

The growing prominence of the appropriation of the *human rights-based approach* to Paraguay's territorial inequalities

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INTRODUCTION

We are faced with a national scenario of disadvantaged communities, not only in the interior of the Republic, but also in the metropolitan periphery of Greater Asunción; whose ethnocultural components, different from the social homogenization of the capital, as well as the implication of cultural factors that affect the female population, largely mark the situation of vulnerability and social risk of exclusion in the face of the opportunities for development of the current system. The existing social inequalities configure spaces of differentiated social development, at the same time that they feed each other, making it necessary to have a territorial development that takes into account the action of these social groups and their forms of cultural relations.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The research has a qualitative approach, using an observational and correlational method of the study and analysis variables (territorial inequalities, gender perspective, human rights-based approach). Sources of information come from international development cooperation projects, as well as national public policies, and from project and programme progress reports, such as their evaluations. Data collection is carried out both in the offices responsible for the projects to be analysed and in the organisations that manage and centralise them. The data processing and analysis techniques are based on the detailed study of the projects and reports analyzed and on the comparison of variables and their monitoring in each of them, detailing them, to see the trajectory of these HRBA concepts in each context and their mode of institutionalization. application and social appropriation.

Among the strategies for exposing the results are the dissemination of the Executive Summary and the final report of the research in the format of a scientific article to give it greater dissemination and online access, in the Open Access modality.

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RESULTS

Based on the *Human Rights-Based Approach*, poverty and territorial inequalities are considered, not only as a lack of resources, but also as a lack of rights and their social awareness on the part of the recipients of the policies and projects to be addressed. This approach has two aspects of actors involved; on the one hand, the disadvantaged social communities that are the recipients of these rights; On the other hand, the institutional actors and their policies and development plans are responsible for meeting the needs that these rights require.

Among the limitations that affect this application are the need for public policies that provide material content to these Rights (not only the first generation, but also the second and third), and make them available to the community and society in general, avoiding their concentration in a specific territory and society, which aggravates existing territorial inequalities. The main issues relating to these public gaps in the implementation and extension of rights are the degree of institutional ownership of rights, and whether measures have been established for public authorities to implement them and inspire public measures to close gaps, territorial and social inequalities.

This vision feeds an agenda of rich propositional aspects for implementation in future public policies. Policies in the hands of those responsible for directing public institutions and on whom the design and planning of local development policies and plans depends. As has been seen in several international cooperation projects that promote endogenous self-development of both indigenous peoples and disadvantaged social groups, the optimization of projects and their viability in the future depend on the degree of appropriation that has occurred in the communities themselves thanks to the awareness of their rights as holders through, among others, the *Human Rights-Based Approach*.

FINAL THOUGHTS

The object of study, the *Human Rights-Based Approach*, has numerous references in the scientific literature, especially in international legal instruments such as the numerous declarations that contain the principles of Human Rights, from the first to the last generations. And it is present in the main declarations and agreements that support the initiatives of various international cooperation projects and in national development policies for the implementation of measures that try to correct social needs and vulnerabilities.

Among the conceptual references of the theme are those based on the international application of legal instruments and the technical practice of designing and executing development programs and projects. The research question is based on the implications of the various political and social wills that intervene in the implementation of actions that aim to correct and change situations of deprivation, vulnerability and social risk. The starting hypothesis assumes that the appropriation of the *Human Rights-*



Based Approach optimizes social projects and public policies to address the territorial inequalities of a group or community.

Keywords: Territorial inequalities, Human rights, Development cooperation.



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