

Sixth Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

STATEMENT FOR THE MINISTERIAL SESSION

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Dear colleagues,

I would like to thank the organizers of the event for this opportunity. We are pleased to participate because, at the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Argentina, we share the same motivation of this event, which is to implement open science related initiatives to drive the post-pandemic recovery and to develop effective pathways of inclusive action towards the SDGs.

Accordingly, our Ministry has identified specific actions:

1. We have implemented a Program called "Science and Technology against Hunger" launched jointly with the Ministry of Social Development, in which more than 500 projects have already been submitted. These projects aim to use contributions from the scientific-technological sector to enhance actions seeking to reduce social vulnerability by addressing specific issues such as child malnutrition, food emergency or access to clean water and sanitation, among others.
2. We have launched a Program called "ImpaCT.AR" to promote research and development projects aimed at supporting solutions to specific challenges of public interest, and thus generating a positive impact on development at local, regional and national levels. The call promotes joint initiatives between scientific-technological institutions and public bodies such as National Ministries, State-owned Companies, Provincial and City Governments, among others.
3. Consistently with the decision of President Alberto Fernández to honor the Paris Agreement by raising Argentina's Nationally Determined Contribution, we will launch a call for research, development and innovation projects on energy transition, which, among other topics, identify hydrogen as a new energy vector.
4. Our Ministry leads the "Pampa Azul" initiative, a cross-cutting and multi-disciplinary initiative that coordinates activities of several Ministries. Pampa Azul aims to integrate research and development actions in relation to Argentina's maritime spaces to provide scientific grounds for our ocean policies, including a sustainable use of the marine resources as well as the creation and management of marine protected areas.
5. Finally, it is also worth mentioning that our government has established by law a progressive increase in the public budget for Science, Technology and Innovation it reaches 1% of the Gross Domestic Product by 2032, based on a deep-rooted conviction of the importance of science and technology for national development.

In these challenging times, we look forward to strengthening and expanding international scientific collaboration to collectively address the urgent demands from our society.

Thank you.