



por la igualdad y la justicia

for equality and justice

Harnessing the Power of Audits: Innovations in SAI-civil society cooperation and audit follow-up

December, 9th



Strengthening audit recommendations

- **Accountability requires independent and effective SAIs that interact with other actors (also independent and effective) in the control system, including citizens.**
- **Social auditing does not replace fiscal control and its technical work, but provides it with valuable information and a citizen's perspective.**



Good practice example (Argentina)

- **In 2003, the participation of people with disabilities in an audit on accessibility to public transport, carried out by the AGN, led to the detection of non-compliance with the use of ramps for people with disabilities in the urban buses during rush hours.**



OGP commitments

- **The National Government agreed on 18 commitments (2019-2022).**
- **ACIJ agreed with the AGN on promoting Citizen Participation in tracking audit recommendations (2020-2022).**
 - Creation of a tracking index
 - Implementation of a website
 - Courses to CSOs on audit recommendations and how to use them



Chagas in Argentina

- Chagas is the most important endemic disease in Argentina. Between 1.5 - 2 million people live with Chagas
- It amounts to 20% of the affected population worldwide
- WHO: "Neglected tropical disease" meaning little attention within Govt's health policy, lack of statistics and a disproportionate burden of infection among poor population.



The AGN Reports (2012, 2018). Outstanding findings:

- 1) **Reduction of budgetary allocation.** Sub execution and deviation of available resources.
- 2) **Lack of an effective legal framework** including: recognition of State obligations and rights of the citizens
- 3) **Weaknesses in the implementation** of (i) diagnostic and treatment health coverage, (ii) vector control
- 4) **Non-existent public awareness campaigns nor educational programs**

Limited impact of AGN Reports

- **Flaws of control by the Parliament: lack of formal follow-up system for recommendations**
- **Collegiate institution with long decision-making processes**
- **Until recently, lack of public dissemination of AGN's work**
- **Neglected and silenced disease**

Strategies taken by ACIJ



Making the AGN reports as guidelines and an integral part of our agenda



Budget analysis and oversight



Organized a coalition with other CSOs



Formal requests to Authorities



Research and publication of reports



Advocacy at different levels



Press and communication

Strategies to uplift AGN's reports



Coalition members: CSOs, affected communities, physicians, biologists. Actively promote these allies to use AGN's findings. Invited and participated in 2018 report's presentation.



Using AGN's findings, published a series of three reports.



Strategies to uplift AGN's reports



Requested and organized advocacy meetings with high national health authorities to demand an improvement of the implementation of Chagas public policies.



Formally requested National Authorities (President, Chief of Staff, Minister of Health) to improve the legal framework, as recommended by the AGN. As a consequence, a participative process was initiated.

Strategies to uplift AGN's reports



Press and communication of all the actions taken by the coalition, individually by ACIJ, promoting the government to do public awareness campaigns and a story published with IBP. Importance of changing the perspective around the issue.

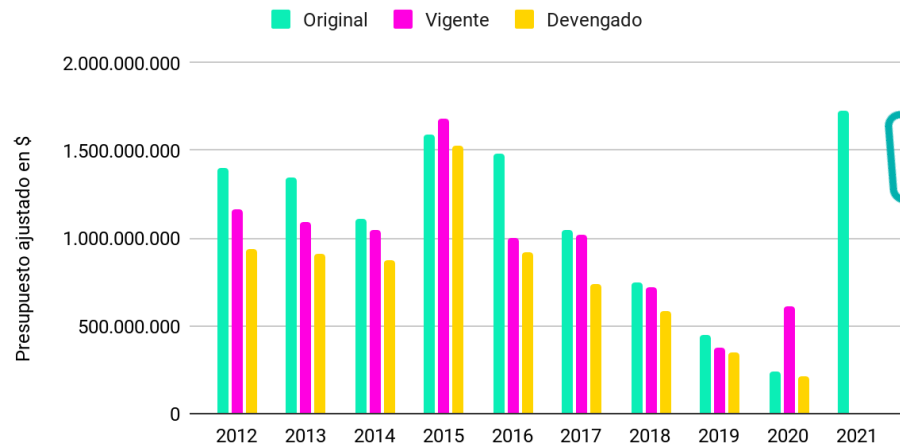


Strategies to uplift AGN's reports



Budgetary analysis, oversight and advocacy (with Congress and the Executive) to promote well funded and fully executed Chagas' policies

Evolución de la ejecución presupuestaria de las actividades enfocadas en Chagas



Fuente: Elaboración propia con datos publicados por el Ministerio de Economía

Highest budget allocation in the last 10 years.

Thank you!



More info at: www.acij.org.ar 