



250,000 Students 25,000 Professors 31 Universities 15 Countries



International Poverty Observatory



About AUSJAL

Asociación de Universidades Confiadas a la Compañía de Jesús.
(Association of Jesuit Universities in Latin America)

AUSJAL is an association of 31 Jesuit colleges and universities from 15 countries across the region. The network has identified as one of its priorities the various efforts and programs of their members in the arena of social change to enable poor communities to join the mainstreams of their countries, and it is fostering alliances with a wide range of other groups that are working towards this goal.

Background Information

The Association of Jesuit Universities in Latin America (AUSJAL) declared the research and cataloguing of poverty in Latin America as one of its strategic priorities in 1999 and again in 2004. Through collaborative work among both Latin American and North American Jesuit colleges, they plan to create a base of knowledge analyzing the depth and cause of poverty in the region.

This knowledge base would serve as a source for university courses and for public policy research in order to increase awareness and create a better understanding of the situation of Latin America's poor. Researchers and scholars from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington have participated, and since then have served as the US link.



Project Description:

A virtual database of information on every country was initially conceived and begun, but for lack of funding has not been completed. AUSJAL needs help expanding and updating the database. They would like to include economic statistics from every country in Latin America, and would also like to undertake the mapping of poverty in the region. This virtual database/library would be formed in partnership with Gonzaga University and other North American colleges.

The research and papers from the Poverty Observatory are not only descriptive; their goal is to propose specific recommendations to policy-makers and new initiatives that should be applied by the government, civil society, political parties and the private sector.

Cost of the Project:

\$50,000	Total requested
\$25,000	Total matched by AUSJAL
\$75,000	TOTAL

Impact:

- Serve as a source for university courses and public policy research
- Research and papers will propose specific recommendations to be applied by the government, civil society, political parties, and the private sector.