



## National Alliance Against Hunger in Argentina

### 1) What went wrong in your country which prevented the most vulnerable and the poor to improve their access to safe and healthy food?

In terms of food production, Argentina is a rich country. It produces enough food to feed 300 million people; however, among the estimated 40 million Argentines, there are currently people who cannot meet basic food needs.

Children are the worst affected: according to the latest data provided by the statistics institute INDEC (Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos) nearly 60% of children under 14 are poor. At a very young age, malnutrition causes irreversible consequences which affect children's physical, intellectual and emotional development.



Although Argentina has sought different solutions to tackle food issues, there is no comprehensive or solid answer. The only exception could be represented by collaborative experiences, such as those conducted in occasion of The Argentinean Network of Food Banks conferences. Such conferences have given public and private sectors and NGOs the opportunity to work together on extensive proposals aiming to address food insecure groups.



Furthermore, the Argentinean Network is working together with Kraft Foods' company to encourage people's increased consume of fruit and vegetables which are essential foods for children's development. In this sense, fruit and vegetables recovery is coupled with cooking and hygiene capacity building.

### 2) Did you see any improvement in addressing hunger and malnutrition problems since the High level Conference on World Food Security: the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy held last June at FAO headquarters, Rome?

Food Banks have increased their food demand over the last year. The Argentinean Network of Food Banks is currently working on a national level study on hunger; nevertheless, it is foreseeable that a growing number of people will approach organizations requesting food assistance.

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