

22nd session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration

Written statement by Foundation for the Development of Sustainable Policies (Fundeps Argentina)

Agenda item 5: Institutional mechanisms for providing economic, financial, and structural support to address climate change, reduce the use of fossil fuels and protect biodiversity.

Climate change is the main challenge and threat of the 21st century and there is an urge to advance in the design of public policies tending to prevent and face the climate crisis. Fundeps carried out a study of the climatic phenomena that occurred in the province of Córdoba between 2000 and 2020 and the results obtained are alarming.

There are impacting numbers when it comes to floods and storms, droughts, fires, tornadoes and waves of intense heat, with thousands of people evacuated and injured, some deaths, damages in housing and public infrastructure, crop losses, and failures in the provision of water and electricity services.

To address climate change, urgent strategies must be implemented in the medium-long term, taking into account the cumulative effects of these phenomena.

In addition, citizen participation must be guaranteed, giving prevalence to the perspective of those who suffer in a differentiated way the impact of the climate. Women, rural people, people with disabilities and indigenous communities must be essential participants in the design of these strategies for the care of the future of the planet and our future generations.

Efforts should then be concentrated on the construction of public policies that start from an adequate identification and modification of the conditions of structural vulnerability from which some sectors of society start. This is important, since such social vulnerability is the one that operates in the real possibilities to face and survive the consequences of climate change. States must seek to counteract and modify these structural conditions, which will also result in climate vulnerability. On this basis, they must design mitigation and adaptation actions. Lastly, it is important to implement measures that guarantee energy sustainability, sovereignty and food security and that mitigate the generation of greenhouse gases -protection of native forests, for example-.