



MADRID

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Tools for urban safety monitoring:

A comprehensive perspective

17 December 2020



Introduction

In recent years, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the Madrid City Council have been carrying out various activities related to the subject of Urban Safety from a comprehensive approach, in line with the precepts of the Global Agreements, particularly the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the New Urban Agenda.

As part of this collaboration, on the 10th of December, both institutions will jointly organize a virtual webinar open to the public, which will include the participation of experts from various entities, including UN-Habitat and the Madrid City Council, to learn about the latest advances and experiences related to the tools for urban safety monitoring from a comprehensive perspective, including experts involved in the development of the Urban Safety Monitor prototype and participants in the expert meeting "Global Urban Safety Indicators and Monitoring Tool". The webinar will reveal the results of the meeting and the progress of the Urban Safety Monitor prototype. Likewise, the progress that has been made within the framework of the European Union Partnership on Urban Safety and Public Spaces, co-led by the city of Madrid, will be shared.

The webinar is aimed mainly at all those Madrid actors linked to the issue of urban safety and sustainable urban development, as well as the members of the Madrid Solidario Forum.

UN-Habitat's approach to urban safety. The Safer Cities Programme

Cities must be "designed to coexist" and the design of the physical environment has a great influence on how people interact with each other. One of UN-Habitat's most relevant programmes is the Global Safer Cities Programme. It addresses urban safety from a prevention perspective, linked to urban planning, management and governance, and the reduction of vulnerabilities. It integrates urban safety in the daily functioning of the city, focusing on the co-production of safety and protection for all in order to improve cohesion among citizens and coexistence among them. Through it, UN-Habitat deploys a range of tools to support the development of municipal policies and programmes for the promotion of safety and coexistence that include analysis, participatory techniques, monitoring and evaluation, networking, advocacy, training and capacity building, conflict resolution and public order. It has also established the Global Network on Safer Cities.

The Global Network on Safer Cities (GNSC) is an initiative of UN-Habitat whose objective is to support local authorities and urban actors to provide safety in cities, thus contributing to achieve the advantages of urban development for all. It is conceived in order to serve as the main international platform for cities and urban actors fighting to prevent crime and improve urban safety.

The Safer Cities initiative is developed in collaboration with cities and partners around the world and is implemented in 77 cities in 24 countries. The Network is designed to offer support to cities in the prevention of urban crime and to strengthen safety strategies, acting as a common platform that links existing crime and violence prevention networks with urban actors. The objectives of the GNSC are:

- Stimulate the exchange between politicians and professionals, institutions and NGOs that work in crime prevention and urban development, prioritizing safety as a global agenda for sustainable urban development;

- Facilitate the standardization of principles on prevention of urban crime and strengthening of safety for all;
- Develop and disseminate urban safety knowledge and tools;
- Support the application of consolidated and promising approaches to achieve safer cities for all;
- Increase coordination in communication, promotion and outreach between cities and donors and increase the visibility of the urban safety agenda;
- Mobilize the necessary resources to implement safety initiatives in cities.

Madrid city and urban safety

In recent years, Madrid has been incorporating the dimension of urban safety, understood from an integral perspective, in the planning, management and development of the city. Likewise, this topic has been one of the city's flagships on a global level. In 2016 and 2018, the World Forums on Urban Violence were held in the city of Madrid, forums in which the need to carry out a holistic approach to this phenomenon was widely highlighted.

The EU Partnership on Security and Public Spaces

Since the Amsterdam Pact of 2016 established the principles of the Urban Agenda for the European Union, fourteen thematic partnerships have been created. Each of them allows cities, Member States, EU institutions and other relevant European actors, such as NGOs and private entities, to collaborate and develop their own Action Plan with the aim of promoting improvements in the exchange of knowledge between the parties, in the financing and in the regulation on the subject of the Partnership in question. One of them is Security and Public Spaces, which the city of Madrid has led since January 2019, together with the City of Nice and EFUS (European Forum for Urban Security).

This Partnership on Security and Public Spaces was created with the function of identifying common needs and challenges in this area and proposing solutions to them. The challenges faced are the possibilities to mitigate terrorist attacks, the creation of spaces that facilitate the work of security forces and the search for a better perception of citizens on safety in public spaces.

Thus, European partners have been sharing a series of lines of action to achieve safer cities in the face of the new threats that have emerged in recent times, in a multidisciplinary and trans-European effort that has led to the approval of a common Plan of Action.

The need for an urban safety monitor

UN-Habitat together with Madrid City Council, convened this last October a meeting of experts (EGM) and professionals associated with the Urban Safety Monitor, an initiative that provides open data on this issue. Drawing on the experiences of the victimization survey and safety audits, and drawing on the wealth of technical expertise in the Global Network of Safer Cities, the EGM reviewed existing urban safety indicators and surveillance systems, in order to iteratively produce a Urban Safety Monitor as part of the Safer Cities 2.0 prototype, including indicators and surveillance methodology.

The Urban Safety Monitor will harness the power of data (including open data) to strengthen evidence-based policy to reduce urban crime, violence and insecurity and improve urban safety for all, from multiple points of view.

The Monitor will promote the formulation of informed public policies and improve the responsibility of local government at the city level; And by illuminating the interplay between urban risk and resilience factors (social capital) reflected in its data pool, it will broaden the body of knowledge about what makes cities safer for all.

The Urban Safety Monitor will be a self-assessment tool that will allow local governments to review each other by, for example, creating a joint global dashboard with which local governments could interactively peer review. Rather than ranking cities, this tool will allow local governments to compare their own progress towards the 2030 goals and targets to make their city safer, promoting good practices and encouraging exchanges.

Programme

Webinar, 17th of December 2020

10:00 | WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- **Carmen Sanchez-Miranda**, *Head of UN-Habitat Country Office in Spain.*
- **Santiago Saura Martínez (TBC)**, *Councilor for International Affairs and Cooperation of Madrid City Council.*

10:20 | PRESENTATIONS

- **Nicolás Gharbi**, *Principal Advisor for International Affairs, Madrid City Council: the European Union Partnership on Urban Safety and Public Spaces; general framework and current status.*
- **Miila Lukkarinen**, *Specialist, City Executive Office, Safety and Preparedness Unit, Helsinki City Council: monitoring tools within the framework of the action plan of the European Union Partnership on Urban Safety and Public Spaces*
- **Ernst de Pee**, *Project Manager Data Driven Work, Rotterdam City Council: The Rotterdam Neighborhood safety index*
- **Juma Assiago**, *Leader of the UN-Habitat Safer Cities Programme: The Global Monitor of Urban Safety Indicators*

11:30 | OPEN DISCUSSION

11:50 | CLOSING

Moderation: Gonzalo Lacurcia, UN-Habitat Country Office in Spain

The event will have simultaneous Spanish-English-Spanish translation.