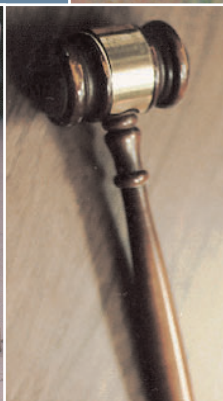




UNITED NATIONS
Office on Drugs and Crime

PROMOTING THE PREVENTION OF CRIME

Guidelines and Selected Projects



February 2004

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Introduction

All over the world, in developing and developed countries alike, ordinary citizens have become increasingly concerned about theft of their property and violence to themselves and their families.

The United Nations Crime Programme, right from its very inception, has stressed the need for effective measures to prevent crime.

The Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders in Caracas (1980) urged that greater efforts should be made to seek new approaches and to develop better techniques for crime prevention.

The Seventh Congress (1985) in Milan adopted a Plan of Action and Guiding Principles for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice that emphasized crime prevention as part of social policy: the relationship between development and criminality, studies on the social impact of crime, intersectoral planning, community participation in crime reduction efforts, traditional forms of social control, victim support, social marginality and injustice, periodic appraisal of criminal justice policies, unrestricted access for individuals to the legal system, scientific cooperation and cooperation among developing countries.



The Eighth Congress in Havana (1990) adopted a specific resolution on the prevention of urban crime.

The Ninth Congress in Cairo (1995)

asked the Crime Commission to finalize and adopt the proposed guidelines in the field of urban crime prevention. This, the United Nations Economic and Social Council did in 1995, and those Guidelines have been reproduced in this pamphlet.

In 1997, the Economic and Social Council encouraged further work on "elements of responsible crime prevention: standards and norms".

In 1999, a group of experts met in Buenos Aires to revise the elements of responsible crime prevention. In the same year, an international colloquium was convened in Montreal by the International Centre for the prevention of Crime in preparation for the Tenth Congress. A workshop of community involvement in crime prevention was organized at the 2000 Congress in Vienna. The Vienna Congress adopted a Declaration that urged specific commitments from States, international organizations and civil society in relation to crime prevention.

The General Assembly subsequently invited Governments to use the Plans of Action for the implementation of the **Vienna Declaration** GA Resolution (56/261).

In 2002, The Economic and Social Council accepted the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime, also printed in this pamphlet. The Council encouraged the widest dissemination possible of the Guidelines and urged Member States to strengthen international crime prevention networks, exchange proven and promising practices, and make such knowledge available to communities worldwide.

Guidelines for Cooperation and Technical Assistance in the Field of Urban Crime Prevention (ECOSOC RES. 1995/9)

A. DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

1. Cooperation projects for urban crime prevention should take account of the principles set out below.

1. Local approach to problems

2. Urban crime is characterized by a multiplicity of factors and forms. A multi-agency approach and a coordinated response at the local level, in accordance with an integrated crime prevention action plan, will often be helpful. This should involve:

(a) A local diagnostic survey of crime phenomena, their characteristics, factors leading to them, the form they take and their extent;

(b) The identification of all the relevant actors that could take part in compiling the above-mentioned diagnostic survey in crime prevention as well as in the fight against crime, for example public institutions (national or local), local elected officials, the private sector (associations, enterprises), the voluntary sector, community representatives etc.;

(c) The establishment, wherever appropriate, of consultation mechanisms promoting closer liaison, the exchange of information, joint work and the design of a coherent strategy;

(d) The elaboration of possible solutions to these problems in the local context.

2. Integrated crime prevention action plan

3. The authors of an integrated crime prevention action plan, in order for it to be comprehensive and efficient, should:

(a) Define:

(i) The nature and types of crime problems to be tackled, such as theft, robbery, burglary, racial attacks, drug related crimes, juvenile delinquency and illegal possession of firearms, taking into account all the factors that may directly or indirectly cause such problems or contribute to them;

(ii) The objectives being pursued and the time by which they should be attained;

(iii) The action envisaged and the respective responsibilities of those involved vis-à-vis the implementation of the plan (for example, whether local or national resources are to be mobilized);

(b) Consider involving a range of actors representing in particular:

(i) Social workers and education, housing



and health workers, in addition to the police, the courts, public prosecutors and probation services etc.;

(ii) The community: elected officials, associations, volunteers, parents, victims' organizations etc.;

(iii) The economic sector: enterprises, banks, business, public transport etc.;

(iv) The media;

(c) Consider the relevance to the crime prevention action plan of such factors as:



(i) Relationships in the family, between generations or between social groups etc.;

(ii) Education, religious, moral and civic values, culture etc.;

(iii) Employment, training, measures for combating unemployment and poverty;

(iv) Housing and urbanism;

(v) Health, drug and alcohol abuse;

(vi) Government and community welfare aid for the least fortunate members of society;

(vii) Combating the culture of violence and intolerance;

(d) Consider providing for action at various levels:

(i) *Primary prevention:*

a. By promoting situational criminal prevention measures, such as target hardening and opportunity reduction;

b. By promoting welfare and health development and progress and by combating all forms of social deprivation;

c. By promoting communal values and respect for fundamental human rights;

d. By promoting civic responsibility and social mediation procedures;

e. By facilitating the adaptation of the working methods of the police and the courts;

(ii) *Prevention of recidivism:*

a. By facilitating the adaptation of methods of police intervention (rapid response, intervention within the local community etc.);

b. By facilitating the adaptation of methods of judicial intervention and implementation of alternative remedies:

i. Diversification of methods of treatment and of measures taken according to the nature and seriousness of the cases (diversionary schemes, mediation, a special system for minors etc.);

- ii. Systematic research on the reintegration of offenders involved in urban crime through the implementation of non-custodial measures;
- ii. Socio-educational support within the framework of the sentence, in prison and as preparation for release from prison;

c. By giving an active role to the community in the rehabilitation of offenders;

(iii) After the sentence has been served: aid and socio-educational support, family support etc.;

(iv) Protection of victims by practical improvements in their treatment by means of the following:

- a. Raising awareness of rights and how to exercise them effectively;
- b. Reinforcing rights (in particular the right to compensation);
- c. Introducing systems of victim assistance.

B. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN

1. Central authorities

4. The central authorities, to the extent consistent with their competence, should:

- (a) Provide active support, assistance and encouragement to local actors;
- (b) Coordinate national policy and strategies with local strategies and needs;

(c) Organize consultation and cooperation mechanisms between the various administrations concerned at the central level.

2. Authorities at all levels

5. Competent authorities at all levels should:

(a) Be constantly mindful of respect for the fundamental principles of human rights in promoting these activities;

(b) Encourage and/or implement appropriate training and information to support all professionals involved in crime prevention;

(c) Compare experiences and organize exchanges of know-how;

(d) Provide a means of evaluating regularly the effectiveness of the strategy implemented and provide for the possibility of revising it.



Action to promote effective crime prevention (ECOSOC RES. 2002/13)

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

Bearing in mind its resolution 1996/16 of 23 July 1996, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to promote the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice matters,

Recalling the elements of responsible crime prevention: standards and norms annexed to its resolution 1997/33 of 21 July 1997, in particular those relating to community involvement in crime prevention contained in paragraphs 14 to 23 of that annex, as well as the revised draft elements of responsible crime prevention prepared by the Expert Group Meeting on Elements of Responsible Crime Prevention: Addressing

Traditional and Emerging Crime Problems, held in Buenos Aires from 8 to 10 September 1999,

Taking note of the international colloquium of crime prevention experts convened in Montreal, Canada, from 3 to 6 October 1999, by the Governments of France, the Netherlands and Canada, in collaboration with the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime in Montreal, as a preparatory meeting for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Noting that the draft elements of responsible crime prevention were considered at the workshop on community involvement in crime prevention held at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held in Vienna from 10 to 17 April 2000,

Acknowledging the need to update and finalize the draft elements of responsible crime prevention,

Aware of the scope for significant reductions in crime and victimization through knowledge-based approaches, and of the contribution that effective crime prevention can make in terms of the safety and security of individuals and their property, as well as the quality of life in communities around the world,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 56/261 of 31 January 2002, entitled "Plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century", in particular the action on crime prevention in order to follow up the commitments undertaken in





paragraphs 11, 13, 20, 21, 24 and 25 of the Vienna Declaration,*

Convinced of the need to advance a collaborative agenda for action with respect to the commitments made in the Vienna Declaration,

Noting with appreciation the work of the Group of Experts on Crime Prevention at their meeting held in Vancouver, Canada, from 21 to 24 January 2002, and the work of the Secretary-General in preparing a report on the results of that interregional meeting, containing revised draft guidelines for crime prevention and proposed priority areas for international action,**

Recognizing that each Member State is unique in its governmental structure, social characteristics and economic capacity and that those factors will influence the scope and implementation of its crime prevention programmes,

Recognizing also that changing circumstances and evolving approaches to crime prevention may require further elaboration and adaptation of crime prevention guidelines,

1. *Accepts* the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime, annexed to the present resolution, with a view to providing elements for effective crime prevention;

2. *Invites* Member States to draw upon the Guidelines, as appropriate, in the development or strengthening of their policies in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;

3. *Requests* relevant United Nations bodies and other specialized organizations to strengthen inter-agency coordination and cooperation in crime prevention, as set out in the Guidelines, and, to that end, to disseminate the Guidelines widely within the United Nations system;

4. *Requests* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat, in consultation with Member States, the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant entities in the United Nations system, to prepare a proposal for technical assistance in the area of crime prevention, in accordance with the guidelines of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention;

5. *Requests* Member States to establish or strengthen international, regional and national crime prevention networks, with a view to developing knowledge-based strategies, exchanging proven and promising practices, identifying elements of their transferability and making such knowledge available to communities throughout the world;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Annex

Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime

I. INTRODUCTION

1. There is clear evidence that well-planned crime prevention strategies not only prevent crime and victimization, but also promote community safety and contribute to the sustainable development of countries. Effective, responsible crime prevention enhances the quality of life of all citizens. It has long-term benefits in terms of reducing the costs associated with the formal criminal justice system, as well as other social costs that result from crime. Crime prevention offers opportunities for a humane and more cost-effective approach to the problems of crime. The present Guidelines outline the necessary elements for effective crime prevention.

II. CONCEPTUAL FRAME OF REFERENCE

2. It is the responsibility of all levels of government to create, maintain and promote a context within which relevant governmental institutions and all segments of civil society, including the corporate sector, can better play their part in preventing crime.

3. For the purposes of the present Guidelines, "crime prevention" comprises strategies and measures that seek to reduce the risk of crimes occurring, and their potential harmful effects on individuals and society, including fear of crime, by intervening to influence their multiple causes. The enforcement of laws, sentences and corrections, while also performing preventive functions, falls outside the scope of the Guidelines, given the comprehensive coverage of the subject in other United Nations instruments.*

4. The present Guidelines address crime and its effects on victims and society and take into account the growing internationalization of criminal activities.

5. Community involvement and cooperation/partnerships represent important elements of the concept of crime prevention set out herein. While the term "community" may be defined in different ways, its essence in this context is the involvement of civil society at the local level.

6. Crime prevention encompasses a wide range of approaches, including those which:

(a) Promote the well-being of people and encourage pro-social behaviour through social, economic, health and educational measures, with a particular emphasis on children and youth, and focus on the risk and protective factors associated with crime and victimization (prevention through social development or social crime prevention);

(b) Change the conditions in neighbourhoods that influence offending, victimization and the insecurity that results from crime by building on the initiatives, expertise and commitment of community members (locally based crime prevention);



(c) Prevent the occurrence of crimes by reducing opportunities, increasing risks of being apprehended and minimizing benefits, including through environmental design, and by providing assistance and information to potential and actual victims (situational crime prevention);

(d) Prevent recidivism by assisting in the social reintegration of offenders and other preventive mechanisms (reintegration programmes).

III. BASIC PRINCIPLES

Government leadership

7. All levels of government should play a leadership role in developing effective and humane crime prevention strategies and in creating and maintaining institutional frameworks for their implementation and review.

Socio-economic development and inclusion

8. Crime prevention considerations should be integrated into all relevant social and economic policies and programmes, including those addressing employment, education, health, housing and urban planning, poverty, social marginalization and exclusion. Particular emphasis should be placed on communities, families, children and youth at risk.

Cooperation/partnerships

9. Cooperation/partnerships should be an integral part of effective crime prevention, given the wide-ranging nature of the causes of crime and the skills and responsibilities required to address them. This includes partnerships working across ministries and between authorities, community organizations, non-governmental organizations, the business sector and private citizens.

Sustainability/ accountability

10. Crime prevention requires adequate resources, including funding for structures and activities, in order to be sustained. There should be clear accountability for funding, implementation and evaluation and for the achievement of planned results.

Knowledge base

11. Crime prevention strategies, policies, programmes and actions should be based on a broad, multidisciplinary foundation of knowledge about crime problems, their multiple causes and promising and proven practices.

Human rights/rule of law/culture of lawfulness

12. The rule of law and those human rights which are recognized in international instruments to which Member States are parties must be respected in all aspects of crime prevention. A culture of lawfulness should be actively promoted in crime prevention.

Interdependency

13. National crime prevention diagnoses and strategies should, where appropriate, take account of links between local criminal problems and international organized crime.

Differentiation

14. Crime prevention strategies should, when appropriate, pay due regard to the different needs of men and women and consider the special needs of vulnerable members of society.



IV. ORGANIZATION, METHODS AND APPROACHES

15. Recognizing that all States have unique governmental structures, this section sets out tools and methodologies that Governments and all segments of civil society should consider in developing strategies to prevent crime and reduce victimization. It draws on international good practice.

Community involvement

16. In some of the areas listed below, Governments bear the primary responsibility. However, the active participation of communities and other segments of civil society is an essential part of effective crime prevention. Communities, in particular, should play an important part in identifying crime prevention priorities, in implementation and evaluation, and in helping to identify a sustainable resource base.

A. Organization

Government structures

17. Governments should include prevention as a permanent part of their structures and programmes for controlling crime, ensuring that clear responsibilities and goals exist within government for the organization of crime prevention, by, inter alia:

- (a) Establishing centres or focal points with expertise and resources;
- (b) Establishing a crime prevention plan with clear priorities and targets;
- (c) Establishing linkages and coordination between relevant government agencies or departments;



- (d) Fostering partnerships with non-governmental organizations, the business, private and professional sectors and the community;

- (e) Seeking the active participation of the public in crime prevention by informing it of the need for and means of action and its role.

Training and capacity-building

18. Governments should support the development of crime prevention skills by:

- (a) Providing professional development for senior officials in relevant agencies;
- (b) Encouraging universities, colleges and other relevant educational agencies to offer basic and advanced courses, including in collaboration with practitioners;
- (c) Working with the educational and professional sectors to develop certification and professional qualifications;
- (d) Promoting the capacity of communities to develop and respond to their needs.

Supporting partnerships

19. Governments and all segments of civil society should support the principle of partnership, where appropriate, including:

- (a) Advancing knowledge of the importance of this principle and the components of successful partnerships, including the need for all of the partners to have clear and transparent roles;
- (b) Fostering the formation of partnerships at different levels and across sectors;
- (c) Facilitating the efficient operation of partnerships.

Sustainability

20. Governments and other funding bodies should strive to achieve sustainability of demonstrably effective crime prevention programmes and initiatives through, inter alia:

- (a) Reviewing resource allocation to establish and maintain an appropriate balance between crime prevention and the criminal justice and other systems, to be more effective in preventing crime and victimization;
- (b) Establishing clear accountability for funding, programming and coordinating crime prevention initiatives;
- (c) Encouraging community involvement in sustainability.



B. Methods

Knowledge base

21. As appropriate, Governments and/or civil society should facilitate knowledge-based crime prevention by, inter alia:

- (a) Providing the information necessary for communities to address crime problems;
- (b) Supporting the generation of useful and practically applicable knowledge that is scientifically reliable and valid;
- (c) Supporting the organization and synthesis of knowledge and identifying and addressing gaps in the knowledge base;
- (d) Sharing that knowledge, as appropriate, among, inter alia, researchers, policy makers, educators, practitioners from other relevant sectors and the wider community;
- (e) Applying this knowledge in replicating successful interventions, developing new initiatives and anticipating new crime problems and prevention opportunities;
- (f) Establishing data systems to help manage crime prevention more cost-effectively, including by conducting regular surveys of victimization and offending;
- (g) Promoting the application of those data in order to reduce repeat victimization, persistent offending and areas with a high level of crime.

Planning interventions

22. Those planning interventions should promote a process that includes:

(a) A systematic analysis of crime problems, their causes, risk factors and consequences, in particular at the local level;

(b) A plan that draws on the most appropriate approach and adapts interventions to the specific local problem and context;



(c) An implementation plan to deliver appropriate interventions that are efficient, effective and sustainable;

(d) Mobilizing entities that are able to tackle causes;

(e) Monitoring and evaluation.

Support evaluation

23. Governments, other funding bodies and those involved in programme development and delivery should:

(a) Undertake short- and longer-term evaluation to test rigorously what works, where and why;

(b) Undertake cost-benefit analyses;

(c) Assess the extent to which action results in a reduction in levels of crime and victimization, in the seriousness of crime and in fear of crime;

(d) Systematically assess the outcomes and unintended consequences, both positive and negative, of action, such as a decrease in crime rates or the stigmatization of individuals and/or communities.

C. Approaches

24. This section expands upon the social development and situational crime prevention approaches. It also outlines approaches that Governments and civil society should endeavour to follow in order to prevent organized crime.

Social development

25. Governments should address the risk factors of crime and victimization by:

(a) Promoting protective factors through comprehensive and non-stigmatizing social and economic development programmes, including health, education, housing and employment;

b) Promoting activities that redress marginalization and exclusion;

(c) Promoting positive conflict resolution;

(d) Using education and public awareness strategies to foster a culture of lawfulness and tolerance while respecting cultural identities.

Situational

26. Governments and civil society, including, where appropriate, the corporate sector, should support the development of situational crime prevention programmes by, inter alia:



- (a) Improved environmental design;
- (b) Appropriate methods of surveillance that are sensitive to the right to privacy;
- (c) Encouraging the design of consumer goods to make them more resistant to crime;
- (d) Target hardening, without impinging upon the quality of the built environment or limiting free access to public space;
- (e) Implementing strategies to prevent repeat victimization.

Prevention of organized crime

27. Governments and civil society should endeavour to analyse and address the links between transnational organized crime and national and local crime problems by, inter alia:

- (a) Reducing existing and future opportunities for organized criminal groups to participate in lawful markets with the proceeds of crime, through appropriate legislative, administrative or other measures;

- (b) Developing measures to prevent the misuse by organized criminal groups of tender procedures conducted by public authorities and of subsidies and licences granted by public authorities for commercial activity;

- (c) Designing crime prevention strategies, where appropriate, to protect socially marginalized groups, especially women and children, who are vulnerable to the action of organized criminal groups, including trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.

V. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Standards and norms

28. In promoting international action in crime prevention, Member States are invited to take into account the main international instruments related to human rights and crime prevention to which they are parties, such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex), the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (General Assembly resolution 48/104), the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines) (General Assembly resolution 45/112, annex), the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (General Assembly resolution 40/34, annex), the guidelines for cooperation and technical assistance in the field of urban crime prevention (resolution 1995/9, annex), as well as the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century (General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex) and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (General Assembly resolution 55/25, annexes I-III, and resolution 55/255, annex).

Technical assistance

29. Member States and relevant international funding organizations should provide financial and technical assistance, including capacity-building and training, to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, communities and other relevant organizations for the implementation of effective crime prevention and community safety strategies at the regional, national and local levels. In that context, special attention should be given to research and action on crime prevention through social development.

Networking

30. Member States should strengthen or establish international, regional and national crime prevention networks with a view to exchanging proven and promising practices, identifying elements of their transferability and making such knowledge available to communities throughout the world.

Links between transnational and local crime

31. Member States should collaborate to analyse and address the links between transnational organized crime and national and local crime problems.

Prioritizing crime prevention

32. The Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat, the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network of affiliated and associated institutes and other relevant United Nations entities should include in their priorities crime prevention as set out in these Guidelines, set up

a coordination mechanism and establish a roster of experts to undertake needs assessment and to provide technical advice.

Dissemination

33. Relevant United Nations bodies and other organizations should cooperate to produce crime prevention information in as many languages as possible, using both print and electronic media.



Selected UNODC Projects and Project Ideas

1. Prevention and Reduction of Juvenile Crime

Juvenile Justice Reform and Delinquency Prevention in Egypt

Egypt is faced with juvenile delinquency, often related to drug trafficking and consumption, as well as large numbers of street children to which the country is not in a position to respond adequately. The desperate situation of these children is seriously compromising the future of those already in conflict with the law and putting at risk juveniles who may become potential future criminals. These children and ado-lescents are moreover easy prey for criminal organizations, closely linked with the activities of international organized crime, specializing in traffic in children for prostitution, pornography, labour, or drug trafficking. Egyptian legislation contains specific provisions applicable to juveniles. It is laid down in the Child Law No. 12/1996 that any juvenile under investigation is not dealt with by the ordinary judicial authorities but by a special juvenile court. However, in the present situation these provisions are not only proving inadequate in terms of respect for the interests of the child and his or her rights, especially as far as measures available for the juveniles under fifteen are concerned, but these provisions have often not been enforced.



Building on a successful prior project in Lebanon, the project assists the Egyptian Government in its efforts to improve the implementation of the national legislative and institutional provisions for juvenile justice. It formulates a strategy directed towards the enhancement of detention conditions for young offenders, the protection of young people at risk, and the prevention of delinquency and recidivism.

To achieve these objectives, the project is launching the following activities:

- (a) Creation of a Youth Council institutionally attached to the Ministry of Justice, in charge of collecting, analyzing and monitoring information and data on juvenile delinquency and minors at risk;
- (b) Improvement of quality of service delivery through special training programmes for social workers, juvenile police officers as well as other judicial personnel dealing with children (lawyers, prosecutors and magistrates);
- (c) Enhancement of safeguards in case work involving children at risk, with a view to avoiding resort to judicial criminal proceedings, wherever appropriate;
- (d) Improvement of detention conditions and strengthen the administration of social institutions;
- (e) Reinforcement of the national legislative provisions in respect of juveniles.

Budget: US\$ 569,400; partly funded (Danish Embassy in Cairo)

2. Improving Urban Security

Urban Crime Prevention in the Dakar Region



The extension of urban areas in and around Dakar has become a setting for street crime and a variety of forms of trafficking, including drug trafficking. This type of criminality, which now affects the entire capital, has its roots in a number of outlying districts

where there is a concentration of uprooted and deprived population groups living in difficult conditions. The proliferation of everyday criminal acts, particularly violent acts of crime, and the increased levels of drug consumption and trafficking are clear pointers to the emergence of organized crime.

In their analysis of the problem, the Senegalese Government authorities have emphasized the inadequacy of activities undertaken by the police and the judicial services, attributable in particular to the following factors:

- Lack of close local involvement by the public services responsible for security and justice, thereby giving rise to a sense of social abandonment among the residents of these districts;
- Inadequate training of police services in the specifics of urban crime prevention activities.

tive aimed at restoring a feeling of safety and community-belonging among the inhabitants of the districts concerned. This will entail the improvement of public services for which the State has traditionally been responsible, in particular those relating to the maintenance of law and order and the provision of justice, as well as services which need to be available to the public on an equitable basis. Accordingly, these services will have to be strengthened or adapted to meet the specific needs of the public in problem districts.

In this specific context, the project constitutes a crime prevention initiative for the Dakar region comprising the following components:

- Providing judicial and police institutions as well as the municipal authorities concerned with legal and administrative tools customized to their requirements;
- Furnishing the local police services and judicial centres with the material means necessary for fulfilling their functions;
- Improving the training of personnel working in an urban environment (conciliators, social workers, police officers);
- Proposing partnership initiatives involving the various social elements and coordinated with State police and judicial functions; and
- Fostering the active involvement of the population groups concerned, in particular through local surveys on the lack of security.

Budget: US\$ 329,000; funded (France, UNDP)

In the face of these problems, the Senegalese authorities have agreed to implement an initia-

Inter-agency Partnerships for Safer Favelas in Rio

The rapid rise in the crime rate and its association with the drug problem produce alarming effects that bring about violence, intimidation, and fear to the population at large, affecting the efforts being made by governments to improve the quality of life. This violence is particularly prevalent in low-income communities in large cities and metropolitan areas. Its effects are also particularly intense for young people, ex-convicts, women, and people who live or work in the streets, among others. In order to revert the current trend of rising violence rates and insecurity in urban areas, prevention policies and interventions designed for areas and groups at risk are required.

The overall objective of this project is to strengthen the strategies and actions of the Rio de Janeiro City Hall, involving partnerships with non-governmental organizations whenever possible. The project has the following specific objectives:

- Expanding and training the staff of the social services network and centers of the City Hall;
- Fostering greater institutional integration among the actors involved in the City Hall projects by strengthening governmental and non-governmental organizations, optimizing services;
- Improving technical skills of the professionals involved in the project with a view to fostering an interdisciplinary approach;
- Systematizing data-collection and victimization survey methodologies, developing indicators allowing for the impact of successful experiences to be measured and replicated.

The following strategies are envisaged:

- Strengthening joint actions carried out by agencies engaged in social activities for the purpose of catering to the needs of the target population as a strategy to promote urban safety and prevent crime and social exclusion;
 - Community crime prevention interventions designed for areas affected by the drug traffic and concomitant criminal problems;
 - Redesigning the strategies adopted by social work centers for the purpose of turning them into referral centers for children and adolescents;
 - Fostering the participation of different actors of local communities, including young people, through social exclusion prevention committees;
 - Fostering and facilitating actions aimed at assisting ex-delinquents and ex-convicts and beneficiaries of alternative penalties as a strategy to prevent them from relapsing;
 - Fostering a close partnership with mental health care services and universities with the aim of expanding their capacity to assist drug users and mentally disabled individuals with a view to ensuring their social reinsertion;
- Fostering campaigns to raise the awareness of the population of the effectiveness and importance of violence prevention policies, turning the beneficiaries of the project into agents actively involved in building a more equal and less violent society.

Estimated budget: US\$ 7,087,500; to be funded (Cost-sharing Contribution expected from the Rio de Janeiro City Hall)

3. Prevention of Violence within the Family

Measures to Counteract Violence against Women in South Africa

South Africa has among the highest rape rates in the world. Though statistics on both rape and domestic violence are high, victimization numbers and other data available indicate that the rates are actually even higher. Violence against women manifests itself in different forms and differs from area to area, however it is a well-established characteristic that abused women also run the risk of "secondary victimization" within the criminal justice system. Legislation regarding women's rights and legal protection of women and children has been promulgated to eradicate violence against women in South Africa, but there is a need for training and sensitization of criminal justice agencies to provide for better treatment of the abused. Taking into consideration the high incidence of rape and violence against women, the establishment of One Stop Centres and shelters are also high priorities. One Stop Centres provide a range of services to victims/survivors of violence, including counselling, support groups, provisional shelter and fast referral for medical and legal assistance. Prevention and rehabilitation programmes are also available for male perpetrators in order to break the cycle of violence. With a recommendation from the UN Special Rapporteur, UNODC established in 1998 a project, entitled "Establishment of two One-Stop Centres to counteract violence against Women", to address the problem of gender-based violence in the Mpumalanga and Eastern Cape provinces. A project extension envisages the establishment of a third Centre in the Northern Cape province. Although awareness raising activities and trainings have already taken place in that province, there continues to be an increase in the number of women and child abuse cases. More education and sensitization for men on issues relating to violence



against women and children is needed. Police stations still have to become more victim-friendly through additional training. The provision of shelters should avoid that women are left with no option but to return to the abusive situations.

Budget: US\$ 660,000 USD (including US\$ 258,944 for the project extension); funded (Austria)

Measures to Counteract and Prevent Violence against Women in Lesotho, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo and Namibia

Violence against women is a disturbing phenomenon that appears to be endemic, although the extent is not known in all countries of the Southern African region. Rape is increasingly affecting children and young women and contributes to the further spread of HIV/AIDS, which has reached the world's highest levels in this region.

Lesotho, Namibia and Botswana all reported the increase of violence against women and children in their countries and submitted a request for assistance to deal with this growing problem.

Based on lessons learnt from a pilot project in South Africa, where two Out Reach Centres to counteract violence against women were established, projects are envisaged for Lesotho, Democratic Republic of Congo, Namibia and

Botswana, which include the following envisaged activities:

- Development of multi-disciplinary empowerment services and strategies
- Raising public awareness on women abuse issues and social mobilization against abuse
- Creation of the One-Stop-Center to provide counseling, support groups, provisional shelter, fast referral for medical and legal assistance and prevention/rehabilitation for (potential) offenders
- Development of Out-Reach educational programmes for traditional leaders, community, mass media, law enforcement, judiciary and the correctional services
- Establishment of prevention and rehabilitation programmes for males

Estimated budget: US\$ 526,580 (per country); to be funded



4. Assisting Victims



Fund Promoting Victim Support: Building Non-Governmental Support Structures for Victims of Violent Crime, including Victims of Trafficking in Persons

In the development of comprehensive criminal justice responses, support structures for the victims of crime should be promoted in accordance with the UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuses of Power.

Given the extent and diversity of victimization, there exists a wide range of victim-centred projects that can benefit from UN funding. The Fund Promoting Victim Support focuses on projects that assist victims of violent crime, including victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

As support structures for victims of violent crime are comparatively advanced in developed countries, the Fund is dedicated to projects based in developing countries and countries in transition. Funding is for non-governmental organizations, and organizations affiliated to government institutions with a clear victim-centred agenda.

It is estimated that the Fund will be able to assist 15 projects. Selection of projects is on the basis of a two-stage application process that identifies activities with a clear victim-centred

agenda based on practical assistance to victims. Through its application process, the Fund aims to identify 'best practice' in global victim assistance.

Encouragingly, the Fund has already received a significant number of applications from around the world, thus demonstrating that there is a real need for a dedicated fund to support organizations assisting victims of violent crime.

Estimated Budget: US\$ 890,000; funded (Italy, Netherlands, USA)

5. UNODC South-South Cooperation

South-South Cooperation for Determining Good Practices for Crime Prevention in the Developing World



The main discussions concerning the development of good practices to prevent and control crime are taking place in the developed world. The conclusions about what is deemed effective have important implications for countries in the

developing world. Consultants, donor agencies and international organizations often base programmes and projects in developing countries on lessons learned from the developed world. There is presently no mechanism in which lessons learned and ideas, on crime prevention and control, can be exchanged between and for policy makers and practitioners in the developing world.

The general objective of the project is to assist in building up a systematic process of information exchange and lesson learning on crime prevention in the developing world. Specifically, this will be carried out by establishing a network of information exchange between the Caribbean and Southern Africa, two regions in the developing world with high levels of violent crime caused by similar factors, including high levels of unemployment and income inequality, a significant involvement of juveniles in criminal activity and a proliferation of unlicensed firearms.

The implementation of the project will result in:

- (a) Increased cooperation and information exchange between crime prevention and criminal justice practitioners working in Southern Africa and the Caribbean;

- (b) Refinement of national crime prevention strategies through review and evaluation and application of good practices in new projects and/or action plans;

- (c) Increased dissemination and exchange of lessons learned and good practices within and in between the two regions through a publication and website;

- (d) Enhanced research capacity on crime prevention strategies of the national crime prevention commissions and the CARICOM Task Force on Crime and Security, Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police, and the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization, through the linking of tertiary level learning institutions to policy units of governments and by creating a cadre and regional network of experts. It is expected that a more holistic approach to crime reduction will ensue by providing direct inputs to various policy-making bodies.



Creating partnerships between developing countries and assisting with capacity building to share and implement knowledge on crime prevention, should, in the longer run, lead to crime prevention activities in the countries of the sub-regions, which are more comprehensive, better adjusted to local needs, more professional and more effective, in terms of successful crime reduction.

Budget: US\$ 370,000; funded (UN Development Account)