



Annex

03

**Systematization of
participatory discussion**

Context

In this note, we offer a brief systematization of the most relevant points of the participatory discussion that took place within the framework of the presentation of results of the learning cycle on Social Capital in a Pandemic.

The main results discussed in this session were the following:

- People organize to make their demands when they have **greater linking social capital**.
- The increase in linking social capital **increases the articulation** of community actions.
- The public institutional response **was positively and significantly related to vulnerability**.
- Community action **reduces vulnerability**.
- Access to collective assets **reduces the vulnerability index of individuals by more than 15%**.
- Participating in community activities **to manage collective assets** is an important factor **in reducing vulnerability**.
- A **higher level of education decreases vulnerability**, while belonging to rural areas and being female increase it.

Within this context, the main question to address the next step of this learning cycle is:

How to increase **access and facilitate participation in the management of public spaces and other collective assets**? How **can we strengthen the networks of mutual aid and social capital that were activated during the pandemic** to reduce vulnerability? How are these questions related to **territorial development dynamics**?

Methodology used

To answer this question and obtain feedback from the invited experts, they participated in a round of debate and discussion based on three trigger questions:

- 1) What doubts or open questions do the findings leave?
- 2) What types of interventions can we design, prototype, experiment and evaluate to increase social capital and reduce vulnerability?
- 3) What other actors do you think should be participants in this process?

All participants' responses were recorded on a Miro board.

Below is a systematization of the responses received.

Results

What doubts or open questions do the findings leave?

Category	Question / Thought
Linking social capital and clientelism	The results obtained for the case of linking social capital can be interpreted as clientelism. Linking social capital can be the channel that goes from society to the state or political party, but it can also be the way in which the party or state reaches society. That communication is valid and can be explored.
Linking social capital indicators with public policies	How can we put the results of these indicators into practice with actions within the territories from the state to civil society?
Strengthening social capital	How to take actions to strengthen social capital indicators if they are weak?
COVID-19 and social capital	What favorable conditions did we have during the pandemic to strengthen social capital? For example: the available time that people had when the country went through lockdown made it easier for people to invest this time in strengthening social capital.
Social capital and Human Development Index	How to link these results with the Human Development Index? The results obtained are closely linked to those of the Human Development Report (especially in relation to education, gender and belonging to rural areas).
Permanence and stability of collective assets over time	What determines whether some collective assets are more permanent? For example, popular soup kitchens were very active during the health emergency and today they seem ephemeral. It is necessary that there be other collective social assets that are permanent.
Data with greater disaggregation	The results of the 2022 Census can offer greater granularity in the data and improve indicators

What types of interventions can we design, prototype, experiment with, and evaluate to increase social capital and reduce vulnerability?

Category	Question / Thought
Small-scale laboratories in the territories	---
Strengthen strategic alliances with local organizations and centers	The Ministry of Social Development is making progress on the National Poverty Reduction Plan and we have local centers that seek to connect local needs with public policy. In the territories there are organizations that are strategic allies but the main failure to strengthen them is the lack of resources to carry out concrete actions. The great challenge of the state is to have resources to mobilize the different types of social capital that exist in the territories.
Dialogues and exchanges of experiences to understand and strengthen the concept of social capital	People in the territory do not necessarily call social capital by its name, although they constantly work with this concept.
Mobilization of resources (seed capital) to maintain collective assets	People in the territory know what they need, but the limiting factor is always resources. Even the maintenance of public places is made difficult by the lack of resources, even if there is will. An alternative could be to develop contests that provide seed capital to maintain collective assets (public places).
Participatory budgets	Participatory budgeting to plan the use of local and regional resources can be an intervention that strengthens social capital

What other actors do you think should participate in this process?

Category	Question / Thought
Local actors	The community itself, the mayor's office, the government, churches, etc.
Ministry of Social Development through its Local Social Care Centers	---
Private sector	Although the actors to be included depend on the intervention chosen, there is a lot of social responsibility in private sector companies. Giving visibility to this can help enlarge the circle of building social capital.

In summary, the members of this participatory discussion recommended **linking our findings with other indicators and phenomena, such as the Human Development Index and clientelism**. In addition, emphasis was placed on the need to **strengthen social capital and integrate these concepts into public policies** that can bring these results to an applicable context to benefit vulnerable territories.

Regarding possible interventions, those that **mobilize resources for the maintenance of public spaces (collective assets)** stand out. In this sense, they recommend taking into account that vulnerable territories know their needs and that the lack of resources is a persistent problem. Therefore, **it is extremely important to incorporate local actors**, both governmental, private sector and community for the next phase of this learning cycle.



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