



**CENTRO DE INTERCAMBIO Y  
SERVICIOS PARA EL CONO SUR  
ARGENTINA**

**2023**

## About us

CISCSA Ciudades Feministas is an NGO located in Córdoba, Argentina with a long history of work with innovative issues of the feminist agenda. Since our foundation in 1985, we have contributed to strengthening the voices and actions of women's organizations. We have developed research projects, training and political advocacy at local, regional and international levels, to promote women's and sexual dissidents' rights to the cities and territories, to decent housing, and to lead a life free of violence.

Rooted in a critical, feminist, inter-sectional and Latin American approach, we address issues from the intersection between gender and territory, concerning four levels: our body, our house, our neighbourhood and our city. Our contributions concern the right to the city, feminist urbanism, the access to housing, services and infrastructures, caring as a right and care work, the asymmetry of time between men and women, violence in public spaces, and the political strengthening of feminist groups and organizations, among others.



## *Our mission*

To promote inclusive, gender-fair and plural cities from a critical, feminist and Latin American approach, so that women in their diverse identities can use and enjoy their territories.

## *Our vision*

We strive to build a more egalitarian society, with lively and enjoyable cities, free of violence, where everyone has full access to their rights, without distinction of any kind, and where the main priorities are caring for life, our common goods and nature in harmony.



## Our strategic guidelines

- ✧ To produce knowledge about gender inequalities regarding the right to the city, focusing on violence and care work, following a feminist, plural and Latin American approach.
- ✧ To strengthen the collective voices of women and their demands to advance their rights to the city.
- ✧ To influence public policy and dialogue with local and national governments, taking a feminist, plural and Latin American perspective.
- ✧ To transfer conceptual theoretical knowledge, practical and methodological tools, as well as experiences to women's and feminist groups and organizations, officials and politicians, the media, academia, also to other organizations that work in the field of housing and other social actors.
- ✧ To raise awareness and promote conceptual and methodological debates and experiences regarding women's right to the city and housing to women and feminist groups and organizations, policy makers and politicians, journalists, academics, other organizations concerned with the housing area and the general public.
- ✧ To advance, engage in and strengthen the processes of feminist collective work among organizations, networks of women and academics to political advocacy in order to enforce compliance of the commitments assumed by the governments, on a national, regional and global level.

## ***Our networks and partnerships***

In Córdoba, we joined Red Pueblo Alberdi organization and we work with the Facultad de Ciencias Sociales and the Área Feminismos, Género y Sexualidades, FemGes (Feminism, Gender and Sexualities Department) of the Facultad de Filosofía y Humanidades of the Universidad Nacional de Córdoba (UNC). On a national level, we are part of Habitar Argentina initiative.

On a regional level, we co-founded and are part of Red Mujer y Hábitat de América Latina y el Caribe and Articulación Feminista Marcosur, AFM.

We provide training sessions to the network of local governments in South America Mercociudades, a benchmark in the regional integration processes.

We are part of the Habitat International Coalition (HIC), the Huairou Commission, and the Global Platform for the Right to the City (GPR2C). Among others, we advise Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos, CGLU (United Cities and Local Governments), and the Unión Iberoamericana de Municipalistas (UIM), on gender issues.



# PROJECTS

## Gender-based violence in public spaces

**Somos territorios: mujeres y actores locales articuladas por espacios libres de violencias**

***We are territories: women and local stakeholders working together to build spaces free of violence (2020-2023)***

This initiative aims at promoting collaboration between political and social actors to reduce violence against women and diversities in public spaces of Córdoba city. Financed by the United Nations Trust Fund and the Spotlight Initiative, it is currently implemented in three regions of the Province of Córdoba: Río Cuarto, Villa María and Cruz del Eje. The project main aims are to generate information about violence in public spaces and its strong impact on women, girls and diversities; to raise awareness in the community so that these forms of violence are acknowledged; to produce and offer tools that strengthen the voices of women across all diversities; and to develop and implement models of joint participation of stakeholders that will advance collective agendas to prevent all forms of violence.



## **Prevenir violencias de género: experiencias y aprendizajes en América Latina y Caribe hispano**

### ***Preventing gender-based violence: experiences and learnings in Latin America and the Hispanic Caribbean (2020-2022)***

Through the mapping, systematization and analysis of previous experience in the prevention of gender-based violence carried out in Latin America and the Spanish speaking countries in the Caribbean, we seek to provide advice and engage in dialogue that will allow us to learn from these preventive actions and to improve accessibility to the right to live free of violence for women and girls. It is an initiative of the Regional Spotlight Programme of the United Nations System and the European Union, promoted by UNFPA and implemented by CISCESA Ciudades Feministas (Argentina) and Colectiva Feminista para el Desarrollo Local (El Salvador).

## **Un nuevo paso en la implementación de políticas contra la violencia hacia las mujeres, con actores policiales: mujeres más seguras (2014-2015)**

### ***A step further in the implementation of policies to tackle violence against women: collaboration with the law enforcement sectors: safer women (2014-2015)***

Its main objective was to contribute to the eradication of violence against women, moving towards the implementation of policies and action plans aimed at that achievement.

It intended to advance cooperation and action between police officers and women organizations to expand, explore and reinforce the public debate about the safety of women in the cities. From this perspective, awareness and training of the police institutions in the issue of gender equity and equality, as well as proper ways to deal with situations of violence experienced by victims, are ineluctable in the public safety agenda and critical to transform police conduct and practices.

**Programa regional Ciudades sin violencia hacia las mujeres, ciudades seguras para tod@s (2006-2011)**

***Cities without violence against women regional programme, safe cities for all (2006-2011)***

The main objective of this programme was strengthening the exercise of women's civil rights in Latin America, thus reducing public and private violence that women experience in the cities. Violence in public spaces, especially in public transport, was one of the targeted issues of this initiative. Primarily, the programme focused on: developing knowledge and carrying out assessments; training and raising awareness; sharing information gathered and creating opportunities for participation in the territory. The working methodology of this project turned out to be an important asset to other projects implemented by a variety of organizations that work in this field regionally and globally. The programme was carried out by Red Mujer y Hábitat de América Latina y el Caribe in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Perú, El Salvador and Guatemala, and it was funded by UN Women and AECID, Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo.

**Instrumentos para la gobernabilidad urbana: indicadores urbanos de género (2000-2002 / 2002-2004)**

***Tools for Urban Governance: Urban gender indicators (2000-2002 / 2002-2004)***

The initiative entailed the construction of a system of gender indicators in urban settings that would show inequalities and different uses of the urban public space and transport between men and women, as well as the obstacles that women experience in public open spaces. A series of surveys was conducted in those cities and the results were shown to the Women departments of each municipality to influence public policies for planning of public urban space. It was implemented in the cities of Mendoza and Rosario (Argentina), Montevideo (Uruguay), Asunción (Paraguay) and Talca (Chile). It was coordinated by CISCOSA with financial support from UNIFEM Brasil-Conosur.



## **Strengthening of women organizations**

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**Mujeres diversas y personas LGBTQ+ garantizando la agenda por sus derechos y transformando la vida en ciudades y territorios (2019-2022)**

***Diverse women and LGBTQ+ people securing the agenda for their rights and transforming life in the cities and territories (2019-2022)***

This initiative supports advocacy in local government policies and activities regarding the Women's Agenda for the Right to the City and Territories, which takes into consideration the intensification of social and gender-based inequalities brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Red Mujer y Hábitat de América Latina y el Caribe have put forward this initiative which was funded by the programme Liderando desde el Sur by Fondo de Mujeres del Sur (FMS). The initiative aims to provide resources and support women organizations and LGBTQ+ people to promote their rights to the city.

The programme has been implemented to strengthen feminist activism and political participation in the local government, with an emphasis on the challenges faced in each territory.



## **Articulando la Red. Diseñando ciudades inclusivas y feministas (2021)**

### ***Expanding our network. Design of feminist and inclusive cities (2021)***

We provide technical advice to the Municipality of Santa Fe (Argentina) and the Municipality of Asunción (Paraguay). Both are members of the Gender department of Mercociudades, where local governments work together. The advice provided aimed at integrating new tools and training personnel in charge of the design of the cities regarding intersectional gender perspective. As a result of the programme implementation, new analytical categories were created to face inequality and discrimination, as well as to raise awareness about the needs of women in urban settings.

## **Programa de fortalecimiento de la Articulación Feminista Marcosur (2016-2020)**

### ***Strengthening programme for the Articulación Feminista Marcosur (2016-2020)***

Since 2016, we and other four organizations (out of 17 that are part of the Alliance) implemented the main focus of this Strategic Five-year Plan with financial support of the European Union. This plan aimed at strengthening feminist perspectives and demands in the opportunities for debate within the feminist movements, but also among other social movements and before governmental entities locally, regionally and globally. This project was carried out in order to make an impact for policy and public decision-making that promote gender equality, with an emphasis on women participation and their empowerment.

## **Mujeres diversas por ciudades seguras, inclusivas y sostenibles (2016-2019)**

### ***Diverse women for safe, inclusive and sustainable cities (2016-2019)***

We worked closely with women organizations and technical teams to collectively create a Women's Agenda for the Right to the City and Territories in the city of Córdoba. The central work areas were the rights to housing, public services and infrastructure, transportation and mobility, and public spaces. The Agenda was created collectively in workshops and training events. In such instances, proposals and requests were made, including awareness raising campaigns and political advocacy.

## **Ciudades inclusivas y género (2009-2011)**

### ***Gender inclusive cities programme (2009-2011)***

The main aim of this programme was to promote the right to the city, focusing on the chance of all inhabitants, especially women, to participate in the city: an opportunity to live, study, work and move freely, to remain in and fully enjoy the public space with no restrictions. The initiative was coordinated by Women in Cities International (WICI), funded by the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, and implemented by Red Mujer y Hábitat de América Latina y el Caribe (Argentina), the Information Centre of the Independent Women's Forum (Russia), the International Centre and Network for Information on Crime (Tanzania), and Jagori (India).

## Care work and territories

Care work and territories is one of the areas of work at CISCSA. It is carried out through the implementation of several projects that collaborate with one another, and it is funded by Open Society Foundations, GRRIPP, Heinrich-Böll Cono Sur, IDRC Carleton University, and others. Within the right to the city framework, we understand care work as a tool for redistribution that will promote women's autonomy. The initiatives hope to raise awareness of caring as a job, as a right in itself, and as a need for all people. To that end, we related the issues of territories and care work in terms of gender to develop knowledge and tools, and to place care work at the heart of territory planning. Also, this will promote urban transformations that will enable a better quality of life for women.

Some of the projects implemented are: **El Cuidado: instrumento de redistribución territorial para la autonomía de las mujeres** (Care work: a tool for territorial redistribution that promotes women's autonomy, 2020); **¿Quién cuida en los barrios y asentamientos en la pandemia en la ciudad de Córdoba?** (Who does care work in the neighbourhoods and settlements during the pandemic in the city of Córdoba, 2021); **Ciudades y territorios que cuidan: sistemas locales de cuidado con enfoque de género** (Cities and territories that care: local systems of care work with a gender approach, 2021-2022); and **Cuidados y territorios** (Care work and territories, 2021-2023).

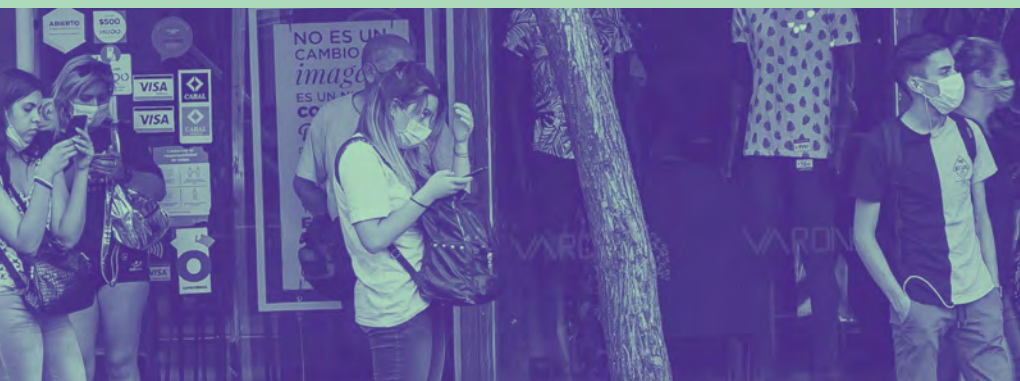


## Asistencia técnica para la transversalización de la perspectiva de género en las políticas y estándares de los programas y proyectos del Ministerio de Obras Públicas de Argentina (2021-2023)

### *Technical assistance to implement gender perspective across the board in the policies and standards of the programmes and projects of the Public Works Department in Argentina (2021-2023)*

As part of the Improvement of Federal Infrastructure for a Sustainable Development Project, implemented by UNOPS in support of the Public Works Department in Argentina, UN Women signed an agreement with UNOPS to carry out a project of capacity building on a national and federal level, so that gender perspective is embedded in public works. In this context, it summons Ana Falú, executive director of CISCESA, who, together with the organization's team, provides technical assistance to achieve this objective.

The assistance provided includes developing analysis papers, recommendations, manuals for guidance, and education and training proposals concerning the following central themes: the implementation of gender across the board during public work programmes, care work infrastructure, transportation and mobility, and public spaces.



## OUR TEAM

We are an interdisciplinary team of feminist architects, psychologists, lawyers, political scientists, communication experts and accountants with extensive experience in the right to the city and women's right to lead a life free of violence.

**PROGRAMMES:** It is made up of experts with the set of skills needed for each programme that is developed. They create partnerships with educational institutions, local governments and social movements locally and internationally.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL:** Our team has extensive experience managing projects that are financed by several donors. Our system for administrating, accounting and managing funds has been repeatedly and successfully audited.

**INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION:** A group of communication and design professionals that collaborate to consolidate the image of the organization and increase the visibility of the projects implemented and the issues addressed. The team develops a large number of products and implements advocacy actions and campaigns.

**Ana Falú.** She is the co-founder and Executive Director of CISCSA Ciudades Feministas, of Red Mujer y Hábitat de América Latina y el Caribe (1986) and the Articulación Feminista Marcosur (AFM, 2000). Also, she is the director of the Master in Housing Management and Development (UNC, Argentina). She co-coordinated with Virginia Vargas the process towards the Fourth World Conference on Women in China (Beijing, 1995) and she directed UN Women (formerly UNIFEM) in the Andean region (2002-2004) and Brazil and the Southern Cone (2004-2009). She advised and led UN Habitat on gender issues (2016-2020). Currently she is collaborating as an expert on gender issues at Unión Iberoamericana de Municipalistas (UIM, 2010) and working as an advisor on gender at UCLG-UBUNTU (United Cities and Local Governments). She is an international consultant expert on feminisms for the Habitat International Coalition (HIC, 2000) and an advisor at Fondo de Mujeres del Sur (FMS) as well.

# FEMINIST TRAINING CENTRE

In 2020, CISCOSA set up a feminist education and training centre. This interdisciplinary centre has as its main objective to provide theoretical and practical knowledge regarding community policies and actions, and to train individuals on the basis of experiences and its own development of the disciplines over nearly 40 years. Our Feminist Training Centre deals with key issues that have not been addressed yet. The institution provides training, but it also shares its technical knowledge with Latin American countries.

The centre has developed a wealth of experiences, workshops, seminars, forums and courses together with municipalities, social organizations, universities, other NGOs and networks. One of the purposes of feminist training is supporting social organizations and women groups organized in neighbourhoods and communities, as well as raising awareness and training local governments, media outlets and the general public. In doing so, we help to influence policy and projects to advance equal opportunities and rights for women and sexual dissidents.



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