Each new partner, a new opportunity

In our actions with Mundo Sano, we have the privilege of working everyday with caring, committed people who believe in the need to even out opportunities and who dedicate their efforts and capacities to that. Now that we have grown so much, we find more and more opportunities for joint work and synergies. Each new meeting opens the possibility of new partners, new allies. When we think about what needs to be done, the targets are distant, but when we look at what has been done, we see solid foundations, which were difficult to build but encourage us to be optimistic in attaining the next steps. While seen from a global perspective, the problems we face have no simple solution, the experience gained reinforces the idea that the work on the field, the concrete results achieved and the building of partnerships to link these results with those of other actors and places, will certainly converge in situations of possible transformation. And this makes us feel highly optimistic. New forms of communication, social media and the global world are open channels for exchange and enrichment. We believe that sharing what was done in 2015 is also to sow in this path. I hope you enjoy our Yearbook.
Since 1993, Mundo Sano is a foundation that has been generating and promoting actions to improve the health conditions of people exposed to the so-called neglected diseases, including Chagas disease, dengue, leishmaniasis and other parasitic diseases. To achieve this, in some strategic locations of Argentina, Spain and Africa, it carries out actions of awareness, prevention, diagnosis and treatment with the affected communities and in partnerships with authorities, universities, scientists, civil society organizations, private sector actors and international organizations. In this regard, field activities are developed through effective management models that can be sustainable, replicable, scalable and transferable through public-private partnerships and multidisciplinary scientific research. Scalability, sustainability and replicability are the cornerstones of all programs of Mundo Sano, which can only be thus implemented at different levels, in the long term and in different contexts, always respecting the culture of the communities in which we work.

Who we are, how we work

We are present on the field, we articulate efforts, we build knowledge.
Mundo Sano is present in some strategic regions of Argentina and other countries affected by various neglected diseases. In these areas, through its own work teams or with strategic partners acting alongside local communities, it articulates efforts with the public and private sectors, academia, international organizations and civil society organizations.

**CHALLENGES THAT TRANSCEND BORDERS**

Where we are

Mundo Sano is present in some strategic regions of Argentina and other countries affected by various neglected diseases. In these areas, through its own work teams or with strategic partners acting alongside local communities, it articulates efforts with the public and private sectors, academia, international organizations and civil society organizations.

**Spain (2010)**
*Madrid, Murcia and Valencia*
Working on Chagas disease.

**Spain**
*Madrid, Murcia and Valencia*
Working on Chagas disease.

**Pampa del Indio (2008)**
*Province of Chaco*
Working on Chagas disease, dengue, intestinal parasites, hydatidosis and leishmaniasis.

**Clorinda (2003)**
*Province of Formosa*
Working on dengue and leishmaniasis.

**Puerto Iguazú (2004)**
*Province of Misiones*
Working on dengue and leishmaniasis.

**La Plata (2008)**
*Province of Buenos Aires*
Working on Chagas disease.

**Tartagal (2009)**
*Province of Salta*
Working on dengue, intestinal parasites and leishmaniasis.

**Añatuya (2001)**
*Province of Santiago del Estero*
Working on Chagas disease, intestinal parasites, hydatidosis and leishmaniasis.

**Ethiopia**
*Amhara Region (2013)*
Working in intestinal parasites diseases.

**Mozambique**
*Manhiça (2015)*
Working on intestinal parasites.

Through various partnerships with international organizations, the work of Mundo Sano managed to cross the borders of Argentina. In Spain, the Foundation works in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of the Chagas disease among the communities of Latin American migrants, who are also provided training in partnership with the General University Hospital of Valencia and patient associations of Murcia and Valencia. In Barcelona, it receives the cooperation of Instituto de Salud Global (ISGlobal) and the International Health Program of Catalonia (PROSIC). In Madrid, it works closely with the Hospital “Ramón y Cajal” and Centres Madrid Salud of the City Council, among other institutions.

In Ethiopia, it carries out actions of diagnosis and treatment of various parasitic diseases in collaboration with Instituto de la Salud Carlos III. The University of Bahir Dar, the Ministry of Health of the Amhara Region and its regional laboratory are the main local organizations with which the Foundation performs its work in the field.
In June 2015, Mundo Sano officially celebrated its launch in Spain and presented the project on which it has been working for five years in connection with the approach of neglected diseases. Entitled “From Latin America to Spain”, the event brought together more than 300 representatives from the worlds of culture, health and also friends in an evening of recognition of the Foundation’s work and shared emotions about the rebuilding of its origins.

Among those present in the celebration there were personalities such as Manuela Carmena, Mayor of Madrid; former Spanish President Felipe González; the then Argentine Ambassador in Madrid Carlos Bettini and members of the World Health Organization (WHO). After the welcoming remarks by Leandro Sigman, Director General of the Chemo Group and member of the Council of the Mundo Sano Foundation, and the Secretary of State for International Cooperation and for Ibero America, Jesús Manuel Gracia Aldaz, the official opening ceremony was held.

Mundo Sano began its work in Spain in 2010, where it focuses on the problem of the Chagas disease. Although the disease is not endemic in this country, it affects the communities of Latin American migrants, whom the Foundation helps to access diagnosis and treatment.

A fundamental part of its work is the program “Mothers Committed with Chagas Disease”, where a multidisciplinary team, composed mainly of medical doctors, psychologists, nurses, midwives and intercultural mediators, provides training to immigrant mothers affected by the Chagas disease so that they become health agents and thus carry out community actions of information and awareness about the disease, both in Spain and in their countries of origin.

These health agents make presentations in different spaces and the media, they provide information through a toll-free line about access to diagnosis and treatment of the disease, and also provide support to patients.
In November, a Sports Festival was held in Añatuya where over a thousand boys and girls shared a day of sports activities in the open air together their families. In a festive and non-competitive environment, the day included recreational games and mixed football, hockey and rugby competitions. The kids and their relatives and coaches who accompanied them (about 380 people) had the possibility to have a test of diagnosis of Chagas disease at the health units coordinated by Mundo Sano together with the Provincial Chagas Disease Program. Such activities were part of the program “Sports, Children and Chagas” that Mundo Sano carries forward together with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the FC Barcelona Foundation and the Government of Japan. In this first edition, the organizers also had the support of the Municipality of Añatuya and the Directorate of Vector-Borne Diseases of the Ministry of Health of the Province of Santiago del Estero. On the other hand, about 200 educators, sports leaders, healthcare professionals, parents and neighbors of Añatuya participated in the open debate “Health and Sports”. This activity was held at the Cultural Center of the City and was attended by former footballer Ricardo Bochini, who spoke of sacrifice and health care as essential elements for success in sports. Bochini was accompanied by Mayor Julio Ernesto Castro, doctors of the provincial program of Chagas disease and directors of Mundo Sano.
We work on prevention and promote access to diagnosis and treatment.

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) considers the Chagas disease as one of the 17 diseases called “neglected”. It is caused by Trypanosoma cruzi, a parasite transmitted by triatomine bugs, popularly known as “unchucos”, “barbieros”, “kissing bugs”, among other names, that feed on blood and live in rural and periurban areas of Latin America. Transmission can also occur from mother to child during pregnancy, by blood transfusions, organ transplants, and eventually it may be food borne.

Chagas disease is diagnosed through blood tests and is treated with orally administered antiparasitics. The efficacy of treatment in congenital cases treated during the first year of life exceeds 90%, hence the importance of early diagnosis.

In Argentina, Mundo Sano conducts actions of prevention facilitating the diagnosis and treatment of this disease.

Continuous migratory flows have created new scenarios in endemic and non-endemic countries for this disease. For this reason, Mundo Sano landed in Spain in 2010, with programs promoting access to diagnosis and treatment of Chagas disease in migrant communities from endemic countries.
The transmission agent
Triatoma infestans

Mundo Sano participated in a pilot study the results of which were published in 2015 under the title “New Scheme of Intermittent Benzidazole Administration in Patients Chronically Infected with Trypanosoma cruzi: A Pilot Short-Term Follow-Up Study with Adult Patients”.

This scientific publication proposes a therapeutic option for Chagas disease based on a change in dosage and routes of administration of benzimidazole increasing accessibility and adherence to treatment.

Along with Gran Data Labs, a laboratory engaged in the technique of Big Data, it began to develop a new epidemiological tool based on the analysis of 18,000 million telephone calls and messages, evaluating the origin and destination of each and the geolocation of potentially affected population, in function of their relationship with the endemic area.

Along with the Municipality of La Plata, Argentina, the “Municipal Program of Early Diagnosis and Timely Treatment of Chagas Disease” was created, which performed the diagnosis of 12,000 people and treated more than 1,000.

Since 2014, it monitors resistance to insecticides in individuals of Triatoma infestans coming from Añatuyu and rural areas of the Department of General T. Drago, Province of Santiago del Estero, and was made possible through the support of the program “Gran Chaco Nanum Village”, sponsored by the company Samsung.

Action

The Foundation carries out in Argentina projects of entomological surveillance and control in endemic areas, such as Pampa del Indio (Province of Chaco) and Añatuyu (Province of Santiago del Estero), where since 2005 it also conducts the program “Improvement of Sanitation Conditions in Rural Dwellings”.

During 2015, we maintained the surveillance and vector control programs achieving the improvement of 57 dwellings that will be safe spaces to prevent the presence of the vector insect. To carry out these housing improvements, Mundo Sano had the support of the company SC Johnson.

Also in Pampa del Indio, the Program of Entomological Surveillance for the Entire Urban and Periurban Area was maintained, detecting a home infestation below 1%.

Mundo Sano focuses its efforts in preventing, diagnosing and facilitating access to treatment. It is estimated that less than 1% of the infected population worldwide have access to medication. Having successfully sustained vector control during 2015, Mundo Sano opened two clinics for community care, one in Añatuyu and another in Colonia Dora, both in the Province of Santiago del Estero, where it already diagnosed 174 people, of which 44 were found positive and given treatment.

Contributions to Knowledge

Mundo Sano participated in the plenary meetings of the following sub-regional initiatives of the Pan American Health Organization for Chagas disease: Southern Cone Initiative to Control/Eliminate Chagas Disease (IN-COSUR), held in Brasilia (Brazil) in November 2015.

Central America and Mexico Initiative for the Control of the Vector (IPCAM), held in San José de Costa Rica (Costa Rica) in November 2015.

Andean Initiative for the Control of Vector and Transfusion Transmission of Chagas Disease (IPA), held in Lima (Peru) in September 2015.

Mundo Sano held at its headquarters in Buenos Aires, Argentina the First Course of Diagnosis and Treatment of Chagas Disease “Motivating Action”. In relation to Chagas disease, Mundo Sano also participated in a large number of scientific events throughout the year:

11th Workshop on Chagas Disease, organized by Instituto de Salud Global (ISGlobal) in Barcelona, Spain. Seminar “Towards the Elimination of Barriers in Access to Diagnosis and Treatment of Chagas Disease in Colombia”, organized by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the National Health Institute, the Network Chagas Colombia and the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi). Bogotá, Colombia.

Fourth Inter-Institutional Conference of Primary Health Care, organized by the Medical Circle of San Nicolás, the Municipality of San Nicolás and the National Institute of Parasitology “Dr. Mario Faustino” presented in February its laboratory equipped with molecular techniques to improve diagnosis of congenital Chagas disease.

ADESAR. Presentations “Neglected Diseases” and “Chagas Disease, our Forgotten Disease”, held in San Nicolás, Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Latin American Summit of Chagas Disease: “Clinical Practice, Diagnosis and Treatment”, organized by the Council of Chagas Disease of the Inter-American Society of Cardiology at the Faculty of Medicine of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Presentation “Benzidazole, Experience in Primary Care”. Mexico D.F., Mexico.

Fifth National Integrated Meeting of Prevention and Control of Chagas Disease and Sixth International Symposium on Chagas Disease, organized by the Ministry of Health of Chile and the delegation of PAHO/WHO in Chile. Santiago de Chile, Chile.

Meeting of the Platform of Research on Chagas Disease, organized by DNDi. Buenos Aires, Argentina.


Seventh Argentine Congress of Parasitology, organized by the Argentine Association of Parasitology. Poster: “Addressing Chagas Disease in Different Epidemiological Scenarios of Argentina and Spain.” San Carlos de Bariloche, Province of Río Negro, Argentina.

Fifth Congress of Regional Competencies of Diseases of the Hospital of Infectious Diseases “Francisco J. Muñiz”, organized by the Hospital of Infectious Diseases “Francisco J. Muñiz”. Short course: “Providing Care to Patients with Chagas Disease: Motivating Action”. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Strategic Partnerships

Working jointly with the pharmaceutical company Elea to promote access to treatment of Chagas disease, Mundo Sano made a donation of benzidazole to treat congenital cases in Latin American countries through PAHO. Benzidazole is the antiparasitic agent used to treat the disease and is considered by the World Health Organization (WHO) as an “essential drug”. The National Institute of Parasitology “Dr. Mario Faustino” presented in February its laboratory equipped with molecular techniques to improve diagnosis of congenital Chagas disease.

The renovation was made possible with a donation of 233,000 dollars made by the Embassy of Japan through an agreement with the Mundo Sano Foundation. Only during that year, 4,000 newborns were reached by this initiative.

Works of improvement and expansion of the type “B” Health Unit of Paraje Pampa Chica (Pampa del Indio, General San Martín, Province of Chaco) were carried out. The project was under the Cooperation Agreement between Mundo Sano and the Ministry of Health of the Province of Chaco, and was made possible through the support of the program “Gran Chaco Nanum Village”, sponsored by the company Samsung.

In Argentina:

6099 people diagnosed with Chagas disease:

- 174 in medical offices of Colonia Dora and Añatuyu
- 360 through the program “Sport, Children and Chagas”, in Añatuyu
- 5545 in La Plata

In Spain:

1216 people received information on Chagas disease:

- 143 people participated in presentations under the program “Motivating Action” with the Chagas Disease
- 206 received information on an individual basis
- 547 were informed by telephone

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2015
We work with local communities in northern Argentina in actions with the community and in surveillance and vector control.

As these viral diseases are mainly transmitted by mosquitoes and there is currently no vaccine, the actions of prevention focused on vector control are essential. Therefore, Mundo Sano has conducted programs of surveillance and monitoring of *Aedes aegypti* for more than a decade for the implementation of prevention and control strategies in northern Argentina, always tailored to each local reality and strongly committed to the environment and the population.

Throughout the year, it carries out periodic surveys of dwellings and systematic registration of containers that can hold water, which could become potential mosquito breeding sites. The collected immature-stage mosquitoes are processed and evaluated in the entomology laboratory, and with these records maps are created to have a quick view of the areas with high levels of infestation and identify the main factors favoring the abundance and types of more productive breeding sites.
In Tartagal, an urban center with one of the highest risks of dengue in Argentina, consolidated the “Program of Comprehensive Control and Epidemiological Study of Dengue”, developed with the support of Pan American Energy, the Municipality of Tartagal, the Provincial Hospital “Juan Domingo Perón” and the Delegation of the National Coordination of Vector Control.

In Puerto Iguazú, the actions on dengue prevention and transmission studies are conducted with the collaboration of SC Johnson.

For over a decade, Mundo Sano has carried out actions aimed at developing awareness and prevention of dengue in strategic locations of northern Argentina. This work is performed by members of the local community coordinated by professionals of the Foundation, who make routine daily visits to homes in search of mosquito breeding sites. If necessary, control measures are taken according to the international standards of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). Each visit is completed by the delivery of information materials about the disease and recommendations on prevention.

One of the actions of 2015 was the collaboration with the Iguazú National Park in outreach on the prevention of dengue, chikungunya and zika. On the other hand, during the operations of descacharrado (drying out possible water reservoirs) in Tartagal, more than 300 tons of potential mosquito breeding sites were eliminated throughout the year, also making 44,089 home visits, 10,793 in Clorinda, 14,713 in Puerto Iguazú and 18,583 in Tartagal.

Finally, 16 informative workshops were conducted on dengue, 11 in Clorinda and 5 in Iguazú.

The annual pattern of Aedes aegypti infestation was established, for the locations of Tartagal, Clorinda and Iguazú.

The period of gonadotropic activity of Aedes aegypti was determined for the three locations. Critical areas and infestation hot spots were identified, implementing control strategies tailored to each problem in Tartagal.

Maps of spatial distribution and density of breeding sites were developed, implementing Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in each location.

Preventing the proliferation of mosquito breeding sites is an essential preventive measure against dengue.

**MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2015**

- **325** tons of potential mosquito breeding sites were eliminated only in Tartagal, during the operations of descacharrado carried out throughout the year:
  - March: 10
  - October: 215
  - November: 30

- **44,089** home visits made, in three towns:
  - Clorinda: 10,793
  - Puerto Iguazú: 14,713
  - Tartagal: 18,583

- **16** informative workshops were organized on dengue:
  - Clorinda: 11
  - Puerto Iguazú: 5
  - Tartagal: 1
We work on a comprehensive approach to prevention and control.

Soil-transmitted helminthiases (geo-helminthiases) are a public health problem that mainly affects children of school age. Epidemiological estimates indicate that, at a global level, there are 875 million children at risk of becoming infected with some of these parasites causing malnutrition, anemia and delayed neurocognitive development.

In this regard, Mundo Sano focuses on prevention: the administration of the medication decreases morbidity, but the interruption of transmission is only possible with actions to improve access to safe water, basic sanitation and hygiene.

This line of action started in Argentina was replicated in Ethiopia. We are also launching our first tests in Mozambique. The work in Ethiopia is done in close collaboration with the National Center for Tropical Medicine of Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII) of Spain, while the work in Mozambique is carried out jointly with Instituto de Salud Global (ISGlobal) of Barcelona, at Centro de Investigação em Saúde da Manhiça (CISM), in Mozambique.
In 2015, Mundo Sano launched the project “Comprehensive Community Intervention for Prevention and Control of Chagas Disease and Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis” in Añatuya, Province of Santiago del Estero, Argentina, which included three rural sites to determine the prevalence of soil-transmitted helminths and to interrupt transmission through treatment and improvements in water and sanitation. 321 people were diagnosed and 100 % of positive cases were treated. The Foundation also participated of the Program of Grants for Research “Ramón Carrillo - Arturo Oñativia” with the implementation of the project “Prevalence and Morbidity from Soil-Transmitted Helminths Focused on Determining Strategies of Diagnosis and Intervention” at the Pampa del Indio site. The study focused on children in 3rd and 4th grades from all schools in the urban area. Treatment was administered to all children who were infected by soil-transmitted helminths, out of the 94 who provided samples for diagnosis. In Ethiopia, the fieldwork was continued in the Amhara Region at community level within the framework of the project “Strategies for Control of Strongyloides stercoralis and Other Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis” in an area of high prevalence of Bahir Dar, Amhara Region, Ethiopia, where 73 people were diagnosed and treated. The work of the Foundation was expanded in Africa through the implementation of the project “Study of Co-Infection between Helminths and Malaria and its Implication in the Immune Response against Malaria”. One of its objectives is determining the prevalence of helminthiases in children aged 2 to 10 in the area of Manhiça, Mozambique, where the prevalence of malaria by Plasmodium fallopium is around 40 %. Preliminary data from the first 176 children included in the study indicate prevalence for soil-transmitted helminths by 8.5 % with presence of the four species included in this group of parasites.

For the treatment of soil-transmitted helminthiases, Mundo Sano focuses on prevention: the administration of the medication decreases morbidity, but the interruption of transmission is only possible with actions to improve access to safe water, basic sanitation and hygiene.
Hydatidosis

We promote early diagnosis of the disease through a register of ultrasound scans in children.

Hydatidosis, a zoonosis related to dogs feeding on raw or poorly cooked offal of animals that are domestically slaughtered in rural areas with livestock production, is a parasitic disease with a load that is globally difficult to estimate because of the lack of systematic programs surveying such data.

Argentina, along with Brazil, Chile, Peru and Uruguay are part of the "Initiative for the Control of Cystic Echinococcosis." The five countries that make up this initiative reported 29,556 human cases of hydatidosis in the period between January 2009 and December 2014, 15% of which occurred in children under 15. Given this situation, Mundo Sano promotes early diagnosis of the disease through a register of ultrasound scans in children.

More than 820 people died of hydatidosis in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru and Uruguay in the period 2009-2014.

The cysts produced by hydatidosis can be treated with drugs and, in some cases, they can undergo surgery. However, since the disease can remain unnoticed for several years, and it is likely lethal, timely diagnosis is of fundamental importance.
Among the highlights of 2015, we can mention the identification of human cases of hydatidosis caused by *Echinococcus ortleppi* and *E. canadensis* (species closely linked to livestock), in the Provinces of San Juan and Catamarca. This action was carried out under the project “Epidemiology and Control of Hydatidosis”.

**Strategic Partnerships**

Since 2015, Mundo Sano collaborates with the Research Institute of Microbiology and Medical Parasitology of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Buenos Aires on the application of molecular biology methods in the epidemiology of the disease through the diagnosis and genotyping of *Echinococcus granulosus* in canine and human hosts, as well as in cattle acting as intermediate host.
Leishmaniasis

We work at strategic locations of Argentina, where we perform actions of monitoring of vector insects.

Leishmaniasis is a parasitic disease caused by species of the genus *Leishmania* and transmitted through the bite of infected female phlebotominae. There are more than 90 known species of *Leishmania* transmitter phlebotominae and about 70 species of animals, among them the man, which are potential natural reservoirs.

The main clinical forms of leishmaniasis are visceral (which affects internal organs, mainly liver and spleen), cutaneous (which produces ulcerative skin lesions) and mucous or mucocutaneous (involving serious injuries in the mucous membranes of the nose, mouth and throat). If untreated, the mucous and cutaneous forms can cause deformity and disfigurement, and the visceral form can cause death in more than 90 % of cases.
In 2010, Mundo Sano began developing research projects in urban areas in five localities of Argentina to analyze the composition and dynamics of phlebotominae populations through entomological sampling on a seasonal or monthly basis. The information obtained from these studies is shared with the Network of Research on Leishmaniasis in Argentina (REDILA) and the National Program of Leishmaniasis of the National Ministry of Health.

Contributions to Knowledge

Mundo Sano participated in the Ninth Argentine Congress of Entomology held in Posadas, Province of Misiones, Argentina, with the presentation entitled Diversity of Phlebotominae in the Town of Pampa del Indio, Province of Chaco.

Publications

Population Composition and Dynamics of Lutzomyia longipalpis and Other Phlebotominae Species in Clorinda, Northern Argentina, published in the Bulletin of the Argentine Entomological Society.

Strategic Partnerships

• The actions for the surveillance of phlebotominae carried out in Clorinda, Pampa del Indio and Añatuya have the support of the National Institute of Tropical Medicine and the Institute of Regional Medicine of the National University of the Northeast.
• The pilot research project on the control of phlebotominae is performed in conjunction with the Center for Research on Pests and Insecticides and Chemotecnia.
• We are part of REDILA and the Argentine Entomological Society.
Scientific Meetings and Conferences

The 17th International Symposium on Neglected Diseases was evidence of the consensus among experts in the diagnosis and treatment of Chagas disease.

Within the framework of the National Day for Argentina without Chagas Disease, Mundo Sano organized the 17th International Symposium on Neglected Diseases in conjunction with the Institute of Epidemiological Research of the National Academy of Medicine. The event was held on August 24 and 25, and it was attended by nearly 500 people. Experts from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, United States, Spain, Mexico, Paraguay, and Uruguay discussed how to improve access to health for people exposed to neglected diseases, how to address treatments and cope with these diseases with new technologies and digital communications, and how to respond to the globalizing result from migratory flows. Chagas disease, for example, is already present in non-endemic areas like Europe.

Dr. Silvia Gold highlighted the advances that allow for optimism. “Today we have the consensus of experts, updated treatment guidelines, the drug available and better conditions for vector control, all essential factors to change. Of course, there is still much to be done, the vast majority of infected people are still without treatment. But the conditions are here, and it is possible and we must make a truly exponential change to finally reach this goal of Argentina and a world without Chagas disease.”

Dr. Roberto Salvatella, from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), recalled that in Latin America, Chagas disease affects between 6 and 8 million people with an incidence of 28,000 new cases annually through the vector and 8,000 congenitally. Against this background, the expert emphasized the mobilizing ideas that impacted positively in recent years, such as “technical South-South cooperation, the involvement of the affected population in prevention and detection campaigns, and public-private cooperation, among other steps.” Bernard Pécoul from DNDi (Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative), for his part, referred to the need to further improve the access by patients to treatments by expanding the medication already available. After two intense days and through a high number of valuable presentations, once again a space was created for discussion, exchange, and scientific and professional update for all actors involved in providing a solution to neglected diseases.

During the symposium, the following research studies of Mundo Sano were presented:

- Profile of intestinal parasites in rural areas of Añatuya, Province of Santiago del Estero, Argentina.
- Discovering Chagas disease with Big Data.
- Comprehensive community approach to soil-transmitted helminthiasis in Pichanal, Province of Salta.
- Opportunities for interrupting transmission.

Approaches for knowledge and finding solutions to soil-transmitted helminthiasis in rural communities.

Online projects of entomological control and surveillance.

EVENTS THAT WE ATTENDED IN 2015

11th Workshop on Chagas Disease Barcelona, Spain.

First Congress of Workers’ Health Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Capacity Building Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean in Response to Epidemic Outbreaks and Pandemics Antigua Guatemala, Guatemala.

Seminar “Towards the Elimination of Barriers in Access to Diagnosis and Treatment of Chagas Disease in Colombia” Bogotá, Colombia.

Fourth Inter-Institutional Conference of Primary Health Care San Nicolás, Argentina.

Latin American Summit of Chagas Disease: “Clinical Practice, Diagnosis and Treatment” Mexico D.F., Mexico.

Fifth National Integrated Meeting on Prevention and Control of Chagas Disease and Sixth International Symposium on Chagas Disease Santiago de Chile, Chile.

Meeting of the Platform of Research on Chagas Disease Buenos Aires, Argentina.

29th Annual Meeting of the National Program of Control of Argentine Hemorrhagic Fever Pergamino, Argentina.

11th Meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission of the Andean Initiative for Vector Control and Transfusion Transmission and Medical Care for Chagas Disease (IPA) Lima, Peru.

Meeting of the Soil-Transmitted Helminths Advisory Committee Philadelphia, USA.

Fifth Congress of Endemomicrobial Diseases of the Hospital of Infectious Diseases “Francisco J. Muñiz” Buenos Aires, Argentina.

27th Annual Meeting of the Argentine Society of Protozoology Buenos Aires, Argentina.

16th Meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission of the Initiative of the Countries of Central America and Mexico (IPCAM) to Interrupt Vector and Transfusion Transmission and Medical Care for Chagas Disease San José, Costa Rica.

21st Meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission of the Southern Cone for the Prevention, Control and Treatment of Chagas Disease (INCOCHS) Brasilia, Brazil.
Educational Activities

The Farm of Añatuya: promoting love for the land.

At the site of Mundo Sano in Añatuya there operates an agroecological farm that provides training and spaces for the development of productive activities for self-consumption. Training workshops are offered to micro-entrepreneurs on:

- Organic farms
- Preparation of feeding and drinking troughs
- Assembly of ecological ovens
- Construction of water cisterns
- Assembly of henhouses and vegetable gardens with recycled materials and woven wire
- Animal health, treatment of hens and rabbits
- Chicken breeding
- Monthly visits by orchard and farm technical experts

Also during these trainings, information is provided on control and prevention of Chagas disease.

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Major Achievements of 2015

3 fairs
Organized to sell harvest and farm products, such as vegetables, eggs, canned food, baked goods and crafts from recycled materials.

312
Students participated in the School Project.

947
Children and teenagers visited the farm.

6 workshops
Held together with the Hacienda Camino Foundation on Chagas disease, dengue, potting and peridomicile organization.

8 students of EFA (Escuela de la Familia Agrícola) completed an internship doing farm and orchard work accompanied by their teachers.
In 2015, we signed new agreements at the local, regional and international levels with public and private sector organizations, which allows us to multiply efforts and optimize resources.

**Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) as administrator of the Japan Special Fund for Poverty Reduction (JPO)**

Regional Technical Cooperation, signed on March 20, 2015, for 36 months. The aim is to help reduce the impact of Chagas disease in the Gran Chaco region, which includes part of the territory of Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay. Technical Cooperation finances actions aimed at: (i) prevention, treatment and control of the disease, with an intervention model designed according to the population and area to be addressed, and (ii) promoting awareness of the causes and consequences of the disease and the use of preventive habits.

**President and Fellows of Harvard College**

Cooperation agreement, signed on April 21, 2015, for 24 months. Plan of collaboration in the areas of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of neglected diseases and other areas of interest for the parties.

**Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ)**

Cooperation agreement, signed on August 20, 2015, for 36 months. The goal is to establish a cooperative institutional relationship to promote greater scientific and technological development in the areas of interests to be timely determined by both institutions.

**Technology Liaison Unit Laboratorio Elea S.A.C.I.F.yA. and Pediatrics Hospital SA MIC “Prof. Dr. Juan P. Garrahan”**

Articles of Agreement for the Creation of a Public-Private Consortium, signed on November 25, 2015, for 60 months. Project “Immunotherapy with Racco-tumomab in Pediatric Patients with High-Risk Neuroblastoma.”

**Embassy of Japan in Argentina**

Donation contract, signed on February 12, 2015, for 12 months. Project of Optimization of Transmission Control, Diagnosis and Treatment of Chagas Disease.

**Victoria Jean Navajas Foundation**

Cooperation agreement, signed on September 22, 2015, for 12 months. Project “Comprehensive Community Intervention for the Prevention and Control of Intestinal Parasites” taking place in the town of Gobernador Virasoro, Province of Corrientes.

**The Task Force For Global Health, Inc.**

Research agreement, signed on May 1, 2015, for 4 months. Project “Quantitative Real-Time PCR for the Diagnosis of Helminthiasis.”
Mundo Sano seeks to place neglected diseases on the agenda of public opinion, creating and disseminating information through reference models able to carry the message to everyone. This year, through the Global Chagas Coalition, we will also participate in an international advocacy campaign.

We intend to continue developing partnerships with football teams such as FC Barcelona, San Lorenzo and Atlético de Madrid, leveraging from the passion for sport the access to diagnosis and treatment in various populations.

We will continue strengthening our relationship with international organizations from the search for value creation. In this respect, we plan to move forward with the implementation of the program “Sport, Children and Chagas” financed by the Inter-American Development Bank, the Government of Japan and FC Barcelona, seeking to expand this support to other territories and neglected diseases.

We will continue to work on generating value for our donors, as well as focusing on getting new support. We will make new partnerships aimed at generating mutual value and innovation of approaches and processes. In order to promote prevention, we seek to expand the application areas of surveillance and vector control projects, and reach more members of the communities we work with, always with suitable information to provide tools to prevent the transmission of neglected diseases.

During 2016, we will replicate the “Municipal Training Program for Health Workers, Diagnosis and Treatment of Chagas Disease” in other municipalities of Greater Buenos Aires.

We seek to generate scientific evidence to contribute to the knowledge of neglected diseases. We will train new medical professionals with information to help them diagnose and treat patients with Chagas.

We aim to continue working to transform the reality of populations affected by neglected diseases.
Our strategic partners

**Grupoisud**
Grupo Insud

**Biogénesis Bagó**
Biogénesis – Bagó

**Chemotécnica**
Chemotécnica

**Pan American Energy**
Pan American Energy

**ISGlobal**
Instituto de Salud Global

**Coalición Chagas**
Coalición Global de Chagas

**STH Coalition**
Coalición Global de Helmintos de la Salud

**DNDi**

**Grupo Chemo**

**ELEA**
Laboratorio Elea

**SC Johnson**

**Gilead**

**Organización Panamericana de la Salud**
Organización Panamericana de la Salud

**Grupo Insud**

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- Grupo Insud
- Biogenesis – Bagó
- Laboratorio Elia
- Chimotecnica
- Amigos por un Mundo más Sano
- SC Johnson & Son of Argentina
- Pan American Energy
- YPF Foundation
- Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation

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- National Institute of Human Viral Diseases “Dr. Julio Maiztegui”
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- Institute of Regional Medicine, UNNE
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- National Commission of Space Activities (CONAE)
- National Academy of Medicine
- Latin American Network of Vector Control (RELCOV)
- Network of Research on Leishmaniosis in Argentina (REDILMA)
- National Center of Research on Endosymbiontics (CENDIS)
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- General Hospital of Emergencies “Tuva Perón”, San Martín, Province of Buenos Aires
- Pan American Health Organization
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- Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi)
- Health Institute Carlos III
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