



Leave No One Behind: National Dialogues

Analysis Report

Organization	RACI (Argentine Network for International Cooperation)
Country	Argentina
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The survey for the national consultations of "Leave no one behind", was sent in early October 2016 to our broad base of contacts. Of the 56 respondents¹ to the survey, 52% were women and 48% men. The vast majority of respondents (72%) come from Non-Governmental Organizations, while the remaining percentage of respondents comes from international organizations, research institutes, government agencies and philanthropic organizations. All the respondents are from Argentina, mostly from the Province of Buenos Aires, although representatives from the provinces of Misiones, Córdoba, Corrientes, Salta, La Pampa, Santa Fe, Formosa, Tucumán and Chaco have also participated, as well as organizations that work in the whole country.

1) Who are the groups and communities in your country that are being left behind?

In general, the most vulnerable groups and communities, which are in more risk of being left behind in Argentina, are the following:

- Homeless
- Population in poverty condition
- Economically inactive population
- Disability
- Indigenous populations
- Women
- Children and Youth
- Rural population
- Migrants
- Seniors
- LGBTQ

¹ As the number of respondents is below 100, all the statistical data should be taken into account as a reference.

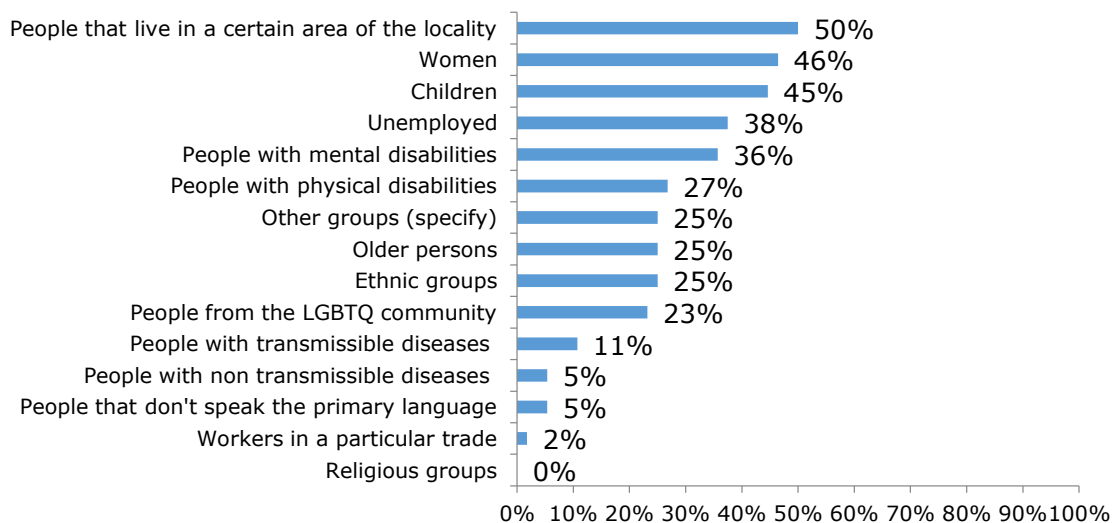


- HIV/Aids
- Ethnic and religious minorities

If we take into account the data from the national consultations survey, 50% considered that people most likely to experience poverty, discrimination or violence are the ones living in certain geographical areas. Moreover, 46% referred to women, and 45% to children; considering that women and children are marginalized and more likely to be excluded. Finally, 38% also considered that unemployed people are being marginalized and not taken into account (see Figure 1).

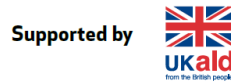
Figure 1: Most marginalized groups

Question 6: Which groups of people do you perceive to be the most marginalized in the areas you work?



Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

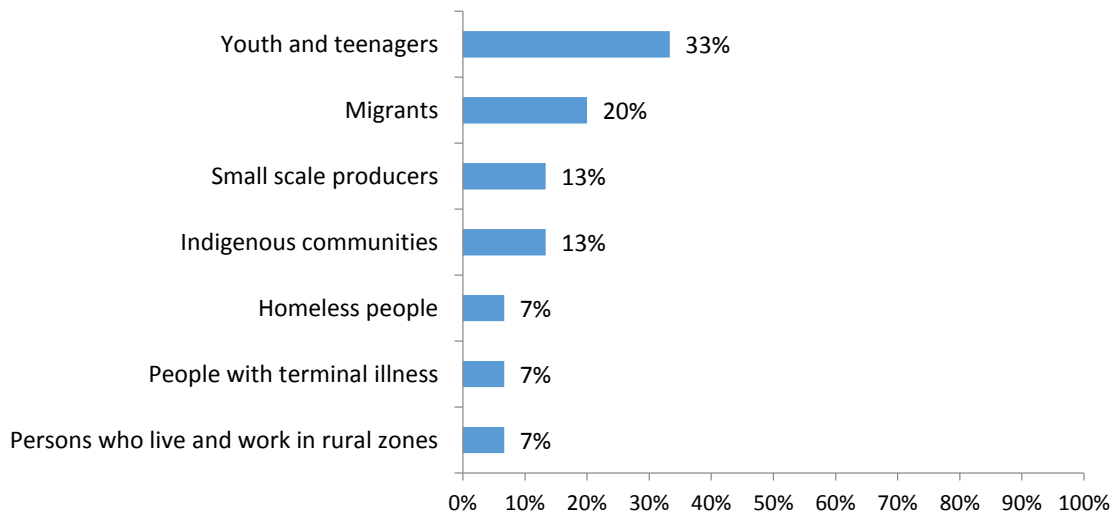
Following those results, 36% and 27% said that people with mental disabilities and people with physical disabilities respectively are more likely to experience poverty, discrimination or violence. Also, 25% considered that both ethnic groups and older people are being marginalized, while 23% said that the LGBTQ community is also more vulnerable to suffer discrimination and violence.



A significant percentage of respondents (25%) chose the option labeled as "others", in which different marginalized groups were included, first and foremost, young people and adolescents; and second, migrants; While, in third place, small producers appeared (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: Categories mentioned under the label “others”

Question 6: In the category "others" the following marginalized groups were mentioned



Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

2) Where are people being most left behind? Is there a particular region/locality?

The high level of centralization in Buenos Aires is one of the main obstacles the country has to face when it comes equality and inclusion. Even though Argentina is a wide and diverse country, historically, the main activities and services are centralized in Buenos Aires; this causes the inland provinces to become relegating, making them more vulnerable and marginalized.



Depending on the community referenced, there are different levels of marginalization among the regions. We can see on the survey results that 50% of the respondents chose the option “people who live in a certain area of the locality” as the group that presents the biggest margins of marginalization in the country. This allows us to observe that, depending on the community, and on the area or region where they live, the probability of marginalization and vulnerability increases; which means that geographical localization is a very relevant factor.

In general, communities who live in “shanty towns”, inside the main urban clusters (for instance Buenos Aires, Rosario, Córdoba), are the most discriminated and stigmatized for living in a poverty conditions and for not working in the formal labor market in a majority of the cases. Also, in the poorest regions of the country such as the northwest and the northeast, the indigenous communities are the groups who are being the most left behind.

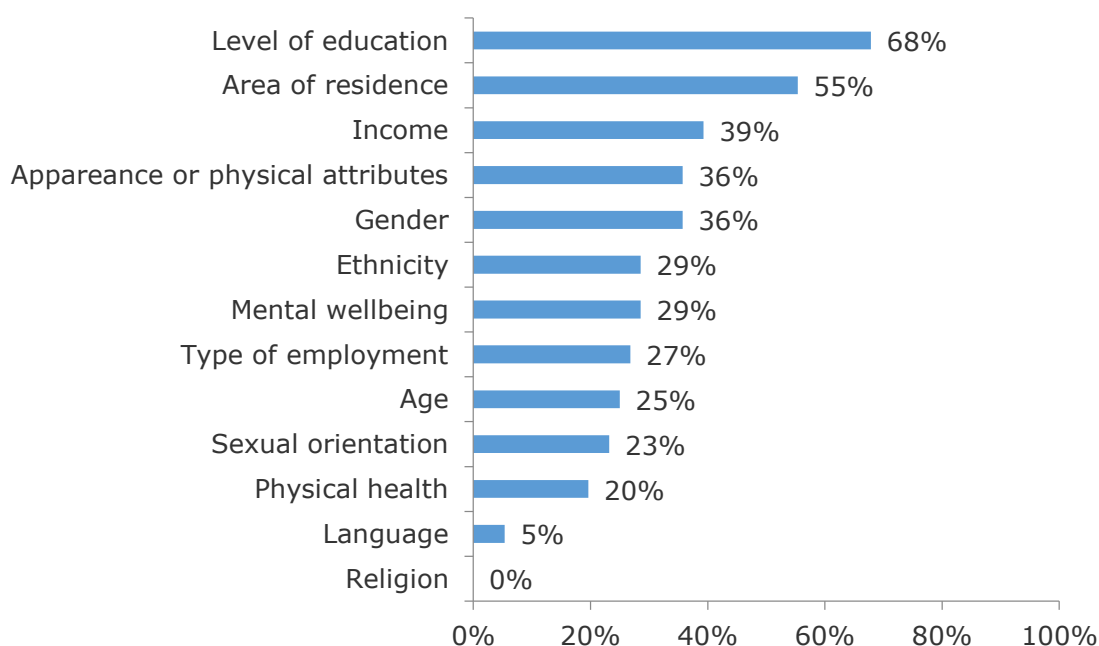
3) Why are they being left behind?

As can be seen in Figure 3, the educational level was chosen by 68% of the respondents as the factor that most leads to marginalization in Argentina. The area of residence was also chosen by most respondents (55%) as one of the most important factors, followed by income, which was selected by 39%. After these three factors, almost 4 out of 10 of the respondents also considered that gender and attributes or physical appearance are factors that lead to a great deal of marginalization in Argentina. To a lesser extent, 29% considered that mental health and ethnicity are also factors leading to marginalization, as well as the type of employment (27%).



Figure 3: Main marginalization factors

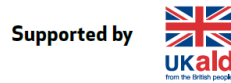
Question 7: What do you consider to be the most important factors that lead to the marginalization of individuals and groups in your locality?



Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

4) What are the data and evidence gaps?

Until recently in Argentina the official statistical data with which we counted were few and unreliable. This impaired the ability to make a diagnosis and an analysis according to the social and economic reality of the country. The poverty level, for example, was no longer being measured, while the country's evidence and reality showed that it was increasing every year. While the country is now looking to recover the reliability of the data and the institute in charge of official statistics (INDEC), there is still a great way to go so that the data truly reflects the reality of the country.



A few months ago, the review of official statistics by INDEC began, and the country began measuring poverty in Argentina. The new official statistics released during the second semester of 2016, showed that 3 out of 10 Argentinians lives under poverty conditions (this represents 32.2% of the population), while 6% of the population lives in indigence.²

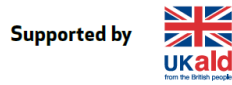
5) What are some stories or testimonies and priorities from those furthest behind?

During the national consultations “Leave No One Behind”, held on the 20th of October in Argentina, several representatives of the different marginalized communities in the country and representatives of Social Organizations that work with these communities were present. One of them was Mauricio Moresco from Asociación Cultural para el Desarrollo Integral – ACDI (an organization from the province of Santa Fe), who talked about the reality of the rural population in Argentina. In this regard, he talked about the need to regionalize these initiatives, since the rural population is being marginalized and excluded from the big cities and capital, which makes the access to basic quality services difficult. The organization ACDI noted that there are 3 (three) major challenges in rural communities: multicultural poverty, the role of women, and young people. ACDI believes that the poverty problem and the environmental issue must be addressed in an integral way. Likewise, Lucas Carneiro from the Organization Fundación Desarrollo Agropecuario (FUDA), an organization from the province of Misiones, said during the workshop that the percentage of youth in Misiones is 40%, and that 60% of that age group are younger than 20 years old. FUDA put special emphasis in the importance of training young people in the rural zones, as well as the use of sustainable farms. He also mentioned the existence of a lack of articulation between the various actors, and the need to work with the municipal and local government, and not only with the national government.

Natalia Blanco, from the Organization called Dimensiones por los Derechos Humanos, talked about the importance of including young people in the Development Agenda. She observed that we are facing a lack of an enabling environment that would allow them to create their own campaigns, as well as a lack of projection from young people who do not visualize themselves as part of the agenda. Dimensiones por los Derechos Humanos argued about the importance of creating spaces of reflection, so young people can have a bigger leadership role.

María Lagos from the organization called Cáritas Argentina talked about the importance of the SDGs 1 and 2, which reference the end of poverty and the end of hunger and

² Source: Permanent Household Survey (EPH)- INDEC. Available online: http://www.indec.gob.ar/uploads/informesdeprensa/eph_pobreza_01_16.pdf



malnutrition. Cáritas noted as a priority, the need to provide children in schools and canteens with reinforced snacks, on one hand, and improve education quality and inclusion on the other, through more comprehensive and integral programs. María said that Cáritas provides scholarships for tertiary studies, but the money ends up being used to buy gas containers instead of study material. This shows the difficulties that children and teenagers must face in order to complete their primary and secondary studies, because of their basic needs not being met. Cáritas also reported that general unemployment is currently 9,3%, of which 20% corresponds to young unemployment, and of which 70% are women. At the same time, drug trafficking and addictions are greatly affecting these populations and further excluding them.

6) What are the main obstacles that marginalised groups are facing in accessing services, resources and opportunities?

As can be seen in Figure 4, among the main obstacles faced by marginalized groups, 30% of the respondents said that there is a great lack of access to basic income (work, social security, etc.), which was considered the primary form of marginalization in Argentina. 23% said that access to basic necessities, such as food, water, sanitation, roofing, is another major obstacle and a primary factor of marginalization. The third primary form of marginalization, and a major obstacle for marginalized groups, according to 18% of respondents, is access to education (school, vocational skills). Finally, 12% also made mention of the lack of access to basic security and protection. In short, the lack of access to basic income and basic needs have been chosen by the majority as the primary forms of marginalization in Argentina.

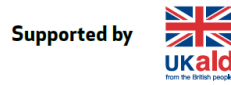
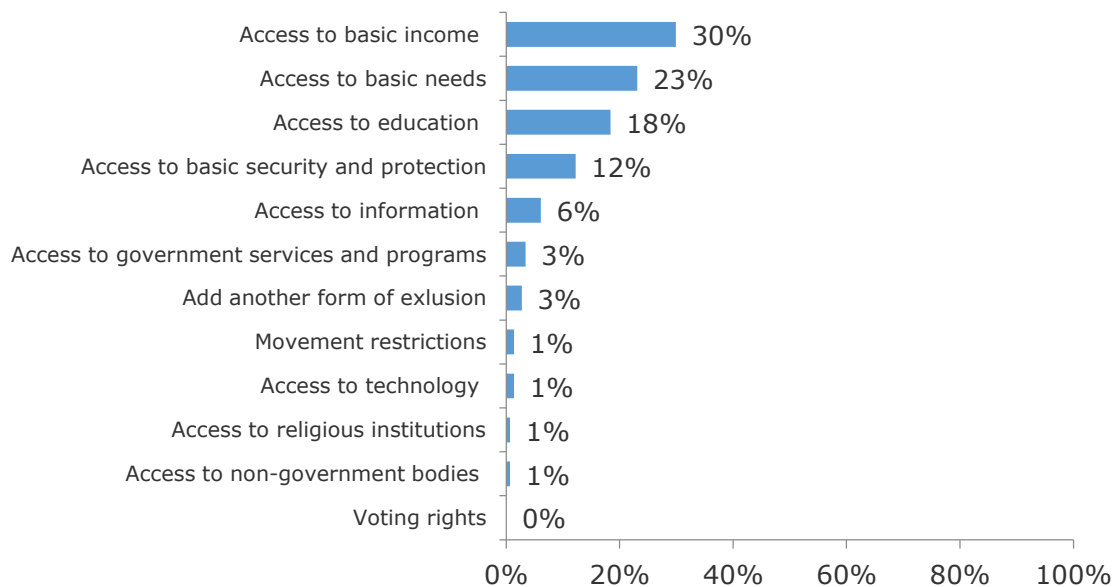


Figure 4: Primary forms of marginalization

Question 8: What are the primary forms of marginalization in your locality?



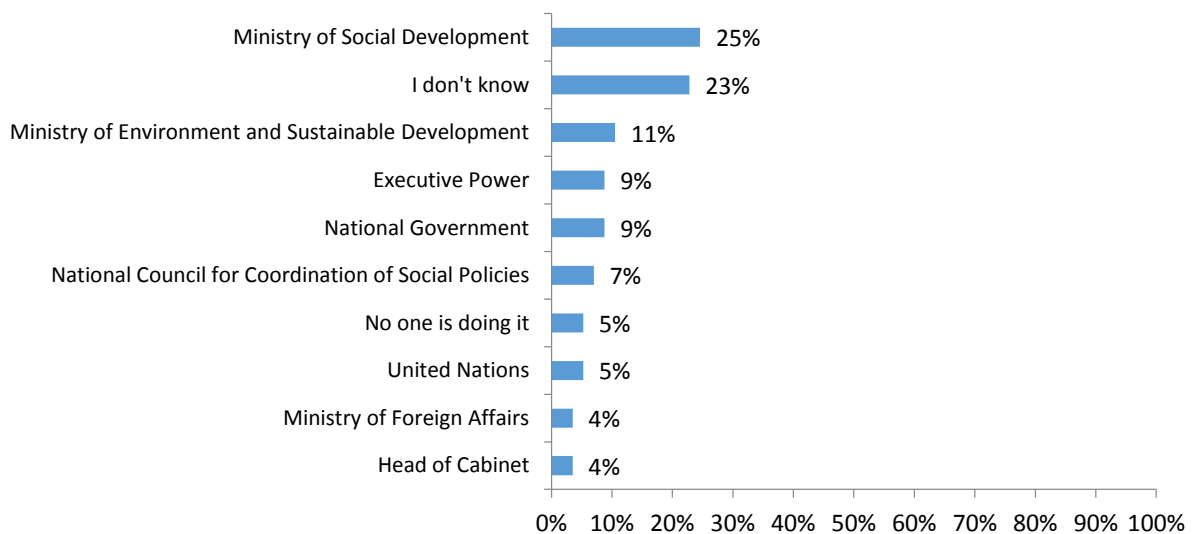
Source: author’s elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

In addition, the results of the survey allow us to observe that a great obstacle in the country has to do with the lack of knowledge there is on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the Development Agenda, which involves all actors. As we can observe in Figure 5, when asked about the government agency with the most authority responsible for implementing the SDGs in the country, 23% answered, "I don't know".



Figure 5: Governmental Organisms to deliver the SDG's

Question 13: what is the highest level government body in your country whose mandate is to deliver the SDG's?



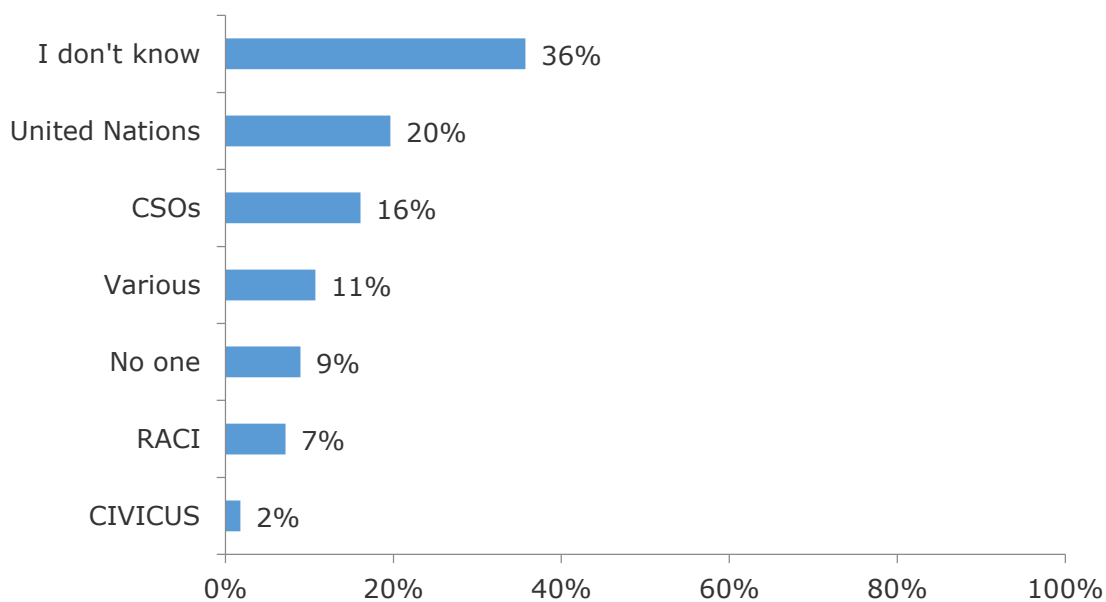
Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

The same thing happened when asked which non-governmental organization is responsible for implementing the SDGs in the country, where 36% said they did not know who was in charge (see Figure 6). This shows us that there is a clear lack of knowledge and information about what is being done and who is doing it.



Figure 6: Non Governmental Organisms implementing the SDG's

Question 14: what is the non-governmental organism with the most authority in your country in charge of implementing the SDGs?



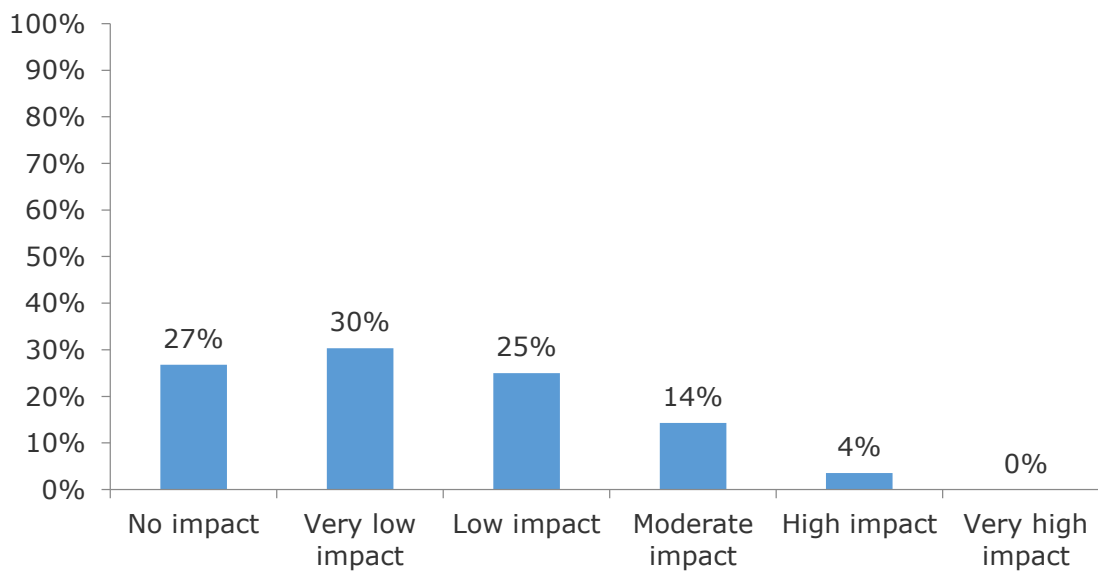
Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

Regarding the question about the degree of impact that marginalized groups have in government policy-making, the majority of respondents considered that marginalized groups have very little influence in government policy-making. 30% said that marginalized groups have "very low impact", 27% said that they have "no impact", and 24% opted for "low impact"; this shows that 82% of the respondents considered that the influence of these groups nowadays is nonexistent. It's also important to note that none of the respondents chose the option "very high impact" (see Figure 7).



Figure 7: Impact of the marginalized groups in policy making

Question 15: What impact do marginalised groups in your locality have in government policy-making?



Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

As we can see in the following graphic, the respondents believe that excluded groups have tried to influence mostly in local politics and, at a lower degree, in a national level. This shows that there is a great obstacle coming from the government in allowing marginalized groups to be taken into account in the decision making process.

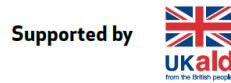
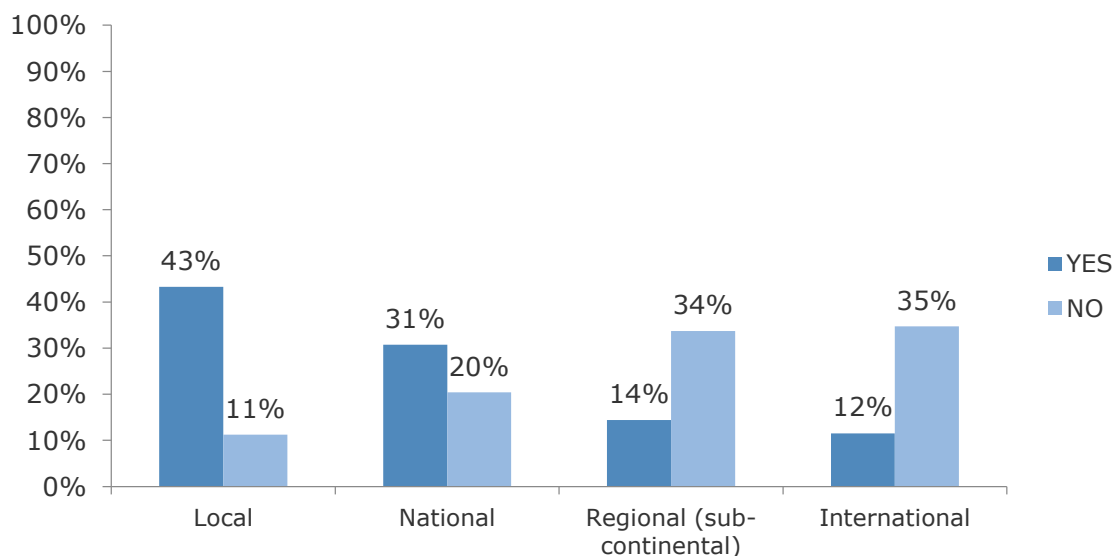


Figure 8: Efforts done to influence in policy making

Question 16: Marginalised groups may seek to influence policy through various means (lobbying, participating in consultations, organizing protests, etc). These activities may seek to influence policy makers at various levels. In the past year, would you say

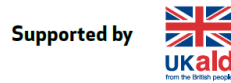


Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

Furthermore, most respondents also feel that there has not been enough regional and international efforts to influence and promote policies of change. This shows that there is a need, beyond national and local governments, to seek innovative ways and solutions so that marginalized groups can influence and contribute at an international level.

7) What can be done to remove these obstacles? What lessons exist on what works to leave no one behind in your national context? (e.g. practical, cost effective, innovative).

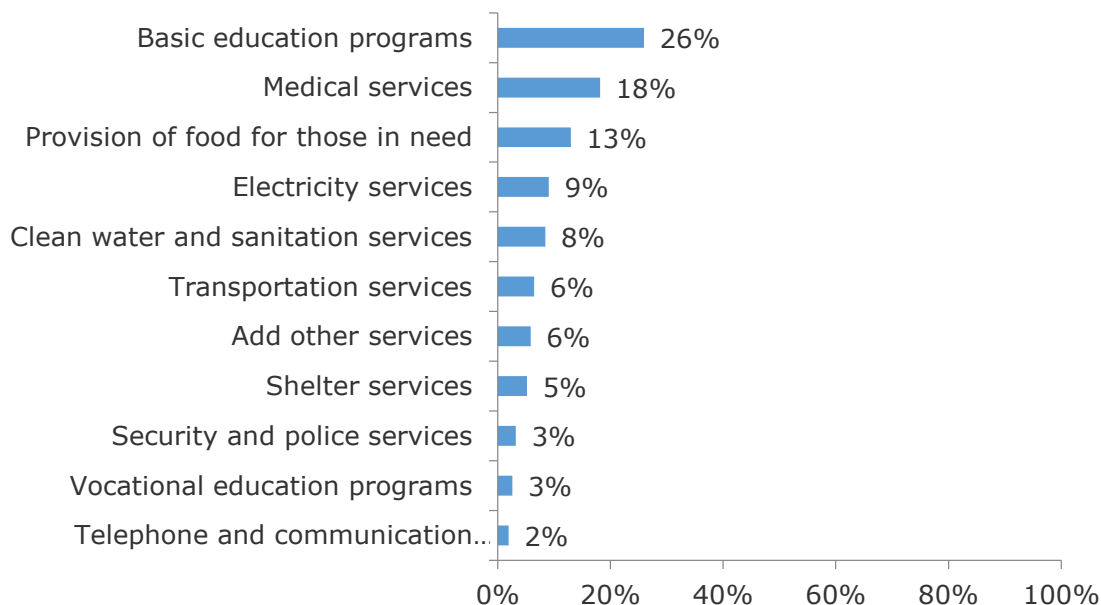
When consulted about which aid and/or government services marginalized groups benefit from, only 3% mentioned vocational educational services and security and police service. We can observe from these answers that government services in these two



areas are lacking, and the State is not providing these basic services to all groups and individuals. 26% said that they benefit from educational programs (but in Argentina, education is free) while in terms of access to clean water, it was mentioned only by an 8% (see Figure 9)

Figure 9: Government services for marginalized people

Question 9: What aid and/or government services do marginalised groups in your locality benefit from? (you may chose more than one)



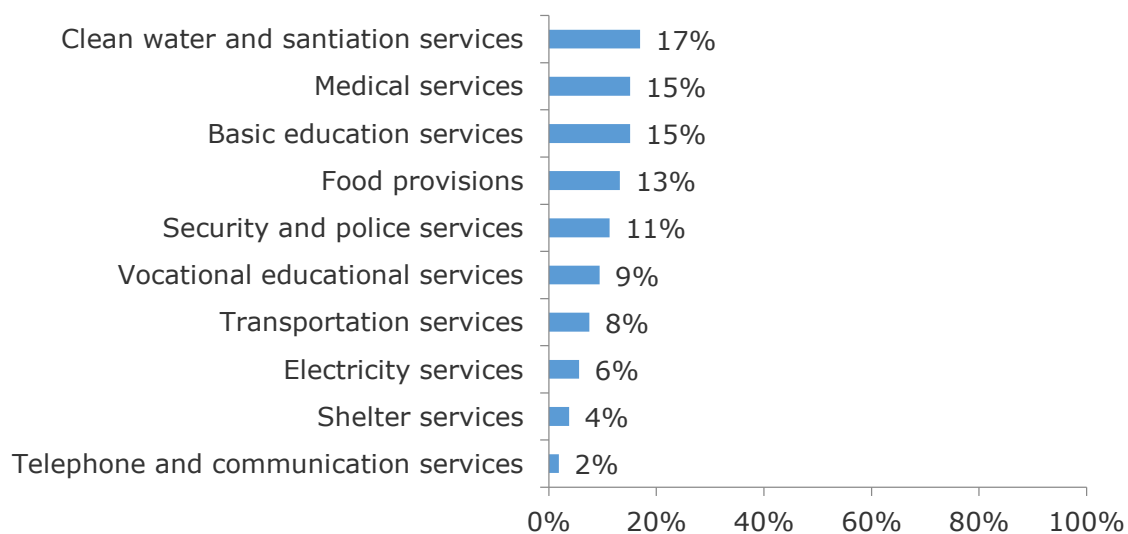
Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

At the same time, in the area of government aid and/or services, the majority said that improving the access to water and sanitation services is a high priority in the country (as we have seen in the previous figure, only 8% said that it was provided to these groups). Medical and basic education services were also considered by the majority as a priority for excluded groups (see chart 10).



Figure 10: Services most needed for marginalized people

Question 10: Which aid and/or government services do marginalised groups in your locality need the most?



Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).

Furthermore, it is important that the agencies in charge of implementing the SDGs achieve a better communication with the general public, to generate a greater understanding of them. At the same time, in order to meet the established objectives, it is necessary for all sectors to articulate. For this, the different agents must have access to the actions that others are carrying out for the correct implementation of the SDGs in Argentina. It is essential to continue making the work of Social Organizations with the most vulnerable populations visible, in order to collaborate so that these groups can have a voice, be heard and considered in decision-making spaces.

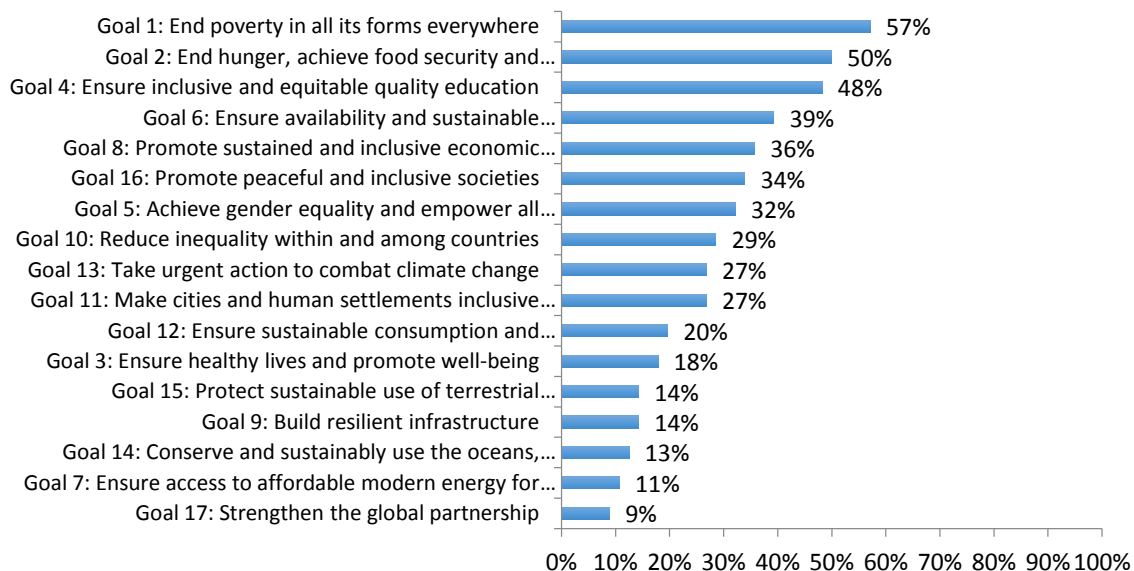


8) Which SDG goals, targets and indicators need particular focus in your country and why in order to ensure no one is left behind?

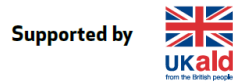
As we can observe in the survey results, the areas that are considered a priority in Argentina are: access to basic income, access to basic needs, to education and security. In respects to this, as we can appreciate in the following Figure, most people believe that the SDG that will have the biggest impact in the country, and therefore needs the most attention, is the goal number one; which references putting an end to poverty, followed by SDG 2, which sets out to put an end to hunger. The SDG 4 ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, was also considered of great impact to the country; in this way showing that education is also an area which the survey respondents see as a priority. Also, the SDG 6, which ensures water availability, was also chosen in fourth place as an SDG expected to have an immediate impact (see graph 11).

Figure 11: Level of immediate impact expected from the SDGs

Question 12: please indicate the level of immediate impact you expect each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals could have on the daily lives of marginalised groups where you work



Source: author's elaboration based on answers obtained in the survey for the national consultations "Leave no one behind" (Sample: 56 answers).



This also relates to the communities which, according to the survey respondents, are being left behind the most as mentioned earlier; these are, people that live in a certain area of the locality. This shows that, in Argentina, certain areas are being marginalized, and these communities don't have access to basic income, basic needs or quality education. This is why the SDGs that will have the biggest impact, and that need particular focus in the country according to the survey respondents, have to do with putting an end to poverty, guaranteeing access to education and to clean water.

9) What steps, as a coalition, are you planning on taking in the next few years to ensure a) the inclusion of marginalized groups in policy decisions and implementation and b) feedback on national progress towards the delivery of the SDGs and the LNB pledge?

As a coalition, we will be working together to generate awareness and public visibility on the importance of including, and putting special focus on, the New Global Development Agenda 2030 and their 17 Sustainable Development Goals in the Civil Society agenda.

RACI and its member organizations are planning a new digital and interactive platform that will include information on the SDGs, news and international trends related to the new agenda. This platform will have a special section where the Civil Society Organizations can share their own projects. In this way, all the organizations that work with marginalized communities can upload to the website information about their active projects that focus on development, and they will be able to specify the theme and the contribution they are making in achieving a particular SDG.

We expect this project to result in a working tool that integrates, informs and empowers the different communities, making their work and concerns visible when implementing the SDGs in Argentina. In the meantime, RACI will create a recommendations guide on how to include the marginalized communities in the implementation of the new agenda. This guide will be the result of the inputs obtained during the National Dialogues among the different actors.

Finally, the implementation of innovative solutions is expected to strategically respond to the challenges of sustainable development.

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Organization: RACI (Argentine Network for International Cooperation)

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