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Country, Argentina

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Since 2003, Argentina experienced a crucial economic paradigm change, that placed women to confront challenges and opportunities, in relation to connecting Argentina in a globalized community, with an excessive need of food. As Argentina has very fertile land in natural conditions/temperature, sunshine, and water to produce industry and crops, families that woman need to feed are becoming less impoverished. Rural women in Argentina hold a very important role in the development of rural areas of the country, especially in the economic and food security sector. The challenge is to diminish or eliminate the gender perspective, therefore increasing female empowerment, and thus giving women the ability of decision making, giving access to land and markets with equal opportunities as men.

It is highly important to acknowledge the difference of power, both women and men have when assessing what rural women are experiencing. Women actively participate in reforming rural areas, however women and men do not hold the same positions when doing so, as women are less likely to be employed, with their opportunities being limited, especially in relation to highly formal jobs and high productivity sectors of the labour market. This stands as a challenge to the union of Argentine women, as their participation in the job market is crucial to reducing gender inequality. Statistics show that nine out of ten working mothers whom have more than four children, are employed by private households, to take on housekeeping performances. Additionally, women are not granted a legal maternity leave in domestic work, however women who work professionally, receive a leave of three months, as well as are paid by the state. As Argentina has always been the leader in Latin America, when dealing with women's rights. Rural woman play a crucial role in agricultural development, allowing improvement of food security in Latin America. An issue that families face in rural areas is the deficiency of micronutrients, some being Iron, Zinc, and Vitamin A. This places a critical concern for citizens' health, especially pregnant women and newborn infants. It is necessary to implement measures that can support women in improving their agricultural production, such as increasing their access to training, technology, and credit.

In the Argentine Republic, the progress of education and employment for women has led to the eradication of femicide within the country. In 1994, Argentina has signed a Inter-American convention on the prevention, punishment and eradication of violence against women, known as the 'Belem do Pará Convention'. To be able to assist victims of domestic violence, the Argentine

Republic has issued a statewide program called "Victims against Violence" supported by the National Ministry of Justice, Security and Human Rights which is aimed to immediately assist women that are subject to domestic violence. This program has been successful, as it dealt with more than 89% of cases of domestic violence against women and it has overall set an example to all Latin American countries that are machismo-oriented. Women have fought all around the world to be able to earn the same amount of money as men, there has been gender discrimination and gender gaps caused by the development of countries without the appropriate labour laws. Women's participation in the labour market has been an important aspect that the Argentine Republic has been focusing on over the past decades, as the progression of our country has led us to be more advanced and focused on the protection of women.