017); https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2021/26386VNR_2020_Argentina_Report_Spanish.pdf (2020); https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2022/VNR%202022%20Argentina%20Report_0.pdf (2022)

the process of adapting the SDGs to the provincial context. The CNCPS developed an SDG Adaptation Process Guide for Provincial Governments which presents a roadmap for the SDG implementation process and offers regular training, workshops and forums.

In 2018, a Federal SDG Network was created, to maintain peer-to-peer contact, deepen the exchange and learning of provincial governments in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.³ Between 2017-2020, 17 provinces have developed yearly progress reports on the implementation of the SDGs and developed their own SDG webpages (Catamarca, Cordoba, Entre Rios, La Pampa, La Rioja, and Tucuman). Similarly, many municipalities prepared VLRs (see below).

However, there is no evidence of LRGs direct participation in the national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation nor in the reporting process for the VNRs.

2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

► In the VNR process



Comments: In 2022, the Argentine Federation of Municipalities (FAM) participated in "informative meetings" for the first time. However, the association and LRGs were not involved in the VNR preparation process (GTF Survey 2022).

In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation



Comments: The Federal SDGs Network and the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies (CNCPS) have held exchanges with different LRGs that presented a VLR (i.e. Santa Fe and Villa María) so as to showcase their experience in the VNR (GTF Survey 2022).

This assessment is based on the information collected in the VNRs and in the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments' annual survey on the localization of the SDGs.

2.2 VNR REFERENCES

The 2020 VNR included a specific section on "Localization" while the 2022 VNR contains a section on the "Territorialization of the Agenda in Provinces and Municipalities". The 2022 VNR refers to local and provincial governments (mostly to provinces).

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

- ▶ In the province of Buenos Aires, the municipality of Esteban Echeverria developed a Neighborhood Improvement Program in 2011 to facilitate the integration of the most disadvantaged households in the population. Transversal gender policy guarantees access to rights through social action to marginalized women.
- ▶ In the municipality of Lincoln, a School for Women Leaders was created to ensure the full and effective participation of women and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of political, economic, and public life. The project was presented in 2018 and was evaluated by UNDP through one of its "Innovation and Local Development" calls, being the third Women's School promoted by the state authorities in Latin America.⁴
- ▶ In the province of Córdoba, the government began a training programme on the SDGs in 427 municipalities and, with the support of the OECD and the CNCPS, developed a territorial report in 2021 and a VLR in 2022. The government of the province also created an open management portal. It integrates the actions of the government linked to its plans and to the SDGs and their targets towards the year 2030.
- ▶ The municipality of Villa María implemented a consultation with the population on the level of knowledge of the SDGs and their relevance for the city within the framework of a local festival.

^{3.} Its first meeting was hosted by the province of Cordoba. It was attended by representatives from 11 of the 17 provinces that had signed agreements with the CNCPS and were implementing the provincial adaptation of the 2030 Agenda. Different events organized are presented in the VNR, 2020, p. 81.

^{4.} Answer of Lincoln to the GTF Survey in 2022. See: https://www.lincoln.gob.ar/escuela-mujeres-lideres

- ▶ In Río Cuarto, where 56% of the adult population has not completed primary schooling, the municipality has worked to improve the livelihoods and working conditions of families that collect recyclable materials for a living. The outcomes touch upon a number of SDGs: an increase in school enrolment linked to a decrease in child labour in the city (SDGs 4 and 8), an increase in the volume of recycled materials (SDG 12), new entrepreneurial projects (SDG 8) and an overall improvement in socially marginalized groups' conditions and access to material goods and culture.⁵
- ► The province of Salta presented a platform for Civil Society participation in the 2030 Agenda. It is a monitoring and evaluation system of the SDGs for civil society organizations and the business sector.⁶
- ▶ In the province of Santa Fé, the city of Rosario's Participatory Budget promotes gender equality through women's parity in political participation. In addition, Rosario integrated the SDGs in its Strategic Plan 2030 in 2018, in addition to adopting an Action Plan on Climate Change in 2020 and an Action Plan on Open Government to develop several tools to facilitate access to data, among other activities.

 The province of Santa Fé, the city of Rosario's Participatory Budget promotes gender equality through women's parity in political participation. In addition, Rosario integrated the SDGs in its Strategic Plan 2030 in 2018, in addition to adopting an Action Plan on Open Government to develop several tools to facilitate access to data, among other activities.
- ▶ The municipality of San Justo, carried out a program for social and sustainable housing called "Hogares 2030" seeking to consolidate universal access to habitat in the city, reaching 31% of households with housing deficits. The municipality developed an activity with the local media due to its multiplier potential on a publication it had made on government actions, detailing projects and programs linked to the SDGs.
- ► The province of Tucumán created a special website to show the commitments made to the citizens of the province through the Strategic Guidelines for the Development of Tucumán and its link with the Sustainable Development Goals.9

2.4 VOLUNTARY SUBNATIONAL AND/OR LOCAL REVIEWS (VSRs / VLRs)

The first municipality in Argentina to present a VLR was the municipality of Lincoln (provinces of Buenos Aires) in 2016-2017 and 2018-2019.

The city of Buenos Aires presented a VLR for four years: in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. The localization strategy of the SDGs of the city of Buenos Aires is structured around three stages: local adaptation to the national strategies, awareness of multiple stakeholders, and partnerships. The second VLR presented in 2020 by Buenos Aires is in line with the previous one in terms of strategy and methodology. An interesting element throughout the report is how, in relation to the context in which it was written, it highlights the links between the measures taken by the city's government to face up to the COVID-19 pandemic. The last VLR 2022 underlines that the pandemic has accelerated digitization procedures, the promotion of public space, and new ways of moving.

The province and the city of Santa Fe also published their VLRs, in 2019 and 2022 respectively.¹¹ In 2021, the following municipalities presented VLRs: Bragado and Vicuña Mackena,¹² and in 2022: Partido de la Costa, Rio Grande, San Justo, Villa Maria, and Yerba Buena.¹³ The provinces of Catamarca, Chaco, Chubut, Corrientes, Entre Rios, La Pampa, La Rioja, Misiones, Neuquén, San Juan, Tierra del Fuego, and Tucuman presented their VLRs in 2021,¹⁴ while the province of Córdoba published its VLR in 2022.¹⁵ Some of the VLRs have been included in the 2022 VNR (e.g. Santa Fe, Villa María).¹⁶

The CNCPS developed guidelines for VLRs and, with the support of an EU programme (Eurosocial) launched a "Project for technical strengthening of municipalities for the monitoring and evaluation of local public policies and their link with the SDGs"

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5. UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf
6. Available at: http://ods.salta.gob.ar/
7. See: https://www.gold.uclg.org/reports/gold-vi
8. UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf
9. Available at: http://led.tucuman.gov.ar/
10. See: https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/Buenos%20Aires%20(2019)_0.pdf;
https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_2020.pdf;
https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/buenos_aires_2021.pdf;
https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/buenos_aires_2022_eng.pdf
11. See: https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/Santa%20Fe%20(2019)_0.pdf;
https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/santa_fe_2022.pdf
12. See: https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/bragado_2021.pdf;
https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/vicuna mackenna arg 2021.pdf
13. See: https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/partido_de_la_costa_2022.pdf;
https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/rio_grande_2022.pdf;
https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/sanjusto_2022.pdf;
https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/villa_maria_2022.pdf, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/yerba_buena_2022.pdf
14. See: https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/catamarca_2021.pdf; https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/chaco_2021.pdf;
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https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/tucuman_2021.pdf
15. See: https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/cordoba_argentina_2022_eng_0.pdf
16. UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf
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that involved twenty small municipalities selected by the CNCPS.¹⁷ It also conducted 94 training sessions for municipalities in different provinces and provincial forums with the involvement of the civil society (e.g. 25 in the provinces of Buenos Aires).

The Argentine Federation of Municipalities (FAM) developed the first Argentine VSR in 2022, evidencing that progress has been observed in developing and materializing local programmes related to different SDGs. The VSR brings together 17 good practices reflecting these advances, while it also highlights limited awareness at the municipal level and insufficient dialogue with the national mechanism in charge of coordinating SDG implementation in the past. ¹⁸ In the last year, the CNCPS and the FAM have made progress to develop a common agenda. ¹⁹

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Since 2017, the CNCPS collaborates with the National Directorate for the Coordination of the National Budget (DNCPN) of the Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers, through the Directorate of Studies and Evaluation of the National Budget (DEyEPN) to monitor the implementation of the budget commitments for the implementation of the SDGs. The information is regularly published in the VNRs for each goal and target.

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

No reference.

3.2 COVID 19

The national government developed strong efforts to support the response of the health system and the vaccination process in the country. The VNR does not make a specific reference to the role of local governments in this process.²⁰ Many cities have developed initiatives to support the vaccination process (e.g. Buenos Aires) and assist the more disadvantaged and poor groups of the population. The FAM reports that it did not participate directly in COVID-related programs, but that there was an active national policy of coordination with the provincial governments and of these with local governments.²¹

4. SDG INDICATORS²²

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		-
6.1.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	Urban	-
	Rural	-
6.2.1. (a) Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	Urban	47 (2020)
	Rural	-
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		14.7 (2018)
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		82.3 (2015, Buenos Aires)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		12.6 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		-

^{17.} UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf

^{18.} See: https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/argentina_2022.pdf. See also UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf

 $^{19. \} UCLG, 2022, Towards \ the \ Localization \ of \ the \ SDGs, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf$

^{20.} See: https://www.ituc-csi.org/putting-people-first?lang=en

^{21.} Answer of the FAM to the GTF Survey in 2022.

^{22.} The data used for this table come from the UN SDG Indicators Database. See: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/database