

Federal Action Plan against Gender-based Violence

(2020-2022)

Executive Summary

Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity

Federal Action Plan against Gender-based Violence (2020-2022)

An Introduction to the 2020-2022 Federal Action Plan against Gender-based Violence

The design of this Plan is an obligation under Argentine Law No. **26.485** of 2009 on the Comprehensive Protection of Women and, for the first time, its governing body has been elevated to the rank of Ministry. This is the first Plan designed by the Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity, a ministry created as a result of the convergence of the struggle taken up by the movement of women, feminisms and LGBTI+ groups and the political will of the Government of President Alberto Fernández and Vicepresident Cristina Fernández de Kirchner to afford high-ranking status to public policies aimed at achieving equality and eradicating gender-based violence.

This Plan results from the fulfilment by the Federal Government of the obligations arising from legislation and the main international instruments on human rights, gender and diversity and it entails an enhancement of the role of the State, a State that is active, present and responsible, which acknowledges and takes action against inequalities and

injustices in respect of gender and diversity, and recognizes the differentiated impact of social practices on the lives of women and LGBTI+ individuals.

The existence of a gender and diversity institution at the top of the State's organizational structure makes it possible to coordinate a Federal Action Plan involving the entire Federal Executive Branch as part of the commitment to promptly advancing on the implementation of public policies aimed at the prevention and eradication of all forms of gender-based violence. Thus, we are making progress towards a fairer, more egalitarian and inclusive society.

Why a Plan?

- Because gender-based violence is a widespread and structural problem that affects the lives of thousands of women and LGBTI+ individuals in our country, in the region and around the world, and requires the implementation of public policies that can prevent it and that can help and protect all victims.
- Because high femicide, transvesticide and transfemicide rates are unacceptable and require immediate and structural responses.
- Because gender-based violence constitutes a violation of the human rights of women and LGBTI+ individuals and the State must guarantee the promotion and protection of such rights in order for victims to be able to develop self-sufficient and violence-free life projects.
- Because the current Government is firmly determined to progress rapidly in its commitment to implementing active and effective policies against gender-based violence.

Participation: a key element in the design of the Federal Plan

One of the outstanding characteristics of this Plan is that it is the result of a participatory process gathering proposals and ideas put forward by individuals from all regions of Argentina, the public sector and civil society. Numerous institutional meetings, forums and mechanisms for coordination with public bodies and agencies were promoted through three participation methods: federal in-person and virtual participatory forums, an online survey, and proposals sent in by email.

Such meetings were valuable not only in terms of the sharing of experiences and proposals, but also in terms of the number of individuals that participated in the preparation of the Plan, making contributions from different areas, regions, provinces and towns. As part of our open-door policy, multiple actors participated and were heard in the meetings: provincial and local government authorities and representatives, members of legislative bodies, academic institutions, social, community and union organizations, as well as civil society actors, who addressed the issue from different institutional, community and management perspectives.

We formulated policies by listening to and engaging all sectors and actors committed to a violence-free society.

Participation figures

- **4 regional in-person forums**
(The Province of Buenos Aires, the coastal and Northeastern region of the country (NEA), North Patagonia and the Northwestern region of the country (NOA))
- **5 virtual forums**
(The Cuyo region, South Patagonia, the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires (AMBA) and Central regions I and II)
- **3,406 individuals** participated in the process
- **1,646 proposals** were received

A coordinated Federal Government Plan

The purpose of this Plan is to promote a new paradigm for developing, planning and implementing public policies with a gender and diversity mainstreaming perspective, in order for the Government to take into account the differentiated impact each of its actions has on women and LGBTI+ persons. In this spirit, the commitments included in this Plan result from a co-construction process involving all the Ministries and Federal Government agencies listed below.

This Plan is supported by over 100 direct responsibility commitments undertaken by other Ministries and State agencies

- Office of the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers (Secretariat for Public Innovation, Secretariat for Media and Public Communication, Secretariat for Management and Public Labour, Secretariat for Parliamentary Relations, Executive Committee to Combat Human Trafficking, SEDRONAR (Secretariat for the Programming of Prevention of Drug Addiction and the Fight against Drug Trafficking), AABE (Agency for the Management of State Property), ENACOM (Federal Communications Agency))
- Ministry of Security
- Ministry of Social Development - INAES (Federal Institute of Associativism and Social Economy)
- Ministry of Justice and Human Rights - INADI (Federal Institute against Discrimination, Xenophobia and Racism) - INAI (Federal Institute of Indigenous Affairs), Argentine Agency for Controlled Materials (ANMaC)
- Ministry of Health - Superintendency for Health Services
- Ministry of Transport - SOFSE (State Railway Operating Corporation)
- Ministry of Public Works - Aysa (Water and Sanitation) - Enosha - Acumar (Matanza Riachuelo Basin Authority) - Vialidad Nacional (Federal Directorate for Roads) - Corredores Viales S.A. - Apla
- Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries
- Ministry of Tourism and Sports
- Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation - CONICET (Federal Scientific and Technical Research Council)
- Ministry of Culture
- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship
- Ministry of Productive Development
- Ministry of Labour and Social Security - ANSES (Argentine Social Security Administration)
- Ministry of Territorial Development and Habitat
- Ministry of Economy - AFIP (Federal Administration of Public Revenue)

- PAMI (Federal Institute of Social Services for Retirees and Pensioners)
- Federal Agency for Disability

A change of paradigm, rather than a Plan

We are presenting a Plan that proposes a different approach. The strategic guidelines that organize and give political sense to established actions are as follows:

- The need to change the paradigm of the individual approach to situations of gender-based violence and move towards the development of a comprehensive approach, which involves creating subjective and material conditions for victims of gender-based violence to be able to build a self-sufficient life project.
- The decision to adopt an approach not focused exclusively on emergency, but on the change of structural conditions underlying situations of gender-based violence.
- The decision to establish prevention policies aimed at implementing actions to create an early warning system and to change -in the medium and long term- the cultural and structural patterns on which gender-based inequalities are based.
- The decision not to reproduce victimization and revictimization schemes when intervening in violence situations. In this regard, we believe that protection policies must not be intended exclusively for victims of gender-based violence – since they are sometimes revictimized-, but they must be focused on perpetrators.
- The incorporation of the diversity perspective as a cross-cutting approach into all policies, programmes, measures and actions against gender-based violence.
- The deep conviction that no policy may be formulated without information about and knowledge of the problems sought to be solved. The management of information on violence is a strategic pillar of this Plan and a way of understanding public management, placing the production of reliable and high-quality information for making decisions based on evidence at the centre of priorities.
- The certainty that it is impossible to tackle the problem of violence from one Ministry only. Mainstreaming policies aimed at preventing violence and protecting victims into all the Ministries of the Federal Government is one of the key guidelines that apply to the whole Plan.

- The federal nature of policies and the commitment to building comprehensive and flexible management models among the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments. We are committed to strengthening state capacities through the implementation of public policies that are in line with each of the provincial and local contexts. Thus, we attach the utmost importance to the Federal Council of the Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity. We are convinced that coordination among all State levels is a key requirement for effectively addressing situations of gender-based violence.
- The need to implement policies aimed at gender-based violence prevention, assistance and protection on a territorial basis, together with the various institutional actors and multiple provincial and local mechanisms, as well as existing social and community networks on a nationwide scale.
- The recognition of social and community organizations and the decision to strengthen their territorial networks and coordination with the State.

2020-2022 Strategic goals and guidelines

The 2020-2022 Federal Action Plan is a clear example of the way the State must frame public policy responses on this subject. Along with the creation of the Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity, which included affording a higher-ranking status to the governing body in the field of gender and diversity, this Plan is a working tool for making strategic interventions in the phenomenon of gender-based violence in our country. But it also represents the challenge of changing the paradigm of the State's approach to this kind of violence and planning short, medium and long-term actions.

This Plan organizes the way in which we have decided to design, formulate and monitor national public policies aimed at gender-based violence prevention, assistance and protection. Our strategic goals are focused on the institutional consolidation of the following pillars as a multi-agency and territorialized State policy, in coordination with social, community and civil society organizations:

A nationwide policy aimed at PREVENTING gender-based violence, which coordinates the whole Federal Government's set of programmes, measures and actions.

A nationwide policy aimed at ASSISTING victims of gender-based violence, which coordinates the whole Federal Government's set of programmes, measures and actions.

A nationwide policy aimed at PROTECTING victims of gender-based violence, which coordinates the whole Federal Government’s set of programmes, measures and actions; and

A nationwide policy aimed at ENHANCING ACCESS TO JUSTICE for victims of gender-based violence, which coordinates the whole Federal Government’s set of programmes, measures and actions.

One of our decisions for 2020-2022 is to focus particularly on three issues we consider to be strategic:

- Extreme violence (femicides, transvesticides and transfemicides),**
- Economic autonomy of victims of violence; and**
- The cultural and structural dimensions of gender-based violence.**

How is the Federal Action Plan structured?

MAIN PUBLIC POLICY TOPICS	MEASURES	COURSES OF ACTION	OUTPUTS
PREVENTION	6	42	78
COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH AND ASSISTANCE	7	31	60
PROTECTION AND STRENGTHENED ACCESS TO JUSTICE	6	23	44
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, TRANSPARENCY AND MONITORING	9	51	83
+3 CROSS-SECTORAL TOPICS intersectionality, multi-agency approach, local networks	28 MEASURES	147 COURSES OF ACTION	265 OUTPUTS
46 FEDERAL AGENCIES INVOLVED			
OVER 100 PLEDGES MADE BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES			

The Main Measures of the Plan

1. “Acompañar” Programme: a comprehensive assistance programme targeted at people in contexts of gender-based violence

This is a programme focusing on transferring funds and providing comprehensive assistance. It is a social protection mechanism that aims to contribute, in the short and medium term, to creating appropriate conditions for women and LGBTI+ people at risk in contexts of gender-based violence to be able to develop their own, self-sufficient life project.

2. Local Centres for Comprehensive Assistance focusing on diversity and gender policies nationwide

These centres for comprehensive assistance in contexts of gender-based violence will develop prevention, assistance, protection and strengthened access to justice policies from a cross-cutting and comprehensive point of view. They will allow for flexible and integrated management by the federal, provincial and local governments and be part of a network including community-based and civil society organizations. This work will be carried out considering the specific characteristics of each case and of the local context. These Centres will also feature spaces dedicated to education and training, to carrying out prevention and equality promotion activities and, in some cases, to providing shelter to people escaping gender-based violence and their children.

3. Inter-Ministerial Group for a Comprehensive Approach to Extreme Gender-Based Violence

The Argentine Ministry of Justice and Human Rights and the Argentine Ministry of Security, together with the Argentine Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity, will develop an inter-ministerial programme to implement a public policy focusing on the issue of femicides, transvesticides and transfemicides as the most serious forms of gender-based violence. Among other things, one of the goals of the programme is the implementation of an early warning system to identify people at risk in contexts of gender-based violence, timely assess their situations and prevent the most serious cases. In addition, the three Ministries will cooperate when conducting people searches.

4. Programme for modernizing, optimizing and promoting emergency hotline 144 for gender-based violence reporting

The aims of this programme are to strengthen the capacity of the specialized human resources managing emergency hotline 144, to expand communication channels and to optimize the quality and levels of accessibility through a digital-app-based hotline 144 with georeferenced institution data for a comprehensive approach and for promotion on a nationwide scale through the public transport system, on government

agency websites, etc. This programme will also serve to create adaptability and accessibility mechanisms with an intersectional approach to the management of hotline 144 and to deliver a more articulated response together with other emergency hotlines –145, 102, 911 and 137– and with provincial, local and CSO-based assistance mechanisms.

5. Digital-based emergency system to help local governments address gender-based violence

The aim of this technological development project is to create a digital-based emergency system to respond to gender-based violence and help local governments increase their response capacity. Under cooperation agreements, information technology resources will be made available to local governments on a nationwide scale to help them enhance their capacity to protect women and LGBTI+ people in contexts of gender-based violence.

6. Integrated System for the Management of Data on Gender-Based Violence Cases (*Sistema Integrado de Casos de Violencia por Motivos de Género, SICVG*)

This system will allow for the collection of systematized data and statistical information on a nationwide scale. This system builds on the gender-based violence information collection efforts previously made by INDEC (*Registro Único de Casos de Violencia contra las Mujeres, RUCVM*), now with an approach based on diversity and data-driven risk prevention in order to support the implementation of policies on gender-based violence prevention, assistance, punishment and eradication.

7. Programme for the provision of emergency financial support and immediate comprehensive assistance to families in femicide, transvesticide and transfemicide cases

In these cases, this programme serves as a first, quick government response to provide families with comprehensive assistance, either in the form of support granted by the Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity or in cooperation with other government agencies and/or judicial authorities. The aim is to grant families a one-time financial allowance to help them pay for any necessary expenses incurred as a result of these lethal violence events and to provide them, and especially the children of victims, if any, with guidance, legal counselling and psychological assistance.

8. Programme for supporting and strengthening the network of homes, shelters and other comprehensive protection arrangements

The aim of this programme is to support, strengthen and consolidate the network of homes, shelters and other comprehensive protection arrangements by funding projects for the refurbishment, equipment and expansion of homes, shelters and temporary housing facilities. It also allows for coordinated implementation of different comprehensive protection proposals and courses of action targeted at people in contexts of gender-based violence between the federal, provincial and local governments. Within the framework of this nationwide programme, the Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity is pursuing the adoption of a single recording system to record admission and exit data on the victims of gender-based violence and their children who are accommodated in these places, the promotion of access to capacity-building programmes for them to become self-sufficient and the preparation of guidelines on a comprehensive and intersectional approach to the protection of women and LGBTI+ people in contexts of gender-based violence.

9. Programme to boost employment for people in contexts of gender-based violence

As part of the policy for a comprehensive approach to gender-based violence, the Argentine Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity and the Argentine Ministry of Social Development, in cooperation with provincial and local governments, will expand the employment-boosting programme *Potenciar Trabajo* to cover people in contexts of gender-based violence in order to promote their social inclusion and help them gradually increase their income so that they can eventually become financially independent.

10. Creation of the Federal Programme for the Prevention of Gender-based Violence

The programme will include two sub-programmes: one regarding the building of other masculinities and one regarding responsible and diverse sexual-affective bonds, which will deal with all forms and types of gender-based violence. The programme includes the launching of a comprehensive nationwide campaign aimed at contributing to the cultural and social change needed to put an end to gender-based violence. It will be conducted in multiple territories with a federal perspective targeted at all of society, and it will include strategically segmented actions and initiatives, in particular, a federal awareness campaign in public and community media.

11. Creation of the “Generar” Programme for the institutional strengthening of gender areas of the federal and subfederal public sector.

The Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity, along with the Ministry of the Interior, will launch the “Generar” Programme with a view to advancing a public policy for the strengthening of institutions from the federal and subfederal public sectors regarding the fields of gender and diversity. More specifically, the programme will provide financial support to promote the creation and/or the institutional strengthening of areas specializing in gender and diversity in the Federal Public Administration, decentralized agencies, and state-owned and partially state-owned enterprises in the provinces and municipalities, especially those aimed at preventing and stopping gender-based violence.

12. Creation of the “Articular” Programme for supporting and strengthening social and community organizations on gender and diversity.

The Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity will launch the “Articular” Programme with a view to developing a public policy for the strengthening of social organizations that work on gender and diversity issues within the community. Such organizations will be entitled to request funding for projects related to the Ministry’s strategic lines, especially those aimed at preventing and stopping gender-based violence.

13. Creation of the Federal Registry of Territorial Advocates of Gender and Diversity at the Community Level.

The Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity has created this Registry with a view to guaranteeing coordination among those who carry out tasks for the community promotion of gender and diversity throughout the country on a daily basis. This registry makes it possible to coordinate the policies promoted by the Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity with those in charge of developing initiatives on prevention, support for victims of gender-based violence, and the promotion of equality. The purpose of this registry is to acknowledge the work done by advocates throughout the country, fostering spaces for the sharing of experiences and the strengthening of community-based initiatives while providing education and training tools throughout the territories.

14. Relaunch of the Gender and Diversity Schools Programme.

The goal is to strengthen spaces for education, training, and meetings carried out by the society's community networks, key community actors, organizations and social groups across the country. The topics to be covered by these schools will be aimed at providing tools, preventing gender-based violence, and offering training in the self-care and diversity fields.

15. Strengthening of sexual and reproductive health services in comprehensive treatment of persons entitled to exercise their right to the voluntary termination of pregnancy (“ILE” in Spanish).

Within this framework, and in coordination with the Argentine Ministry of Health, campaigns will be launched for the dissemination of information on sexual and reproductive rights, including training sessions on the Protocol for the comprehensive treatment of persons entitled to exercise their ILE right. In that regard, coordination mechanisms among different provinces have been put in place for the management of the supplies necessary for the implementation of the protocol, with the help of teams from the provincial directorates for sexual and reproductive health and healthcare service teams to address ILE-related issues.

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