

***Equal Educational Opportunities for Everyone***



**Cimientos** is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1997 with the belief that education is the essential tool needed to overcome the vicious cycle of poverty – lack of training – social exclusion. Cimientos' programs originated with this belief, which continues to be its motivating factor to this day.

**VISION**

**Quality education for everyone.**

Cimientos aspires to a future in which every child is guaranteed access to a quality education, and in which children and young people from low income families have a legitimate and effective possibility to exercise their right to education. Access to, and permanence within the formal education system allows for personal development, social integration, preparedness for the working world and an active engagement in the exercise of citizenship. Access to a quality education for the entire population will contribute to the achievement of a more equitable society with a place for everyone.

**MISSION**

To promote **equal educational opportunities** for children from low income families, through programs that favor school inclusion and which aim to improve the quality of the education received.

**AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS**

**Konex Award – 2008:** Cimientos was one of the distinguished organizations; among the 100 most outstanding personalities and institutions of the last decade (1998-2007).

**Business Guide – 2007:** Cimientos was included in the first international "Business Guide" of outstanding UN Social Organizations and UN Agencies for its work in alliance with the business private sector.

**Schwab Foundation - 2005:** Carlos D. Tramutola was a finalist for the Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

**Social Ecumenical Forum - 2003:** Cimientos received the Social Entrepreneurship Prize in the category of Education.

**December 2003** - The *School Scholarship Program* and the *School Support Program* were declared of National Educative Interest by the Argentine National Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

## PROGRAMS

The Argentine educational system suffers from a number of problems: inequality, low middle school attendance, and low participation from fundamental actors - especially parents. On the one hand, the inequality seen within the educational system is reflected by differences in the quality of the services provided by schools and by the number of hours and years of education received by the students.

On the other hand, the socioeconomic reality directly impacts the classroom: children from the most vulnerable areas face serious difficulties remaining in the formal educational system and continuing their studies. In addition, for several years, schools in low-income areas have had to carry out welfare assistance activities, leading them to relegate their educational role. Many teachers have encountered this difficult reality, and have been increasingly forced to confront challenges for which they have not been properly prepared.

Cimientos emphasizes the importance of education and is committed to ensuring that children from low income families remain in school and are able to receive a high quality education. To this end, Cimientos has structured its programs on three fundamental pillars: the direct transfer of funds, personalized mentoring, and the exchange of experiences among participants.

### SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The objective of this program is to achieve the permanence of students from low income families in the formal education system, and to contribute to the improvement of the learning process.

The program consists of annual individual **scholarships** to children and adolescents who study in Middle School and High School (12 to 18 years), plus **educational mentoring** during their schooling and the opportunity to share experiences during **Student Days**.

#### Parental Support

Aims to offer a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences, as well as orientation for parents of the students participating in the *School Scholarship Program*. It consists of workshops directed by professionals who offer a space for dialogue and address issues that affect the adolescents and their schooling.

#### Graduate Network

Aims to accompany and support the young students who have graduated from the *School Scholarship Program*, in their transition to the adult educative-working world. The work methodology includes providing job training and opportunities, scholarship information, among others.

### SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM

The objective of the program is to increase the quality of education received by students who attend schools in areas with limited socioeconomic resources.

The program consists of **economic assistance**, **professional advisory**, **school support**, and the development of **informational exchanges** and **teacher training**, for the implementation of educative projects that last for two school cycles. By means of different contests, educational initiatives prepared by teachers are selected. The projects presented

aim to enrich the work in the classroom, promote group work, provide continuous training and reflection on experiences and practices, as well as encourage instances of significant and participative learning for the students.

The program includes different contests which are related to the needs detected by Cimientos. These are:

Building Foundations (Construyendo Cimientos) in Language and Mathematics

Forging Networks

A School with Open Doors

A Dialogue with Agriculture

Plan to promote Reading - Cargill Foundation

## **RETENTION AND REENTRY PROGRAM**

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The objective of the program is to orient and to support schools and educators in their work towards inclusion and the improvement in the quality of education that students receive, developing methodologies and strategies for the retention and the reentry of young people that are at high risk of dropping out of school or are already outside the school system.

It consists of intensive work with the schools that participate in the project, and their respective school inspectors, in order to obtain the scholastic inclusion of adolescents in Basic Secondary Education. During a three year term, Cimientos supports the school to this end, through the **financing** of activities, the **exchange of experiences** and **teacher training**, the promotion of a school network and close **support** of the project's development. Also, the program offers school scholarships and personalized mentoring to the participating students.

## **UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

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The objective of the program is to provide young people, who lack the sufficient economic resources, access to a university education, and to support them in their academic development. The students receive a monthly **scholarship**, and are tutored by an **academic advisor**. **In addition, they exchange experiences** during group study and reflection meetings.

## **ALLIANCE PROGRAM**

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The objective is to extend the reach of the programs developed by Cimientos by multiplying the amount of direct executors. It seeks to decentralize and harness the actions of Cimientos in the promotion of equal educational opportunities and promote the local development of the programs.

The program consists of work in alliance with civil society organizations that have experience in the implementation of educative programs, so that they can replicate Cimientos' programs. The partner organization is responsible for the direct execution of the program while Cimientos has a tutorial function, which enables the support and monitoring of the execution. A model of progressive autonomy is set, through which the allied organization consolidates the management of the implemented program.

Cimientos and its donors finance the constitution of the alliance (selection, training, support

and evaluation of the partner organization). While the initial costs of implementation of the programs are assumed together with the partner organization, it is established that they will be assumed by the allied organization in a progressive form.

### **Cimientos Network**

Non profit organizations that are implementing Cimientos programs make up the Cimientos Network. It has the purpose of offering a forum for exchange, training and support for partner organizations regarding the implementation and expansion of Cimientos programs in different areas around the region.

### **RESEARCH PROGRAM**

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The objective of this program is to produce and deepen the knowledge within the educative issues around which Cimientos centers its drive, with the purpose of enriching present actions, elaborating raw data for the design of new programs, and contributing to the development of educative policies.

### **PUBLICATION PROGRAM**

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The objective of this program is to communicate the experiences, results and effects of Cimientos' activities and research. Through weekly and daily publications and presentations, the different actors involved are able to replicate successful initiatives and reflect on present educational issues.

### **EVALUATION PROGRAM**

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The objective of this program is to monitor and determine the impact of each program, shedding light on the activities that were implemented and their results. Also, the information obtained and analyzed from the evaluations is the source that helps determine future research themes.

<b>CIMIENTOS IN 2008</b>
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**3433** students participate from the *School Scholarship Program*  
**682** will graduate of the *School Scholarship Program*  
**140** students and **4** schools participate in the *Retention and Reentry Program*  
**96** educative projects reach **28,940** students through the *School Support Program*  
**1580** teachers and principals participate in the *School Support Program*  
**35** students participate in the *University Scholarship Program*  
**5** social organizations implement the *Cimientos School Scholarship Program* through the *Alliance Program*  
**43** parents participate in Parental Support  
**265** schools develop the programs  
**22** provinces implement the programs  
**57** donating organizations and foundations make possible the execution of the programs.  
**8** institutional collaborators support the management of the organization  
**564** individuals sponsor the programs  
**110** friends of Cimientos strengthen the research and development of the programs  
**150** individual volunteers donate their time and effort  
**388** corporate volunteers complement the patronage of their business with their work

**90%** of the annual budget is destined for the programs  
**10%** of the annual budget is destined to overhead

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

All of the Cimientos members receive the newsletter “Construyendo”.

### Programs

Each member receives follow up reports about the program they support. In addition, members are able to participate in the activities organized within the same framework of that program, thus personally experiencing the impact of their contribution.

#### ***Student Sponsors – School Scholarship Program***

The sponsorship of a **student** implies an annual contribution of US\$ 680 to US\$ 884 per student, depending on his/her geographic location. This amount includes the selection process, tracking, support and evaluation of the student along with an amount of money transferred directly to the family to cover the costs of school supplies or other needs that directly influence the students' ability to study.

#### ***Sponsors – Retention and Reentry Program***

The sponsorship of this program includes the amount of a scholarship for a student or the financing of projects to promote the retention and the re-entry of young students who are at serious risk of dropping out or who are already outside the school system.

#### ***School Sponsors – School Support Program***

The sponsorship of a **school** implies an annual contribution of US\$ 5,682 to US\$ 7,239 per project, depending on the location (urban or rural) and type of school being sponsored. This sum is destined to cover the cost of the project (with a direct transfer to the school) and full support for two school cycles. At least 50% of the funds received by the school must be used for equipment that will remain in the school once the project is complete.

#### ***Alliance Sponsors***

An individual or organization may support an alliance between Cimientos and another social organization in which it can implement a Cimientos program within its zone of influence. The sponsor is able to cover the total or partial cost of setting-up the alliance and/or the total or partial cost of the implementation of the programs.

#### ***Cimientos Network***

An individual or organization may support distinct activities and actions of the Network, for example the development of encounter and exchanges, the web site, etc.

#### ***Publication / Evaluation / Research Programs***

An individual or an organization may provide complete or partial financial support for these programs. Examples: financing investigations, periodical evaluations of the programs and publications of results.

## **Institutional Strengthening**

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### ***Friends of Cimientos***

An individual may become a Friend of Cimientos with a monthly contribution of a determined amount (suggested: US\$10, US\$30 or US\$60), or with a one time donation. These funds are destined to institutional strengthening and to the development of new programs.

### ***Institutional Collaborators***

An individual or organization may cooperate with the institutional needs of the organization, either through a financial donation or the donation of products and services (ie: legal assessment, web site development, etc.).

### ***Fundraising Events***

Cimientos organizes fundraising events, where individuals and organizations may contribute with the purchase of tickets and /or tables or the donation of products and services.

Cimientos also receives donations of products and services that facilitate the development of daily activities, thus making funds more readily available for the benefit of the children.

### ***Volunteers***

A person is able to volunteer during the year or during a specific time, donating a certain amount of their time, according to his/her abilities and interests. Their participation strengthens the results of the programs and is a very enriching experience for him / her and all those involved in Cimientos.



<b>WHO WORKS AT CIMIENTOS</b>
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**Board of Administration**

President / Carlos D. Tramutola  
Secretary / Luis Ponferrada  
Treasurer / Juan Carlos Peña  
Members /  
Gerardo Ancarola  
Eduardo Franck  
César Gotta  
Magdalena E. de Llach  
Horacio Milberg  
Enrique Shaw  
Ma. Cristina T. de Tramutola

**Academic Board**

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Silvina Gvirtz  
Juan José Llach  
Mariano Narodowski  
Paula Pogré  
Alicia Z. de Savanti  
Juan Carlos Tedesco  
Alfredo van Gelderen

*Advisor:* Mariana Fonseca

**2008 Team**

Executive Director / Agustina Cavanagh

Program Coordinator, School Scholarship / Ma. Graciela Nogués

Program Coordinator, School Support and Retention and Reentry Program / Valeria Salmain

Director, Alliances and Outreach / Magdalena Saieg  
Program Coordinator, Alliances / Santiago Sarachian  
Program Coordinator, Public Sector Outreach / Agustina Bugnard

Program Coordinator, University Scholarship Program and Graduates Network / Diana Sverdlick

Director, Research and Development / Graciela Krichesky  
Coordinator, Evaluation and Publications / María Cortelezzi

Director, Institutional Development / Mercedes Fonseca

Coordinator, Human Resources / Guadalupe Corbi

Director, Administration and Finance / Damasia de Tezanos Pinto

The development of the programs is possible thanks to a team of professionals who work at Cimientos, the student mentors and the social workers who participate in the selection of the participants.

Cimientos counts on the indispensable support of more than **150 volunteers**, who generously donate their time and talent.



**PARTNERS 2008**

**SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**Organización Techint y Fundación Hermanos Agustín y Enrique Rocca**

**Coca-Cola**

Ministerio de Desarrollo Social de la Prov.  
de Bs. As.  
Antares Naviera S.A.  
Fund. Monsanto y Monsanto Argentina  
Tecpetrol  
DuPont Argentina S.A.  
Apache Argentina  
Transportadora de Gas del Sur S.A.  
American Express Argentina S.A.  
JPMorgan Chase  
Fundación Nextel para la acción comunitaria  
Smurfit Kappa S.A.  
Fundación CUBA  
Fundación Banco Macro  
CWA S.A.

**Pan American Energy**

Merck Sharp & Dohme  
Fundación Danone  
Banco Industrial  
Potasio Río Colorado S.A.  
Programa Digamos Presente- Fundación  
Noble, Grupo Clarín (Arcor, Repsol YPF y  
Telecom)  
Skanska  
Louis Dreyfus Commodities Argentina  
Fundación Karelsie  
Fundación Bunge y Born  
Fundación MAPFRE  
Maersk Argentina  
Estudios y Servicios Ambientales SRL  
Zurich  
Banco Comafi

Sempra Energy International, ESSO Petrolera Argentina SRL, Alpargatas SAIC, Baliarda S.A., Editorial La Ley,  
Sudamfos S.A., Assekuransa, Tecnosoftware S.A., Tsoft, Dianthus S.A.

**Parental Support**

Pan American Energy

## **SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM**

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### **Potasio Río Colorado**

Fundación Cargill

Barrick Gold

Pan American Energy

Adecoagro S.A.

HSBC

El Tejar LTD.

Programa Digamos Presente- Fundación Noble, Grupo Clarín (Arcor, Repsol YPF y Telecom)

Kimberly-Clark Argentina, Fundación Andreani, Fundación Monsanto y Monsanto Argentina, Fundación Acindar

## **RETENTION AND REENTRY PROGRAM**

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Group of individual donors

## **ALLIANCE PROGRAM**

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### **Coca-Cola**

Fundación Navarro Viola

Programa Digamos Presente- Fundación Noble, Grupo Clarín (Arcor, Repsol YPF y Telecom)

## **CIMIENTOS NETWORK**

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Banco Galicia

## **UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

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Pan American Energy

Termap S.A.

## **RESEARCH PROGRAM**

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Antares Naviera S.A.

## **COLLABORATORS**

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KPMG	La Rural	Argentina
Fundación Andreani	Banco Macro	Shop Gallery
Banco Galicia	Duty Free Shop	Estudio Klein & Franco

## **EVENTS**

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Banco Galicia; Panedile Argentina; Aeropuertos Argentina 2000; Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires - Provincia Seguros S.A.; Coca-Cola, Mercantil Andina e IMPSA; Adecoagro S.A.; Alpargatas SAIC; AON Risk Services Argentina; Arcor; Banco Ciudad de Buenos Aires; Banco Santander Río; Cencosud; Fundación IRSA; Hidrovía S.A.; La Caja Seguros S.A.; Mercedes Benz; Norberto Morita; Organización Techint; Pan American Energy; Price Water House y Repsol YPF.

This year we also count on the invaluable support of the following companies that donate their products and/or services:

Arelauquen Lodge Golf & Polo; BGH; Catena Zapata; Círculo Italiano; Coca-Cola; Hotel Correntoso; Jean Pierre Joyeros; KPL Media; LAN; La Rural; Los Petersen Catering; Repila Disc Jockeys y Quickfood.

