

Leandro Echt

Based in City of Buenos Aires, Argentina.
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Biography

Leandro Echt is a political scientist with over 17 years of experience at the intersection of research, international development, and public policy. His work focuses on enhancing the use of evidence and knowledge in decision-making across diverse national and international organisations, including global networks, donors, philanthropic organizations, CSOs, think tanks, universities, and government agencies. Leandro has held PMEL positions, led evaluations, designed MEL frameworks, facilitated strategy reviews and development, and supported learning processes and policy engagement in a range of fields including sexual and reproductive health and rights, civil society engagement, education, women economic empowerment, unpaid care work, rural development, and decent work. He also brings expertise in incorporating gender and equity perspectives into organizational strategies and evaluation initiatives.

Languages: Spanish (mother tongue); English (full professional proficiency); Italian (professional working proficiency)

Main regional experience: East Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, South Asia, Southeast Asia

Main country experience: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, East Timor, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Ghana, Mexico, Myanmar, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, United States

Posts held

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| 2024 – Present | Associate, Sociopúblico |
| 2020 – Present | Evaluation and Evidence Specialist, International Network Advancing Science and Policy (INASP) |
| 2020 – 2021 | Senior Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Adviser, Rutgers International – For Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights |
| 2015 – Present | Research Associate and Consultant, On Think Tanks |
| 2014 – Present | Associate, Purpose & Ideas |
| 2013 – Present | Independent Consultant |
| 2011 – 2014 | Coordinator of the Influence, Monitoring and Evaluation Program, Center for the Implementation of Public Policies promoting Equity and Growth (CIPPEC) |
| 2010 – 2011 | Political Information and Parliamentary Observatory, FOIA Agency |
| 2009 | Research assistant of the Social Protection Program, CIPPEC |
| 2008 | Research assistant of the Civil Society Influence Program, CIPPEC |

Qualifications

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| 2023 | Diploma Masculinities and social change, National University of Buenos Aires. |
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| 2020 | Specialization in Public Policies and Gender Justice, Latin American Council of Social Sciences |
| 2018 | Political Economy Analysis in Action Training Course, Overseas Development Institute and The Policy Practice |
| 2016 | MA. Development Management and Public Policy, Georgetown University and National University of San Martín |
| 2014 | Diploma in Evaluation of Public Policies, National University of San Martín |
| 2011 | Professorship in Political Science, National University of Buenos Aires |
| 2007 | BA. Political Science oriented to International Relationships, National University of Buenos Aires. |

Relevant project experience

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| 2024 – 2025 | Evaluated the Latin American Fellows Program (support for researchers to pursue post-doctoral studies in the U.S). Client: Pew Charitable Trusts. |
| 2024 – 2025 | Developed of a theory of change and measurement of evidence use and facilitating factors. Cliente: FCDO's Research Commissioning Centre hosted by 3ie. |
| 2024 | Developed the virtual training 'Strengthening the impact of public policies' for faculty and researchers. Client: Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica. |
| 2024 | Co-developed of online course 'Research to engage with policy and practice' for early career researchers. Client: Sida. |
| 2024 | Evaluated the Field Epidemiology Trainig Programme in Central America and Caribbean. Client: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). |
| 2022 – 2025 | Supported policy engagement strategies and learning of 15 grantees of the Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women (GrOW) East Africa. Client: IDRC. |
| 2023 – 2024 | Conducted review on inequities in economic knowledge ecosystems and provided advice on equitable economic policy advice for the set up of the 'Economic Advisory Facility'. Client: Open Society Foundations. |
| 2023 | Evaluated the Institutional University Cooperation and Networks between Ecuadorian and Flemish universities. Client: VLIR-UOS. |
| 2023 | Co-developed strategic concept note on enhancing trust in science through evidence informed decision-making. Client: WHO, Research for Health Department/Science Division, Evidence to Policy and Impact Unit. |
| 2023 | Reviewed the guide 'Expanding the use of your research: WHO guide on research communication for policy'. Client: WHO, Research for Health Department/Science Division, Evidence to Policy and Impact Unit. |
| 2022 | Evaluated the data and systems for M&E of the EU-AU Research & Innovation Partnership on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture. Client: Association of Commonwealth Universities. |
| 2021 | Developed the Knowledge to Policy Action Learning Lab for policy makers and civil society leaders in Trinidad & Tobago. Client: Pan American Development Foundation. |
| 2021 | Developed the virtual training 'The use of evidence in policy making and the partisan think tanks' and provided mentoring support for Ecuadorian political parties. Client: UNDEF and Grupo FARO. |



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| 2020 | Supported the use of evidence in key policy areas in Ghana, Pakistan, Uganda under Strengthening the Use of Evidence for Development Impact (SEDI). Client: FCDO. |
| 2020 | Conducted review to develop an evidence base for public engagement. Client: Wellcome Trust. |
| 2019 | Conducted the independent Evidence Diagnostic and supported evidence strategy of South Asia and East Asia and Pacific Regional Offices. Client: UNICEF. |
| 2018 | Conducted the research project: "Understanding the Civil Society Organisations' strategies to influence public policy in Latin America: Argentina, Chile and Uruguay". Client: Grupo FARO and Innovation for Change. |
| 2017 – 2018 | Assessed the Environmental Protection Agency's capacity to produce and use evidence in policy making. Client: EPA, Ghana. |
| 2017 – 2018 | Documented case studies on think tanks and civil society strategies to use their research to inform electoral programmes and debates. Client: IDRC. |
| 2017 | Assessed the establishment of a Public Policy Institute for Timor-Leste. Client: The Asia Foundation. |
| 2015- 2016 | Developed "Going beyond 'Context Matters'", an action framework to promote the use of knowledge in policy making. |
| 2015 – 2016 | Developed online courses to strengthen evidence use by decision makers: "Leaders of change: helping African policy makers develop their capacity to promote the use of knowledge in policy" and "Leaders of change: developing the capacity of Latin American policy makers to promote the use of knowledge in policy." |

