For Asuntos del Sur, 2023 was a year of positioning and exponential growth, it was also a period of great learning, the most valuable of which is the need to remain firm in the defense of democracy, which today more than ever is in risk.

It is necessary to resolve structural problems that generate social unrest, to revitalize trust in institutions and mainly in democratic values. We know that the way to recover the democratic narrative is a New Agreement, built collectively and that includes the decentralization of power, as well as the strengthening of political intermediation.

The context to address these challenges appears even more complex; with a poorer and more unequal Global South, the breakdown of multilateralism and liberal capitalism, wars that become global and the super electoral cycle in Latin America - marked by the resurgence of new rights -, the environmental catastrophe, the constant migratory crises and the fight for productivity.

New authoritarian regimes, driven by social media trends, threaten true freedoms and seek to reduce civic spaces, curtailing rights and especially affecting the most vulnerable sectors of our society. Along this path we have seen constituent processes fade, as well as agendas linked to building more sustainable economies and more equal and inclusive democratic proposals retreat.

Aware of the strategic role of civil society in democratic reconfiguration, from Asuntos del Sur we redouble our commitment to the training of emerging leaderships, the strengthening of institutions; the construction and strengthening of multi-stakeholder networks where organizations, movements, independent journalists, decision makers, among others, can come together; enhance collaborative governance mechanisms; position digital tools that innovate democratic practices, work with governments and institutions to improve advocacy processes, encouraging the exchange of experiences.

In Argentina, Casa Sur opened its doors as a hub for innovation and democratic resistance, from there we seek to enhance territorial work and generate synergies of cooperation with the global ecosystem. We expanded our work on core agendas, such as migration and environmental democracy, while continuing to deepen our work on digital democracy and gender. New projects led us to work with organizations and leaders in Asia and Africa, to strengthen interregional exchanges.

In these turbulent times, our call is to work collaboratively to advance at a firm pace, continue weaving souths to contribute to the reconstruction of the democratic social fabric, narrowing gaps and improving political intermediation. We believe that we are going in the right direction and we are convinced that the only way out is collective. We remain positive because we know that we have a team, a Strategic Council, a Board of Directors, strategic allies and first-class financiers.

For a New Democratic Agreement for 2024, for more and better democracies.

Thank you.

Fiorella Wernicke
Executive Director of Asuntos del Sur

Matías Bianchi
Director of ADS Global
The great leap

2023 was a year of changes and new beginnings in Asuntos del Sur (ADS). 15 years have passed since the idea of a place to think about the South was conceived and today we are a growing and constantly evolving organization, with positioning and influence in 22 countries of the Global South.

The internal transformation has been fundamental, therefore the goal is to continue building a diverse and multidisciplinary team, 75% of which is made up of women and youth.

2023 Milestones

- Start-up of Casa Sur, located in Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Expansion of incidence to other territories in the Global South
- New Executive Director
- Internal reorganization of the work team
- First edition of Residencies for Innovation

Intervention model

- We generate knowledge, tools and open methodologies.
- We collaborate with institutions and communities in transformation processes.
- We train innovative leaders.
- We promote collaborative networks of debate and advocacy.
Casa Sur

The opening of Casa Sur represents an institutional milestone for Asuntos del Sur, marking a turning point in our growth.

It is a place for meeting, co-construction and the promotion of collective intelligence, from where alliances and actions are materialized.

Several events have been held there since its opening in February 2023.

NUMBERS

+500
External guests, among allies, national and international visitors have visited Casa Sur.
Democrats Viva

For seven years, Asuntos del Sur has led the Democracia Viva initiative. In 2023, the Democratic Innovation Recognition was incorporated, to make visible and promote initiatives that strengthen democracies, from public management entities, organizations or social movements.

99 initiatives were submitted, from: Brazil, Ecuador, Chile, Colombia, Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela, Bolivia, Guatemala and Peru. During the open voting phase, 2635 votes were registered.

NUMBERS

25
events in the framework of Democracia Viva 2023

727
participants in the activities held

56
organizations, governments, universities and allied entities
Residences for Innovation

One of the most significant milestones of 2023 was the first edition of Residencies for Innovation, an international mobility program to promote strategic political innovation agendas and projects for the region. For six days, 20 international residents took part in a full agenda of meetings, exchanges and events in the city of Buenos Aires.

Participating in this edition of Residencies for Innovation were representatives from: Pacha Lab (Argentina), the Laboratorio de la Localidad de Suba-SubaLab (Colombia), the Municipality of Tandil (Argentina), the Municipality of General Pico (Argentina), Ollin (Mexico), the Área Metropolitana del Valle de Aburrá-AMVA (Colombia), Córdoba Govtech (Argentina), the Asociación de Municipalidades de Bolivia-AMB, the State Government of Jalisco (Mexico), the Secretariat of Government and Digital Transformation of Peru and the Municipality of Rosario (Argentina). Also joining the agenda in Buenos Aires were the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean-CAF, the Legislature of Córdoba, PoliLab, the Legislature of CABA, the Secretariat of Citizen Participation of CABA and the Secretariat of Public Innovation and Digital Transformation of CABA.
Asuntos del Sur
in movement
People Powered Annual Meeting

- México

Launching of Red de Incidencia Regional de Juventudes

- Costa Rica

LAB Local – Laboratorio de Innovación Ciudadana

- Colombia

Program Closure IP 360 Training

- Bolivia

La Cuida

- Uruguay

AbreLatam

- Uruguay

Annual Meeting of the Councils Global Futures 2023

- World Economic Forum

- United Arab Emirates

Decidim Fest

- España

Novagob Congress

- España

OGP Summit

- Estonia

Southern Voice Research Conference

- Kenia
Our Programmatic Guidelines

Our projects and interventions are framed in four Programmatic Guidelines:

**DEMOCRATIC, OPEN AND DIGITAL GOVERNANCE**

**NEW LEADERS AND CITIZENSHIP**

**INCLUSION, GENDER AND PARITY**

Local policies with a gender perspective

**ENVIRONMENTAL DEMOCRACY AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES**

Coalition for environmental democracy
Innovación Pública 360

We made progress in the consolidation of the three-element intervention model:

**KNOW**

We were present and generated interventions in new subnational governments in Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela.

Four versions of the Collective Intelligence in Action course were held in Argentina, Bolivia, Venezuela and Peru.

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**PERÚ**

25 regions

- Amazonas
- Ancash
- Apurímac
- Arequipa
- Ayacucho
- Cajamarca
- Callao
- Cusco
- Huancavelica
- Huánuco
- Ica
- Junín
- La Libertad
- Lambayeque
- Lima
- Loreto
- Madre de Dios
- Moquegua
- Pasco
- Piura
- Puno
- San Martín
- Tacna
- Tumbes
- Ucayali

**BOLIVIA**

- Trinidad
- Tarija
- Santa Cruz de la Sierra

**ARGENTINA**

- Río Grande
- Virasoro
- Viedma
- Comodoro Rivadavia
- Maipú
- Margarita Belén
- Luján
- Rosario

Advocacy report 2023
The results of the *Diagnosis of public innovation and digitalization capacities* at the local level in 470 municipalities in Argentina were published.

Six citizen participation platforms (Decidim) were installed.

Members of the participating government teams in Argentina received training and tools in the implementation of the platform. Likewise, the course “Digital transformation and innovation in citizen participation” was carried out together with CAF.

As part of the civic technologies component of the IP360 project, since August 2023, an intervention similar to that in Argentina has been carried out together with the AMVA, in 10 municipalities in the Aburra Valley of Colombia.
Colabora.LAT

In 2023, the project advanced into its third phase of intervention.

The Latin American Forum to Recover the Democratic Initiative was held.

The Prospective Scenarios methodology for Collaborative Governance was designed and successfully implemented in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico.

NUMBERS

16
Prospective workshops held

20
Publications in the project framework in 2023

643
Participants in project events in 2023
In 2023 the project was consolidated, achieving the dissemination of the findings in the Portavoces diagnosis, as well as the materialization of the Regional Advocacy Network.

Six bootcamps were held with youth from Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama and El Salvador.

The Common Training Program: El Centro del Sur was generated with 4 toolkits and a self-care module for activists.

With the aim of scaling the impact of AltaVoz, a diagnosis was generated in the Andean region and the Southern Cone, in which 42 young people between 18 and 35 years old, activists or members of organizations linked to environmental justice and feminisms, participated.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUMBERS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>540</td>
<td>young activists participated in the survey for the construction of Portavoces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>members of the Regional Youth Advocacy Network “RADAR”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>projects presented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>153</td>
<td>youth trained in leadership toolkits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cila

In 2023, the CILA - Cities in Action Consortium was focused on the development of new products, diversification and expansion of articulation networks and the strengthening of collaborative work in cities in the Global South.

After having won the application for the call for democratic residences of People Powered and Demo.Reset, these were held at Casa Sur.

A mapping was carried out that included organizations from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Brazil, with the objective of generating a toolbox for the construction of HUBs in different parts of the world.

A newsletter and the CI-LA Escuchas podcast were launched, which will bring information and bring initiatives of interest to readers and listeners in countries such as Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Paraguay, Bolivia, Brazil, Uruguay, Indonesia, Kenya, Russia, Guatemala, Venezuela, Spain, the United States, among others.
Coalition for environmental democracy

Community of practice for research and impact between environmental defenders

This project is part of the intervention of ADS Global, its objective is to build and strengthen a community of practice among the set of initiatives supported by the IDRC “Reclaiming civic space to confront the climate emergency” in the Global South.

Includes systematization of experiences and interventions in France, Morocco, Philippines, Indonesia, Lebanon, Honduras and Uganda.
Training

Through the Political Innovation Academy, we carried out training programs that impacted teams from subnational governments, civil society organizations, individuals and leaders in the region. We accompany public innovation and collaborative governance projects in 22 countries.

**TRAINING PROGRAM IN COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE (2ND EDITION)**

- **531** people registered
- **48** projects presented
- **19** countries represented

**COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE IN ACTION TRAINING PROGRAM (4TH EDITION)**

- **PERÚ** (TransformaGob: Participation in digital initiatives)
  - **535** people registered
  - **25** participating regions
  - **19** projects presented

- **VENEZUELA** (Public Innovation with a gender perspective)
  - **73** people registered
  - **23** cities represented

- **BOLIVIA** (Collective intelligence for local governments)
  - **70** people registered
  - **13** cities represented

**DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND INNOVATION TRAINING PROGRAM IN CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

- **CAF-ADS Alliance**
  - **204** people registered
  - **18** projects presented
Training processes supported:

DIPLOMA IN GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC INNOVATION IN IBERO AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (2nd EDITION)

CAF

+800 participants

+200 projects supported

21 participating countries

19 allied universities

FEDERAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT (4TH EDITION)

Consejo Federal de Inversiones-CFI

+500 young participants

+60 public policy proposals supported

22 Argentine provinces represented
Publications

In 2023 we investigate, create replicable tools and experiences, systematize learning, make recommendations and generate knowledge of all kinds. Here are some of our publications of the year.

- **Portavoces: Active youth against the closure of civic space in Central America and Mexico**
- **Possible futures. New agendas in the youth struggles of the Andean Region and the Southern Cone: environmental justice and feminisms.**
- **Paper series “Democracy matters”**
- **Public Innovation Spaces in Argentina. Experiences and challenges for a sustainable future**
- **Future Scenarios of Governance: Vaccine acquisition and distribution**
- **Traffic light authoritarianism in Argentina**
- **Governance models: Digitalization in comparative perspective**
- **National policies to support digital transformation**
- **Collaborative use manual of the Decidim platform**
- **Future Scenarios of Governance: Political participation of youth in a context of democratic dissatisfaction**
Improving poverty alleviation strategies in Latin America: Revamping data, strengthening communities, and redefining social protection systems

How to govern Collaboratively

Collaboration Makes a Difference

Advances and challenges of vaccination against Covid-19 in Argentina: The case of the municipalities of Avellaneda, Quilmes, San Martin and 3 de Febrero

Improving poverty alleviation strategies in Latin America: Revamping data, strengthening communities, and redefining social protection systems

Future scenarios Governance

Methodological Road Map for the Construction of Prospective Scenarios

Collaborative networks in practice: activate democracy without manuals

Repository of useful resources to strengthen governance in the Global South
Donors and sponsors

Alliances

Networks we are part of:
Governments and public entities

- Municipality of Rio Grande
- Secretariat of Citizen Participation and Local Social Inclusion of Barbosa
- District Institute of Participation and Bogotá DC-IDPAC Community Action
- Government of Sabaneta
- Municipal Government of Trinidad San Francisco Municipal Government
- Municipal Government of Santa Cruz de la Sierra
- Municipal Government of Tarija
- Municipality of Luján
- Girardota Government
- Government of Envigado
- Government of Tlaquepaque
- León Municipal Youth Institute
- Municipality of Villa María
- Municipality of Rosario
- Municipality of Virasoro
- Municipality of Viedma
- Municipality of Comodoro Rivadavia
- Municipality of Maipú
- Municipality of Margarita Belén
- Secretariat of Government and digital transformation of Peru
- Suba-SubaLab Locality Laboratory
- Municipality of Tandil
- Municipality of General Pico
- Metropolitan Area of the Aburrá Valley-AMVA
- Legislature of Córdoba
- CABA Legislature
- Secretariat of Public Innovation and Digital Transformation of CABA
- Usme Local Mayor’s Office
- Government of the Province of San Luis

Our team

**DIRECTIONS**

- **Fiorella Wernicke** - Executive Director
- **Matías Bianchi** - Director ADS Global
- **Belén Arroyo** - Administration and management Director
- **Tatiana Cárdenas Arciniegas** - Programmatic Director

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- **Geraldine Wasser** - President
- **Ezequiel Giletta** - Secretary
- **Lourdes Lodi** - Treasurer
- **Aniela Stojanowski** - Vocal
- **María Alejandra Otamendi** - Alternate Vocal
- **Pablo García Arabéhety** - Accounts Reviewer
We continue our fund diversification strategy; although income from international cooperation projects continues to represent the highest percentage of the annual budget, its representative weight on the total has decreased to below 50%.
Thanks to the trust generated with our donors and strategic alliances, the income of Asuntos del Sur has continued to rise in the last year, adding an 8% year-on-year increase from 2022 to 2023 and more than 50% in relation to the income of 2019.