

Joint SDG Fund  
PORTOFLIO ON INTEGRATED POLICY AND LNOB

## Joint Programme 2021 Annual Progress Report

### Cover page

**Country:** Argentina

**Joint Programme title:** Early Childhood and Sustainable Development: Towards a Comprehensive Care System

**Short title:** Early Childhood and Comprehensive Care System

**Start date** (day/month/year): 01.03.2020

**End date** (day/month/year): 28.02.2022

**RC** (name): Roberto Valent

**Government Joint Programme Focal Point** (name and ministry/agency): Marisol Merquel, National Council for Social Policies Coordination

**Representative of Lead PUNO** (name and agency): Luisa Brumana, UNICEF

**List of PUNOs:** UNICEF, ILO, ECLAC, UNDP

**RCO Main JP Focal Point** (name): Jessica Braver **E-mail:** [jessica.braver@un.org](mailto:jessica.braver@un.org)

**Lead Agency Main JP Focal Point** (name): Sebastian Waisgrais **E-mail:** [swaisgrais@unicef.org](mailto:swaisgrais@unicef.org)

**Contact person for Joint Communications** (name): Tamara Hahn, **CINU E-mail:** [hahnt@un.org](mailto:hahnt@un.org)

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

**Overall budget** (with co-funding): 2.600.000 U\$S

**Total estimated expenditure** (in USD, for the whole JP by 31 Dec 2021): 1.717.772,05 U\$S

**Total estimated commitments** (in USD, for the whole JP by 31 Dec 2021): 1.895.051,32 U\$S

#### Short description of the Joint Programme (max 1 paragraph):

Through the Joint Program: "**Early Childhood and Comprehensive Care System**", the United Nations System in Argentina contributes to strengthening the care policy for early childhood, from a comprehensive perspective and with a gender approach. The emphasis is placed on girls and boys between 0 and 6 years of age from the lowest income deciles and their families, particularly those who experience multiple factors of exclusion and discrimination (children who live in rural areas, belong to indigenous communities and / or have a disability). The objectives of the Program accompany the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda goals in a strategic and innovative way. Its execution is led by UNICEF in coordination with the RCO, together with ECLAC, ILO and UNDP.

### Executive summary

The beginning of the JP implementation in March 2020 was affected by different changes in the context, among which were the shift of government authorities and key political interlocutors at the national and subnational

levels together with new issues set on the public agenda, as well as the health and social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to generate actions that responded in an innovative way to the impact that the health emergency has had on the lives of children and women, and on the institutional functioning of the government agencies in charge of child care. In this context, the JP has shown the necessary flexibility and the ability to maintain coordination and internal cohesion between UN agencies as well as with government counterparts.

With two months left until the end of the program, the JP has managed to strengthen institutional structures and contributed to improving the living conditions of the target population, by having a positive impact on the planning and implementation processes of public policies aimed at early childhood, from an intersectoral perspective, based on evidence and with a gender approach. Some of the main achievements during 2020 and 2021, are the following:

- **Generation of synergies** with the strategic cooperation framework of the UN System through the incorporation in the Program design of the principles and priorities already established in the UNDSCF and in other strategic documents, which has contributed to the internal coherence of the actions implemented by the UN System and strengthened the lines of work prioritized by government counterparts to advance towards the SDGs fulfilment. The collaboration of other agencies in the implementation of the program as well as the articulation with other Joint programs, carried out in the country have also promoted the generation of synergies.
- **Agile production of timely evidence** that represents a valuable input for public policies for early childhood care, which has been particularly relevant for measuring the impacts of the pandemic on boys and girls, households, care labor market, and on social organization of care, informing decision-making based on evidence, and identifying new lines of action to respond to the COVID-19 crisis.
- **Consolidation of intersectoral institutional structures** to promote a comprehensive approach to early childhood and the care system, through the creation and strengthening of four Provincial Boards, and the technical support provided at the provincial level and also to 18 municipalities for the development of Early Childhood Strategies.
- **Strengthening of innovative processes**, such as the creation of the Federal Map on Care, the first platform of its kind (with a unified registration and information system on care services available in the country); also the elaboration of a methodological tool for the scaling up of the provincial and municipal Early Childhood Boards; the implementation of a system of indicators on early childhood that offers strategic inputs to the National Tax and Social Identification System; and the diagnosis of possible innovative strategies for financing services for early childhood.
- **Promotion of exchange and learning among** the actors involved, by strengthening the skills of early care and education personnel, carrying out different trainings for coordinators of child development centers and the generation of opportunities for joint work between different provinces, which has turned out to be an innovative mechanism in the elaboration of provincial public policies for early childhood. Training processes have also been generated for members of social movements that carry out early childhood care activities in different parts of the country, and for government officials from national, provincial, and municipal executive areas.
- **Expansion of the scope of the actions** through communication campaigns aimed at the entire population, for prevention, information and awareness of parenting practices that respect children's rights and for the recognition and valorization of care economy. Communication pieces related to care work have been adapted for their replication in several governmental and non-governmental spaces. In addition, training materials have been disseminated and different radio messages, podcasts and other multimedia products have been produced.

**Result 1:** By the end of its execution, the Joint Programme will have contributed to the design, implementation, and monitoring of intersectoral early childhood strategies at the subnational level which will reach up to approximately 850,000 children, including indigenous population, living in rural and/or remote areas, and children with disabilities, and to the reduction of the inequality gaps in early childhood care (0-6 years old). Estimated rate of completion as of 31 Dec 2021: 95%

**Result 2:** By the end of its execution, the Joint Programme will have contributed to the articulation of training policies for decent work in the care sector, aimed at reducing the informal economy and all forms of discrimination and the eradication of child work, strengthening the competencies of early childhood care and

education workers, and the parenting skills of the families, from a rights perspective and with a gender approach.

Estimated rate of completion as of 31 Dec 2021: 95%

**Result 3:** By the end of its execution, the Joint Programme will have contributed to the design of innovative tools proposals, the construction of statistical evidence, and the elaboration of specific studies aimed at improving the quantity and quality of public information available to enhance the access to care services and to design and implement early childhood public policies.

Estimated rate of completion as of 31 Dec 2021: 95%

## I. Overall progress and priority, cross-cutting issues

### I.1 Context and the overall approach

*Ensuring an adaptive and strategic JP*

- The beginning of the JP implementation was affected by significant changes in the context:
  - The change in national and subnational government authorities, as a result of the elections held on October 2019 and the consequent change in the public agenda for early childhood and the social dimension of care;
  - the Covid-19 pandemic, its economic and social effects, the epidemiological crisis and the restriction of mobility, since the confinement and social isolation measures impacted on the role of care institutions, families and the workers in this sector;
  - The worsening of the socio-economic situation and the increase in poverty (pre-pandemic conditions, aggravated by the pandemic), which, according to official statistic (EPH-INDEC), reached 54.9% of boys, girls and adolescents during the first half of 2021, while extreme poverty affected 16.8% of them.<sup>1</sup>
- In this new scenario, the JP maintained its strategic focus and demonstrated the ability to adapt by acting in the face of the aforementioned changes in the following manner:
  - Identifying new government partners (Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity, Head of the Cabinet of Ministers and Ministry of Economy) added to the original counterparts (National Council for Social Policies Coordination, Ministry of Social Development and National Secretariat for Children, Adolescence and Family, and Ministry of Labor), expanding the dialogue and work in alliance aligned with the needs of the country and the strategy of the UN System in Argentina;
  - Adding almost 50% of new activities to those planned to respond to emerging problems and issues prioritized on the political agenda;
  - Adapting virtual methodologies for carrying out studies and for the work processes, internal and with counterparts, due to the travel restrictions and the limitations for face-to-face meetings;
  - Redesigning activities to support the national and subnational policy in response to COVID-19 impact on early childhood care policies, on children and care workers.
- In this line, other additional strategic actions have been carried out, such as:
  - Designation of the First Lady as President of the Advisory Board, which contributed to the JP visibility.
  - Adaptation of activities to the new fiscal and economic-social context of the country.
  - Expansion of the geographical coverage of activities in order to achieve greater scope.
  - Adoption of a broader perspective to think about “innovation” in social matters.<sup>2</sup>
  - Creation of alliances with other agencies of the United Nations System such as IOM, and UN Women within the framework of the Fund for the SDGs MPTF.

*Link with UNDAF/ UNSD Cooperation Framework*

<sup>1</sup> UNICEF (2021). “Monetary poverty and non-monetary deprivation in Argentina.” <https://www.unicef.org/argentina/media/12746/file/Pobreza%20monetaria%20y%20privaciones%20no%20monetarias%20en%20Argentina.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Innovation in social matters is defined as an organized set of solutions to face old and new social problems that have not had an answer through traditional institutional mechanisms, or that simply have not been resolved. From this perspective, “innovation” can be both a product and a process, a technology, an idea, a piece of legislation, or a combination of these elements. Rozengardt, 2019. “Report on Innovative Early Childhood Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean” UNICEF. LACRO. Panamá.

- The Program has contributed 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 direct effects that addressed the social and territorial coverage gaps for early childhood (ED 2.2), for example, through technical support to the Early Childhood Boards, including support for the development of Comprehensive Strategies for Early Childhood at the provincial and municipal levels in four provinces and 18 municipalities. Likewise, through various studies and numerous training sessions, it has been possible to contribute towards the development of a comprehensive care policy that involves the promotion of personal autonomy, care and assistance to dependent people (output 2.3.2) within the framework of direct effect 2.3, aimed at the design and implementation of social protection and inclusion policies for the full exercise of social rights through universal access to quality essential services.
- The JP has generated added value through inter-agency coordination and the resource mobilization around 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.

### *COVID-19 impact*

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

- Resources reassignment (approximately 18% of the first-year budget in activities that continue to be implemented during the second year).
- Incorporation of new activities (evidence generation, pilot experiences, training manuals and strategies, and information/awareness actions).
- Inclusion of COVID-19 topic in all the already programmed activities.
- Adaptation of the methodologies to carry out studies, of the procedures for providing technical support to governments and of the capacity-building strategies, to move from face-to-face to online and/or mixed modality.
- Adaptation of multiple activities to the virtual and/or remote format.
- The activities designed or readapted were aligned with the "United Nations Framework for the socioeconomic and environmental response and recovery to COVID-19 in Argentina." In particular, they contributed substantively to the "Protect People" pillar, supporting the generation of evidence and studies on the impact of the pandemic on early childhood and care policies.

## **I.2 Update on priority cross-cutting issues**

### *UN Development System reform - UN coherence at the country level*

- The JP allowed the agencies, funds and programs involved in the implementation to deepen their knowledge and practical experience in coordinated work mechanisms and strategies to achieve the expected results in early childhood and care policies in Argentina. Coordination within the UN System and between it and government counterparts has been strengthened mainly because the JP has promoted:
  - The **complementarity** of technical knowledge of the different agencies to optimize the quality of the results, avoid the dispersion and overlapping of efforts and provide an articulated and comprehensive response to government counterparts on early childhood and care issues.
  - **Dialogue between ministries** and between the different levels of government through the implementation of an intersectoral strategy in order to address the multiple dimensions of early childhood and care policies.
  - **Coherence** of the programmatic content with the strategic cooperation framework of the UN System, while facilitating concrete support for the lines of work prioritized by government counterparts for the SDGs fulfillment.
  - The **efficient management** of the Program, by UNICEF as the lead agency, the RCO and the Coordination Unit, who have played a fundamental role in coordinating and supervising the joint work processes, while ensuring active and open communication between the implementing agencies and of these with the counterparts and associates of the Program.

### *Going beyond “business as usual” to produce catalytic results at scale*

- As described in the ProDoc, the JP has been designed to provide a comprehensive and strategic response to the problems arising from the absence of an integrated care system for early childhood. In this sense,

to achieve its objective, the JP includes interventions based on the multiple dimensions of early childhood and care policies and the specific mandate of each of the implementing agencies.

- The designed strategy took as a reference the priorities established in the UNSDCF, organizing the actions around the following five components:
  1. Support for public policies in the territory, at the provincial and municipal levels.
  2. Training of government officials, families, care workers, and management teams of early childhood centers.
  3. Strengthening of information and monitoring systems for policies, programs and services aimed at early childhood.
  4. Awareness and information campaigns aimed at a broad public, promoting parenting and care practices that respect children's rights, and for the recognition of care work.
  5. Generation of evidence from different perspectives in order to provide greater knowledge on the subject based on evidence to inform the development of public policies.
- The design of this scheme has strengthened different aspects of early childhood policies, such as inter-institutional coordination, the capacities and technical knowledge of the actors involved, the existence of adequate information systems, awareness actions and communication, and the availability of empirical evidence to guide decision making. In addition, the different components include specific lines of work for the systematization of innovative experiences so that they can be replicated in other opportunities and thus generate a catalytic effect for the results of the JP that are sustainable over time, beyond the period of program implementation.

#### *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).
- The activities implemented 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 a human rights, 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 and other tools (such as surveys) 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, management teams of educational and care centres and government officials (for example from the National Council for Social Policies Coordination and the Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity).
  - The improvement at the national and subnational level in the information systems on education and care services and the tools used to collect information allows for more complete and regular data on the supply of services, while promoting the use of information sources already available.
  - Overall, the implemented activities contributed to improving the supply and quality of early childhood education and care centres, the labor conditions of early childhood care workers; and reducing gender gaps related to the distribution of responsibilities on care as well as the possibilities of women to access to the labor market.

#### *Policy integration and systems change*

- The Joint Program was designed within the framework of the political will of the national, provincial and municipal governments to develop comprehensive public policies on care, and to prioritize, within early

childhood, the population with multiple discriminations (girls and boys from households with lower incomes, from indigenous communities and/or with disabilities). This has made it possible to generate inter-agency, intersectoral dialogues and the construction of new institutionality.

- The possibility of accessing public and private information to carry out actions for the generation of evidence, studies, the systematization of experiences and the design of tools (systems and platforms) related to early childhood care has made it possible to successfully achieve the stated objectives. This has been possible due to the political decision of the different government agencies, which have allowed the exchange of information and data. Various community and non-governmental organizations have also facilitated access to information and care work actors.
- Decision makers have already shown interest in using the new evidence generated by the program (both from official sources and from the generation of own data through surveys and other tools) for the re/design of public policies aimed at early childhood care.

*Contribution to improvement of the situation of vulnerable groups*

The JP activities have directly benefitted the following groups:

- Girls and boys from 0 to 6 years old, particularly those who live in conditions of low income and multiple vulnerability (including children with disabilities and indigenous children).
- Workers in early childhood education and care services, mostly women, involved in these tasks at the centers, through the improvement of working conditions.
- Women in working age in general, insofar as the expansion and strengthening of care policies contributes to the work-family balance, facilitating the defamiliarization of care and promoting conditions for their labor insertion.

- Estimated number of individuals that were reached through JP efforts in 2020-2021:  
 Total number: No data available  
 Percentage of women and girls: No data available

<b>Vulnerable Groups</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Total</b>
Children aged 0 to 6 living in the provinces where Provincial Strategies are implemented <sup>3</sup>	499.276	855.654	855.654
Workers at the early childhood educational and care services who were trained <sup>4</sup>	1.736	2000	2936

*Mainstreaming Gender equality and women empowerment*

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

- As explained in the PRODOC, the JP adopted 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Total number of workers at the early childhood educational and care services who attended training activities organized in four provinces.

- 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.

Estimated % of overall disbursed funds spent on Gender equality and Women empowerment by the end of 2021: 70%

### *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 during 2020).
- 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 partnerships between the RCO and the agencies of the UN System with national and subnational organizations, civil society organizations, NGOs, social, business and union organizations, professionals, academy, media, and different national universities and training centers, have a vast and very productive history in Argentina. This strength has made it possible to solidly overcome the change in administration and to immediately establish contact with the new government. The SDGs continue to be part of the government agenda, and their acceleration is a concern of the authorities. In this framework, establishing alliances has been a natural situation, based on pre-existing trust and strengthened by the interagency perspective. An example of this is the establishment of the Steering Committee and the Advisory Council, central governance bodies of the JP.
- During 2020 and 2021, the partnership strategy of the JP with different national and subnational government actors has been strengthened. Most of them have joined the Steering Committee and others the Advisory Council. In this way, partnerships have been created/strengthened with representatives from different areas of the national State and from at least four provinces and 18 municipalities.
- At the national level, in addition to the Undersecretariat for Early Childhood (National Secretariat for Children, Adolescents and Family of the Ministry of Social Development) and the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies (original counterparts), the JP has been implemented together with the Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity (which was created in December 2019 and which chairs the Interministerial Table for Care Policies), and with key actors within the areas of Social Development, Economy, Labor, Social Security and the Head of Cabinet of Ministers.
- Through the Advisory Council chaired by the First Lady, coordination has been strengthened with representatives of social organizations, trade unions, companies, and academia, as well as other key state agencies such as the Ministry of Health, Education and the National Agency for Social Security.
- All these initiatives and processes are aligned with the broader strategy of the United Nations Country Team.

### *Mobilizing additional funding and/or financing*

- When elaborating the PRODOC, the UN agencies 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 that sense, a study was initiated with the objective of exploring these options at the international level to produce, in a following stage, innovative proposals that could be applied to early childhood education and care.
- However, it is necessary to mention, based on the studies carried out, that the crisis caused by the pandemic at the global scale, and its expression at the national level, generated a series of limitations that put in risk the possibilities of implementing, in the short term, this type of innovative financing mechanisms in Argentina.
- Added to the delicate fiscal and financial situation is the need to allocate public resources to respond to the critical social situation, which is why the Argentine government has expanded its income and protection policies and implemented new strategies that have had a positive impact (albeit with limits) in mitigating the economic effects of the pandemic and in intra-family strategies for organizing care.<sup>5</sup> The JP has contributed to inform this decision-making through the generation evidence and the provision of technical assistance.
- Social organizations have been central actors in the generation and maintenance of nutritional support networks for children and women affected by the drop in income.

### Strategic meetings

Type of event	Yes	No	Description/Comments
Steering Committee Events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the Program</li> <li>• Integration of the Advisory Board</li> <li>• Presentation of the Program activities implemented in 2020 and planned activities for 2021</li> </ul>
Advisory Board Events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of the Advisory Board with the presidency of the First Lady and the participation of government, social organizations, unions, business organizations and academia representatives.</li> <li>• Technical meeting on experiences of early childhood policies.</li> </ul>
Annual JP development partners'/donors' event	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to restrictions during the pandemic, no annual events were held with donors. However, a final (virtual) event with donors will be organized before the ending of the Program, to present the main results and the contributions made by the JP to the strengthening of early childhood policies through the SDG Fund.</li> </ul>
Other strategic events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 presentation and launch events of the provincial Early Childhood Boards (Mendoza, Entre Ríos, Salta and Córdoba) and the beginning of the activities planned for the 2nd year. Authorities from UNICEF and the JP and provincial governments were present, including governors and authorities from the different government areas.</li> <li>• 8 launch events for early childhood municipal Boards.</li> <li>• 4 events to evaluate and close the process of forming provincial Early Childhood Boards (Mendoza, Entre Ríos, Salta and Córdoba).</li> <li>• Closing event of the JP activities in the provinces.</li> <li>• Launch event of the Federal Care Map, held at the Casa Rosada (Government House), with the participation of the Minister for Women, Genders and Diversity, the Director of INDEC, the President of the National Council for Social Policies Coordination, the Secretary of Management and Public Employment and the Director of the ECLAC Office.</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> A study carried out by UNICEF within the JP framework has identified the impact of these policies on the general population and its assessment..

### *Innovation, learning and sharing*

The innovation, learning and dissemination strategy planned in the PRODOC refers to activities related to the preparation and subsequent dissemination of studies, the processes of technical support and training.

- The technical support to the provincial and municipal teams for the design of their Early Childhood Strategies represented an important instance of learning since it offered the possibility of reinforcing knowledge of strategic planning such as defining goals and calculating the related costs. Likewise, the promotion of joint work between the different provinces, can also be considered a learning experience and a milestone in terms of innovation in elaboration process of provincial public policies. In addition, the lessons learned from this intersectoral work at the provincial and municipal levels contributed to the development of a specific methodological tool to scale up the work to other provinces and localities after the program ending.
- Multiple training and learning activities were carried out for national, provincial and municipal officials, social organizations, specialists in various fields of social policy, caregivers of boys and girls, community leaders and family groups. For the implementation of these activities, innovative processes were used, many of them virtual, due to pandemic restrictions. In addition, online training platforms were designed and created, manuals, audiovisual materials and podcasts were also produced to support the learning activities.
- The process of designing and implementing a system and platform with georeferenced information about care services constitutes an innovation for early childhood policy, given the previous absence of similar unified registries. To enhance these processes, training on georeferenced information systems and database management was offered to those in charge of their administration (National Council for Social Policies Coordination and Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity).
- Support was provided to the Ministry of Social Development and to the National Secretariat for Children, Adolescence and Family in reviewing and updating the current instruments and systems to collect data in order to have a complete map of early childhood services in the country, as well as to the province of Entre Ríos in the implementation of an instrument at the provincial level (RUCEDIER) that provides information to the national system.
- Different actions were organized to promote the dissemination of the results of various studies carried out within the JP framework on the social dimension of care and the impact of COVID-19, especially in the case of households with children and adolescents. Several meetings were held for the presentation of the findings and the debate with the counterparts.
- The main learnings from the systematization and documentation of a provincial experience for a comprehensive approach to situations of sexual abuse and forced pregnancies of girls and adolescents were presented and shared through virtual meetings. This experience is being replicated in other provinces, as part of the JP activities.
- The dissemination of learnings has not only been carried out externally, but also within the team involved in the implementation of the JP (the different agencies have been building a comprehensive view of the issue) and also towards other interagency programs with which close collaboration links were established (such as "Spotlight" and the most recently created "Socioeconomic Recovery Program for the crisis caused by COVID-19 from a gender perspective").
- Development of two training manuals for the care of children and care work in private homes together with the Ministry of Labor and Social Security and the union for domestic care workers (UPACP). An online platform was also designed to access to the manuals content from any smartphone or computer throughout the country.
- Creation of the podcast "Someone Cares" to raise awareness of the importance of care and possible improvements to generate a fairer and more equitable organization of care. Officials from different UN agencies participate throughout the six episodes (ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNICEF). The episodes were reviewed by UN WOMEN.

## **II. 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:

The overall progress of project implementation as of December 31, 2021, has been very satisfactory. In the reported period, 97% of the programmed activities were implemented and financial execution (including committed expenses) reached 96%. The remaining percentages will be reached during the last two months of implementation.

### *Contribution to Fund's global results*

#### ⇒ **Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1 (as per annual targets set by the JP)**

- Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale
- The activities linked to the strengthening of intersectoral policies aimed at early childhood in four provinces and their replication in 18 municipalities have placed the JP in a position of vector of the scalability of public policies aimed at improving the lives of girls and boys, and women who work in the field of early childhood care, particularly in conditions of high vulnerability. This line of work contributed to promoting comprehensive early childhood strategies at the subnational level and was held in the context of a change of authorities, with the commitment to update and expand it within the priorities of the current government. Through the provision of technical assistance in four provinces and 18 municipalities for the implementation and strengthening of Early Childhood Boards, the JP promoted an inter-institutional response to the needs of early childhood. In the same sense, other activities have contributed to the institutional strengthening such as the carry out of several training and workshops, the dissemination of communication campaigns with wide territorial coverage, as well as the systematization of the intercultural device aimed at the population of indigenous children in rural areas and the actions especially aimed at children with disabilities, among others.

#### ⇒ **Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Output 3 (as per annual targets set by the JP)**

- Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

Throughout 2020 and 2021, the JP has carried out a series of innovative interventions to support comprehensive policies on early childhood and care, including:

- The elaboration of a methodology to develop provincial and municipal Early Childhood Strategies, the training of early childhood care services workers and the dissemination of communication campaigns to strengthen parenting practices from a rights and gender approach.
- The development of feasibility studies on the system and platform prototype with information on the supply of care services for early childhood (public and private). Afterward, the web platform and the mobile application, the base computer infrastructure (back end), and the administration portal were developed so that the Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity would be able to update data but also to incorporate modifications in the Federal Map of Care (for example by adding new populations to cover, new types of institutions, design issues, etc.). On the other hand, the Map includes not only data related to early childhood care, which is the JP focus, but also to people with disabilities, elderly adults, and training services for caregivers (public, private and community based).
- The creation of an integrated system of indicators related to Early Childhood and the training of human resources involved in the platform for early childhood indicators.
- The support provided for setting up a registration, information and monitoring system for child development centers at the national and provincial levels.
- The elaboration of studies to estimate the demand for employment in the care sector; and the volume, characteristics and skills of the supply of workers in the care sector.
- The design of materials for the implementation of training paths for care service workers.
- The preparation of various studies and actions to generate evidence related to the impact of the pandemic on early childhood and care with a focus on highly vulnerable households.

### *JP Outputs and Outcomes*

#### ⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outputs**

- To achieve the JP general objective, four products had originally been defined:
  1. Support for the national and subnational implementation of the National Early Childhood Strategy (ENPI);
  2. Development of innovative instruments for a comprehensive care strategy, based on the 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 the working conditions of workers in the care sector;
  4. Follow-up, monitoring and evaluation, using big data and other analytical tools.
- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a fifth product was added, aimed to support the national and subnational policy response on the care system for early childhood.
  - Throughout the two years, the initially programmed activities were disaggregated into more specific ones and were adapted to respond to the changing political-institutional, socioeconomic, and epidemiological situation. Framed in the five products, 52 activities were developed, 46 of which have already been completed, in a timely manner, while the remaining 6 are in their final stage. By the end of the program implementation period, 100% of the activities will have been executed as planned.

⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outcomes**

The high level of execution of the activities and products of the JP has led to the fulfillment of the three expected results. In relation to result 1, the Early Childhood Boards have been consolidated and institutionalized at the provincial and municipal levels, according to the proposed goals, and the methodology for the replication of this experience has also been documented and published for replication beyond the JP implementation. As for result 2, the various training activities, including the elaboration of training and awareness materials, have been carried out as planned, strengthening the knowledge of early childhood and care of a broad audience to whom these actions have been directed. Moreover, the training and awareness materials have been designed so that they can be applied and replicated beyond the project implementation period. Finally, regarding result 3, the creation of innovative tools has been designed or supported, such as the Federal Care Map, the system of indicators on early childhood, the systematization of care and upbringing experiences in indigenous communities and/or rural areas, and the production of 30 studies for the generation of evidence and knowledge on the subject addressed by the JP.

⇒ **Monitoring and data collection:**

The Coordination Unit of the JP, under the general supervision of UNICEF as lead agency and the RCO, is in charge of the monitoring of activities and data collection. The Coordination Unit's role is also to facilitate the articulation and communication between the different agencies and the monitoring of activities based on the terms and indicators established in the ProDoc. For that purpose, it arranges meetings on a regular basis and whenever necessary with the technical team of the agencies, maintains an open communication between all the parties, requests information and data on the programmatic and financial implementation for the consolidation and systematization of progress, coordinates the preparation of quarterly, mid-term and annual reports based on the requirements of the Secretariat, and supervises the final evaluation process. This scheme made it possible to organize and monitor work processes, supervise the development of activities, the achievement of planned objectives, channel consultations and communications with counterparts and with the Joint SDG Fund, as well as provide alternatives to different inconveniences that could have arisen during the implementation.

*Lessons learned and sustainability of results*

With two months left until the end of the program, the results obtained from the activities implemented allow the identification of lessons learned for future interventions to support the SDGs fulfillment through joint and collaborative work between the UN agencies:

- The synergy of the JP with the 2016-2020 UNSDCF, particularly with the Area of Cooperation on "Protection and universal access to essential services" has been key to promoting the internal coherence of the UN System. As the Program products remain relevant within the framework of the 2021-2025 UNSDCF, particularly in the Social Protection and Governance dimensions, the results continue to be sustainable in this regard.
- The joint identification of a central topic in the national agenda related to the SDGs, the collaborative design of the programmatic and financial proposal, and the coordinated implementation of the activities, have consolidated the complementarity between the agencies involved, optimizing the quality of the results, while avoiding the superposition of efforts.
- This convergence of technical capabilities allowed the UN System to act swiftly and efficiently, providing a coordinated and comprehensive response to government counterparts.

### **III. Plan for the final phase of implementation**

*Towards the end of JP implementation*

- During the last two months of the JP implementation, the external evaluation will be followed up, by supporting the evaluation team to arrange interviews with the various actors of the Program, when required, and reviewing the products to be delivered within the deadlines established in the terms of reference.
- The Coordination Unit, together with the UN technical team, will review the closing activities to be implemented by each party, in order to ensure compliance with the stipulated deadlines, including the administrative processes in each case. Some of these closing activities refer to communication and dissemination actions of the latest products carried out, and meetings with the main JP counterparts to exchange on the achievements made within the framework of the program, and jointly identify new future lines of action to capitalize the JP results after the period of implementation. In addition, a final (virtual) event with donors will be organized before the ending of the Program, to present the main results and the contributions made by the JP to the strengthening of early childhood policies through the SDG Fund.

### *Risks and mitigation measures*

During the JP implementation period, certain risks and possible mitigation measures have been identified, which will likely remain during the last two months of the Program:

- Risk: Worsening of the economic crisis and the macro-economic and social imbalances resulting from the pandemic that could relegate children and their care on the political agenda or cause fiscal austerity measures that imply less investment in early childhood care.
  - Mitigation: Faced with this possible situation, the design strategy has been the implementation of advocacy activities with national and local governments for the prioritization of early childhood care in their political agendas and budgets. The costing exercises carried out by the province itself contribute as an additional mitigation strategy as a clear identification of the necessary resources facilitates the advocacy for their inclusion in the budgets.
- Risk: Insufficiency of relevant stakeholders to participate in initiatives related to innovative financing mechanisms, and/or difficulties in generating additional funds for the JP due to the limitations generated by the economic and social emergency caused by the pandemic.
  - Mitigation: Faced with this possible situation, feasibility studies and joint actions have been carried out with the national government to search for innovative opportunities provided by new public and private actors.

## Annex 1: Consolidated Annual Results

### 1. JP contribution to global Fund's programmatic results

#### Global Impact: Progress towards SDGs

Select up to 3 SDG *indicators* that your Joint Programme primarily contributed to (in relation to SDG targets listed in your JP ProDoc)

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

Outcome indicators	Expected 2021 target	2021 result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected final target
1.1: Number of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerated SDG progress in terms of scope <sup>6</sup>	11	11		13
<p><i>List the policies:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design and implementation of Provincial Early Childhood Strategies.</li> <li>• Design and implementation of Municipal Strategies for Early Childhood.</li> <li>• Systematization and documentation of an intercultural device to provide care services to the indigenous population in rural areas.</li> <li>• Systematization and documentation of a program to promote respectful upbringing of children's rights aimed at the indigenous population in rural areas (Raising without Violence Program).</li> <li>• Design and implementation of training actions aimed at workers at early childhood centers.</li> <li>• Support for updating instruments to collect information on early childhood care centers (RENECEPI at a national level and RUCEDIER at the provincial level).</li> <li>• Preparation of different specific studies aimed at improving the quantity and quality of public information available to facilitate access to care services and to design and implement comprehensive early childhood public policies.</li> <li>• Information and awareness actions aimed at families to strengthen parenting practices that respect children's rights.</li> <li>• Information and awareness actions on care and early childhood aimed at unions, companies, community centers and society in general.</li> <li>• Pilot test of the approach model for attention to situations of sexual abuse and forced pregnancy of girls and adolescents under 15 years of age.</li> <li>• Design and testing of an information system and platform on the supply of care services (Federal Care Map).</li> <li>• Creation of an integrated system of indicators on policies, programs and services aimed at early childhood and delivery of training for the system operation.</li> <li>• Implementation of the Parenting Communities strategy, which makes it possible to reach a greater number of organized communities in the protection and care of early childhood.</li> </ul>				
1.2: Number of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale <sup>7</sup>	7	7		8

<sup>6</sup>Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

<sup>7</sup>Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

*List the policies:*

- Support documents for the scaling up of Provincial Early Childhood Strategies.
- Support documents for the scaling up of municipal Early Childhood Strategies.
- Design and implementation of a virtual, modular and replicable training model aimed at those responsible of child development centers of social organizations, and the delivery of trainings aimed at early childhood centers workers.
- Definition of skills and relevant profiles for the early childhood care sector.
- Design and implementation of communication campaigns to strengthen parenting practices.
- Systematization of a proposal for an intercultural device to provide care services to the indigenous population in rural areas.
- Systematization document of the "Parenting Communities" experience for its escalation at the national level.
- Systematization of the model for didactic interventions within the "First Years Program", for parenting support spaces.

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

Output indicators	Expected 2021 target	2021 result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected final target
3.1 Number of innovative solutions that were tested (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful)	3	3		9
3.2: Number of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead	3	3		9
<p><i>List the policies:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal Care Map (ECLAC/UNDP/MMGyD).</li> <li>• SINTYS Indicators System (ECLAC/UNDP/CNCPS).</li> <li>• Survey for the application of the RENECEPI database in 8 municipalities (UNDP/Ministry of Social Development/ National Secretariat for Children, Adolescence and Family). Design and implementation of the register system of early childhood centres in the Province of Entre Rios (RUCEDIER) compatible, with RENECEPI.</li> <li>• Systematization and pilot test of the approach model for attention to situations of sexual abuse and forced pregnancy of girls and adolescents under 15 years of age.</li> <li>• Parenting Community: mediated training actions and creation of exchange networks for early childhood (Chief of Cabinet - National Secretariat for Children, Adolescence and Family)</li> <li>• Design of materials for the implementation of training paths for care service workers, with skills certification.</li> <li>• Design and implementation of an information and training strategy for the prevention of occupational and psychosocial risks that affect early childhood care workers as a result of COVID-19</li> <li>• Distribution of equipment to strengthen early childhood care and educational centres.</li> </ul> <p>Support to produce quantitative and qualitative academic studies on the impact of the pandemic on early childhood, available for the decision-making by the different state agencies.</p>				

Did your Joint Programme contribute to strengthening of national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators in 2020-2021?

- Yes  
 No

Explain briefly: The inter-agency strategy has allowed, in the first place, to identify a state of the situation regarding early childhood and care in Argentina with the different perspectives and inputs provided by the RCO and the participating agencies. The partnerships established with national and subnational counterparts enabled the connection of this diagnosis with the implementation of strategies to strengthen national capacities for the SDGs acceleration.

## 2. Results as per JP Programmatic Results Framework

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected 2021 target	2021 Result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected final target
Outcome 1: By the end of its execution, the Joint Programme will have contributed to the design, implementation, and monitoring of intersectoral early childhood strategies at the subnational level which will reach up to approximately 850,000 children, including indigenous population, living in rural and/or remote areas, and children with disabilities, and to the reduction of the inequality gaps in early childhood care (0-6 years old).					
Outcome 1.1 indicator: Number of provinces where Early Childhood Boards have been setup with intersectoral representation	0	4	4		4
Outcome 1.2 indicator: Number of provinces that have designed Comprehensive Early Childhood Strategies	0	4	4		4
Outcome 1.3 indicator: Number of municipalities where Early Childhood Local Boards have been setup with intersectoral representation	0	18	18		18
Outcome 1.4 indicator: Existence of a methodology tested for the design of Comprehensive Early Childhood Provincial Strategies and the setup of Local Boards, available to scale up these experiences	0	1	1		1
Output 1: Support for the national and subnational implementation of the National Early Childhood Strategy (ENPI)					
Output 1.1 indicator: Methodology for the design of Early Childhood Provincial Strategies and the setup of Local Boards designed	0	1	1		1
Output 1.2 indicator: Number of provinces with Early Childhood Provincial Strategies designed and implemented	0	4	4		4
Output 1.3 indicator: Number of Local Boards setup in the provinces where the Early Childhood Strategies are designed	0	18	18		18
Output 1.4 indicator: Experience of an intercultural scheme to offer care services to the	0	1	1		1

indigenous population living in rural areas systematized and documented					
Output 1.5 indicator: Experience of a programme to promote parenting practices that are respectful of children 's rights, aimed at the indigenous population living in rural areas, systematized and documented	0	1	1		1
Output 1.6 indicator: Specific studies about early childhood in the provinces developed	0	3	3		4
Output 1.7 indicator: Number of provinces where the intervention model for situations of sexual abuse and forced pregnancy in girls and adolescents under 15 was piloted	0	4	4		4
Output 1.8 indicator: Number of municipalities whose parenting centers received educational materials and equipment	0	5	5		5
Output 1.9 indicator: Number of early childhood centers in charge of social organizations that received educational materials and equipment	0	20	20		20
Outcome 2: By the end of its execution, the Joint Programme will have contributed to the articulation of training policies for decent work in the care sector, aimed at reducing the informal economy and all forms of discrimination and the eradication of child work, strengthening the competencies of early childhood care and education workers, and the parenting skills of the families, from a rights perspective and with a gender approach.					
Outcome 2.1 indicator: Number of workers in the early childhood centers who participated in training activities	Entre Ríos: 306 workers (73,0%) Mendoza: 93 workers (92,1%) Salta: 236 workers (85,5%) <sup>8</sup>	2300 workers trained in at least 4 provinces and 18 municipalities	2936 workers trained in at least 4 provinces and 18 municipalities		2936 workers trained in at least 4 provinces and 18 municipalities
Outcome 2.2 indicator: Number of families with children that participated in the information and awareness activities, and/or exchange of experiences related to parenting practices	No data available	No data available	People in the Programme 3364 Children 2036 Mothers 1375 Pregnant women: 88		People in the Programme 3364 Children 2036 Mothers 1375

<sup>8</sup> The baseline information for this indicator comes from the Survey carried out in 2019 as part of the "Information and Monitoring System of Child Development Centers in Argentina (SIM - CDI)". It is important to note that this information refers to a subset within the group of workers in early childhood education and care centers, and reflects only the situation of those who work in centers that had signed an agreement with the national government at the time.

			Indirect beneficiaries: 2586 Hospital accompaniment 317		Pregnant women: 88 Indirect beneficiaries: 2586 Hospital accompaniment 317
Outcome 2.3 indicator: Scope of communication campaigns in social networks	0	No data available	8390.680 accounts reached / 109.355 video reproductions		8390.680 accounts reached / 109.355 video reproductions
<b>Output 2: Development of innovative instruments for a comprehensive care strategy, based on the coordination and integration of public policies for early childhood</b>					
Output 2.1 indicator: Number of provinces with Early Childhood Strategies where training plans for workers in early childhood care centers were implemented	0	4	4		4
Output 2.2 indicator: Number of departments where specific training in bilingual intercultural literacy was implemented	0	2	2		2
Output 2.3 indicator: Number of provinces with Early Childhood Strategies where communication campaigns to strengthen parenting practices were implemented	0	4	4		4
Output 2.4 indicator: Number of municipalities where training actions offered by universities were implemented	0	6	6		6
Output 2.5 indicator: Web platform for experiences exchange in operation	0	1	1		1
Output 2.6 indicator: Study on women's economic autonomy and its relationship with care tasks published.	0	1	1		1
<b>Output 3: Design and implementation of a strategy aimed at estimating the demand of employment for early childhood caregivers and improving the working conditions of workers in the care sector</b>					
Output 3.1 indicator: Occupational profiles and competencies framework relevant to the early childhood care sector designed	0	1	1		1
Output 3.2 indicator: Materials to implement training plans targeted to workers in early	0	1	1		1

childhood care services updated and amplified with the inclusion of new topics					
Output 3.3 indicator: Number of training sessions or number of organizations trained for later replica.	0	0	3		3
Output 3.4 indicator: Information on the impact of COVID-19 on the working conditions and labour rights of early childhood care workers resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic included in training materials	0	1	1		1
Output 3.5 indicator: Number of municipalities where focused training and communication actions are implemented, aimed at modifying how the lowest income households think and organize care tasks	0	1	1		1
Output 3.6 indicator: Number of awareness workshops organized or number of organizations that participated in the workshops.	0	20	20		20
Output 3.7 indicator: Number of podcast episodes about early childhood and care produced and broadcasted	0	6	6		6
Output 3.8 indicator: Number of early childhood care centers in charge of social organizations whose workers are trained	0	20	20		20
Output 3.9 indicator: Study to estimate the demand for employment in the early childhood care sector published	0	1	1		1
Output 3.10 indicator: Study on the factors that affect the demand for care services published	0	1	1		1
Output 3.11 indicator: Study of the potential size, characteristics, and competencies of early childhood care workers supply published	0	0	1		1
Output 3.12 indicator: Study on the role of the programme "Potenciar Trabajo" to generate employment in the care sector in Argentina, and its capacity to strengthen the supply of care services developed	0	1	1		1
Output 3.13 indicator: Study to dimension, quantify, and deeply describe the subgroup of workers of community care developed	0	0	1		1

Outcome 3: By the end of its execution, the Joint Programme will have contributed to the design of innovative tools proposals, the construction of statistical evidence, and the elaboration of specific studies aimed at improving the quantity and quality of public information available to enhance the access to care services and to design and implement early childhood public policies.					
Outcome 3.1 indicator: Existence of a unified digital system and platform with information on the care services supply (Federal Care Map).	0	0	1		1
Outcome 3.2 indicator: Existence of an integrated indicators system on early childhood policies, programmes and services	0	0	1		1
Outcome 3.3 indicator: Existence of a methodology to apply an innovative funding tool for early childhood policies	0	0	1		1
Outcome 3.4 indicator; Number of specific studies available to be used by key stakeholders in the design and implementation of early childhood public policies	0	11	20		30
Output 4: Follow-up, monitoring and evaluation, using big data and other analytical tools.					
Output 4.1 Indicator: Tools to gather information about the early childhood care centers (RENECEPI) updated	0	1	1		1
Output 4.2 Indicator: Number of municipalities / provinces where RENECEPI was applied to gather information related to early childhood centers	0	8	8		8
Output 4.3 Indicator: Study on the legal and technical feasibility of the system and platform prototype featuring information on the supply of care services (Federal Map on Care) developed	0	1	1		1
Output 4.4 Indicator: Number of training activities for the personnel in charge of the information systems	0	1	1		4
Output 4.5 Indicator: Number of equipment acquired and distributed to the government area in charge of the Federal Map on Care, to be used in computed processing	0	0	0		2
Output 4.6 Indicator: Demographic study on the dynamics of recent births - input for the Federal Map on Care and the integrated system of indicators developed	0	1	1		1

Output 4.7 Indicator: Gathering of information about the organizations that offer care training in Argentina carried out	0	1	1		1
Output 4.8 Indicator: Information system on the supply of care services (Federal Map on Care) designed and tested	0	1	1		1
Output 4.9 Indicator: Platform prototype featuring the information uploaded to the system (Federal Map on Care) designed and tested	0	1	1		1
Output 4.10 Indicator: Analysis on the social organization of care, based on the information available in the Federal Map on Care, developed	0	1	1		1
Output 4.11 Indicator: Integrated system of indicators related to early childhood policies, programmes, and services setup	0	1	1		1
Output 4.12 Indicator: Number of follow-up and monitoring reports, using the information contained in the integrated system of indicators	0	1	1		1
Output 4.13 Indicator: Number of training sessions organized or number of government officers and members of technical teams who were trained on the importance, implementation, and use of an integrated system of indicators.	0	10 government officials in 12 training modules	10 government officials in 12 training modules		10 government officials in 12 training modules
Output 4.14 Indicator: International experience analysis and opportunities detection to apply innovative financing tools in Argentina developed	0	1	1		1
Output 4.15 Indicator: Methodology to apply innovative financing tools designed	0	1	2		2
<b>Output 5: Support the national and subnational policy response on the care system for early childhood.</b>					
Output 5.1 Indicator: Study to assess the impact of the pandemic in households headed by women with children and adolescents and in charge of women published	0	1	1		1
Output 5.2 Indicator: Impact monitoring of COVID-19 on households with children and teenagers published	0	0	1		1
Output 5.3 Indicator: Studies to identify the budgetary resources allocated to respond to the	0	1	1		4

COVID-19 emergency with focus on children and teenagers published					
Output 5.4 Indicator: Specific studies about early childhood in the provinces - input for the designing of Early Childhood Comprehensive Provincial Strategies developed	0	3	4		4
Output 5.5 Indicator: Study on the impact of the pandemic on care public policies in Latin America published	0	1	1		1
Output 5.6 Indicator: Study on the impact of the pandemic on care tasks within the families published	0	0	1		1
Output 5.7 Indicator: Study on the community care strategies in low-income neighborhoods in the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires (AMBA) during the pandemic published	0	0	1		1
Output 5.8 Indicator: Study on support and educational demands in the households to face the interruption of face-to-face classes published	0	0	1		1
Output 5.9 Indicator: Study on teleworking and care tasks published	0	0	1		1
Output 5.10 Indicator: Study to estimate the impact of COVID-19 on the labour situation of early childhood care workers validated and published	0	0	1		1
Output 5.11 Indicator: Number of meetings to disseminate studies' outcomes and promote social dialogue organized	0	5	5		5
Output 5.12 Indicator: Study on early childhood care organization in migrant families, with a gender approach developed	0	1	1		1

Output 5.13 Indicator: Study on family dynamics on care in crisis times developed	0	1	1		1
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## Annex 2: Strategic documents

### 2.1. Contribution to social protection strategies, policies and legal frameworks

#### Strategic documents developed or adapted by JP

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	If published, provide the hyperlink
Provincial Strategies for early childhood. Bases and methodology guide.	October 2021	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/estrategias-provinciales-primera-infancia">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/estrategias-provinciales-primera-infancia</a>
Municipal strategies for early childhood. Methodology for the creation of Local Boards.	December 2021	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/estrategia-municipal-primera-infancia">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/estrategia-municipal-primera-infancia</a>
Identification of the budgetary resources assigned to respond to the COVID-19 emergency with a focus on children and adolescents (UNICEF)	June 2020  September 2020				Yes		1er trimestre 2020: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ninez-y-adolescencia-en-el-presupuesto-nacional-primer-trimestre-2020">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ninez-y-adolescencia-en-el-presupuesto-nacional-primer-trimestre-2020</a>  2nd trimestre 2020: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ni%C3%B1ez-y-adolescencia-del-presupuesto-nacional-1">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ni%C3%B1ez-y-adolescencia-del-presupuesto-nacional-1</a>  3rd trimestre 2020: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ninez-y-adolescencia-presupuesto-nacional-32020">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ninez-y-adolescencia-presupuesto-nacional-32020</a>

	December 2020						4th trimester 2020 <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ninez-y-adolescencia-en-el-presupuesto-nacional">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/gasto-en-ninez-y-adolescencia-en-el-presupuesto-nacional</a>
	March 2021						1st trimester 2021: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/INC-Gasto-Presupuesto-Primer-Semestre2021">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/INC-Gasto-Presupuesto-Primer-Semestre2021</a>
	October 2021						2nd trimester 2021: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/INC-Gasto-Presupuesto-Segundo-Semestre2021">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/INC-Gasto-Presupuesto-Segundo-Semestre2021</a>
	October 2021						
Evaluation of the impact of COVID-19 and the containment measures taken on the situation regarding children and adolescents in economic terms, with a gender approach and on child poverty levels.	August 2020	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/encuesta-rapida-covid-19-informe-de-resultados-0">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/encuesta-rapida-covid-19-informe-de-resultados-0</a>
Study on economic autonomy of women and its relationship with care activities (ECLAC).  Study with public policy recommendations for specific populations	November 2020	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	<a href="https://www.cepal.org/es/publicaciones/46453-cuidados-mujeres-tiempos-covid-19-la-experiencia-la-argentina">https://www.cepal.org/es/publicaciones/46453-cuidados-mujeres-tiempos-covid-19-la-experiencia-la-argentina</a> .

associated with care in highly complex conditions (ECLAC).							
Study of the potential volume, characteristics and skills of the supply of workers in the early childhood care sector (ILO, UNDP, CIPPEC, UN Women)	December 2020			YES	YES	YES	<a href="https://www.cippec.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/INF-PS-Quienes-cuidan-crian-y-ense%C3%B1an-Florito-Guevara-Camisassa-dicie....pdf">https://www.cippec.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/INF-PS-Quienes-cuidan-crian-y-ense%C3%B1an-Florito-Guevara-Camisassa-dicie....pdf</a>
Manual: Early childhood, emotional impact of the pandemic (UNICEF)	February 2021		YES	YES		YES	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/desafios-politicas-cuidados-hogares-a-cargo-de-mujeres">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/desafios-politicas-cuidados-hogares-a-cargo-de-mujeres</a>
Challenges of public policies in the face of the care crisis: the impact of the pandemic on households with children and adolescents headed by women (UNICEF/Directorate of Economy, Equality and Gender, Ministry of Economy)	April 2021	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	<a href="https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/hogares_pandemia_final_29.04.pdf">https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/hogares_pandemia_final_29.04.pdf</a>
Survey of entities that provide training care in Argentina (final report of the survey at the national and provincial levels, which generated an input for the creation of the	June 2021				YES		

Federal Care Map (ECLAC).							
Innovative financing models applied to strengthen the early childhood care system. Opportunities for Argentina (UNDP).	June 2021				YES		
Systematization of the family accompaniment experience in rural contexts in Salta (UNICEF).	September 2021	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/Sistematizacion-acompanamiento-familiar-contextos-rurales-Salta">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/Sistematizacion-acompanamiento-familiar-contextos-rurales-Salta</a>
Training path. Care and assistance of boys and girls. Support material for the training of caregivers (ILO).	November 2021	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
Parenting practices in indigenous communities of the indigenous community Wichi (UNICEF).	October 2021	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/crianza-comunidades-wichi">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/crianza-comunidades-wichi</a>

**Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution (but did not produce or lead in producing)**

<b>Title of the document</b>	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	<i>If published, provide the hyperlink</i>
The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on families with children and	June 2020		YES	YES	YES	YES	1st survey: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/encuesta-rapida-covid-19-informe-de-resultados">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/encuesta-rapida-covid-19-informe-de-resultados</a>

adolescents (UNICEF).	December 2020  June 2021  December 2021						3rd survey: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/encuesta-de-percepcion-y-actitudes-de-la-poblacion-3">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/encuesta-de-percepcion-y-actitudes-de-la-poblacion-3</a>  4th survey: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/encuesta-de-percepcion-y-actitudes-de-la-poblacion">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/informes/encuesta-de-percepcion-y-actitudes-de-la-poblacion</a>  5th survey: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/5ta-encuesta-rapida-covid">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/publicaciones-y-datos/5ta-encuesta-rapida-covid</a>
COVID-19 and domestic work in Argentina (ILO)	April 2020		YES	YES	YES		<a href="https://www.ilo.org/buenosaires/publicaciones/documentos-de-trabajo/WCMS_742115/lang-es/index.htm">https://www.ilo.org/buenosaires/publicaciones/documentos-de-trabajo/WCMS_742115/lang-es/index.htm</a>
COVID-19 and work world in Argentina: impact and political response.	April 2020		YES	YES	YES		<a href="https://www.ilo.org/buenosaires/publicaciones/documentos-de-trabajo/WCMS_740742/lang-es/index.htm">https://www.ilo.org/buenosaires/publicaciones/documentos-de-trabajo/WCMS_740742/lang-es/index.htm</a>
COVID-19 and the work market in Argentina: The challenge of fighting against the pandemic and its socio-economic impact (ILO)	August 2020		YES	YES	YES		<a href="https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---americas/---ro-lima/---ilo-buenos_aires/documents/publication/wcms_754620.pdf">https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---americas/---ro-lima/---ilo-buenos_aires/documents/publication/wcms_754620.pdf</a>
COVID-19 and women health workers	August 2020		YES	YES	YES		<a href="https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---americas/---ro-lima/---ilo-buenos_aires/documents/publication/wcms_754614.pdf">https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---americas/---ro-lima/---ilo-buenos_aires/documents/publication/wcms_754614.pdf</a>
Poverty and inequality among children and	May 2020	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/sites/unicef.org.argentina/fil">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/sites/unicef.org.argentina/fil</a>

adolescents. COVID-19 effects.						es/2020-05/COVID-YPOBREZA_2020_0.pdf  data update: <a href="https://www.unicef.org/argentina/media/8906/file">https://www.unicef.org/argentina/media/8906/file</a>
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## 2.2. Focus on vulnerable populations

All the documents produced, adopted and for which the JP provided contribution, focus on the vulnerable population, which is the target population of the Program

## Annex 3: Updated JP Risk Management Matrix

Risks	Risk Level: (Likelihood x Impact)	Likelihood:	Impact:	Mitigating measures	Responsible Org./Person
		Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare - 1	Essential - 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1		
<b>Contextual risks (e.g. social, environmental, security and safety risks)</b>					
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 government	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	Carrying out 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	Carrying out 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	Carrying out advocacy and incidence activities with the governments so that they prioritize early childhood care in	UN Agencies

				their political agendas and budgets.	
Lack of political will to prioritize assistance to populations suffering multiple forms of discrimination	6	2	3	Inclusion of communication and awareness raising activities from the outset of the program, focusing on the use of evidence.	UN Agencies
<b>Programmatic/Operational risks</b>					
Lack of governmental interest in developing a Provincial Strategy in another province and municipalities	12	3	4	Replace one province for another 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 containing the total amount of care services supply in the country (particularly information about individuals or private institutions)	6	3	2	Building an information system and the software platform exclusively regarding 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	Partnerships between UNDP and 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	Advocacy actions with the government for the creation of 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	16	4	4	Implementation of social dialogue activities from the outset of the program to reach	ILO

quality standards with relation to working conditions of their workers				an agreement on decent working conditions.	
<b>Institutional risks (e.g. political, regulatory risks)</b>					
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 program, with a focus on the use of evidence.	UN Agencies

## Annex 4: Results questionnaire

- Complete portfolio questionnaire online at: <https://forms.office.com/r/H4eZAKyx9H>