PROVINCE OF SANTA FE
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

Strategies and Capacities for a Competitive Global Insertion
Santa Fe residents have chosen to consolidate a development style based on their quality of life and social well-being. Equality, solidarity and social justice are the values that guide our public policies, while, at the same time, offer a horizon that binds democratic quality, inclusion, economic growth and sustainability.

We are committed to dialog and consensus, to promoting the integrated and sustainable development of our territory. We foster public policies that guarantee the rights and offer opportunities to each and every resident in our province, in each and every town and city.

Santa Fe is a land of opportunities, with an immeasurable natural richness and high human quality. It meshes production, scientific and technological potential with a very present administration that encourages competitiveness both nationally and internationally, by strengthening local and regional possibilities.

In a world where trade has intensified, we foster and support private initiatives that add value to production, to expand exports and integrate into global chains. Transparency, institutional quality and legal certainty guarantee the operation of the business world and of investments.

Our model of international actions is open to learning, to the sharing of experiences, to the promotion of trade and to the investments that will enable better service provision, increased global competitiveness and the generation of production and trade capacities.

Miguel Lifschitz
Governor of the Province of Santa Fe
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INTRODUCTION
The province of Santa Fe is located in the Center Region, Argentina. By population and production, the province ranks among the top three, together with Buenos Aires and Cordoba. With a total area of 13.3 million hectares and the 849km of the Paraná River running along the eastern border, Santa Fe was granted a territory rich in natural resources and social diversity.

Witness of key historical events, the province provided land to the first foreign settlers in Argentina, the first battle for independence, the birth and signing of the National Constitution. The 1994 Constitutional Convention was also held in the province.

The active involvement in the history of the country and geography have contributed to a sound, dynamic economy based on agriculture, ranching, manufacturing, metalworking and petrochemical industries.

Santa Fe is divided into 19 departments which house 363 localities: 55 municipalities (over 10,000 people) and 208 communes (from 500 to 10,000 people). Two municipalities have a population exceeding 200,000: the capital of the province, Santa Fe de la Vera Cruz and the city of Rosario, the second largest in the country. These are on the Paraná river and concentrate 53% of the 3.4 million people that live in the province. Twenty-three localities are intermediate cities, from 10,000 to 200,000 people.

So as to compensate social and economic long-standing imbalances, to bring the State closer to citizens and to organize and manage the territorial complexity, the provincial government decided to establish five regions.
Strategies and Capacities for a Competitive Global Insertion

PROVINCE OF SANTA FE
OVERVIEW
PHYSICAL - ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION

It is bordered to the north by the province of Chaco, to the east by Corrientes and Entre Ríos, to the south by Buenos Aires and to the west by Córdoba and Santiago del Estero. Located in the most fertile and dynamic region of Argentina, Santa Fe offers a vast environmental diversity. To the northeast, the Semiárido Chaco receives little rainfall. Widespread floods or prolonged droughts occur in the Bajíos Submeridionales (lower submeridionales), the transition between the center and the south region. The Cuña Boscosa, the forest resources in the north of the province, is plenty of plants and animal species. Low forests and large wetlands make the transition from the center to the south. The province integrates into the Humid Pampa, to the south. The Paraná River borders the province to the southeast. Its landscape presents a number of islands and branches including the Jaauaníjake Ramsar site, habitat for a large diversity of plants and animals. To the south, the Melincue Lagoon is also protected by the Ramsar Convention.

The province hydrographic system is the largest in the country, with calm water rivers, an enormous number of lagoons, streams, marshes, river branches and creeks. Santa Fe riverfront extends along 849 kilometers, that is one third of the Paraná—Paraguay waterway total length.

Mobility infrastructure and the provincial social, industrial and third-sector development determine a regional centrality that is located in five urban cores: metropolitan Rosario, with almost 1,400,000 people and the city of Santa Fe, with approximately 500,000. Reconquista, Rafaela and Venado Tuerto feature from 60,000 to 100,000 people.

Some of these cities have strong functional relationships with the provinces of Entre Ríos, Córdoba, Buenos Aires and Corrientes. Two road connections link Santa Fe to the province of Entre Ríos: the under-river tunnel Santa Fe–Paraná and the Rosario–Victoria fixed link. National route 9 and Regional Highway 19 links Santa Fe to San Francisco in the province of Córdoba, connected to Rafaela by National Road 34. The Santa Fe – Rosario – Buenos Aires highway is the most used connection with the province of Buenos Aires.
The provincial government fosters these organizations because it understands that strengthening social capital is crucial for the development of the community. Consequently, citizens’ involvement is a public policy and also essential for the development of public guidelines.

The Provincial Strategic Plan is a management tool that sets the basis for long-term public policies. It was defined through an unprecedented participatory process with the participation of social and economic institutions, local administrations and citizens. Throughout the process, priorities were defined for each place and region. Proper implementation is monitored and assessed on a continuous basis.

The province has a rich institutional fabric woven by multiple governmental and non-governmental actors that interact in different instances and give Santa Fe its unmistakable imprint. The provincial administration, the municipalities, the communes as well as the national and provincial decentralized agencies work together with schools and school cooperatives, churches, universities and research centers. There are countless sports clubs, foundations, immigrants associations, developing partnerships and neighbor organizations where people meet and share experiences, problems and social expectations. There are also numerous agriculture-related organizations and others linked to industries and service providers. Women, youth, sex, race and religion minorities find in Santa Fe a friendly land where to meet, grow and exercise their rights.

SOCIAL - INSTITUTIONAL DIMENSION
2.3 ECONOMIC - PRODUCTION - RELATED DIMENSIONS

The province is on the territorial and productive axis of Mercosur. It features international road connections through two bioceanic corridors, and the Paraná-Paraguay Waterway, which gives Santa Fe a privileged geo-strategic location.

Santa Fe plays a leading role in agriculture and ranching. It features an expanding manufacturing and a significant infrastructure for road and river transport, as well as an excellent network of services (finance, tourism, knowledge and health care).

Santa Fe Geographic Gross Product represents 8% of the national GDP. The provinces of Córdoba, Buenos Aires and Santa Fe contribute far more than the rest to the country’s economy. The third sector share of the provincial GDP is 68%, the second sector 22% and the primary sector 10%. Eight development agencies, six industrial parks and 34 industrial areas promote production either directly or indirectly.
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INFRASTRUCTURE
The transportation infrastructure in Santa Fe is excellent: good road and rail networks that link to ports and airports and offer competitive advantages to place products and services in the regional and global markets, luring foreign investments to the region.
THE ROAD NETWORK

The provincial network, with 6,200km of paved roads, integrates cities to both the domestic and the global market: 400km of highways connect the provincial capital and the most populated city, Rosario, to the rest of the country and to the two main cities located in the Center Region: Cordoba and Parana.

National roads connect the province with Bolivia, Chile and Paraguay. Cities and ports are linked by the bi-oceanic corridor running from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.
ROSARIO – SANTA FE HIGHWAY

Rosario-Santa Fe highway is one of the main roads in Argentina that serves the productive sector. It is 156.7 km long, with two 7.3m-wide lanes, which in turn have two driving lanes each and 2.5m-wide paved shoulders.

The average daily traffic is 46,500 vehicles —70% are cars and the remaining 30%, trucks. 17 million vehicles run along this highway every year.

End of 2010, the Government of Santa Fe signed a contract to license the toll service for the construction, improvement, repair, conservation, expansion, remodeling, maintenance, administration, management and operation of the aforementioned motorway.

The concession agreement was granted to ARBSA and the provincial government is responsible for monitoring, inspecting, auditing and controlling compliance with the terms of the concession.

ROSARIO – VICTORIA FIXED LINK

It links the province of Santa Fe to the province of Entre Rios. It extends along 59.4km on the Paraná River. Strategically significant to increase production, it is a main piece of the bi-oceanic corridor that links the ports of Valparaiso (Chile) and Porto Alegre (Brazil). The large span bridge’s clearance above the water is 55 meters, which allows the passing of ocean vessels. One of the most important civil works in the country and South America.

UNDER-RIVER TUNNEL: RAÚL URANGA – CARLOS SYLVESTRE BEGINS

It was the first under-river tunnel in South America with highly distinctive features. Opened on December 13, 1969, it helped consolidating the continued growth of the provinces of Santa Fe and Entre Rios. Besides, it provides fast and easy connection to Brazil and Paraguay.

The tubed segment covers 2,937m, and includes two access ramps of 271m each, to reach a total extension of 3,479m. The deepest level is 32m based on the medium river level. 11,000 vehicles go across the tunnel every day.

Because of its infrastructural features, this tunnel receives any type of cargo vehicles without affecting the Paraná River transit.
THE RAILROAD NETWORK

This railroad network and the services it provides are quite relevant for Santa Fe competitiveness. The provincial railroad network comprises two subsystems based on an agro-exporter model with tracks converging at the port terminals located in Santa Fe and Metropolitan Rosario.

It is a wide-gauge 1,676-kilometer network, which converges in the city of Rosario and is composed of three rail lines; two of them are operated by private companies and maintain their condition of integral dealers: Nuevo Central Argentino (Ferrocarril Mitre) and Ferroexpreso Pampeano, which took over most of the Sarmiento railroad network, while the San Martin line is currently operated by the National Government.

This Indian gauge network is also operated by the Federal Government and is the longest railroad at the country level, running along 4 different regions: the Northeast, Northwest, Cuyo and Center.

About 1 million tons a year are transported across the provincial territory, half to the port terminals located on the Parana River.
AIRPORTS

Airports in the province offer domestic and international flights. So does Rosario’s airport, Malvinas Argentinas.

Santa Fe, Reconquista, Villa Minetti and Venado Tuerto also have their own airport. Besides, many small localities have their own aerodrome.
ROSARIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (AIR)  
"ISLAS MALVINAS"

This international airport is crucial for the provinces; it connects them with the world and represents a factor of competitiveness for the regional production. Located 16km from the center of the city of Rosario, it ensures airline connectivity to a wide region that stretches over the province of Santa Fe, the north of Buenos Aires, the west of Entre Ríos and the east of Córdoba.

The airport authority put forth a strategic vision based on the importance of exploiting the aeronautical activity both in terms of passenger transport and air cargo.

The AIR has a new air terminal of 10,787 sq.m, equipped with all the necessary facilities for passengers' assistance and comfort.

The flow of passengers reached 380,000 people throughout 2015, 58.6% up from the previous year, positioning the airport as a very important connectivity hub.

It offers domestic flights via the flagship company, Aerolíneas Argentinas, to the main destinations in the country: Mendoza, Córdoba, Iguazú, El Calafate and Bariloche plus daily flights to Aeroparque and Ezeiza, connecting Rosario to the main capitals of the world.

Airlines that operate from this airport are: Aerolíneas Argentinas, Gol Líneas Aéreas and TAM. New agreements have been reached with LAN and Copa Airlines.

LAN Peru contribution to connectivity will be toward the Pacific coast, Lima, with connections to the rest of Latin America, United States and Canada.

Copa will add Central America: Direct flights will take passengers from Rosario to Panama, and from there connections will be available to more than 20 cities in 14 other countries, such as Cuba, Colombia, El Salvador, Venezuela and Puerto Rico.

SANTA FE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
"SAUCE VIEJO"

Located 16 km from the city of Santa Fe and next to the city of Santo Tome, this airport is located in a strategic area: route 19, the backbone of the Mercosur, is accessible at only 2 km from the airport. Its area of influence extends to the center of the province of Santa Fe, to the east of the province of Córdoba and to the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. This airport is managed by the provincial government.

Passengers' terminal extends over a 3,000 sq. meter covered facility with different accesses for arrivals and departures to make passenger traffic easier. Three gates give direct access to runways.

Between 2012 and 2015, passengers flow increased by 140%, totaling in this past year 7,190 passengers between arrivals and departures.
PORT TERMINALS

The provincial port system coordinates and monitors the four public ports located in Reconquista, Santa Fe, Rosario and Villa Constitución. Also, there are more than twenty private terminals on the Parana.

The consolidation of a provincial port system is essential to the province. Santa Fe’s location gives it an unrivaled geographic and geopolitics projection on the Parana - Paraguay Waterway, with a riverfront extending along 850km. This system concentrates the 90% of the Argentine fluvial-maritime grains, oils and byproducts loading operations. Santa Fe is therefore strategically positioned regionally, nationally and internationally.
SANTA FE PORT

Located on km 584 on the Parana river, it is at the heart of the Parana -Paraguay Waterway. It is the final overseas port suitable for operations with ocean vessels. Its location makes it the appropriate link to join land, river and ocean transport hubs.

National domestic and international operations, as well as international maritime operations are carried out, for unitized, container-based and bulk cargo transportation.

It limits with the Santa Fe - Cordoba juncture to the south. Northwards, National Route 11 connects it with the city of Cordoba, just across Asuncion in Paraguay. In the East, it is the terminal point of National Route 18, which runs across Entre Ríos. In the West, it is the starting point for National Route 19 that reaches Cordoba, San Juan, San Luis, Mendoza and Chile. Finally, from the Northwest, through National Route 34, it is linked with Santiago del Estero and Tucuman.

The port has launched a “Port rehabilitation process”, aimed at adapting and modernizing its infrastructure to meet the needs of growing exports and imports.

ROSARIO PORT

On the Parana river, in the south of the province and 300km north of Buenos Aires, it is the industrial, commercial and financial most important hub in the country. It fosters local and regional productive development, given that it features a privileged position for the multimodal transport of Argentina and the Southern Cone. It acts as a fundamental portal for the entry and exit of cargo traffic since, through the bi-oceanic corridor, it connects Rosario with the Pacific through Cordoba and Cuyo to Valparaiso (Chile), and through the fixed connection to Victoria, with Brazil.

Terminal Puerto Rosario covers an area of 65 hectares and it renders both cargo and vessel services. It extends over a 1,620m-long docking area, lodging 30,000 sq. meters of warehouses for multiple cargos and 33km of railways. It offers storage and facilities in two terminals, “Terminal 1” and “Terminal 2 Norte / Sur”.

Rosario Port Authority (ENAPRO), created in 1994 and part of the provincial administration, is responsible for the management of the port. Rosario Port has consolidated as one of the main Government-run ports in the country. From there, 3 of the top shipping companies of the world render their regular-line service.

RECONQUISTA PORT

Located 12km away from the city, via national route A009. A raft is used to cross the Parana river, then, a boat service takes products to Soya.

The Reconquista Port relies on the Riacho San Jerónimo, at km 949 of the Parana river and 317km northwards from the capital of Santa Fe.

The docking area extends along 900m. The port area is 50m wide and includes a paved lane inside, plus 4.2 ha for storage. There are 4 warehouses, run by the Reconquista Port Authority (province of Santa Fe). Besides, the port includes tank-type silos for storing 1,500 m³ of crude vegetable oil.

Its main activities relate to cargo operations to the south of the province, including crude vegetable oil, expeller, pellets and oilseeds. Sand and stones for the construction industry are also operated from this port.

VILLA CONSTITUCION PORT

This port is located on km 367.5, on the right margin of the main navigation channel of the Parana river.

The port is accessed through a channel which is about 3,000 meters long; its depth is 32' free for navigation and is 70 meters wide. It also encompasses a zone of rada with a capacity of up to 5 anchoring of overseas vessels.

The communication between Villa Constitution and the Atlantic Ocean occurs through the navigation route formed by these tiers: Parana Inferior, Parana de la Palma, Rio de la Plata.

It consists of three port units: Unit I, II and III, physically apart from each other.

Currently, the port is managed by the Villa Constitution Port Authority and has two distinct areas: the northern zone, also called overseas and the southern or domestic area.
PARANA – PARAGUAY WATERWAY

The Parana – Paraguay Waterway is a 3,440km long system running along Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

From Santa Fe to Nueva Palmira there are deep navigable waters for barge trains pushed by towboats and large ocean vessels.

The waterway infrastructure provides for efficient and low-cost transport of cargo to global markets.

Many industrial poles located on the river bank benefit from this waterway giving rise to one of the most relevant export complexes worldwide.

Benefitting from 25 to 43 feet depth, a large number of private and state-owned port terminals export 75% of all the grain and byproducts and 58% of the oilseeds production.
BI-OCEANIC CORRIDORS

Three bi-oceanic corridors run through the province and linking Porto Alegre (Brazil) to Valparaíso (Chile), and São Paulo (Brazil) to Coquimbo (Chile).

These corridors use the road system that links localities, cities and towns through roads, highways and bridges allowing productive linkages, clusters formation by product or by industry, and bringing about technical and cultural centers that the province integrates to the entire Southern Cone through international agreements.

Santa Fe production can be shipped from Chilean ports and so can Chilean products be shipped to the European Union from ports on the Atlantic Ocean.

ATACALAR Committee together with other Argentine provinces and the Chilean region of Atacama; the Center Region with the provinces of Córdoba and Entre Ríos and the CRECENA (Regional Commission for the Littoral and Northeast Argentine Foreign Trade) that articulates with Brazil Southern States of Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina and Mato Grosso do Sul (CODESUL).
The province of Santa Fe understands that the provision of quality and accessible services to the population is essential to have a more efficient Government. The main services are in charge of companies in which the Provincial Government owns a majority stake, as Empresa Provincial de la Energía and Aguas Santafesinas.

It should be noted that the province is working hard on the development of alternative and renewable energies such as solar and wind power, and those based on biomass and biogas.
WATER SUPPLY

Aguas Santafesinas supplies drinking water to 60% of the provincial population in 15 localities. The 348 remaining localities, that is 40% of the population, had no quality water until 2008.

A strategic decision was made: to design and build eleven water supply systems. Raw water is captured and pumped to facilities that then distribute and ensure proper quality water.

Currently, six water supply systems are under execution, Acueducto del Norte, Acueducto Centro-Oeste Santafesino, Acueducto del Gran Rosario, Acueducto Desvío Arijón, Acueducto Reconquista, Acueducto San Javier.
ACUEDUCTO DEL NORTE (NORESTE – VILLA ANA WATER INTAKE)

It features a treatment plant in Villa Ana. Water is pumped, distributed and stored following the needs of consumption centers located in the area.

Pipelines were designed considering potential water demand for cattle raising in periods of drought. Thus, the infrastructure planned, funded and implemented by the provincial government not only aims at the satisfaction of basic needs, but also at stimulating the regional economic development in terms of production, with the final goal to achieve an integral development of the provincial territory.

ACUEDUCTO CENTRO - OESTE SANTAFEÑO (MONJE WATER INTAKE)

The water intake is on the Coronda River, in Monje and it supplies 12 different locations in the center west of the province of Santa Fe (Monje, Díaz, San Genaro, Las Rosas, Centeno, Classon, Los Cardos, Montes de Oca, Bouquet, Totoras, María Susana and Las Parejas).

It runs along 240km. The Totoras - Salto Grande section is already under execution.

The Centro Oeste Water Supply System is operated by Aguas Santafesinas S.A. This company manages water capturing, treatment and the conveying of treated water to the communities that, in turn, supply water to their inhabitants through cooperatives or community distribution networks.

ACUEDUCTO DEL GRAN ROSARIO (SUR II - GRANADERO BAIGORRIA WATER INTAKE)

It runs along 37km and supplies drinking water to users in the west and southeast of Rosario. The Water Treatment Plant, whose first phase opened in 2015 after just 18 months of works, ensures a supply of good drinking water, benefiting more than one million of Santa Fe inhabitants.

ACUEDUCTO DESVÍO ARIJÓN (NORTE I – DESVÍO ARIJÓN WATER INTAKE)

The first stage, already completed, included a water intake dock, a treatment plant, storage reservoirs and water branches to supply water to Desvío Arijón, Sauce Viejo and Santo Tomé.

The second stage will add a main pipeline to pump water to Rafaela and Sunchales.

ACUEDUCTO SAN JAVIER (VILLA MINETTI - EL NOCHERO SECTION)

Flows derivation from the Salado River is projected, taking untreated water from the south dam in the town of Villa Minetti, through pipelines and subsequent re-pumping to the existing dams at Km 421 and in the towns of Santa Margarita and The Nochero.

The Villa Minetti - El Nochero Section has been divided into three phases (called "A", "B" and "C"), which are bid separately. The total length of the system between the two towns is approximately 45km.

RECONQUISTA WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM (NORESTE II - RECONQUISTA WATER INTAKE)

It runs along 350km. The first stage is currently in progress and will supply drinking water to 100,000 people residing in Reconquista and Avellaneda.

ACUEDUCTO SAN JAVIER (VILLA MINETTI - EL NOCHERO SECTION)
Aguas Santafesinas S.A. (ASSA) is a corporation that operates under the Commercial Societies Law. With 51% of the company shares, the Government of Santa Fe controls the company. Municipalities own 39% of the shares and the remaining 10% is owned by the company’s employees through the Stock Ownership Program.

Its mission is to provide drinking water and sewage systems to fifteen cities in the province of Santa Fe. ASSA was granted temporary authorization to operate the Centro Oeste Water Supply System in order to supply and distribute potable water to the municipalities and/or cooperatives in 12 different localities.

On the other hand, it is responsible for the work of the Gran Rosario Water Supply System, which in its first phase improves the supply of drinking water to users of towns in the north of Rosario, Granadero Baigorria and Captain Bermudez.

ASSA supplies potable water through 327 operators, including about 125 water cooperatives, 23 municipalities, 170 communes and 4 mutual societies, civil and neighborhood associations.
NATURAL GAS

Litoral Gas SA is a private-funded company that distributes natural gas over the former Gas del Estado area in the province of Santa Fe, and a certain area of the province of Buenos Aires. It serves over 700,000 customers in 88 different localities. Its infrastructure includes 2,000km of high-pressure pipelines, 10,000km of distribution networks and 200 regulation chambers. Also, there are 19 gas sub-distributors working at the provincial level, one for each locality, as cooperative enterprises in services or joint-stock companies with majorly municipal or communal Government participation.

The Santa Fe Gas y Energias Renovables company has been created based on the project passed by the provincial legislature. This company under the SAPEM modality will provide services and will distribute gas through pipelines and networks in all the provincial territory.

On the other hand, the Government is working on the expansion of the network of pipelines, reaching even small towns, with the clear objective of strengthening the industrial development of the province.

ELECTRICITY

EPE, the provincial power utility ranks third among national distributors. It currently serves more than 1,000,000 users across 101,000km2. It has 96 AT/MT transforming stations and more than 19,000 MT/BT transforming stations. It operates and maintains more than 2,000km of high-voltage lines, almost 30,000km of mid-voltage lines and more than 17,000km of low-voltage lines, with an installed power of about 3,000 MW and an energy supply of about 10,536 GWh annually.

Furthermore, some companies located in the province have their own generators. Distribution is enhanced by 60 power cooperatives that supply their own communities.
RENEWABLE ENERGIES

Santa Fe has a high solar radiation, areas with strong winds, high production of biomass, and water courses, which means it has excellent natural resources for the exploitation of renewable energy projects. The province is already developing an environment sustainability policy that considers energy as a strategic issue.

BIOMASS RESOURCES:

Santa Fe economy is based on agricultural production and manufacturing processing. Agriculture waste that can convert to a useful form of energy is available in every provincial region. Furthermore, milk production also produces ag waste that can easily convert to electrical or thermal power with biogas-based power plants.

Santa Fe has large areas dedicated to crops for liquid, solid and gas-based biofuel production, thanks to the relevant crop management and genetics knowledge available and applied to increase yield.

WIND RESOURCES:

The entire territory of the province has the potential for low-voltage wind power generation. According to private data, the south of the province has a great potential for high-voltage wind power generation. Therefore, four towers for wind measurement have been installed at several points, at 35 and 70 meters of height for a more detailed study of this resource. A project is currently in progress to install 25MW of wind power in Rufino.

WATER RESOURCES:

The Paranoa River, natural provincial border, runs along over 800km, which add to the 1,000km of affluents and interior rivers. The Carcaraña river has 3 waterfalls which are used for power generation; one of them is currently working. Different pre-feasibility studies are being carried out to establish power generation projects based on river dams, always taking care of the environment.

SOLAR RESOURCES:

Average daily horizontal exposure to sunlight is 4.5 kWh/m2. Santa Fe is building its first photovoltaic plant of 1 MWp in the town of San Lorenzo. 15 kWp photovoltaic generators have been installed in Santa Fe and Rosario government headquarters, as well as water pumping systems run by solar energy. On the other hand, the province is currently measuring its solar resource throughout the territory in order to foster the development of new projects.
04

PRODUCTION
Santa Fe’s geography has provided for a sound, dynamic economy based on agriculture and manufacturing. With a vast environmental diversity, good climate and strategic geographical location, Santa Fe offers many productive possibilities.
4.1 FARMING PRODUCTION

AGRICULTURE

Located in the most fertile region of Argentina, Santa Fe contributes 21% to the total grain production. The main crops are wheat, corn, sorghum, sunflower and soybean. Soybean accounts for 60% of the total grain volume produced in the province, followed by corn and wheat. Besides regional crops, flaxseed, barley, rice, cotton and sugar cane are also grown, as well as vegetables and fruits, especially strawberries.

RANCHING

Cattle raising is also crucial for Santa Fe economy. Approximately 6 million hectares are dedicated to pasture grazed cattle. With over 7.5 million heads, it is the second beef producer and the first exporter of beef products. Main breeds of cattle are: Hereford, Brangus, Branford and Aberdeen Angus.
4.2

INDUSTRIES

Santa Fe is located in one of the regions that concentrates most of the manufacturing in the country. Santa Fe industrial GDP represents 8.99% of the national manufacturing total. Santa Fe offers a sound infrastructure with railroad lines, roads, highways and ports. The Parana - Paraguay Waterway as well as national highways that connect the province with Buenos Aires and Cordoba provide excellent connectivity.

Farm machinery is manufactured in the south center. Population density in the area provides skilled labor, financial services and a large market. There are oil distilleries, petrochemical companies, meat processing plants, textiles, plastic and car manufactures as well as footwear and furniture.

To the center-west we find food and metal working plants. The west features dynamic production, including milk, dairy products, car parts, wood and leather furniture, as well as food processing equipment and metal works for industrial uses.

Agro industrial facilities are mostly located in the north. For the most part, agriculture based raw materials, oils, beef, cotton and sugar.
The largest oilseed complex worldwide is located in Santa Fe: crushing, storing and pre-shipping operations. Most of the facilities are around the port terminals on the Parana River. There are 22 different plants, that is 40% of Argentina’s oil crushers that represent 80% of the national crushing capacity.

First producer and exporter of vegetable oils, Santa Fe concentrates 90% of the country’s total. Soybean oil crushing exceeded 4.6 million tons. There was a record production in 2015, up 11%, inter annually. Santa Fe is the second largest cotton producer, 27% of the country’s total and 160,000 hectares planted in the 2013/2014 growing season.
There are 27 flour mills, mainly located in the center and the south of the province; milling capacity ranges from 40 to 500 tons. Installed crushing capacity is 4,176 tons per day that is 18% of the country total. Rice is grown in the eastern part of the province with yields of up to 5,285 kg/ha (third in the country). Rice represents 9% of the country’s total.

Milk production is concentrated in the center west, the largest milk producing region in Latin America. First milk producer in the country with 42% of the country’s total. Over 1,200,000 heads of dairy cattle, 32% of the total, in dairy farms. Main breeds are: Holstein, 90% of the heads, and Jersey, the remaining 10%.

4,300 dairy farms, that is 46% of the country’s total that exploit 1,500 hectares and produce more than 2.6 billion liters of milk. The Dairy Agreement gives a proper framework for implementing innovation, bringing new tools and developing new policies.
There are 7.5 million heads in Santa Fe; 4.5% concentrated in the north. Killing represents 17% of the country’s total, that is 2 million heads that produce 420,000 tons of beef and 40% of the country’s income. Beef exports are 160,000 tons, processed in 41 facilities located in 15 different departments.

Pork killing contributes 24% to the country’s total, 1 million heads. Poultry killing comes third in the country, with a total of 38 million birds.

There is a strong presence of car part companies in Santa Fe, located in the south and center-west of the province, representing 44% of the country’s total. Main products are: shock absorbers, hydraulic hoses, cross tubes, pumps, exhausts and valves. A leading car manufacturer has a modern industrial site in the province, producing 135,000 units a year, that is USD 350 million.
First producer of farm machinery with 343 plants, 45% of the national production. Mainly harvesters, combines, planters, tractors and sprayers. The province also houses about one hundred manufacturers of food industry equipment which sell their production to food and beverage companies.

Forest production processing offers great potentiality. Cost and availability of raw material are good, excellent natural conditions for industry expansion, the province features native and planted forests.

The industry currently comprises a number of small and mid-size companies, for the most part (90%) family-owned with a multiplying impact on employment (7 employees/unit, on average). A very dynamic and representative production pole of furniture is located in the south of Santa Fe, 16% of 450 national companies, concentrated in Cañada de Gomez and Esperanza. Santa Fe is the second largest producer of paper pulp and paper in the country; it concentrates 20% of the installed capacity.
Several facilities produce sulphuric acid, aluminium sulphate, carbon sulphide and low density polyethilene. Agrochemicals have been booming, especially fertilizers; animal health products exports are in great demand.

The oldest petrochemical complex in the country is in Santa Fe, specifically in San Lorenzo, Puerto General San Martin and General Lagos. Seven companies, mainly international corporations, represent 14% of the installed capacity in Argentina.

The San Lorenzo complex produces over 80% of the country’s total of ethylene, polyethylene and polipropylene. Sole producers of 8 petrochemical products are located here: Phthalic anhydride, NBR and SBR rubber, styrene, glycol ethers, ethylenoxide and carbon disulphide.

Santa Fe houses one of the largest steelmakers in the country. It employs 2,000 people and produces 260,000 annual tons of hot rolled steel and 72,000 annual tons of cold drawn products. Foundries and roll mills located in the center of the province supply raw material to the metalworking companies.

Santa Fe is a leading biodiesel producer, one of the largest in the country. The province features 50% of the national facilities and 80% of the production capacity. Biodiesel sales to foreign markets account to almost 6% of the provincial exports.

Ten of the eleven largest terminals are located in the province, as well as six of the small ones. Santa Fe has the two only refined glycerine facilities of the country. The capacity of the biodiesel terminals located in the province is 3.6 tons/year.
4.3 PRODUCTION PLATFORMS

INDUSTRIAL AREAS AND PARKS

There are six industrial parks and 34 recognized industrial areas that provide dedicated infrastructure and basic services to reduce investment and operation costs. They promote the location of new facilities as well as the expansion and modernization of existing ones while fostering an adequately planned location, taking care of the environment and urban centers; encouraging integration and complementariness of industrial activities.

FREE TRADE ZONE

Santa Fe Free Trade Zone is located in Villa Constitución, on the right bank of the Parana River. 57 hectares of fiscal land and 674 meters along the shoreline on the Parana river to promote industrial activities and international trade.

Fiscal, customs and operational advantages; excellent location, accessibility and connectivity with the most dynamic productive cores that integrate the Center Region with the north of the province of Buenos Aires. First-class, strategic location on the Parana-Paraguay Waterway to have fast, easy connection with Mercosur and sea ports, along the bioceanic corridor that links Valparaiso in Chile with Porto Alegre or Sao Paulo in Brazil or with Montevideo in Uruguay.
4.4

Foreign Trade

Provincial exports amount to USD 12,622 million (2015), that is 21.3% of the country’s total. An average annual growth higher than the national media in the past ten year period.

Main exports include dairy and beef products, vegetable oils and protein meals, milling products, farm machinery, equipment for the food industry, cars and car parts, wood furniture, steel bars, leather products and footwear, textiles and foods.
Eleven countries represent 53% of sales: India (9.19%), China (8.9%) Brazil (6.12%), Vietnam (5.56%), Indonesia (3.79%), Egypt (3.59%), Venezuela (3.50%), Malaysia (3.17%), Spain (3.1%) and USA (0.95%).

74.3% of Santa Fe exports are agriculture manufactured products, 74% of the total, that is 8,218 million US dollars, from January to October, 2015.

Primary products represent 14.9%, industrial products 10.25%, that is 10,134 USD million. Fuels and energy represent 45% of the total exports.

Santa Fe is key in soybean crushing, 86.3% in 2015. The main export is soy bean and soy pellets, a total of 2,764.9 million dollars in 2015 first semester.

The Rosario San Lorenzo terminals ship 65% of the total national grain production, 85% of vegetable oils and 55% of the total export volume.
05

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTIVE INNOVATION
The provincial Government is determined to position Santa Fe into the knowledge society. To such end, it has defined the priority lines of R&D&I and has assigned proper hierarchy to the institutional structures responsible for science, technology and productive innovation.

Public policies in this area cut across the provincial strategic planning, since they have different and positive impacts on citizens. Most of the initiatives presented herein are part of the Provincial Strategic Plan - Vision 2030 and are now a reality for all Santa Fe
SANTA FE: A KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION PRODUCING AREA

5.1

The interdependent institutional structure of the province of Santa Fe has consolidated over the years, strengthened and recreated by the formidable challenges of development in the knowledge society. Tertiary education institutions and universities provide qualifications in various disciplines as do research and development institutes and centers in areas of traditional knowledge and technology frontiers; micro, small and medium innovative enterprises are engaged in traditional and knowledge-intensive activities.

The academic, scientific and technological activity is mainly concentrated on the cities of Santa Fe and Rosario, and extends along the provincial territory through a network of educational institutions, technology centers and development agencies.

THE INSTITUTIONAL FABRIC OF KNOWLEDGE

UNIVERSITIES

Public universities with distance learning facilities across the province: National University of Rosario (UNR), National University of the Littoral (UNL), National Technological University (UTN), with campuses in Rosario, Santa Fe, Rafaela, Reconquista and Venado Tuerto plus the recently created National University of Rafaela (UNRA).

Private universities with campuses in different regions and cities across the province.

TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENTIFIC CENTERS (CCT) reporting to the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET): CCT Rosario and CCT Santa Fe.

INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTES (INTI AND INTA), reporting to the National Government, with research centers and experimental stations in different regions within the Province: INTI Santa Fe, INTI Las Parejas, INTI Reconquista, INTA Rafaela, INTA INTA Reconquista and INTA Olivos.

TECHNOLOGY LINKING UNITS (UVT) serving provincial micro, small and mid-size companies.
Since 2008, this program has been working for the promotion of scientific, technological and innovation activities to fund innovation proposals for production, research and development. This instrument fosters the linkage of scientific-technological, productive and governmental systems. It is based on a strategic vision: streamlining the provincial system of innovation by incorporating knowledge and adding value to enterprises and public and private institutions.

It focuses on three main areas:

INNOVATION-BASED PRODUCTION
It aims at strengthening the productive profile of the province. It favors the incorporation of new knowledge, developments and innovations in order to enhance competitiveness both in the province and in the region.

APPRECIATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE
Aimed at favoring postgraduate training and knowledge production in areas of provincial interest.

INNOVATIVE STATE
It is targeted to solve several important problems that require the incorporation of scientific and technological knowledge to better the provincial administration.

The programs are carried out through a wide range of non-refundable instruments and contributions from counterpart or beneficiaries. These programs are intended for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, individuals, entrepreneurs, researchers and research groups, R&D centers and institutes.
5.3 TECHNOLOGICAL AREAS AND PARKS

A technology pole is a set of technological industries, usually accompanied by educational and research institutions. Its main objective is to bring university, research and industry together to promote the development of local solutions with state-of-the-art technology, by both offering new professionals to the industries and by generating career opportunities for the human capital graduating from educational institutions.

The provincial scientific and technological system offers the services of technological areas and parks, as well as modern and sophisticated laboratories and research centers to industries, universities and research institutes.

LITTORAL CENTRO TECHNOLOGICAL PARK (PTLC)

Based on the city of Santa Fe (Region 3), the PTLC offers the proper infrastructure and the services required at each stage of development of any business idea or project that innovative people may have. Entrepreneurs are also offered a business incubator, pre-setting companies containers and sites for their setting-up.

Entrepreneurs also have access to advice on business topics provided by experts in legal, accounting and financial matters as well as in sales, markets and corporate image that add to a security and confidentiality system that protects the know-how of the undertaking.

Furthermore, the PTLC facilitates the management and administration of enterprises, identifying and formulating R&D projects, making technological transfers and providing technical assistance to entrepreneurs, small, mid-sized and large companies.

NORTE SANTAFESEÑO TECHNOLOGICAL AREA

It is located in Reconquista (Region 1) in the north of the province. Region 1 has a dense network of knowledge and innovation institutions, such as the National University of the Littoral, the National Technological University and the Rafaela Regional College, plus the Industrial Park of Reconquista, key players in the genesis of this pole.

This technological area represents a hallmark initiative for the innovative development of a region with a historical productive background. It promotes scientific research, technology transfer, technological innovation, increased productivity, regional competitiveness and quality jobs.

ROSARIO TECHNOLOGICAL AREA

Located in Rosario (Region 4), Rosario Technological Pole is a technology development complex that partners with companies, universities and the administration. It is an international referent in scientific development and innovation.

Its main goals are promoting, facilitating and fostering the growth and export potential of technology-based companies and to encourage the settlement of technological parks and company incubators. It is also intended to strengthen education in technological areas, to foster science-corporate links and to promote technology-based companies processes and products.
5.4

ZONE i

It is an initiative fostered by the provincial Government since 2012, along with the Rosario Technological Pole and the Municipality of Rosario.

It drives collaborative innovation dynamics to produce scientific and education technologies and activities, as well as generating quality employment for the youth. It extends over five hectares in the Rosario Node Technological Area, where most technology-based companies, entrepreneurs and knowledge institutions are located. It opens opportunities to improve regional competitiveness, social inclusion and high-quality employment generation.

“Zone i” also encompasses an educational and technical-scientific area, focused on promoting and developing entrepreneurial and highly-professional skills, articulating initiatives with schools, institutes, research centers and universities. Such initiatives favor knowledge democratization and digital inclusion of children and youths, giving access to quality employment and adding high-level knowledge to the companies.
5.5  

**RIO PARANA AQUARIUM**

It is an initiative promoted by the Government of the province of Santa Fe since 2012, together with the Rosario Technological Park and the Municipality of Rosario.

Based on the joint efforts of the provincial Government and the Municipality of Rosario, it is aimed at recovering an unheeded place to create an innovative social and citizen space. The Aquarium will put the knowledge, scientific and technological developments at the service of the construction of a more harmonious relationship between man and their environment, contributing to the process of social, cultural, economic and environmentally sustainable development of Rosario and the region.

The Aquarium is seen as a center for promoting the social appropriation strategies and for disseminating the knowledge of the river ecosystem. The scientific-technological dimension will include investigations aimed at establishing the bases for the sustainable management of the river natural resources.

5.6  

**PROVINCIAL AGENCY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

The ASaCTel (acronym in Spanish) is a strategic initiative set by the provincial administration in 2013. It relies on the co-management of the scientific sector, the productive sector and the Provincial Administration, whose aim is to promote the social and productive development of Santa Fe, encouraging the generation of the knowledge required for its permanent transformation.

It is a key tool for the promotion of science, technology and innovation in a province that is advancing soundly determined to promote a scientific and productive development of high competitiveness and added value, whose social impact would improve the quality of life of the whole province.

In addition, it drives the development of skills and the consolidation of support infrastructure in areas of interest, which are essential for the local and global insertion of Santa Fe in the coming decades.

Annually, the Agency calls for two lines of financing:

**INNOVATION ECONOMY**: It supports the development of technological solutions required by companies.

It aims at strengthening and expanding the technological capabilities of the provincial productive system through the development of technological solutions that incorporate innovations into products and production processes, including beneficiary companies with the ability to innovate and with a strategic vision of the technological solutions to implement.
HIGHLY-COMPLEX TECHNOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT: Support for the scientific research and the technology transfer to the social-productive system.

It aims at strengthening and expanding the capabilities of the Provincial Science, Technology and Innovation System, of technology transfer and/or technological services to production.

It may include beneficiary institutions, either public or private, from the science, technology and innovation system.

The first call was in 2014, 17 different projects were funded: 12 from the productive innovation line and 5 from the incorporation of highly-complex equipment for the development of new knowledge and the transfer of technology and/or the provision of services to the provincial productive fabric.

The second call was in 2015, 39 different projects were funded: 23 for the productive innovation line and 16 for the Technological Equipment Incorporation.

The consolidation of Santa Fe as a center of knowledge and innovation requires proper insertion in the international circuits of knowledge production and generation of innovative and high-value technologies.

The internationalization of the science, technology and innovation system of the province of Santa Fe is driven by its local research and development centers and their peers located in different parts of the world. It aims at leveraging various association systems to assist the scientific community of Santa Fe in the development of new skills and new ways of interacting, promoting the access to the strategic knowledge of specialized communities.
06 HEALTH CARE
The Province of Santa Fe considers health as a right inherent to all human beings, built on solidarity and in a collective manner. A comprehensive and participatory reform of the health care system is under way; material and human resources will contribute to the consolidation of an efficient system.

The Integrated Health Care System strengthens the public sector and articulates with all available assets in the territory. It aims at avoiding gaps in the continuity of care by establishing coordination mechanisms with the various sub-sectors of health care while guaranteeing public participation.

The system is based on universality, gratuity, equality, participation and comprehensiveness principles. It aims at ensuring the promotion, treatment and rehabilitation of health in the province, solving each case at the appropriate level of complexity. This reform of the health care system is accompanied by an infrastructure investment policy, organized on three types of devices and implemented throughout the province: health care centers, high-complexity outpatient centers and multipurpose hospitals.
6.2 NEW HEALTH CARE STRUCTURES

The paradigm is progressive care within a primary health care strategy. Progressive services mean organizing hospital care and allied services based on patients’ needs, so that they can receive medical attention in time, at the relevant level of complexity and in the facility best suited to their clinical condition. There are three types of devices implemented throughout the province:

- **Primary health care** includes a network of 82 health care centers (79 already opened and 3 in progress).
- **High Complexity Ambulatory Care** is the second level; the goal is to have the Center of Ambulatory Medical Specialties in the city of Santa Fe (execution is 50% complete so far) to complement the Center of Ambulatory Medical Specialties of Rosario, already equipped and open to the public.
- **Multipurpose hospitals**, with medium and high diagnostic and treatment capabilities represent the third level of health care. Four facilities of medium complexity are in San Cristobal, Las Parejas and Las Toscas, opened in 2009, 2011 and 2012, respectively, and five more of high complexity in Santa Fe, Reconquista, Venado Tuerto, Rosario and Rafaela (all under construction).
The provincial health care system includes the Laboratorio Industrial Farmacéutico (LIF) that produces and provides pharmaceutical products and health care services with the goal of improving living standards, guaranteeing quality and efficiency and contributing to greater accessibility. A state-owned society, its primary goal is the local production of medicines. Its operational and technological capacity places the laboratory in a highly competitive position worldwide. This laboratory produces 64% of the drug units used in the Public Health Care System and 94% of the drug units used in primary health care, supplying to approximately 1.5 million people.

The LIF is part of a network of facilities for the public production of drugs, together with the Laboratorio de Especialidades Medicinales of the Municipality of Rosario, the National University of Rosario (UNR) and the National University of the Littoral (UNL). These universities are responsible for the research and development of new drug formulations, the study of existing formulas and specific quality controls and tests used on the production of the LIF. Since 2008, 600 million pills and tablets have been produced to supply 7,000 facilities across the country.
Training courses and continuous improvement initiatives are implemented to reinforce the capacities of the system. Many are framed by an agreement signed with the OMS through the PanAmerican Health Organization, aimed at improving public health care in the province. 450 health workers were trained in 2015 and over 1,000 publications were distributed. New softwares are being developed to integrate and manage health information in real time, which will provide greater efficiency.

**NEW CAPABILITIES**

**INDICATORS**

Indicators clearly show good results derived from the health care reform: Child mortality was reduced for the third consecutive year: 9.7/1000 of live births; mortality rate by age-adjusted causes dropped from 214,67%000 in 2007 to 168,39%000 in 2013 in cardiovascular diseases; tumors dropped from 157,50%000 in 2007 to 149,27%000 in 2013.

Furthermore, physicians per 1,000 people increased from 42.72 in 2008 to 50.35 in 2014. The formal health care system includes 17,040 beds in 2,031 facilities, 767 in the public, free of charge health care system and 1,264 in the private sector. In 2008, 272 dental health facilities existed but in 2014, they were 429, 57.7% up thanks to the addition of 157 new facilities.
07
EDUCATION
The Santa Fe government, in line with principles agreed upon with citizens residing in the province when drafting the Provincial Strategic Plan, 2030 Vision, understands that education is a humanizing task that promotes emancipation and freedom, that builds social and cultural conditions through active participation in order to found coexistence and life in democracy. Furthermore, education prioritizes equal opportunities for students to have access, permanency, learning, and graduation.

Therefore, the provincial education policy is based on three pillars: social and educational inclusion, education quality, and the school as a social institution. These three concepts are interrelated and interdependent; both in theory and in practice they become articulated and coherent aspects of our understanding of the educational task and challenge. The plans and programs implemented in the province always focus on:

1. planning, articulation, and education research
2. comprehensive policy for teaching
3. inclusive and quality educational careers
4. innovation for educational quality
5. strategies for institutional quality
6. comprehensive training for citizenship and employment
In 2010, literacy rate of residents over the age of 10 was 98.2%; school attendance rate for 5 year-old was 96%, for 6 to 12 year-old, 99% and for 13 to 17 year-old, 84%.

Out of 764,509 students registered in 2014, 49.4% go to primary schools, 29.1% to secondary education, 14.3% attend first level university education and 7.2% higher non-university education, 70% up from last census data.

There are about 150,000 college students and 60,000 third level education students.

There are four public, free of charge national universities and nine private universities. There are over 4,800 educational facilities housed in about 3,100 buildings with 895,000 students. Education modalities include technical and professional education, art education, special education, continuing education for young people and adults, rural education and bilingual, inter-cultural education. Across the province, there are 621 initial education facilities, 1,780 primary schools, 865 secondary schools, 144 higher education institutions, 144 special education facilities and 853 for adult education.
Official cultural policies provide a solid structure that enables individual and collective development. The different initiatives aim at renovating and properly programming cultural infrastructures in Santa Fe. The re-functionalization of spaces in different locations is being promoted to offer a cultural project with a more balanced approach throughout the territory.

Public spaces are designed to reinforce citizens’ involvement, to advance access to equal opportunities, to foster integration, creativity and play. Cultural industries play a key role; they facilitate the production of goods, provide a conceptual framework where cultural assets may be generated, transformed and presented.
The Government of the Province of Santa Fe considers public cultural infrastructure as an essential element to foster citizenship. To such end, new spaces have been created in order to promote creation, intervention, innovation, transformation and appropriation of culture.

8.1 CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

LA REDONDA, EVERY DAY LIFE AND ART

Built in an old railway workshop, this transformed space now houses art events. La Redonda, together with El Molino, Fabrica Cultural and La Esquina Encendida make up the Tryptic of Imagination.

La Redonda, Everyday Life and Art, links the railway world and the history of Santa Fe, with an inclusive and innovative proposal that leads visitors of all ages into a world of art, imagination and construction.

La Redonda is a place that gathers different performances of the most diverse disciplines (drama, music, dance, films and audiovisual arts, exhibitions), as well as a space for the organization of events, cultural forums and conferences.
Shaped in one of the most iconic buildings in the city of Santa Fe, it was designed, thought and transformed into a public space to foster and house the encounter of citizens, to offer access to a deep, complex materiality.

Distribution is supported by different materials and stems from a process of original creation that contributes and encourages emotional and social bonds.

It is a proposal that combines creation and production. It aims at being a center for training, experimentation and research in the forms of the matter and in the art of living.

The cultural factory seeks the articulation of special programs for teachers, university students and senior citizens, intergenerational, experiential and recreational programs for all ages.
ESQUINA ENCENDIDA (THE LIT CORNER)

This is a space for social, cultural and sports activities. A meeting point for citizens’ involvement, learnings, creation and peaceful coexistence.

The pedagogical approach invites to experience multiple languages in workshops and activities targeted to all ages, to intersect expressions and disciplines: bodies in motion circus, aerial silk acrobatics, trapeze, juggling, Chinese pole, salsa, folk, tango, hip hop, puppets, theater, yoga.

Cultural factory: carpentry, informatics, pallets recovery, cinema, choir performances, graphic design, patterns and weaving looms, sketching, pattern and fashion design, graffiti and mural painting.

Sports and recreation: gym, recreational games, volleyball, walk and running, physical activities for children, basic gymnastics, women and mixed-gender football.

Camping and swimming pool, rehearsal rooms, factory of cultural objects and mini entrepreneurial activities, concerts and show programming.

EL CAIRO, PUBLIC MOVIE THEATER

Located in Rosario, it is run by the Ministry of Innovation and Culture of the province of Santa Fe. After its restoration, this is the first public movie theater in the province. Targeted to all types of audiences, it focuses on democratizing access to audiovisual cultural assets by showing a great variety of films.

Its programming offers a virtual and face-to-face dialog of legitimated and alternative productions, narratives that involve audiovisual languages. It is a public meeting space that brings into play different disciplines, languages, expressions and forms of communication.
The Ministry of Innovation and Culture restored this emblematic building to offer cultural activities that, from Rosario, charm people from all over the province.

The Plataforma Lavarden features two basements, six floors, a beautiful terrace and a wonderful theater hall, all transformed to house community projects as well as training and learning workshops.

Thought as a myriad of unconnected spaces, this heritage building was restored as a response to cultural and educational needs, based on cross-cutting themes such as ideas, bodies, words and images.
8.2

CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

Santa Fe offers a well-coordinated structure that ensures access, circulation and accessibility of high-quality cultural goods, multiple languages, media in different formats and support media, creating systems of incentive, support to artists, content production and a network of powerful and creative circuits in the territory.

Books, discs, computer productions, cultural and educational television shows, designs in the field of objects, costumes, landscapes, images and sound are reproducible cultural goods that receive provincial support by providing the means for their development and circulation.

ESPACIO SANTAFESINO

Created to stimulate the production of culture-based industries in the province, it fosters initiatives that result in reproducible cultural assets.

Opened in 2008, has since made seven calls for proposals; 1,158 cultural initiatives were submitted by producers, artists and creators from the five regions.

Over 100 selected projects have already come true: books and recorded music, new bands’ demos and videos, motion pictures, TV series, Web pages, multimedia and design projects. Seventy different initiatives are in progress run and led by teams integrated by people who live and work in Santa Fe.

SEÑAL SANTA FE (TV CHANNEL)

Its goal is the production of audiovisual content to share the memory, history and culture of Santa Fe.

The program Señal Santa Fe has provided a space for audiovisual creation and citizen participation devoted to the development of cultural television contents that multiply the images, voices, work and aspirations of all residents of Santa Fe.
09
TOURISM
Santa Fe history, people, natural resources, infrastructure and production have resulted in the development and diversification of tourism services.
The province offers 300,220 hotel beds, 69% in Rosario, 22% in Santa Fe and 9% in Rafaela.

In 2015, 750,000 domestic and international tourists visited the province, mainly Rosario (71%), Santa Fe (20%) and Rafaela (9%).
(Data from January to October 2015)

THE SHORELINE

Santa Fe shoreline is ideal when you want relax and recreation on the beautiful landscape offered by the Parana River. Fishing expeditions, wildlife photography and horse riding in the islands, relax in the spas, log cabins and natural reserves along the 702km shore.

In 2010, the National Congress created the Santa Fe Islands National Park: eight islands, 2,900 hectares on the Parana river, 65km north of Rosario. The Parana delta is a wetland featuring one of the largest biodiversities in the world and a clear representative of the Parana-Paraguay system.
Immigrants from all over the world have come to the province and imprinted their traditions and culture, generation after generation. Native traditions and the colorful mixture created by immigration are celebrated across the provincial geography: cotton, wheat, milk, barbecue, strawberry, peanut, cheese have their own festival, as well as immigration, horses, cattle branding, the amarillo, Island dwellers, horse taming, beer and Swiss folk. True and live evidence of the willingness to care for traditions and history. The Foreign Communities Festival, celebrated in Rosarito, is the most appealing in the country: 1,000,000 visitors every year.
RURAL TOURISM

The Milk Route is a wonderful circuit to discover the largest milk producing region in South America. Rural towns add their lively views and customs that make it a major tourist attraction. The combination of men and environment is reflected in the ranches, inns and pulperias (traditional bars).
URBAN TOURISM

Santa Fe and Rosario offer diverse tourism services: good and modern hotels, culture, nightlife and dining options that attract many visitors. Furthermore, both cities feature excellent venues for conferences, business meetings, conventions and big sports events or music concerts. Their urban design has shaped two very attractive cities.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL TOURISM

The Spanish colonization has left indelible cultural marks in the province. The Santa Fe La Vieja Ruins is a must-go archeological park, as well as the Campo de la Gloria in San Lorenzo, that commemorates a significant battle, the only one that Jose de San Martin fought against the Spanish army in Argentine soil. The Tannin Route, in the north of the province, gives visitors the opportunity to learn about the people involved in forestry.
Santa Fe and Rosario are among the top ten cities in Argentina that host international conventions and conferences. Rosario ranks fourth in Argentina, in the International Congress and Convention Association’s ranking.

The 2014 Rally Dakar set off from Rosario, acknowledging the city as a tourist destination in the country, as well as in the province. The Rally Dakar organization brought back the competition to Rosario in 2015 and 2016.

Rosario also hosted different sports events, including the 12th Women’s Hockey World Cup (2010) and the 2014 World Roller Speed Skating Championship.
**PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES**

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<tbody>
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