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# URBAN CRIME PREVENTION and YOUTH at RISK

Compendium of Promising Strategies and  
Programmes from around the World



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**Canada**<sup>11</sup>



# URBAN CRIME PREVENTION and YOUTH at RISK

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Programmes from around the World

## ***Acknowledgements***

This Compendium has been compiled by the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC) to accompany the *Workshop on Strategies and best practices in crime prevention, in particular in relation to urban crime and youth at risk* in the context of the 11<sup>th</sup> UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Bangkok, Thailand from 18-25<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

The Workshop was organized by ICPC, in collaboration with the UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and UN HABITAT, and with the generous financial support of the Government of Canada's National Crime Prevention Strategy, (Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Canada).

We would particularly like to thank the Government of Canada for their support in this regard, and for printing the Compendium. We would like to thank UNODC and UN HABITAT, and all the governments who make up ICPC's Advisory Policy Committee, for their continued support of crime prevention internationally.

Many governments, individuals and organizations, submitted and translated material for the Compendium and we would like to thank them for their interest, patience and assistance. These include all the participants at the *Expert Group Meeting* on the Workshop, which took place in Paris 3-4<sup>th</sup> December 2004, ICPC's member governments and Board of Directors, as well as all those whose names or organizations appear on individual projects.

The Compendium was compiled and edited by Margaret Shaw and Kathryn Travers at ICPC, and the contributions of Marisa Canuto, Laura Capobianco, Chantal Valade, Annie Khalil and Daniel Sansfaçon in particular are gratefully acknowledged.

## ***Foreword***

The International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC) is an international forum for discussion, exchange of experience and knowledge for national governments, local authorities, public agencies, specialized institutions and non-governmental organizations. The mission of ICPC is to help countries and cities to improve community safety and reduce both crime and violence by putting into practice prevention policies, strategies and action which is effective and sustainable. ICPC promotes dialogue and exchange of expertise and knowledge between developed and developing countries. What better testament to the international nature of ICPC's work than the organization of an international Workshop on crime prevention, and the preparation of this Compendium of promising practices for the 11<sup>th</sup> UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

In 1999, ICPC published the second edition of its *100 Crime Prevention Programmes*. While still in current use, this publication was the fruitful outcome of an extensive process of information gathering and validation of practices from many countries round the world. This most recent publication is more modest in its coverage and content, but we are certain that it will serve as a source of inspiration to practitioners and decision-makers for the implementation of innovative prevention strategies and practice in cities, and for youth at risk.

Since the 10<sup>th</sup> UN Congress, which was held in Vienna in 2000, there have been noticeable developments in the area of crime prevention. This has been further supported by the adoption in 2002 of the *UN Guidelines for Crime Prevention*. However, crime and insecurity are still issues of major concern for our cities and countries, and so is the continued quest of a better balance between action in the criminal justice arena by the police, judicial and penal systems, and that related to prevention.

We sincerely hope that, in the course of the next five years, more and more countries will join ICPC in the pursuit of this important mission, and to promoting sustainable prevention and good governance.

Raymonde DURY  
President of the Board of Directors  
International Centre for the Prevention of Crime

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## ***Introduction***

This Compendium has been compiled to accompany the *Workshop on Strategies and best practices in crime prevention, in particular in relation to urban crime and youth at risk* in the context of the 11<sup>th</sup> UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Bangkok, Thailand from 18-25<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

The 2002 *UN Guidelines for Crime Prevention* set out the basic principles on which good crime prevention should be developed, and outline the range of strategies and practices which can be used to develop safer, healthier communities. The *key principles* guiding effective crime prevention are that:

- all levels of government should play a *leadership role*;
- crime prevention should be *integrated* in a cross-cutting way into all social and economic policies and programmes including employment, education, health, housing and urban planning, justice and social services;
- strategies should be built on *co-operative partnerships* between government institutions and ministries, community and non-government organizations, and the business sector and civil society;
- there must be *adequate funding* and other resources, and clear *accountability* to ensure the implementation and sustainability of strategies;
- strategies and interventions should be based on a sound *knowledge base* about the causes of crime and effective practices;
- all crime prevention initiatives must *respect human rights and the rule of law*;
- account must be taken of the links between *local* and *transnational organized crime*;
- crime prevention strategies should take particular account of the *different needs of men and women*, and the most vulnerable members of society.

The *Background Paper* prepared for the Workshop similarly underlines the crucial importance of developing comprehensive crime prevention strategies in urban areas, and for youth at risk. It also acknowledges the accumulating evidence that good prevention strategies do reduce and prevent crime and insecurity, that they are as important as fair and equitable justice systems, and more cost-effective in the long-term than responding after events.

The Compendium illustrates in very concrete ways how such strategies and practices have been put into place by cities and countries around the world - *what has been done* - as well as some of the outcomes achieved. These short accounts of what has been put in place by national, sub-regional, and local governments, and by communities and civil society organizations, are designed to encourage and inspire governments and communities elsewhere. The Compendium also provides examples of technical assistance and exchange of expertise which have helped to build the capacity of countries or cities in developing crime prevention. This includes the work of UN HABITAT's Safer Cities Programme, for example, the Open Society Foundation, CSIR South Africa, and Children without Borders.

In the short time available for the development of the Compendium, it has not been possible to provide a fully comprehensive range of examples from all regions of the world. For the same reasons, in order to balance the regions, and illustrate the range of approaches being used in different cities and countries, it has also been necessary to select from the many examples we received. We have made every effort to check the material with our sources before publication, and hope we have not misinterpreted the projects in the process of summarizing and translating them. If any errors remain, they are our own.

The resulting strategies and practices are illustrated by brief summaries which can do no more than introduce them, and hopefully inspire other countries, cities and communities to begin to plan their own strategies. They range from initiatives which were established fairly recently, and do not yet have major outcomes or evaluations to report, but which illustrate a good strategic approach, to fully implemented and evaluated long-term projects and strategies, based on evidence about what has been found to be effective elsewhere.



Nevertheless, while there are many similarities between cities and countries in terms of the factors facilitating crime and violence, local circumstances and conditions are very important to the success or failure of projects. Adapting strategies to local contexts is vital. In the same way, isolated projects may be successful for short periods of time, but they need to be part of wider strategies at the local level, so that they can be embedded and sustained as part of a comprehensive and balanced approach to tackling and preventing crime, violence and insecurity.

*Section One* of the Compendium focuses primarily on strategies and practices concerned with urban crime. It includes some national government strategies supporting, for example, the development of local government and community level project development, and State and Provincial initiatives, as well as strategies established to coordinate and integrate crime prevention action across a region in a planned and strategic way. This section provides examples showing how city governments or local community organizations have been able to successfully establish and sustain good partnership crime prevention structures, and reduce levels of crime and violence through a variety of coordinated urban development and participatory approaches.

*Section Two* of the Compendium is concerned with youth at risk. It includes examples of projects which target the needs of particular groups of at-risk youth such as street children or those involved in violent youth gangs, or sexually exploited through human trafficking, for example. Other projects provide examples of approaches which form part of national integrated strategies targeting at-risk children and youth, or those already involved with the criminal justice system. A major feature of many projects is the involvement and participation of young people themselves in the planning and development of initiatives.

*Section Three* of the Compendium includes a list of web-sites and resources around the world which contain information on good practice projects and crime prevention awards.

The Compendium is available in French and English, and can also be accessed through ICPC's web-site ([www.crime-prevention-intl.org](http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org)). A Spanish version will be forthcoming.

Section 1:  
**URBAN STRATEGIES**

# ARGENTINA

## *Vulnerable Communities Programme*

### **Context**

Argentina has faced an unprecedented economic crisis in recent years, affecting the general development and quality of life of the population. One of the indicators has been the increase in violence in urban areas, associated with limited access to employment, education and housing, among other factors. In the metropolitan areas, those living in the most vulnerable communities, including youth, are especially affected. The Vulnerable Communities Programme (CVP) was developed to promote social integration and to prevent crime and violence, as part of the National Crime Prevention Plan (NCP) established in 2003, and in recognition of the Universal Declaration on the Rights of the Child.

### **Goals**

- Establish a comprehensive crime prevention strategy in targeted areas in consultation with the community.
- Strengthen social support and family networks in local communities.
- Promote and support youth in vulnerable communities through cultural and recreation programmes, education, job training and small business development.

### **Description**

The CVP programme initiated by the Ministry of Justice, targets the most vulnerable socio-economic communities in the Great Buenos Aires area. It aims to work in partnership with, and to strengthen, local governments, community groups and organizations, using a participatory research-action approach, to promote social integration and reduce crime and violence. It is based on the principle of minimal intervention, working within the framework of existing customs and needs in each municipal area. The beneficiaries are youth at risk of crime and violence, principally unemployed youths in the vulnerable communities selected, and indirectly, their families and local community networks. It began as a pilot programme in 2001, and has since expanded to include some ten vulnerable communities. It brings together funding from the Ministry of Social Development, and the Ministry of Labour, Employment, and Social Security. Teams of local prevention agents are appointed in each area, and work with local community organizations, churches, schools, youth, as well as the municipality.

In relation to youth, the CVP programme has resulted in the establishment of workshops and individual and group meetings on job training, provided assistance and support for reinsertion into the formal education system, life skills, health, the promotion and support of productive business ventures, and provided legal assistance for those in the programme. The programme has helped create healthy self-managed and co-managed leisure activities including training in arts and crafts, sports, music, film debates, etc. Socio-legal assistance is provided for those in conflict with the law. Productive micro-enterprise ventures are funded with contributions from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security's *Community Employment Programme*. They include bakery, farming, carpentry, metalwork, leatherwork, mechanics, sewing, house cleaning for the elderly, recycling and computing. Since the initial commitment by local government was low, the NCP/CVP has been developed and implemented simultaneously by the local teams and the national team, in a co-managerial way. Since 2003, local project teams have been trained by the national team, to ensure the monitoring and evaluation of projects and their sustainability. The national team will evaluate the programme as a whole.

### **Outcomes**

Since its implementation in 2001, more than 366 youth have directly benefited from the CVP, apart from their families and their communities as a whole. A waiting list had to be drawn up because of increasing demand by youths to be included in the programme. The CVP has now expanded, securing 400 additional grants from the *Community Employment Programme*, increasing the grants already given by the NCP/VCP by 100 percent, and extending the programme to other districts of the Greater Buenos Aires area. Fifty new agents were trained in 2004 both in project fieldwork development, and in monitoring the implementation process.

### **Partners**

The Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour & Social Security, Ministry of Social Development, local governments, universities, local youth, community organizations and businesses.

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# Western AUSTRALIA State Burglary Strategy

## Context

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The Western Australia State Burglary Strategy was established by the Premier in 2003 in response to escalating burglary rates, particularly in urban areas. Australian Bureau of Statistics figures for 2002 showed that Western Australia (WA) had a burglary rate 54% higher than the national average. Some elements of the strategy have been delivered on a statewide basis while other elements have been piloted at a local level in two high need suburbs in Perth: Bentley and Morley. The Strategy is now progressively expanding out to the South East metropolitan Police District and ultimately to the State wide level.

## Goals

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- To reduce the prevalence and incidence of residential, commercial and industrial burglaries using coordinated state and local strategies.

## Description

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The State Burglary Strategy was established in 2003, and consists of major initiatives at both the state and local levels. At the *state level* initiatives include the *Burglary Reduction Taskforce*. This is comprised of representatives across State Government agencies, the police, the insurance and building industries, and the security industry. The taskforce is responsible for the development and coordinated implementation of the State Burglary Reduction Strategy. Secondly, a comprehensive public awareness media and educational campaign, *Burglar Beware*, has been launched. The Western Australian Police Service, in association with Crime Stoppers WA, also initiated a *'Dob in a Burglar'* 'hotline' initiative to increase police intelligence information. Fourthly, a *Victim and community support* strategy was initiated. Security audits and educational information is provided to victims of crime to ensure they do not become repeat victims. Finally, *DNA technology* is now being used to apprehend offenders and thus help reduce repeat offending.

At the *local level*, metropolitan residential burglary reduction projects called *Operation Burglary Countdown*, have been implemented in the high-needs suburbs of Perth, Bentley, and Morley, and now also in Carnarvon. The suburbs of Welshpool, Kewdale and Carlisle have started *Operation Enterprise*, an industrial burglary reduction project. Another initiative entitled *Operation Filmic*, targets the stolen goods market

specifically. Finally, an *'Eyes on the Street'* campaign has also been started, consisting of a coordinated approach to intelligence gathering, using the 'on the street' resources of local government such as rangers, parks and gardens workers, and sanitation services.

## Outcomes

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Overall, the State Burglary Strategy has shown significant reductions in burglary. Specifically, there has been a 16% decrease in burglaries in 2003-2004 and a 28% decrease in burglaries in the September 2004 quarter, followed by a 23% decrease in the December 2004 quarter. The average metropolitan decrease was 25% over the period of the project.

The local projects in the suburbs of Bentley, and Carnarvon have demonstrated great success with burglaries being reduced by 45% over a 12-month pilot period in Bentley and 61% in the first six months of the Carnarvon project. In Morley however, a 24% reduction over 12 months was on par with the metropolitan average, although for three consecutive quarters, reductions greater than the metropolitan average were achieved. Importantly also, suburbs in the immediate vicinity of the pilot sites did not experience any form of 'displacement' and while figures varied from suburb to suburb, overall either benefited or showed similar improvements to the State average.

## Partners

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Office of Crime Prevention, Department Community Development, Department of Justice, Department Housing and Works, Department Education and Training, Local Government Authorities, WA Police Service, Church groups, Local business and industry.

## Contact

---

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[www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au](http://www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au)

[www.burglarbeware.wa.gov.au](http://www.burglarbeware.wa.gov.au)

# *BELGIUM*

## *Security and Prevention Contracts*

### ***Context***

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In 1992, the Belgian government initiated an "emergency programme on the problems affecting society" whose objectives were to ensure the safety of citizens in cities and districts, to restore a decent quality of life within urban areas, and to re-establish trust in the population towards authorities. The resulting prevention policies, assembled under the collective term 'Security and Prevention Contracts', attempt to respond to the safety needs called for by many citizens. These Security and Prevention Contracts must also contribute to the realisation of Federal Government priorities in relation to security and prevention.

### ***Goals***

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- Assure the security of citizens in cities and districts.
- Respond to local needs concerning the safety and protection of citizens.
- Combat feelings of insecurity.
- Work within an overall policy of community safety.

### ***Description***

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Today, 73 cities and districts spread throughout the three regions of Belgium benefit from a security and prevention contract. There are 13 contracts in the Brussels region, 35 in Flanders, and 25 in Wallonia. These contracts are signed between the State, represented by the Ministry of the Interior, and the city or district. They represent an overall budget of €33,080,231.54 (\$45 million US) allocated to cities and districts for the development of prevention initiatives. The cities and districts also receive an annual grant for the development of initiatives deemed a priority, on the basis of an analysis of their local situation in terms of security and prevention.

The security and prevention contracts comprise a number of axes to which districts may subscribe: reinforcement of community prevention policies; improved integration of targeted groups at risk; functional surveillance; techno-prevention such as target hardening for residential burglary and to reduce fear of crime; prevention of drug addiction; and prevention of specific criminal activities.

### ***Outcomes***

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It was apparent from the beginning that the Ministry of the Interior's objective was to go beyond an approach to crime which was limited to security and repression of crime. The introduction of a preventive dimension creates interaction between the various constituent elements of society, notably in the areas of social welfare, health, and the urban environment.

The resulting measures have led to a significant positive movement and a new approach to safety policies. The hiring of personnel and the use of a more integrated (intersectorial) and decentralized system of management of security (e.g. through delegation to district authorities) have resulted in a profound change in the way in which crime and security issues are now dealt with compared with the past.

The Belgian government intends to give further positive support to the stabilization of these contracts by extending their existence over several more years (2006-2009) and by reinforcing the policy with an increase in funding.

### ***Partners***

---

Ministry of the Interior and other federal departments, federal bodies, cities and districts, and the police.

### ***Contact***

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# *BELGIUM*

## *Fight against burglary through techno-prevention*

### ***Context***

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Burglary has been one of the most significant forms of crime in Belgium for many years. The fight against burglary has long been a priority of the Government and Ministry of the Interior. In order to address the issue, the Ministry of the Interior has launched a federal techno-prevention action plan which includes, notably, the employment of techno-prevention experts (CTP). The role of the CTP principally consists of offering free advice on security issues to citizens.

### ***Goals***

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- Prevention of burglary through an increase in the level of building security.
- Ensuring citizens invest in the securing of their dwelling in an appropriate manner, to avoid wasting money on inadequate measures.
- Reduce citizens' sense of insecurity and powerlessness.
- Make citizens aware of their responsibility in relation to their own safety.

### ***Description***

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The role of the techno-prevention expert (CTP) within the burglary prevention policy is essential. The CTP provides specialized advice on the ground which is specifically adapted to buildings, whether private houses, business premises, or public and semi-public buildings, for example.

Burglary is an offence partially motivated by opportunity. It is possible to address this aspect of the phenomenon by encouraging potential burglary victims to take preventive measures. In many cases, burglaries can be avoided. Many dwellings in actually have little or inadequate burglary protection.

The techno-prevention expert arrives on-site free of charge and studies the building, analysing specific weaknesses and proposing solutions. What is central is that the techno-prevention expert offers organizational, technical or architectural suggestions which are within everyone's reach.

The techno-prevention experts receive specific training at police training schools. They are usually either members of the local police force or personnel from the city or community. The CTPs are not associated in any way with security companies or security hardware brands, and the advice they dispense is objective and independent.

They recommend certain types of doors, windows, locks and other security systems, and it is up to the inhabitants to decide which brand to buy, which retailer to employ, and which company to install a security system.

### ***Outcomes***

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Currently, almost 900 techno-prevention experts are registered and recognized by the Ministry of the Interior. They offer a visible, positive and popular service. Further, crime statistics show a clear decrease in burglary. In addition, techno-prevention advice has had an impact on both subjective and objective feelings of insecurity.

### ***Partners***

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Ministry of the Interior, the police, cities and districts, police training schools, and Insurance companies.

### ***Contact***

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# *Belo Horizonte, BRAZIL*

## *'Stay Alive' Programme*

### ***Context***

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During the last decade, the city of Belo Horizonte, as well as other Brazilian state capitals, saw a steep rise in homicide rates. From 1997 to 2001, there was a one hundred percent growth in the number of homicides, and 3256 violent deaths occurred between 1998 and 2002. They were particularly associated with young males under the age of 24, and generally occurred in slums and tenements where both victims and offenders lived. There was a clear correlation between the most socially vulnerable areas and the regions with the highest violence. The rise in violent deaths brought the issue to the centre of the political agenda, with the public demanding new alternatives for reducing and controlling the problem.

### ***Goals***

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- Decrease violent crime in the most vulnerable communities, especially among youth.
- Develop effective intervention strategies using a problem-oriented approach.
- Identify and develop public programmes and projects through social mobilization.

### ***Description***

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The 'Stay Alive' Programme was developed in 2002, as part of a two-fold intervention plan to reduce homicides, involving both crime repression and social mobilization. This strategic plan was developed by the Study Centre on Crime and Public Safety (CRISP) at the Federal University at Minas Gerais (UFMG) and implemented by the university in partnership with the City Council, the municipal, federal and military police, the public prosecutor's office, business organizations, NGOs and local communities. The programme was piloted in a cluster of the most violent slum areas of the city, housing some 150,000 people.

The 'Stay Alive' Programme aimed to develop effective intervention strategies, using a problem-oriented approach including scanning, crime mapping, analysis and assessment of priorities, to decrease the number of homicides, especially among young people. Regular team meetings are held with all partners under the coordination of the Social Defence Office of the State of Minas Gerais, and the programme has implemented a series of projects targeting youth in these areas. The projects include social support, and educational, leisure and sports components. The

'Stay Alive' programme has also offered workshops on issues affecting youth, including violence, drugs, sexually transmitted diseases, sports, arts performance and computers. These workshops involved about 3000 young people, including 200 who attended the job training.

Training on crime and violence prevention activities have been offered to police officers, community members, educators, school directors, social workers and health care workers. In each slum, direct patrols by Military Police were established. A Community Forum was created which organises monthly community meetings to discuss problems such as crime prevention, unemployment, and education. The Forum helps decrease residents' fears and increase community mobilization to develop solutions to local problems.

### ***Outcomes***

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Thirty months after the implementation of the project, there has been an overall decrease in violent crimes, especially homicides and attempted homicides, in the targeted areas. Specifically, this included a 47% decrease in homicides, a 65% decrease in attempted homicide, and a 46% decrease in bakery robberies in one of the slum areas. This was over a period when there was an 11% increase in violent crime in the typically non-violent areas of the city. The success of the programme has been attributed mainly to the use of an integrated approach, and to the involvement and participation of community members. This has stimulated the State and Federal government to support the expansion of the 'Stay Alive' Programme to four other clusters of violent slums the metropolitan area of Belo Horizonte.

### ***Partners***

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Belo Horizonte City Office, State Social Defence Office, Military, Civil and Federal Police, Public Attorney's Office, Federal University of Minas Gerais, SEBRAE - Support to Micro and Small Business, the Shop Owner's Association, non-governmental organizations.

### ***Contact***

---

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# Diadema, BRAZIL

## Public Security Policy

### Context

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Diadema is a city of 350, 000 inhabitants located in the Greater São Paulo region. For many years, the city has had the highest homicide rates in the region of São Paulo. Between 1995 and 1998, it observed an increase of 49% in homicide incidents, rising from 238 to 355 cases. In 1999, Diadema had the highest homicide rates in the country; rates exceeded 140 homicides per 100 000 habitants.

### Goals

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- Reduce crime in the municipality of Diadema.
- Reduce the number of homicides.
- Establish a "peace culture" among children and youth that will influence future generations.

### Description

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Since 2000, the municipality of Diadema has developed a holistic strategy with a wide range of initiatives in an attempt to reduce the incidence of violence in the city. The most widely known project is *Programa Diadema Legal*, the title of the programme means Legal / Nice Diadema (in Portuguese, the word "legal" has both meanings), which focuses on reducing the number of homicides. In 2002, the city enacted a new law (law nº 2107) that requires bars to close at 11:00 p.m., unless they acquire a special permit. This law, also known as the *Dry Law*, was the central focus of the city's programme.

In addition, a number of short-term intervention policies were developed. The City implemented the *Integrated Operations* project, a joint initiative involving the Diadema Municipal Guard, and the State Police Forces who were responsible for the surveillance of vehicles, bars, vacant lots and other at-risk areas. To further enhance neighbourhood safety, the *Block Angels* project was created. This project was inspired by the French policing model of close community patrol to build safer neighbourhoods. The city also installed security cameras to monitor specific areas with high crime rates.

The municipality has implemented a number of medium and long-term social intervention initiatives targeting youth and children which seek to establish and reinforce a "peace culture" for

future generations of citizens. The *Teenager Apprentice Project* aims to provide practical work experience for youth between the ages of fourteen

and fifteen who live in neighbourhoods with high crime rates. The *Vacation Club* project (*Clubinho de Férias*) is a notable initiative that seeks to build closer relationships between children and police officers by organizing games and activities in the neighbourhoods during school breaks. The *Children Disarming* project invites young people to exchange toy-guns for comic magazines. The *Educating for Life* project is a half-year course on illicit drug prevention given by police officers in city schools. According to the Secretary of Social Protection of Diadema, actions targeting children and youth seek to establish and reinforce a "peace culture" for future generation of citizens.

Finally, several other provisions have been introduced by the municipality to structure and support the Public Security Policy. They include the reorganization of the Municipal Guard (including ongoing education and training of its workforce), the creation of the Secretary of Social Protection, and the development of a *Criminal Mapping* project.

### Outcomes

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Since the implementation of these initiatives, the city of Diadema has observed a decrease in violent crimes such as homicides and robbery. Homicides have decreased by 57.07% (from 389 cases, in 1999 to 167, in 2003) and robbery has been reduced by 15.87% (from 5,192 cases, in 1999 to 4,368, in 2003).

### Partners

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Ministry of Justice - National Secretary of Public Security; Secretary of Public Security of the State of São Paulo; Investigation Police of the State of São Paulo; Police Corps of the State of São Paulo; Florestan Fernandes Foundation; Editora Abril; The National Association for the Prevention of Illicit Drug Use and Abuse (*Associação Nacional de Prevenção do Uso e Abuso de Drogas* - ANPUAD).

### Contact

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# **BRAZIL**

## ***Metropolitan Forum of Public Security***

### ***Context***

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The major problem facing the governments of the São Paulo area is that there is lack of exchange and interaction among city leaders at the local level, and between the local, state and federal governments on crime and violence prevention and control. The metropolitan area of São Paulo includes the city, which has a population of about 10 million people, as well as the 38 surrounding municipalities which have 7 million inhabitants. In order to implement effective crime prevention initiatives, the 39 mayors have agreed to meet and work together to make the metropolitan area safer. The Metropolitan Forum of Public Security was created to reduce the high crime and violence rates in the Metropolitan Area of São Paulo, Brazil.

### ***Goals***

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- Reduce and prevent crime and violence in the metropolitan area of São Paulo.
- Create an innovative way to deal with crime and violence, integrating all 39 town halls in the metropolitan area of São Paulo.

### ***Description***

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In March 2001, the first meeting was held between the 39 mayors and aimed to discuss and promote crime prevention programmes. The focus was on developing ways to integrate the local strategies at the state and federal levels, develop partnerships with NGOs on crime and violence prevention and control, and to develop meaningful partnerships between the local, state, and federal levels of government.

Since the initial meeting, the mayors have met every quarter to assess their progress and to plan future improvements. Crime prevention legislation has been enacted in several municipalities and a Metropolitan Plan for Violence Prevention has been approved. Working groups, including secretariats and specialized departments in charge of public security, have been established and meet more frequently than their mayoral counterparts. The working groups have a more specific scope, addressing crime information, municipal policing, crime and violence prevention, social communication and law, criminal, and prison policy. These groups aim to put into practice the decisions taken by the mayors in the plenary sessions of the Metropolitan Forum of Public Security. A permanent secretariat, managed by the NGO Institute São Paulo Against Violence, has been established and support from the Federal government to set up a permanent system has also been initiated.

Partnerships have been established with the state government who now provide the local governments with information about their policies, and access to all maps and data from the Infocrime system for the cities of São Paulo, Guarulhos, Diadema, Mogi das Cruzes and São Caetano do Sul. Finally, an annual Metropolitan Violence Prevention Plan has also been established.

### ***Outcomes***

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By 2003, there was a significant decline in homicides and thefts (including car theft) per 100,000 inhabitants in the metropolitan area of São Paulo. This follows the reduction of the same types of crime that began in 2000 and 2001. The homicide rate per 100 000 inhabitants decreased from 49.29 in 2000 to 39.19 in 2003, which amounts to a significant drop of 20.49%. The rate of thefts and car thefts per one hundred thousand inhabitants decreased from 995.06 in 2000 to 731.37 in 2003 amounting to a significant decrease of 26.50% (Source: SSP/SP and IBGE).

Since its creation, the Metropolitan Forum has held 14 sessions with the 39 mayors, apart from many working group meetings. Mayors have a better understanding of the challenges they face and have started to address them with greater vigour. As of December 2004: 11 of the 39 towns in the Metropolitan Area of São Paulo have created general offices or other institutions to coordinate local action in urban security; 26 of the 39 towns have created a municipal police force, and 15 of the 39 towns had enacted regulations on the opening and closing hours of bars.

### ***Partners***

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Coordination: Town halls in the Metropolitan Area of São Paulo. Partners: São Paulo Institute Against Violence (Executive Secretariat), Federal Government and State Government.

### ***Contact***

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## **Context**

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The Tandem programme was launched in 1982 as the first pilot project in the field of crime prevention in Montreal, Quebec. Tandem's approach to prevention, which was primarily focused on residential burglary, involved the mobilization and the sensitization of citizens on urban safety issues. In 2002, towns located in the suburbs (population of 800,000 inhabitants) joined the city of Montreal (1 million inhabitants), to form the new city of Montreal. A Summit was convened involving social actors and citizens to address various issues, including urban safety. Participants agreed to provide the city's boroughs with a new programme on urban safety prevention. Thus, the Tandem Programme was integrated into the new Support Programme for citizen action for urban safety (*Programme de soutien à l'action citoyenne en sécurité urbaine*) of the city of Montreal.

## **Goals**

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- Enhance the safety sense of security among citizens.
- Provide the boroughs with the means to promote and support citizen action on urban safety.
- Develop interventions according to the following model : Action Plan - Implementation - Evaluation.

## **Description**

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Fourteen boroughs are currently involved in this Programme. Partners, including local non-profit organizations dedicated to citizen mobilization and education on urban safety, have been selected by each borough. Two areas of intervention have been identified so far: crime prevention, where partner organizations to the Programme assume a leadership role; and where they collaborate as partners on issues of fire prevention, First Aid, and civil safety.

Based on local safety audits, activities are subsequently developed to educate people about effective ways to improve the safety of goods, individuals and communities (*inform*), to underscore the need to act, sometimes by changing attitudes and behaviours (*sensitize*), to create networks, involving individuals, organizations and institutions to foster ownership over safety issues (*mobilize*).

The Programme is regarded as a catalyst for the mobilization of citizens in improving their safety. Particular attention is given to the needs of youth, activities focusing on conflict resolution, vandalism and personal safety. Interventions developed so far involve a combination of situational prevention to reduce opportunities and social development approaches to reduce risk factors. The Programme's comprehensive approach recognizes the respective roles of the central administration and boroughs, in a highly decentralized governance model. The Programme supports community-based actions as well as mobilization, sensitization, information and reference.

## **Outcomes**

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Between 1982 when the Tandem pilot programme was created and today, residential burglary has decreased by 50%, a result that can be partly attributed to the fact that citizens have taken responsibility for their own safety. Some 2,000 activities and projects are implemented yearly, with 700 targeting youth, and more than 150,000 citizens are involved and informed on various aspects of safety. Some 45 field workers work for the local partner organizations and volunteers provide on average 2,200 hours of work each year. In addition, as a result of home safety checks, some 80% of those citizens have changed their safety habits in protecting their belongings.

In the fall of 2004, the Support Programme for citizen action on urban safety in the Tandem boroughs was recognized as a *Good Practice* by UN-HABITAT, the UN Programme for Human Settlements and is listed in the best practices database.

## **Partners**

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Local community organizations, the Police (headquarters) and local police stations, *Société des transports de Montréal (STM)*, *Office municipal d'habitation*, Schools and kindergardens.

## **Contact**

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# CHILE

## Preve Tren

### *A train that listens, entertains, and guides you*

### **Context**

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The town of Coronel has a very pronounced problem with violence, which is manifested in very high levels on the street, in households and in schools. Coronel is very disadvantaged in both the social and economic sectors and is characterized by a poverty rate of 36%, the incidence of family violence is an astounding 60%, and the rate of alcoholism is a high 38%, which the community believes affects the intellectual and emotional development of youth. Coronel is a mining community that has exhausted its labor sources. The lack of public spaces and recreation attests to the lack of economic resources in the community. As violence is so deeply rooted in Coronel, its prevention requires diversified action throughout the entire community, including personal development, guidance, promotion, and education.

### **Goals**

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- Create a safe space for children and youth.
- Aid the community in taking accountability for and participating in strengthening their own security.

### **Description**

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The Preve-Tren was developed as part of the Ministry of the Interior's Comuna Segura Programme. The first step in the project was to purchase an old train wagon to be used as a safe space in the community. The wagon will be used to create a space to support education, promote and teach the prevention of violence, and will also provide an area for recreation. The overall aim of the Preve-tren project is to help in making the community responsible of its own safety.

Since the initial purchase, the wagon has been outfitted with computers that are hooked up to the Internet and courses are offered in personal computer use as well as internet use for children, youth, and senior citizens. The Preve-tren project has also created a public library out of the wagon and has set up a toll-free 800 hotline, where a psychologist listens to and helps the callers by providing support and advice. Cultural and recreational workshops are also hosted out of the Preve-tren and have included workshops on a diversity of topics including painting, guitar, dance, tarot, and aerobox.

There have also been educational workshops on a variety of topics, such as sexuality, responsible parenting, abortion, drugs, and divorce. The facilitators of these workshops have all been trained and are able to deliver the workshops in schools. The Preve-tren also hosts workshops for community leaders, and has an ongoing campaign promoting educational prevention books for pre-university youths on topics such as drugs and sex.

This project was conceived and implemented by the *Grupo Juvenil Oro Negro*, with the support of the *Ferrocarriles del Estado*, and the *Consultorio de Salud* as well as private donations, often in the forms of books and films. The funds received from the *Comuna Segura* programme were used to purchase the train wagon and to pay for the workshops. The people who work for the Preve-tren are members of the organization who provide their services free of charge.

### **Outcomes**

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The Preve-tren project was initially designed for youth from the North sector of Coronel, however the development and implementation phases involved the whole community as well as people from other sectors of the town. It has therefore benefited people in all parts of Coronel, transforming the wagon into a real space for meeting people, and for recreational, cultural, prevention and educational activities. The organization's consolidation and resources support the continuation of the Preve-tren project in preventing risky behavior among youth.

### **Partners**

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The project was orchestrated and implemented by the organization *Grupo Juvenil Oro Negro*, with the support of *Ferrocarriles del Estado*, *Consultorio de Salud*, and private companies who donated materials.

### **Contact**

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# **CZECH REPUBLIC**

## ***An Early Intervention System***

### ***Context***

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High levels of youth offending have been a problem in large urban and industrial areas of the Czech Republic in recent years. Often those involved were minors under the age of criminal responsibility and thus could not be dealt with through the justice system. Another problem was that while a number of institutions that deal with delinquency existed, they did not co-operate well with each other and their reactions were slow. Different institutions and bodies tended to deal with cases in isolation from each other, did not know about each other, and often intervened too late.

### ***Goals***

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- Establish a network between all relevant bodies working with youth.
- Establish an early intervention strategy for young offenders.
- Establish diversion programmes.
- Create a comprehensive city database related to youth crime.

### ***Description***

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The project was first launched in February 2000 in the city of Ostrava, and is currently being developed in the city of Svitavy. The initiative is funded primarily by a national government subsidy (c. 285,000 USD) and from municipal sources. The project involves the establishment of a Centre with a core team, trained by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, to create a comprehensive information system on youth crime, and more recently, on possible child abuse cases. Data is entered by police as well as medical facilities on a daily basis, and is forwarded to social workers. It includes information on offence (type, location, when it occurred etc.) and on the background of the young person (age, family circumstances etc.) to facilitate the development of individualised intervention and rehabilitation plans.

Using this comprehensive information, social workers can begin drafting social intervention plans for individual children and youths. Probation officers are also able to access the database to plan sentence recommendations to the courts.

The Centre helps to build links between all those who are involved in child and youth cases, including the police, social services, child protection services, schools, NGO's, medical services, probation, prosecutors, and youth courts, in order to co-ordinate activities more effectively and efficiently. It focuses on early social intervention, promoting the use of diversion programmes to divert young people from the criminal justice system, from re-offending and the stigma of a record, and a possible criminal career. Diversion from the youth justice system is used only if the young person and his or her family actively participate in the development of the correctional plan.

### ***Outcomes***

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In 2002, the project was evaluated by the Ministry of Interior's Crime Prevention Department, as part of a follow-up report on youth crime. Current assessment demonstrates increasing use of the database by all those involved in child and youth cases in the city. Information increased from 7,654 entries relating to 3,366 young people between 2000 and 2002, and currently stands at 13,542 entries for 5,699 young people. In addition, plans for intervention were initiated without delays, and there is much greater co-operation between the different sectors of the system dealing with children and youth.

### ***Partners***

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Ministry of the Interior, City, police, judicial authorities, social workers, probation services and NGO's.

### ***Contacts***

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## **Context**

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In the early 1990's, big cities in the Czech Republic observed a significant increase in property crime. Specifically, there was a rise in household burglaries and car theft. These incidents raised major concerns among citizens. In 1997, a large-scale prevention programme was implemented, to work in combination with the existing standard policing and criminal justice procedures. The core elements of this new programme were to develop broad partnerships and implement crime audits at the city level in targeted areas.

## **Goals**

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- To reduce crime rates, specifically property crime, and levels of fear in cities with high crime rates.
- To integrate comprehensive crime prevention activities into the main areas of municipal policy.
- To develop the local infrastructure and partnerships necessary for designing and implementing prevention programmes.

## **Description**

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The programme was launched in 1997. The national government and the police selected cities with the highest crime and other social and economic problems to participate in the programme. Mayors of each city were then asked to take part in the programme. Participating cities were required to appoint a crime prevention manager, undertake a crime audit and seek out public and non-governmental partners. All cities were provided with comprehensive training, including education on well-tested approaches for preventing crime, and training on communication and computer techniques. Each city submitted a prevention plan, including both situational and social prevention, and victim support programmes. Proposals were screened by a government committee and grants covering up to 90% of the estimated costs were allocated to selected projects. In addition to funding, the national government provided advice and consultation during the implementation stage, and each city was required to evaluate its own programme.

In 2003, following recommendations from the police, the programme was expanded to incorporate small cities. Currently, 140 municipalities participate in the programme, and a total of 3,188 projects have been sponsored by the government

representing an investment of some \$20 million (USD).

## **Outcomes**

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Experience showed that the actual financial contribution by cities has been much higher than the required 10 %. This is a growing trend: the longer cities were involved in the programme, the more willing they have come to increase their financial contribution and investment in crime prevention. In addition, cities which are no longer eligible for government funding have maintained their infrastructure and continued their crime prevention activities.

In 2000, a detailed evaluation showed that between 1996 to 2000, crime rates in the Czech Republic were reduced by 3,02% and property crimes by 6.49%. However, cities which initially participated in the crime prevention programme (a total of 66 cities) observed a reduction of 6,89% in crime rates, and property crimes decreased by 12,06%. The decrease in crime rates was mostly attributed to the implementation of the crime prevention programme.

## **Partners**

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The programme is based on two level partnership. At the national level, there are three partners - government, cities (self-government) and the police. At the local level, partners include city councils, schools, social services, police, NGOs, and with some involvement with the private sector.

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# CZECH REPUBLIC

## Prevention of Human Trafficking

### Context

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After political changes and the opening of borders in early 1990's, the Czech Republic quickly became a target country for human trafficking and traffickers. The country has since transformed from a country of origin into a transit country and, increasingly, a country of destination. Steps have been taken in both the legislative and criminal justice areas to fight this, yet they have only provided partial solutions. For anti-trafficking strategies to be effective, they need to include both prevention and victim support as well.

### Goals

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- Prevent trafficking of Czech citizens abroad.
- Provide fast and effective support to both foreign and resident victims of human trafficking in the Czech Republic.
- Encourage victims of human trafficking to testify against traffickers.
- Create informal networks in the fight against human trafficking.
- Support local agents in the identification of victims and ensure proper referral to supporting organizations.

### Description

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Three major steps have been taken since 1999 towards preventing human trafficking. A major information campaign was launched in 1999 with financial support from the American government. It was implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), with the support of the Czech government, and a number of NGO's, including La Strada, which has been working to prevent human trafficking since 1995. Another major UN funded and managed anti-trafficking project was implemented between November 2002 and May 2004. Within the framework of this project, the *National Strategy Against Human Trafficking* was drafted and approved by the government. The Victim/Witness Assistance Programme has also been developed and implemented.

The Ministry of the Interior, along with specialised police units and NGOs work closely together in identifying victims of human trafficking. Both district and regional local authorities have also been mobilised to provide guidance and support to regionally based NGOs and other civil society members that aid in the identification of victims. They then ensure that once victims have been

identified, they are referred to the proper services. The government contributes funds which are used to aid in the identification of victims and assistance, protection and voluntary return and reintegration in their home countries.

Awareness-raising seminars have been organised for both the local public administration and civil society, and a special information and awareness-raising campaign, focused on reduction of demand for sexual services, has been prepared in order to inform clients about the phenomenon of human trafficking, and also to motivate them to notify the proper organizations about suspected trafficking cases.

Furthermore, several resources are now available because of this initiative: an information leaflet for potential victims has been developed and other materials are being developed for different actors in order to guide them on how to deal with victims of trafficking. Training schemes for specific police units, with special attention to alien and border police, have also been developed and implemented. Finally, telephone hot-lines run by NGOs have been established.

### Outcomes

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The project has long-term goals and as such, it has not been evaluated yet. The preparatory UN project has already been independently evaluated with preliminarily positive results. Another project funded by the European Union's PHARE programme is underway to, inter alia, further develop and enhance anti-trafficking activities.

### Partners

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Government, the police, NGOs, local public administration, and local civil society.

### Contacts

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# ENGLAND and WALES

## Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy

### Context

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In the England and Wales, a strong correlation has been found between the most deprived neighbourhoods, in terms of such things as the quality of the environment, employment and health, and those with the highest crime rates. Overall, some 40% of all the crimes take place in 10% of the worst neighbourhoods. Initially launched in 1998, the *National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal* was renewed in 2001 with the *New Commitment to Neighbourhood Renewal*. It aims to tackle these problems, including crime, on a long-term basis, and using a whole-of-government approach, rather than the traditional response to such problems which has been to allocate short-term funding to a small number of pilot areas.

### Goals

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- To reduce crime and improve education, employment, housing and health in the 88 poorest districts.
- To narrow the gap on these measures between the most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the country on a long-term basis.

### Description

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The *National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal* seeks to deliver long-term, sustainable improvements to people's quality of life, and some £900 million has initially been allocated for three years to 2004. The strategy is being *driven centrally* by the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. Its goal is to deliver better public services by providing support to the 88 districts and 841 poorest wards in England and Wales, ensuring that five other central government departments also improve their service delivery in these areas. This process is called 'mainstreaming', and entails changes to policy and resource allocation, and introducing new 'floor targets', effectively setting minimum standards for service delivery and outcomes in all areas. The focus of the strategy is on education, health, housing and crime, with target reductions being set in each case. Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour and the quality of the immediate environment helps to stabilize neighbourhoods and build the confidence of the community, creating the foundations for other improvements. Among the most effective field programmes so far are the New Deal for Communities, with preventive youth work, improved security and design, better neighbourhood and housing management, strategies to tackle anti-social

behaviour, and *Neighbourhood Policing Teams*, and *Neighbourhood Warden Schemes*.

Some 300 *Neighbourhood Warden Schemes* have now been implemented for an investment of £91m (US\$174) over 7 years. The uniformed Wardens are community-based, receive training and offer a visible presence on streets and work with police and others to prevent crime. They aim to make streets safer and cleaner, build a greater sense of community and improve residents' quality of life. Warden responsibilities are identified by the local community and can include security patrols, environmental improvements, tenant liaison, information and community development, looking after empty properties, responding to minor incidents, and visits to vulnerable tenants, victims of crime or intimidated witnesses etc. Residents can report incidents and discuss community issues with them. They complement but are not a substitute for the police (i.e. they do not have the power to arrest).

### Outcome

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The New Deal for Communities evaluation shows that fear of crime has diminished and that there was a slight reduction in relation to burglary/ attempted burglary, assault and vehicle theft. The level of satisfaction and trust towards the police has also improved. A national evaluation of an initial 84 Neighbourhood Wardens Schemes from 2001-2003 found they represent value for money in terms of the overall savings from reduced crime. They have proved to be very popular, and successful in reducing fear of crime especially among the elderly, reduced the overall rate of crime (by 28%), had some impact on anti-social behaviour, and increased residents' satisfaction. Over 70% had sustainable funding in place. The quality of life of residents in scheme areas had improved since their introduction.

### Partners

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Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister), Home Office, Departments of Work and Pensions, Education and Skills, and Health; local authorities, Crime Concern and others.

### Contact

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# *Birmingham, ENGLAND AND WALES*

## *The Birmingham Safer Neighbourhood Programme*

### **Context**

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The Birmingham Safer Neighbourhood Programme operates in eight high-crime and deprived areas of the city. City-held Neighbourhood Renewal Funds funded the Programme until March 2004. It has formed a significant part of the city's Community Safety Partnership's strategy which must be renewed every three years. The main partners are the national crime reduction organization Crime Concern and Birmingham Community Safety Partnership, which represents all relevant statutory agencies. The Programme was named 'winner' of the European Crime Prevention Awards 2004.

### **Goals**

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- Reduce crime overall.
- Enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Birmingham.
- Actively encourage the communities' involvement in community safety.

### **Description**

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The Programme was based on the successful national pilot Neighbourhood Safety Programme run by Crime Concern. The method used relies on the problem-solving 'Audit to Action' approach. A comprehensive audit of the crime, safety and environmental problems is undertaken, using neighbourhood-based statistics, a survey of residents and consultation with a wide range of local organizations and community groups. The results of the audit are written up and key themes emerge. Action groups are formed from the steering group which is made up of community and agency representation, plus other interested partners. These groups draw up a detailed action plan on key themes for action. The priorities most evident in Birmingham were anti-social behaviour, the environment, priority crimes such as burglary and vehicle crime, young people, communication strategies and training. The implementation of the project is thus evidence-led and addresses the issues of greatest concern to the community.

*Measures:* Against each priority, each group had to identify at least three pieces of work per annum focusing on offenders, locations and victims. This resulted in delivering over sixty pieces of work. These included: training sessions for community leaders on how to map enviro-crimes and create a priority delivery plan; working with Arrest Referral Officers to create a picture of crime and drug use

in the target areas; setting up Neighbourhood Warden programmes; initiatives to reduce burglary and vehicle crime, a range of family support interventions, diversion, education and engagement work with young people and enforcement where necessary.

### **Outcomes**

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Evaluation of its *impact* found that youth crime was reduced by an average of 29% against 12% in comparable areas. All crime across all areas was reduced by an average of 14% against 7% in comparable areas. At the end of the first year of operation, the Safer Neighbourhood Programme had achieved a saving in costs of crime of £6,406,840.00 for an investment of £600,000.

The project is *sustainable* and since its inception two new projects have been funded through the savings made to housing stock by the lowering in damage repairs as a result of the Domestic Burglary work. These amounted to a saving of £78,000. Some other projects are being funded through Ward Neighbourhood Renewal Funds while others have been mainstreamed. This amounts to a commitment of over £300,000 of funds. All eight projects have commitments to fund for another year, until March 2006.

The programme is based upon sound, tested and robust methodology and activity. It can, in brief, be *replicated* anywhere at relatively little cost. The Neighbourhood Safety Model recognises the importance of a clear working framework, a bottom-up approach, a forceful programme driver, effective partnerships and an irrefutable commitment towards delivery of results.

### **Partners**

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The main partners are Crime Concern and Birmingham's Community Safety Partnership.

### **Contact**

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# ESTONIA

## *Estonian Neighbourhood Watch*

### **Context**

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Since the re-establishment of the Republic of Estonia (population 1.4 million) in 1991, there has been a steady increase in the amount of recorded crime from 39,570 in 1995, to 53,595 in 2003. Estonia has the highest rate of incarceration (339 per 100,000) in the European Union, with a 77% rate of recidivism. Its adult HIV incidence rate at 1.1% is the highest in the WHO European Region and closely linked with intravenous drug use (IDU). The clear relationship between IDU drug abuse and property crime has created a high level of concern and fear of crime among homeowners and local businesses.

### **Goals**

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- Increase the sense of security of home owners in their homes and in the local area.
- Promote social cohesion and a strong sense of unity and ownership in local neighbourhoods and businesses.
- Improve relationships with the local government and police.

### **Description**

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Estonian Neighbourhood Watch (*MTÜ Eesti Naabrivalve* or ENHW) was established in May 2000 as a non-profit association. It grew out of people's fear of crime and their desire to protect themselves. Unlike the early models of neighbourhood watch programmes developed in the 1970's, which were primarily concerned with excluding outsiders, through social defence and crime control as well as improving police-community relations, the mission of ENHW is community development and health promotion through community mobilization. These are seen as essential components for a safe, inclusive and healthy city where there is real and lasting crime prevention.

Neighbourhood watch groups (NHW) are now becoming community-based organizations that deal with a wide range of community concerns underlying anti-social behaviour, specific crime concerns, and fear of crime, and are shifting their emphasis to crime prevention through social development. Surveys are administered to residents in the community to identify common concerns and a series of community meetings are held. ENHW groups also meet with the police and local government. They work with the residents, the police, local authorities and other agencies towards achieving long-term goals such as developing recreational options for youth or provision for the elderly. When a new NHW group is formed in an area, there is a formal signing of an

agreement between ENHW, the local municipality, the police, and the Chief of the local Neighbourhood Watch Sector. This agreement outlines the duties and responsibilities of each party, and helps to hold local government and the police accountable to the concerns of the local NHW and promotes better working relationships with them. From the initial six NHWs established in 2000, the number has grown rapidly and spread to other areas of Estonia with over 330 in 2005. In addition to the NHW areas, ENHW has implemented a *School Watch Programme* in 28 schools in Estonia, and has started a *Kindergarten Watch* programme. Both programmes promote school safety, the reduction of bullying, and peer mediation skills. In 2003, ENHW carried out the first business retail crime survey in the Old City area of Tallinn. It now has 4 active *Business Watch* areas with two more under development. ENHW also works closely with the police and local government, and offers ongoing training in community policing theory and practice.

### **Outcomes**

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In November 2004, Tartu University carried out telephone interviews with 217 randomly selected respondents, a representative sample of members of NHW areas. Their report concluded that after forming a NHW group, people feel safer around their homes, there is less fear and concern, and people feel that help was nearer. Over 74% were working with the police and over 50% with local government, a noted improvement. More than half of the respondents agreed to participate in training, if it took place out of working hours. Since its establishment in 2000, over 10,000 households now participate in 180 NHW areas spread across Central and Northern Estonia. Their sister organization, Tartu Neighbourhood Watch Centre, has another 150 NHWs, covering the south of Estonia. The goal of ENHW is to have at least 1500 active areas with at least 150,000 members by 2013.

### **Partners**

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MTÜ Eesti Naabrivalve, (Nonprofit Association Estonian Neighbourhood Watch), the Local Municipality, the Police, and the Chief of the local Neighbourhood Watch Sector.

### **Contact**

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# FINLAND

## *The Bear Park Godparents*

### *Reclaiming a City Park as the Community's Living Room*

#### **Context**

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The Bear Park (Karhupuisto) is a city park in the middle of Kallio, a densely populated district in the eastern part of central Helsinki. At the beginning of the 1990's, most citizens avoided using the park which was frequented by drunks and small time criminals, and they perceived it as an unsafe place. The park's physical environment contributed to the residents fears (e.g. bushes obscured visibility in some parts of the park). Recurring nuisance and criminal activity at the park also gained the attention of the police. They received daily complaints about disorderly conduct in the park, and they would on occasion apprehend more than 20 people a night in the park.

#### **Goals**

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- To modify the physical environment of the park in order to attract citizens.
- To increase the use of the park by citizens.
- To decrease citizens' fear of crime.

#### **Description**

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The *Bear Parks Godparents* project was launched in 1997 and it involves supporting law-abiding citizens in reclaiming their park for use as a 'living room'. The project resulted from partnerships created between local citizens' organizations, the City Parks Department and the Police. It involves citizens in transforming the landscape of the park into a pleasant garden, making it more attractive for everyone. Citizens are called upon to volunteer in planting annual flowers in the park, tending to the flowerbeds and committing to visit the park regularly. These volunteers, known as 'Bear Park Godparents', are at the centre of the project. More than one hundred "Bear Park Godparents" volunteer their time and visit the park on a daily basis during the floral season (June to October). The volunteers agree to meet at a specific time everyday where they would take care of the flowers, water the plants, pick up litter, etc. Most active godparents seemed to be elderly women over the age of 70. The project was thus successful in involving a group of persons who were most fearful of the park and of walking in the streets, in the active use of this public space.

The project also involves the active participation of the City Parks Department and the Police. The City Parks Department provides seedlings for the flowers and tools for their care to volunteers; they visit the park daily, remove rubbish bags and take care of

the landscaping (i.e. mowing the lawn). The Police help maintain order in the park by responding rapidly to complaints from godparents and they aim to visit the park during the volunteers' meeting hours.

#### **Outcomes**

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The project has been running for eight years (1997-2004). The physical environment of the park has radically changed and it is described as a lot more attractive to residents and users. Problems of nuisance and disorder have considerably decreased. A greater number of people now use the park. While no specific evaluation has taken place, anecdotal evidence suggests that fear of crime and feelings of insecurity around the park have greatly decreased, particularly among elderly people. This may have helped decrease the incidence of more serious crimes.

#### **Partners**

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Local citizens' organizations, the City Parks Department and the Police

#### **Contact**

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# *Arras Urban Community (Pas-de-Calais), FRANCE*

## *Community Operation on Prevention and Safety*

### ***Context***

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Replacing an older urban district founded in 1965, the urban community of Arras (CUA) was created on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1998 by the mayor of Arras and 17 associated districts. Since 2003, the area has grouped together 95,000 inhabitants and 24 districts across a single unified territory, all working together to develop and implement a series of projects on urban development and community planning. Under the July 12<sup>th</sup> 1999 law to strengthen and simplify inter-district cooperation, urban communities were granted additional rights in relation to city policies and local crime prevention. This allowed for the creation of the post of cabinet director in charge of crime prevention and safety.

### ***Goals***

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- Coordinate overall policy and tools on crime prevention and safety.
- Coordinate the local safety contract for the Arras conglomerate.

### ***Description***

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Under the aegis of the city contract, a shared diagnosis was conducted which highlighted the crime problems and specific issues within the community. Five priorities were identified: strengthen security in terms of protection, surveillance, and dissuasion; address crime and strengthen victim support; strengthen specialized crime and recidivism prevention; develop locally-based management of urban and social issues; strengthen education, citizenship, and health. Working from these guidelines, the elected representatives of the community worked with concerned partners to develop a local security contract (CLS), which was signed in March 2000. Since then, an official responsible for crime prevention has been integrated into the urban and social taskforce (MOUS) of the city contract on a full-time basis.

The tools available to implement this policy are: a local security and crime prevention advisory group; two plenary meetings a year; 12 monitoring groups; thematic groups; the crisis group 'minors in custody'; three education groups; a local crime treatment group; a crime observatory; a group of eight urban mediators and one rural-urban mediator; a 24-hour psychological aid service for victims; monthly meetings of the pilot steering committee; and clear links with the city contract. Crime prevention forms an integral part of the city

contract, and the cabinet has the ability to solicit the services of the MOUS throughout the district.

The principal actions include: a study on inter-district video surveillance and the creation of an ethical committee; implementation of the coordination agreement between national and municipal police forces; creation and management of a 24-hour telephone service; defining a local policy on road safety; organization of a mayors' seminar on 'the place of the community in delinquency prevention and security policies'; and the implementation of a project for detained youth.

Available to the twenty-four mayors of the CUA, this new service has the capacity to intervene in the districts 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in order to make available the collective community resources combined with those of the police and justice services. In this way, the service works in direct relationship with its partners, respecting everyone's goals, and on the basis of a security plan adopted by all. In 2003, the overall budget for security and prevention policies of the Arras urban community was 762,000 Euros. Of this total, the urban community's budget was 316,862 Euros and that of the State, in terms of the city policy, 147,149 Euros.

### ***Outcomes***

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The project has resulted in the creation of an active and functional network against crime, reduction of crime in both national and municipal police zones, and the satisfaction of partners and elected representatives. Evaluation of the project is currently underway and will take place every three years.

### ***Partners***

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Elected representatives, prefecture, national and municipal police forces, justice, National Education, consul general of Pas-de-Calais, public transit companies of the Arras region, Arras order of lawyers, chamber of commerce and industry, Pas-de-Calais habitat, and local associations.

### ***Contact***

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**Bordeaux (Gironde), FRANCE**  
**Local Advisory Council on Security and Crime Prevention**  
**and Decentralized Local Advisory Councils**

## **Context**

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Bordeaux is a relatively calm city in terms of crime and insecurity, at least in relation to other disadvantaged urban zones. Insecurity is mostly the result of minor day-to-day crime, sometimes coupled with incivilities, even if more serious events sometimes require strong police action. In this context, better articulating prevention and security and responding to local circumstances involves recognizing the needs specific to each neighbourhood in each territorial agreement of the city contract. It has also involved the installation over the past three years of local prevention and security councils presided over by the mayor, especially in neighbourhoods covered by the city contract.

## **Goals**

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- Involve local actors who do not take part in the plenary sessions of the city-wide crime prevention council.
- Provide citizens with a clear understanding of the actions taken by the city, the national police, and the justice system in relation to problems affecting them daily.
- Share the diversity of views on observed or felt insecurity in neighbourhoods.
- Reach consensus on the problems which need addressing and necessary solutions.

## **Description**

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Seven Local Advisory Councils on Prevention and Security (*Conseils locaux de prévention et de sécurité -CLPS*) have been established in 2001. Their aim is to bring the policies and interventions addressing insecurity and crime prevention as close to neighbourhoods and their inhabitants as possible. The CLPS responded to the need to decentralize in certain neighbourhoods the plenary session of the citywide advisory council on crime prevention, in relation to the severity of security problems. The orientation of the Local Advisory Councils on Security and Crime Prevention (*Conseil local de sécurité et de prévention de la délinquance - CLSPD*) evolves over time in relation to the reality and severity of insecurity issues in these neighbourhoods. Such flexibility allows CLPS to meet as needed to address a particular problem in a neighbourhood. They bring together the main institutions concerned as well as citizens' representatives and socio-educational operators of the neighbourhood.

A brief assessment on feelings of insecurity is undertaken in a survey of citizens (30 to 50 depending on the neighbourhood) conducted by two members of the city's security-prevention team usually precedes the bi-annual meetings of the CLPS. Citizens are particularly sensitive to the fact that public authorities are at their service and take the time to listen to their concerns of their day-to-day security issues.

Every six months, the prefecture and police forces present their report on the situation observed in the neighbourhood and the actions taken during this period. Everyone present may then express their opinion on the evolution of the neighbourhood's situation and on the measures deemed necessary for improving the situation, as well as the sense of security in the neighbourhood. Careful analysis of the actual situation of each neighbourhood and its specific problems allows for a focused approach, and a continually adjusted response. This phase also provides an opportunity for exchange between community-based and institutional actors on the reality and severity of the insecurity complaints and the relevance of the intended measures.

## **Outcomes**

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The citywide local safety and prevention councils help adapt responses to the specificities of each area, work to reassure citizens, and they help to educate citizens about prevention and safety measures. This community-based work also brings a useful contribution to the local safety audit which precedes the implementation of interventions outlined in the local security and prevention contract of Bordeaux.

## **Partners**

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City contract, prefecture, city of Bordeaux, prosecutor, delegated security prefect, departmental director of public security, academy inspection, heads of educational institutions, prevention clubs, Centre for Local Social Action, local mission, merchants', tenants' and social workers' associations.

## **Contact**

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# **Antananarivo, MADAGASCAR**

## **Volunteer Service Against Violence**

### **United Nations Volunteers Program (UNV)**

#### **Context**

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Crime, insecurity and sometimes violence threaten the quality of life in Antananarivo (4 million inhabitants) and stigmatize certain neighbourhoods. Property crimes in particular have been a rapidly growing phenomenon over the past decade. In addition, there is a rapid increase in drug use, and in the less visible phenomena of family and domestic violence. Due to an unstable socio-economic situation, there has been a significant increase in groups at risk.

#### **Goals**

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- Facilitate the coordination of preventive measures through a participatory process which reinforces social cohesion.
- Establish meeting centres in targeted poor neighbourhoods.
- Mobilize locally-based groups and implement pilot projects targeting at risk groups.
- Strengthen the capacity of local authorities and NGOs to prevent crime and violence.

#### **Description**

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The Volunteer Service Against Violence (VCV) project began in 2002. It promotes a strategy of urban governance in two neighbourhoods of the Antananarivo Urban Community (CUA). The purpose of the VCV project is to reduce violence in these communities through the coordination of urban crime prevention action. It uses a two-tiered approach. On one hand, it uses a Volunteer strategy based on community mobilization, participatory and partnership approaches, as well as campaigns to reduce violence through socio-cultural and sporting activities and events. On the other hand, it applies the UN Habitat Safer Cities strategy, in which all actors work together to improve safety and local development, and which promotes the role of municipal leadership.

Specific tools to promote the Volunteer strategy have been developed in the course of the project. These include *community mobilization* through the creation of groups known as Neighbourhood Volunteers (VQ). The VQ are local inhabitants, the majority of whom are women, who were identified and recruited through visits to local authorities, volunteer organizations, and women's groups.

They work together to increase awareness within their community and help to identify and implement prevention activities. The *participatory and partnership approach* uses participatory diagnosis techniques and partnership strategies developed by the project. One of the strengths of the project has been the dynamic partnership created among diverse groups from civil society and the State, including police services and the justice sector, national ministries, representatives of the CUA, the private sector, and the two communities involved. The *mobilization against violence campaigns* have been organized through cultural and sporting events, and have contributed to increasing public awareness. In addition to helping to mobilize those communities, the impact of these campaigns has given the project visibility far beyond the neighbourhoods of intervention.

#### **Outcomes**

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The VCV project, currently in its third year, will conclude in August 2005. An evaluation will determine the extent to which the two aspects of the project (Volunteer and Safer Cities) have been incorporated into municipal structures. The project partnership, and in particular the Antananarivo Urban Community, hope to extend this type of intervention to other areas of city. A project based more specifically on the development of physical, sports and cultural activities is also currently in development with the Minister of Youth and Sports.

#### **Partners**

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General Direction of Social Affairs and Security, Antananarivo Urban Community; Prevention and Fight Against Violence Unit (CLV), which unites various ministries and NGOs; local organizations.

#### **Contact**

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# NIGERIA

## *Supporting Informal Policing Systems*

### **Context**

In Nigeria, it is common for communities to band together to form informal policing structures - 'vigilantes', to combat common threats to their safety and security. Since they are local phenomena, they vary considerably. In some places they cooperate well with the police, in others there is antagonism, and most often mutual suspicion. Although generally positive and law-abiding, informal policing structures (IPS) have been known to take the law into their hands when the police are seen as unable or unwilling to act. There have been several cases of human rights abuses, and some groups have occasionally acted as ethnic militias. Despite this, most Nigerians are content with the security which IPS groups provide, and support them financially and otherwise.

### **Goals**

- Support informal policing structures in Enugu State in improving their accountability, training, planning, and partnership building with the Nigeria police.
- Strengthen the IPS in Jigawa State with support for training, planning and equipment.

### **Description**

The United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) established the *Security Justice and Growth Programme* (SJG) in 2002. Working with national and local consultants, the programme identified two community-initiated and community-managed IPS groups in Enugu State, which were providing security within the law. Early on, consultations were held with key stakeholders in those communities to determine what assistance would be useful. Initially, the SJG programme assisted with a survey of neighbourhood associations. Subsequently, they were encouraged to partner with the Enugu State Government, through the office of the Commissioner of Human Development and Poverty Alleviation. This partnership has so far resulted in a draft Bill, which provides a framework for the formal recognition and registration of IPS's. To address human rights abuses, IPS groups are being trained in human rights, a code of conduct has been developed, organizational structures have been strengthened, and systems for effective management set up. A database of all IPS groups and members is been created, to facilitate planning, budgeting and policymaking. Since IPS groups patrol their communities at night and often during the day, SJG has also provided material resources such as raincoats, boots, flashlights and torches. There are plans for further practical training on issues such as securing a crime scene; record keeping; arrest

procedures and conflict resolution. Apart from providing security, the IPS group in the community of Coal Camp, a former mining settlement, now provides proactive support to victims, action against domestic violence, and is beginning to address issues of health, education and environmental sanitation among youth. They are developing small income generating projects, for example, and working with State's literacy agency to provide evening classes.

In Jigawa state in Northern Nigeria, IPS groups are partly funded by the State Government. SJG has assisted them in gaining greater support from the Jigawa State Justice Sector Reform Committee (JSJRC). The JSJRC is supporting a draft bill to go the State Assembly. It includes provision for long-term funding, and liaison with between the IPS group at both state and local government levels. A registration system has been developed for IPS members and adopted by the State government. IPS groups and the police are now carrying out joint patrols, and act as undercover agents and informants to the police. Plans to develop a crime prevention strategy for the weekly major cattle markets in Jigawa are now being developed.

### **Outcomes**

With the support of SJG, service delivery to communities through informal policing structures has been improved. Close participation with the Nigerian Police Service's Community Police Programme has begun to improve relationships between the national police and informal police groups. Partnering with the State Government has led to the inclusion of support for IPS in the State Economic Empowerment Development Strategy. IPS groups are now beginning to engage in more proactive community initiatives, and greater respect for human rights is now evident among them. In Jigawa, continuous funding for the IPS is now guaranteed.

### **Partners**

DFID, consultant teams. Enugu State: Governor's Office; Commissioner for Human Development and Poverty Alleviation; Nigeria Police State Command, Enugu; Coal Camp Neighbourhood Association; State Justice Reform Committee. Jigawa State: Governor's Office; Nigeria Police State Command, Jigawa; Market Association.

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# NORWAY

## *Nightravens*

### **Context**

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In the Nordic countries, like many others, it is common for some young people to go out at weekends and consume large amounts of alcohol. This can often lead to disturbances, crime and violence while under the influence of alcohol. This tends to increase peoples' fear of violence and they prefer to stay at home at night, while the police are not sufficiently numerous to be able to ensure their security. In a recent survey conducted by Opinion for Vesta Insurance, 35 % of Norwegians said that they feared violence; specifically, people worry that they, or someone they know, might be subjected to violence. Furthermore, 15 % stated that this fear interferes with their standard of living. Women and the elderly are those most concerned about crime and violence.

### **Goals**

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- To reduce the occurrence of crime, violence and intoxication in towns and villages.
- To raise awareness about violence and its impact on public health.
- To raise awareness about the role the public can play in violence prevention.

### **Description**

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Originally founded in Sweden in the late 1980's, Nightravens (*Natteravnene*) is a national grassroots movement that seeks to prevent crime and violence. The Norwegian organization, founded in 1993, recruits adults who volunteer to patrol the streets at night on weekends, in order to prevent crime and violence, including drug and alcohol consumption, among children and young people. The presence of Nightravens in the streets also helps to increase a sense of neighbourhood safety. The aim is to create a safe environment, and to encourage young people to contact them if they have problems. The Nightravens walk around communities in groups of three, wearing special yellow jackets, which make them visible to the public. They may volunteer for any period, from once a week to once a year. Nightravens take training and courses on several topics such as drugs, psychology of youth, police operations, and first aid. The volunteers are trained not to intervene in any risky situation, but only to observe, provide information, and communicate with police if any problems occur.

In 1995, there were 9 Nightravens' groups in Norway, with approximately 1000 volunteers. Ten

years later, this movement has grown to encompass 300, 000 volunteers, who patrol 450 different areas all over the country. This means that more than 8% of the adult population has participated in the project. Several countries in Europe have implemented the Nightraven model: Denmark has 156 groups, Sweden has 230 groups, and groups are found in the Faroe Islands, Svalbard, Slovakia, Alicante and Gran Canaria in Spain.

The Vesta Insurance Company, a private insurance firm, is the main Norwegian sponsor and collaborative-partner, providing both technical and financial assistance. This project is an excellent example of private-public sector collaboration in crime prevention.

### **Outcomes**

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The experience of the Norwegian Nightraven organization is that the presence of adults does help to reduce violence and crime. Reports from police and sheriff's departments show that weekend crime rates have been reduced by as much as 88%, with the average decline of crime being over 50%. Approximately 98% of Norwegians recently surveyed stated that they were familiar with the organization "Nightravens". Over 90% of them also thought that the presence of Nightravens did help to prevent violence.

### **Partners**

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Residents, Vesta Insurance, police, and local authorities.

### **Contact**

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# PERU

## Local Citizen Security Committees

### Community Crime Prevention

### **Context**

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As Peru emerges from 20 years of internal conflict that caused the loss of some 70,000 lives, the country has begun to reform its police force and respond to increasing levels of public insecurity using a participative National Citizen Security System. Created in 2003, this system mandates the creation of citizen security committees at national, regional, provincial and local levels. The local committees are multi-sectoral, chaired by the mayor and include representatives of the police and justice systems, health, education, and civil society organizations, and are mandated to develop local safety diagnoses and implement and evaluate strategic safety plans.

### **Goals**

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- Build civil society capacity on citizen security issues, and ability to support local, crime prevention efforts, and improved police community relations.
- Build capacity among local authorities, police stations and community groups to ensure that the work is effective and sustainable in the local citizen security committees.
- Improve police conduct, police-community relations and collaboration.
- Improve local perceptions of safety and security in selected areas.
- Build and consolidate social capital in community groups.

### **Description**

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Run by a partnership between the Open Society Justice Initiative and the Instituto de Defensa Legal (IDL), and with early support from the Peruvian Ministry of the Interior, six pilot cities have received funding and technical assistance to design and apply a local safety diagnostic, including a survey instrument. The strategic safety plans include activities such as improving public spaces and parks, establishing youth programmes, addressing substance abuse, and enforcing municipal regulations. Additionally, local coordinators engage with local community security committees to provide education and training to the stakeholders through a series of publications and through the development of local training capacity.

The materials being developed by this participatory approach provide toolkits and inputs

to guide local authorities and civil society on inter alia: concepts and experiences of crime prevention, the basic structural and legal issues of the new citizen security system and crime prevention activities. To date, project partners have received requests for toolkits and training from dozens of municipalities.

By integrating their activities with the private sector, the local community security committees have achieved substantive successes: the town of Ayacucho has beautified one park and is building a police station with materials from the Ministry of the Interior, labor from the community and donated land; Chilca has improved street lighting and has arranged a partnership with a local taxi company to allow citizens to report crime via the taxi company's radio system and Chimbote has initiated an anti-gang campaign and neighborhood watches that have begun to rein in local markets.

### **Outcomes**

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Unlike many other crime prevention processes, this project conducted surveys to generate initial baseline data measuring victimization, fear of crime, trust in the police and willingness to participate in crime prevention activities. The evaluation re-applies the initial survey instrument to produce a qualitative and quantitative evaluation of impact on community safety and community perceptions, social capital formation and improved democratic practice in the local government and the police. Also, a self-evaluation instrument is being applied by the local committees themselves to assess their own quantity and quality of participation, compliance with commitments, decision making etc. Initial indications show that this multi-sectoral committee approach has generated significant social capital.

### **Partners**

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Peruvian Ministry of the Interior, Lima; Instituto de Defensa Legal (IDL), Lima; Open Society Justice Initiative, New York.

### **Contact**

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# PHILIPPINES

## Community-Oriented Policing System

### **Context**

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The Philippines, like many other developing countries, has been heavily affected by the consequences of increasing urbanization, including rising crime. Since the change in political system in 1986, there have been a number of innovations to respond to these problems, culminating in the National Crime Prevention Programme in 2004. Among these innovations has been the introduction of the Community-Oriented Policing System (COPS). In 1993, the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) launched the concept of COPS. In 1994, COPS was officially adopted by the PNP, making it one of the key strategies of the National Strategic Action Plan. The PNP Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998 further strengthened COPS by mandating the PNP to be a community and service-oriented agency.

### **Goals**

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- Develop police stations espousing the philosophy of community policing for the Philippines.
- Develop a three-way partnership between the police, local government units, NGOs, and other stakeholders in the community.

### **Description**

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A survey of the Community-Oriented Policing System was undertaken by the Napolcom Technical Committee on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice System in a series of selected areas based on their acclaimed success. In addition, an analysis of approaches was undertaken, a series of profiles built, and feedback was sought from citizens and beneficiaries of the COPS programmes. This enabled an assessment to be made of the factors which contributed to the success or failure of COPS, which could then be tested out in a controlled environment. A pilot project was launched in the then Municipality of Valenzuela, Metro Manila, which was selected since it represented a cross-section of the diverse political, socio-economic, and crime characteristics, which typify urban and rural areas throughout the country. The pilot took into consideration the factors that were identified as impeding or enhancing the programme.

Following the conclusion of this pilot project, police officers from Valenzuela took part in an intensive residential training programme. Its purpose was to enable them to internalize and institutionalize the COPS philosophy, and instil a

commitment to neighbourhood problem-solving. The training programme included topics on community-policing, problem-solving techniques, public relations, leadership, community organizing and mobilizing, among others.

The successful implementation of the project in Valenzuela, Metro Manila paved the way for the replication and extension of COPS in three representative regions in the country. In early 1999, the project was launched in Valencia, Bukidnon, followed by Mandaue City, Cebu and lastly in Tagum City, Davao. In order to ensure uniform understanding and implementation of COPS, the Law Enforcement Pillar of the Napolcom Technical committee on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice developed a *Manual of Operations* in 2000. Between 2000 and 2003, training was provided for police officers and a series of workshops were conducted at the regional level for all those responsible for the implementation of COPS in all of the regions nationwide.

### **Outcomes**

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Since 1994, a total of 4,391 COP-KABABAYAN Centers/PCPs have been established. This has enhanced police visibility at the local level and allowed them to intensify their efforts against criminality. It has also improved the PNP's average response time to calls for assistance. The adoption of the COPS philosophy as resulted in a quantum improvement in the relationship between the police and the community.

At the end of 2004, Napolcom, through the Law Enforcement Pillar, launched a Monitoring and Evaluation study on the Implementation of COPS in randomly selected cities and municipalities in the National Capital Region, and in the regions of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. The study will attempt to establish the efficiency, effectiveness and equity of the COPS programme in the Philippines.

### **Partners**

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National Police Commission, Philippine National Police, Department of National Defense, Dangerous Drugs Board, Philippine Public Safety College, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, and Non-government Organizations.

### **Contact**

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# PHILIPPINES

## *Integrated Area Community Public Safety Plan (IA/CPSP)*

### **Context**

The Philippines (pop. 76 million), like many other developing countries, has been heavily affected by the consequences of increasing urbanization, resulting from an unprecedented exodus from rural to urban areas especially in the 1990s. This has resulted in the deterioration of living conditions in urban areas and is confronted as well as the challenge of maintaining peace and order. To properly address issues of safety and security, a comprehensive and united approach involving all sectors in society is needed. Since the change in the political system in 1986, there have been a number of innovations to respond to such problems, including Peace and Order Councils and culminating in the National Crime Prevention Programme in 2004.

### **Goals**

- Develop local coordinating bodies to promote peace, order, and public safety.
- Use a comprehensive strategy to integrate and unify crime prevention initiatives at the local level.
- Strengthen the capacity of the local community to respond to peace and order concerns.

### **Description**

In the 1990s, Peace and Order Councils (POC) were established as coordinating bodies to promote peace and order and public safety. They are charged with effectively integrating and unifying efforts at the local level. Each POC is responsible for formulating their own Integrated Area Community Public Safety Plan (IA/CPSP), which serves as a blueprint for the protection of life and property in their locality. The community is seen as the key to public safety. The plan is not the sole responsibility of law enforcement but the product of collective responsibility that harmonizes the efforts of local government units, law enforcement, government agencies, and the community as a whole. All Provincial, City, and Municipal POCs are mandated to develop and oversee the implementation of their respective IA/CPSP. The Provincial Governor acts as Chairperson of the Provincial POC and oversees the implementation of the provincial public safety plan, which is built on the integrated community safety plans. Local Mayors chair their POC and these councils are responsible for coordinating, developing, and establishing the IA/CPSP, and identifying the local priorities to be addressed by local Philippine National Police (PNP) stations. Each POC chairperson is responsible for the proper management and supervision of volunteer

organizations, in coordination with the appropriate government entities. The volunteer organizations formulate plans and recommend measures to improve peace and order and public safety in their respective areas, provide periodic assessments of the prevailing crime issues in their localities and must submit a report with recommendations to the Chairperson of the National Peace and Order Council.

In 2001, a *Model Integrated Area / Community Public Safety Plan* was published. This serves as a uniform template for developing an IA/CPSP for lower level POCs. The model plan includes a *Statement of Vision and Philosophy*, which identifies the public safety goals to be attained by the locality. It also provides the *Rationale for Adoption of a Public Safety Plan*, which outlines the legal basis on which local governments should develop, comprehensive and concerted plans. A major aspect of the plan is an assessment of peace and order in the locality, which must include both qualitative and quantitative measures of the magnitude and extent of crime problems, the rate of change, its seriousness and location, and who or what are the major causes of those problems. This analysis allows the POCs to establish their priorities on the basis of the crimes occurring in their locality and to focus their planning activities.

### **Outcomes**

All POCs are required to monitor and evaluate the implementation of their plan to determine whether the goals and objectives have been achieved. This is the responsibility of the Mayor through monthly reports based on meetings and conferences, on-site visits, reports submitted by tasked agencies, and inspections of actual projects. The local government is required to evaluate its relative strength, its performance record, and the environment, and develop programmes of action that will enable the government to attain its goals.

### **Partners**

Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, Vice-Chairperson and Executive Officer of Napolcom, Secretary General - NPOC, Napolcom Regional Directors - Head Secretariat, RPOC, DILG Director - Head Secretariat, PPOC, and CPOC/MPOC.

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# **SOUTH AFRICA**

## **Crime Prevention Development Programme**

### **A Community Based Strategy to Reduce Crime**

#### **Context**

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The South African Police Services (SAPS) established the Crime Prevention Development Programme in response to the President's call for integrated action to address crime, violence and poverty in 1999 across South Africa. The national initiative has created groundbreaking opportunities for local governments and the SAPS, together with other local service providers, to jointly develop and implement Integrated Community Based Crime Prevention Strategies. This is facilitated by supporting multi-sectoral interventions and the alignment of services to address the root causes of crime and violence. The approach is based on the philosophy that the community must take ownership in understanding their own situation, and to identify and participate in, crime reduction and prevention activities.

#### **Goals**

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- Support, fast track and facilitate the development and implementation of integrated community based crime prevention strategies at local level.
- Mobilise action and encourage participation at the community level around strategic crime prevention interventions.

#### **Description**

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Different crimes have different causes, and locally developed, context specific solutions need to be found to address crime at the local level. A community based crime prevention strategy should include responses to the crime problems that include activities which reduce, deter or prevent the occurrence of specific crimes by altering the environment in which they occur, changing the conditions which are thought to cause them and providing a strong deterrent in the form of an effective criminal justice system.

The Crime Prevention Development Programme provides strategic and technical support to municipalities, the police and other law enforcement agencies, businesses, NGO's, community based organisations and other role players on how to develop and implement an integrated strategy. This process recognises the indigenous knowledge of communities to participate in the development of crime reduction and prevention initiatives. Local governments are often in the best position to drive the process,

The programme may also be streamlined through the appointment of an external expert to facilitate the intervention phase. This process would involve the following: recognise community structures to ensure that the programme is inclusive, participatory and transparent; conduct a comprehensive community safety audit that analyses local characteristics such as socio-economic conditions, crime patterns, trends and hot-spots, crime problems related to environmental planning and design, social, economic and physical development initiatives, existing crime prevention and policing initiatives (institutional capacity etc.); develop a community based crime prevention strategy based on the community safety audit; develop an interface with local service providers with the view to influence the respective delivery agendas; facilitate seed capital to fund anchor projects; identify key areas of intervention and priorities to address the root causes of crime; identify appropriate community based agents to implement local crime prevention initiatives in response to the priorities identified in the strategy; build the capacity of the community based agents and support them in implementing the initiatives; monitor and evaluate the implementation of all aspects of the strategy; and build the capacity of local structures, service providers and SAPS to sustain the implementation of the Crime Prevention Development Programme. Technical advise / support is available from the Division Crime Prevention: Social Crime Prevention of SAPS. Nevertheless, a strategy can only be successful if there is commitment and buy-in by local services providers such as local government and the communities at large.

#### **Resources**

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*Making South Africa Safe - A Manual for Community Based Crime Prevention, Designing Safer Places - A Manual for Crime Prevention through Planning and Design, and Community Safety Projects: Promising Crime Prevention Practices in South Africa. .*

#### **Contact**

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# *eThekwini, SOUTH AFRICA*

## *Warwick Junction Project*

### **Context**

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Warwick Junction, located in eThekwini municipality (formerly Durban) in South Africa, is a transit hub on the periphery of the central business district, which includes the main city bus and train stations and taxis ranks. An estimated 300,000 citizens, visitors, and commuters pass through the area each day. During the apartheid era, Black and Indian buses, prohibited from entering the city centre, had to stop on the Junction. It became the main site for informal trading in the municipality, including some 500 traders selling herbal cures, and providing survival support to their urban and rural communities. By 1996, the area was in considerable urban decay and there were serious problems of crime and order maintenance. The expanding taxi trade and informal traders were using the streets and pavements to trade, and living in unsanitary conditions, often sleeping on the streets. The area gave rise to considerable environmental, safety, health and planning concerns.

### **Goals**

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- Improve the safety and security and overall quality of life of the Warwick Junction area.
- Promote citizen and community empowerment through organized participation in decision-making with the city administration.
- Upgrade cleanliness and the quality of the physical environment.
- Increase trading, employment and investment opportunities.

### **Description**

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The Warwick Junction Urban Renewal Project began in 1997. It is a multi-agency holistic redevelopment initiative which turned a problematic area into a vibrant business centre and a popular tourist attraction. Rather than clear the informal traders out of the area, the city administration recognised the importance of the informal economy and decided to work with them, and other key stakeholders, by negotiating to improve their conditions in a participatory way. It chose to locate the project office at the Junction rather than City Hall. A derelict warehouse was converted into a community hall for this purpose, and to enable project teams, community members and city representatives to meet and discuss issues, and to serve as a base for developing the consultation process with stakeholders. An umbrella traders' street committee was established to enable them to discuss their needs

and space requirements. The city then identified a section of elevated city highway which had never been utilized. By constructing a bridge and pedestrian access, they were able to create a purpose-built and functional Herb Traders Market. The more limited space necessitated negotiations among the informal traders themselves, which were carefully conducted by the traders over a process of months. Each trader now had a formal rental arrangement and individual kiosk. Multipurpose centres were also created for street traders to carry out their business activities. The overall costs for the development of the market, infrastructure and services were approximately \$500,000 (USD).

Subsequent developments included the construction of other market areas, with night lock-ups for goods, and regular cleaning by the city. The project has also revamped streets and improved lighting and sanitation in the area. To deal with the traffic congestion caused by the huge growth in private taxis, the city has created taxi ranks and holding areas.

### **Outcomes**

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Since the implementation of the Warwick Junction Renewal Project, there has been a marked improvement in trading, commuter safety and living conditions. Crime rates have declined from 50 violent deaths in the Warwick Junction area in 1997, to a recorded 6 in 2002, in part due to the work of the traders who formed an organization *Traders Against Crime* using conflict resolution to resolve disputes. The annual turnover of the Herb Traders Market has increased enormously. Apart from the area becoming a major tourist attraction, an employment chain of an estimated 14,000 jobs in Durban has been created. Nevertheless, residents in the area are still concerned about the level of safety and security. The City has now launched the Inner eThekwini Renewal and Urban Management Programme (iTRUMP) to apply similar processes to other inner-city areas.

### **Partners**

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City Council, Traders Association

### **Contact**

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**Dar es Salaam, TANZANIA**  
**Safer Cities**  
**City-wide prevention of urban crime, violence, and insecurity**

## **Context**

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Dar es Salaam, like Tanzania as a whole, has a tradition of partnership and public participation at the local level. Over the past twenty years, however, the city has grown considerably in size, especially through the development of unplanned settlements. This growth has led to overcrowding and congestion, while the infrastructure has not been able to support the population. Families in informal settlements or urban slums live in precarious conditions. They may be subject to eviction, and up to 90% may have no formal employment. Increasing insecurity and crime, including theft, robbery and drug abuse, and violence against women have been linked to high unemployment, the breakdown of service delivery, including in the justice sector, particularly at the lowest levels, and lack of perspectives for meaningful engagement for the youth.

## **Goals**

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- Strengthen the capacity of the local authorities to manage and sustain urban security and reduce crime including violence against women, children, and other vulnerable groups.
- Create a culture of crime prevention and community safety through pilot projects at neighbourhood level initiated by the communities themselves.

## **Description**

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The *Safer Cities: Dar es Salaam Project* was initiated in 1997 by UN-HABITAT, following interest expressed by the City. The project has a full-time coordinating team and office located in the city council working in collaboration with the three municipalities of Temeke, Ilala and Kinondoni each with a Safer Cities Unit and a Coordinator. It works in a co-ordinated partnership between the local authority, central government, institutions and community leaders, local NGOs and residents. Project partners work together to develop locally based solutions to prevent crime in their neighbourhoods and build awareness among communities about safety and security issues. The first phase of the project identified youth crime, and violence against women as the priority concerns. Victimisation surveys, and a young offender survey provided data on crime problems and trends, and an integrated crime prevention strategy was developed. The strategy addresses three areas i) *law enforcement* including the creation and training of the City Auxiliary Police, the development of neighbourhood watch groups (*Sungusungu*), and the development of Ward

Tribunals to expedite minor offences; ii) *social and economic issues* including job creation and skills-training, cultural, and recreational activities for youth at risk; and iii) *environmental design* including the use of women's safety audits to identify needs for safety enhancement. The project promotes women's safety and empowerment by training community members to conduct the safety audits and implement audit recommendations. Continuous public awareness campaigns have helped to create a culture of adherence to the law and partnerships in local innovations for crime prevention. The *Sungusungus* are people (youth) men and women engaged by the community for neighbourhood watch. They receive some basic militia training from retired militia/police/army officers, and provide nighttime security in their communities. They also take part in income generation activities such as poultry farming, and vegetable growing, to help provide a livelihood and build the sustainability of the *Sungusungu* groups.

## **Outcomes**

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Institutional capacity and skills in crime prevention at the municipal level have been embedded, co-ordinated and strengthened by the project. Citizens now have a better understanding of prevention and of the benefits of developing their own crime prevention initiatives, and a programme to integrate youth into the local authority decision-making framework is underway. The project seeks to embark on a third phase - 'rolling out' the Safer Cities approach to other urban centres in Tanzania; seven municipalities have already requested assistance. The Safer Cities Dar es Salaam project won the award for best crime prevention initiative at the Africities Summit in 2000 in Windhoek, Namibia in 2003 in Yaoundé, Cameroon, and was nominated *Best Practice* by the 2004 Dubai International Award for Best Practices.

## **Partners**

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The National and Local Governments, NGOs, Training Institutions, UN HABITAT, UNDP, ICPC. Funding support from the Netherlands, Sweden, UNDP and Local Authorities

## **Contact**

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# UN HABITAT and CSIR Local Crime Prevention Toolkit

## Context

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This Local Crime Prevention Toolkit has been developed by CSIR South Africa and UN HABITAT's Safer Cities Programme. It aims to assist local governments to come to grips with crime prevention processes, approaches, and concepts, in order to implement meaningful local crime prevention programmes and make communities safer. The Toolkit addresses the gap between international or national guidelines and policies urging local governments to take the lead, and the information and technical requirements of local governments and actors. Such guidelines tend to provide only general outlines of policy requirements and to be prescriptive. They are not very accessible to local governments. The Local Crime Prevention Toolkit was developed with these difficulties in mind. It is a process tool, providing a reference framework and support tools which can easily be adapted to local dynamics. It includes practical tools, and guides local crime prevention across cultural and contextual boundaries, showing 'how' to implement good crime prevention. It is relevant to local governments and crime prevention partnerships and practitioners around the world.

## Goals

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- To consolidate the experiences of local governments and crime prevention internationally into a practical toolkit for local crime prevention.
- To respond to the increasing demand for prevention through local integrated approaches.
- To assist in crime prevention capacity-building at the local level, including coordination and a better understanding of crime prevention principles.

## Description

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The Local Crime Prevention Toolkit contains practical and user-friendly technical tools, tips and checklists, drawn from global crime prevention experience over the past two decades. It is grounded in international knowledge and experience from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America and North America. The Toolkit comprises a number of interrelated components:

The *Strategic Workbook* outlines a practical planning process model in nine chapters. They include Start-Up, Partnership Building and Visioning, Data Collection and Analysis, Strategy Formulation, Strategy Implementation, Institutionalisation, Monitoring and Evaluation,

Management, and Information and Communication. The chapters focus on establishing and sustaining a multidisciplinary partnership, and provide a reference guide to the specific tools which support the process, the selection of options, and design of the local process. It also provides a wide range of examples of implementation.

The *Training Curriculum* on Local Crime Prevention provides applied knowledge and skills to participants, to ensure the effective use of the tools and information contained in the Toolkit. The curriculum uses a participatory method of training, thus enabling participants to learn through practical group exercises. In group discussions and plenary discussions, participants interact and share their experiences. The curriculum has been developed and tested with the South Africa cities of Johannesburg, Ethekwini, Mangaung, and Emalahleni, and the East African cities of Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania and Nairobi, Kenya.

The *Interactive Communication Technology (ICT)* is a computer application that guides and prompts the local co-ordinator through the process, assisting with electronic data collection and data management. It provides help with analysis; helps align budgets; assists with resource management; generates reports; and links the vision, strategic planning and outcomes. The ICT tool provides for scenario planning, to assist with and help assess recommendations, as well as with project planning. The tool also promotes effective communication amongst partners, as well as supporting the implementation of the monitoring and evaluation framework.

The Toolkit will be available in English, on a CD-ROM and in printed form, in 2005.

## Partners

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UN-HABITAT, CSIR South Africa, Business Against Crime-South Africa, & Global Development Alliance; cities of Dar-es-Salaam; Nairobi; Ethekwini, Mangaung, Emalahleni & Johannesburg.

## Contacts

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Section 2:  
**YOUTH at RISK**

# AUSTRALIA

## Deadly Treadlies

### **Context**

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Urban and remote Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territories of Australia are often characterised as being 'disadvantaged' in terms of poverty, housing shortages, unemployment, education and health. Among at-risk youth, there are often problems with solvent abuse and drinking, and criminal activity. A major challenge is how to build relationships and support at-risk youth who would not otherwise access support services.

### **Goals**

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- Respond to the needs of at-risk youth in a participatory way through creative activities.
- Provide youth with an alcohol, drug and violence free space.
- Provide youth with skills training and job creation and turn the project into a sustainable small business.

### **Description**

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The Alice Springs Youth Accommodation Services (ASYASS) is a community organization that provides crisis and supported accommodation, support and advocacy to homeless and at risk youth. 'Deadly Treadlies' is a bike rebuilding project started in response to ideas raised by young clients of the ASYASS. It has been operating in Central Australia since January 2003. Participants are helped to build a bike for themselves, as well as another for the project to sell to cover a proportion of the costs. The activity provides an opportunity for mentoring and one-on-one case management. Riding also offers a healthy recreational option.

Deadly Treadlies is accredited to receive juveniles diverted from the court system as well as those with court mandated community work orders. Bike building is a relatively attractive entry point for young men in particular who would not otherwise access support services. Deadly Treadlies provides a positive means of channelling energy and is an alcohol, drug and violence free space where social interaction with the broader community is encouraged and aggressive behaviour is not permitted. It is also an opportunity for joint Indigenous and non-Indigenous activity and for a practical activity that crosses language barriers. The project runs an outreach programme in local town camps, and weeklong workshops in remote Aboriginal communities.

Job creation and training opportunities are a vital step in removing dependence on the welfare system for young people. The consultation and

priority placed on young people's ownership of the project is an important way to increase self-esteem and pride amongst participants. Providing hands on work that incorporates literacy and numeracy has been a key addition to the project, and courses such as welding and automotives are important steps on from Deadly Treadlies.

Donations of second-hand bikes and parts are essential. Currently the project operates a second hand bike sales point at the Bowerbird Tip (rubbish/refuse point) Shop. In addition, young people have been painting up bike frames to be rebuilt and then sold. The money raised goes towards the wages the young people earn from rebuilding bikes. Several funding sources support the project including the Northern Territory Crime Prevention Grant Scheme. The urban part of the project costs approximately \$65,000 (USD) per year to operate, and sustainable funding is being sought.

### **Outcomes**

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Since its implementation in 2003, over 600 young people aged between 12 and 24 years have accessed the Deadly Treadlies project. Among the participants, about 35% are girls, and over 95% are Indigenous. A number of the participants have returned to live with friends or family members, or to build a bike for relatives too young to access the project. Staff members report that, where solvent abuse is prevalent, young people have put down their cans or bags to access Deadly Treadlies, and Community Council members, youth workers and residents have all noted the reduction in sniffing and drinking by young people during the workshops. Violence, vandalism and property destruction has decreased and sometimes stopped altogether. Higher attendance rates at school have been reported following workshops, as well as the confidence to tackle tasks that were previously shunned. The project won the 2004 Givewell Best Practice Charity Project Award at the Annual Ethical Investor Corporate Sustainability Awards.

### **Partners**

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ASYASS, local community and government services

### **Contact**

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# Queensland, AUSTRALIA

## Pathways to Prevention Project

### **Context**

The project *Pathways to prevention - developmental and early intervention approaches to crime in Australia*, was commissioned by the Australian Government in 1997. The first stage of the project was undertaken by the Developmental Crime Prevention Consortium, and resulted in the publication of the report *Pathways to Prevention*, released in 1999. The report pointed to the importance of developmental early intervention approaches in preventing youth crime and other forms of at-risk behaviour. It has formed the basis for a number of major programmes initiated by Australian governments, including the early intervention project *Stronger Families and Communities Strategy*. Stage 2 of this project, based on a partnership between Mission Australia and Griffith University, includes the implementation of this early intervention project in Inala, Queensland.

### **Goals**

To influence developmental pathways leading to youth crime and related problems by:

- Promoting conditions that support adjustment to school and competencies related to school success.
- Promoting the family capacity to foster children's development.
- Promoting equitable relationships between families and schools.

### **Description**

The *Pathways to Prevention Project* commenced in Inala, near Brisbane, Queensland in July 2000. It targets 3-6 year olds, their families, schools and communities. This project is one of the first of its kind in Australia, and is based on the concept of 'developmental prevention', or intervention early in developmental pathways that lead to crime and related problems. It is a universal, early intervention crime prevention project focused on the transition to school in the most disadvantaged urban area in Queensland. The Project incorporates both family-based and school-based programmes. It is an innovative intervention model where a number of partners work together to support families in promoting their children's cognitive, social and emotional development. *The Family Independence Programme* is the family support component. It assists parents, caregivers and families in 9 local preschools, to create a stimulating home environment that is harmonious and conducive to learning, by providing an array of culturally sensitive support services. *School based interventions* involve a *Communication Programme* to improve children's functional language and communication skills, and a *Social Skills Programme* to reduce the incidence and

severity of conduct problems, and increase the incidence of pro-social behaviours. The Project team includes teachers, social workers, psychologists, family support workers and early childhood specialists, as well as academics and researchers. The Project also targets local Indigenous and ethno-cultural communities, and employs community support workers who run many programs in the first languages of those groups, with cultural and linguistic support. Overall, the project has resulted in the establishment of a range of child and family focused programmes in 7 schools for nearly 760 preschool children and their families. Many of the parents of these children have participated in one or more programmes or activities. Community activities and programmes have been developed at the instigation of the community and with their input. Assistance has been provided to over 200 parents and caregivers in Vietnamese, Samoan, Tongan and Indigenous families, through the culturally specific supported playgroups which aid them in interacting with their children and accessing services.

### **Outcomes**

The project is being evaluated by Griffith University in Brisbane. So far, results have indicated improved behaviour, social competence, and communication skills in children whose families have been involved in project initiatives. Child outcomes are highest if they have been involved in a preschool programme and one of their parents has participated in one or more of the family programmes. Other indicators point to improved parental efficacy and satisfaction in parents and caregivers who have completed the parenting programmes, or who sought individual support. There appears to have been a reduction in family violence and an improvement in family functioning. In 2004, Mission Australia was awarded an Australian Government's National Community Crime Prevention Programme grant to expand the project over 2 years. Project achievements have been recognized through an award of first prize in the 2004 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards.

### **Partners**

Mission Australia, Griffith University, Queensland Government, Barnes and Westpac Foundations, and Australian Research Council, and the Australian NCCPP.

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### **Context**

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Most of the vehicle theft in Tasmania is opportunistic, with young people accounting for 90% of all vehicle thefts. They steal cars for joyriding, transport, or to commit another crime. Stealing vehicles is a strong indicator of a young person's likely involvement in other forms of crime, with at least one vehicle theft conviction being common for most categories of young offenders in Australia. Evidence from the United Kingdom and Australia suggests that diversionary programmes based around mechanics and motor sports can be successful in breaking the cycle of such vehicle theft, and are a cost-effective alternative to incarceration.

### **Goals**

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- Reduce the rate of motor vehicle theft by young people, as well as other forms of crime.
- Prevent recidivism and chronic career offending by young people.
- Address anti-social behaviour.
- Address life issues of participants and link participants to a comprehensive network of support.
- Assist young people to maximise their potential so that they can offer a positive contribution to society.

### **Description**

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U-Turn is based on a 'best practice' model - a young recidivist car theft offender programme, developed by the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC), and launched in 2003. About 15% of youth who engage in vehicular theft and are caught, go on to become high-rate offenders. U-Turn targets these offenders, 15-20 years of age, as a first priority, followed by youth considered at-risk of becoming involved in car theft. The programme capitalizes on the youths' interest in motor cars to deliver educational and vocational training. The core component of the programme is a ten-week automotive training course in car maintenance and bodywork, delivered in a mechanical workshop environment. Other components of the programme include case management and personal development; links to employment and further education; literacy and numeracy education; road safety education; recreational activities and post-course support. A key emphasis of the programme is restorative justice, with participants undertaking projects such as repairing damaged vehicles for presentation to victims of motor vehicle theft.

U-Turn is delivered by Mission Australia, a community service organization, under contract to Tasmania Police. The programme is located in Hobart, the capital city of Tasmania. A supported accommodation service is provided to enable young people from other parts of the state to participate in the programme. U-Turn was piloted in Tasmania over two years with funding provided by the NMVTRC and the Australian Government's National Crime Prevention (NCP) programme. During the pilot period, eight courses were run and fifty-two young people graduated from the programme. The Tasmanian Government has committed ongoing funding to enable the programme to continue for a further 2.5 years beyond the pilot period which ended in 2005.

### **Outcomes**

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U-Turn has garnered a great deal of respect from both the community as well as the stakeholders in the programme, resulting in the donation of cars, as well as a range of other materials and equipment, to the programme. U-Turn Tasmania is one of four pilot projects. U-Turn is also being piloted in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia. The Australian Attorney-General's Department is funding a meta-evaluation across all four pilot sites which is due to be completed in September 2005. The final evaluation report for the U-Turn pilot project in Tasmania was prepared by the Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies, in February 2005. This report concludes that the implementation of U-Turn in Tasmania attained a high level of success in achieving the aims of the programme. Apart from practical vocational training and experience in the automotive industry, the programme provides a range of other benefits, notably it reduces involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour; improves life and personal skills; improves self-esteem and confidence and improves family relationships.

### **Partners**

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Department of Police and Public Safety, Mission Australia, National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council and the National Crime Prevention Programme.

### **Contact**

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# *Rio de Janeiro, BRAZIL*

## *Fight for Peace*

### **Context**

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The number of youths in Rio de Janeiro involved in urban violence both as aggressors and victims continues to increase. Most *favela* communities in Rio de Janeiro are dominated by rival drug factions in which gun violence has led to a firearm-related mortality rate of over 100 per 100,000 inhabitants for males aged 15-24 years old. A recent study coordinated by Viva Rio on the involvement of minors in drug trafficking in Rio de Janeiro found that there are currently an estimated 5-6000 children and adolescents actively involved. Employed and armed by three main drug factions, they often take part in violent armed confrontations with rival groups and State security forces - including the police. In many respects their role is similar to that of child soldiers fighting in rebel armies. Between December 1987 and November 2001, 3,937 under eighteen-year-olds were killed by gunfire in the municipality of Rio de Janeiro alone.

### **Goals**

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- Offer local children and youths in high risk areas alternatives to crime and employment in the drug trade through a range of skills, education, sports, and job training activities.

### **Description**

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Fight for Peace (*Luta Pela Paz*) is a Viva Rio project established in 2000 in the *favela* of *Complexo da Maré*. This local project offers children and youths alternatives to crime and employment in the drug trade. While the project recognizes that to properly address the problem of children and youth in organised violence in Rio and elsewhere, structural problems must be eradicated, it believes that community based interventions such as Fight for Peace can work to make children and young people more resilient to joining armed groups by offering alternative support, options and influences. It uses boxing, *capoeira* and wrestling to attract children and youths to join, and offers an integrated and personalized six point plan for each participant based in: sports training, education, life-skills training, promoting a culture of peace, access to the formal labour market, and the development of youth leaders.

Fight for Peace invites the youth to take an active role in overall project co-ordination, through the Youth Council. Participation in the Youth Council is open to all project youth who show an interest and who have the support of the group. The members elect their representatives in a closed election, and those who receive the most votes are invited to join the Youth Council and to meet with the project

team to discuss the project's overall performance. The council represents the project members in management meetings and joins the project team in developing, planning, and implementing strategies, as well as in evaluating the project's activities. The Youth Council members serve as an example to other Fight for Peace youth through their attitudes and personal experiences.

The Fight for Peace Project is part of the Children and Youth in Organised Violence (COAV) Programme, initiated by Viva Rio, which works to promote the national and international recognition of the plight of children and youth in organised armed violence.

### **Outcomes**

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There are currently 150 participants in the project and, since its establishment, over 400 young people have been directly involved. In addition to preventative action, the project has also reintegrated adolescents and youth into the formal work market after they have left drug faction employment. The project emphasizes youth leadership and the coordination team of paid staff members now includes youth that were originally beneficiaries of the project. The project also houses a sports academy that has 100 paying adult members from the community, thus ensuring partial financial self-sustainability, and the integration of community residents into the project's ideals and objectives. A new building (currently under construction) is expected to open in 2005, allowing the project to increase its capacity in terms of the number of beneficiaries and also offer new services such as formal primary level education, information technology, job training, music and culture.

During 2004, the project began to work with the city government in Resende in the design, implementation and coordination of an alternative sentencing programme for children in conflict with the law.

### **Partners**

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Laureus Sports for Good Fdn, Save the Children Sweden, British & Canadian Embassies, Dreams Can Be, Stuart & Hillary Williams Fdn, ISER, and City of Resende.

### **Contact**

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## ***Context***

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The globalisation and growth of organised crime and drug trafficking has tended to draw on young people as a source of cheap labour, exacerbating youth crime. While young offenders contribute to urban crime, they are also the victims of crime, violence, poverty, exploitation and HIV/AIDS. They see themselves as street children "without a roof and without roots - roofless and rootless". They are victims of human insecurity and circumstances beyond their control. Many are orphans, children abandoned by their families or running away from violence, conflict or acute poverty at home or in institutions, or rural migrants earning money for themselves and their village-based families. There is an absence of crucial social, economic and emotional familial support, and their protection is imperative. However, little support has been offered to adolescents regarded as adults by the age of 16 years. This project is designed to provide psychological and educational support that will empower urban youth at risk (15-19 years old), allowing them to restore their human dignity and enabling them to reintegrate into society. Education and job training is supported by the local government and national Ministers.

## ***Goals***

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- Provide emotional and practical support for street children and young victims of human trafficking
- Facilitate their reintegration into society through education and vocational training

## ***Description***

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The House for Youth in Battambang, Cambodia was established in 2000 for boys, and in 2001 for girls. They accommodated 72 youths in 2003 alone, providing them with educational and job training opportunities (11 have successfully graduated). Most children are brought in by local NGOs. Initially designed for street children, they are increasingly taking in children who have been victims of trafficking. Apart from the House of youth, nineteen community-based awareness-raising workshops addressing disadvantaged youth were organised in 3 districts along with 15 video sessions, with a total of 11,509 attendees. A Provincial Workshop, in cooperation with local partners and UNICEF, was organised recommending an action framework for youth at risk be taken up

as part of the Provincial Child Protection Committee agenda.

In Ho-Chi-Minh City, Vietnam, two "Houses for Youth" were set up in 2003-4, one for boys and one for girls. They accommodate 19 boys and 12 girls, providing basic education and vocational skills training and a secure living environment. A transitional group home was also established in 2004 for older boys graduating from the House for Youth and providing further support, education, and vocational training. The project also undertook 'street consultations', study visits to the Philippines (to KnK) and a workshop attended by over 80 participants from governments, local associations, social workers and target groups.

## ***Outcome***

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Establishing and supporting the House for Youth in both cities has assisted youth at risk to become active members of society by promoting their reintegration, rather than 'protection' or 'segregation', as practised in the past. Awareness has been raised about urban youth issues, creating a conducive environment for reintegration to occur, and has contributed to improved urban security and a reduction in urban poverty. In Cambodia, a village level awareness-raising workshop has resulted in a reduction in human trafficking. The project has also contributed to the policy shift towards reintegration of street children and youths in Vietnam.

## ***Partners***

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Kokyonaki Kodomotachi (KnK), relevant ministries, local governments and NGOs in Cambodia and Vietnam, the United Nations Human Security Fund and UN-HABITAT

## ***Contact***

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# CAMEROON

## *AJEPAN, Project for the social integration of youth at risk*

### **Context**

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Nkol-Bikok is an over-crowded slum area, with an estimated population of 75,000, more than 60% of whom are young. Located west of Yaoundé, the neighbourhood suffers from poverty, chronic unemployment, unhealthy housing conditions, serious school dropout rates, juvenile delinquency, and generational conflict. Prostitution and teenage pregnancies have led to high rates of HIV-AIDS infection. These factors have resulted, among other things, in the disintegration of traditional family structures, the emergence of one-parent households, increasing rates of violence, and a lack of professionally trained youth living in these areas. All these factors impede the development of young people and hinder the economic and social prosperity of the population.

### **Goals**

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- Promote the social integration of youth at risk through training and small job creation to generate revenues.
- Promote the literacy of youth who have dropped out of school and provide support to young students of families facing difficulties.
- Sensitize youth to AIDS and other social problems.
- Contribute to the education of the population and the improvement of housing conditions in the area.

### **Description**

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The government, with the support of UNDP and UN Habitat, is currently developing local crime prevention strategies for the cities of Yaoundé and Duala. Their aim is to develop sustainable solutions to these problems. The *Amicale des Jeunes du Parc National* (AJEPAN) (National Park Youth Association) was established in this context in 1998.

Since its inception, AJEPAN has undertaken a number of initiatives, including: small job creation through the training of young street children in the production of bricks and the manufacture of local construction materials at low cost; the creation of small and medium-sized companies by local unemployed youth; maintenance of community water supplies and gutter clearing; educating youth about social problems including drug and alcohol abuse, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and AIDS; the publication of a newsletter (*AJEPAN News*) allowing some 5,000 youth in the area to voice their opinions; and the establishment of a

free community library available to youth, whether in school or not.

The initiatives have been made possible with financial support of several partners. The European Union has provided \$18,000 (USD), and the European Union in partnership with the township of Yaoundé VI have provided \$8,000 (USD). AJEPAN received a donation of books and documents through French cooperation amounting to a value of \$10,000 (USD). The project has also benefited from the support of the *Mission de Production des matériaux locaux* (MIPROMALO) (Association for the Production of Local Material).

### **Outcomes**

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Since 2003, AJEPAN has helped train 200 street youth through the production of bricks and local construction materials. AJEPAN has also facilitated the establishment of two primary schools and a private secondary school in the area, enabling about 10,000 local youth to attend school. The Association has helped improve the standard of living of the 75,000 inhabitants of the area through environmental clean-ups, and the organization of weekly sanitation and health campaigns by local unemployed youth. The Association has constructed a water source in Nkol-Bikok to facilitate access to drinking water in neighbouring communities. Over this two-year period, the initiatives undertaken by AJEPAN have generated around 200 temporary jobs for local youth and a dozen centres for the production of construction materials. The Association is increasingly solicited by youth in neighbouring areas. The district of Yaoundé VI has contracted with them to undertake a number of other maintenance and development tasks. This activity has enabled AJEPAN to build 11 private houses and to purchase semi-industrial machinery for the production of bricks.

### **Partners**

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Township of Yaoundé VI, European Union training programme, MIPROMALO, M.SORAD, G.PROSACC, UN Habitat Safer Cities programme, UNDP.

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# CANADA

## *Outdoor Classroom - Culturally based crime prevention*

### **Context**

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Gwich'in aboriginal communities within the McKenzie Delta region of the Northwest Territories are experiencing the effects of substance abuse, chronic unemployment, youth violence, suicide, and an increasing incidence of special needs children (with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, and other behavioural and developmental problems). Major acts of arson, theft and mischief committed by youth in Gwich'in communities between 1995 and 1997, resulted in \$15 million in damages. Gwich'in communities produce an average of 1 to 2 high school graduates per 200 children. Approximately 50% of children in grades kindergarten through 6 arrive at school 1-2 hours late most days and some kindergarten students only attend 30% of their classes. Youth crime, notably: theft, property crime, mischief, and violent assault, is increasing in these communities.

### **Goals**

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- To provide youth with alternative teaching environments, using the 'traditional outdoor classroom'.
- Provide an orientation and support programme on the integration of crime prevention strategies for teachers, parents and other resource people.
- To provide ongoing instruction and support for social skill development in children.
- To integrate existing community programming with crime prevention strategies for children and their families.

### **Description**

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The Outdoor Classroom is a culturally based crime prevention programme funded under the Crime Prevention Investment Fund of the National Crime Prevention Strategy from 1999-2004, that targets Aboriginal youth aged 6-12 at risk of, or engaged in, the early cycles of criminal activity. These children live in Northern, remote, high needs communities and face multiple risk factors associated with crime, including: lack of school attachment and high levels of early school leaving; lack of continuity of community role models; suicide; addictions; a rising prevalence of youth gangs and youth crime; little programming intervention; and lack of parental and community involvement in their lives. The project was designed after extensive community consultations in 1999. The main components of the Outdoor Classroom project include an outdoor camp, a breakfast programme and an in-school programme involving elders, life skills, communications programming, and traditional learning. Specifically, they conduct week-long 'on

the land' programmes where a class of students, their teacher, and resource personnel combine academic work, traditional and cultural activities, crime prevention programming, and anti-bullying strategies at TI'oondih, a 2000 square foot lodge located down the river from Fort McPherson. The elders also go into the schools weekly in an attempt to bring the community into the schools. The programme integrates the Gwich'in tradition with the use of Dene Kede Education: A Dene Perspective with modern day social skills instruction.

### **Outcomes**

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A third party evaluation, conducted by Chalmers and Associates Consulting, found promising results from this project but overall, found it to be more effective with boys than girls. The project was successful in affecting the pro-social skill development of boys aged 9-12 when compared to a comparison site. There was also a statistically significant difference found for both boys and girls in school achievement levels (reading, math and spelling). The morning programme was also found to have a positive relationship with school attendance. In fact, the evaluation found that there was a 20% difference in monthly school attendance rates between the intervention and comparison schools. Further findings from the Gwich'in evaluation showed that 75% of students, who performed below grade level in the classroom, outperformed their peers when "in the bush." As a teacher from the intervention school stated, "it is as if the fresh air calms them down and they are ready to learn, even the math and reading that we do, they do it better out here in the bush."

### **Partners**

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Gwich'in Tribal Council, Beaufort-Delta Divisional Board of Education, Tetlit Gwich'in Council, RCMP, Community Wellness, Community Counselling, TI'oondih Lodge, Spiritual leaders, GNWT Renewable Resources, Hamlet Recreation Departments, Land Claim Councils and Band Councils, Alcohol and Drug workers, Hunters & Trappers Association, and the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute.

### **Contact**

---

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# CANADA

## *Project Early Intervention*

### ***Context***

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Banff/Ledbury and Heatherington are two communities located in a high-need social housing area in the Ottawa-Carleton region of the province of Ontario. These communities were characterized by a high concentration of social housing units, high calls for service and formal police charges, few existing programmes for youth, high levels of youth crime, a high incidence of vandalism, and a level of violence and anti-social behaviour well above the regional average.

Project participants were connected to many of the early factors that are known to be associated with the development of future criminal behaviour including: lack of familial supervision and monitoring; poor school performance; crisis and high stress within family; past history of behavioural and anti-social problems; and associating with friends from similar circumstances.

### ***Goals***

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- Increase resiliency to risk factors associated with criminal behaviour
- Increased school attendance
- Reduction in crime incidences and calls for service to police
- Reduction in violence and anti-social behaviour

### ***Description***

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Project Early Intervention (PEI) focused on high-risk children and youth aged 6-12 years living in a high-needs social-housing neighbourhood in Ottawa, Ontario. This community is unique in that a large proportion of the population is made up of recent immigrants. PEI was funded from 1999 until 2003 under the Crime Prevention Investment Fund of the National Crime Prevention Centre and attempted to increase participants' resiliency to risk factors related to criminal behaviour. The project was originally under the management of the Ottawa Police Youth Centre, but later came under the direction of the Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa.

Priority was given to youth who had a sibling(s) involved with the youth justice system; had a parent involved with the criminal justice system; lived in homes characterized by domestic violence; or were, or had engaged in behaviour that would result in charges under the Young Offenders Act (since the completion of this project the YOA has

been replaced with the Youth Criminal Justice Act) if they were of the age of criminal responsibility (12 years). There were 267 children who participated in PEI in some form, but only 100 children made up the evaluation group.

PEI was a comprehensive, four-part programme of pro-social interaction and engagement. Specifically, the four key components were a life skills training programme, sports and recreation programming, and homework club programme.

### ***Outcomes***

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According to the evaluation prepared by an independent evaluator, Astwood, the PEI intervention had a positive influence on both younger and older children, both boys and girls. It led to a reduction in aggression levels and acting out behaviours, and simultaneously promoted positive social functioning. According to teacher reports, participants showed improvements in work ethic, appropriateness of behaviour, extent of learning and overall happiness.

Tests that measured participants' social behaviour demonstrated that significant improvements were made when the waiting list comparison group entered the programme. However, the comparison group also demonstrated positive results prior to entry into the life skills component.

These results show that while the instruction of life skills is a very important aspect of early intervention programmes and can stand alone as an intervention, it is more effective to partner life skills with sports/recreation and other supporting programmes.

### ***Partners***

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Crossroads Child and Family Treatment Centre, Local area schools, Local tenants associations, City of Ottawa, Children's Aid Society of Ottawa Carleton, Ottawa Sun Newspaper, Ottawa Senators Hockey Club, and National Hockey League Players Association

### ***Contact***

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National Crime Prevention Centre  
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## ***Context***

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In 1991, a small primary school located in a low socio-economic area of Ontario, Canada, was experiencing high unemployment and population turnover, and increasing problems of crime and family violence. Local businesses were a target of vandalism and crime by students. The school had the lowest academic performance in the region and was proposed for closure. The development of the Together We Light the Way (TWLW) model began in this school in Oshawa, and the outcome was so impressive that the National Crime Prevention Centre funded its expansion to four other pilot schools in Ontario in 1999. This was part of a larger initiative to support, assess and disseminate information about demonstrably effective interventions to reduce youth anti-social behaviours and to build resiliency in at-risk children and youth.

## ***Goals***

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- For the children to develop respect for both themselves and others.
- For students to become motivated to succeed academically.
- To interact and play co-operatively with peers and interact respectfully with members of the community.
- To understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

## ***Description***

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TWLW is a comprehensive school-based crime prevention model that aims to prevent anti-social behaviours by creating safe and caring learning communities where children learn and grow academically, socially and emotionally. The model focuses on children and youth 4-14 years of age. It is designed to develop respectful, responsible, resilient children by decreasing the risk factors associated with crime and increasing the protective factors associated with crime prevention. Specifically, TWLW aims to increase the following eight protective factors: school success; academic achievement; a sense of self; safe, secure and nurturing environment; a healthful lifestyle; positive family and school relationships; respectful and caring relationships; and connecting to caring adults.

TWLW hopes that the children will develop into respectful, responsible, resilient citizens. The model brings together multiple partners: municipal officials, business leaders, police officers and members of community groups to work in

partnership with school staff, students and parents. The entire community actively shares responsibility for the children's safety, well-being and education. The programmes in this model develop character and relationships, and decrease bullying and other forms of violent behaviour, by teaching students respect for themselves and for others in their school and community.

## ***Outcomes***

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TWLW has been evaluated by external evaluators over a three-year period in three school districts in Ontario. Evaluators looked specifically at academic performance and incidents of bullying. Results demonstrate considerable progress in learning employable skills and habits; a 76% reduction in violence and bullying; improved attitudes, values, and behaviours toward school; and the creation of productive partnerships. Incidents of bullying decreased significantly. A longitudinal study by the Canadian Test of Basic Skills revealed that academic performance met or exceeded expected grade equivalent growth. These results are confirmed by both the schools and their surrounding communities as well. There was a 92% increase in parental, business and community partner involvement with the children, schools, communities.

The model is now being replicated in a range of socially, economically and culturally diverse Canadian communities in the provinces of Ontario, Nova Scotia, and Manitoba, in order to assess its effectiveness. England has implemented the model in 3 schools and, upon the request of the Minister of Education for Trinidad & Tobago, West Indies, the Together We Light the Way model has been implemented nation-wide in 150 schools.

## ***Partners***

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Durham District School Board, the GE Foundation, and the Federal Government of Canada - Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.

## ***Contact***

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# Montreal, CANADA

## *CYBERCAP - Multimedia training to integrate at-risk youth*

### **Context**

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CyberCap is a non-governmental organization established in Montreal in 2000. Its mission is to promote the integration of youth at risk in the workplace and/or school, by improving their personal, social and professional skills using multimedia techniques. CyberCap's work is based on the values of innovation and leadership. These values are related to the overall development of the participants in terms of respect, personal development, commitment, perseverance and creativity, which are embedded in the activities of CyberCap.

### **Goals**

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- To integrate unemployed young people aged 18 to 25, who have not graduated from secondary school and who are interested in a career in the multimedia profession.
- To prevent school drop out among youth at risk aged 15 to 17 years old.

### **Description**

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CyberCap uses multimedia approaches to achieve its objectives in two ways: through a socio-professional training programme called *TransiTlon Path* (Parcours TransiTlon) and through *InteraXion Challenge* (Défi InteraXion) aimed at the prevention of school drop out.

*TransiTlon Path* aims to integrate unemployed young people both socially and professionally into the market place or back into education. It is a six-month programme, which has been tailored to develop the competences and employability of the participants by immersing them in an environment that resembles the multimedia industry. Participants work on a personal development plan which they apply to their production activities, and develop multimedia projects including Web sites, DVDs, 2D animation, and digital video. All these projects are developed for actual clients under the daily supervision of the CyberCap professionals. During the last three months of the programme, participants refine their personal and professional objectives and increase their in-depth technical knowledge. They update their personal qualifications development plan, organize their portfolio, implement projects for external clients, learn specific techniques, and choose an area of specialization: script writing, imaging, animation, sound techniques, and digital video. At this point,

each participant starts work on their post-programme plan, either by seeking employment or returning to further education.

*InteraXion Challenge* is a nine-month programme which was established to help at-risk youth in school, and to prevent school drop out. It encourages them to pursue their studies by developing multimedia projects. They become familiar with digital video production techniques, and with the techniques and values of the professional world. The youth have the opportunity to be twinned with entrepreneurs in the industry, who in turn introduce them to their profession. The *InteraXion Challenge* consists of four key stages: a theoretical introduction to technical knowledge, production of a video, the presentation of news reports, and the consolidation of their experiences and skills. At the end of the programme, the work and achievements of the participants are recognized in a final session.

### **Outcomes**

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Through the *TransiTlon Path* programme, CyberCap has worked with over 300 youth, and more than 70 % of graduates have been integrated into the work force or education. To date, more than fifty youth have already benefited from the *InteraXion Challenge* programme organized by CyberCap. This has allowed them to develop greater self-confidence and become aware of their capacities to undertake and succeed in new activities. Overall, CyberCap sees its work as contributing to the reduction of the number of youth at risk, which in turn has resulted in the reduction of poverty, unemployment, crime and social exclusion among these youth.

### **Partners**

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*Emploi-Québec*, City of Montreal, Microsoft, TQS, *Fondation Mise sur toi*, *Station Mont-Tremblant*, INGENIO, Ubi Soft, YMCA of the Greater Montreal, *Locations Michel Trudel* and several other private and public partners.

### **Contact**

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# ***San Pedro de La Paz, CHILE***

## ***Firefighter cadet school***

### ***Context***

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The community of San Pedro de la Paz has identified the youth population as a vulnerable group in their community. They are frequently involved in crime and there is a high school dropout rate. Drug and alcohol abuse among the youth population is also a very big problem. Consumption starts at a very young age, the drug consumption rate is 67,8 %, and the alcohol consumption rate is also high. High levels of both psychological and physical aggression have also been noted among the youths of San Pedro de la Paz. Their social participation in the community is very low, and local problems only serve to further increase the level of risk for these youths.

### ***Goals***

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- Increase social integration of at-risk youth in of San Pedro de la Paz.
- Promote positive behavior and leadership development among the at-risk youth.

### ***Description***

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The firefighter cadet school initiative was developed in the township of San Pedro de la Paz in 2001, as part of the Minister of the Interior's National Security Strategy entitled *Comuna Segura*. The initiative grew out of commitments made by the community to reinforce the values of both the community and of public service, which are seen as key preventive factors. This initiative targets youth in the community between the ages of 12 and 16, who are deemed to be at-risk. Specifically, it seeks to provide them with comprehensive public service training, which will subsequently lead to a greater number of firefighters in the community.

Over a period of 8 months, the cadets attend a number of training workshops on personal growth and psychological support; household safety and emergencies; alcoholism; drugs and family violence; and firefighter's techniques concerned with hoses, fire trucks, extinguishers, water movement and first aid.

This training was developed entirely by the firefighters' organization of San Pedro de la Paz. During the implementation phase, however, the support of customs officers, the municipality, and health services was sought, and a psychologist was hired. The fire department provided most of the instruction during the workshops, as well as the

infrastructure and resources necessary for the training. The money received from the Comuna Segura programme was used to purchase new equipment and pay for the psychologists' services.

### ***Outcomes***

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The project has benefited more than 80 youths from different marginal sectors of the district. Among the younger participants, behavioural changes were observed, including academic achievements. Some of the youth have become firefighter cadets and are now employed by the community of San Pedro de la Paz. Furthermore, important relationships were formed during the process, both among the instructors within the fire department, as well as with the wider community. In the future, the project will be sustained for the firefighter cadets of San Pedro de la Paz through funding received by the Comuna Segura programme. Other fire departments are now seeking to replicate the initiative based on the San Pedro de la Paz example.

### ***Partners***

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Policía de Carabineros de Chile, Municipalidad de San Pedro de la Paz, Servicio de Salud, Programa Comuna Segura, Ministerio de Interior.

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# *Valdivia, CHILE*

## *Rowing school for youth at risk*

### ***Context***

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Local authorities in the municipality of Valdivia have identified the youth population as one of the main high-risk populations, so at-risk youths are a priority in the local security strategy. This may be attributed to the fact that children and youth between 0-30 years of age make up approximately 50% of the population, and are faced with a number of factors that increase their level of risk. Notably, the youth population in Valdivia is characterized by a high school dropout rate, and a drug consumption rate of 22%, starting from the age of nine. Furthermore, qualitative research demonstrates that young people report being victims of a high level of discrimination and stereotyping in the community.

### ***Goals***

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- Preventing youth from involvement in violence and delinquency, as well as from consuming drugs.
- Integrate underprivileged youth into activities practiced by less disadvantaged groups.

### ***Description***

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This project was introduced in 2001 as part of the Ministry of the Interior's National Security Plan entitled *Comuna Segura* in partnership with the township of Valdivia. Sports activities are seen as an effective way to prevent crime. Due to its riverside location, Valdivia is a city with a long history of water sports, rowing in particular. It is hoped that those who take part in this activity will find that the values, challenges and commitments reflected in the sport will become ingrained in them and this will help to reduce their involvement in drug use, violence, and delinquency. Traditionally, though rowing is part of the urban identity of the city, it is associated with more advantaged sectors.

In the first stage of this project, announcements are made in the public schools in the high-risk sectors of the city, informing students about the project and inviting them to participate. Those applying are given educational classes on theory and rowing techniques. Youths also go through physical training, attend nutritional information classes, and receive psychological support and guidance.

In the second stage, the youth undergo further physical preparation as well as specific training. At

the same time, work is done with parents in order to teach them about children's nutrition and also to increase the support and motivation of their children. The Club de Remeros Arturo Prat (the Arturo Prat Rowing Club) in Valdivia provides all of the project development, training, and equipment. With the resources obtained by the Comuna Segura programme, they were able to buy the requisite training materials and pay for the psychological support workshops. Additional resources are obtained in order to provide the youth with the proper food required for the activity.

### ***Outcomes***

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So far, more than 100 children between 10 and 15 years of age have benefited from the programme. Those who have learned the sport through the Rowing School for Youth at Risk are interested in continuing to develop their rowing skills. Furthermore, improvements in academic achievement and positive attitude changes in their relationships with their peers have been observed as they move towards healthier and nonviolent lives. These results have the potential to become permanent in time, as long as youth continue to practice the sport and as long as the Club de Remeros Arturo Prat is willing to continue to support and run this initiative. This has also benefited the rowing club as they have recruited talented youths and, through them, are able to continue to request funding to ensure the sustainability of the programme.

### ***Partners***

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Club de Remos Arturo Prat, Municipalidad de Valdivia, Ministerio de Interior de Chile, Programa Comuna Segura, Red de Comercio de Valdivia.

### ***Contact***

---

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# ENGLAND AND WALES

## Youth Inclusion Programme

### Context

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Since 2003 in England and Wales, all local authorities have been required to adopt prevention strategies for 0-19 years-olds and implement targeted initiatives to help those at risk. The Youth Justice Board (YJB) has the responsibility of reducing youth offending, through the development of community alternatives to custody and strengthened reintegration and support programmes, but also through programmes to divert young people from getting into trouble in the first place. These include diversion programmes which address the underlying problems in young people's lives such as the *Youth Inclusion Programme*.

### Goals

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- Ensure that at least 75% of the target group of at risk young people are appropriately engaged and receive at least five hours of interventions per week.
- Reduce arrest rates among the target group by 70% compared to the 12 months prior to their engagement.
- Ensure that 90% of those in the engaged target group are in suitable full-time education or employment.

### Description

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The *Youth Inclusion Programme* (YIP) targets 13-16 year-olds. It began in 2000 and includes 72 projects based on high crime and high deprivation neighbourhoods across England and Wales. The projects aim to prevent youth crime in those neighbourhoods by targeting the 50 most at-risk young people in the area (the core group). They assess their needs and provide meaningful interventions addressing those risk factors. Involvement in the projects is voluntary. The projects provide at risk youth with somewhere safe to go where they can learn new skills, take part in activities, and get help with education and career guidance. Positive role models - both project workers and mentors - help to change their attitudes towards education and crime. In order to engage with the 50 most at risk young people in an area, each project also works with around one hundred other young people, primarily the peers and siblings of the core group. Overall, 7,300 core group members have been involved in the YIP since it began. In a recent four-month period, a total of 2,545 core group members were involved in their local YIP programme. Nationally, 72% are male and 28% female, and in terms of ethnicity, 72% white,

9% Black, 7% Asian and 12% 'other' or 'unknown'. Some 23% of core members had been arrested before joining their local YIP.

The programme is delivered locally by a combination of statutory and voluntary bodies who help to ensure that strong management arrangements are in place. This includes the provision of detailed management guidance, regular project level support from crime reduction experts, annual quality assurance visits from the Youth Justice Board, and the quarterly provision of data relating to performance against the targets set for projects. One of the major voluntary bodies concerned is the non-profit organization *Crime Concern* which manages some 40 local programmes and is commissioned by the YJB to deliver technical support and advice to more than 700 YJB initiatives across England and Wales. Seven million pounds a year has been committed to the programme until 2006.

### Outcome

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The programme has proved extremely effective in engaging the most at-risk young people and providing interventions which have improved their life chances. An independent evaluation of the programme in 2003 showed that arrest rates of the targeted core group of young people had gone down by 65%, and the gravity of offences committed had gone down by 68%. This success is especially impressive considering that they are targeting the most deprived and highest crime neighbourhoods across England and Wales, as well as the most at risk youth in those neighbourhoods, and given that involvement in the projects is entirely voluntary. A major factor in the success of the projects is attributed to the robust management arrangements.

### Partners

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Police, Probation Services, social services, health, education, housing, and the private sector.

### Contact

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# ENGLAND AND WALES

## *Youth Inclusion and Support Panels*

### **Context**

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Since 2003 in England and Wales, all local authorities have been required to adopt prevention strategies for 0-19 years-olds, and implement targeted initiatives to help those at risk. Each local authority must establish a Youth Offending Team. These are overseen by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) which has responsibility for reducing youth offending through the development of community alternatives to custody and strengthened reintegration and support programmes, but also through programmes to divert young people from getting into trouble in the first place. These include diversionary programmes which address the underlying problems in young people's lives such as the *Youth Inclusion and Support Panels*.

### **Goals**

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- Prevent high risk children from becoming involved or further involved in offending and at risk behaviour.
- Reduce the risk factors and increase the protective factors for those children.
- Ensure they are in full-time education.
- Ensure that children and their families are satisfied with the intervention and receive early support.

### **Description**

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The *Youth Inclusion and Support Panels* (YISPs) are multi-agency planning groups across England and Wales targeting 8-13 year-olds and their families. The Panels comprise representatives of local agencies such as the local Youth Offending Teams (YOT), police, schools, health and social services, depending on local circumstances. They work to ensure that children on the cusp of offending or anti social behaviour, and their families, can access mainstream public services. Any involvement with the YISP is voluntary and therefore requires the written consent of both the young person and their parents. Currently, 122 YISPs have been established, representing 78% of all Youth Offending Teams. The children are referred to the Panels on the basis of their level of risk, history or risk of offending, as well as the recommendation of at least two agencies that there is need for support. A full assessment is undertaken from which a 3-6 months Integrated Support Plan is tailored to the identified needs of the child and family, and agreed by the young person, their family, and the respective key worker. The Panels regularly review the plan to

ensure its effectiveness as well as ensuring that families and children are satisfied with the intervention. The emphasis is on helping these families to access mainstream services although some Panels may develop group projects for selected students, such as group meetings, outings and workshops during school term or summer holidays.

Of the 122 YISPs, 13 pilot areas have received additional support from *Crime Concern* in order to develop procedures and practices as well as a Management Information System. *Crime Concern* is a non-profit organization which manages some 40 local programmes and is commissioned by the YJB to deliver technical support and advice to more than 700 YJB initiatives across England and Wales.

### **Outcome**

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The evaluation of the 13 pilot YISPs is being undertaken by the University of Newcastle, and is expected to be completed by October 2005. One of the aims of the pilot evaluation is to identify good practice models with positive outcomes, which can be adopted by other areas seeking to establish a Youth Inclusion and Support Panel, or to help modify existing projects.

### **Partners**

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Police, Probation Services, social services, health, education, voluntary organizations and housing.

### **Contact**

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**FINLAND**  
**The Ruori Project**  
**Youth work & networks: transforming the lives of youth at risk**

### **Context**

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The Ruori Project was developed in two school districts of Helsinki in an attempt to reduce the marginalization of youth seen as at risk of offending. Young men and young women showing problems of substance abuse, disorderly behaviour, and other behaviours predictive of future offending were targeted, and the project aimed to strengthen relationships with their families, schools and social networks, and work in a multi-disciplinary way with a range of school and social services.

### **Goals**

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- Reduce marginalization of at-risk youth.
- Reduce disorderly behaviour and substance abuse among youth.
- Strengthen the youth's personal identity, family relations, and social networks.

### **Description**

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Ruori is a multi-disciplinary two-year project that was started in 2001 and initiated in two city neighbourhoods by the Helsinki Municipal Youth Department. The target population were youth aged 11-18 years old who were attending school and exhibiting problems predictive of offending, such as deficient attention, disorderly behaviour, and substance abuse. The young participants were selected in network meetings attended by representative of the Social and Youth Departments and schools. Ruori involved the creation of a partnership between the project workers, young people and their families, and public agencies including the youth department, social services and schools, and aimed to work with the same standards and facilities used for all youth, rather than lowering expectations. It was a developmental project intended to provide guidance for future practical working methods, without the necessity for organizational changes.

The long term goals of the project included reducing disorderly behaviour and substance abuse; strengthening the sense of personal identity; strengthening families and family relationships; creating and strengthening young people's own social networks; drawing up personal plans; taking care of one's personal health and well-being; and graduating from school and into further education or the work environment.

Throughout its implementation, the project used the slogan 'A Change of a Second Degree' to refer to changes in the young people's environment (in terms of friends, family, school, social activities etc.) which would help promote positive changes

for the individual. Weekly group meetings and activities formed the core of the practical work. Three groups for girls and three for boys met on a weekly basis for 18-24 months, under the guidance of three specifically appointed youth workers. Among other activities, the group meetings were used to support the completion of homework assignments, and prepare for school exams. Many group adventure excursions were undertaken, to engage their interest and provide additional educational inputs.

Apart from group activities, individual casework and family work were developed. Individual plans on how the youth might take control over their lives were discussed and drawn up with each young person. In the second half of the project, contact with families was established through visits to family homes, hosting parent's evenings, and running family group circles bringing families together.

### **Outcomes**

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Evaluation of the project was completed by an external researcher. Of the 43 young people selected for the project, 34 were included in the follow-up evaluation. Questionnaires were completed by the young people, their families, project workers and network members. The overall response was positive: 83% had improved their school performance; they had fewer absences from school, lower aggression, and a higher goal-orientation. Sixty-nine percent of those eligible for graduation had graduated successfully. All participants have gained better control over most aspects of their lives, although one third still experienced some problems. Overall project costs amounted to 3,000 Euros a year per participant. While this was a significant cost, it represented only 5% of the annual costs of institutionalizing one youth. The project it is now finished, but lessons learned from it continue to be used in other projects and in the routine work of the Youth Department of Helsinki.

### **Partners**

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Project workers; youth and their families; various public agencies, importantly the youth department, the social department and the schools; and various NGOs, such as a residents' association and a local chapter of the Finnish Red Cross.

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# *Belfort, FRANCE*

## *Amorous Relationships and Mutual Respect*

### ***Context***

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This project begins from a straightforward premise, namely, a noticeable increase in the number of minors, often very young (13/14), involved as perpetrators in situations of sexual abuse. Furthermore, existing information on preventive health measures throughout the region is very technical, linked to the fight against AIDS and methods of contraception, and does not in any way address questions of love or amorous relationships. The project thus stems from the recognition of a deficiency in the education of young people on amorous relationships and sexuality that may actually encourage sexual acts. The perpetrators and their parents suffer from confusion about, and ignorance of, the law and social rules that must prevail in all human relationships, and particularly amorous relationships.

### ***Goals***

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- Explain the social rules that should prevail in all relationships, especially amorous relationships between adolescents, and explain the law concerning sexual abuse.
- Prevent sexual abuse.
- Encourage young people to speak about their relationships with friends and family.

### ***Description***

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All action to prevent offences of a sexual nature must respond to the questions of those involved, while encouraging debate on issues such as respect of others, ways of entering into relationships, or the age of a first sexual experience. This work can be conducted through discussions with education professionals in a context which is sufficiently reassuring to encourage such questions.

The Centre for Education Action in the Belfort area developed this project which began as a pilot experiment at the school of Rougement le Château. Since then, an agreement has been developed with National Education to give the project a sustainable institutional framework. Apart from financing from the judicial youth protection, a grant was awarded as part of the city's security contract in 2001. To create awareness of the project in primary and secondary schools, the Centre has provided information packages.

In order to achieve the goals of the project, a professional storyteller relates stories to the students and explains their meaning, and an educator explains the law on sexual abuse through

concrete and real examples. These help to illustrate the judicial reality when social codes (about mutual respect, sexual consent and abuse) are transgressed. In addition, one or two people from the Centre meet with primary or secondary school students in their own schools to discuss amorous relationships. The presence of a school health employee is sought during these sessions so that they can eventually take on and follow-up discussions with the students in their own schools. These interventions occur two days a month, at a rate of two sessions of two hours per day.

Discussion and exchange with the students helps to direct the content of sessions towards a particular theme. The students' reactions allow their interest in particular topics to be assessed, as well as the introduction of notions of mutual respect, consent, and questions of sexual abuse and the law. The notion of consent represents the crux of the project, and is approached in many ways and at many times. It is understood in two ways: in the usual sense of a human value, and in the legal sense where the lack of consent constitutes an offence of sexual aggression.

### ***Outcomes***

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To date, 2,600 youths have benefited from this initiative. Many positive effects have been noted, such as: a demand for general information on juvenile justice, an increasing willingness by both young victims and young perpetrators to talk about their experience, initial meetings with young people whose actions are being investigated, improved cooperation between judicial youth protection services and National Education, which have different objectives from the Centre for Education Action. Evaluation of the initiative is currently being planned with the school social services.

### ***Partners***

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Département du territoire de Belfort, Centre d'action éducative du territoire de Belfort, Service publique du Ministère de la justice, la Direction régionale de la protection judiciaire de la jeunesse et Inspection Académique.

### ***Contact***

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# *Isère, FRANCE*

## *Police Force Listening Posts*

### ***Context***

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The population of the new city of Isère is one of the youngest in France, and a sizeable proportion of the housing is social (public) housing. Numerous problems, such as violence, bullying, drugs and school absenteeism, have been identified by the local police, teachers associations or directors of educational establishments. In 1999, the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Brigade (BPDJ) of Isère proposed the installation of police 'meeting posts' in two secondary schools in Isère North. This process has appealed to and charmed youths, who have gradually come forward to meet and interact with police officers and ask them questions.

### ***Goals***

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- Develop preventive action on problems such as drugs, violence, law-breaking, bullying and maltreatment.
- Demonstrate the active commitment of the police to establishing dialogue and contact with adolescents.
- Demystify the police force easily attributed a 'repressive' label by this population.
- Develop and sustain the initiative in partnership with National Education.
- Involve the local police and institute Police Force Listening Posts (PEG) throughout the Isère department.

### ***Description***

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The Police Force Listening Post (PEG) project involves the presence of an officer from 12:00 to 2:00 PM in the seven secondary schools in the districts of the new city of Isère. The project establishes contact between students of these institutions, which are for the most part located in disadvantaged priority zones. A room (nurse's office, classroom or documentation and information centre) is provided for those involved. Twice a trimester, police officers from the BPDJ visit each school to which they are allocated, and on a permanent basis.

At the start of the school year, a meeting is held with the principals and main educational advisors of the schools concerned, in order to explain the operation and goals of the PEG. This information is then relayed to students by way of a large poster created by the BPDJ. Placed in hallways used by students, the poster succinctly outlines the mission of the unit and especially the goals of the PEG and

the kinds of topics addressed (although not exhaustively). In collaboration with the school's directors, two dates per trimester are selected and communicated to the students through the poster.

This initiative forms part of the range of activities undertaken by the unit on a daily basis in different classes at the schools, but the PEGs take place in a more intimate setting which encourages a more private exchange and helps build the confidence of the adolescents. It also offers a more positive view of the occupation of police officer. In addition, the PEGs are the logical continuation of other prevention measures undertaken by the BPDJ in classrooms: if certain students do not wish to expose their problems before the whole class, they find an audience "behind closed doors" in the PEG.

### ***Outcomes***

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The success of the police force listening posts is directly linked to the involvement, motivation, and support of different personnel of the police force and local National Education staff. It is difficult to prove a precise assessment or evaluation of the impact of PEGs. Quantitatively, since March 2000, 154 PEGs have met with 1553 adolescents - an average of 9.5 youths per PEG. The PEGs are known and recognized, and have become a necessary institution sought out by the students, while the directors of the secondary schools feel that the PEGs ease certain tensions between students, and help to maintain "educational peace." Finally, a number of students have been inspired to apply to the Police Force Recruitment Centre.

### ***Partners***

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City of Isère, National Education, local and national police.

### ***Contact***

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# *District of Viersen, GERMANY*

## *Anti-Bullying-Programme in Schools*

### **Context**

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Aggressive and violent behaviour by young people has been a great concern in recent years, and bullying in schools has become a major issue. Bullying is a problem of major social importance not only because of its frequency, but also because its effects on victims can be life-long. Among offenders, there is also a relationship between aggressive behaviour in schools and subsequent offending. In the district of Viersen, Nordrhein-Westfalen (NRW) Germany, the Police Department of Crime Prevention (‘Kommissariat Vorbeugung’) initiated a police-schools anti-bullying project. This was adapted from the well-replicated and effective Antibullying-Programme developed in Norway by Dan Olweus.

### **Goals**

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- To reduce youth bullying and crime, especially in schools.
- To raise awareness of the problem and involve pupils, teachers, and parents in the development of the project and the creation of a violence-free environment.
- To provide support to victims of bullying.

### **Description**

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The programme was initiated in 2001 by the Police Crime Prevention Department, and currently includes 27 schools. It is implemented by the schools in partnership with teachers, pupils, parents, and occasionally local community partners such as sports clubs. The key principles of the programme were to try to involve the *whole school*, as well as classes and individual pupils. For example, all the participating schools organised a special day on ‘violence at school’, during which pupils were also questioned anonymously about their experience with bullying. At the class level, pupils developed their own rules against violence, monitored behaviour and organised regular meetings to talk about their rules. At the individual level, a teacher-moderated discussion between offenders and victims took place after the pupils involved had submitted written reports about bullying events. These reports were also sent to their parents. Currently, 20% of the schools in the district of Viersen are involved in the project. It is hoped to include all schools in the district by the end of 2005.

### **Outcomes**

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The positive effects of the Anti-bullying-Programme have been shown in studies in many countries. A reduction in aggressive and violent behaviour in participating schools can clearly be seen, without any displacement of bullying from the school itself to journeys to and from school. Moreover, a general reduction in antisocial behaviour such as drunkenness and vandalism is found as well as a general improvement of the social climate at school. Also in the district of Viersen, youth crime in general - and not only in schools - showed an average reduction of 20% in the year 2003. That was not only contrary to youth crime rates in other districts, but also the best result in the Federal state of NRW. A more detailed evaluation is being conducted, and all school involved stress many positive effects.

### **Partners**

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Police Department ‘Kommissariat Vorbeugung’ in Viersen and schools, especially the Erasmus-von-Rotterdam Gymnasium in Viersen.

### **Contact**

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## **Context**

One of today's major societal challenges is preventing violence among children and youth. Many evidence-based prevention programmes have been developed to lower the level of violence amongst youth. Children with good problem-solving capacities are less likely to react to difficult emotional conflicts with violent behaviour, since they do not feel their self-esteem is challenged in such situations. The development of social-emotional competencies has consequently become a basic part of violence prevention programmes. In Germany, "Faustlos", an adaptation of the US *Second Step* programme, has been developed. Faustlos is an evaluated and systematically developed tool for preventing aggressive behaviour in children, and is used in both kindergarten and elementary schools.

## **Goals**

- Reduce bullying in kindergarten and elementary schools.
- Enhance social-emotional competencies in children.
- Strengthen democratic values in institutions and society.

## **Description**

Maltreatment, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect during childhood contribute not only to the development of aggressive and criminal behaviour, but also to the development of psychiatric and somatic disorders. Programmes to reduce violence are important for reducing bullying and crime, and promoting psychological health. Psychosocial prevention programmes can be used to support the development of social and emotional skills. Psychological development theory shows that relevant core dimensions concerning psychological growth, such as reflective functioning, problem-solving, and visualisation can be systematically taught through social-emotional training.

The Faustlos programme has been developed as an evaluated and systematically constructed tool for preventing aggressive behaviour in children. It is targeted to kindergarten and elementary school children and is administered in schools in the form of lessons. The programme includes 28 lessons for kindergarten classes and 51 lessons in elementary schools. The lessons are delivered by teachers who receive prior training. Faustlos focuses on the three dimensions of the development of social-emotional competencies, empathy, impulse control, and anger management. The teachers

employ different techniques in each lesson such as a dialog with the children focussing on specific conflicts, a role-play exercise in problem-solving skills, and ideas for transferring the new skills to their surroundings. More than 2000 teachers in German kindergartens and schools have been trained to use this program in their institutions, and there is ongoing research on changes in the children's' and teachers' behaviour.

## **Outcomes**

Studies show significant change in emotional competences and in pro-social development in children who have completed the Faustlos programme. A 3-year control-group study of 44 different classes (30 classes served as the experimental group and 14 classes as the control group) in the Heidelberg/Mannheim area demonstrated that there were significant changes in the emotional competences and pro-social development in children aged 6-9 years old. Children showed significantly reduced anxiety and internalizing behaviour when compared with the children in the control group. The parents' self-report ratings in the Children's Behaviour Checklist stress the evidence of a better social behaviour outside the schools.

The Faustlos kindergarten version was evaluated in another control group study. The evaluation compared the students before and after programme implementation. The results of this study, administered in 7 experimental and 7 control kindergartens show significant improvements in the children's social and emotional competencies and significant reductions in aggressive behaviour among the Faustlos groups, when compared to the control group.

## **Partners**

The main partners are the Heidelberg Prevention Centre which organizes and conducts the Faustlos training, the Committee for Children in Seattle, which developed the original version of *Second Step*, and the Buendnis fuer Kinder, Munich, which supports the implementation financially.

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## ***Context***

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Women in India constitute 1/2 of the population but only 1/3 of the paid workforce, receive only 10% of the income and own 1% of the property. They have limited access to, and control over resources and decision-making at all levels. Their representation in Indian Parliament has not exceeded 8.4% and there is a high level of gendered violence. Adolescents in Tamil Nadu, who constitute nearly 30% of the population, are confronted with a number of problems such as addiction, teenage pregnancy, suicide and delinquency. The youth from economically disadvantaged families, particularly those living in slums areas, do not have access to proper information and guidance and often have economic and emotional needs. Broken relationships in family are quite common. Consequently, young people resort to peer groups for support and are greatly influenced by stereotypical media images.

## ***Goals***

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- Empower women and youth and raise awareness towards a gender-just society.
- Strengthen women's leadership at the grassroots level and within development NGO's.
- Offer training on gender and governance.
- Promote campaigns to end violence against women, dalits and minorities.
- Advocate and lobby for policy changes to further the cause of women.

## ***Description***

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EKTA is a training and resource centre that works with staff of development NGO's, rural and poor women, and students from schools and colleges. They offer a regional set of resources such as leadership development, self-help, advocacy and public education. They also provide a range of safety-promoting services in an impoverished region, including public education on violence against women and individual counselling. In the initial capacity building phase, the centre offered training focusing on key developmental issues affecting women like health, economy, law, media and governance. This phase was strengthened with the inclusion of skills-training on communication, counselling, project formulation and report writing, and understanding group dynamics. Study circles were also introduced to bring together women and men from varied backgrounds to discuss and reflect on issues and strategies to bring about gender-equal social change. Gradually, these experiences have become a base for

advocacy lobbying on different issues pertaining to women's rights, including campaigns on violence against women (e.g. for the passage of a Domestic Violence Bill, 16 days of activism against gendered violence, and the white ribbon campaign).

EKTA has also developed education programmes targeted at high-school and college students on issues that concern them, including workshops on violence. These programmes are the outcome of a '16-day activism' conducted in high schools and colleges. The *Life Education Program* (LEP) is EKTA's youth adolescent and youth development programme which aims to help young people learn vital relationship skills. It targets at-risk youth, most of whom live in slums with little or no parental care, suffer from the effects of negative peer and media influences, and have high suicide rates. They also teach youth media literacy and encourage critical thinking and planning for the future. The *College Education Programme* aims to raise awareness of the social construct of gender and to promote gender equal behaviour. To this end, there are interactive sessions for both male and female students, helping them to reflect on the challenges they face. Both education programmes encourage youth to engage in critical thinking to help enhance their understanding of their roles and responsibilities in families.

## ***Outcomes***

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Since the formation of EKTA, women's leadership at the grassroots level and within development NGO's have been promoted and strengthened. Advocacy and lobbying initiatives for policy changes have also been initiated, and access to information has been enhanced. EKTA has developed focus-group discussion guidelines, case studies on women and development, a social audit and a gender audit. They have also established working relationships with government departments

## ***Partners***

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EKTA works with women staff of development NGOs, rural and urban poor women, students from colleges and schools, elected Panchayat representatives and self help group practitioners, civil society members and other various stakeholders in the community.

## ***Contact***

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# **Westbury, SOUTH AFRICA**

## **Conquest for Life**

### **Helping young people change today for tomorrow**

#### **Context**

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The township of Westbury near Johannesburg has been crippled by years of apartheid, discrimination and poverty. Characterized by an unemployment rate of over 80%, a high dropout rate, family stress, and substance abuse, the young people of Westbury have limited options for legitimate success. Consequently, gang membership and drugs are often viewed as their only viable options, having now plagued the area for over 50 years. Single-mother households are common, and positive male role models are lacking, and HIV/AIDS in South Africa is growing fastest among people aged 15-24, with poor resources and little, if any access to basic health and welfare facilities.

#### **Goals**

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- Aid youth in developing a Sense of Self by providing a safe environment and prosocial alternatives.
- Strengthening Family Structures
- Strengthening Community Structures to open up dialogue within the community.
- Give young people the skills, experience and opportunity to develop solutions to the issues they face.

#### **Description**

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*Conquest For Life* (CFL) started in October 1995 by a group of young people who wanted to change the whole social environment and re-vitalise their community, without being linked to any political organization nor to any church. They believe that the youth of today are central to the solution and offer a number of programmes, each focusing on different aspects of the problems, and targeting different age brackets in the youth sector.

CFL's *Youth Enrichment Project* (YEP) supports, helps and empowers children in schools through services including an *after-school* programme that provides hot meals everyday and by teaching *peace-making skills* through games and regular school visits. CFL has also initiated the *Just For Kids Peace Games*, bringing children from conflicting backgrounds together to play. CFS' *Youth at Risk* project sends youth aged 14-25 away to camp for three-weeks allowing them time to think alone. These camps are followed up by a *Mentorship* programme, which pairs each youth with a mentor in the local community to reinforce the lessons of the camp and apply them to daily

life through interaction taking place at least once a month and maintained for at least one year.

Other services offered by CFS include a 40-hour *Life-Skills* programme for youth referred by the Relief and Rehabilitation Centre or by the local courts, and a *Young Mothers Project* which attempts to empower young mothers and acts as an outreach to young women in the community in need of social and material assistance. CFS has also started an *Exchange* programme with other countries, a *Men For Life* programme - helping men with the problems that they face on a daily basis, *Parent and Community Workshops*, and *Computer Training* for members of the community.

#### **Outcomes**

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Since its establishment in 1995, community support has been strong and continues to grow with community participation in identifying problems, decision-making and project design. Ongoing evaluation means that programmes evolve with the community.

Since its inception, CFL has worked with about 14,000 young people, 1000 parents, and 12 schools, including more than 700 participants in the Life-Skills camps. Of these, more than 120 have volunteered their services to CFL and 40 have worked full-time. 50% of ex-participants attended the computer classes prior to or after attending the Youth at Risk Project. In 2001, 45% of people who completed the computer training found employment. There is an 80% success rate in keeping youth from returning to gangs or criminal activity. The project is now expanding to other townships around Johannesburg.

#### **Partners**

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Ashoka, South African Region Peace-Building, Centre for Study of Violence and Reconciliation, De Rots, North Eastern Education and Library Board, Peace Games, Restorative Justice Centre, Skillshare International and Winners Unlimited.

#### **Contact**

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#### **Context**

Approximately 50% of South Africa's 180,000 offenders are between the ages of 14 and 25. The rate of recidivism is exceptionally high with an estimated 80% of released offenders relapsing. The lack of effective rehabilitation programmes, post-prison support and assistance in social reintegration, result in the perpetuation of the cycle of crime and punishment. It is within this context that Kulisa was created in consultation with offenders and specialists in penology, psychology, social work and education.

#### **Goals**

- Resolve underlying problems that lead to crime.
- Restore relationships with the family and the community.
- Change existing patterns and teach positive thinking in order to prevent future conflicts with the law.

#### **Description**

Khulisa, a not-for-profit organization created in 1997, aims to reduce crime in South Africa through the implementation of youth and community development programmes in disadvantaged areas, and the provision of rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for youths at risk and in conflict with the law. Khulisa adopts a holistic approach to crime prevention by working at different stages of the crime cycle. Khulisa has developed four specific programmes reflecting their belief in human potential and based on the principles of restorative justice.

*Make It Better (MIB)* provides out of school youth with the leadership and organizational skills needed to develop and run their own community-based projects, thus enabling them to participate meaningfully in the socio-economic development of their communities. Crime prevention is achieved through capacity-building and personal development. Selected youth are given the opportunity to implement replications of their project in other parts of South Africa and may also act as mentors for youth in Khulisa's *New Directions* programme.

*New Directions* is a 13-week diversion programme for first-time offenders and children who have committed minor offences. It attempts to resolve the underlying problems that lead to the crime, and teaches life skills to participants. Specific activities include: emotional intelligence development through creative writing; community service - teaching them to care for their environment; pairing them with a mentor from the MIB programme; culture, sports and recreation;

parental development - helping parents take responsibility for their children; restorative justice in the form of mediated settlements; and post programme support through bi-annual reunions and a lifetime membership to Khulisa, ensuring ongoing support.

*Discovery* is a year-long prison programme for young offenders that encourages accountability and is based on creative writing, personal transformation, group therapy and vocational skills development, and explores the potential for the offender to make amends to victims, their family, and the community. Participants receive certificates at the end of each phase and graduates move on to Khulisa's *Destinations* programme.

*Destinations* links participants from Khulisa's *Discovery* programme to jobs and self-sustaining opportunities pledged by local businesses and funders. Part of this programme includes a 3-month post-release orientation programme, life skills training, vocational skills development, family counselling, mentoring, developing a portfolio detailing the programmes undertaken, developing a CV, psychological evaluation and ongoing monitoring and support.

#### **Outcomes**

Khulisa's programmes have been evaluated qualitatively and quantitatively, as well as internally and independently. These evaluations include both trend and impact analysis. According to evaluations, up to 70% of youth who complete Khulisa's rehabilitation programmes do not return to crime. Both Khulisa's founder and the programmes themselves have received numerous awards, including an Ashoka Fellowship, the Nicro Offender Reintegration award, and the Elle Elizabeth Arden Visible Difference Award.

#### **Partners**

Khulisa has developed partnerships with various government departments including: Correctional Services, Education, Foreign Affairs, Health, Justice, Social Welfare & Population Development, Safety & Liaison, and Housing and Labour. They also receive funding from a number of other sources.

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# SOUTH AFRICA

## *Othandweni – Helping Street Children*

### **Context**

The population of street children in Johannesburg in the 1990's increased significantly, accompanied by problems of begging, petty theft, glue-sniffing, and homelessness. It has been exacerbated by the spread of HIV and AIDS, as children and youths are increasingly orphaned. Many of the street children are HIV positive, and at great risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, suffer from poor health, malnutrition, physical violence, psychological trauma, and are generally treated with hostility by the public and often denied access to services.

### **Goals**

- To act as a guardian for street children.
- To promote healthy lifestyles by offering health care and education.
- To provide alternatives to the street through sports and recreation.
- To empower youth at risk through training programmes and placements.
- To minimize institutionalization.

### **Description**

*Othandweni*, (meaning 'place of love') is a non-profit organization offering services to children and youth in the Greater Johannesburg area. Run by the Metro Evangelical Services, it began in 1994 as a feeding scheme for street children in the Hillbrow area of Johannesburg, and has evolved into a holistic program for street children and youth with a range of services. Its ultimate goal is to get them off the streets and enable them to become independent citizens. Initially, all the project staff stayed within the community to help build relationships. Originally there were four main programmes offered by Othandweni. The first provides basic care and human rights for youth who are living on the street. It uses outreach workers to locate and befriend them, and has facilities for over a hundred youth to eat and wash daily at the Othandweni Centre, as well as some transitional housing. Cleaning campaigns are undertaken to improve their conditions on the street. Othandweni acts as a guardian during court procedures, ensuring that their rights are protected, offers Family Group Conferencing as an alternative to incarceration, and support to those in custody.

A second project offers sports and recreational development for street youth. This includes soccer and cricket training programmes, a two-week Outward Bound camp for leadership development, and a monthly Youth Night. The aim is to promote life-skills and alternatives to street life.

The entrepreneurial training project offers one-year job training to groups of male and female street youth. This includes adult basic education, and business and practical skills to enable them to become independent. Substance abuse counselling is also provided. The students sell products to earn pocket money.

The fourth programme, health care programme promotes healthy life-styles, and offers health care, a sick bay, nursing care, as well as education and counselling services to street children, youth and adults. This includes support for those with HIV/AIDS, with counselling, teaching them how to support each other, and a care centre for those who are terminally ill, allowing them to die with dignity. This programme has since developed to such an extent that since March 2003 it is now a separate programme of MES, called MES Impilo Programme and it also now includes a hospice for the homeless. The children Othandweni serves are still referred to MES Impilo for Health Care.

Othandweni is one of over 40 organizations serving street children which form part of the *Johannesburg Alliance for Street Children*.

### **Outcomes**

Othandweni reaches an average of 600 street children and youth a month. In 2004, health services were provided to almost 8000, and over two-thirds of those in entrepreneurial training were placed in jobs. They have succeeded in getting local businesses to stop selling glue. Othandweni is one of the few South African organisations that help girls living on the street. It has been selected as a good practice by UN HABITAT in 2002, and was recognized by the South African *Impumelo Innovations Award Programme* in 2000.

### **Partners**

Dyambo Youth Centre, Johannesburg Alliance for Street Children, Johannesburg Prison, Gauteng Alliance for Street Children, Leeuwkop Prison National Alliance for Street Children, Hospice Palliative Care Association of SA.

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# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## Midwestern Prevention Project

### **Context**

The problem of illicit drug use and/or abuse by youths is a continuing problem in most communities in the United States. Most programmes addressing this problem tend to focus on a single approach or intervention, often in a single setting such as a school. There is a growing concern that such programmes are too limited and narrow to have a great impact on substance abuse. In its place, it is important to develop more comprehensive interventions that utilise multiple approaches and draw on the active participation of individuals and groups from across the community.

### **Goals**

- Prevent and reduce the use of drugs, beginning with the gateway drugs, tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana
- Intervene in situations and environments which promote substance abuse
- Build protective factors such as resistance skills, self-efficacy, and good decision-making
- Promote non-drug attitudes, norms, policies, and community support

### **Description**

This project began in the early 1980's, and initially operated in the 16 communities and nine counties that make up two mid-western U.S. metropolitan areas - Kansas City and Indianapolis. Today, portions of the programme have spread to over 400 other schools in Indiana, and through the use of interactive television-training, to 24 cities in five other states. It has 5 major components: *school*, *parents*, *community organizations* and *health policies* are introduced in sequence over a 5 year period, while the *mass media* component is used throughout the programme. The core *school programme* is initiated in grades 6 or 7 (middle and/or junior high schools). It is delivered by trained teachers and facilitated by peer leaders. Ten to 13 classroom sessions are followed in subsequent years by booster sessions, and by counselling and support activities, all designed to build resistance skills in youths. The *parent programme*, introduced in years 2 and 3, focuses on building family support and providing a consistent anti-drug message. A parent-student-school group is set up and develops school prevention policies and parent training and communication sessions. The *community component* identifies community and government leaders to support the development of additional prevention services. A community organization is set up, and trained to implement effective prevention campaigns and services across

agencies. In the final two years, a new *health policy* is implemented by a government subcommittee, comprising local community and government leaders from the community organization. The *mass media* component is used throughout, and includes some 31 television, radio and print broadcasts a year, to introduce each component of the programme and to reinforce messages consistently to schools, parents and to the wider community.

### **Outcomes**

The programme has been successfully implemented in both Kansas City, Indianapolis, other parts of Indiana, and cities in five other states. Evaluation of the programme has found significant net reductions in tobacco, alcohol and marijuana use, as well as cocaine, amphetamine, LSD, and inhalant use, ranging from 20% to over 67%. In addition, in a separate analysis at age 21, programme participants showed significantly less single pregnancy, school drop-out, and job firing, compared to the controls. Effects have lasted from age 11 into the mid-30's. Recent analyses of participants, one-third of whom now have their own school age children, have shown that early prevention of drug use, particularly alcohol use, prevents later anger in participants, which translates to significantly less conduct and impulse control problems in their own children. The demand for drug treatment also appears to have been reduced due to the early intervention with these youths. Evidence also exists that the programme has made an impact on substance use/abuse by the participants' own parents. The programme was selected in 1997 as one of 10 outstanding programmes in the University of Colorado *Blueprints for Violence Prevention* series. These are programmes which have been replicated in many different settings and meet the very highest scientific standards of programme implementation and effectiveness.

### **Partners**

Schools, parents, business leaders, law enforcement, media, health departments, and community leaders.

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Section 3:  
**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**



## **Websites**

### **ICPC - Community Safety and Crime Prevention Knowledge Base**

[http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org/kb\\_intro.php](http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org/kb_intro.php)

The International Centre for the Prevention of Crime's website includes a knowledge based section containing policies, strategies, indicators, good practices, documentation and tools on community safety and crime prevention.

### **UNODC - UN Office on Drugs and Crime**

[http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime\\_cicp\\_commission.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_cicp_commission.html)

The UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice can be accessed on the UNODC Website.

[http://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/publications/promoting\\_prevention\\_crime.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/publications/promoting_prevention_crime.pdf)

The 2002 UN Guidelines for Crime Prevention can be accessed in their publications. It is included in their booklet *Promoting the Prevention of Crime - Guidelines and Selected Projects* which incorporates guidelines for cooperation and technical assistance in the field of crime prevention, and selected UNODC and other project on crime prevention.

### **UN-HABITAT - Safer Cities Programme**

<http://www.unhabitat.org/programmes/safercities/>

The Safer Cities programme of UN-Habitat operates by supporting local crime prevention projects, extraction of lessons and development of tools, and exchange and international advocacy and policy development.

### **Best Practices for Human Settlements**

<http://www.bestpractices.org/>

UN-Habitat with the support of the Together Foundation have produced an extensive and informative database containing over 1600 examples of good and best practices submitted by communities around the world.

### **Blueprints for Violence Prevention**

<http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/>

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at the University of Colorado at Boulder, USA created a national initiative that aims to identify effective violence prevention practices

### **Crime Prevention Register**

<http://www.aic.gov.au/research/cvp/register/>

The Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) Crime Prevention Register is a resource for federal, state, territory, and local government crime prevention and criminal justice agencies.

### **The National Crime Prevention Strategy Virtual Library**

<http://www.prevention.gc.ca/en/library/index.html>

Canada's National Crime Prevention Strategy "Virtual Library" is an electronic collection of publications, tools, and links relating to crime, victimization, and crime prevention.

### **European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN)**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice\\_home/eucpn/practices.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/eucpn/practices.html)

EUCPN's Good Practices are guided by the Five I's approach which promotes the use of evidence-based programmes, tight control over implementation and evaluation, and standards which allow for cross-cultural, national or international comparisons.

### **European Forum for Urban Safety (EFUS)**

<http://www.urbansecurity.org/fesu/home.aspx>

The EFUS features a list of publications that focus on city-level crime prevention practices on school safety, policing, trafficking in women, drugs, organized crime, and additional subjects.

### **The Good Practice Projects Database: Early Intervention**

<http://www.aifs.gov.au/sf/database.html>

A searchable database by the Stronger Families Learning Exchange of Australian projects which adopt a primary prevention or early intervention approach in their work with families or communities.

### **Promising Practices on Children, Families and Communities (PPN)**

<http://www.promisingpractices.net/>

Managed by the RAND Corporation USA, the Promising Practices Network website features proven and promising programmes in five areas: healthy and safe children, children ready for school, children succeeding in school, strong families, and self-sufficient families.

### **Women in Cities International Directory of Resources and Activities**

[http://www.femmesetvilles.org/english/sets\\_en/set\\_repertoire\\_en.htm](http://www.femmesetvilles.org/english/sets_en/set_repertoire_en.htm)

The Directory of activities and resources of Women in Cities International includes initiatives, policies and programmes related to women's safety.

## **Awards**

### **Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards**

<http://www.aic.gov.au/avpa/>

The awards organised by the Australian Institute of Criminology are designed to reward the most outstanding projects for the prevention or reduction of violence in Australia, to encourage public initiatives and to assist governments in identifying and developing practical projects which will reduce violence in the community.

### **British Community Safety Awards**

<http://www.crimeconcern.org.uk/>

These awards organised by Crime Concern look for the top of the range crime reduction projects from across the United Kingdom.

### **Dubai International Award**

<http://dubai-award.dm.gov.ae/>

These awards organized by UN-Habitat, Dubai Municipality and the United Nations aim to recognize and enhance awareness of outstanding and sustainable achievements in improving the living environment.

### **European Crime Prevention Awards**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice\\_home/eucpn/european\\_crime.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/eucpn/european_crime.html)

These awards organised by the European Crime Prevention Network aim to reward the best European crime prevention project.

### **Women's Safety Awards 2004**

[http://www.femmesetvilles.org/english/sets\\_en/set\\_contest\\_en.htm](http://www.femmesetvilles.org/english/sets_en/set_contest_en.htm)

The Women's Safety Awards organised by Women in Cities International are designed to elicit and reward good practices and municipal policies relating to women's safety and the improvement of women's sense of safety.

## **Additional Publications on Good Practices**

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National Crime Prevention Council (2002). *150 Tested Strategies to Prevent Crime from Small Cities, Counties and Rural Communities - A Resource for Municipal Agencies and Community Groups*. Washington, DC: [The Author].

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