

IN DEPTH INTERVIEWS BRIEFING

Below are summaries of the interviews made during the final external evaluation

Guadalupe Tagliaferri: Director Women Department of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires took part in the breakfast MEI and did not formally worked with the Foundation.

Considers that the breakfasts are good tools but they are highly politicized. Lack of a clear agenda, the issue of transparency was one of the agendas for breakfast but never finished putting on the agenda as an autonomous subject with the subject of gender and corruption. From her participation in the breakfast, she did not incorporate any new concepts of Transparency and Corruption. Considers that these issues should generate its own agenda and know that they are long term processes. We need more people involved in the issues of transparency and corruption. MEI settled the issue of trafficking, must now put on the agenda the issue of corruption.

Jasmín Steuer: Presented a paper with a colleague at the Forum.

She has participated in the breakfast and the Forum and through these meetings began to communicate with others on the subject. Considers that was critical of the fact of having regional meetings.

Believes the most important project was the information and exchange . She has found the biggest obstacles to gender issues in justice, mainly through ignorance, is why it is very important information and socialization.

Considers the project's negative side is the lack of continuity, especially in the organization of forums. Her view is that the Forum should take place every two years, on an ongoing basis. She also feels that the project is a replicable model and the fact that the organizers are n NGO makes it plural, not a biased environment.

Susana Perez Gallart: APDH

Participated in the National Women's Forum as a panelist in 2002 and Breakfasts.

She found them to be very important to address gender issues and corruption, especially since people from different extracts attended as representatives of NGOs, officials and deputies. Places where corruption issues are dealt with are rare, however the social level of it is alarming e, as it occurs in all areas not only political. It is important to MEI's role in making women aware of their rights and how they can be affected by corruption.



Through Internet and network information MEI narrowed the gap between different organizations, all information is shared. The link to MEI allows to learn more about what each organization does, work in partnership is the best way to work. It is very important to the union to press on specific topics.

Attacking corruption from many angles is one of the objectives, defend the fight against corruption at all levels. Today is a very serious issue because even occurs in social plans showing a struggle of the poor against the poor.

Last year APDH Monique Altschul awarded a lifetime achievement award for his performance in the fight for the rights of women and their special form of struggle.

Elizabeth Rapela: Vice President M.E.I.

Women and Equality is an institution that works with organizations (NGOs) women, for women and has a degree of horizontal and hierarchical des quite remarkable. While things have changed a lot in Argentina concerning gender and corruption, much to change. There is a big fight for equality. Corruption exists in all dimensions. Corruption is seen everyday and work for many years, there have been several forums of corruption. This was refined and have come to the corruption in politics.

Elizabeth Rapela argues that awareness is essential to generate workshops, computers, groups of people to work.

The dissemination of information is very important and the increasing number of measures as well. The lists of mails that were arming themselves in the various meetings are essential. All these efforts need to extend them to other provinces. With more money and people working on the project, it could reach the entire country. He also believes this project can be replicated in any other Latin American country.



Monique Altschul Thiteaux Interview: M.E.I. This interview was not conducted in the framework of in-depth interviews.

Monique Altschul In an interview about the project and MEI overall, she provided an overview on each of the major points in the last years of activity of the Foundation.

Prior to the project "Organizing Women Against Corruption" in the year 2000/2001 MEI won the IDB Transparency and corruption-Leadership Award, between 2000 and 2002 a Women's Forum was held on corruption in the San Martín Cultural Centre, it was international in character. They also were developing the monthly breakfast with high officials.

With regard to the particular project, in 2007 MEI campaigned with Poder Ciudadano (Pablo Sequi, president of PC) for monitoring the accountability of electoral funds, also discussed the language of women candidates and platforms compared with the speeches. While on the platforms addressed gender issues, speeches did not because they were based on opinions of advertising consultant. The study was published in a magazine that was distributed among Members.

There was also an open letter to the president on gender policies. No answer. Another important activity was the analysis of the charters of the major parties. Item to be considered in the political reform that was presented at the 2008 Women's Forum against corruption.

One of the positive results of these actions was that the UCR requested that 40% of the charges outside the National Women's Bureau, through its Secretariat for Women by Storani. On the Network of Women on the Verge of the Information, it consists of eight organizations that were trained with support from the British Council on gender issues and training in communication technology in April 2007.

Marta Oyhanarte from the Secretariat for Institutional Reform in Chief of the Cabinet supported this activity.

We traveled to each province to disseminate the work of the network, selecting a journalist in charge of dissemination. Radio microphones were conducted in all provinces to disseminate gender issues, with the assistance of the Ombudsman, were heard on Radio National.

On issues of control of corruption was made a step forward, then turned back. The problem is the lack of institutionalization, when people stop charges (eg Dupuy Leandro) of state agencies are losing their achievements.



Women Equal To spread abroad participated in international events: Transparency International in 2006 and 2008, CSR Meeting, organized by ILO and UNDP in Paraguay, Uruguay Invent Congress (Germany), Campaign against Trafficking IOM, UNIFEM New York, Vital Voice events in Miami, Geneva, among others.



FOCUS GROUP 1

Attendees: Marta Antunez (Sportologist) and Silvia (M.E.I.)

While the first FOCUS GROUP that took place did not have a large attendance, comments highlighted were very fruitful for understanding the project and its impact.

First, it is important to note that according to the present, the issue of gender and corruption is ripe to put the focus at any time. Gradually were opened roads and working with different levels of policymaking, which meant that today the issue is more fluid and has improved the situation in 10 years.

Secondly it was mentioned numerous times the importance of partnerships, especially with organizations in the provinces. It is enriching the diversity of organizations, even coming from different political colors. MEI's take is relevant and heard, and it is fairly apolitical. The Foundation is asked frequently for consultation and referral.

In terms of partnerships at the political level, there was agreement that are essential and that there have been approaches (both at national and provincial levels). There has been a greater connection with prosecutors and the judiciary. We trained judges and prosecutors in the issues of gender and security forces as well.

The issue of the media is also very important. Contacts with reporters at the breakfasts were very fruitful. Learned what to say and how. There must be in general a change of language in issues relating to gender. Talking properly is crucial to properly communicate, for example, instead of white slavery were managed to install the term trafficking. This comes from a job from the organizations with journalists. There is much ignorance on the subject and this leads to fall into common mistakes. We should work towards a position in the media. Regarding the work of M.E.I. itself, it was noted that signified enrichment for the participants both as breakfast meetings, mainly by the fact that people of different extracts was convened. MEI was enriched by the Forum and got there want to replicate the effort. It was agreed that action is necessary to multiply and socialize.

In terms of good practice were highlighted:

- The Festival
- Support for artists
- Media Presence
- The work was done with judges and prosecutors
- Network of Women on the verge of information



The Network was strengthened by the project, learned how to manage, what tools to use, received logistical support and high visibility. The network concept is replicable. Finally, they mentioned that in the future, they should further develop the networks, which are not isolated from different subjects that fall within the gender, but treat it as a common theme. We must continue to develop strong institutions and policies.

FOCUS GROUP 2

Attendees: Susana Gamba (President Portal Agenda de las Mujeres), Coca Trillini (Forum comentator), Nelly Minyersky (Lawyer, UBA), Cris Raunich (Fundación Baccigalupo, Press), María Ines Rodríguez Aguilar (M.E.I.) y Elizabeth Rapela (M.E.I.)

The second FOCUS GROUP was more crowded and with participants from different organizations. Some of the most important points that emerged from this FOCUS Group are the following: With respect to MEI, all emphasized that it is a place where women from different sectors can deal with different issues horizontally. It has always been a democratic and horizontal in the MEI breakfasts and a democratization of information held by the Foundation. Over the breakfasts began to circulate information and mail lists were formed that still remain in operation. In addition, breakfasts and visits to the provinces allowed to link people who had not been linked. It was observed a huge demand from the provinces a many differences between provinces and capital on impact and on intelligence gathering.

As for the challenges ahead, increase the number of journalists to report on gender issues without being always the same as those devoted to the subject. We must also train and involve multipliers, young people.

Good practices and experiences that the project left, that were first generated by other projects, we managed to generate new ideas for new projects in the field, we engaged more congressmen and women and great impact was achieved with the Forum more so due to the fact that it was held at Faculty of Law at the University of Buenos Aires. Finally, all concluded that the lack of funds could be overcome because the project is already functioning and energy is put in the first stage and now they just have to continue.

