CITIZEN SECURITY

What does UNDP do for Citizen Security
in Latin America and the Caribbean?

United Nations Development Programme

UNDP

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

"It's easier to buy a firearm than to buy bread, because if you want bread at 7pm, the store is closed."

Kevin (fictional name), 16 years old, Zone 18,
Guatemala City, Guatemala

CONTENT

THE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Citizen insecurity is the cause and consequence of development problems confronting Latin America and the Caribbean. Despite its economic growth, the region continues to be the most unequal on the planet, as well as being one of the most violent.

According to the *Human Development Report for Latin America 2013-2014: Citizen Security with a Human Face,* Latin America is the only region in the world where lethal violence increased between 2000 and 2010, and its citizens identified crime and violence as their main concern.

Violence and fear limit people's opportunities and are obstacles to human development, the exercise of human rights, and the strengthening of democratic governance. For that reason, citizen security should not be seen exclusively as a reduction of delinquency rates, but as a result of policy that comes from an integral, sustainable, participatory, and multidisciplinary strategy. This strategy should include elements for the improvement of the quality of life of the population; community action for crime prevention; accessible, agile, and effective justice; and education based on values, respect of the law and respect for human rights.

MEXICO
15%

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
21,5%

EL SALVADOR
16%

HONDURAS
15%

VENEZUELA
16%

COLOMBIA
16%

ECUADOR
16%

PERU
16%

BOLIVIA
16%

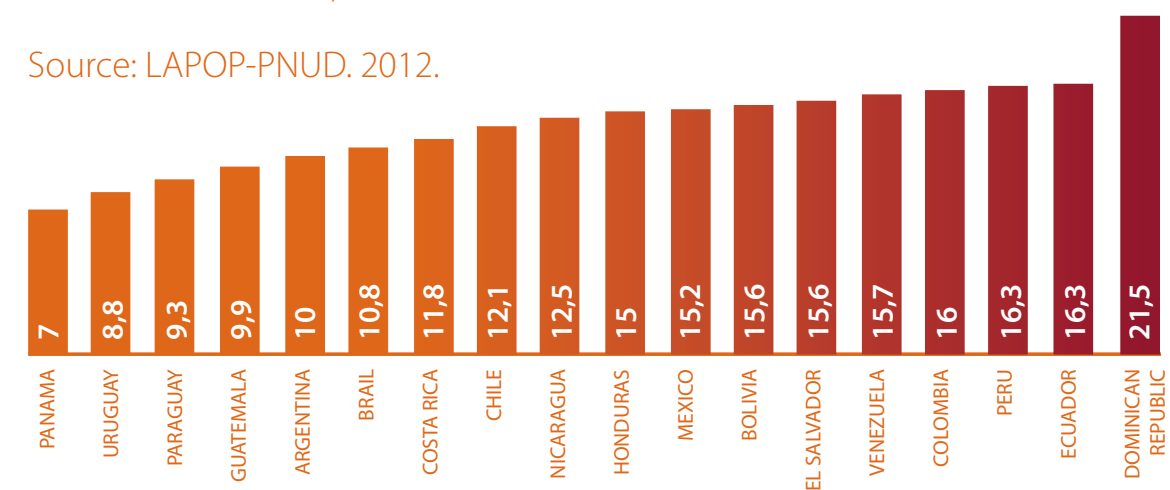## UNDP's approach to citizen security

The United Nations Development Programme takes into account that, in addition to the reduction of crime indicators, efforts should focus on *creating living conditions that anticipate in a proactive way the commission of violent or criminal acts.* Protecting the life of the entire population, as well as safeguarding their integrity and patrimony, are fundamental elements so that people can live and develop free from fear, risks, and threats.

It is important to stress that there is not one "violence," but rather different types of violence that affect people in different ways and therefore *the focus should be specific to each situation.* For more than 20 years, UNDP has developed projects and activities in citizen security in 19 countries in the region with an integral and multidisciplinary approach.

Percentage of people that have felt the need to change neighborhoods due to fear of crime. Latin America, 2012.

Source: LAPOP-PNUD. 2012.

PANAMA	URUGUAY	PARAGUAY	GUATEMALA	ARGENTINA	BRAIL	COSTA RICA	CHILE	NICARAGUA	HONDURAS	MEXICO	BOLIVIA	EL SALVADOR	VENEZUELA	COLOMBIA	PERU	ECUADOR	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
7	8,8	9,3	9,9	10	10,8	11,8	12,1	12,5	15	15,2	15,6	15,6	15,7	16	16,3	16,3	21,5
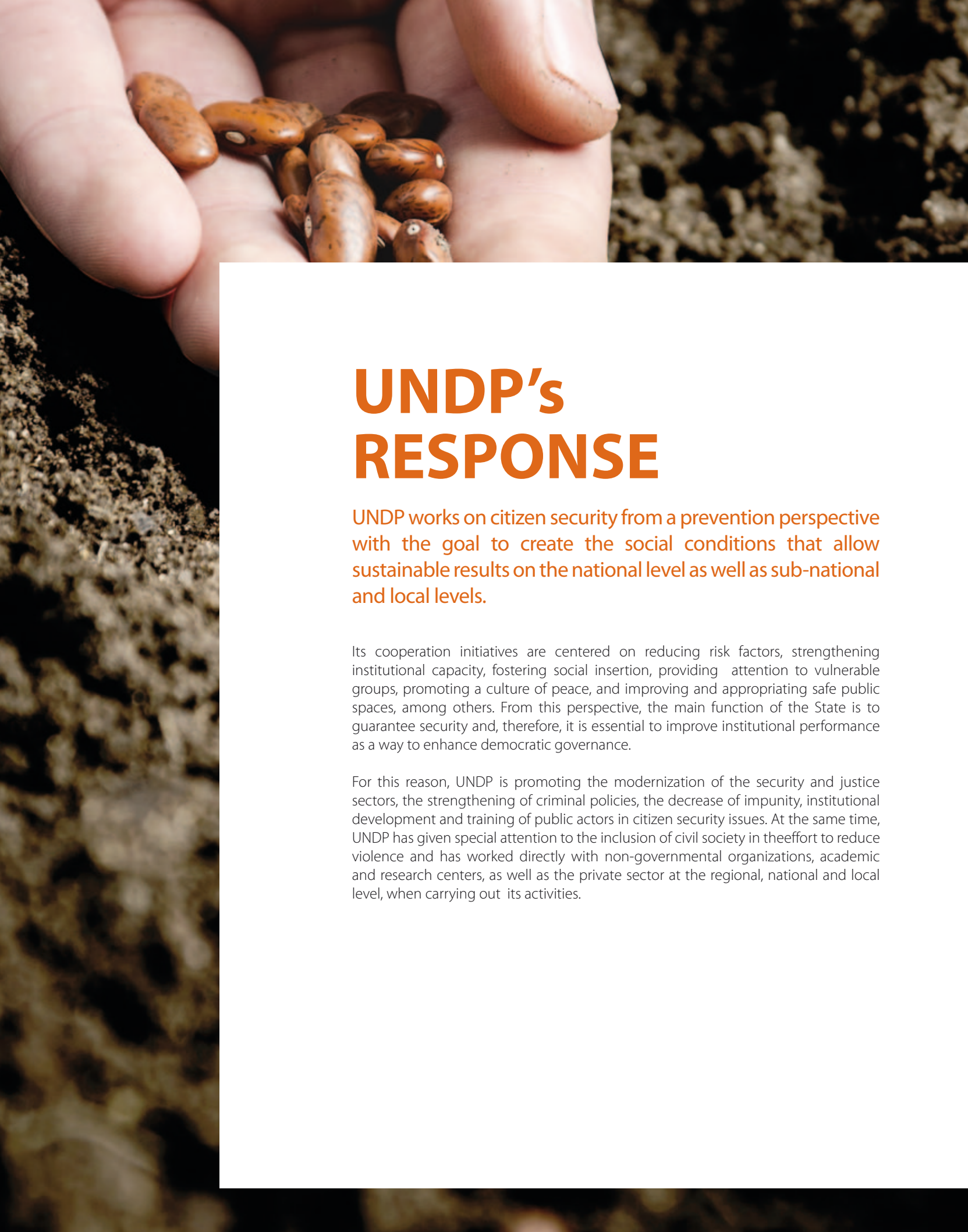
UNDP's RESPONSE

UNDP works on citizen security from a prevention perspective with the goal to create the social conditions that allow sustainable results on the national level as well as sub-national and local levels.

Its cooperation initiatives are centered on reducing risk factors, strengthening institutional capacity, fostering social insertion, providing attention to vulnerable groups, promoting a culture of peace, and improving and appropriating safe public spaces, among others. From this perspective, the main function of the State is to guarantee security and, therefore, it is essential to improve institutional performance as a way to enhance democratic governance.

For this reason, UNDP is promoting the modernization of the security and justice sectors, the strengthening of criminal policies, the decrease of impunity, institutional development and training of public actors in citizen security issues. At the same time, UNDP has given special attention to the inclusion of civil society in theeffort to reduce violence and has worked directly with non-governmental organizations, academic and research centers, as well as the private sector at the regional, national and local level, when carrying out its activities.

Our work

1 Development and strengthening of National Public Policies on citizen security, with the use of tools specifically developed to support countries in these processes; encouraging the exchange of good practices and the implementation of participatory methodologies to work from the design and validation to the implementation and evaluation of these policies.

2 Promotion of local management of citizen security, through the joint effort of the municipalities and the local population, for the development of situational and institutional diagnostics, as well as integral plans of coexistence and citizen security. For these two processes, consultative and participatory methodologies between government and society are available, which fosters the sustainability of efforts.

3 Improvement of information management to support decision-making and provide advice for the design of public policies and programs, based on timely, useful, and trust-worthy information. This can be achieved by the creation or strengthening of the local and national Violence Observatories, victimization and perception surveys, or thematic reports to identify the causes of insecurity, thereby improving response capacity through social prevention of violence and crime and the reduction of risk factors.

4 Modernization of security and justice sectors. There are many challenges that the institutions from the security and justice sectors in the region are facing and for that reason UNDP is working in diverse areas to improve the performance of these institutions. These efforts include: training of security professionals (through police academies, judge and prosecutor schools, and more), improvingthe management of courts and tribunals, and strengthening criminal investigation and forensics analysis institutions, among others.

5 Prevention of armed violence and improvement of arms and ammunition control with the goal of reducing and preventing violence in a region where more than 78% of homicides are committed with firearms. UNDP is working on the revision and adjustment of legal frameworks; registration systems and mechanisms to manage the commerce information, possession, and transportation of arms; improvement of security conditions for the storage of guns and ammunition; campaigns for the voluntary handover of arms; the implementation of arms prohibition program with local-national coordination; and gun violence prevention initiatives.

In addition, UNDP has complemented all of these action strategies with the following:

1. Planning, monitoring, and evaluation mechanisms to guarantee the maximum impact of its work;

2. The implementation of a gender sensitive approach, not just in the efforts to fight violence against women and gender violence in the region, but also regarding all the initiatives and actions insecurity;

3. The promotion and respect of human rights as a way to guarantee effective and non-exclusive security strategies to all citizens.

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What does UNDP do for Citizen Security
in Latin America and the Caribbean?

Approval of law for disarmament and arms and ammunition control in Venezuela

Human Development Report for Latin America 2013-2014

UNDP HAS IDENTIFIED ARMS AND AMMUNITION CONTROL AS A KEY AREA TO WORK IN VENEZUELA

Within the "Great Mission to All Life-Venezuela," which includes diverse governmental initiatives involving citizen security, UNDP has identified the area of arms and ammunition control as an important subject to address in the whole country. UNDP has offered technical assistance in the following ways:

1. Revising various relevant documents, including diverse law proposals;
2. Supporting and facilitating Presidential Commission meetings on Arms and Ammunition Control and Disarmament;
3. Organizing an exchange of experiences between Venezuela and Brazil;
4. Carrying out a training course about the chains of custody;
5. Lending support to the National Assembly in the subject of gun and ammunition control.

An important result of this work has been UNDP's contribution to the unanimous approval of the "Disarmament and Arms and Ammunition Control Law" at the National Assembly in June 2013.

In addition, with the approval of the law, the Presidential Commission for Arms and Ammunition Control and Disarmament has begun to apply some of the recommendations formulated by UNDP in the area of arms control, such as: the marking of arms and ammunitions, especially those used by security forces, a moratorium on the importation of arms and the restriction of bearing arms in public spaces (such as public transportation, parks, etc.).

The Human Development Report for Latin America 2013-2014, "Citizen Security with a Human Face: Evidence and Proposals for Latin America" drafted by UNDP, was launched in November 2013. Its main objective is to present a systematic analysis about citizen security in 18 countries of the region (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela) and to offer joint recommendations directed at decision-makers, actors in civil society, and the international community.

This report proves that citizen insecurity is a challenge shared by all countries of the region, but it is a challenge that can be addressed through public policies that are democratic, inclusive and respectful of human rights.

The Human Development Report (HDR) has counted with the participation of more than 20 authorities in its Advising Council, including former presidents, ministers, senators, and current leaders in the main multilateral organizations in the region. The study concluded that crime control measures were not sufficient, and that for a lasting and sustainable reduction of insecurity in the region, integral policies are necessary oriented at: the improvement of the quality of life of the population; crime and violence prevention with inclusive growth; effective security and justice institutions and measures to stimulate social coexistence. The document includes a map of violence of the region and specific recommendations about how to improve citizen security on multiple levels.

CITIZEN INSECURITY CAN BE ADDRESSED THROUGH PUBLIC POLICIES THAT ARE DEMOCRATIC, INCLUSIVE AND RESPECTFUL OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Changes in criminal investigation procedures in Guatemala: Extortions in Guatemala

DURING 2012, FOR EXAMPLE, A 36% DECREASE IN THE ACCUSATIONS COULD BE SEEN, EVEN THOUGH IT IS STILL NECESSARY TO IMPROVE THE POSITIVE SOLUTIONS (ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS AND SENTENCES)
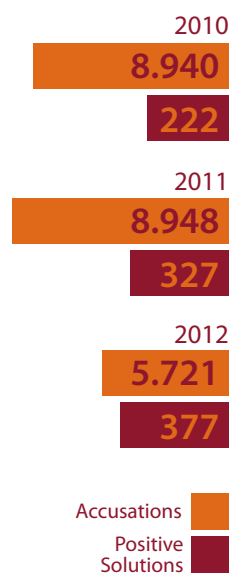
Extortion is one of the emerging crimes in the region, with a high registered index of victimization, especially in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras as a crime that is often attributed to gangs, although it also exists among other types of organized crime.

In terms of the victim profile, the information shows that it affects sectors such as public transportation, goods distributors, small merchants, and the population in general.

The expansion of extortion has been possible due to lack of registries in the opening of a telephone line and lack of necessary controls to limit the entrance and functioning of cell phones in prisons.

The approach to this criminal phenomenon requires the definition, implementation, and coordination of public policies of prevention, dissuasion, and persecution. For example, since 2010, UNDP and the Public Ministry of Guatemala have supported the process for the design of a penal persecution strategy oriented at dissembling the

criminal organizations dedicated to violent deaths and extortion, changing the tradition of case-by-case penal prosecution. The result of this strategy contributed to the detention and conviction of some of the heads and members of organizations dedicated to killings and extortions.

In 2013, an analysis to approach the phenomenon of extortion from the perspective of attention to victims was initiated. The strategy consisted in combining persecution efforts in the criminal investigation with those of protection and police advisory. The new plan, incorporated in a first phase in the department of Guatemala, where 60% of the extortions are concentrated, was initiated with the direct reception of accusations through a specific extortion persecution unit, which includes psychological attention to the victim as well as the definition of police security measures when pertinent.

2010
8.940
222

2011
8.948
327

2012
5.721
377

Accusations

Positive Solutions

Our tools

UNDP works with global partners, such as the World Bank, the European Union and several international cooperation agencies, as well as regional actors, such as: the Central American Integration System, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Central American Economic Integration Bank or the Organization of American States, among others. However, the main interlocutor in the issue of citizen security are the national governments through the ministries -whether security, justice or interior- or prosecutors, attorneys, and municipalities. Normally, UNDP works at the request of the national actors through the several Country Offices that the organization has in the region.

To address the necessities that have been established by the demand and to implement its strategies in a constantly changing environment, UNDP has developed the following tools to respond quickly to the requests:

1 Guide for Citizen Security Public Policies, a systematization of UNDP's knowledge in which the diverse tools, experiences, and lessons learned of the organization are shown through the public policy cycle.

2 Guides for the local management of citizen security and coexistence, a collection of 7 tools that range from agenda-setting to the follow-up and evaluation of the local security plans, passing through the development of diagnostic mechanisms such as the violence observatories, the design and implementation of the plans, and the formation of diverse actors that should participate in each phase of the cycle, including citizen participation.

3 Regional Human Development Reports (HDR) on Citizen Security: up to the present, two HDRs focused on sub-regional citizen security issues have been prepared (the Central American HDR 2009-2010 and the Caribbean HDR 2012) and one regional report for Latin America, launched in November 2013 (2013-2014 Latin America HDR "Citizen Security with a Human Face").

4 UNDP has developed a broad Citizen Security Academic Program (with possibilities of virtual and in-person formations) that has trained more than 4,000 people. The courses include: 1) Citizen Security Public Policies; 2) Local Management of Citizen Security; 3) High Police Management of Citizen Security; 4) Journalism and Citizen Security; 5) Gender and Citizen Security; 6) Human Development and Citizen Security and 7) Information Management and Violence Observatories.

5 There is also an International Expert Network with the association of more than 30 specialists in the region with expertise in the different sub-topics of citizen security who are available to support specific and immediate demands.

6 The development of Technical Cooperation and Societies Agreements, signed by UNDP and other institutions, regional platforms or think tanks that work on the subject of citizen security in Latin America, adding specific experiences to its contribution, for example: the Citizen Peace Foundation (Chile), the United Nations Inter-regional Institute of Crime and Justice Research (UNICRI), the CISALVA Institute, the National Nicaraguan Police, and others.

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What does UNDP do for Citizen Security
in Latin America and the Caribbean?

Knowledge exchange promotion in the region

The majority of the countries in the region have experienced significant and successful actions to strengthen citizen security. For this reason, UNDP supports the systematization and documentation of the knowledge acquired on the national, regional, and global levels to share successful experiences in the area. The following are some of the exchange initiatives supported by UNDP in 2013:

Cooperation in police training between the National Nicaraguan Police, one of the best police institutions in the region for its preventive and communitarian approach, and police forces from El Salvador, Bolivia, and other countries in the region. UNDP supported the development of the South-South cooperation strategy of the National Nicaraguan Police, as well as the trainings of police experts, allowing them to support their counterparts in the region and in countries in other contexts.

Thanks to the support of UNDP, Venezuela has benefited from the experience of Brazil in **gun control policies** (including the transfer of technology to mark guns and

ammunition), and El Salvador, a country with important experience in gun and ammunition information management, as well as the implementation of firearms prohibition.

Support in the development of local security plans for Panama using the experience of Brazil, with guided visits to other countries in Central America, like El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua, which supported the development of local diagnostics and local plans in citizen security.

Support to Latin America and Africa in the **drafting of standardized victimization surveys.**

Fostering of experience exchanges between Guatemala and Nepal in the areas of **transitional justice, reconciliation, peace building and coexistence.**

UNDP SUPPORTS THE SISTEMATIZATION AND DOCUMENTATION OF THE KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED ON THE GLOBAL LEVEL TO SHARE SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCES ON CITIZEN SECURITY

Support the Central America security strategy of SICA

UNDP has provided support to the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System (SICA) since 2009 through the "Security Project in Central America" with the funding of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, focused mainly on the strengthening both the General Secretari at of SICA as well as the overall regional institutional framework in security matters, to address violence prevention. A noteworthy effort was the incorporation of gender mainstreaming of as a fundamental axis and priority of the Security Strategy of Central America (known as ESCA for its Spanish acronym).

ESCA was updated by Central American countries in 2011 in an effort to give maximum priority to the security on the regional agenda of SICA. However, this regional initiative did not include a results framework nor indicators, which made the implementation and follow-up of this effort (already complicated due to the number of linkages among institutions, national and social actors of the 7 countries that signed the project) inoperable.

In 2012, UNDP supported a process to develop the results indicators of ESCA, extracting from the content of official documents, the main prioritized changes for the definition of the indicators framework. ESCA now has a base of 13 impact indicators and 32 outcome indicators, linked in turn to the objectives and indicators of the regional ESCA projects.

This effort of to re-build the results-chain of ESCA has provided the SICA countries with a common framework of indicators to monitor and on which to jointly collaborate to be able to achieve them. It will serve not only as a base to follow-up on the contribution and fulfillment of ESCA, but also as a process of periodic generation of key indicators about the security situation in the sub-region, an input of great value for decision-makers in the regional scenario.

Strengthening of local management of citizen security in Brazil

Through a joint program, "Security with Citizenship: Preventing Violence and Strengthening Citizenship, with a Focus on Children, Adolescents, and Youth in Vulnerable Conditions in Brazilian Communities," with funding from the Spanish Fund for the Millennium Goals and the support of PRONASCI/Ministry of Justice of Brazil, UNDP has worked on local management of citizen security in three Brazilian municipalities: Lauro de Freitas (BA), Contagem (MG) and Vitória (ES). In each one of the municipalities, extensive work has been carried out to strengthen the capacities of the local institutions in the areas of violence prevention and attention. Technical diagnostics were drafted for each municipality, followed by integral plans of citizen security and coexistence, designed in a participatory form with the institutions and community. This initiative contributed to homicide reductions of up to 50% in some of the communities targeted by the program.

At the end of the program, UNDP systematized the methodology used in each municipality, as well as the courses, materials, communication and follow-up strategies, which resulted in the creation of a package of seven practice guides to facilitate citizen security management in other municipalities.

12
13

HONDURAS

Development of a National Policy on Citizen Security and Coexistence
Expansion of the "Safer Municipalities" Program

BELIZE

Access to justice for youth at risk

HAITI

Strengthening of the capacities of the Justice System on a national level
Support to the reconstruction of National Police premises
Development of a Violence and Security National Observatory

MEXICO

Development of community security plans with youth leadership in border municipalities

DOMINICANA REPUBLIC

Creation of a National Security Observatory
Support the reform of the Organic Law of the National Police with government representatives
Support to the Citizen Security National Policy

GUATEMALA

Transitional Justice Program with components of truth, justice, reparations and non-repetition
Support of criminal investigation and justice administration issues
Technical support to the design of the Citizen Security Information Management National Unit

JAMAICA

Support to the Commission of Inquiry for police abuse

NICARAGUA

Development of the South-South Cooperation Strategy of the National Nicaraguan Police
Firearms Control Project

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Community actions for crime prevention
Institutional strengthening of the National Police and trainings on information management

EL SALVADOR

Labor and Educational Insertion of Youth Program in framework of the gang truce
Support of local management of citizen security and arms and ammunition control activities

VENEZUELA

Elaboration of the Citizen Security Initiation Plan
Law for the Control of Firearms, Ammunition and Disarmament

COSTA RICA

Support to the design and implementation of the Integral and Sustainable National Policy on Citizen Security and the Promotion of Peace (POLSEPAZ)

PANAMA

Development of local citizen security plans
Support to the Violence Observatory of the Chamber of Commerce
Citizen security academic programs with public actors and civil society

ECUADOR

Support to the elaboration of a citizen security national monograph as a follow-up to the regional HDR

COLOMBIA

Support to the Victims Law and the National Commission of Reparation and Reconciliation
Support to local management of citizen security and coexistence

PERU

Crime reduction programs for vulnerable communities with educational and professional training

BOLIVIA

Support to the new National Police Law
Training of the National Police command with the course "High Police Management and Citizen Security," implemented jointly with the National Police Academy.

BRAZIL

Technical support to the National Truth Commission
Support to the National Victimization Survey
Support to the elaboration of diagnostics and municipal plans for the management of citizen security
Training of public actors and civil society in:
1. Citizen security and coexistence
2. Information management and violence observatories

URUGUAY

Support to the National Human Development Report that addresses citizen security issues

Most outstanding elements of the portfolio