

Donations in Response to COVID-19 Program



In response to the crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic, Orocobre created a **Donations in Response to COVID-19 Program** to strengthen the health system and protect the health of the communities where our employees and local suppliers live. Arrangements were made for donations of medical equipment to the Department of Health in the provinces of Jujuy and Salta and other hospitals in the area. Funds were also donated to purchase COVID-19 test kits, personal protection equipment, and food for the most vulnerable families in the communities within our area of influence.

Strategic alignment to



Shared Value Pillar



Health

Direct Contribution



Indirect Contribution



For the initiatives generated within the framework of immediate humanitarian response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Company has followed the guidelines proposed by the United Nations. Within the targets regarding SDGs 2 and 3, Orocobre has contributed with:

1. Meeting the immediate food needs of their vulnerable populations
2. Helping patients get the care they need, and frontline workers get essential supplies and information
3. Helping all people get the medical treatment they need

Background

As the scale of impact from the COVID-19 pandemic in Argentina became apparent, Orocobre was proactive in setting up the **Donations in Response to COVID-19 Program**. We quickly designed a series of actions within the framework of our Sustainability strategy and made a corporate level commitment to safeguarding the health and well-being of local communities during the pandemic.

Proposal

In consultation with coordinators from local communities, our Shared Value team identified the community health needs in response to the pandemic. These donations included:

- Donations of AR\$7,700,000 in medical equipment were made to the Province of Jujuy Government and an additional major donation was made to the Province of Jujuy for the purchase of PCR test kits to detect positive cases of COVID-19.
- Medical equipment donations were made to the Department of Health for the hospital in Susques including a mobile X-ray machine with a value of AR\$1,400,000.
- A sum of AR\$1,500,000 was donated to the Department of Health in the Province of Salta, where Orocobre's Borax Argentina operations are located, to assist in the purchase of medical equipment.
- Personal protection equipment and digital thermometers were also provided to ten local communities.

Barriers faced: Limited logistics

The closing of local borders due to COVID-19 impacted the management of transportation and logistics initially delaying the delivery of donations to beneficiaries. However, our stakeholder partnerships helped us to minimise delays and speed up the delivery of donations. We were also able to draw on our strong relationships with our network of local suppliers and leaders of the local communities to assist with the delivery of food to families in need.

Partnerships

The restrictions on movement between regions imposed to reduce COVID-19 transmission, required negotiation between public and private agencies to be able to deliver the donations and contributions to those in need. We also negotiated partnerships with some suppliers to manage purchases and the logistics for the delivery of equipment, supplies and food.

Medical equipment donated to healthcare institutions will be used to service people in local communities beyond the current health crisis. Upon delivery, hospitals committed to carry out all the administrative and executive formalities needed to transfer the property, use and enjoyment of the donated items to hospitals in the area and health centres in the *Puna* region in Jujuy and Salta, as needed.

Indicators

Indicators related to this initiative including amount of funds donated are included in the Communities Performance Data available on the Orocobre [website](#). Further indicators relating to measuring outcomes of these initiatives are also being developed.

