



UNODC City

SAFETY GOVERNANCE APPROACH IN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS FOR SAFE, INCLUSIVE AND RESILIENT CITIES

CHALLENGE

Urbanisation is closely linked with increases in economic and social development. Yet, alongside the growth and advancement taking place, cities across the globe are undermined by chronic insecurity, violence and corruption, including those resulting from challenges originating beyond urban or national boundaries. The security challenges of individual cities are increasingly a result of the intersection of individual vulnerabilities, local risks and illicit flows from across national borders.

UNODC RESPONSE & MANDATE

UNODC, in close coordination with UN partners and other actors, is well placed to assist Member States to diagnose priority areas of concern and develop evidence-based interventions to improve urban safety and governance. UNODC has strong experience in preventing and responding to substance abuse, juvenile delinquency, gender-based violence, violence against children, and promoting education for justice and peace. The Office understands the value in engaging with local stakeholders, alongside national actors, and empowering them with relevant tools and services as part of this process. Building inclusive societies lies at the heart of UNODC's work at the urban level.

PILOT ASSESSMENTS

UNODC is currently implementing pilot Urban Safety Governance Assessments in Iztapalapa, Mexico City (Mexico), in Mathare, Nairobi (Kenya) and Tashkent (Uzbekistan).

URBAN SAFETY GOVERNANCE APPROACH

UNODC's Safety Governance Approach aims to make urban environments safe, inclusive and resilient by addressing the multi-causal factors of violence, crime and insecurity. The approach ensures that strategies, policies, and programmes are tailored to meet grassroots needs and take account of the interface between global crime threats and local vulnerabilities. In addition to strengthening the role of cities in dealing with crime and violence, it also emphasizes on building resilience of communities by addressing structural issues such as corruption and lack of transparency, and in providing a space free of drug use, terrorism and organised crime. Through this approach, UNODC is assisting Member States to move towards more holistic, integrated strategies and interventions that offer a wider range of responses, and recognize the need to act locally in addition to deploying efforts at the national or international level.

OBJECTIVES

1. Identification of local challenges and priority areas of intervention through the use of a dedicated Urban Safety Governance Assessment;
2. Strategy and policy development with a view to better plan and coordinate efforts to reduce violence, crime, corruption, terrorism, illicit flows, the demand for drugs, and improve well-being and resilience of the community;
3. Enhanced capacity of officials and institutions at the local and national level and;
4. Greater coordination and partnerships, particularly between local and national authorities, and between government agencies and non-state stakeholders at both the local and national level.



SDGs

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable recognises that reducing conflict, crime, violence, discrimination, and ensuring the rule of law, inclusion, and good governance are key elements of people's well-being and essential for securing sustainable development (Goals 11, 3, 4, 5, 16, 17).

DONORS

The pilot Urban Safety Governance Assessments are being implemented through support from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).