

Joint SDG Fund
PORTOFOLIO ON INTEGRATED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LNOB
Joint Programme 2020 Annual Progress Report

Cover page

Country: ARGENTINA

Joint Programme title: EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: TOWARDS A COMPREHENSIVE CARE SYSTEM

Short title: JOINT PROGRAMME "EARLY CHILDHOOD AND COMPREHENSIVE CARE SYSTEM"

Start date (month/year): March 2020

End date (month/year): December 2021

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Budget (Joint SDG Fund contribution): 2.000.000 U\$S

Overall budget (with co-funding): 2.900.000 U\$S

Annual Financial Delivery Rate (= Total JP expenditures / transferred funds x 100%): 41.5%

Rate of Committed Funding (= Total JP commitments / transferred funds x 100%): 98.2%

Short description of the Joint Programme:

The United Nations System in Argentina aims to contribute to the strengthening of early childhood comprehensive care policies, with a gender perspective. The implemented activities are focused

especially on children and women with higher levels of vulnerability. Through this strategy, we intend to contribute to the achievement of Agenda 2030-related goals in a manner that is both strategic and innovative.

Executive summary

This report was jointly elaborated by the JP Coordination Team, the RCO, UNICEF (as leader agency) and the other agencies involved (ECLAC, ILO and UNDP), which demonstrates, somehow, the level of collective work achieved as well as the strategic and catalytic power generated by this SDG Fund experience in our country.

The beginning of the JP implementation was affected by different changes in the context, among which are the shift of government authorities and key contacts for the JP implementation, both at the national and subnational level, together with the new issues set on the public agenda. Also, we had to face the COVID-19 pandemic and its health, social and economic consequences, which generated the need to identify and propose innovative responses to the crisis. Finally, we had also to consider the impact of the emergency on children, women, and the institutions responsible for early childhood care, which is the main topic of this JP.

The report presents how the JP contributed to make progress in the Cooperation Area on "Protection and universal access to essential services" from the 2016-2020 UNSDCF, significantly advancing in the achievement of the goals defined in the PRODOC and showing enough flexibility to adapt to the new and unprecedented context conditions. The JP directly impacted on the acceleration of SDG goals 4.2, 5.4 and 8.5, both in scope as in scale.

With the purpose to contribute to the SDG Fund global outcomes, the JP added a new group of activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic to those initially programmed. The activities developed to achieve the JP objectives were strengthened and enriched, as part of a process of necessary adaptation to face the current social and political scenarios. Out of 33 activities, 26 (79%) had been programmed for the 1st JP year. 8 of them have finished (31%), 14 are in progress (54%) and 4 were postponed for 2021 (15%). Consequently, 85% of the activities programmed for 2020 are currently in progress or have already ended. Out of 10 activities designed in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, 7 finished and 3 are in progress. As a result, an important number of studies and evidence were produced and taken as an input by the government, and actions implemented in the field had a significant outreach.

The annual financial delivery rate for 2020 was 41.5%, while the rate of committed funding reached 98.2%. However, it is expected that by the end of January 2021, the financial delivery rate will rise to 62% and 99% of the resources received in the first funding tranche will be committed.

The main challenges for 2021 include continuing the alliances settled and strengthening the governance mechanisms that were created; exploring new opportunities to generate additional funding; maintaining the intervention focus on the pandemic and its health, social and economic consequences on early childhood and care institutions; promoting the convergence of a comprehensive approach by the different agencies on the relationship between early childhood issues and the debate over care systems; strengthening the strategic communication; and identifying and replicating the catalytic aspects derived from the execution of our JP in Argentina.

A. Annual Progress

A.1 The overall approach

Broader context and JP changes

The beginning of the JP implementation was affected by different changes in the context: a) the shift of national and subnational government authorities, due to the elections organized in late 2019; b) linked to the above mentioned, the setting in the agenda of the debate over the social dimension of care; c) the pandemic effects, the epidemiologic crisis and the restrictions to mobility, and, as a consequence, tension exerted over care institutions, families and workers of this sector due to social confinement and distancing; d) the aggravation of the socio-economic situation and the rise of poverty which, according to UNICEF estimates, would reach 62.9% of children and teenagers by the end of 2020, while extreme poverty would affect 18.7% of them¹.

As a consequence of the above: a) new stakeholders and government agencies recently created joined the dialogue and work in alliances, which increased the number and diversity of government partners; b) some activities highlighted while others developed to respond to emerging problems and issues; c) studies methodologies and work dynamics were adapted to fulfill the work plan, even though travels and face-to-face meetings were restricted.

Ensuring that JP remains strategic and catalytic Contribution to UNDAF and/or preparation of new Cooperation Framework

The JP helped to progress in the Cooperation Area on “Protection and universal access to essential services” from the 2016-2020 UNSDCF. In particular, it has contributed to the direct effect that addresses the social and territorial gaps of early childhood coverage (DE 2.2), for instance, through technical assistance to the Provincial Boards in three provinces. Moreover, the production of studies and implementation of training activities have helped to make progress towards the development of a comprehensive care policy, which implies the promotion of personal autonomy, the care and attention to dependent people (product 2.3.2) within the direct effect 2.3 aimed at designing and implementing social protection and inclusion policies for the full exercise of social rights through universal access to essential quality services.

Besides, the JP has generated added value through inter-agency coordination and the resource mobilization around 5 products that allow the concentration of joint actions towards the mentioned direct effects. The JP products remain relevant in the 2021-2025 UNSDCF, specifically in the Social Protection and Governance dimension. The programme design and the interrelation between the products is aligned with the comprehensive approach to sustainable development expressed in the UNSDCF.

Adaptation to COVID-19 and status of the adaptations

The JP adaptation to the COVID-19 pandemic is shown in the following aspects:

- Resources reassignment (approximately 18% of the 1st year budget).
- Incorporation of new activities (studies, pilot experiences, training activities and information/awareness strategies).

¹ UNICEF (2020). “Updated child poverty estimates”. Available at: <https://www.unicef.org/argentina/media/8906/file>

- Inclusion of COVID-19 topic in all the already programmed activities (technical assistance to provincial government, training activities).
- Studies methodologies and work dynamics (to carry out training activities, to strengthen capacities) to switch from face-to-face to virtual mode.

Out of 10 activities designed in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, 7 finished and 3 are in progress. Of these, 1 will finish during the first months of 2021 while 2 will continue all over the year and will integrate with other JP initiatives. They are the activities aimed to develop a training strategy targeted to care workers and the communication strategy on social dimension of care.

Other re-alignments of the JP over the past year

- Alliances were settled with new government partners (the Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity, The Chief of the Cabinet Office and the Ministry of Economics), which contributed to give a response better aligned to the country's needs and the strategy of the UN System in Argentina.
- Designation of the First Lady as President of the Advisory Board, which contributed to the PC visibility.
- Adaptation of activities because they were less feasible in the new fiscal and socio-economic country context.
- Disaggregation of the activities initially programmed, with the purpose to achieve a more direct impact over the JP target population.
- Incorporation of COVID-19 topic in all the activities.
- Adoption of a wider perspective to think about the "social innovation"².
- Alliance with other agency from the UN System (International Organization for Migration – IOM) to produce specific studies.

Alignment with the UN's SERP in the country

The JP activities are aligned with the "United Nations Framework for response and socioeconomic and environment recovery from COVID-19 in Argentina". Specifically, they contributed significantly to the pillar of "protecting the people", through studies and evidence generation on the impact of the pandemic on early childhood and care policies.

Within this framework and the 2021-2025 UNSDCF, JP activities such as the technical assistance, the development of studies and the settlement of information systems will maintain their contribution to the strengthening and reinforcement of the state capacities to guarantee all people's rights, with special attention to those who suffer from different forms of discrimination. The continuity of the support to public policies in the field will contribute to reducing the territorial inequalities regarding comprehensive early childhood care policies. The coordination between institutions, sectors and levels of government proposed in the UNSDCF will be benefited by the alliances and relationships already generated in 2020.

² "Social innovation" is defined as the organized group of solutions designed to face old and new social problems that have not been solved by the traditional institutional mechanisms or that simply could not be previously solved. From this perspective, the innovation can be either a product or a process, a technology, an idea, a piece of legislation or a combination of these elements. Rozengardt, 2019. "Report on innovative early childhood programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean". UNICEF. LACRO. Panamá.

A.2 Update on priority issues

SDG acceleration

The actions implemented as part of the JP have sought to strengthen a comprehensive early childhood development, care and education public policy (SDG goal 4.2), contributing, at the same time, to the recognition, reduction and redistribution of unpaid care work (SDG goal 5.4) and the generation of decent jobs related to early childhood educational and care services and policies. In this way, it is intended to contribute to full and productive employment for all (SDG goal 8,5). It is also expected to amplify the coverage of social protection systems and measures, so that they reach the poor and most vulnerable (SDG goal 1.3) and to empower and promote social inclusion (SDG goal 10.2).

In particular, the activities implemented in 2020 have made the following contributions, considering the theory of change designed for this programme:

- The support for the settlement and functioning of the Provincial Boards helped to improve the early childhood public policies, which were designed from a cross sectoral approach, based on evidence, with defined goals and the estimation of the budgetary resources needed for their implementation and from an intercultural and equity perspective.
- The systematization and documentation of innovative experiences will contribute to their replica in new contexts.
- The generation of evidence through studies will allow better planning and management of early childhood and care policies. Specifically, the timely production of evidence on the impacts of the COVID-19 helped to inform public policies decision-making and identify new necessary actions that the JP could promote, such as the training of care workers about the socio-emotional effects of the pandemic on children.
- The training activities helped to strengthen the skills of workers at the educational and care services and the personnel at government agencies (such as the NCSPC and the MWGD).
- The improvement of data systems about care services and the tools used to collect information will allow the existence of complete and updated sources of information and will improve the use of the ones that are already available.

Overall, it is expected that, in the midterm, the activities implemented and those that will be executed in 2021 contribute to increase the percentage of children attending quality early childhood care and educational services, particularly those who suffer multiple forms of discrimination; improve the labor conditions of early childhood care workers; and reduce gender gaps related to the distribution of responsibilities on care as well as the possibilities to access to the labor market.

Vulnerable groups

The JP activities directly benefit the following groups:

- the children aged 0 to 5, particularly children with disabilities, indigenous children and children living in low-income households. The actions contained in the Early Childhood Strategies designed in Entre Ríos, Mendoza and Salta are targeted to them.

- the workers at the early childhood educational and care services, who are mainly women.
- the women in active age in general, as the expansion and strengthening of the care policies contributes to a fairer balance between family and working life, generates the provision of care by others than the families, and promotes the conditions for a higher and better labor market participation.

Vulnerable groups	2020	2021	Total
Children aged 0 to 5 living in the provinces where Provincial Strategies are implemented	499.276 ³	538.000	538.000
Workers at the early childhood educational and care services who were trained	1.736 ⁴	2.000	2.000

Gender marker

Gender perspective is present in the whole JP due to the following reasons:

- As explained in the PRODOC, the JP adopt the so-called “Montevideo Strategy” for the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the framework of the 2030 Agenda. The social organization of care services is a key element of said strategy, as it recognizes existing flaws, inequalities and imbalances and their consequences in terms of the gap between men and women, among women with different socioeconomic levels and among countries and territories.
- The gender approach is present in all the JP activities: it is expressed in the cycle of the public policies for which technical assistance is offered at the provincial level; in the content of training activities and the design of instructive materials; in the topics addressed by studies and surveys; and in the set of indicators considered in questionnaires to collect information as well as in systems for its management.
- The communication strategy, both at a general JP level and every piece developed to disseminate the different activities, incorporates the gender approach.
- The Ministry on Women, Genders and Diversity is the government partner for many JP activities. Likewise, the other government agencies involved, either at the national level and the provinces, work from a gender perspective.
- Civil society organizations that work on care issues with a gender approach have carried out some activities and/or participated in events organized by the JP.
- The participation of women in the different JP governance mechanisms is outstanding.

³ Estimate of number of children aged 0 to 5 (inclusive) in the provinces of Entre Ríos, Mendoza and Salta. Source: Basch et al. (2015). “Children and teenagers demographic dynamic in Argentina”. Luján: Luján National University Editorial.

It is important to clarify that the estimate refers to the total population within this age range. As part of the technical assistance offered to design the Provincial Strategies, some progress is being made in the analysis of the information currently available to produce disaggregated data (for instance, by sex) and more specific data (such as the number of children that attend to the educational and care services included in the Strategies).

⁴ Information for the year 2020 comes from internal project records. It shows the total number of workers at the early childhood educational and care services who attended training activities organized in three provinces.

Human rights

The JP, as defined in the PRODOC, incorporates a high number of human rights mechanisms, among which are the following: UPR 2017, CEDAW 2016, CRC 2018, CERD 2017, ESRC 2018, CCPR 2016, y SRVW 2016. The effective implementation of these mechanisms is expressed in:

- The production of evidence (studies and surveys) and the organization of information and awareness campaigns that contribute to address the persistence of discriminatory stereotypes about roles on care, and to promote an equitable distribution of domestic and family responsibilities between men and women.
- Emphasis was made on the production of evidence to show how this inequitable distribution of care tasks deepened in the pandemic (since there was a heavier burden of care chores at the households, and it was assumed to a greater extent by women), as well as to develop information and awareness activities to modify this situation.
- The technical assistance for the designing, funding and implementation of public policies that contribute to guarantee and enlarge the offer of early childhood educational and care services, especially in indigenous and rural communities, and to improve their quality. Part of these activities consisted in the assistance to the provinces for the definition of protocols for a safe reopening of services in the context of the pandemic (it is important to say that educational and care centers, kindergartens and schools were closed for more than 10 months).
- Because of the above, the rise of opportunities for women, including those from groups suffering multiple forms of discrimination, to have access to employment.

Partnerships

- The JP alliance strategy with different government agencies, both at the national and subnational levels, has strengthened. Most of them have joined the Steering Committee while others have joined the Advisory Board. In this way, we work in partnership with representatives from different social agencies within the national government and with at least three provinces and their municipalities.
- In addition to the Undersecretary of Early Childhood (National Secretary of Childhood, Adolescence and Family - Ministry of Social Development) and the National Council for Social Policy Coordination (which were the initial partners), joint work was developed with the recently created Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity (which presides the Inter-ministerial Committee on Care Policies), and key stakeholders in the areas of Social Development, Economics, Labor, Social Security and the Chief of the Cabinet Office.
- Through the Advisory Board, presided by the First Lady, articulation was strengthened with representatives of social organizations, unions, business organizations and the academia, as well as with other key government agencies such as the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, and the Social Security National Agency.
- All these initiatives and processes are aligned with the broader strategy of the UNCT.

Strategic meetings

Type of event	Yes	No	Comments
JP launch event	X		Launch event organized on 10 th March 2020. National government authorities participated. Activities contained in the JP were presented and dialogue was held on the public policies priorities of the government, which had recently undertaken.
Settlement of the Steering Committee and 1st meeting			Steering Committee was settled on 1 st June 2020, and its first meeting was organized in virtual mode.
Settlement of the Advisory Board and meetings	X		First meeting held on 24 th August 2020, in virtual mode. The Advisory Board was settled, with the presidency of the First Lady and the participation of government, social organizations, unions, business organizations and academia representatives. A 2 nd meeting was organized on 20 th October, with a broader call.
Annual JP development partners'/donors' event		X	Due to restrictions during the pandemic, the annual donor's event has not been organized yet. It was re-programmed for March 2021.

Funding and financing

- When elaborating the PRODOC, the UN agencies had proposed the generation of innovative financing tools to actively search for contributions from other stakeholders. This strategy was aligned with initiatives promoted by the UN System in different countries.
- In 2020, a study was initiated with the objective of exploring these options at the international level to produce, in a second phase, innovative proposals that could be applied to early childhood education and care.
- However, it is necessary to warn that the crisis provoked by the pandemic at the global scale, and its expression at the national level, imposed some limitations that question the possibilities to implement this kind of innovative financing tools. Particularly, due to the fiscal and financial crisis that the states faced during 2020, which effects will continue during the current year.
- In addition, there is the need to allocate public resources to respond to the critical social situation. For this reason, the Argentine government has implemented cash transfer programmes which have positively impacted (although with limits) on the family dynamics of care organization. On the other hand, social organizations have been active participants in networks for nutritional support for children and women affected by the income drop.
- This topic is one of the challenges to face and resolve during 2021.

Innovation, learning and sharing

The innovation, learning and sharing strategy defined in the PRODOC is related to the activities that imply the production and later dissemination of studies, technical assistance, and training initiatives.

- The technical assistance to provincial teams aimed to design their Early Childhood Strategies represented an important learning process since it offered the possibility to reinforce, for instance, knowledge about strategic planning, goals definition and budget estimates. Likewise, joint work among the three provinces was developed, which can also be considered a learning

gain and an innovation milestone in the way to design provincial policies. The systematization and documentation of these experiences will allow its dissemination and replica in 2021.

- In those provinces, training activities were organized, targeted to an important group of workers at the education and care services. With this purpose, innovative contents were developed (the pandemic and its emotional impact on children). For this reason, the instructive materials were compiled in an e-book and will be disseminated soon.
- The building of a system and platform with information about the care services represents, also, another innovation for the early childhood public policy, given the previous absence of unified registers. In order to support these processes, training on georeferential information systems and databases was offered to the personnel who will be responsible for its management (NCSPC and MWGD).
- Support was given to MSD and NSCAF to review and update the tools and currently used systems to collect information that contribute to developing a complete country map on early childhood educational and care services. This activity will continue in 2021.
- Different activities were organized to disseminate the results of six studies produced as part of the JP on the social dimension of care and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. There were meetings held with the government partner to present the main findings and dialogue over them, as well as a public event and communication through social media.
- The main learnings derived from the systematization of a provincial experience on comprehensive attention to sexual abuse and forced pregnancy of girls and teenagers were disseminated by a virtual open meeting. This experience is being replicated in other province, as part of JP activities.
- Finally, it is important to note that the learning dissemination has not only been done externally, but also internally to the team involved in the JP implementation (the different agencies, funds and programmes built a comprehensive approach to this topic) as well as to other UN joint programmes with which bonds of strong collaboration were settled (such as Spotlight and the recently created "Socioeconomic recovery programme from the crisis provoked by COVID-19, from a gender perspective").

Strategic communications

- The JP communication strategy has been agreed with the RCO´s communications office (the UN Information Center for Argentina). This has contributed to link the initiatives developed by each of the agencies from a more general perspective, and to unify formats, language and methodologies.
- Besides, under the umbrella of these guidelines, the agencies have begun to carry out their own communication experiences, related to their specific activities.
- Up to now, the main implemented activities have included events organization (both face-to-face and virtual), publications in digital press media and posts on social media. In all these cases, the content was agreed with the correspondent government partners.
- Even though a story of social interest was produced, and it was published on the SDG Fund website, it has been difficult to develop this communication strategy, due to the constraints imposed by the pandemic. This is one of the challenges to face and solve during 2021.

B. Annual Results

Overall progress

- On track (expected annual results achieved)
 - Satisfactory (majority of expected annual results achieved)
 - Not-satisfactory (majority of expected annual results not yet achieved)
- Please, explain briefly:

Contribution to Fund's global results

- The JP has contributed to the designing and implementation of innovative social protection and inclusion policies in three provinces, aimed at the full exercise of children and their families' social rights through universal access to essential quality services with a gender perspective and with particular emphasis on groups subjected to aggravated forms of discrimination. This have been achieved through the implementation of a methodology for the early childhood comprehensive provincial strategies planning, which includes: the support of early childhood provincial and local boards to elaborate a diagnosis, goals definition and budget estimates, and the training of workers at the early childhood educational and care services; the training of personnel at the national level, who will be responsible for the application of new tools and systems to collect and manage information; and the systematization of innovative experiences related to care of children in rural and vulnerable areas. All the above mentioned contribute to the SDG acceleration on greater scale.
- On the other hand, a series of studies have been produced about a wide range of issues related to the early childhood care system, the living condition of children and their families, especially women, as well as their labor situations. These studies also reflect the way in which employment, education and training policies for decent work articulate and aimed at reducing the informal economy and all forms of discrimination, promoting gender equality and the abolition of child labor. The studies analyze the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children, families and women with respect to social organization of care, as well as the demand and supply of educational and care services. Their main findings and recommendations have been positively assessed by the government partners, and some of them have been even jointly developed. Therefore, we can affirm that the JP has also contributed to the SDG acceleration on greater scope.
- Therefore, progress was made towards the global outcome 1, defined as "integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale".

JP Outputs and Outcomes

- With the purpose to contribute with the SDG Fund global outcomes, the JP was first organized in four products: 1) Support the national and subnational implementation of the National Strategy for Early Childhood (ENPI, in Spanish); 2) Development of innovative instruments for a comprehensive care strategy, based on coordination and integration of public policies for early childhood; 3) Design and implementation of a strategy aimed at estimating the demand of employment for early childhood caregivers and improving working conditions of workers in the care sector; and 4) Follow-up, monitoring and evaluation, using big data and other analytical

tools. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a 5th product was added, aimed to support the national and subnational policy response on the care system for early childhood.

- During 2020, all the initially programmed activities were disaggregated in more specific ones, and were adapted to respond to the shifting political, institutional, socio-economic and epidemiologic situation previously mentioned.
- Out of 33 activities, 26 (79%) had been programmed for the 1st JP year. 8 of them have finished (31%), 14 are in progress (54%) and 4 were postponed for 2021 (15%). Consequently, 85% of the activities programmed for 2020 are currently in progress or have already ended.
- The status by product is as follows (a more detailed list is included in the Annex).
 - Product 1 (2 activities): 1 finished, 1 in progress.
 - Product 2 (10 activities): 4 in progress, 3 postponed, 3 initially programmed for 2021.
 - Product 3 (6 activities): 4 in progress, 2 initially programmed for 2021.
 - Product 4 (5 activities): 2 in progress, 1 postponed, 2 initially programmed for 2021.
 - Product 5 (10 activities): 7 finished, 3 in progress (2 of them will continue during 2020, in coordination with other product 3 activities).

Workplan

- JP workplan was modified
 - JP workplan was not modified
- Explain briefly:

The work plan has been modified in response to the context changes mentioned in section A.1. Activities related to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic have been included, and certain actions have been adapted to the new situation. Furthermore, some activities initially programmed were disaggregated into more specific ones. For instance, as part of the support to design early childhood provincial strategies (activity 2), training activities, communication campaigns and diagnostic studies about the situation of children at the local level are being developed. These activities' disaggregation came from dialogue and joint work with the government partners and was intended to respond to their needs.

C. Plan for the Next Year of implementation

Next year

The challenges for the programmatic and financial management in 2021 are the following:

- Guarantee the execution of the 2020 pending activities and funding and those of 2021, deepening the scope and scale of SDG related goals achievement in our country.
- Explore new opportunities to generate additional funding, which contribute to the SDG Global Fund outcome related to financing leverage to accelerate SDG achievement.
- Maintain the intervention focus on the pandemic and its health, social and economic consequences on early childhood and care institutions.
- Strengthen the JP communication strategy.
- Reach and maintain a balance between the axis that cross the JP, which implies:

- Balance between the activities that directly impact on the target population, on one hand, and the production of studies and evidence that allow informed public policies decision-making, on the other.
- The convergence of the different agencies, funds and programmes involved in the JP on the relationship between early childhood issues and the debate over care systems, to get to a comprehensive approach.
- Assist in the process of new joint programmes implementation, providing gained learning and collaborating with the RCO and other UN System agencies in the collective and cooperative work.
- Identify and replicate the catalytic aspects derived from the execution of our JP in Argentina.

Towards the end of JP implementation

- The JP will have accelerated the achievement of SDG by designing and implementing innovative social inclusion and protection policies at scale, aimed at the full exercise of children and their families' social rights through universal access to essential quality services with a gender perspective and with particular emphasis on groups subjected to aggravated forms of discrimination.
- The JP will have developed, together with the government partners, inputs that will benefit the articulation of employment, education and training policies for decent work, focused on the care sector and aimed at reducing the informal economy and all forms of discrimination, promoting gender equality and the abolition of child labor.
- The JP will have made conceptual and innovative contributions to the national and subnational governments about how to face the social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and the health emergency with active and inclusive policies, specially targeted to children who suffer from multiple forms of discrimination, and to women in charge of their care at households, the community and the early childhood educational and care services.

Risks and mitigation measures

The main risks and mitigation measures are the following:

- Aggravation of the economic crisis and the macro-economic and social problems provoked by the pandemic and the health emergency, which might lead to a relegation of children care to the bottom of the political agenda, or implementation of fiscal austerity policies leading to reduced investment in early childhood care.
To face these eventual risks, advocacy and incidence actions with the national and subnational governments are contemplated so that they prioritize early childhood care in their political agendas and budgets. The exercises of budget estimates contribute as an additional mitigation strategy since they provide a clear identification of the required resources and are being calculated jointly with the provincial social authorities. This might help to include the needed amounts in the budgets.
- Insufficiency of key stakeholders interested in participating in the initiatives related to the innovative financing tool, and/or difficulties to achieving the generation of additional JP funding due to constraints generated by the socio-economic emergency provoked by the pandemic.
To face these eventual risks, feasibility studies will be conducted as well as actions implemented jointly with the national government to seek innovative opportunities provided by new public and private stakeholders.

Annex 1: Consolidated Annual Results

1. JP contribution to global programmatic results (annual)

Global Impact: Progress towards SDGs

List up to 3 main SDG targets that your Joint Programme primarily focused on in 2020

SDG: 4.2

SDG: 5.4

SDG: 8.5

Global Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale

1.1 Did your Joint Programme contribute to implementation of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerate SDG progress in terms of scope⁵ in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly:

Through agreements with the government counterparts, the JP has produced relevant inputs that will allow the acceleration of work in crucial subjects related to early childhood and the comprehensive care system, as well as to strengthen the scope of multi-sectoral policies. In this regard, it is worth mentioning a high number of studies (including surveys and experiences systematization) about care and early childhood, the labor conditions of the women who do care jobs and those who demand care services, estimates of the demand of employment in the early childhood care sector, among others. Some specific studies have been added to analyze those same topics in the context of the pandemic and the health emergency.

All the above mentioned have provided elements that will improve decision-making on public policies and their funding, as well as the generation of innovative mechanisms and processes, such as the use of big data, care service mapping, and the definition of early childhood specific social indicators to monitor policies. Therefore, these achievements amplify the scope of public policies at the national and subnational level and contribute to accelerating progress to the SDG goals.

1.2 Did your Joint Programme contribute to implementation of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerate SDG progress in terms of scale⁶ in 2020? (if so, brief explanation)

⁵Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

⁶Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

Yes

No

Explain briefly:

The activities to strengthen the national early childhood strategy in three provinces and its replica in different municipalities have placed the JP as a vector to scale public policies aimed to improve the living conditions of both children up to six-years-old and women who work in the early childhood care sector, especially those groups highly vulnerable. These activities contributed to the continuity of the cross-sectoral national strategy despite the change in government administration. The new government has expressed its compromise to update and scale it as part of their policy priorities.

Likewise, other contributions have been made in terms of scale, such as the training of personnel at the early childhood provincial agencies, the communication campaigns with a broad territorial outreach, the intercultural scheme experience systematization for the provision of care services to indigenous populations residing in rural areas, among others.

Global Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

1.3 Number of innovative solutions tested in 2020

Total number disaggregated by % successful and unsuccessful:

During 2020, the implementation of different activities that will generate innovative experiences has started. All of them are currently in progress and can be considered successful.

Provide the list:

- Activity 3: Analysis of the legal and technical feasibility of the system and platform prototype featuring information on the total supply of care services (public and private).
- Activity 4: Design and testing of an information system on the total supply of care services.
- Activity 6: International experience analysis to improve the care services provided by early childhood centers.
- Activity 9: Intercultural scheme experience systematization for the provision of care services to indigenous populations residing in rural areas.
- Activity 21: Building of an integrated system of indicators linked to the ENPI, including, for instance, mapping of early childhood care centers (with existing or potential qualitative-quantitative information), the assisted children population, and the demand for services.

Explain briefly:

From the perspective of "social innovation" defined in our JP (see section A.1), it is considered as successful all those products, processes, technologies, ideas or a combination of them as far as they have achieved to address old or new problems that were previously unresolved through traditional institutional mechanisms or simply that had not been solved yet.

1.4 Number of integrated policy solutions implemented with the national partners in lead in 2020

Total number: 19

Provide the list: (each item includes different activities)

- Methodology to prepare Early Childhood Provincial Strategies, including the methodology to bring Early Childhood Local Boards into operation, training activities targeted to workers at the early childhood educational and care services, and communication campaigns to strengthen parenting practices that are sensitive and respectful of children's rights. These activities were implemented with national government partners: the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and its National Secretary of Childhood, Adolescence and Family (NSCAF) and the support of provincial partners (governments of Entre Ríos, Mendoza and Salta).
- Analysis of the legal and technical feasibility of the system and platform prototype featuring information on the total supply of care services. Government partner: Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity (MWGD).
- Contribution to the settlement of a register, information and monitoring system about early childhood development centers at the national level. Government partners: MSD/NSCAF.
- Studies to estimate the demand of employment in the early childhood care sector and studies of the potential size, characteristics and competencies of early childhood care worker's supply. Government partners: Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security (MLESS) and MSD/NSCAF.
- Design of materials to implement training plans targeted to workers providing care services. Government partner: MLESS.
- Different studies related to the impact of the pandemic: evaluation of the impact of COVID-19 and the containment measures on the situation of children and teenagers in economic terms, with a gender approach, and on child poverty levels; impact monitoring of COVID-19 on households with children and teenagers; analysis of the budgetary resources allocated to respond to the COVID-19 emergency with focus on children; impact of COVID-19 on labor situation of early childhood care workers; women's economic autonomy and its relationship with care tasks; changes in family dynamics and time spent on care tasks during different stages of the pandemic; public policy recommendations for specific groups associated with care in highly complex conditions. Government partners: different agencies at the national level, such as MWGD, MSD/NSCAF, MLESS, The National Council for Social Policy Coordination and the Ministry of Economics.

Explain briefly:

The JP has settled strong bonds with both its national and local government partners and carry out with them almost all the activities.

1.5 Did your Joint Programme contribute to strengthening of national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly:

The inter-agency strategy defined by the JP has contributed, in the first place, to identify the situation of early childhood and the care system for this group from the different perspectives of RCO and the involved PUNOs. Likewise, the strong bond built with the national and subnational government partners allowed us to link that diagnosis with the implementation of strategies to strengthen the national capacities in this area, with the purpose to accelerate the progress towards SDG achievement. This process has started in 2020, and we expect to complete the experience at the end of the JP, by late 2021.

1.6 Did your Joint Programme develop a functioning partnership framework for integrated policy solutions to accelerate progress on SDGs in 2020?

- Yes
- No

Explain briefly:

In our country, the history of alliances between the RCO and the agencies, funds and programmes from the United Nation System with government agencies, civil society organizations, NGOs, unions, business organizations, academia (university and training centers) and representatives from the culture field is vast and very productive. This strength has allowed us to successfully overcome the change of government and immediate contact was made with the new authorities for joint work.

The SDG remain part of the State agenda, and their acceleration is a matter of concern for the government authorities. In this context, the building of alliances has been a natural situation, based on preexisting confidence and powered by the interagency perspective. This is shown by the integration of both the Steering Committee and the Advisory Group, main bodies in the JP governance scheme.

2. Selected global performance indicators (annual)

2.1. Did your Joint Programme contribute to the improvement of overall UNCT coherence in 2020?

- Yes, considerably contributed
- Yes, contributed
- No

Explain briefly:

The JP design and its later implementation allowed the PUNOs to agree on a diagnosis on the situation of early childhood in Argentina, the distribution of care tasks for this group of the population and the labor condition of the workers at the early childhood educational and care services. On the basis of this diagnosis, different activities were defined (work in the field, training activities, information

systems strengthening, studies), which complement each other, both because of the topics addressed and their geographical focus. From this perspective, we can affirm that the JP contributed to improving the coherence within the UNCT.

The interaction and collaboration with other teams involved in joint programmes (such as “Spotlight” and the recently created “Socioeconomic recovery programme from the crisis provoked by COVID-19, from a gender perspective”) can be also considered a contribution to the greater coherence of the UNCT.

2.2. Did your Joint Programme contribute to reduced transaction costs for participating UN agencies in their interaction with national/regional and local authorities and/or public entities compared to other Joint Programmes?

- Yes,
- No
- N/A (if there are no other joint programmes in the country)

Explain briefly:

The inter-agency work within the JP, as well as the articulation with other UN joint programmes, allowed improved relationships with government agencies, both at the national and local levels, to coordinate activities, to promote implementation efficiency and to warn about possible overlaps. With this purpose, for instance, collective meetings have been organized when PUNOs had the same ministry or secretary as partner. Likewise, some actions taken directly from the Coordination Team have also helped to reduce the transaction costs.

2.3. Was your Joint Programme aligned with the UNCT Results Groups in 2020?

- Yes
- No

Explain briefly:

As previously explained, the JP represents an important contribution to the Cooperation Area on “Protection and universal access to essential services” from the 2016-2020 UNSDCF. The JP products remain relevant in the 2021-2025 UNSDCF, specifically in the Social Protection and Governance dimension. Moreover, the programme design and the interrelation between its products is aligned with the comprehensive approach to sustainable development expressed in the UNSDCF, and promotes the coordination between institutions, sectors and levels of government proposed in the said cooperation framework.

2.4. Did your Joint Programme secure additional funding resources in 2020?

- Yes
- No

Explain briefly:

The conditions generated by the COVID-19 pandemic have hindered the possibility for exploring alternative and additional funding mechanisms. It is a pending issue to analyze and consider in 2021 JP programming.

3. Results as per JP Results Framework (annual)

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected 2020 target	2020 Result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected 2021 target	Expected final target (if different from 2021)
Outcome 1 – Argentina will have designed and implemented social protection and inclusion policies aimed at the full exercise of social rights through universal access to essential quality services with a gender perspective and with particular emphasis on groups subjected to aggravated forms of discrimination						
Outcome 1 – indicator 1 Number of jurisdictions with a Provincial Early Childhood Strategy designed	2	3	3		4	4
Outcome 2 – The country will have articulated employment, education and training policies for decent work aimed at reducing the informal economy and all forms of discrimination, especially promoting gender equality and the abolition of child labor						
Outcome 2 – indicator 1 Percentage/number of workers of early childhood care centers in provinces incorporated into the JP who have attended some training programme on child development in the last 12 months	Entre Ríos: 306 people (73,0%) Mendoza: 93 people (92,1%) Salta: 236 people (85,5%) ⁷	1500 people trained in 3 provinces	Entre Ríos: 500 people Mendoza: 516 people Salta: 720 people ⁸		1500 people trained (2020) 500 people trained in 2021 2000 people trained in 4 provinces	

⁷ Baseline information for indicators 1, 2 and 3 (outcome 2) dates from 2019 and comes from the “Reporting and Monitoring System of Childhood Development Centers” (SIM CDI, in Spanish). It is important to note that such information refers to a subgroup inside the universe of workers at the early childhood educational and care services. It only shows the situation of those workers at centers that at that time, received funding from the national government. For that reason, percentages were calculated regarding that subgroup.

⁸ Information for the year 2020 comes from internal project records. It shows the total number of workers at the early childhood educational and care services who attended training activities organized in three provinces. It is important to clarify that these activities were targeted to a larger group, compared to that reported as the baseline. No percentage can be reported due to lack of information about the size of the total offer of educational and

Outcome 2 – indicator 2 Percentage of workers of early childhood care centers in provinces incorporated into the JP who received more than 50 hours of training in the last 12 months.	Entre Ríos: 13,1% Mendoza: 20,4% Salta: 9,2%	100% of people trained in 3 provinces will have more than 50 hours of training	100% of people trained in 3 provinces had more than 50 hours of training ⁹		100% of people trained in 1 additional province will have more than 50 hours of training	
Outcome 2 – indicator 3 Percentage of workers of early childhood care centers in provinces incorporated into the JP who received 25 to 50 hours of training in the last 12 months.	Entre Ríos: 12,0% Mendoza: 15,3% Salta: 20,1%					
Outcome 2 – indicator 4 Percentage of workers of early childhood care centers in provinces incorporated into this JP who have certified competencies.	Entre Ríos: 31 people Mendoza: 0 Salta: 259 people ¹⁰	-	-		500 people	

care services, both public and private, in the country and in each of the provinces. Precisely, one of the most relevant contributions expected from our JP is the production of a federal care mapping that provides, from now on, with this information, regularly updated.

⁹ The training activities designed and implemented in 2020 in 3 provinces lasted for 5 months and included, on average, a total of 60 hours (40 hours of classes and 20 hours for the elaboration of a final work).

¹⁰ Baseline information for indicator 4 (outcome 2) was provided by the National Undersecretary of Early Childhood. It refers to the number of people enrolled to attend the training courses organized in each province, in alliance with the National Institute of Technological Education during the last quarter of 2019.

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected 2020 target	2020 Result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected 2021 target	Expected final target (if different from 2021)
Output 1: Support the national and sub-national implementation of the ENPI						
1.1. Existence of a methodology for designing the Provincial Early Childhood Strategies	0	1	1		1	
1.2. Existence of a methodology for starting up Early Childhood Local Boards	0	1	1		1	
1.3. Number of Provincial Early Childhood Strategies designed replicating the designed methodology	2	3	3		4	
1.4. Design and implementation of training plans targeted to workers at the early childhood educational and care local services	0	0	3	Sub-activity disaggregated in 2020	4	
1.5. Design and implementation of communication campaign to strengthen parenting practices that are sensitive and respectful of children´s rights	0	0	1	Sub-activity disaggregated in 2020	1	
1.6. Diagnosis studies about the situation of early childhood in the provinces (children living in rural areas and islands in Entre Ríos, child labor in Mendoza)	0	0	0	Sub-activity disaggregated in 2020	2	
1.7. Number of provinces where the information about the early childhood educational and care services was collected	0	0	0	Sub-activity disaggregated in 2020	5	
1.8. Number of provinces benefited by the purchase of educational material for their parenting support centers	0	0	0	Sub-activity disaggregated in 2020	10	
Output 2: Development of innovative instruments for a comprehensive care strategy, based on coordination and integration of public policies for early childhood						

2.1. Existence of a legal, technical and administration feasibility study on the system and a prototype platform featuring information on the supply of care services for early childhood	0	1	1		1	
2.2. Existence of a designed and tested information system prototype featuring data on the total supply of care services for early childhood	0	0	0		1	
2.3. Existence of a software prototype (Minimum Viable Product) that helps account for the information entered into the system	0	0	0		1	
2.4. Report on the testing of the information system and the software platform that states the challenges for their effective application, information needs, strategies for accessing this information, and its potential utilization by users	0	0	0		1	
2.5. number of training activities for personnel involved in the management of information systems	0	4	4	Sub-activity disaggregated in 2020	4	
2.6. Existence of an assessment of international experience in improving care services in early childhood centers	0	1	1	In progress	1	
2.7. Existence of a tested innovative financing tool for improving care services in early childhood centers	0	1	0	Postponed for 2021	1	
2.8. Existence of a systematization of intercultural scheme experience for providing early childhood care services to indigenous population residing in rural areas	0	1	1	In progress	1	
2.9. Number of provinces that replicate the intercultural scheme to provide early childhood services to indigenous population residing in rural environments	0	0	0		1	
2.10. Existence of a systematization of early education scheme experience in rural areas	0	1	0	Postponed for 2021	1	

2.11. Number of provinces replicating the experience with early education scheme in rural environments	0	1	0	Postponed for 2021	1	
2.12. Number of districts/municipalities where mediated training activities and settlement of exchange networks for early childhood were implemented	0	0	0	Sub-activity disaggregated in 2020	6	
Output 3: Design and implementation of a strategy aimed at estimating the demand of employment for early childhood caregivers and improving working conditions of workers in the care sector						
3.1. Existence of studies estimating the demand for employment in the early childhood care sector	0	1	2	An additional study was started	2	
3.2. Existence of studies of potential size, characteristics and competencies of the supply of early childhood care workers	0	1	1	In progress	2	
3.3. Number of meetings held in order to disseminate the results of the studies and promote social dialogue	0	0	0		5	
3.4. Existence of a framework of competencies and occupational profiles relevant to the early childhood care sector defined	0	1	1		1	
3.5. Number of materials designed for implementing training plans for the early childhood care workers	0	1	1	In progress	1	
3.6. Number of training sessions carried out for replicating training plans	0	0	0		5	
3.7. Number of key players from the government, employer organizations, workers' associations and civil society organizations who received training, disaggregated by sex	0	0	0		30	
Output 4: Follow-up, monitoring and evaluation, using big data and other analytical tools						
4.1. Existence of a participatory study of local care needs in households, particularly in rural	0	1	0	Postponed for 2021	1	

areas and indigenous communities, in order to make services accessible and available						
4.2. Existence of a study to measure impact of care services to favor women's labor market participation	0	0	0		1	1
4.3. Register, information and monitoring system about early childhood development centers settled at the national level.	0	1	1	In progress	1	
4.4. Existence of an integrated system of indicators about early childhood policies, programmes and services	0	1	1	In progress	1	
4.5. Number of monitoring and follow-up reports prepared, applying the information contained in the integrated system of indicators	0	0	0		1	
4.6. Number of training sessions carried out	0	0	0		1	
Output 5. Support the national and subnational policy response to the impact of COVID-19 on the care system for early childhood						
5.1. Existence of an evaluation of the impact of COVID-19 and the containment measures on the situation of children and teenagers in economic terms, with a gender approach, and on child poverty levels.	0	1	1		1	
5.2. Existence of an impact monitoring of COVID-19 on households with children and teenagers	0	1	1		1	
5.3. Existence of a study to identify the budgetary resources allocated to respond to the COVID-19 emergency with focus on children and teenagers.	0	3	3		4	
5.4. Existence of a study to estimate the impact of COVID-19 on labor situation of early childhood care workers, with tripartite validation.	0	1	1		1	
5.5. Design and implementation of an awareness and information strategy on the impact of COVID-19 on the working conditions and labor rights of early childhood care workers.	0	1	1	In progress	1	

5.6. Design and implementation of an information and training strategy for the prevention of occupational and psychosocial risks affecting early childhood care workers as consequence of COVID-19.	0	1	1	In progress	1	
5.7. Existence of a study on women 's economic autonomy and its relationship with care tasks.	0	1	1		1	
5.8. Systematization and pilot of an intervention model for situations of sexual abuse and forced pregnancy in girls and teenagers under 15.	0	1	1	In progress	1	
5.9. Existence of studies on changes in family dynamics and time spent on care tasks during different stages of the pandemic.	0	2	2		2	
5.10. Existence of Public policy recommendations for specific groups associated with care in highly complex conditions.	0	3	3		3	

Annex 2: List of strategic documents

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description of the document and the role of the JP in finalizing it
Identification of the budgetary resources allocated to respond to the COVID-19 emergency with focus on children and teenagers (activity 26)	June 2020	The Report presents a financial and execution analysis of the main budget programmes targeted to children and teenagers. It also incorporates an analysis of the budget reprogramming made by the national government to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was produced jointly with the National Budget Office. 1 st quarter https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ninez-y-adolescencia-en-el-presupuesto-nacional-primer-trimestre-2020
	September 2020	2 nd quarter https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ni%C3%B1ez-y-adolescencia-del-presupuesto-nacional-1
	December 2020	3 rd quarter https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ninez-y-adolescencia-presupuesto-nacional-32020
Evaluation of the impact of COVID-19 and the containment measures on the situation of children and teenagers in economic terms, with a gender approach, and on child poverty levels (activity 24)	December 2020 (being edited for its publication on February 2021)	The study quantifies the impact that the pandemic and the preventive and compulsory social confinement measures had on the income of households with children and teenagers, with special focus on those with the highest child poverty incidence, and on the growing difficulty faced by women to integrate care needs with their participation in the labor market, when the supply of care services is limited. It also refers to the policy response implemented by the national government and its impact on the poverty and inequality of these households. It was produced jointly with the Economics, Equality and Gender Direction (Ministry of Economics).
Study on women´s economic autonomy and its relationship with care tasks (activity 30) Studies on changes in family dynamics and time spent on care tasks during different stages of the pandemic (activity 32)	November 2020	This document compiles six studies about the current and future effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the containment measures on the situation of women, in general, and on paid and unpaid care tasks. Differences are shown between social groups, territories or labor segments and specific topics are addressed, such as telework and home education. It also analyzes whether this context has affected women in particular, and in what way. Public policies recommendations are proposed.

Public policy recommendations for specific groups associated with care in highly complex conditions (activity 33)		It was produced jointly with the Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity. https://www.cepal.org/es/publicaciones/46453-cuidados-mujeres-tiempos-covid-19-la-experiencia-la-argentina .
Study of the potential size, characteristics and competencies of early childhood care workers supply (activity 14)	December 2020	This is an exploratory study that analyzes the profile of the workers in the educational and care services in Argentina, with a focus on three specific provinces (Córdoba, La Pampa and Rio Negro). Based on this analysis, recommendations are proposed to strengthen training activities and improve the labor conditions of workers. https://www.cippec.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/INF-PS-Quienes-cuidan-crian-y-ense%C3%B1an-Florito-Guevara-Camisassa-dicie....pdf
“Early childhood and emotional impact of the pandemic” (manual for training activities related to activity 2)	December 2020 (being edited for its publication on February 2021)	It refers to a group of child development aspects that have been modified due to the impact of the pandemic and the confinement measures, such as retractions in communication and speech or sleep and eating disorders. It is a training material targeted to workers at early childhood educational and care services. It contains different approaches for the treatment of those issues, which should be considered at the reopening of those centers.

Documentos estratégicos para los cuales el PC hizo una contribución

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description of the document and the role of the JP in finalizing it
Impact monitoring of COVID-19 on households with children and teenagers (activity 25)	August 2020	The purpose of this study is to update previously collected information about the perceptions, habits, attitudes and changes caused by COVID-19 in the population. Likewise, it analyses the economic and social effects on households with children. For this purpose, a 2nd wave of the Rapid Survey was carried out, applied by telephone. A specific module was included referring to the socio-emotional impact of the pandemic in early childhood. https://www.unicef.org/argentina/media/8906/file
	December 2020	Update of the previous, using the same methodology https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/encuesta-de-percepcion-y-actitudes-de-la-poblacion-3

<p>López Mourelo, E. 2020. COVID-19 and the domestic work in Argentina. Buenos Aires: ILO – Argentina office</p>	<p>April 2020</p>	<p>This document highlights the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on domestic work in Argentina, details the measures implemented that directly affect the sector and analyzes to what extent they are aligned with the recommendations to provide a comprehensive response to domestic workers in this crisis.</p> <p>https://www.ilo.org/buenosaires/publicaciones/documentos-de-trabajo/WCMS_742115/lang--es/index.htm</p>
<p>Ernst, C.; López Mourelo, E. 2020. COVID-19 and the world of work in Argentina: impact and public policies responses. Buenos Aires: ILO – Argentina office</p>	<p>April 2020</p>	<p>This report highlights the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on employment and the labor market in the country, compiles current policies responses and includes recommendations to provide additional support to workers.</p> <p>https://www.ilo.org/buenosaires/publicaciones/documentos-de-trabajo/WCMS_740742/lang--es/index.htm</p>
<p>Ernst, C.; López Mourelo, E. 2020. COVID-19 and the work market in Argentina. The challenge of fighting the pandemic and its socio-economic impact in times of serious economic challenges. Buenos Aires: ILO – Argentina office.</p>	<p>August 2020</p>	<p>This document details how the crisis generated by the pandemic will affect employment and impact those groups of workers who are in a situation of greater vulnerability. It also summarizes the policy responses implemented by the Argentine government and provides recommendations on how and to what extent the country can provide additional support to its labor market.</p> <p>https://www.ilo.org/wcmstp5/groups/public/---americas/---ro-lima/---ilo-buenos_aires/documents/publication/wcms_754620.pdf</p>
<p>East, S.; Laurence, T.; López Mourelo, E.; Martelotte, L. 2020. COVID-19 and health workers. Buenos Aires: ILO – Argentina office, ON WOMEN – Argentina and UNFPA - Argentina office.</p>	<p>2020</p>	<p>This report analyses the effects of the crisis generated by the pandemic on the situation of health workers, details the measures implemented and proposes recommendations and good practices to develop a comprehensive response.</p> <p>https://www.ilo.org/wcmstp5/groups/public/---americas/---ro-lima/---ilo-buenos_aires/documents/publication/wcms_754614.pdf</p>

Annex 3: Strategic communication results

3.1. Have you created a strategic communication plan for the Joint Programme?

- Yes
 No

Explain briefly:

Even though it has been a complex process, during the last months of 2020 a strategic communication plan has begun to mature. This process is being done with the PUNOs. We have a mid-term and long-term strategy first draft. Meanwhile, we have been creating content to illustrate the work that was done.

3.2. What percentage of the annual budget towards communications was utilized from the total budget? (Note that the entire JP comms budget must be min 5% of the total JP budget)

The committed budget for communication activities represented 4.41% of the funds received in the 1st tranche, while the delivery rate was 1.07% at 31/Dec. This percentage increased to 2.66% by 29/Jan.

Explain briefly:

The resources allocated for communication were used as follows: a) definition of guidelines and production of graphic and audiovisual materials for an information and awareness campaign on social dimension of care and the rights of workers at the early childhood educational and care services; b) definition of guidelines and production of graphic and radio materials for an information and awareness campaign to promote parenting practices that are sensitive and respectful of children's rights; c) edition and publication of studies and manuals elaborated as part of the JP; d) production of materials for general communication of the JP activities through social media.

3.3. Have visibility outcomes increased due to the provided funding for JP strategic communications?

- Yes
 No

3.4. Does the Country Profile Page on the Joint SDG Fund website contribute to your JP outreach?

- Yes
 No

Explain briefly:

Even though the SDG Fund website has not been frequently used, it had contributed to the dissemination of the JP activities each time there was a post on it.

3.5. How many articles (interviews, human interest stories, press releases, expert insights, etc) about your JP were published by an external media outlet (Non-UN published)?

Total number: none

Explain briefly:

3.6. How many articles (interviews, human interest stories, press releases, expert insights, etc) about the Joint Programme were published by the UNCT and JP PUNOs?

Total number:16

Explain briefly:

Human interest story, social media posts (see table below)

3.7. Have you received an increase of social media followers?

Yes

No

Total number: (Not mandatory)

Explain briefly:

Since we are using the existing social media platforms to publicize the SDG Fund materials, we cannot attribute new followers to these specific posts.

Multi-Media Faucets

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
The challenge of education in a context of extreme poverty	November 2020	Communication piece reflecting the story of Multicolores, an educational and care center for children living in extreme poverty, which has participated in the JP training activities. The story was published on UN in Argentina website and SDG FUND website: https://www.jointsdgfund.org/index.php/article/challenge-education-context-extreme-poverty

Social Media Campaigns

Title of the document	Type (FB/Twitter/LinkedIn/Etc.)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
Post 03/11/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	SDG FUND launch in Argentina https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1237847564164030465
Post 06/01/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	Settlement of the Steering Committee https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1267795869773987842
Post 06/29/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	SDG FUND launch in Salta Province https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1277679265190948865
Post 07/13/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	SDG FUND launch in Entre Ríos Province https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1282724036942934016
Post 7/27/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	SDG FUND launch in Mendoza Province https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1287822210967756802
Post 08/25/2020	Twitter UNICEF	Argentine First Lady designated to lead the Advisory Board of the SDG Fund
Post 10/20/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	SDG Fund Advisory Board meets to discuss regional, national and provincial experiences on early childhood policies https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1318621820854112263
Post 10/20/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	Strategies and programs perspectives on the Advisory Board meeting https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1318622297213800452
Post 10/20/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	The importance of Early Childhood in Argentina https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1318622601015660544
Post 11/12/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	Invitation to open meeting to present the studies developed by ECLAC and UNDP, in alliance with MWGD https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1326916310228475904
Post 11/12/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	Presentation of the studies developed by ECLAC and UNDP, in alliance with MWGD https://twitter.com/MinGenerosAR/status/1326993323115098114

Post 11/12/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	Presentation of the studies developed by ECLAC and UNDP, in alliance with MWGD https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1326955615856582663
Post 11/12/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	Presentation of the studies developed by ECLAC and UNDP, in alliance with MWGD https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1326944579736702977
Post 11/20/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	Piece published on UN in Argentina website shared (human interest story) https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1329822608339202051
Post 12/03/2020	Twitter UN in Argentina	Communication of main findings from the ECLAC and UNDP studies, developed in alliance with the MWGD https://twitter.com/ONUArgentina/status/1334452634225414150

Annex 4: Updated JP Risk Management Matrix

Risks	Risk Level: (Likelihood x Impact)	Likelihood: Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare - 1	Impact: Essential - 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1	Mitigating measures	Responsible Org./Person
Contextual risks					
No changes in national or subnational governments are foreseen until the end of the JP, but there might be changes in the representatives in charge of the partner government agencies	9	3	3	Strengthening of joint work with national and subnational governments	UN Agencies
Aggravation of the economic and social crisis as a result of COVID-19 pandemic, causing childhood and care issues to be relegated to the bottom of the political agenda	16	4	4	Developing advocacy and incidence activities with the governments so that they prioritize early childhood care in their political agendas.	UN Agencies
Aggravation of the social situation because of the lack of employment, in general, and for women, in particular	16	4	4	Developing advocacy and incidence activities with governments so that they prioritize decent work policies for all and care policies that allow a more equal distribution of these tasks.	UN Agencies
Fiscal austerity measures implying reduced investment in early childhood care attention and care services	12	3	4	Developing advocacy and incidence activities with the governments so that they prioritize early childhood care in their political agendas and budgets.	UN Agencies
Lack of political will to prioritize assistance to populations suffering multiple forms of discrimination	6	2	3	Including communication and awareness raising activities from the outset of the project, focusing on the use of evidence.	UN Agencies
Programmatic risks					
Lack of governmental interest in developing a Provincial Strategy in another province and municipalities	12	3	4	Substituting for any other similar province that has shown an interest in developing its Strategy and for which governmental approval has already been obtained.	UNICEF
Lack of legal feasibility to set up an information system and a software platform featuring the				Building an information system and the software platform exclusively regarding	

entire supply of care services (particularly information about individuals or private institutions)	6	3	2	organizations that offer care services or fostering the use of specific technologies (such as blockchain) to encrypt the users' personal data.	ECLAC
Insufficiency of relevant stakeholders to participate in initiatives concerning innovative financing mechanisms, owing to poor knowledge of these initiatives and current economic situation of the country	16	4	4	The UNDP will partner with existing organizations in the country that have already been working on innovative financing schemes and will maximize the participation opportunities for new stakeholders.	UNDP
Insufficiency of funds to attain financial sustainability of the innovative instrument at an experimental level	16	4	4	The UNPD will advocate with the government to create appropriate and favorable environments for the incorporation of non-traditional stakeholders.	UNDP
Lack of will of provincial authorities to finance the implementation of an intercultural scheme to provide care services to indigenous populations residing in rural areas and/or the education scheme in rural environments.	16	4	4	Inclusion of a costing exercise with defined funding sources to measure the expected provincial investment, as part of the systematization of experiences to be carried out.	UNICEF
Lack of available information that makes it possible to estimate the demand for care services at a regional or provincial level	9	3	3	Carrying out the study at a country level, based on existing data.	ILO
Difficulty in reaching an agreement with the Child Development Centers which take part in the ENPI regarding the minimum required quality standards with relation to working conditions of their workers	16	4	4	From the outset of the Project social dialogue initiatives will be set up which will make it possible to agree on decent working conditions.	ILO
Institutional risks					
Weak planning capacities of provincial teams	12	4	3	Inclusion of technical support to provincial teams as part of the strategy of this JP.	UNICEF
Poor willingness of decision-makers to use the information generated for monitoring the ENPI and (re)design policies	8	2	4	Inclusion of communication and awareness-raising activities from the outset of the project, with a focus on the use of evidence.	UN Agencies