UN-HABITAT for Safer Cities

1996 - 2007

UN-HABITAT

UN-HABITAT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of UN-HABITAT is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all.

History and Background

Originally established in 1978 as an outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements held in Vancouver, Canada, in 1976, UN-HABITAT is charged with co-ordinating and harmonizing human settlements activities within the UN system. It facilitates the global exchange of information on shelter and sustainable human settlements development, and gives countries policy and technical advice. At the second UN Conference on Human Settlements, in Istanbul, Turkey in June 1996, governments agreed on the Habitat Agenda and the Istanbul Declaration, committing themselves to the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world. Five years later, in June 2001, the Declaration on Cities and other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, endorsed by the General Assembly, entrusted the organization, then called the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), with continued responsibility for supporting implementation of the Habitat Agenda. In 2002, the General Assembly transformed the organization into a fully-fledged programme of the United Nations and renamed it UN-HABITAT: United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

The UN-HABITAT strategic vision

Urban poverty reduction strategies derive from an understanding of current conditions and trends (e.g., urbanization, globalization, the growth of slums and the gross inequities in urban life) and from the norms and principles that guide the United Nations response to these conditions. These norms and principles include, among others, sustainable urban development, adequate shelter for all, improvement in the lives of slum dwellers, access to safe water and sanitation, social inclusion, environmental protection and the various human rights. With experience and understanding also comes the recognition that urban and shelter finance mechanisms are essential to poverty reduction and, also, that very little may be achieved without collaborative effort as expressed in partnerships.

With these imperatives in mind and with a sharper focus on urban poverty and, in particular, slums as the most visible manifestation of urban poverty within the overall urbanization process, the UN-HABITAT strategic vision has been further refined, giving more attention to knowledge management, the financing of housing and human settlements and, particularly, to strategic partnerships. The expanded strategic vision is both forward looking and pragmatic, being consistent with social norms and political principles as well as with UN-HABITAT mandates, capabilities and partners' objectives. Its main elements are:

- **Knowledge management and reporting**, expanding the global understanding of urban development, shelter and poverty, and tracking progress in implementing the Habitat Agenda;

- **Advocacy of norms** for sustainable urbanization and urban poverty reduction, carried forward through two global campaigns and a number of global programmes;

- **Technical cooperation** in linking norms and campaign/programme goals to urban poverty reduction activities on the ground;

- **Innovative financing** for urbanization and specific shelter needs of the urban poor; and

- **Strategic partnerships** to leverage resources and coordinate international programme activities that work toward similar ends.

It is projected that by 2030, two-thirds of humanity will be living in towns and cities around the world. Another feature of the new urban age is that the global number of slum dwellers is now set to top the 1 billion mark. At this turning point in history, UN-HABITAT surveys show crime and fear of crime to be perhaps the most influential factors in our daily lives dictating where we choose to live, how to behave, where to go, and where to work.

Crime does not happen spontaneously. It grows out of an unequal and exclusive society, and out of a lack of institutional and social control. Inadequate urban planning and exclusion encourage crime and violence. Moreover, the criminal justice system, including police, courts and prisons, is poorly adapted to the rapidly changing urban environment, and is unable to respond to the concerns and needs of urban dwellers, particularly the poor.

The Safer Cities Programme was launched in 1996 at the request of African mayors who wanted to address urban violence by developing a prevention strategy at city level. The programme supports the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, which acknowledges the responsibility of local authorities in crime prevention and has since developed activities in all continents, at city, national and regional level.

The main objective of the Safer Cities Programme is to build capacities at city level to adequately address urban insecurity and thereby, contribute to the establishment of a culture of prevention.

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The Challenge and Objectives of Safer Cities

The Challenge
Crime and violence are serious problems in cities around the world threatening the quality of life, human rights, social and economic stability and sustainable development.

UN-HABITAT's Safer Cities Programme was launched in 1996 at the request of African Mayors seeking to tackle urban crime and violence.

Safer Cities Objective
To create a culture of prevention and a safe environment for all urban inhabitants by helping local authorities, the criminal justice system, the private sector and civil society partners address urban safety, and reduce delinquency and insecurity.

Facts about Urban Crime
Urbanization, particularly in the developing world, has been accompanied by increased levels of crime, violence and lawlessness. Without a deliberate effort to address this situation, the prospects of future development and of poverty reduction are limited, since violence and insecurity are key considerations in investment decisions and play a key role in the capacity of the poor to break the cycle of poverty. The escalation of crime to civil unrest and conflict or towards repressive and undemocratic responses should not be underestimated.

Crime impacts on everyday life of city residents, on the quality of public space, on economic prospects. Crime scares away investors or diverts large amounts of scarce resources from social development.

The impact on democratic processes and on citizens' participation is equally serious. Women are often the most affected, when fear hinders their access to services and opportunities. Also, the poor are most affected by crime and violence. For a poor person the impact of a not so serious crime may result in the loss of livelihood.
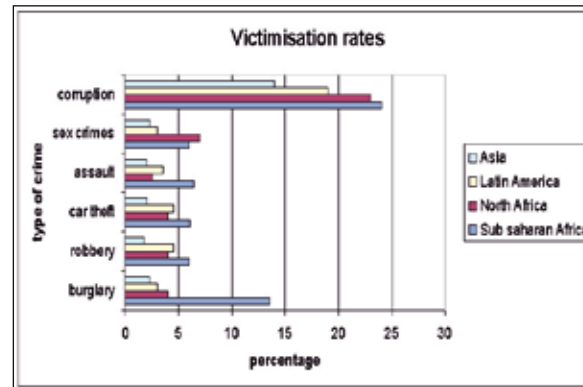
UNICRI: 2002

Safer Cities Approach
Crime and violence do not happen spontaneously. Inadequate urban environments that exclude some members of society from the benefits of urbanisation and participation in decision-making and development encourage crime.

The lack of long term solutions to social, economic and governance issues in the cities of the world and the failure to promote inclusive policies targeting the most vulnerable groups is at the root of increases in urban violence and crime.

Reducing Crime is Everybody's Responsibility
Criminal justice systems including police, courts and prisons alone cannot cope with escalating urban crime. They play a key role in deterrence and repression, but alone they cannot offer sustainable solutions. Public safety must be considered a right for all that all members of society have to develop together with their municipalities and governments.

The Key Role of Local Authorities
Mayors and local authorities have a key role to play in community-wide crime prevention strategies to address rising public demand to reduce crime. Success depends on partnerships between local governments and other stakeholders to plan and carry out strategies and activities that aim to eliminate violence, crime and insecurity.

Safety as an Issue of Good Governance
Tackling crime and insecurity are part of good urban governance. Good urban governance values citizenship and inclusion by consulting and involving all citizens in their decisions and planning – including those who are marginalized and living in poverty.

Safer Cities and Good Governance

Safer Cities and UN-HABITAT's Global Campaign on Urban Governance

Safer Cities activities at the local level promote good urban governance and its various norms at city level. The role of local authorities and good urban governance in eliminating social exclusion are central to the Safer Cities approach and the natural link for Safer Cities activities with UN-HABITAT's Global Campaign on Urban Governance.

The Urban Governance Campaign

Launched in 1999, the campaign is committed to the goals of decentralization, transparency and accountability to build partnerships with the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other civil society members to translate good governance principles into practice and action for positive change.

The campaign's vision is *The Inclusive City* where all urban inhabitants, regardless of economic means, gender, race, ethnicity or religion, are able to fully participate in the social, economic and political opportunities that cities offer. Specific attention is paid to the needs of the excluded urban poor. It promotes community participation in all levels of planning and decision-making, especially among women and youth.

The campaign promotes, as part of its principle of security, the development of a culture of peace, rule of law and solidarity through consultative processes and inclusive security policies. The Campaign has national and regional components, and several, like Nigeria, The Philippines, and Brazil, for example, have cited urban safety as their key areas of focus.

A Campaign for Good Governance was launched in Morocco in October 2004 to mark World Habitat Day. The World Habitat Day launch provided an opportunity to announce the implementation of the Cities Without Slums programme which will enable Morocco, the first country in the Arab region to launch the two campaigns, to be a slum-free nation by 2010. The Campaign Action Plan provides a supporting framework for the Cities Without Slums programme. It foresees a review and reform of the legal and regulating bills, setting the urban governance legal framework for urban and housing management.

Several thousand residents of an informal community on the outskirts of Ouagadougou on 12 October gathered to witness and signature of a plan of action to launch UN-HABITAT's global campaigns on urban governance and secure tenure in Burkina Faso.

The action plan includes proposals to provide security of tenure in Burkina Faso, particularly for the urban poor, and to strengthen the capacity of local governments to deal with issues of planning and urban upgrading. On the eve of the launch, it was debated by mayors and other stakeholders, and there appeared to be a good understanding of the challenges, as well as a demonstrated commitment to move ahead.

The Burkina Faso launch was also attended by Housing and Planning Ministers from Senegal, where the campaigns were launched earlier this year, as well as Chad and Niger, which announced plans to launch the campaigns.

Safer Cities Methodology And Activities

The Safer Cities Methodology and Process

The Safer Cities Programme supports the development and implementation of local crime prevention strategies using a systematic process:

- Identifying and mobilizing diverse local partners who can contribute to reduce and prevent crime
- Creating a local safety coalition led by a public leader, ideally the Mayor, that is assisted and supported by a Safer Cities Technical Coordinator
- Assessing the local crime situation and available human and financial resources to tackle it. The appraisal process aims to reach a consensus among diverse local partners on the priorities for action. In-depth information on certain problems can also be gathered through, for example, victimisation studies on specific groups such as youth or women's safety audit walks.
- Developing a local crime prevention strategy and detailed plan of action tailored to the priorities identified by the local safety appraisal. The strategy sets out a programme for the social, institutional and situational measures to be taken and details the responsibilities of different partners to be involved.
- Implementing the local strategy through a range of short and long-term prevention initiatives or projects that address the causes and fears of crime
- Institutionalisation of this participatory crime prevention approach at the city level by incorporating security as a cross-cutting dimension to be considered in decisions and planning in the various departments of local government, the criminal justice system and civil society. This often requires institutional reform.

Safer Cities Regional Networking

Safer Cities arranges and promotes regional and international debate and exchanges of experience on urban crime prevention within its international network of crime prevention partners.

Safer Cities Activities

The Safer Cities Programme supports the implementation of the *Habitat Agenda*, which acknowledges the responsibility of local authorities for crime prevention. The programme is in line with the United Nations Economic and Social Council Resolution 1995/9 and the Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000 by 191 UN Member States.

Safer Cities activities mainly fall under two categories: **global strategies and a number of city projects**.

Safer Cities works on global thematic issues and through city projects. Global programme activities include advocacy, policy development, training and prevention tools. Safer Cities is involved in organizing and promoting regional and international debate and exchanges of experiences on urban crime prevention within its international network of crime prevention partners.

It has developed a number of policy papers on crime prevention, violence against women, and the role of the police in good governance. Recently it has published papers on youth, children and urban governance. The Safer Cities *Global Programme Document* focuses on the role of local authorities in crime prevention, new forms of police and justice, prevention measures targeting youth-at-risk and violence against women.

Regional and international exchanges, policy analysis and case studies are developed for each of these themes.

Other areas of activity include:

- Promoting local authority leadership and responsibility for urban security as a part of good urban governance
- Supporting crime prevention partnerships and initiatives implemented in collaboration with local authorities, the criminal justice system, the private sector and civil society in order to successfully and sustainably address urban insecurity issues
- Building city networks to share knowledge, expertise, and good practices that can be replicated in other cities and regions
- Conducting training and capacity building for local authorities and other stakeholders
- Disseminating lessons learned in collaboration with partners in the North and South

Safer Cities Main Areas of Prevention

Programme activities target three main areas of prevention:

- Crime prevention through environmental design
- Institutional prevention: Support for new and alternative forms of justice and policing
- Social prevention: Actions aimed at groups at risk

Safer Cities Activities in Africa and Beyond
Durban and Johannesburg (South Africa)
Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Moshi, Arusha, Mwanza, Dodoma,
Bagamoyo and Mbeya (Tanzania)
Antananarivo (Madagascar)
Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire)
Dakar (Senegal)
Nairobi (Kenya)
Bamako (Mali)
Yaoundé and Douala (Cameroon)
Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea)
Bangladesh
Brazil (in various Municipalities)
Colombia (Bogotá)
Serbia (in six municipalities)

Crime prevention programmes are also being developed
in Abuja (Nigeria), Kampala (Uganda), Juba (Sudan),
Bujumbura (Burundi) the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.
Rolling-out (or replication) of the Safer Cities is planned
for seven other cities in Tanzania (Tanga, Moshi, Arusha,
Mwanza, Dodoma, Bagamoyo and Mbeya) and two in
Cameroon (Bamenda and Maroua). Safer Cities activities
are also expanding in Latin America (Chile and Mexico),
Asia (Vanuatu, Philippines) and Eastern Europe (Hungary
and Albania). Regional activities are also being undertaken
in the Africa, Asia and Latin America and Caribbean
regions.
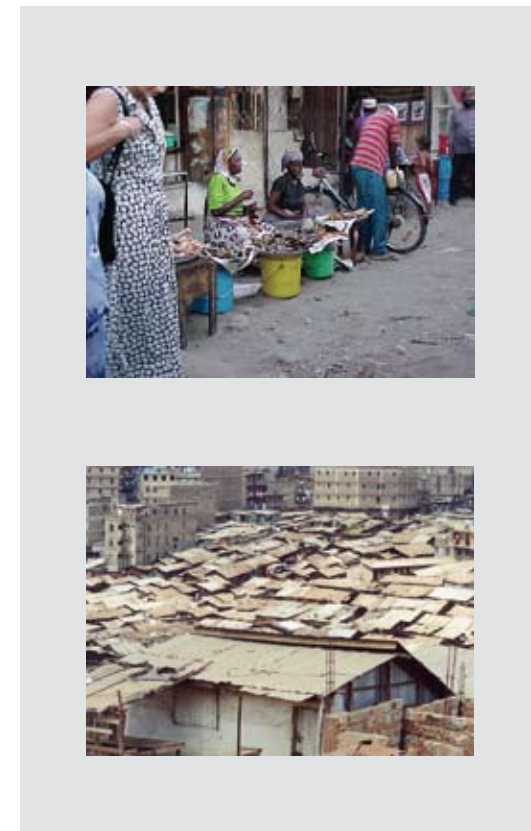
Crime Prevention through Physical Planning

CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH PHYSICAL PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

Changing the physical environment can be a powerful means of reducing crime.

The first step is to conduct a strategic analysis of a given area to identify opportunities for criminal behavior as well as groups and situations at risk. Several tools exist to conduct these 'safety audits' in the physical space involving the most vulnerable, such as women, the elderly or the youth.

Concrete proposals and implementation partnerships should result from the audit and the follow-up discussions. The various actors identify and coordinate the physical improvements of the area.

With the ongoing improvements of settlements, a local safety manager should be included in the local team to ensure the urban safety perspective is integrated in the overall site design.

The Safer Cities Programme supports the adoption of "safety conscious" planning approaches and the implementation of safer urban design through city-wide partnerships that include local government, the police, the private sector and civil society. The focus of the Programme is on the quality and management of public urban space and of the activities taking place within it: street trading and markets, parking and public transport, street lights and recreational areas and parks can be reorganized to positively contribute to urban safety. The issue of vandalism is also looked at.

Normative work, documentation and analysis of good practices

Safer Cities is working to document and analyze various city experiences and analytical tools. The experience of cities, such as Douala, Catania, Porto Alegre, Mumbai, Durban and Dar es Salaam on securing public space were presented and discussed in Barcelona, during the second World Urban Forum. The experience of the City of Durban in urban safety oriented design and public space management has been analyzed and documented.

To further the understanding of the linkages between urban policies, urban renewal in particular, and insecurity, a research project is being conducted in collaboration with the Federal Polytechnic of Lausanne/ Laboratory of Urban Sociology, and the Institute for Advanced Development Studies of Geneva/Small Arms Study on 'Urban Policies and Urban Violence" focusing on neighbourhoods in Barcelona and Bogotá. The research project is looking at innovative practices around urban safety by public and private actors and is funded by the Geneva International Academic Network (GIAN).

Cameroon is embarking in the development of a guide for planners and urban managers on environmental design principles and options to reduce crime (focusing on Africa).

Networking and exchange

The network on safety and urban space has been established to exchange practices and experiences through UN-HABITAT's Safer Cities Programme.

During the second World Urban Forum in Barcelona a parallel even on 'Urban Space and Security Policies: between inclusion and privatization' brought together practitioners, researchers and decision-makers to look at research and city experiences on assessing and responding to issues of crime in the physical urban environment. The report and presentations are available on the Safer Cities website.

A series of workshops within the "Life in the Urban Landscape Conference (Göteborg, 29 May to 2 June 2005) discussed the linkages between urban planning and crime and the tools and partnerships developed to respond to them.

The 2005 Annual Competition of the International Federation of Landscape Architects focused on 'Safer Cities'. Students from all over the world shared their vision of a safer urban landscape.

The 10th International CPTED Conference (Santiago, Chile, 1 - 3 August 2005) showcased innovations and community participation in creating safe and secure environments, and design advances in crime prevention.

City level activities: assessments and interventions

At the city level, physical features have been analyzed through environmental safety analysis in Douala, Cameroon, where 10 areas have been mapped and detailed proposals developed. They focus on the reduction of vandalism, improved maintenance and on including safety concerns within urban planning (in collaboration with the Atelier d'Urbanisme). Also, women's safety audits have been conducted in Dar es Salaam, Nairobi, Durban and Abidjan. These have proved instrumental for mobilizing women and increasing awareness on women's safety issues in a given community. Ensuing interventions have been implemented by the communities themselves or by Local Governments.

In Nairobi, the review of city by-laws on the use of public space will be instrumental to the reorganization of the City Inspectorate functions and will hopefully pave the way for more inclusive management of street vending. In addition, environmental design interventions in several city markets will be implemented with the support of the private sector.

INSTITUTIONAL PREVENTION: Support to new and alternative forms of justice

Safer Cities supports new forms of policing and justice. The aim is to bring the criminal justice system closer to the people by introducing elements of restorative justice[1].

Community policing, informal and alternative forms of conflict resolution and mediation by traditional community leaders are all examples of efficient safety improvement and citizenship development.

Many countries have created the legal framework for the establishment of municipal police services. A municipal police service allows municipalities to play a much more active role in making their cities and towns safe by providing visible policing and co-ordinating local policing initiatives. Visible policing has long been considered indispensable in the fight against crime and lawlessness.

The programme documents good criminal justice system practices, tests whether they can be replicated, and disseminates information on new forms of policing and justice. Activities that are being implemented are:

- Establishment and training of the Dar es Salaam City Auxiliary Police (Municipal police service)

[1]*Restorative justice is a systematic response to wrongdoing that emphasizes healing the wounds of victims, offenders and communities caused by criminal behaviour.*

- Establishment of Ward Tribunals in Dar es Salaam and training in mediation skills
- Establishment of Municipal courts in Durban

SOCIAL PREVENTION:

Actions aimed at groups at risk

Crime affects different groups in different ways, both as potential victims and potential offenders. Urban insecurity and crime affect youth and women in particular.

Women

Women

Safer Cities also contributes to the development of policies addressing violence against women. It recognises the crucial role for local authorities in preventing violence against women and, based on international experience, translates it in the following programme areas:

1. Advocacy

Integrating a gender-based approach in policies and programmes (sensitisation campaigns, services and shelters and improving the city's physical environment in order to make it safer).

2. Normative

Contributing to a better understanding of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the development of adequate tools, which includes:

- Collection of disaggregated data. The involvement of gender issues in urban management policies and access to data broken down by sex and age are essential to understand women's particular needs with respect to the development of the city. A gender-based approach is required in city planning as women suffer more from insecurity. However, for this approach to be viable, it must be based women's experiences. A differentiated gender approach in city planning allows city councils to better target their actions depending on the particular needs of both men and women.

- Qualitative surveys on Violence against Women can fill in the information gaps that exist due to a variety of social and cultural reasons and low reporting. The aim is to identify the types of violence and abuse women suffer from, as well as the characteristics of the abusers and of the victims and victim's suggestions regarding support services, the police, the justice

system, government authorities, etc. Violence against Women surveys have been conducted in Nairobi, Yaoundé, Dar es Salaam and various cities in South Africa.

- Women's Safety Audits and exploratory walks are based on the fact that women's fear of crime is much higher than men's. The audit engages the most vulnerable women to detect what corrective actions need to be taken in the urban environment to make it safer for all its inhabitants. The audit consists of exploratory walks by small groups of women. At each specific site, participants identify where the potential for a crime is high or where they may feel unsafe. The audits give legitimacy to women's concerns and is an effective tool to build community safety and participation. Safety audits have been conducted in many cities in Africa, Latin America and Asia and the Pacific.

3. City Level

Promoting partnerships between all stakeholders under the co-ordinating role of local government. This is a pre-condition to successful prevention programmes or strategies to fight gender-based violence as well as promoting the consultation and participation of women at each phase of a project or activity.

4. Networking and Documenting

Promoting the documentation and exchange of practices and lessons learnt as well as developing Women City networks. Significant conferences were held in Montreal (First International seminar on Women's Safety, 2002), Kampala (A Regional Dialogue on Preventing GBV, 2003) and Bogotá (Safer Cities for Women and Girls, 2004). They led to the development of international and regional networks on Women and Cities and have proven to be particularly useful in defining the role and mandate of local authorities in this area.

Youth at Risk

Safer Cities contributes to the development of policies to reduce youth vulnerability in urban areas through empowerment and reduction of risk factors of becoming marginalised and socially excluded in line with the Millennium Development Targets on slum dwellers and youth employment. It evaluates contemporary urban settings that place young people 'at risk' taking to crime or falling victim to crime and recognises the crucial role for local authorities in preventing youth crime and violence by capitalising on youth as resources and not as problems. Based on international experience, the programme addresses youth issues in the following programme areas:

1. Normative

Understanding and Developing Strategies for Reducing Vulnerability and Empowering Vulnerable Youth:

The Safer Cities Programme has developed a regional strategy for Youth At Risk in Africa and a regional strategy for Latin America is in the pipeline. The strategy is concerned with the plight of young people in cities, the extent and nature of their problems, and providing a framework for widespread and concerted action. In addition, the strategy outlines the crucial role which national and local governments must play in meeting these challenges, including the adaptation of government structures to encourage and support the rights of children and young people, and devise new policies in consultation with them. Finally, the strategy identifies options and mechanisms for action and capacity building. The idea is to set out the major steps which will enable cities and municipalities to develop effective local youth-at-risk strategies that should form a key part of city development policies and practice. The strategy supports city-wide crime prevention aimed at improving the quality of life and the inclusion of youth, as well as fostering a collective vision of how cities should approach youth issues.

2. Local Level

Implementing strategies and action plans on youth at risk at the local level. A Global Partnership Initiative (GPI) mechanism has been developed to address this objective. This mechanism spells out the need for synergies between youth serving organisations and the need for an inter-agency approach to implementing strategies and action plans on urban youth at risk. It also promotes city to city cooperation and the enhanced exchange of experiences and lessons learned from both good and bad practices in addressing youth delinquency at the local level. The initiative is being piloted in Africa. It is expected to lead to the development of integrated youth policies and youth crime prevention projects in cities that are piloting the Safer Cities initiative.

3. Advocacy

Enhancing the role of cities and youth organization networks in addressing the particular needs of the youth in the context of good governance. A Policy Dialogue on Youth, Children and Urban Governance has been developed to support this objective. This policy paper forms part of UN-HABITAT'S Global Campaign on Urban Governance. It stimulates and promotes dialogue and action by outlining the arguments for giving children and youth, particularly those at risk, a far greater role in urban governance. It sets out the background to the growing problems besetting children and youth in urban environments, the urgency of the need for action, and the arguments for supporting their participation in urban governance, including those based on their human rights. It reviews existing commitments and action globally, and some of the emerging models of participation which have proved to be viable ways of increasing the participation of children and youth, both nationally and locally. It is expected to lead to the development of specific tools related to the empowerment of youth.

Safer Cities Meetings and Seminars

Safer Cities meetings and seminars (global and regional)

- Youth Employment Summit (Nairobi, Kenya, September 2006).

- AfriCities 2006 (Nairobi, Kenya, September 2006).

- Third Session of the World Urban Forum (Vancouver, Canada, June 2006).

- 11th UN Congress Crime Prevention Workshop (Bangkok, Thailand, April 2005).

- Training Session on the Local Crime Prevention Toolkit (Nairobi, Kenya, February 2005).

- Second International Conference on Women's Safety (Bogota, Colombia, November 2004).

- Second International Conference on Urban Youth at Risk (Monterrey, Mexico, October 2004).

- Second session of the World Urban Forum (Barcelona, Spain, September 2004).

- Regional Dialogue on Gender-Based Violence (Kampala, Uganda, September 2004).

- Safer Cities Conference in Latin America and the Caribbean (Guarulhos Metropolitan area of São Paulo, Brazil, December 2003).

- AfriCities 2003 - Thematic Session "Safety: a Basic Service for the Sustainable Development of Cities" (Yaoundé, Cameroon, December 2003).

- eThekwini/Durban International Conference on Sustainable Safety: Municipalities at the Crossroads (Durban, South Africa, November 2003).

- First International Conference on Youth in Conflict with the Law in Africa (Port Elizabeth, South Africa, June 2002).

- First International Seminar on Women's Safety (Montreal, Canada, May 2002).

- Forum on Safety and Democracy (Naples, Italy, December 2000).

- Workshop on Police and Local Authorities in West Africa (Bamako, Mali, June 2000)

- AfriCities 2000 - Workshop on the role of local governments in crime prevention (Windhoek, Namibia, May 2000).

- International Forum on Urban Poverty - Workshop on Crime Prevention (November 1997 and October 1999).

- Johannesburg International Forum of Mayors for Safer Cities and International Conference on Crime Prevention (Johannesburg, South Africa, October 1998).

Safer Cities Training and Prevention Tools

Victimisation Surveys

The victimisation survey is a technical tool consisting of a set of questions that directly consults the public on crime and the perception of insecurity. It helps to determine the extent of crime. It seeks to identify those most at risk, measures the levels of fear, evaluates public perceptions of the police, and seeks to establish the opinion of victims and others on what measures can be taken. Victimisation surveys function as a tool for mapping crime and, when repeated on a regular basis, enable the effect of crime prevention strategies on a given population to be measured.

Women's Safety Audits

The tool is based on the fact that fear of crime for women is much higher than for men. The audit involves those who are most vulnerable like women, children, the elderly, the physically challenged and people from ethnic minorities. It looks at what corrective action is needed for a safer urban environment. The audit consists of exploratory walks in the field by groups of 3 to 6 people, mainly women, to show the group where crime is high or where they feel unsafe. The audits increase awareness of violence against vulnerable groups and help decision-makers understand how men and women experience their environments. It gives legitimacy to women's concerns and is an effective tool to build community safety.

Training of Safer Cities Coordinators

The programme trains Safer Cities Coordinators and key persons within local authorities to support and promote the implementation of the Safer Cities project and approach.

Safer Cities Toolkit

Safer Cities, in collaboration with the Crime Prevention Centre of CSIR in South Africa is currently developing the **Safer Cities Urban Crime Prevention Toolkit**. The toolkit will consolidate the experiences gained. It will provide local governments and other partners with practical guidelines for implementing local crime prevention initiatives in their cities and will be a key instrument for disseminating and communicating the Safer Cities experience to local partners. It will also assist in delivering a consistently high-quality training and technical assistance to local project teams.

THE LOCAL CRIME PREVENTION TOOLKIT OUTLINE

The Process Based Approach
Tools to Support the Process
Using the Toolkit Quick Reference Guide

PHASE 1. STARTING A LOCAL CRIME PREVENTION INITIATIVE

PHASE 2. UNDERSTANDING LOCAL SAFETY: THE SAFETY DIAGNOSIS

PHASE 3. DEVELOPING THE STRATEGY

PHASE 4. ACTION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Staying Informed: Information and Communication

Making It Last: Institutionalising Local Crime Prevention

Keeping On Track: Monitoring and Evaluation

Adapting of Tools, Networking and Training

- Training of Safer Cities project coordinators in Abidjan, Antananarivo, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Cameroon, Johannesburg, Durban and Nairobi.
- The Safer Cites victimisation survey methodology used in South Africa has also been adapted for surveying Youth at Risk and Violence against Women in Dar es Salaam, Nairobi and Yaoundé.
- The victim survey and youth offender methodologies have greatly been improved by adapting them in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.
- Training on safety audits for women originally designed for Safer Cities projects in South Africa is now being used in other cities like Dar es Salaam and Nairobi.
- Networking for sharing lessons learned: Contacts have been established between local teams and actors from different cities - for example, Business Against Crime Johannesburg has linked up with the Nairobi Business Community (NCBDA).
- Tools development and improvement is an ongoing activity: tools are currently being improved by testing their usefulness in Douala, Yaoundé, Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, and many other cities.

Crime Prevention in Settlements in Crisis

Crime prevention in settlements in crisis (disaster/post-conflict)

Chaotic environments, fragmented societies, lawlessness, corruption, and crime are nearly always encountered when countries are emerging from conflict and disaster situations. Local government structures are either weak or non-existent, inhabitants' trust has been eroded and/or local government is insufficiently equipped to master the reconstruction and rehabilitation process. The uncoordinated reconstruction and rehabilitation of the city becomes a growing ground for deviant behaviour, violence and crime affecting the poor in particular and especially women and children.

Furthermore, weak or non-existent local government exacerbates corruption and fraud which in turn facilitates the growth of organized crime, particularly in post-conflict countries where there are inadequate political, legal, and ethical frameworks to ensure accountability and transparency in decision-making. This poses a major threat to economic and social development and hinders the development of social stability, democracy and good governance.

As such, without a timely and effective programme of security, the reconstruction of democratic governance and development of social and economic well being is unworkable. The Safer Cities Programme is developing a framework to meet the specific post-conflict/post-disaster needs and subsequent reconstruction and development requirements which will include:

- Rebuilding institutions for upholding the rule of law
- Capacity building and empowerment of institutions and civil society with regard to crime prevention
- Rehabilitation and reintegration of children and youth affected by conflict
- Providing youth and children the opportunity to learn peacetime values that build social cohesion, identity and a sense of place in the community: the foundations on which peaceful societies must be rebuilt.
- Reducing of the proliferation of illicit arms. Economic recovery and restoration of livelihoods.

Key Partners

Safer Cities Programme activities have been implemented in collaboration with, among others:

- The International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC), Canada.
- The European Forum on Urban Safety (EFUS)
- The Institute for Security Studies (ISS), South Africa
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- UNESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
- United Nations Volunteers (UNV)
- University Institute of Architecture (Italy)
- University Alberto Hurtado (Chile)
- SUR (Chile)
- CAFSU (Canada)
- Women in Cities International
- ITDG (Kenya)
- National Crime Prevention Council (United States)
- Crime Prevention Centre of the CSIR (South Africa)
- The World Bank (Latin America Division)
- The Royal Government of the Netherlands
- UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)
- SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency)
- Belgian Development Agency
- Small Arms Survey (Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva)
- Urban Sociology Laboratory (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne, EPFL/LaSUR)
- Geneva International Academic Network (GIAN)
- National Crime Prevention Council (Canada)
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (Canada)
- Leo Lagrange (France)
- World Scouts Bureau
- Dutch Youth Council (Netherlands)
- University of Chalmers
- United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The World Urban Forum in Vancouver, Canada, 2006

The Third Session of the World Urban Forum was of special significance as it coincided with the thirtieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, also held in Vancouver in June 1976, which led to the founding of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

The World Urban Forum is a "non-legislative technical forum" whose participation was open to Governments, local authorities, parliamentarians, research institutions, women and youth groups, community-based organizations, human settlements professionals, research institutions and academies of science, the private sector, foundations and relevant United Nations organizations. The Third Session of the World Urban Forum, whose over-all theme was "Our Future: Sustainable Cities: Turning Ideas into Action" facilitated the exchange of experiences and the advancement of collective knowledge among cities and their development partners. It subsequently, recommended actions to address current urbanization challenges, through dialogues, round tables and networking events. Under the overall theme of Sustainable Cities, the Forum addressed the following key policy issues, central to urban development in the twenty-first century:

- Urban growth and environment;
- Partnership and finance;
- Social inclusion and cohesion

Urban safety and security was recognized as an increasingly importantglobal issue. It emerged that unless targeted and deliberate actions are deployed to assess and prevent causes of crime and violence, and to reduce vulnerability, sustainable urban development would be in jeopardy, since the gains of sound social and environmental approaches would be under threat.

Safer Cities Programme together with key partners organized sessions focused on:

- Policies and guidelines for safer urban planning and community based crime prevention;
- Regional perspectives on crime prevention and urban safety in Africa, Asia-Pacific and the Latin American and Caribbean regions;
- Strategies to address youth participation, gender based violence and trafficking of human beings, urban security in post conflict situations and reclaiming unsafe urban public spaces.

Planning a new Phase for Safer Cities Programme

As part of its new Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP), UN-HABITAT envisages the promotion of participatory urban planning, management and governance. It seeks to strengthen the capacity of national governments, local authorities and other key actors to develop more liveable, productive and inclusive cities.

Ideally, it seeks to have:

- An agreed number of cities adopting disaster mitigation, environmental planning and management policies and strategies and crime reduction;
- An agreed number of countries adopting inclusive and effective urban planning and local development practices at both central and local government levels with gender and age perspectives; and
- An agreed number of cities and towns developing integrated city development strategies including land use.

In 2006, after ten years of operation, the Safer Cities Programme was evaluated to assess its achievements and identify key challenges and issues, as well as to provide recommendations for the Programme's next phase (2008-2013). The evaluation validated the conceptual approach to urban safety, its importance in present urban development processes, and acknowledged the advances achieved at local and global level.

In line with the UN-HABITAT MTSIP, and in response to the Programme Review recommendations, a Safer Cities Strategic Planning process was initiated, involving the participation of colleagues and partners internally and externally and from the urban development and the crime prevention community.

Consequently the Strategic Plan seeks to address the challenges identified in the evaluation, such as the need to adopt a more strategic approach, strengthen global level activities, to improve delivery and scale of impact at all levels, to develop sustainable networks and partnership and to mainstream the global outlook of the programme in relation to UN-HABITAT core activities.

The Safer Cities Strategic Plan is intended to guide the work of UN-HABITAT on urban safety and will reinforce the delivery of the Programme by strengthening and scaling-up its global component, focusing on the local governance of safety, and the linkages with slum upgrading and urban renewal. It foresees the strengthening of UN-HABITAT's mandate in this area, the creation of a global alliance and partnerships on urban crime prevention, and the development of a shared conceptual framework.

Safer Cities Projects

SERBIA

BANGLADESH

MALI: Bamako
SENEGAL: Dakar

COLOMBIA

CÔTE D'IVOIRE: Abidjan
CAMEROON: Yaounde'
Douala

PAPUA NEW GUINEA:
Port Moresby

KENYA: Nairobi

TANZANIA: Dar Es Salaam

BRAZIL

MADAGASCAR: Antananarivo

CHILE

SOUTH AFRICA: Johannesburg
Durban

Greater Johannesburg

Launched: 1997

Johannesburg
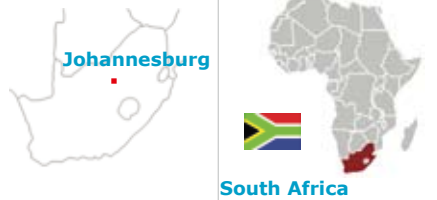
South Africa

Introduction

Johannesburg generates 16 percent of South Africa's GDP and employs 12 percent of the national workforce. Johannesburg is the capital of South Africa's smallest - and richest - province, Gauteng. Gauteng makes up just 1,4 percent of South Africa's land area. But it is home to more than a fifth of the total population, and produces a third of the country's wealth. Gauteng is predominantly urban, consisting chiefly of industrial and mining satellite towns surrounding the twin cities of Johannesburg and Pretoria. Pretoria, South Africa's administrative capital (the legislative capital is Cape Town) is itself merging into Johannesburg's outer suburbs. Johannesburg is the most densely populated and urbanised municipality in South Africa, home to 3,3 million people. Johannesburg covers over 1, 645 square kilometers. It is the country's premier business location, but its giant satellite city of Soweto confronts challenges relating to urbanisation and globalisation, safety and security, economic growth, the devastating social and economic impact of HIV/AIDS, social inequality, the delivery of services such as water, sanitation, electricity, housing, health and education.

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Funded by: Government of the Netherlands

- Executed by the City of Johannesburg.
- Between 1997 and 2000, the project was developed through a collaboration with UN-HABITAT and the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC), with core Dutch support and National Secretariat for Safety and Security approval.

- Johannesburg has long had a reputation for violent crime with some of the highest murder and rape rates in the world. A new safety strategy was developed aiming to co-ordinate between relevant safety   and security agencies (Johannesburg Metropolitan Police Department, SA Police Services, etc) to develop an overall Johannesburg strategy. The aim is to prevent and manage crime in the city based on a thorough analysis of current crime patterns over the long term.
- Since 2003, this collaboration has progressed towards UN-HABITAT providing technical support as a member of the reference group established to guide the development and implementation of the new City safety strategy
- A range of partners, including private sector Business Against Crime, are involved in the project.

Development

- Local diagnosis of security conducted through a victimisation survey influenced a major shift in perception and understanding of crime by South African authorities as findings demonstrated that crime victims were mainly black and poor. The survey also drew attention to issues related to victim reporting and support services.
- Victimisation surveys have since been carried out in several South African cities, amongst others Durban, Pretoria, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.
- Local crime prevention strategy developed in 1997 was approved by Municipal Council. The strategy prioritised establishing metropolitan and municipal police services, including crime prevention in the agenda of numerous city departments, and coordinating prevention actions among various partners who play a role in reducing or preventing crime. Four levels of intervention were identified:
  - making the environment less conducive to crime
  - developing a culture of prevention
  - supporting preventive policing and law enforcement
  - preventing victimization, and supporting victims.
- Within the Johannesburg 20-30 project, a new city safety strategy was approved by the Council in 2004.
- The new city safety strategy is aimed to reduce both the actual incidences of crime as well as the negative perceptions of crime which impact on business investment decisions.
- The city is targeting priority areas which are important for the economic development of Johannesburg.

Activities

- creating employment by hiring car guards, better enforcing by-laws, and establishing a Hawker Unit in the Inner City.
- Tools for victims support have been developed with Business Against Crime.
- Since 2004 a multi-disciplinary team is focusing on five key operational programmes in implementing the new Johannesburg safety strategy:
  - surveillance
  - winning back the streets – rape, murder, car hijackings, muggings, break-ins, armed robbery, white collar crime and corruption
  - recovering guns used in crime and creating Gun-Free Zones
  - tackling organized crime keeping young people away from crime
  - preventing offending and victimisation.

National Safer Tanzania Programme

Funded by: Government of the Netherlands and Embassy of Sweden in Tanzania

- Established by UN-HABITAT with technical support from the International Centre for Prevention of Crime (ICPC) under the umbrella of UNDP Tanzania. Phase I was supported by the Government of Netherlands and Phase II and III by the Swedish Government.
- Phase I and II of the project was supported by the Dar es Salaam City Council and each of the three municipalities of Ilala, Kinondoni, and Temeke to implement local crime prevention strategies.
- The third phase embarked on in 2006 is the institutiolization of a national safer Tanzania Programme and is piloted in other seven municipalities: Arusha, Mwanza, Dodoma, Moshi, Tanga, Mbeya, and Bagamoyo/Morogoro.

Development

- Crime Prevention Strategy developed through focus group discussions and stakeholder workshops.
- Strategy focuses on: promoting a culture of adherence to law, reducing unemployed youth at risk, sensitising residents on the need to fight crime through strategies developed by themselves, community-oriented policing, and re-establishing ward tribunals to expedite law and by-law enforcement and trial of minor offences.
- Sensitisation and awareness campaign conducted to mobilise key partners at local level and encourage civil society participation.

Activities

- Pilot projects include:
  - Neighborhood watch initiative (Sungu Sungu)
  - Employment creation and skills training for youth
  - Safety audit for women
  - Establishment of Ward Tribunals
- A victimisation survey in March 2000 and March 2004
- Auxiliary police (city police) established and trained with support from ICPC. A recent evaluation (June 2003) indicates measures to be taken to strengthen this initiative.
- Institutionalization in the city's new municipal authorities is completed (specific Safer Cities units have been established for this purpose)
- Activities focus on supporting community initiatives and violence against women, institutional capacity building and development of ward tribunals.
- Project replication to other towns in Tanzania is ongoing. Victimization studies have already been undertaken in a few towns and a workshop with city authorities from various towns has been held in March 2004.
- A review and evaluation of the Safer Cities Dar programme was undertaken in September 2004.
- A National programme has been requested to provide support and expertise in rolling-out a national auxiliary police programme promoting community policing.

Tanzania

Dar es Salaam

Introduction

Dar es Salaam, the economic capital of Tanzania, has a population of 3,7 million people living in an area of some 1,800 sq. km, including eight offshore islands. The former capital of Tanzania, it is the country's largest city and its main economic, industrial, shipping and communications hub. Until February 2000 the city was administered under one city authority but due to rapid urbanisation, service delivery and development problems and the sprawling nature of the city an alternative management strategy was developed. The city was restructured into four authorities: Dar es Salaam City Council (DCC) and the three municipalities of Kinondoni, Temeke, Ilala, devolving power to the people enabling them to actively participate in development activities including service delivery.

The socio-economic, political and cultural environment has created rising crime, delinquency and violence. Police statistics have shown that, by the end of 1995, Dar es Salaam accounted for 25 percent of all crime reported to the police throughout the country. In 1997, this figure rose marginally to 26 percent.

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safer cities projects

Abidjan

Abidjan

Côte d'Ivoire

safer cities projects

Introduction

The city of Abidjan is the economic capital of Côte d'Ivoire. In 1995, the urban population of Abidjan had grown to 2.7 million, with an annual growth rate of 5 percent (down from 11 percent during the 1970s). Despite slowing population growth, the numbers of urban poor, in absolute terms, will continue to rise in the foreseeable future. The development of cocoa exports, and foreign investment made Cote d'Ivoire one of the most prosperous West African nations. On 25 December 1999, a military coup - the first ever in Cote d'Ivoire's history - overthrew the government led by President Henri Konan Bedie. Presidential and legislative elections held in October and December 2000 provoked violence and in October 2000, the new President Laurent Gbagbo replaced junta leader Robert Guei, ending 10 months of military rule. Since then, delinquency, insecurity and violence have been on the increase in cities of Côte d'Ivoire and in Abidjan in particular. This threat diverts scarce resources from social and economic development, and the situation has led the Government to take measures to centralize police action and to lead international action against drug trafficking.

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Funded by: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Belgium

- Project started in three municipalities of Abidjan: Adjamé, Treichville and Yopougon and it now covers the whole Metropolitan area of Abidjan (13 municipalities)
- Immediate objectives:
  - Local diagnosis of insecurity
  - Victimisation survey
  - Setting-up a city-wide coalition on crime prevention
  - Development of a city action plan
  - Implementation of the city action plans and municipal action plans focusing on conflict resolution, mediation, actions towards groups at risk and environmental design.
  - Institutionalization of the project.

Development

- Appraisal of the police undertaken by two international police experts (from Belgium and Canada) in April-May 1999, approved by Government (Conseil National de Sécurité).
- Diagnosis of insecurity completed in the three Municipalities.
- Start-up of pilot activities focusing on youth and situational prevention.
- Extension of the project to the metropolitan level requested by the Government and Mayors of Abidjan's municipalities in 1999.
- Training of Safer Cities coordinators conducted by the European Forum on Urban Safety (EFUS).

Activities

- Safer Cities Conference capitalizing the results as well as Challenges and obstacles of the project to date was organized by the Ivorian Forum for Safety and Security in 2001.
- A number of cities in Côte d'Ivoire have since expressed their interest in developing local crime prevention strategies.
- In 2003, after a long interruption due to civil strife in the country, a new phase started with the expansion of the project to the 13 Municipalities of Abidjan with support from UNDP and the Belgian Government.
- New activities have started with local diagnosis in each of the municipalities under the coordination of a National coordinator, 3 municipal coordinators and 13 assistants.
- 2 cycles of 9 projects have been approved and implemented.

Durban

Funded by: Embassy of the Netherlands

- Implemented by eThekwini Municipality
- The Durban Safer City project was established at the request of the South African National Secretariat for Safety and Security. UN-HABITAT and the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC) were asked to help devise a new crime prevention policy, which was adopted by the Council in 2000.
- A Safer Cities coordinating unit was established and a local security diagnosis conducted.
- In 2003, the new eThekwini Municipality Safety and Crime Prevention Strategy was developed and adopted by council as part of a five-year strategic plan of action.
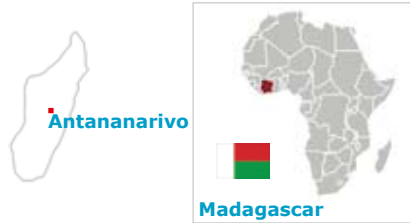
Development

- The Durban Safer Cities Strategy brings different role-players together in a prevention partnership.
- Three pillars of the strategy:
  - Effective Policing and Crime Prevention
  - Targeted "Social" Crime Prevention
  - Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.
- Safer Cities Steering Committee of city councillors, public officials, South African Police Services and Business Against Crime members was established to guide project development.
- Research Advisory Group established to advise on research, information gathering, analysis and best practices, mainly in the area of "social" crime prevention: violence against women, victim support, youth development, understanding the causes of violence.

Activities

- A Directory of responsible officials and services including station officials, Welfare and Social services and NGOs providing similar services was compiled.
- The Inanda, Ntuzuma and KwaMashu (INK) areas were declared special Presidential Pilot projects for Urban Renewal. Selection criteria were that the areas had the highest rates of poverty, unemployment and violent crime in the Province.
- eThekwini municipality has adopted an Area Based Management approach to focus and improve council delivery. Throughout the city administrative areas have been established to ensure integrated and efficient delivery of services on the local level, such as safety.
- The Safer Cities project has worked closely with Community Policing Forums to hold training workshops – at which people were taught local crime prevention strategies.
- The Warwick Junction Urban Renewal Project has developed some innovative practices and partnerships. Their expertise has been recognized and their geographic area of operation expanded to include the entire inner city area (iTRUMP).
- Urban Improvement Precincts are innovative means of public/private cooperation. UIPs are self-taxing groups of businesses that partner together to provide the services needed for cleaner, safer and more attractive business districts.
- The project was reviewed in 2003, streamlined with the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and adopted by council.

South Africa

Durban

Introduction

The eThekwini Municipal Area (EMA) is an amalgamation of seven council areas and some tribal land into one metropolitan area. The EMA covers an area of 2,297 square kilometres, with a population of approximately 3 million people. The newly demarcated boundary increased the Durban Metropolitan area by 68 percent although increasing the population by only 9 percent. This has for the first time allowed for one local government body responsible for the overall strategic planning and management of the Durban region. Like other major South African cities, the eThekwini Municipality is concerned at the way growing crime and violence is threatening the country's new democracy.

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Antananarivo
**Launched: 1999**

Dakar

Antananarivo

Madagascar

Introduction

In a country with 15 million people, Antananarivo has a population of some 2 million. In the past five years, dramatic urbanization and environmental degradation have reached a stage that threatens the health of the population, with diseases like cholera which are now endemic. The combination of accelerating urbanization, long-neglected infrastructure, and weak municipal funding for more than 20 years has resulted in accelerating urban poverty and decreasing access to municipal services for all income levels. It is estimated that more than 40 percent of Antananarivo's residents survive on less than a dollar a day, the proportion of urban poor population is increasing in inverse proportion to the size of the city. Given the predominance of the capital city-region, most of the poor are concentrated there, in its most densely occupied neighborhoods, where densities can reach 8,000 persons per square kilometer.

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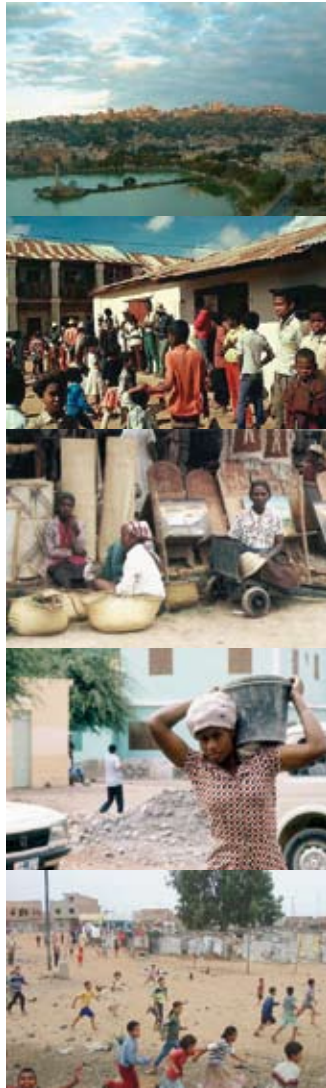
Funded by: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Development
- A survey of crime and delinquency was undertaken in 1997 in Antananarivo.
- The themes of insecurity and crime prevention emerged strongly in the debates and experiences presented at the national seminar on urban poverty in 1998.
- A participatory review was completed in February 2000 under the supervision of UN- HABITAT and SCTIP experts (Service de Coopération Internationale de Police, France).
- A strategy and action plan were developed following this review.

Activities
- Continuation of activities was made possible with new funding from the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Programme.
- A team of 27 UNVs have been working since 2001 in developing community mobilisation and crime prevention strategies and reinforcing the capacities of the Municipality of Antananarivo to address crime and violence.
- A new Municipal Department on Social affairs and Safety was created in 2004, as a direct outcome of the project.
- Capitalization of the project's activities and development of a toolkit are currently under development.

Dakar

Launched: 2000

Funded by: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Development
- The project started in the neighbourhood of Guinaws Rails in Pikine, as a component of the *Programme élargi de lutte contre la pauvreté* (Poverty Reduction Programme).

Activities
- Activities involve young people in a neighborhood watch scheme and civic education in close collaboration with local leaders.
- Two training sessions for Safer Cities coordinators and potential future coordinators was organised in Dakar in 2000.

Nairobi

Funded by: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

The project is spearheaded by the City Council of Nairobi, which supports a citywide, co-ordinated, comprehensive, and community-based approach to crime prevention and urban safety.

Development
- Local coalition on crime prevention in Nairobi developed following an analysis of local actors, in which partners were identified and involved, under the leadership of the City Council of Nairobi (CCN).
- Diagnosis of insecurity conducted through specific surveys and validation of findings through stakeholder workshops.
- Safety strategy approved by partners and local authority based on the results of the victimisation survey. Safety strategy prepared by City Council of Nairobi with key partners and approved by full Council in April 2004 and with its two-year Action Plan in March 2005.
- Plan of action implemented through activities by City Council of Nairobi and partners in the Central Business District and in informal settlements.
- Institutionalization and partnership within the City Council leading to the institutionalization of the Safer Cities project by the end of the two-year action plan and its subsequent replication to other cities and towns in Kenya.

Activities
- A UNDP funded citywide crime victimization survey resulting in three publications.
- The establishment of a Safer Cities Nairobi Action Group (spearheaded by the Mayor and Provincial Commissioner) to support the development of a citywide crime prevention strategy.
- Training seminars for City Council of Nairobi (CCN) chief/technical officers and councillors on crime prevention, and study tours to similar projects in Dar es Salaam, Durban and Montreal.
- A Safety Audit Night Walk and Public Rally to raise project profile and engage city residents in CCN's security-focused initiatives/activities.
- The establishment of an Interdepartmental Committee chaired by the Deputy Town Clerk and a CCN draft crime prevention strategy approved by full Council in April 2004.
- Constituency consultations have taken place under the joint coordination of CCN, Provincial Administration, and UN-HABITAT.
- Stakeholders consultations (facilitated by various organizations) have taken place involving CCN and: Residents Associations (KARA), Business (KAM), Community Policing Groups (NCBDA), Slum Dwellers (Shelter Forum), Police Stations (Kenya Police), Women Groups (CREAW), Youth (Youth for Habitat).
- A One Week-long City Residents Convention on Urban Safety in November 2004 and institutionalised in the city's calendar as an Annual Residents Crime Prevention and Urban Safety Week. The second convention was held in 2006.
- A youth employment focused pilot project in Nairobi has been launched.
- National Workshop to roll-out the Safer Cities approach to other cities and towns in Kenya held in 2006.
- Guidelines for local crime prevention being developed by the Ministry of Local Government.

Kenya

Introduction

The city of Nairobi is the capital of Kenya and the largest city in the eastern African region. Nairobi now spans 680 km^2 and has an estimated population of just over three million people. Nairobi is a 'melting pot' with a modern central business district, suburban business districts, large affluent suburbs but also a city of the poor, with large and intensely overcrowded large informal settlements. Over 60 percent of its people live below the poverty line in overcrowded slums without basic services like adequate water and sanitation, health services, or schools

Nairobi is characterised by high levels of unemployment, deteriorating infrastructure, poor urban service delivery by the City Council of Nairobi (CCN) and rising crime levels. Arising from the worsening of services and the lack of expansion to cater for Nairobi's growing population, private providers have emerged to rise to the challenge and to fill the gap.
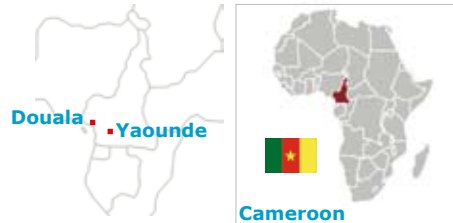
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safer cities projects

Douala   •Yaounde

Cameroon

Information

*The city of **Yaounde** is the administrative capital of Cameroon. Its population of more than 2.5 million people occupies a hilly region. Fifty percent of the settlements are informal or not serviced, climbing up the hillsides or occupying the 'bas fonds'. The city is characterised by service and public sector employment. The housing deficit and the limited extension of services are important elements of the city situation, which has also been severely hit by the reduction of public employment wages in the past. In addition, the capacities and institutional set up of the levels of government closest to the residents are weak and not geared towards effective service delivery. The ongoing decentralization process (the law was approved in 2004) sets the scene for the future challenges at local level.*

*The city of **Douala** is the economic capital of Cameroon. Its population of more than 3 million people occupies a low-land and swampy area, where about 70% of settlements are informal or not serviced. The city hosts a number of important economic infrastructures (including the port which serves various countries in Central Africa). Unemployment and the dismal state of infrastructure and services, coupled with high density of population and overall disorder, are key features of the city profile. The city is a beehive of activities with a vibrant informal sector and an important formal private and parastatal sector. Over the last few years, the infrastructural situation in the city has been attracting large investments to improve the road network in particular and, following civic unrest and a wave of crime experienced in recent years, more attention is also being focused on security.*

Funded by: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Cameroon

Safer Cities Cameroon is a component of the Urban Governance Programme that UN-HABITAT executes in the country with support from UNDP and other partners. The Safer Cities component started off in Yaoundé and was extended to Douala in 2003. There are plans to extend support to the cities of Bamenda and Maroua.

Development

- Appointment of a team to develop the local safety appraisal in Yaoundé (2000) and Douala (2003).
- Restitution workshop held to discuss safety appraisal findings and propose priorities for action in both cities (in 2001 in Yaoundé and in 2003 in Douala).
- Diagnosis of insecurity report prepared and validated in both cities.
- Crime prevention strategies developed for both cities and at municipal level (Yaoundé city has six municipalities, Douala has five municipalities) through city-wide consultations and collaboration.
- The strategies focus on:
    - improvement of police-citizen relations and access to justice and institutional reform.
    - youth at risk and in conflict with the law,
    - gender violence
    - physical improvement and situational prevention measures

Activities in Yaoundé

- Local prevention committees have been formed in each of the six municipalities to work in direct collaboration with the Mayor. A city level Urban prevention committee, chaired by the "delegué du governement" coordinates proposals put forward at the municipal level and links with central government departments. Working groups are being formed to deal with specific areas of intervention.

- Municipal level pilot activities have been developed and resources are being raised to support their implementation. Activities cover the different areas of prevention and aim to develop local models of intervention to be replicated city-wide.
- A project to strengthen service provision to women victim of violence was launched recently. Its medium term aim is to develop a network of service providers in support of victims of violence, ranging from legal services, to health assistance to financial support.
- The project is also supporting the formulation of the Municipal Police for the City of Yaoundé, which will lead to the development of the legal frameworks and the implementation of the Municipal Police in the city.
- The 'safety audit' conducted with the sellers of a major market in the city is providing insights for the redesign of the market and further improving user involvement in project design in the city.

Activities in Douala

- The Diagnosis conducted in 2003 has included a city-wide victim survey and the environmental assessment of 10 areas of the city.
- Pilot project supporting former street-children through self-employment is being implemented in collaboration with a local NGO.
- Other pilot projects include: early care for the children of market sellers; reduction of vandalism on public lights etc.
- The inclusion of "Crime Prevention through Environmental Design" concepts in settlements upgrading is ongoing, through close collaboration with the "Atelier d'Urbanisme" of the city of Douala.
- Development of a guide on environmental design is underway.

Bamako

Funded by: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Development

- The Safer Cities provides technical support to the District of Bamako in the development of a crime prevention strategy and plan of action for the city of Bamako. It also aims at strengthening municipal capacities on safety and crime prevention, through capacity building activities. This project is complementing a project funded by the Ministry of Justice, Canada on Crime Prevention and Juvenile Delinquency in Mali.

Activities

- Capacity-building sessions to the municipal staff on crime prevention approach and practices
- Technical support to the Municipality in the finalization of the diagnosis of insecurity and development of a crime prevention strategy,
- Development of pilot activities on social prevention.
- The municipal diagnosis was successfully completed in 2003 and main results were validated by key stakeholders' and the Minister of Justice.
- The crime prevention strategy has been developed and a number of pilot activities have been identified. Funding to implement these activities needs to be secured.
- Capacity-building sessions were provided to the municipal co-ordination team and Mayor of Bamako through training sessions provided by international and regional experts.

Mali

.Bamako

Introduction

Bamako is a district of 1.3 million people in Mali, a country with a population of 10 million. Bamako faces problems with high population growth and a weak and unbalanced economy. Approximately one third of the population of Bamako lives below the poverty line and the majority of the population itself is under 20 years old. Unemployment is high, and access to basic services low. However, Bamako is important in the overall national context of Mali, as 24 percent of the GDP is generated by the city, in addition to 25 percent of the national consumption and 70 percent of the commercial activities. It has further disadvantages because of its remote inland location.

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Safer cities projects

Serbia

Launched: 2005

Funded by: Italy and EU

Safer Cities is a component of the UN-HABITAT Settlement and Integration of Refugees Programme (SIRP) in Serbia, which is starting in 6 municipalities in Serbia. The programme consists of three components: Housing, Socio-economic Integration of Refugees and Municipal Development. The Safer Cities approach and methodology will be implemented in the civic integration and crime prevention element of the second component of the programme (Socio-Economic Integration of Refugees).

Development
- The six municipalities of Valjevo, Kraljevo, Kragujevac, Cacak, Pancevo and Nis have embarked on the safety diagnosis.
- Cacak Municipality has received a grant from UN-HABITAT and the Italian Government to implement a pilot initiative "Stop Drugs – Cacak Safer Town". An action plan has been developed and implementation is to begin.
- Municipal Safety Councils have been formed in each municipality.
- Workshops have been held with key stakeholders validating the draft safety diagnosis and priority areas have been identified.

- Training of municipal safety focal points has been conducted.

Activities
- Development of an action plan for prevention of substance abuse in Cacak and increased capacity of Local Safety Board in Cacak on issue-specific action planning.
- Further development of technical and methodological capacities of Police Department and Local Safety Board in Cacak to combat drug trafficking and substance abuse.

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Funded by: UNDP

Safer Cities has since 2002 collaborated with the Local Partnership for Urban Poverty Alleviation Project in Bangladesh, funded by UNDP and executed by UN-HABITAT. The Project is based on the premises that urban poor, especially women, can break away from the vicious cycle of poverty if they are empowered and supported by Government, Local Governments and NGOs. The project is implemented in 11 locations across the country.

Bangladesh

Development

With women as one key target, the project has started to analyze the impact of gender issues and of gender violence on women capacities and opportunities for a meaningful participation in community development. Safer Cities was therefore involved to assist in developing a gender violence and access to legal services for women in the communities.

Activities

After a series of workshop and action planning activities, Safer Cities in collaboration with the project management has developed a 'Community Safety' component, which seeks to address gender violence through access to legal services, sensitization and debate on cultural dimensions of gender violence, as well as building capacities for communities to assess and respond to violence through prevention. The component also targets men and their perceptions and behaviors. Collaboration with the state institutions in charge of security and with Local Government will focus on developing their response capacity in support of communities' efforts.

safer cities projects

Port Moresby

Funded by: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- Papua New Guinea's capital, Port Moresby, has one of the highest urban crime rates in the world.
- The Government of PNG, supported by UNDP and UN-HABITAT, launched the Safer Port Moresby Initiative to build city-wide partnerships to tackle insecurity problems through a preventive approach.

Development
- Establishment of a technical support team of local and international experts based in the offices of the Department of Social Welfare and Development.
- In collaboration with local partners, the team has developed a detailed work plan for the first phase of the project.
- Conducted assessment of the extent and types of crime and insecurity and identifying characteristics of perpetrators and victims through a city-wide Youth and Crime Survey, a Social Crime Mapping Exercise in one settlement of Port Moresby, and an analysis of institutional and criminal justice data and practices.
- Results of these surveys are synthesized in a Diagnosis of Local Insecurity report that will inform city-wide consultations for developing the city crime prevention strategy.
- A broad-based Local Coalition of partners and a smaller representative Coordinating Committee were formed to guide the local technical support team.
- Training the local team and selected individuals from the Local Coalition and Coordinating Committee for capacity building and project sustainability.
- A Safer City Strategy and Action Plan based on the results of the diagnosis has been drafted.
- Various donor agencies and government bodies have expressed interest and commitment to support Phase 2 of the

initiative during which the action plans will be implemented.

Activities
- Flower Pot making by youth who have been in conflict with the law.
- Making Gordon's market safe – a pilot project in up-grading the market using the principles of crime prevention through environmental design.
- Surveys were conducted on Youth and Crime and an informal settlement crime profile was developed.

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Papua New Guinea

Port Moresby

Introduction
Port Moresby is the national capital of Papua New Guinea. Like many of the major cities of developing countries, it has been and continues to experience rapid population growth, which outstrips employment opportunities as well as the provision of developable land and basic urban services. According to the 2000 National Population Census, Port Moresby has a population of 254,158 growing at rate of 3.6 percent per annum since 1980s as compared to 2.6 percent nationally. Approximately 35 percent of the Port Moresby's population is below the age of 15 years. It is estimated that nearly 50 percent of the city's population reside in the numerous squatter settlements scattered across the city. More recently, and in particular after independence (1975) Port Moresby has attracted increasing population from the rest of the country. However, its economic basis remains weak, since the country economy is essentially export oriented. The informal sector is still in its infancy, and the national policies have only recently identified opportunities and challenges of the urban sector in the country, hence pointing towards an updating of the legislation and management instruments. The city also presents some of the highest crime rates in the world, with a mixture of cultural, socio-economic and urban management related causes and possible explanations.

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Latin America

Colombia

Brazil

Chile

Latin America & the Caribbean region
The issue of urban crime and insecurity is crucial in the Latin American region. Since 2003, the Safer Cities Programme has been making contacts and giving assistance to selected municipalities in the region, notably to Santo Andre (Metropolitan area of Sao Paolo) and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. At the same time the Programme has been supporting activities of the "Comuna Segura" Programme in **Chile** by being part of a team evaluating the implementation of the programme nationally and also providing guidance to the development of a Chilean Safer Cities manual.

In addition, since the second half of 2003, the UN-HABITAT Regional Office in Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC), jointly with Safer Cities, has been involved in the issue of Urban Security at the request of municipalities and Municipal Associations in, for example, Brazil, El Salvador and Colombia. ROLAC also participated in the Regional Coalition Meeting which took place in Washington DC in 2003.

In December 2003, Safer Cities and the Urban Management Programme based in Latin America, in collaboration with the Municipality of **Guarulhos** organized an international seminar on 'Innovative Municipal practices for Safer Cities'. The objective of the seminar was to enhance dialogue between local authorities working on safety in the region, exchange good practices and pave the way for the development of a regional strategy and action plan through exchange, city-to-city mechanisms and concrete cooperation projects. Thereafter, a strategy for the region has been developed by UN-HABITAT (Safer Cities and ROLAC).

One of the main developments in the region is the creation of a pilot Reference Centre for Urban Security in **Brazil**, a regional facility promoted by UN-HABITAT and the World Bank in partnership with municipal associations and local governments. The National Front of Mayors (FNP) has included public security issues in their national working agenda as a priority, and forming a Municipal Security working group. The World Bank has begun activities in the region, supporting capacity building initiatives and delivering methodological manuals to municipalities.

The Reference Centre accelerates and optimises the development of the security agenda, and consolidates the existing framework of knowledge and experiences. It acts as a 'clearing house' of information, circulating information and expertise, and systematically integrating the different actors necessary to

strengthen the agenda at the national level.

The Reference Centre is designed to serve as a catalyst that integrates and mobilises the activities of different public and civil society institutions (municipalities, NGOs, academic institutions, international organisations). It organizes, articulates and co-ordinates the organization of experiences, the dissemination of information, offering technical support to municipalities, and facilitating the collaboration between cities and professionals dedicated to urban safety programmes.

In October 2004, the Safer Cities Programme organized a **Regional Conference on Urban Youth at Risk in Latin America and the Caribbean** in **Monterrey, Mexico**. This conference resulted in the formulation of a regional strategy and a regional networking project that will seek to advance the capacity of cities in addressing the situation of urban youth violence and crime in the context of improved local governance approaches.

II CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL

SOBRE JÓVENES EN SITUACIÓN DE RIESGO

safer cities projects

Bogotá

At the request of the municipality of Bogotá, the Safer Cities Programme supported the Office of Women and Gender to take the lead in the organization of the second international Conference on Women's Safety. The aim of the conference was to expand the understanding and communicate the interrelationship between violence in the public space and in domestic settings. The **"Second International Conference on Safer Cities for Women and Girls"** drew upon the expertise from local, regional, and international networks, and built upon the First International Conference, held in Montreal, Canada in 2002. The partner organizations were represented by civil society, academia, gender experts, urban planners, NGOs, police force, governmental representatives from the national and municipal levels, and organizers of international women's networks, which are actively supported by UN-HABITAT, UNDP, and UNIFEM.

The main objective of the conference was to strengthen the international debate by elaborating, collecting and sharing experiences, building consensus and developing common and integrated strategies on municipal policies and experiences intended to prevent and eradicate violence against women and children, through a participatory approach and empowerment.
In parallel to this conference, the Safer Cities Programme has also been requested by the Municipality of Bogotá to be part of an International Evaluation Committee on Urban Safety. The Committee will critically review the urban safety policies developed by the previous municipal administration.
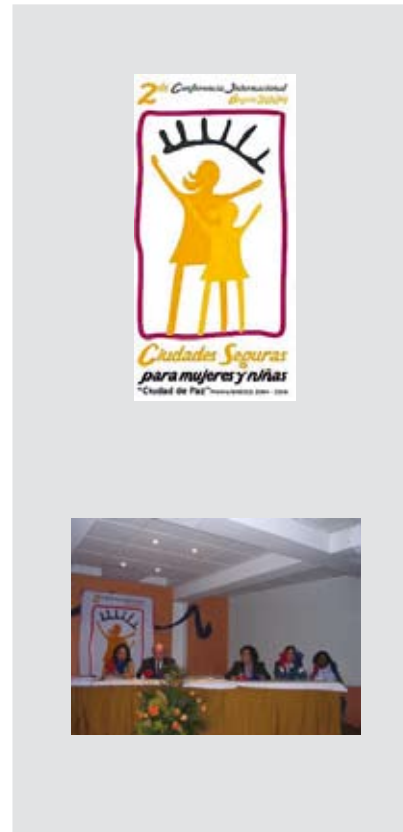
Asia

Funded by: United Nations Development Account

Safer Cities has in 2006 started a three-year regional initiative on 'Pro-Poor Urban Safety through Local Government Capacity Building in Asia-Pacific'. The project is implemented in collaboration with UN-ESCAP and funded by the United Nations Development Account.

The project addresses the lack of safety which generates fear and insecurity in communities of the urban poor and deepens their poverty in Asia-Pacific cities.
It aims at building the capacity of urban local governments and their partners in initiating effective urban safety programmes/policies for the poor, and it is targeting urban local governments, community-based and civil society organizations, including local government training and research institutions in the Asia-Pacific region.

Project Justification and Approach

Historically, the Asia-Pacific region has always been considered as the world's safest region, with its globally lowest reported crime rates. Recent evidences and preliminary needs assessments, however, suggest that lack of safety is indeed emerging as a priority issue in some cities of the region. And it is so particularly for the poorest as insecurity is eroding the poor's human, social, physical and natural capital, making it harder to escape poverty. Even a relatively minor crime can have devastating impacts on the poor's livelihood.

It is widely recognised that they alone are often ill-equipped to respond to localized problems of safety, particularly when it concerns the poor. Alternative strategies that complement traditional criminal justice responses need to build on the critical role local governments can play. Undoubtedly, local governments are in the best position to understand the unique dynamics of the communities they serve; and hence, are well suited to initiate local programmes that address urban safety with and for the community.

Despite their crucial role, however, there are currently three major bottlenecks hindering local governments in the region:

- Unavailability of consolidated regional knowledge, tools, and networks on pro-poor urban safety ;

- Limited understanding of urban local governments' critical role in improving urban safety with and for the poor

- Limited practical skills/experiences in implementing urban safety programmes with and for the poor

Based on the above, the project seeks to assist urban local governments and their partners in initiating effective urban safety programmes with and for the poor through the following three-pronged strategy:

1. Development of a consolidated regional knowledge base, network, and toolkit on pro-poor urban safety, tailored to local governments and their partners.

Activities envisaged include:
- Convening an Expert Group Meeting to bring together stakeholders to identify current issues, current and past research and innovative practices
- Establishing an Online Regional Resource Facility to support local governments and their partners by providing a one-stop shop on pro-poor urban safety
- Identifying replicable innovative practices
- Establishing a virtual network of urban safety practioners where peer-to-peer learning and discussions can take place
- Adapting the generic Safer Cities Toolkit into a localized context in support of pilot projects, and wider usage.

2. Sensitization and advocacy on the local governments' critical role in improving urban safety for the poor.
Specific activities envisaged include:

- Implementing a regional Training of Trainers workshop to build effective working relationship between local governments and their partners, in support of pilot projects.

- Implementation of a regional sensitization workshop focusing on the development of UN Guidelines for prevention of crime.

3. Development of hands-on, practical skills to implement effective urban safety programmes with and for the poor.
Activity envisaged include:
- Implementation of pilot projects, based on principles of effective urban safety programmes with and for the poor, supported by practical training of trainers and adapted tools in three selected cities.

Management Arrangements and Partnership

UN-HABITAT and UNESCAP will jointly implement the project. Other important partners would be:
- UNODC, who will assist in disseminating the international guidelines and norms for the criminal justice system in the field of crime prevention and will feed the results into the global debate on these norms.
- Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (CityNet).
- The Network of Local Government Training and Research Institutions in Asia and the Pacific (LOGOTRI).

safer cities projects

Safer Cities Publications

Safer Cities Publications

The Safer Cities Programme produces publications, guidelines and policy papers on various urban crime prevention themes including violence against women, street children and gangs in African cities (Guidelines for Local Authorities) and the role of the police in urban safety and governance. The results of safety diagnoses and victim surveys conducted in several African cities are also available.

- **Justice, cities and poverty - Justice, villes, pauvretés**, European Forum for Urban Security (EFUS), 1995 - co-sponsored by Safer Cities Programme and EFUS.

- **Crime in Johannesburg. Results of a City Victim Survey**, ISS Monograph Series No.18, South Africa, 1998 - co-sponsored by Safer Cities Programme and UN-HABITAT Urban Management Programme (UMP).

- **Violence against women in metropolitan South Africa: A study on impact and service delivery**, ISS Monograph Series No. 41, South Africa, 1999 - co-sponsored by UN-HABITAT Urban Management Programme (UMP).

- **Violence against Women in Urban Areas**, UMP Working Paper 17, April 2000 - co-sponsored by Safer Cities Programme and UN-HABITAT Urban Management Programme (UMP) (English and French).

- **Streetchildren and Gangs in African Cities**, Guidelines for Local Authorities, UN-HABITAT Urban Management Programme (UMP) Working Paper Series 18, May 2000.

- **Prevention of Urban Crime - Safer Cities Concept Note**, Safer Cities Programme, June 2000.

- **The Safety and Democracy Forum**, Introductory reports on (1) Cities and violence, (2) Urban Safety and Community Participation and, (3) Governance and Urban Safety, European Forum for Safety and Security (EFUS), co-sponsored by UN-HABITAT, November 2000.

- **Crime in Dar es Salaam**, Results of a City Victim Survey, Institute for Security Studies (ISS) and UN-HABITAT, January 2001.

- **Youth Delinquency and the Criminal Justice System in Tanzania**, A Snapshot Survey, UN-HABITAT, June 2001.

- **Urban Safety and Good Governance: The Role of the Police**, ICPC and UN-HABITAT, July 2001.

- **Crime in Nairobi, Results of a city-wide victim survey**, UN-HABITAT, Safer Cities Series 2, September 2002.

- **Urban Safety and Good Governance: The Role of the Police**, ICPC and UN-HABITAT, July 2001.

- **Crime in Nairobi, Results of a city-wide victim survey**, UN-HABITAT, Safer Cities Series 2, September 2002.

- **Survivors Speak, a snapshot survey on violence against women in Nairobi**. UN-HABITAT, Safer Cities Series 3, April 2002.

- **Youth and Crime in Nairobi**, Some exploratory issues, Safer Cities Programme, June 2002.

- **Diagnostic de la délinquance urbaine à Yaoundé**, Safer Cities Programme, December 2002.

- **Diagnostic de la délinquance urbaine à Douala**, Safer Cities Programme, 2004.

- **Diagnostic de l'insécurité urbaine et stratégie de prévention à Antananarivo**, Municipalité d'Antananarivo, Villes Plus Sûres, PNUD, Février 2001.

- **Preventing Gender-based Violence in the Horn, East and Southern Africa: A Regional Dialogue.** Raising Voices and Safer Cities Programme, August 2004.

- **Strategy Paper on Urban Youth in Africa: A focus on the most vulnerable groups, A Safer Cities Perspective.** Safer Cities Programme, August 2004.

- **Policy Dialogues Series Number 2: Youth, Children And Urban Governance**, Urban Governance Campaign, UN-HABITAT, November 2004.

- **Urban Safety A Review - A Collective Challenge for Sustainable Human Settlements in Africa**, WUFIII, June 2006.

- **The Role of Local Actors in Enhancing Security and Preventing Urban Crime - 25 years of International Debate - Compendium of UN Guidelines, Resolutions and International Declarations**, WUFIII, June 2006.