

Annex

Information-gathering instrument on United Nations standards and norms related primarily to the prevention of crime

Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/28 of 21 July 2004, the following questionnaire is designed as a tool to collect information to assist in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General, in particular as regards the following:

- (a) The difficulties encountered in the application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention;
- (b) Ways in which technical assistance can be provided; and
- (c) Useful practices and emerging challenges.

It is not intended to produce a scorecard of how well States are doing. It addresses the main sections of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime (Council resolution 2002/13, annex) and, as the case may be, other relevant instruments.

Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/13 of 24 July 2003 on action to promote effective crime prevention accepted the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime and also requested the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on the implementation of that resolution. In the Guidelines, crime prevention refers to “strategies and measures that seek to reduce the risk of crimes occurring” by influencing “their multiple causes” (para. 3). It includes social crime prevention (or prevention through social development), local, community or neighbourhood-based crime prevention, situational crime prevention and measures to prevent recidivism. The definition does not include law enforcement and other criminal justice intervention, even though these may have crime prevention aspects. It is cognizant, however, of the need to take account of “the growing internationalization of criminal activities” (para. 4). When referring to the community, it refers in essence to “the involvement of civil society at the local level” (para. 5).

Other instruments relevant to the prevention of crime include:

- Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/9 of 24 July 1995, the annex to which contains the Guidelines for cooperation and technical assistance in the field of urban crime prevention
- General Assembly resolution 51/60 of 12 December 1996, the annex to which contains the United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security

The questionnaire is divided into five sections: structuring crime prevention at the governmental level; crime prevention approaches; implementation issues; international cooperation, networking and technical assistance; and concluding questions. In developing the questionnaire, related paragraphs have been grouped for simplicity and clarity.

I. Structuring crime prevention at the government level

The following paragraphs of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime refer to government responsibility, leadership and structures to organize and deliver effective crime prevention.

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

Government leadership

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

Cooperation/partnerships

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

Government structures

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

(a) *Establishing centres or focal points with expertise and resources;*

(b) *Establishing a crime prevention plan with clear priorities and targets;*

(c) *Establishing linkages and coordination between relevant government agencies or departments;*

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

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

Training and capacity-building

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

(a) *Providing professional development for senior officials in relevant agencies;*

(b) *Encouraging universities, colleges and other relevant educational agencies to offer basic and advanced courses, including in collaboration with practitioners;*

(c) Working with the educational and professional sectors to develop certification and professional qualifications;

(d) Promoting the capacity of communities to develop and respond to their needs.

Supporting partnerships

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

(a) Advancing knowledge of the importance of this principle and the components of successful partnerships, including the need for all of the partners to have clear and transparent roles;

(b) Fostering the formation of partnerships at different levels and across sectors;

(c) Facilitating the efficient operation of partnerships.

1. Have government bodies in your country taken steps to implement the approach to crime prevention defined in the Guidelines?

Yes No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

All national programmes mentioned in the answer to Question 2

2. In your country, have specific crime prevention policies or strategies been adopted?

(a) At the national level?

Yes No

If the answer is "Yes", please cite the title and date of adoption.

Fundamental issues of crime prevention strategy are incorporated in a number of national programmes which are directly or indirectly linked to fighting and preventing crime.

- *National Programme for Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings 2004–2008* (Order of Cabinet of Ministers No. 132 of 03.03.2004)
 - *Programme Latvia Fit for Children 2004–2007* (Order of Cabinet of Ministers of 22.09.2004)
 - *Programme for Reducing Alcohol Consumption and Limiting Alcoholism 2005–2008* (Order of Cabinet of Ministers No. 40 of 19.01.2005)
 - *National Programme for Restricting and Controlling Dependency on and Traffic in Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances 2005–2008* (Order of Cabinet of Ministers No. 559 of 17.08.2005)
 - *National Programme of Tobacco Control 2006–2010* (Order of Cabinet of Ministers No. 852 of 28.12.2005)
 - *National Programme for the Prevention, Combating and Reduction of Organised Crime 2006–2010* (Order of Cabinet of Ministers No. 390 of 31.05.2006)
 - *Programme for the Prevention of Juvenile Crime and Protection of Children against Criminal Offences 2006–2008* (draft announced by meeting of State Secretaries 31.08.2006, presently forwarded to
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Cabinet of Ministers for approval)

Has this policy or strategy been enshrined in legislation?

() Yes (X) No

If the answer is “Yes”, please provide the reference and date of adoption.

(b) At the regional level?

() Yes (X) No

(c) At the local level?

() Yes (X) No

If the answer to (b) and/or (c) above is “Yes”, please specify.

3. In your country, which government department, ministry or organization at the national level has the responsibility for leadership in crime prevention?

Please specify.

The Crime Prevention Council (Founding Law approved by Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No.42 of 20.01.2004) headed by the Prime Minister. The Crime Prevention Council also includes the Minister of Interior of the Republic of Latvia

The Central Public Order Police Department and the Central Criminal Police Department of the State Police of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Latvia

4. In your country, does the organization or framework of crime prevention include:

(a) A centre or focal point at the national level?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please cite the name and status of the responsible agency or agencies.

The Crime Prevention Council, whose aim it is to co-ordinate and improve operations of state institutions on combating and prevention of crime (including corruption and organised crime)

- Pursuant to Clause 2 of its Founding Law, the Crime Prevention Council has the following functions:
 - co-ordinate drafting of crime prevention strategy and supervise its implementation
 - co-ordinate and improve operations of state institutions in combating and prevention of crime in order to raise efficiency of such operations
 - review recommendations on drafting regulatory measures in the area of combating and prevention of crime and decide whether to move forward the relevant draft regulations.
 - organise a criminological study of causes of crime, predict possible unfavourable consequences and circumstances and plan their prevention
 - In implementing the common European common justice and
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home affairs policy, co-ordinate operations of Latvian law enforcement institutions in combating and prevention of crime (especially corruption and organised crime)

• Encourage public involvement in crime prevention (especially corruption and organised crime)

(b) Centres or focal points at the regional level?

Yes No Not applicable

(c) Establishing crime prevention plans with clear priorities?

(i) At the national level?

Yes Yes, in part No

(ii) At the regional level?

Yes Yes, in part

No Not applicable

(iii) At the local level?

Yes Yes, in part No

(d) Establishing linkages and coordination between relevant government agencies and organizations?

(i) At the national level?

Yes Yes, in part No

(ii) At the regional level?

Yes Yes, in part

No Not applicable

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

(i) At the national level?

Yes Yes, in part No

(ii) At the regional level?

Yes Yes, in part

No Not applicable

(iii) At the local level?

Yes Yes, in part No

(f) Seeking the active participation of the general public?

(i) At the national level?

Yes Yes, in part No

(ii) At the regional level?

Yes Yes, in part

No Not applicable

(iii) At the local level?

Yes Yes, in part No

(g) A specific role for the police and other institutions performing similar roles?

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe.

State Police departments are among the institutions responsible for implementing a number of measures included in national programmes

5. In your country, do government bodies support the development of crime prevention skills by:

(a) Providing professional development?

Yes No

(b) Encouraging relevant educational institutions to offer basic and advanced courses?

Yes No

(c) Working to develop certification and professional qualifications?

Yes No

(d) Promoting the capacity of communities to develop and respond to their own needs?

Yes No

II. Crime prevention approaches

Crime prevention as defined in the relevant instruments refers to various approaches generally called social, community-based and situational crime prevention, as well as preventing recidivism.

In respect to social crime prevention, relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime include:

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

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

Socio-economic development and inclusion

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

Social development

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

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

(b) *Promoting activities that redress marginalization and exclusion;*

(c) *Promoting positive conflict resolution;*

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

6. Is the concept of social crime prevention (as defined in paragraph 6 (a) of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime) part of your country's crime prevention policy, strategy or programmes?

(X) Yes () No

7. Do your country's crime prevention policies, strategies or programmes include a specific focus on:

(a) Children and youth at risk of victimization or offending?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is "Yes", please specify.

Programme for Juvenile Crime Prevention and Protection of Children against Criminal Offences 2006–2008 (the draft was announced at the meeting of State Secretaries on 31.08.2006 and is to be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers), whose purpose is to reduce juvenile crime, eliminate factors causing criminal behaviour and improve safety of children and protect children from any kind of violence.

Specific issues in the protection of children and juveniles against crime related to human trafficking and the illegal trafficking in narcotics are incorporated in the *National Programme for the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings 2004–2008*, and the *National Programme for Restricting and Controlling Dependency on and Trafficking in Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances 2005–2008*.

The programme *Latvia Fit for Children 2004–2007* provides for a number of measures for protection against discrimination and violence, including the ensuring of an adequate quality of life, opportunities for education and implementing preventive and rehabilitation projects for children subject to violence.

(b) Vulnerable groups?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is "Yes", please specify.

All the national programmes mentioned in the answer to question 2 pay special attention to the protection of vulnerable groups such as minors, juveniles and women against criminal offences and issues of rehabilitation of these persons.

Also a number of measures are included in the programmes for disabled children and youths and those with special needs.

- (c) The different needs of men and women?
() Yes (X) No

If the answer is “Yes”, please specify.

8. Are crime prevention considerations integrated into relevant social and economic policies and programmes?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please specify.

The answer to this question is included in the answer to question 2.

9. In your country, do crime prevention policies, strategies or programmes:

- (a) Promote protective factors (e.g. staying in school, positive parenting, job training for youth, etc.)?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

One of the fundamental aims of the *Programme for Prevention of Juvenile Crime and Protection of Children against Criminal Offences 2006–2008* is to eliminate factors causing criminal behaviour.

- (b) Promote activities to redress marginalization or exclusion?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

The aforesaid measures are included in the national programmes related to protection of children (for example, services of psychologists), also the *National Programme for Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings 2004–2008* provides for social assistance to victims of human trafficking.

- (c) Promote positive conflict resolution (e.g. mediation, restorative justice, etc.)?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

Measures of this nature are provided in Latvian legislation (for example, in the Criminal Procedure Law – the accelerated process, norms included in the draft Ombudsman Law, etc.)

- (d) Use education and public awareness?
(X) Yes () No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

All the national programmes mentioned in the answer to question 2 include a number of informative educational projects of a preventive nature targeted at various social and age groups (children, youths, teachers, parents etc.). Their forms are different, too (informative booklets, video clips, television programmes, information in newspapers, etc.)

The State Police, within the limits of their competence, carry out public education and information projects, providing information of a preventive nature on how not to become a victim of crime, how to act in specific situations, where to get help, and other similar guidance. Such work is also carried out in co-operation with non-governmental organisations and the media. Together, they prepare informative booklets, broadcasts and carry out various projects.

For the sixth consecutive year the State Police are organising Safety Days in schools with the aim of educating children in current issues of law enforcement.

- (e) Involve the media?
(X) Yes () No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

The State Police Press and Public Relations Department regularly provides information of various types to most of the Latvian media. Several Latvian television channels prepare broadcasts in co-operation with this service.

Working with non-governmental organisations, an internet website *Protect Yourself* is being prepared and will be completed at the end of 2006.

In respect of community or locally based crime prevention, relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime include:

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

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

10. Does your country have specific crime prevention policies, strategies or programmes designed to change the conditions that influence offending, victimization and insecurity in neighbourhoods?

() Yes (X) No

If the answer is "Yes", please specify.

11. Does your crime prevention policy or strategy include an integrated approach to address the multiple risk and protective factors in highly vulnerable neighbourhoods or communities?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please specify.

The Public Order Police of the State Police perform complex preventive work throughout the country. Precinct inspectors (as a result of structural changes, the precinct inspectors service has been eliminated but the name was retained) perform general preventive work targeted at elimination of circumstances causing violation of the law and individual preventive work with persons who may be expected to violate the law.

In respect of situational crime prevention, relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime include:

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

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

Situational prevention

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

(a) *Improved environmental design;*

(b) *Appropriate methods of surveillance that are sensitive to the right to privacy;*

(c) *Encouraging the design of consumer goods to make them more resistant to crime;*

(d) *Target “hardening” without impinging upon the quality of the built environment or limiting free access to public space;*

(e) *Implementing strategies to prevent repeat victimization.*

12. Does your country have specific situational crime prevention policies, strategies or programmes to:

(a) Improve environmental design and management?

() Yes (X) No

If the answer is “Yes”, please specify.

(b) Implement appropriate methods of surveillance that are sensitive to privacy?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please specify.

By planning routes of police patrols, distribution of assignments of the Chief Public Order Police Department's Security Guard Service and the work of precinct inspectors, patrolling the territory they serve.

(c) Promote target hardening without impinging on the quality of the built environment?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please specify.

With the help of security guard companies, and providing facilities with security systems

(d) Encourage the design of crime resistant consumer goods?

() Yes (X) No

If the answer is “Yes”, please specify.

(e) Implement strategies to prevent repeat victimization?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please specify.

The aforesaid measures are included in the national programmes related to protection of children, also in the *National Programme for Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings 2004–2008* (providing help for victims of human trafficking)

In respect of the prevention of recidivism, relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime include:

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

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

13. In your country, do you have specific policies, strategies or programmes to prevent recidivism by assisting in the social reintegration of offenders and other preventive mechanisms?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please specify.

In 2003 a Justice Ministry policy document about the State Probation Service concept was prepared. The goals sets forth in this policy document are still being realized today. One of the main goals is the creation of a network of social rehabilitation centres for former prisoners in Latvia.

Several State-private partnership projects have been developed for the successful integration of former prisoners into society and into the labour market:

1) „New solutions to promote employment of former prisoners”—a project which has been developed within the framework of the European Commission’s initiative EQUAL. This project has been developed and is being implemented by the State Probation Service, the Prison Administration Board, the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments, SDSPA “Attīstība” (Development), the Valmiera City Council, the NGO “Integrācija sabiedrībai” (Integration into society), the

charitable NGO “Mūsu zeme” (Our Country), the Education and Science Ministry, the Justice Ministry, and the State Employment Agency). The goals of this project include: the integration of criminal offenders into society and the labour market, the reduction of criminal recidivism, the reduction of prison population, and an increased level of public security.

2) “Social rehabilitation programme for integration into the labour market for prisoners who are serving the last half-year of their sentence and for persons released from prisons”—a project developed with the support of the Social Integration Fond. This project has been developed and is being implemented by the State Probation Service in cooperation with the company Alfa and the National Latvian Language Training Agency. The goals of this project include: the integration of offenders into society and the labour market, the reduction of criminal recidivism, the reduction of the unemployment level, the reduction of the prison population, and an increased level of public security.

3) “The simple as complex”—a project developed with the support of the Social Integration Fund. The State Probation Service developed and is implementing this project. The goals of this project include: the social rehabilitation of former prisoners and of criminal offender, based upon the social skills gained in this programme and the ability to analyze one’s needs and evaluate risks so as to be able to set one’s priorities. The specific goal of this project includes the preparation of quality information which meets the needs of the users, written in an easily understood format and concerns their rights, duties, the usefulness of the services offered by the Probation Service, the opportunities to improve one’s education and qualifications, as well as available social assistance.

4) „Caur sidraba birzi gāju...”—Project developed by the State Probation Service with the assistance of the Social Integration Fund and being implemented by the State Probation Service. The goals of this project include: creating the motivation for the under-age former prisoner participants to adopt new behavior models (develop the basic skills for understanding oneself, to adopt decisions and to desire to adopt a socially-acceptable active lifestyle), to promote the desire and readiness to seek employment, to improve one’s education, to help the youth gain belief in their own abilities and to have the courage to begin something new) as well as to prepare specialists to work with this project.

5) „Development and introduction of an integrated social rehabilitation model for former prisoners”—this project was completed in April 2006 by the Social Economic Fund. This project’s goals focused on former prisoners and the development of those social skills which would promote their integration into normal daily life, the basic skills for job searches and successful employment, as well as working with the prevention of such negative factors as alcohol and drug dependency, and the reduction of the crime level in Latvia, especially recidivism.

III. Implementation issues

<p>Sustainability and accountability are important principles to ensure the implementation of effective crime prevention programmes and initiatives. The relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime are:</p>

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

Sustainability/accountability

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

Sustainability

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

(a) *Reviewing resource allocation to establish and maintain an appropriate balance between crime prevention and the criminal justice and other systems, to be more effective in preventing crime and victimization;*

(b) *Establishing clear accountability for funding, programming and coordinating crime prevention initiatives;*

(c) *Encouraging community involvement in sustainability.*

14. In your country, what measures have been taken to ensure the sustainability of crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes?

Please describe briefly.

State Police departments perform their work in accordance with measures incorporated in national programmes which are their responsibility. Not less than once a year reports on their performance are made to the Cabinet of Ministers.

15. In your country, have there been systematic attempts to assess the costs of crime and crime control measures, including crime prevention measures?

() Yes (X) No

If the answer is "Yes", please provide the source of funding and an estimate of the total costs.

In implementing crime prevention, elements of a rigorous process have been identified. The relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime are:

Knowledge base

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

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

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

Planning intervention

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

- (a) A systematic analysis of crime problems, their causes, risk factors and consequences, in particular at the local level;*
- (b) A plan that draws on the most appropriate approach and adapts interventions to the specific local problem and context;*
- (c) An implementation plan to deliver appropriate interventions that are efficient, effective and sustainable;*
- (d) Mobilizing entities that are able to tackle causes;*
- (e) Monitoring and evaluation.*

Supporting evaluation

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

- (a) Undertake short- and longer-term evaluation to test rigorously what works, where and why;*
- (b) Undertake cost-benefit analyses;*
- (c) Assess the extent to which action results in a reduction in levels of crime and victimization, in the seriousness of crime and in fear of crime;*
- (d) Systematically assess the outcomes and unintended consequences, both positive and negative, of action, such as a decrease in crime rates or the stigmatization of individuals and/or communities.*

16. In your country, is the use of knowledge-based crime prevention strategies, policies or programmes facilitated by:

(a) Supporting the generation and utilization of useful information and data?

Yes No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

Documents of a conceptual nature, including national programmes and strategies, are drafted based on a variety of compiled statistical data. Data on prevention and combating crime are centrally compiled in the *Report on Crimes Recorded in Latvia* drafted by the Information Centre of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Latvia

(b) Supporting the sharing of useful information and data?

Yes No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

Statistical data of various sectors are accessible to the public on the internet website of the Central Statistical Bureau. Law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Latvia regularly exchange required information, including statistical data.

(c) Promoting the application of useful information and data to reduce repeat victimization, persistent offending and high crime areas?

Yes No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

In practice, preventive measures are planned taking into account crime statistics and analysis of crime prevention based on same.

17. In your country, do the crime prevention policies, strategies or programmes promote a planning process that includes:

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

Yes No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

National programmes include a number of measures related to research and information analysis in various crime related areas. The State Police regularly perform analyses of crime and current problems related to it at the national, regional and local levels.

Each year the State Police take part in preparing the National Threat Assessment and Risk Assessment of the Security of the State Border of the Republic of Latvia, and prepare the Organised Crime Threat Assessment, Report on Crimes Recorded in Latvia and the results of the performance of State Police departments in combating crime, and provide as well a number of other analytical materials on specific problems related to crime and its prevention, including causes and circumstances facilitating crime.

(b) A plan that draws on the most appropriate approaches and adapts interventions to the specific local problems and local context?

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

The aforesaid projects are part of the plan of action of the State Police, as well as plans of action of the Central Public Order Police Department, the Central Criminal Police Department and territorial police departments.

(c) An implementation plan to deliver efficient, effective and sustainable interventions?

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

Prior to any large scale or public event an individual plan is drawn up to ensure public order and safety.

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

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

Implementation of national programmes also involves those State and local government institutions which help to resolve issues related to reduction of causes facilitating crime. This applies especially to combating illegal narcotics trafficking and human trafficking.

(e) Monitoring and evaluation?

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

The implementation process of measures included in national programmes and also local plans is monitored and assessed by the institution responsible for the implementation of the specific programme or plan, by means of progress reports submitted to it by involved institutions on given dates.. Each responsible institution has an internal unit which controls the implementation process of the relevant measures within that institution.

18. In your country, do the crime prevention policies, strategies or programmes include:

(a) Undertaking evaluation to test rigorously what works?

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

The institution responsible for implementation of national programmes compiles and reviews reports of involved institutions, and prepares a report for submission to the Cabinet of Ministers as provided for in the relevant national programme. Such a report is reviewed and published. Achieved results and problems are discussed at Cabinet of Ministers meetings and meetings of the responsible institutions.

(b) Undertaking cost-benefit analyses?

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

Following each large scale or public event, Police work is evaluated, including cost efficiency.

(c) Assessing reduction in crime, victimization and fear of crime?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

Every month, information on crimes committed is compiled and analysed. Once a quarter territorial police departments of the State Police forward reports of work performance indicators to the central apparatus of the State Police. In evaluating the aforesaid, further measures are determined. Results and problems are reviewed at working meetings.

(d) Assessing outcomes and unintended consequences?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

The answer is provided to the previous question

19. Has an evaluation of components or specific activities of your country's national crime prevention policy or strategy been undertaken?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is "Yes", please describe briefly.

These issues are reviewed by the National Security Council, Crime Prevention Council and the Cabinet of Ministers

The Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime recognize the links between local and transnational organized crime and the need to prevent organized crime. The relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines are:

Interdependency

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

Prevention of organized crime

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

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

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

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

Links between transnational and local crime

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

20. In your country, do crime prevention policies, strategies or programmes assess the potential links between local and national crime problems and transnational organized crime?

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

As a result of co-operation of institutions of the Republic of Latvia, under the PHARE 2001 Twinning Project (LE/01/IB/JH/02/LE01.04.03) *Preventing, Combating and Reducing Organised Crime*, the *National Programme for Prevention, Combating and Reduction of Organised Crime 2006–2010* has been drafted (approved by Cabinet of Ministers Order No. 390 of 31.05.2006). The Programme includes a number of preventive measures as well.

Each year the State Police take part in drafting the National Threat Assessment and the Risk Assessment of Threat to the Security of the State Border of the Republic of Latvia, including a compilation and evaluation of information on transnational and organised crime and problems related to its prevention.

21. In your country, do the crime prevention policies, strategies or programmes include:

(a) Measures to reduce opportunities for organized criminal groups to participate in lawful markets?

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

The aforesaid measures are included in the *National Programme for Prevention, Combating and Reduction of Organised Crime 2006-010*, and the *National Programme for Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings 2004-2008*, the *National Programme for Restricting and Controlling Dependency on and Trafficking in Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances 2005–2008*, and others. These measures include improving the legal framework, co-operation and exchange of information with concerned institutions, performing various studies, etc.

(b) Measures to prevent the misuse of public tender procedures, subsidies and licences?

Yes No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

The aforesaid measures are included in the *National Programme for Prevention, Combating and Reduction of Organised Crime 2006-2010*, and the *National Programme for Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings 2004-2008*, the *National Programme for Restricting and Controlling Dependency on and Trafficking in Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances 2005–2008*, and others. These measures include improving the legal framework, co-operation and exchange of information with concerned institutions, performing various studies, etc.

- (c) Measures to protect socially marginalized groups, especially women and children, who are vulnerable to exploitation by organized criminal groups, including preventing trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is “Yes”, please describe briefly.

These measures are included in the *National Programme for Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings 2004-2008*

IV. International cooperation, networking and technical assistance

Member States are encouraged to facilitate international cooperation and develop networks for the exchange of practices and knowledge. The relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime include:

Technical assistance

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

Networking

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

Prioritizing crime prevention

32. *The Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat, the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network of affiliated and associated institutes and other relevant United Nations entities should include in their priorities crime prevention as set out in these Guidelines, set up a coordination mechanism and establish a roster of experts to undertake needs assessment and to provide technical advice.*

Dissemination

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

22. Does your country participate in international networks for the exchange of information and knowledge on crime prevention policies, strategies or programmes?

(X) Yes () No

If the answer is "Yes", please specify.

Latvia is a member of the European Crime Prevention Network. In addition, Latvia is also a member State of the international organisation INTERPOL and the international Police organisation EUROPOL. The State Police have established a national office of INTERPOL and a national office of EUROPOL. Information exchange of various kinds takes place through the agencies of these offices, and participation is organised in programmes, projects and working groups of these organisations.

23. What are the main obstacles to your country participating in international networking?

Please describe.

It is mainly linked to insufficient funds and material/technical resources, and lack of professionals proficient in foreign languages.

24. Please identify guides, toolkits, compendiums or manuals of crime prevention practices from your country that can be shared with other countries.

At present no relevant document drafted in our State is available to offer to other countries. The strategies mentioned in the questionnaire have been prepared taking into account the specifics of Latvia and may be applied under conditions prevailing in Latvia.

25. Does your country need technical assistance in any area of crime prevention?

() Yes (X) No

26. Is your country able to provide technical assistance in any area of crime prevention?

() Yes (X) No

If the answer to questions 25 and/or 26 is "Yes", please mark the appropriate box(es) below:	<i>Need technical assistance</i>	<i>Can provide technical assistance</i>
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(a) Including prevention as a permanent part of government structures (para. 17)		
(b) Government support for the development of crime prevention skills (para. 18)		
(c) Government and civil society support of partnerships (para. 19)		
(d) Social crime prevention (paras. 6 (a), 8 and 24)		
(e) Locally based or neighbourhood crime prevention (para. 6 (b))		
(f) Situational crime prevention (paras. 6 (c) and 26)		
(g) Prevention of recidivism (para. 6 (d))		
(h) Sustainability and accountability of crime prevention (paras. 1, 10 and 20)		
(i) Knowledge-based crime prevention (paras. 11 and 21)		
(j) Planning interventions (para. 22)		
(k) Monitoring and evaluation (para. 23)		
(l) Assessing the links between local crime problems and transnational organized crime (paras. 13, 27 and 31)		
(m) Of the areas identified, is there a priority? If so, please identify.		

V. Concluding questions

27. What are some of the main lessons your country has derived from national experience in implementing crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes?

Please describe.

28. What are the main challenges in your country for delivering effective crime prevention?

Please describe.
