Strategic framework for the prevention of violence

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE

CONTENT

FOREWORD

The Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence has been prepared by the Sub-commission on Violence Prevention of the Central American Security Commission (CSC), approved in its 53rd Regular Meeting held on May 22nd 2014, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

The guidelines for developing the Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence were issued by the Central American Security Commission (CSC) with the purpose of keeping "issues related to the prevention of violence in general within the context of the decisions of the Security Commission, and coordinate them with other sectors and bodies" (51st Regular Meeting, November 2013); and taking into account the two proposals (52nd Regular Meeting, March 2014) available to date: the proposal prepared in 2011 by the Central American Security project SICA-AECID-UNDP, at the request of the Technical Group for Social Prevention of Violence, and the proposal reworked in 2013 by a working group consisting of technical experts of the social, violence prevention and security sectors from SICA member countries.

Similarly, the Sub-commission on Violence Prevention adopted the recommendation and request of the Monitoring Committee of the Coordination, Evaluation and Monitoring Mechanism (MCES) of the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA), to build on 'the document prepared in 2011 and integrate relevant considerations from the social area' (February 2014).

Based on these guidelines and instructions, the Sub-commission on Violence of the CSC conducted four meetings between March and May 2014, for the purpose of preparing this document: March 24 (Santo Domingo), April 10 (audio conference), April 28-30 (San Salvador) and May 19 (Santo Domingo). The Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence was presented and adopted by the CSC in its 53rd Regular Meeting held on May 22, 2014.

This session of the Sub-commission on Violence of the CSC was coordinated by the SICA Presidency Pro Tempore of the Dominican Republic. The Democratic Security Directorate of the General Secretariat of SICA provided technical assistance for this effort through its Violence Prevention Coordinator.

OVERVIEW

The signing of the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America in 1995 marked a major shift in the way security in Central America was conceived and addressed. The fundamental change was to overcome the traditional approaches to security through the establishment of the innovative model of democratic security. The Framework Treaty, establishing the Democratic Security model, builds on the implementation of the objectives set by the Protocol of Tegucigalpa (1991), which reforms the Organization of Central American States (OCAS) and creates the Central American Integration System (SICA).

The core components of the Democratic Security model are: the rule of law, the respect for human rights, a non-partisan nature of security, the separation of security from national defense functions and the adoption of a comprehensive approach to the causes of insecurity. From this perspective, it is understood that security is closely related to the strengthening of democracy and socio-economic development of countries in the region. This new model of Democratic Security also involves a holistic approach to security, which addresses both the security of States and the security of people, and integrates complementary approaches such as Human Security and Cooperative Security at a regional level.

To implement the principles of this model, SICA member countries have designed the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA), adopted at the 21st Annual Meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the Member Countries of the Central American Integration System (SICA), on December 12, 2007 (Guatemala). The relaunch of the integration of Central America was defined at the Special Meeting of Heads of State and Government of SICA member countries on July 20, 2010 (San Salvador). In that context, it was agreed to give a new impetus to an update of the ESCA in order to face new security challenges in the region. The revised and updated version of the ESCA was approved in June 2011.

The ESCA comprises four strategic components:

1. Combating crime

2. Violence prevention

3. Rehabilitation, reintegration and penitentiary security

4. Institutional strengthening: coordination and monitoring of the regional strategy

These four components are articulated to form a compact strategy to reduce insecurity in the region. In this context, the prevention of violence and crime is understood as a key part of this strategy, in accordance with the spirit and text of the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security.

1 | REGULATORY, PROGRAMMATIC AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

1. Regulatory and Programmatic Framework

In its first Whereas clause, the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America establishes the objective of consolidating the Central American isthmus as a region of peace, democracy and development. In doing so, it reflects the high aims contained in the will for regional integration as expressed in the Tegucigalpa Protocol: "The fundamental objective of the Central American Integration System is to bring about the integration of Central America as a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development" (Article 3). Such are the fundamental bases of the regulatory framework guiding violence prevention action at the regional level.

By reaffirming the goals of the Tegucigalpa Protocol, the Treaty clearly sets forth its perspective and considers: "That the countries of Central America have reaffirmed their commitment to democracy, based on a government of laws and the guarantee of basic freedoms, economic freedom, social justice, and the strengthening of a community of democratic values among the countries, which are joined together by ties of history, geography, brotherhood and cooperation" (Whereas clauses). From that perspective, it raises a new comprehensive Democratic Security Model "based on the supremacy and strengthening of civil power, the reasonable balance of forces, the security of persons and of their property, the elimination of poverty and extreme poverty, the promotion of sustainable development…" (Whereas clauses). Consistent with this, the substantive titles of the Treaty make reference to: i) the rule of law, II) the security of persons and their property, III) regional security, and IV) organization and institutionalization.

While the virtuous relationship between peace, democracy and development established by the spirit of the Framework Treaty remains absolutely valid, insecurity factors have changed over time. Therefore, it was necessary for SICA to take new regulatory steps, as reflected in the Declaration on Security, issued by the Heads of State and Government of member countries of the SICA, at the Special Meeting held on October 3, 2006 (Bosques de Zambrano, Honduras), "to define, support and adopt mechanisms that assure the execution of an integrated security strategy in the member countries of the System of Central American Integration, in conformity with the Tegucigalpa Protocol and in accordance with the Model of Democratic Security in Central America."

Following that determination, SICA member countries drafted the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA), adopted at the 31st Annual Meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the Member Countries of the Central American Integration System (SICA), on December 12, 2007 (Guatemala). Given the dynamic nature of reality, with new emerging regional security challenges, strategies require continuous review and adaptation. For this reason, at the Extraordinary Meeting of Heads of State and Government for the relaunch of the integration of Central America, held in San Salvador on July 20, 2010, countries agreed to foster an update of the Central American Security Strategy. The revised and updated version of the ESCA approved in June 2011, comprises four Strategic Components.

A	Combat against crime
B	Violence prevention
C	Rehabilitation, reintegration and penitentiary security
D	Institutional strengthening: coordination and monitoring of the regional strategy

It thus includes a Violence Prevention component, which is broken down into the following lines of action:

1	Youth violence prevention
2	Armed violence prevention
3	Gender-based violence prevention
4	Prevention of migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons
5	Drug use prevention
6	Prevention at the local level
7	Regional security and climate change

The objective of the Component is to "Develop policies, programs, strategies and actions to prevent the following issues: youth violence, domestic violence, armed violence, human trafficking, local management of security, and the effects of natural disasters especially those linked to Climate Change."

Therefore, the regulatory and programmatic framework for the prevention of violence in the region is established on the principles and criteria stemming from the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America, which conceptually nourishes the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA) and its Violence Prevention component. This normative inter-linkage enables the orientation of specific prevention actions based on the principles of the Democratic Security Model established in the Treaty Framework.

2. Institutional Framework

As established in the Framework Treaty, the decision-making bodies of the Democratic Security Model in Central America are: 1) the Meeting of Presidents; 2) the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs; and 3) the Security Commission of Central America. While the Meeting of Presidents and the Council of Ministers are concerned with decision-making and overall coordination, the Security Commission is specifically dedicated to security issues.

- **Meeting of Presidents of Central America.** It is the supreme authority of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Central American security model. It is responsible for following-up regional security issues at the highest level which require their decisions and guidelines, in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol of Tegucigalpa.
- **Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.** It is SICA's main coordinating body in all areas and with regard to regional and international security. The other Sectoral and Inter-sectoral Councils of Ministers must submit their proposals to the Meeting of Presidents through the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.
- **Central American Security Commission.** It is the body responsible for the execution, evaluation and follow-up of proposals, agreements and resolutions on all matters concerning regional and international security. It is subordinated to the Meeting of Presidents and is composed of Vice Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Vice Ministers of Public Security and/or Governance or the responsible officials in the areas of Defense and Public Security and/or Government/Interior and the Vice Ministers of National Defense of each country.

Article 50 of the Framework Treaty defines the Central American Security Commission as "a subsidiary body for execution, coordination, evaluation and follow-up, and for drafting proposals and early warning recommendations, and where appropriate, taking prompt action, and is subordinated to the Meeting of Presidents and to the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs". This, together with the powers conferred by Article 52, clearly establishes that the Central American Security Commission has an operational and coordination profile and is not a governing or decision-making entity, unlike the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

As provided in the Treaty, it executes, coordinates, evaluates, drafts proposals on security matters, and is "subordinate to the Meeting of Presidents and the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs" (Art. 50). It is composed of Vice Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Vice Ministers or the responsible officials in the areas of Defense and Public Security and/or Government. The General Secretariat of the Central American System provides technical and administrative secretariat services at meetings of the Security Commission.

The institutional development of this structure is primarily conducted through the Security Commission, which has formed several Sub-commissions: 1) The Sub-commission on Public Security, 2) the Sub-commission on Defense, 3) the Sub-commission on Legal Matters and 4) the Sub-commission on Violence Prevention. The latter was established by the agreement reached at the 49th Regular Meeting of the Security Commission, on April 25, 2013 (Costa Rica), based on the provisions of Article 53 of the Framework Treaty, which states that "For the better performance of its duties, the Security Commission may organize its work into sectoral Sub-commissions".

The precedent for the Sub-commission on the Prevention of Violence may be found in the Regional Commission for the Prevention of Youth Violence, established in the Meeting of Ministers of Security and Government held on August 28 2008, which created a Technical Group of the same name. In 2010, as part of the work to develop priority projects for implementation of the ESCA, the scope of work of this Commission is extended and becomes the Regional Commission for Social Prevention of Violence; its Technical Group participated and contributed to the work of the Central American Security Commission around the ESCA.

2 | **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

The strategic approach to violence prevention requires the selection of a perspective or methodology, which is related to the concepts and categories contained in the regional regulatory framework. The following are the main conceptual elements related to security and violence prevention.

1. Concept of Democratic Security

The concept of "Democratic Security" established by the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America includes regional security, national defense and public security. It argues that the true security and stability of a nation is based on democracy, the supremacy of civil power and the Rule of Law. It also indicates that security is only viable through freely elected governments by universal suffrage, guaranteeing political freedom, the legitimate aspiration to power and the non-partisan nature of security. Moreover, it claims functional and organizational separation of national defense and public security.

Based on this fundamental category of Democratic Security, security issues are not an isolated or rigid matter, as the establishment of peace is closely related to the strengthening of democracy and sustainable development. The virtuous relationship between these three elements —peace, democracy and development— implies that the absence of any of the three can place the continuity of the others at risk. There can be no peace without development, and no development without peace or democracy. Moreover, as seen in recent years, high levels of crime and violence are undermining the foundations of the strengthening of democracy and development.

Similarly, the reinforcement of each of these factors favors the other two. There is enough experience in the region that proves that enhanced security facilitates the strengthening of democracy and development, but it is important to note the effect that the improvement of any of the other elements of this virtuous triad has on security. At present, it is widely accepted that an increased quality of democracy is a basic support for improved security. However, the quality of democracy depends not only on the quality of its institutions, but also on the quality of citizenship. Recent evidence in the region shows that, in addition to strengthening democratic institutions, the creation of a citizenry capable of establishing itself as a right-holder, that is respectful of the rules of democracy, with a sound culture of legality, etc., is a critical factor for effective security.

On the other hand, the concept of Democratic Security is participatory and inclusive: it does not separate the security of people (or human security) from the security of States. In Title II on the security of persons and their property, the Framework associates itself with the concept of human security, which implies the protection of human life from a vast range of serious and foreseeable risks, which regularly result in economic, health, environmental, personal, community or political insecurity. However, as expressed in the Framework Treaty, Democratic Security does not consider the security of persons (human security) as opposed to the security of States: the concept of democratic security is characterized by the articulation of human security and shared security among the States in the region.

Therefore, this security model involves attention to the drivers of regional security, national defense and citizen security, as regional and State policy. In accordance with these criteria, citizen security can be defined as the universal protection against predatory or violent crime. It involves safeguarding certain options or opportunities for individuals against a particular type of risk: crime. Understood as a public good and an individual right, citizen security refers to a democratic order that reduces the threats of violence in the population, allowing for a safe and peaceful coexistence. It aims to effectively protect part of the spectrum of human rights, especially the right to life and personal integrity, as well as other inherent rights of the private sphere, such as the inviolability of the home, freedom of transit, the enjoyment of wealth, etc.

In terms of regional security, the concept of shared security among States in the region implies that the security of each State does not improve at the expense of the security of others, but, on the contrary, by increasing the security of all. As stated in the text of the Framework Treaty, 'no country shall strengthen its own security at the expense of the security of other countries' (Art. 26). This implies the abandonment of the threat or use of force, peaceful settlement of disputes and a set of confidence-building measures, embodied by the Democratic Security Model.

Although the concept of Democratic Security remains in full force today, regional insecurity factors have changed significantly. In today's Central America, insecurity is not primarily generated from domestic socio-political conflicts or disputes between States, but from the high levels of social violence and crime that plague the region, which also have been developed as a transnational phenomenon, which makes regional cooperation even more necessary to confront insecurityww

2. Concepts of violence and violence prevention

While the concept of violence is broad, it is possible to establish a reference definition. As reflected in the ESCA, two related phenomena affect security in the region: the commission of crime and the development of violence. For the purposes of prevention action, the concept of violence includes and goes beyond the issue of crime. While there are several theoretical approaches to the phenomenon of violence, ranging from the structural analysis of factors to the ecological perspective (which distinguishes personal, relational, community and societal levels), there is a consensus on the idea that violence prevention is a complex, multi-dimensional and multi-causal phenomenon, based on the fundamental definition of violence provided by the World Health Organization (WHO): "the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation"[1].

1- World Health Organization, 2002, http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/world_report/en/

Thus, according to ESCA, preventing violence is to "address the factors leading to violence in the region." More broadly in this context, Violence Prevention is understood as a set of actions to reduce the factors that lead to violence and crime in general, to prevent these from manifesting and to intervene when they have already occurred, while implementing proper rehabilitation and social reintegration. For public authorities, this set of actions should form a specific public policy coordinated with other security policies at local, national and regional levels, as well as with other sectors responsible for social and economic development, as provided by the Democratic Security Model established by the Framework Treaty of the System of Central American Integration (SICA) and the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA).

From this perspective, prevention actions may be classified from different dimensions or categories according to their characteristics, including:

- Moment the violent event is addressed
- Type of intervention
- Purpose of the preventive intervention
- Context in which intervention actions occur

The most common approach is the categorization by different moments of preventive action, which distinguishes primary, secondary and tertiary prevention:

- **Primary prevention** takes place before the violence or the criminal act has taken place, by educating and warning the public about the potential risks of such phenomena. Therefore, primary prevention is usually nonspecific and addresses the general public.
- **Secondary prevention** refers more specifically to the sectors most at risk of being perpetrators or victims of violence and crime. This level of prevention seeks to identify the factors and first events early on, to promote actions to prevent such events from becoming broader phenomena or even pandemics.

- **Tertiary prevention** refers to actions that are promoted once the violence and crime have started, trying to minimize the negative effects that would favor their reproduction. These actions emphasize rehabilitation and reintegration. Their primary scope covers people who have been perpetrators or victims of violence and crime.

There are other distinctions in terms of the type of intervention or the context in which they occur. Drawing on a typology used by the United Nations, they might include the following:

- **Community-based or local prevention**, refers to focusing on local areas where the risk of violence or crime is particularly high. Actions seek to change the conditions that favor the reproduction of violence through community and group agreements and commitments.
- **Situational prevention seeks** to reduce risk by reducing the opportunities to commit crimes and violence and the rewards of these acts, while increasing the costs of committing them. It also seeks to protect potential victims by providing them with information and assistance to prevent victimization.
- **Reintegration-oriented** prevention seeks to prevent the reproduction of violence and crime by recidivism, and emphasizes social reintegration programs and actions for those who have already committed violent or criminal acts.
- **Social prevention of violence or prevention through human development** is driven by the improvement of the social, economic, cultural conditions of societies or large population groups, so that the factors of human development are coordinated with assistance and information actions as well as with appropriate participation of citizens in improving security conditions.
- **Prevention of the violence affecting specific population groups,** for example: prevention of violence against women, prevention of violence affecting youth, school bullying, violence against children and adolescents, violence against the elderly, highly dependent people or people living with disabilities.

According to the circumstances, it may be advisable to consider the implementation of interventions that involve a combination of several of these types of prevention. A prevention policy implies the existence of a harmonized articulation of measures to reduce the underlying factors of violence and crime. This type of policy becomes a public policy when it becomes the responsibility of the legitimately established authorities, both at the national and regional level.

3 | VIOLENCE AND CRIME IN THE REGION

2- Commission of Heads and Directors of the Police of Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean and Colombia, Regional Yearbook of Police Statistics 2011-2012, San Salvador, 2013.

SICA member countries form the region with the highest rate of ordinary violence in the world. The gross indicator based on recorded homicides (without any military conflict) shows that 21,693 homicides were committed in the SICA region in 2011, which means a rate of 40 homicides per 100,000 population a year, a figure only reached by the Southern African region. Such levels of lethal violence refer to a set of types of violence and crime that seriously affect people living in the region[2].

This general picture of regional violence is related to a high amount of offenses against the integrity of individuals (assault, rape, kidnapping and trafficking) and property crimes (robbery, theft and fraud), although the distribution of both types of crime differs across countries.

Some activities are particularly relevant foci of violence: organized crime, drug trafficking and youth gangs or 'maras'. These three criminal niches have gradually acquired a transnational nature, especially in the Central American isthmus.

Along with these three main foci of violence, there are also specific types of violence that affect people because of their status (ethnicity, gender, age) and forms of social violence (corruption, environmental aggression) that contribute to the general insecurity affecting the region. In each country and at regional level, the particular composition of this group of violent events, together with their associated vectors (firearms, drug use, social exclusion, poverty, etc.) create a typological map that must be understood to respond more effectively to violence and crime in the region.

A breakdown by specific groups affected by this pattern of violence shows that this context of insecurity is primarily affecting the youth population and, in particular, young males. The weight of the young population in the gross homicide rate is the largest in the world: young people accounted for approximately 40% of all homicides in this region in 2009, compared to 16.1% in Africa, 12% in North America, 2.4% in Asia, 1.6% in Oceania and 1.2% in Europe. This is best evidenced when comparing specific homicide rates of young men with the rest of the population: young male rates are around twice the national rates, although in countries with high levels of violence (Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala) these rates can become three times the national rates. This serious situation is already visible in the population pyramids of the countries in the region. It is worth noting that the prevention of violence affecting youth targets not only youth age groups, but also previous age groups, i.e., children and adolescents of both sexes.

The cost of this volume of violence in the region is considerable. UN estimates indicate that crime in the SICA region consumes about 8% of regional GDP. This also implies the reduction of the population's life expectancy in the region, as well as a large number of resources that could be used to increase the economic and social development in SICA member countries[3].

3- UNDP. Human development report for Central America 2009-2010. Opening spaces to citizen security and human development, United Nations Program for Development.

Regarding this pattern of violence and crime, all surveys conducted in the countries in the region show that this problem is one of the main concerns of people or even the most pressing one.

4 | STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK GUIDELINES

1. Guiding principles

Broad impact	The Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence will translate into high-impact policies, programs, strategies and actions in SICA member countries.
Regional management	While genuinely reflecting the priorities of each country, regional action is encouraged.
Complementarity	Regional policies, programs, strategies and actions seeking the establishment of value-added synergies in the field of security at regional, national and local levels, including the articulation of sources of international cooperation and core resources available.
Co-responsibility	SICA member countries and, in particular, their governments, are primarily responsible for developing regional policies, programs, strategies and actions to prevent violence. This requires sharing responsibilities with the international community, particularly countries with better economies and, among these, those countries where the drugs that transit through or are produced in SICA member countries are consumed.
Additionality of resources	While SICA member countries invest in the prevention of violence and crime with their own resources, the region requires new and additional resources from the international community to develop the action lines of the Strategic Framework.
Adequacy	The Strategic Framework will be adapted to budgets and security indicators in each country, as well as other data such as population and territory.
Relevance	Policies, programs, strategies and actions must be holistic, aiming to strengthen and improve national and regional management capacities, taking into account the existing asymmetries between and within countries.
Temporality	Policies, programs, strategies and actions will be designed for the short, medium and long term.
Comprehensive approach	The prevention of violence must always be conceived as part of a more global security strategy, and not in a segmented manner. It is necessary to reach a balance between prevention and the fact that it is part of a larger set of interventions. This comprehensive approach, enshrined in the Democratic Security Model, must translate into concrete action.

2. Working Guidelines

As mentioned above, the Prevention of Violence in the framework of ESCA of the SICA aims to "address the factors leading to violence in the region". Because of its causes and effects, this violence is understood as a complex, multidimensional and multi-causal phenomenon. This means that overall picture of the causes of violence and crime should be addressed, to prevent them from manifesting and to intervene once they have occurred, with adequate rehabilitation and social reintegration.

The specific areas of action envisaged in the Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence are primarily based on the ESCA and, particularly, on the Prevention component this instrument. The set of actions to be implemented form a specific public policy to be implemented at the local, national and regional level in SICA member countries. This specific policy for the prevention of violence must be coordinated with other security policies (law enforcement; rehabilitation, reintegration and prison security; institutional strengthening) and with other security policies at the local, national and regional level, as well as with other sectors responsible for social and economic development, as provided by the Democratic Security Model of the Framework Treaty of the System of Central American Integration (SICA) and the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA).

Based on the above, eight (8) Working Guidelines are defined in the Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence, starting with a first Guideline that refers to the basic primary prevention to be performed on a general level, through social development, and guidelines for the specific priority areas defined in the ESCA Prevention component:

Guideline I	General prevention of violence through human development
Guideline II	Prevention of violence affecting children, adolescents and youth of both sexes
Guideline III	Prevention of armed violence
Guideline IV	Comprehensive care for victims of gender-based, family and domestic violence
Guideline V	Prevention of migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons
Guideline VI	Drug use prevention
Guideline VII	Prevention at the local level
Guideline VIII	Support for rehabilitation and reintegration

Thus, the Strategic Framework suggests the implementation of interventions that involve a combination of several types of violence prevention, based on the target population group (women, youth, adolescents, children), the use of weapons or drugs, or the territorial scope of intervention (communities, municipalities, borderlands), combining interventions at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels, with the participation of various actors (state institutions, local governments, aid agencies, NGOs and others).

Below are the Working Guidelines of the Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence, with their main objectives and strategies. The Guidelines are then summarized in a matrix that displays each guideline according to the primary, secondary or tertiary level of intervention, or specific intervention for institutional strengthening.

GUIDELINE I: GENERAL PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE THROUGH HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Refers to strategies to prevent the general risk factors of violence before it occurs (primary prevention of violence), through the improvement of the living conditions of the general population, in social, economic, cultural, recreational and sporting spheres. Interventions are channeled through educational, cultural and informational processes, with the active participation of people to improve the security conditions of the general population, which requires the combination of inter-sectoral and inter-agency efforts.

1 | PRIMARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Reduce primary general factors that favor a climate of violence in society as a whole, which involves the implementation of primary prevention strategies and actions towards human development in different areas.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Development of a culture of peace and peaceful coexistence that promotes peaceful resolution of conflicts, respect for the rules of coexistence, and eradicates the permissiveness of violence.	Articulation of violence prevention strategies in the security sector with social public policy and poverty reduction policy in countries and at regional level, in accordance with the strategic lines of social integration of the Council of Social Integration (CIS): reduction of social gaps, promotion of social inclusion, integrated labor market regulation, reform and strengthening of social subsystems in different dimensions.	Maintenance of political competit0ion within democratic and peaceful settings, both by parties, organizations and movements, as well as by political institutions.

STRATEGY IV	STRATEGY V	STRATEGY VI
Strengthening of citizen participation in strategies for the prevention of violence that seek to create citizenship and social cohesion, and considering the gender specificities of men and women.	Institutional support to families and households for the recovery of values, improvement of communication, peaceful conflict resolution, family and community life.	Promotion, support, design and organization of cultural, educational and sporting activities as well as the creation, recovery and improvement of public spaces that foster community social cohesion at the local, national and regional level.

2 | SECONDARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Strengthen the capacity of institutions responsible for violence prevention policies in each country and at the regional level, and promote their coordination and articulation with the institutions responsible for social and economic development, in order to create synergies for primary prevention in the multidimensional context of SICA.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Development and strengthening of comprehensive public policies on violence prevention by relevant institutions at the national and regional level.	Establishment of agreements between the bodies in charge of violence prevention policies and institutions responsible for social, economic and environmental matters, at the local, national and regional level. At the regional level, the main bodies are: the Central American Social Integration Council (CIS), the Council of Ministers of Health (COMISCA), Educational and Cultural Coordination (CECC), the Council of Women Ministers of Central America and the Dominican Republic (COMMCA), the Central American Agricultural Council (CAC), the Regional Centre for the Promotion of MSMEs, the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC), among others. The ESCA should be articulated with the policy instruments of these bodies.

STRATEGY III	STRATEGY IV	STRATEGY V
Development of information systems for the timely and relevant management of actions aimed at people at risk and violence-driven vulnerability.	Strengthening of institutional capacity through awareness, education and training strategies, by means of a training and professional development master plan on violence prevention, to build related capacity, especially aimed at public servants at the local, national and regional level.	Building partnerships with academia and the social research sector, to develop instruments to measure risk factors by target populations and mainstreaming the issues of violence and violence prevention in the curriculum.

STRATEGY VI	STRATEGY VII
Promotion of public-private partnerships for violence prevention at the local, national and regional level.	Implementation of a communication strategy to promote the prevention of violence in state institutions through networks that enable inter-institutional dissemination, interaction and linkages.

GUIDELINE II: PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AFFECTING CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES

These strategies seek to prevent violence in the primary, secondary and tertiary levels, aimed at preventing underage children and youth from becoming involved or affected by violent or antisocial behavior, or the recurrence of these situations. The social status and construction of the gender of children and young people should be a relevant issue in the design and implementation of strategies.

1 | PRIMARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Prevent children and young people of both sexes in SICA member countries from developing or becoming victims of violent or antisocial behavior.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Strengthening of protective factors and direct care from families, community organizations, education, health, recreation, employability, generating conditions and opportunities for social integration for children and youth.	Encouraging the organization and participation of children, adolescents and youth in the development of regional policies, programs, strategies and actions to prevent violence at the primary level.	Promotion of opportunities for interaction and coexistence to strengthen inter-generational relationships in the different environments.

STRATEGY IV	STRATEGY V
Strengthening of specific actions for the protection of the rights of children born in prison or lack of protection as a result of parental death or absence.	Development of comprehensive programs for the prevention of early pregnancies in girls and adolescents and protective measures against sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

2 | SECONDARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Prevent children, adolescents and youth of both sexes in the region, identified as at risk of becoming involved in crime, from engaging in violent or criminal activities.

STRATEGY I	
Reduction of all risk factors that promote the development of violent behavior in children, adolescents and youth of both sexes, with special emphasis on domestic violence, drug use, weapons proliferation, 'maras' or gangs, migration, human trafficking, sexual exploitation, school drop out, and the lack of: employment opportunities, co-responsibility in child and adolescent care and recreational spaces.	Promotion of alternatives to avoid the involvement of at-risk children, adolescents and youth in groups and organizations that promote violent or criminal actions. For example, models of coexistence in schools, good use of free time, cultural, artistic, recreational and sporting projects; training programs for income generation and entrepreneurship.

3 | TERTIARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Reduce the chances that adolescent and youth in prison and in conflict with the law become repeat offenders of violent and criminal activities.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Establishment of mechanisms to facilitate the rehabilitation and social reintegration of adolescents and youth deprived of liberty and in conflict with the law, respecting their human rights.	Promotion of measures and actions to redress the toll on victims of violence.

STRATEGY III	STRATEGY IV
Creation and strengthening of mechanisms for interruption and abandonment of violence among adolescents and youth directly or indirectly involved in 'maras' and gangs.	Creation of new lines of social research to advance knowledge of profiles, roles and gender characteristics of those involved in gangs and 'maras' for the development of strategies consistent with this phenomenon.

4 | INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

OBJETIVO ESTRATÉGICO

Develop the management capacity of institutions in the SICA region that are responsible for preventing violence in children, adolescents and youth at the primary, secondary and tertiary level.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Incorporación específica de programas para prevenir la violencia juvenil en las políticas públicas de prevención de la violencia.	Modernization of information management and knowledge production systems to include the age variable.

STRATEGY III	STRATEGY IV
Professionalization and specialized training of personnel in charge violence prevention in children, adolescents and youth.	Effective coordination of regional efforts by the institutions responsible for the prevention of violence against children and adolescents.

GUIDELINE III: PREVENTION OF ARMED VIOLENCE

According to the Secretariat of the Geneva Declaration (2006), armed violence is "the intentional use of illegitimate force (actual or threatened) with arms or explosives, against a person, group, community, or state, that undermines people-centered security and/or sustainable development". In turn, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) defines armed violence as the use of weapons to inflict injury, death or psychological damage that impede development. The Guideline for the Prevention of armed violence is linked to citizen security, i.e., the interventions to prevent and reduce the use of small arms and light weapons in the context of interpersonal situations and criminal violence.

1 | PRIMARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Discourage the possession, carrying and use of firearms and bladed weapons, and strengthen responsible use and related rules and regulations in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Implementation of information and awareness campaigns on the risks and impact of the possession, carrying and use of knives and firearms.	Capacity development in civil society, community organizations, the private sector, the media and other key stakeholders on the implementation of strategies for the prevention of violence with firearms.

STRATEGY III	STRATEGY IV
Strengthening the rules and regulations of the marketing and possession of firearms, ammunition and explosives.	Development of awareness campaigns for the elimination of toy arms, interactive games and others that promote violence.

2 | SECONDARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Reduce specific risk factors that generate violence with firearms or by stabbing, contribute to the reduction of the use and availability of firearms for the commission of crimes and strengthen effective interventions to this end in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Promotion of measures to reduce the use and carrying of industrial and non-industrial firearms: bans, voluntary handover or exchange of weapons for goods.	Implementation of complaint models about the trafficking and illegal transfer of firearms in border areas.

STRATEGY III	STRATEGY IV
Encouraging the dissemination and implementation of laws, agreements and plans for the control of possession and misuse of weapons, ammunition, explosives and related materials.	Generation of knowledge about the relationship of firearms with other types of violence —youth, domestic, gender-based, human trafficking, migration— that worsen social, health and economic conditions.

3 | TERTIARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Contribute to helping to prevent the reuse of firearms linked to crimes or unlawful acts and the destruction of these weapons; develop models of care for victims of firearms and their families.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Promotion of cross-sectoral initiatives for seizure and total destruction of firearms linked to the commission of crimes.	Development of models of care for victims of firearm violence.

4 | INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Create and/or strengthen local, national, regional and transboundary articulation mechanisms for firearms violence prevention in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY	STRATEGY	STRATEGY III
Capacity development of national and local governments on firearms violence prevention through the training of public officials and the exchange of experiences at the regional and international levels.	Implementation and strengthening of multidisciplinary national committees to articulate the strategic actions for firearms violence prevention.	Coordination of regional activities in this area with multidisciplinary national committees for arms control.

4- Signed by 100 countries to date: http://www.genevadeclaration.org/fileadmin/docs/GD-Declaration-091020-ES.pdf

5- http://www.genevadeclaration.org/measurability/global-burden-of-armed-violence.html

6- http://www.gsdrc.org/go/display&type=Document&id=3685

GUIDELINE IV: PREVENTION OF GENDER-BASED, FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

It seeks to promote strategies to eliminate gender-based violence, mainly perpetrated against women, but also the violence occurring within the family and domestic sphere against its most vulnerable members: women, children and the elderly of both sexes. This guideline includes prevention considerations as well as attention to victims who suffer this type of violence.

1 | PRIMARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Contribute to the elimination of gender-based, family and domestic violence, particularly violence against women, at the local, national and regional levels in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Ownership of international and regional instruments for the prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide in the adjacent border areas.	Development of experiences and initiatives for the comprehensive prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide.	Implementation of policies, programs, strategies and actions for the comprehensive prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide, at the local, national and regional level, as part of the instruments of SICA.
STRATEGY IV	STRATEGY V	STRATEGY VI
Development of policies and programs that promote equal rights and opportunities for women, to facilitate their access to economic resources and decision-making in public and private institutions.	Development and mainstreaming of gender equality and equity in academic curricula at all levels, including the construction of new masculinities.	Promotion of a culture of family and domestic relationships free of gender-based violence, including the construction of new masculinities.
STRATEGY VII	STRATEGY VIII	STRATEGY IX
Development of local, national and regional programs to integrate the prevention of violence against women in the workplace and recreational areas (also in the secondary and tertiary levels).	Creating and strengthening of public-private partnerships to support policies and programs to prevent gender-based, generational and ethnic-cultural violence (also in the secondary and tertiary levels).	Initiatives to promote responsible parenthood.

2 | SECONDARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Reduce the vulnerability of women against violence, trafficking and femicide, as well as that of victims of family and domestic violence in SICA member countries, at the local, national and regional level.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Improvement of mechanisms and support and protection for women at risk or victims of violence, trafficking and femicide, considering the life cycle and cultural characteristics, as well as the conditions of criminality.	Identification, documentation and sharing of best practices and lessons learned to assist victims of violence against women, family and domestic violence, considering the needs of women in terms of their ethnic and cultural diversity.
STRATEGY III	STRATEGY IV
Implementation of mechanisms and comprehensive care services to address family and domestic violence.	Accompaniment and comprehensive support to families at risk for the prevention of domestic and family violence, strengthening the recovery of values, communication, equity and equality.

3 | TERTIARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Assist people and families affected by gender-based, family and domestic violence.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Comprehensive care for victims of gender-based, family and domestic violence.	Development of comprehensive programs for women who are deprived of liberty and in conflict with the law, as well as their children and dependents.	Promotion of measures and actions for the psycho-emotional recovery and compensation for damages to victims of violence against women, as well as family and domestic violence.

STRATEGY IV	STRATEGY V
Comprehensive care and protection for victims of trafficking.	Develop the institutional capacity to assist the victims of gender-based, family and domestic violence in the context of gangs and 'maras'.

4 | INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Strengthen institutional capacities and inter-agency coordination mechanisms for the prevention and response to violence against women, trafficking and femicide and family and domestic violence in SICA member countries, at the regional, national and local levels.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Increase of the effectiveness of public policies, inter-agency coordination and articulation for the prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide and family and domestic violence.	Training of key institutional actors in the comprehensive prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide and prevention of family and domestic violence, with a human rights approach.	Design and implementation of tools, regulations and action plans to improve the security environment of individuals and families, with a gender, generational and multicultural perspective.

GUIDELINE V: PREVENTION OF MIGRANT SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

The aim is to develop strategies to broadly prevent violence related to migration processes, both when violence is the cause of migration, or when it occurs as a result of the criminal exploitation of migratory movements, especially for illegal migration. It also seeks to prevent human trafficking as the most serious offense in the context of the movement of people.

1 | PRIMARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Reduce undocumented and uninformed migration, and prevent and address the problem of trafficking in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Strengthening protective factors such as family, community organization, education, health and recreation to prevent illegal migration.	Development of national strategies to promote an informed and documented migration and awareness of the dangers of trafficking in persons.	Promote the documentation of people living in border areas.
STRATEGY IV	**STRATEGY V**	**STRATEGY VI**
Research, registration and systematization of information on the causes and effects of trafficking.	Identification of the causes and effects of internal and external migration of people due to violence in their territories.	Development of comprehensive programs to prevent population migration driven by violence in their home environment and local area.

STRATEGY VII	STRATEGY VIII
Development of comprehensive strategies to prevent trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.	Adoption and strengthening of measures to alleviate the factors that create vulnerability to trafficking.

2 | SECONDARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Provide appropriate care for people at risk of migration driven by violence and at risk of trafficking in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Provision of information to people at risk of migration driven by violence and at risk of trafficking in about care and complaint reporting locations at border posts.	Specialized training for people responsible for directly assisting the migrant population driven by violence and victims of human trafficking.	Technical and methodological strengthening of community, national and regional networks against human trafficking.

STRATEGY IV	STRATEGY V
Identification, organization and sharing of best practices for the prevention and assistance for the phenomenon of human trafficking.	Identification of vulnerable households as a result of the migration of key household members and development of support strategies.

3 | TERTIARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Provide appropriate support mechanisms for undocumented migrants and migrants driven by violence, as well as for the population victim of human trafficking in the SICA region.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Strengthening of networks of integrated care for undocumented migrants and migrants driven by violence, as well as victims of trafficking in persons.	Comprehensive support programs for	Public-private partnerships to develop entrepreneurship and employability programs to support deported people.
STRATEGY IV	**STRATEGY V**	**STRATEGY VI**
Creation and strengthening of efficient systems for searching, locating and rescuing trafficked persons.	Creation and strengthening of specialized care centers and models for victims of trafficking.	Development of assistance models and strategies for undocumented migrants and migrants driven by violence, in countries of origin and recipient countries.

4 | INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Develop the capacity of institutions to assist undocumented migrants and migrants driven by violence, and people at risk or victims of trafficking in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Development of comprehensive public policies to address the above mentioned population groups and corresponding inter-agency and inter-sectoral coordination at the national and regional level.	Review and updating of the rules of the countries to prevent and punish trafficking in persons, in line with relevant international instruments.	Development of information systems for the timely and appropriate management of persons at-risk and vulnerable to violence-driven migration and at risk or victims of trafficking at the national and regional level.

GUIDELINE VI: DRUG USE PREVENTION

Drug use and dependence are a public health problem that impacts development and security and, therefore, is a risk factor that needs to be addressed. This Guideline aims to prevent and avoid drug use in the SICA region, both because of its risks to health and its connections to criminal acts. The prevention of drug use is one of the factors that facilitate the prevention of drug trafficking, although the fight against this criminal activity is mainly addressed in the Law Enforcement component of the ESCA.

1 | PRIMARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Raise awareness about the dangers of drug use in the SICA member countries at the local, territorial, national and regional level.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Development of educational campaigns for the general population and for targeted groups about the causes and consequences of drug use.	Implementation of strategies and programs within and outside educational institutions for the prevention of drug use from early childhood, including mainstreaming the issue in school and college curricula.
STRATEGY III	**STRATEGY IV**
Creation and recovery of public spaces that promote the development of natural, cultural and recreation capacities, as alternatives for the prevention of drug use.	Development of community, social and educational alternatives to prevent drug use, aimed at the general public and particularly parents, guardians, educators and agents of change.

2 | SECONDARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Reduce specific risk factors that encourage drug use in SICA member countries, at the local, territorial, national and regional levels.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Implementation of comprehensive plans and programs at the community level for people at risk of drug use.	Understanding and deepening the knowledge of risk and protective factors for children, adolescents and youth at risk of drug use.
STRATEGY III	**STRATEGY IV**
Development of plans and programs on risk and protective factors for children, adolescents and youth at risk of drug use, involving families and the community setting.	Development of comprehensive plans and programs for children, adolescents and youth at high risk of drug use.

3 | TERTIARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Reduce the use, consumption or abuse of illicit drugs in the population in SICA member countries, at the local, territorial, national and regional level.

STRATEGY I		STRATEGY II
Strengthening and creation of comprehensive rehabilitation centers for people with addiction problems, including staff training for professionalization.		Development of comprehensive models for specialized care of people with addiction problems.
STRATEGY III	**STRATEGY IV**	**STRATEGY V**
Development of comprehensive models for specialized care of people with addiction problems.	Development of programs for social and work reintegration, and entrepreneurship, aimed at people who have been affected by addiction problems through public-private strategies.	Specialized training for staff from different agencies involved in the care for people with addiction problems.

4 | INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Strengthen institutional capacity to prevent drug use and assist people who use drugs in SICA member countries, at the local, territorial, national and regional level.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Development and strengthening of comprehensive public policies to address the issue of drug use and abuse, as well as the rehabilitation of people with addiction problems.	Strengthening of inter-agency and inter-sectoral coordination for preventing and addressing the issue of drug use in a comprehensive and focused manner. In particular, improving coordination with the national commissions on drugs and the health sector.	Generation of an information system for regular and systematic monitoring and evaluation of patient care, prevalence and use of drugs and other substances.

STRATEGY IV		STRATEGY V
Support public policies to strengthen sale, production, import and export controls of precursor chemicals and other substances.		Provision of special budgets for drug prevention and drug user care.

GUIDELINE VII: PREVENTION AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

This Guideline aims to promote strategies for violence prevention at the local level in SICA member countries, based on the understanding that these efforts must be coordinated and articulated with public policies promoted by central governments and other state sectors involved in addressing security and violence issues in the countries. The term "local" includes communities and municipalities, emphasizing actions that create or reinforce local scale dynamics. Thus, a territorial vision of local is generate and understood as an approach that overcomes the political-administrative division of municipalities, to conceive a territory based on its geographical, cultural and social specificities.

1 | PRIMARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Develop policies, plans, programs and projects for the primary prevention of violence, with the active participation of local governments and a territorial approach in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Development and dissemination of conceptual, programmatic and training tools with a regional perspective to guide the design of policies, plans, programs and projects in countries, at the national and local level.	Development and dissemination of conceptual, programmatic and training tools with a regional perspective to guide the design of policies, plans, programs and projects in countries, at the national and local level.
STRATEGY III	**STRATEGY IV**
Implementation of management models for the prevention of violence in municipalities, both within country and in border areas, with a territorial perspective.	Creation and recovery of public spaces at the municipal level with a territorial perspective, as a means to promote peaceful coexistence.

2 | SECONDARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Integrate actions for the prevention of violence into municipal policies and plans in SICA member countries, targeting populations at risk of becoming victims or perpetrators of violence, as well as people in conflict with the law.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Creation and operation of municipal and community prevention networks for assistance and the care of children and adolescents to prevent them from joining gangs or initiating criminal activity.	Implementation of programs and projects for youth entrepreneurship and employability in border municipalities and micro-regions.	Facilitation of access to alternative measures for young people in conflict with the law, in municipalities, micro-regions and border areas.

3 | TERTIARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Design and develop specific local level programs and projects for victims of violence and people in conflict with the law.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Promotion of community organization for tertiary violence prevention at the local level.	Design and development of local plans for violence prevention at the tertiary level, in communities and regions with high rates of crime and violence.
STRATEGY III	**STRATEGY IV**
Promotion of linkages between the public and the police at the community level, in order to prevent violence and crime.	Regional construction and dissemination of local and municipal models for tertiary prevention of violence.

STRATEGY V	STRATEGY VI	STRATEGY VII
Development of models for the social inclusion of young people in conflict with the law at the local level.	Design and strengthening of post-penitentiary models of accompaniment for young people who have been in conflict with the law.	Creation of spaces and models of democratic participation at the local level, targeting populations affected by violence and crime.

4 | INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Strengthen the capacities of bodies and institutions involved in the promotion of plans for violence prevention at the local level in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II
Improvement of human resource capacities of municipal and national institutions operating at the local level, as well as agents of change, to prevent violence through training programs designed specifically for the local level.	Promotion of best practices, systematization and exchange of successful local experiences for the prevention of violence between SICA member countries.

STRATEGY III	STRATEGY IV	STRATEGY V
Design and dissemination of models of prevention of violence from local governments to SICA member countries.	Construction of an information system on the intervention approaches for the prevention of violence in the SICA member countries at the local level, in order to share knowledge, approaches and experiences.	Development of public-private partnerships for joint and coordinated implementation of projects and actions for the prevention of violence at the local level.

GUIDELINE VIII: SUPPORT FOR REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION

This guideline seeks preventive action to prevent people who have already experienced or perpetrated violence from becoming agents that reproduce violence and crime. Preventing the reproduction of violence is an area of fundamental action at the tertiary level of prevention.

1 | PRIMARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Contribute to the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims and perpetrators, preventing re-victimization and recidivism, respectively, respecting their human rights in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Fostering alternatives to prison for people in conflict with the law.	Contribution to the generation of inputs for the revision of the criminal law regarding sentencing, procedural deadlines and the use of alternatives to imprisonment.	Development of educational campaigns aimed at the families of victims and perpetrators to raise awareness about the benefits of alternative measures (restorative justice).
STRATEGY IV	**STRATEGY V**	**STRATEGY VI**
Improvement and implementation of restorative justice mechanisms.	Providing expert legal advice to victims.	Comprehensive care to individuals and families affected.

STRATEGY VII	STRATEGY VIII
Development of comprehensive programs to support families of prisoners or individuals in conflict with the law.	Promoción de alianzas público-privadas para apoyar programas laborales y de reinserción laboral, incluyendo programas de emprendedurismo para personas privadas de libertad y exprivados de libertad.

2 | SECONDARY PREVENTION

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Contribute to strengthening inter-agency and inter-sectoral coordination for the specialized care of victims and perpetrators in SICA member countries.

STRATEGY I	STRATEGY II	STRATEGY III
Capacity strengthening of personnel in their respective areas of victim and perpetrator assistance.	Strengthening of inter-agency and inter-sectoral coordination and articulation for specialized care for victims and perpetrators, and their families.	Promote public policies in this area with a focus on human rights, gender, as well as generational and multicultural considerations.

MATRIX OF THE WORKING GUIDELINES OF THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE

GUIDELINE I: GENERAL PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE THROUGH HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Refers to strategies to prevent the general risk factors of violence before it occurs (primary prevention of violence), through the improvement of the living conditions of the general population, in social, economic, cultural, recreational and sporting spheres. Interventions are channeled through educational, cultural and informational processes, with the active participation of people to improve the security conditions of the general population, which requires the combination of inter-sectoral and inter-agency efforts.

PRIMARY PREVENTION	**Strategic objective:** Reduce primary general factors that favor a climate of violence in society as a whole, which involves the implementation of primary prevention strategies and actions towards human development in different areas. **Strategy I:** Development of a culture of peace and peaceful coexistence that promotes peaceful resolution of conflicts, respect for the rules of coexistence, and eradicates the permissiveness of violence. **Strategy II:** Articulation of violence prevention strategies in the security sector with social public policy and poverty reduction policy in countries and at regional level, in accordance with the strategic lines of social integration of the Council of Social Integration (CIS): reduction of social gaps, promotion of social inclusion, integrated labor market regulation, reform and strengthening of social subsystems in different dimensions. **Strategy III:** Maintenance of political competition within democratic and peaceful settings, both by parties, organizations and movements, as well as by political institutions. **Strategy IV:** Strengthening of citizen participation in strategies for the prevention of violence that seek to create citizenship and social cohesion, and considering the gender specificities of men and women. **Strategy V:** Institutional support to families and households for the recovery of values, improvement of communication, peaceful conflict resolution, family and community life. **Strategy VI:** Promotion, support, design and organization of cultural, educational and sporting activities as well as the creation, recovery and improvement of public spaces that foster community social cohesion at the local, national and regional level.
SECONDARY PREVENTION	N/A
TERTIARY PREVENTION	N/A
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING	**Strategic objective:** Strengthen the capacity of institutions responsible for violence prevention policies in each country and at the regional level, and promote their coordination and articulation with the institutions responsible for social and economic development, in order to create synergies for primary prevention in the multidimensional context of SICA. **Strategy I:** Strengthening of protective factors and direct care from families, community organizations, education, health, recreation, employability, generating conditions and opportunities for social integration for children and youth.

Strategy II: Establishment of agreements between the bodies in charge of violence prevention policies and institutions responsible for social, economic and environmental matters, at the local, national and regional level.

Strategy III: Development of information systems for the timely and relevant management of actions aimed at people at risk and violence-driven vulnerability.

Strategy IV: Strengthening of institutional capacity through awareness, education and training strategies, by means of a training and professional development master plan on violence prevention, to build related capacity, especially aimed at public servants at the local, national and regional level.

Strategy V: Building partnerships with academia and the social research sector, to develop instruments to measure risk factors by target populations and mainstreaming the issues of violence and violence prevention in the curriculum.

Strategy VI: Promotion of public-private partnerships for violence prevention at the local, national and regional level.

Strategy VII: Implementation of a communication strategy to promote the prevention of violence in state institutions through networks that enable inter-institutional dissemination, interaction and linkages.

7- Strategic Approach to the Social Dimension of the Central American Integration. Central American Social Integration Council (CIS). El Salvador Pro Tempore Presidency Central American Security Commission http://www.sisca.int/planteamiento-estrategico

8- At the regional level, the main bodies are: the Central American Social Integration Council (CIS), the Council of Ministers of Health (COMISCA), Educational and Cultural Coordination (CECC), the Council of Women Ministers of Central America and the Dominican Republic (COMMCA), the Central American Agricultural Council (CAC), the Regional Centre for the Promotion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC), among others. The ESCA should be articulated with the policy instruments of this bodies.

GUIDELINE II: PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AFFECTING CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES

These strategies seek to prevent violence in the primary, secondary and tertiary levels, aimed at preventing underage children and youth from becoming involved or affected by violent or antisocial behavior, or the recurrence of these situations. The social status and construction of the gender of children and young people should be a relevant issue in the design and implementation of strategies.

PRIMARY PREVENTION

Strategic objective:
Prevent children and young people of both sexes in SICA member countries from developing or becoming victims of violent or antisocial behavior.

Strategy I: Strengthening of protective factors and direct care from families, community organizations, education, health, recreation, employability, generating conditions and opportunities for social integration for children and youth.

Strategy II: Encouraging the organization and participation of children, adolescents and youth in the development of regional policies, programs, strategies and actions to prevent violence at the primary level.

Strategy III: Promotion of opportunities for interaction and coexistence to strengthen inter-generational relationships in the different environments.

Strategy IV: Strengthening of specific actions for the protection of the rights of children born in prison or lack of protection as a result of parental death or absence.

Strategy V: Development of comprehensive programs for the prevention of early pregnancies in girls and adolescents and protective measures against STDs

SECONDARY PREVENTION

Strategic objective:
Prevent children, adolescents and youth of both sexes in the region, identified as at risk of becoming involved in crime, from engaging in violent or criminal activities.

Strategy I: Reduction of all risk factors that promote the development of violent behavior in children, adolescents and youth of both sexes, with special emphasis on domestic violence, drug use, weapons proliferation, 'maras' or gangs, migration, human trafficking, sexual exploitation, school drop out, and the lack of: employment opportunities, co-responsibility in child and adolescent care and recreational spaces.

Strategy II: Promotion of alternatives to avoid the involvement of at-risk children, adolescents and youth in groups and organizations that promote violent or criminal actions. For example, models of coexistence in schools, good use of free time, cultural, artistic, recreational and sporting projects; training programs for income generation and entrepreneurship.

TERTIARY PREVENTION

Strategic objective:
Reduce the chances that adolescent and youth in prison and in conflict with the law become repeat offenders of violent and criminal activities.

Strategy I: Establishment of mechanisms to facilitate the rehabilitation and social reintegration of adolescents and youth deprived of liberty and in conflict with the law, respecting their human rights.

Strategy II: Promotion of measures and actions to redress the toll on victims of violence.

Strategy III: Creation and strengthening of mechanisms for interruption and abandonment of violence among adolescents and youth directly or indirectly involved in 'maras' and gangs.

Strategy IV: Creation of new lines of social research to advance knowledge of profiles, roles and gender characteristics of those involved in gangs and 'maras' for the development of strategies consistent with this phenomenon.

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Strategic objective:
Develop the management capacity of institutions in the SICA region that are responsible for preventing violence in children, adolescents and youth at the primary, secondary and tertiary level.

Strategy I: Implementation of specific programs to prevent youth violence in public policies for violence prevention.

Strategy II: Modernization of information management and knowledge production systems to include the age variable.

Strategy III: Professionalization and specialized training of personnel in charge violence prevention in children, adolescents and youth.

Strategy IV: Effective coordination of regional efforts by the institutions responsible for the prevention of violence against children and adolescents.

According to the Secretariat of the Geneva Declaration (2006), armed violence is "the intentional use of illegitimate force (actual or threatened) with arms or explosives, against a person, group, community, or state, that undermines people-centered security and/or sustainable development". In turn, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) defines armed violence as the use of weapons to inflict injury, death or psychological damage that impede development. The Guideline for the Prevention of armed violence is linked to citizen security, i.e., the interventions to prevent and reduce the use of small arms and light weapons in the context of interpersonal situations and criminal violence.

PRIMARY PREVENTION

Strategic objective:
Discourage the possession, carrying and use of firearms and bladed weapons, and strengthen responsible use and related rules and regulations in SICA member countries.

Strategy I: Implementation of information and awareness campaigns on the risks and impact of the possession, carrying and use of knives and firearms.

Strategy II: Capacity development in civil society, community organizations, the private sector, the media and other key stakeholders on the implementation of strategies for the prevention of violence with firearms.

Strategy III: Strengthening the rules and regulations of the marketing and possession of firearms, ammunition and explosives.

Strategy IV: Development of awareness campaigns for the elimination of toy arms, interactive games and others that promote violence.

SECONDARY PREVENTION

Strategic objective:
Reduce specific risk factors that generate violence with firearms or by stabbing, contribute to the reduction of the use and availability of firearms for the commission of crimes and strengthen effective interventions to this end in SICA member countries.

Strategy I: Promotion of measures to reduce the use and carrying of industrial and non-industrial firearms: bans, voluntary handover or exchange of weapons for goods.

Strategy II: Implementation of complaint models about the trafficking and illegal transfer of firearms in border areas.

Strategy III: Encouraging the dissemination and implementation of laws, agreements and plans for the control of possession and misuse of weapons, ammunition, explosives and related materials.

Strategy IV: Generation of knowledge about the relationship of firearms with other types of violence —youth, domestic, gender-based, human trafficking, migration— that worsen social, health and economic conditions.

TERTIARY PREVENTION

Strategic objective:
Contribute to helping to prevent the reuse of firearms linked to crimes or unlawful acts and the destruction of these weapons; develop models of care for victims of firearms and their families.

Strategy I: Promotion of cross-sectoral initiatives for seizure and total destruction of firearms linked to the commission of crimes.

Strategy II: Development of models of care for victims of firearm violence.

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING	**Strategic objective:** Strengthen institutional capacities and inter-agency coordination mechanisms for the prevention and response to violence against women, trafficking and femicide and family and domestic violence in SICA member countries, at the regional, national and local levels. **Strategy I:** Increase of the effectiveness of public policies, inter-agency coordination and articulation for the prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide and family and domestic violence. **Strategy II:** Training of key institutional actors in the comprehensive prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide and prevention of family and domestic violence, with a human rights approach. **Strategy III:** Design and implementation of tools, regulations and action plans to improve the security environment of individuals and families, with a gender, generational and multicultural perspective.

9- Signed by 100 countries to date: http://www.genevadeclaration.org/fileadmin/docs/GD-Declaration-091020-ES.pdf

10- http://www.genevadeclaration.org/measurability/global-burden-of-armed-violence.html

11- http://www.gsdrc.org/go/display&type=Document&id=3685

GUIDELINE IV: PREVENTION OF GENDER-BASED, FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

It seeks to promote strategies to eliminate gender-based violence, mainly perpetrated against women, but also the violence occurring within the family and domestic sphere against its most vulnerable members: women, children and the elderly of both sexes. This Guideline includes prevention considerations as well as attention to victims who suffer this type of violence.

PRIMARY PREVENTION	**Strategic objective:** Contribute to the elimination of gender-based, family and domestic violence, particularly violence against women, at the local, national and regional levels in SICA member countries. **Strategy I:** Ownership of international and regional instruments for the prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide in the adjacent border areas. **Strategy II**: Development of experiences and initiatives for the comprehensive prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide. **Strategy III:** Implementation of policies, programs, strategies and actions for the comprehensive prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide, at the local, national and regional level, as part of the instruments of SICA. **Strategy IV:** Development of policies and programs that promote equal rights and opportunities for women, to facilitate their access to economic resources and decision-making in public and private institutions. **Strategy V:** Development and mainstreaming of gender equality and equity in academic curricula at all levels, including the construction of new masculinities. **Strategy VI:** Promotion of a culture of family and domestic relationships free of gender-based violence, including the construction of new masculinities. **Strategy VII:** Development of local, national and regional programs to integrate the prevention of violence against women in the workplace and recreational areas (also in the secondary and tertiary levels). **Strategy VIII:** Creating and strengthening of public-private partnerships to support policies and programs to prevent gender-based, generational and ethnic-cultural violence (also in the secondary and tertiary levels). **Strategy IX:** Initiatives to promote responsible parenthood.

SECONDARY PREVENTION	**Strategic objective:** Reduce the vulnerability of women against violence, trafficking and femicide, as well as that of victims of family and domestic violence in SICA member countries, at the local, national and regional level. **Strategy I:** Improvement of mechanisms and support and protection for women at risk or victims of violence, trafficking and femicide, considering the life cycle and cultural characteristics, as well as the conditions of criminality. **Strategy II:** Identification, documentation and sharing of best practices and lessons learned to assist victims of violence against women, family and domestic violence, considering the needs of women in terms of their ethnic and cultural diversity. **Strategy III:** Implementation of mechanisms and comprehensive care services to address family and domestic violence. **Strategy IV:** Accompaniment and comprehensive support to families at risk for the prevention of domestic and family violence, strengthening the recovery of values, communication, equity and equality.
TERTIARY PREVENTION	**Strategic objective:** Assist people and families affected by gender-based, family and domestic violence. **Strategy I:** Comprehensive care for victims of gender-based, family and domestic violence. **Strategy II:** Development of comprehensive programs for women who are deprived of liberty and in conflict with the law, as well as their children and dependents. **Strategy III:** Promotion of measures and actions for the psycho-emotional recovery and compensation for damages to victims of violence against women, as well as family and domestic violence. **Strategy IV:** Comprehensive care and protection for victims of trafficking. **Strategy V:** Develop the institutional capacity to assist the victims of gender-based, family and domestic violence in the context of gangs and 'maras'.
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING	**Strategic objective:** Strengthen institutional capacities and inter-agency coordination mechanisms for the prevention and response to violence against women, trafficking and femicide and family and domestic violence in SICA member countries, at the regional, national and local levels. **Strategy I:** Increase of the effectiveness of public policies, inter-agency coordination and articulation for the prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide and family and domestic violence. **Strategy II:** Training of key institutional actors in the comprehensive prevention of violence against women, trafficking and femicide and prevention of family and domestic violence, with a human rights approach. **Strategy III:** Design and implementation of tools, regulations and action plans to improve the security environment of individuals and families, with a gender, generational and multicultural perspective.

GUIDELINE V: PREVENTION OF MIGRANT SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

The aim is to develop strategies to broadly prevent violence related to migration processes, both when violence is the cause of migration, or when it occurs as a result of the criminal exploitation of migratory movements, especially for illegal migration. It also seeks to prevent human trafficking as the most serious offense in the context of the movement of people.

PRIMARY PREVENTION	**Strategic objective:** Reduce undocumented and uninformed migration, and prevent and address the problem of trafficking in SICA member countries. **Strategy I:** Strengthening protective factors such as family, community organization, education, health and recreation to prevent illegal migration. **Strategy II:** Development of national strategies to promote an informed and documented migration and awareness of the dangers of trafficking in persons. **Strategy III:** Promote the documentation of people living in border areas. **Strategy IV:** Research, registration and systematization of information on the causes and effects of trafficking. **Strategy V:** Identification of the causes and effects of internal and external migration of people due to violence in their territories. **Strategy VI:** Development of comprehensive programs to prevent population migration driven by violence in their home environment and local area. **Strategy VII:** Development of comprehensive strategies to prevent trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. **Strategy VIII:** Adoption and strengthening of measures to alleviate the factors that create vulnerability to trafficking.
SECONDARY PREVENTION	**Strategic objective:** Provide appropriate care for people at risk of migration driven by violence and at risk of trafficking in SICA member countries. **Strategy I:** Provision of information to people at risk of migration driven by violence and at risk of trafficking in about care and complaint reporting locations at border posts. **Strategy II:** Specialized training for people responsible for directly assisting the migrant population driven by violence and victims of human trafficking. **Strategy III:** Technical and methodological strengthening of community, national and regional networks against human trafficking. **Strategy IV:** Identification, organization and sharing of best practices for the prevention and assistance for the phenomenon of human trafficking. **Strategy V:** Identification of vulnerable households as a result of the migration of key household members and development of support strategies.

| TERTIARY PREVENTION | **Strategic objective:**
Provide appropriate support mechanisms for undocumented migrants and migrants driven by violence, as well as for the population victim of human trafficking in the SICA region.

Strategy I: Strengthening of networks of integrated care for undocumented migrants and migrants driven by violence, as well as victims of trafficking in persons.

Strategy II: Comprehensive support programs for deportees.

Strategy III: Public-private partnerships to develop entrepreneurship and employability programs to support deported people.

Strategy IV: Creation and strengthening of efficient systems for searching, locating and rescuing trafficked persons.

Strategy V: Creation and strengthening of specialized care centers and models for victims of trafficking.

Strategy VI: Development of assistance models and strategies for undocumented migrants and migrants driven by violence, in countries of origin and recipient countries. |
| INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING | **Strategic objective:**
Develop the capacity of institutions to assist undocumented migrants and migrants driven by violence, and people at risk or victims of trafficking in SICA member countries.

Strategy I: Development of comprehensive public policies to address the above mentioned population groups and corresponding inter-agency and inter-sectoral coordination at the national and regional level.

Strategy II: Review and updating of the rules of the countries to prevent and punish trafficking in persons, in line with relevant international instruments.

Strategy III: Development of information systems for the timely and appropriate management of persons at-risk and vulnerable to violence-driven migration and at risk or victims of trafficking at the national and regional level. |

GUIDELINE VI: **DRUG USE PREVENTION**

Drug use and dependence are a public health problem that impacts development and security and, therefore, is a risk factor that needs to be addressed. This Guideline aims to prevent and avoid drug use in the SICA region, both because of its risks to health and its connections to criminal acts. The prevention of drug use is one of the factors that facilitate the prevention of drug trafficking, although the fight against this criminal activity is mainly addressed in the Law Enforcement component of the ESCA.

| PRIMARY PREVENTION | **Strategic objective:**
Raise awareness about the dangers of drug use in the SICA member countries at the local, territorial, national and regional level.

Strategy I: Development of educational campaigns for the general population and for targeted groups about the causes and consequences of drug use.

Strategy II: Implementation of strategies and programs within and outside educational institutions for the prevention of drug use from early childhood, including mainstreaming the issue in school and college curricula. |

	Strategy III: Creation and recovery of public spaces that promote the development of natural, cultural and recreation capacities, as alternatives for the prevention of drug use.
	Strategy IV: Development of community, social and educational alternatives to prevent drug use, aimed at the general public and particularly parents, guardians, educators and agents of change.
SECONDARY PREVENTION	**Strategic objective:** Reduce specific risk factors that encourage drug use in SICA member countries, at the local, territorial, national and regional levels.
	Strategy I: Implementation of comprehensive plans and programs at the community level for people at risk of drug use.
	Strategy II: Understanding and deepening the knowledge of risk and protective factors for children, adolescents and youth at risk of drug use.
	Strategy III: Development of plans and programs on risk and protective factors for children, adolescents and youth at risk of drug use, involving families and the community setting.
	Strategy IV: Development of comprehensive plans and programs for children, adolescents and youth at high risk of drug use.
TERTIARY PREVENTION	**Strategic objective:** Reduce the use, consumption or abuse of illicit drugs in the population in SICA member countries, at the local, territorial, national and regional level.
	Strategy I: Strengthening and creation of comprehensive rehabilitation centers for people with addiction problems, including staff training for professionalization.
	Strategy II: Development of comprehensive models for specialized care of people with addiction problems.
	Strategy III: Development of integrated care models for family members of people with addiction problems.
	Strategy IV: Development of programs for social and work reintegration, and entrepreneurship, aimed at people who have been affected by addiction problems through public-private strategies.
	Strategy V: Specialized training for staff from different agencies involved in the care for people with addiction problems.
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING	**Strategic objective**: Strengthen institutional capacity to prevent drug use and assist people who use drugs in SICA member countries, at the local, territorial, national and regional level.
	Strategy I: Development and strengthening of comprehensive public policies to address the issue of drug use and abuse, as well as the rehabilitation of people with addiction problems.
	Strategy II: Strengthening of inter-agency and inter-sectoral coordination for preventing and addressing the issue of drug use in a comprehensive and focused manner. In particular, improving coordination with the national commissions on drugs and the health sector.

Strategy III: Generation of an information system for regular and systematic monitoring and evaluation of patient care, prevalence and use of drugs and other substances.

Strategy IV: Support public policies to strengthen sale, production, import and export controls of precursor chemicals and other substances.

Strategy V: Provision of special budgets for drug prevention and drug user care.

GUIDELINE VII: PREVENTION AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

This Guideline aims to promote strategies for violence prevention at the local level in SICA member countries, based on the understanding that these efforts must be coordinated and articulated with public policies promoted by central governments and other state sectors involved in addressing security and violence issues in the countries. The term "local" includes communities and municipalities, emphasizing actions that create or reinforce local scale dynamics. Thus, a territorial vision of local is generate and understood as an approach that overcomes the political-administrative division of municipalities, to conceive a territory based on its geographical, cultural and social specificities.

PRIMARY PREVENTION

Strategic objective:
Develop policies, plans, programs and projects for the primary prevention of violence, with the active participation of local governments and a territorial approach in SICA member countries.

Strategy I: Development and dissemination of conceptual, programmatic and training tools with a regional perspective to guide the design of policies, plans, programs and projects in countries, at the national and local level.

Strategy II: Construction and development of inter-agency and cross-sectoral spaces, mechanisms and plans in municipalities, to encourage the strengthening of local capacities, strengthening the leadership of local governments and promoting the active participation of vital forces, NGOs, cooperation and international communities.

Strategy III: Implementation of management models for the prevention of violence in municipalities, both within country and in border areas, with a territorial perspective.

Strategy IV: Creation and recovery of public spaces at the municipal level with a territorial perspective, as a means to promote peaceful coexistence.

SECONDARY PREVENTION

Strategic objective:
Integrate actions for the prevention of violence into municipal policies and plans in SICA member countries, targeting populations at risk of becoming victims or perpetrators of violence, as well as people in conflict with the law.

Strategy I: Creation and operation of municipal and community prevention networks for assistance and the care of children and adolescents to prevent them from joining gangs or initiating criminal activity.

Strategy II: Implementation of programs and projects for youth entrepreneurship and employability in border municipalities and micro-regions.

Strategy III: Facilitation of access to alternative measures for young people in conflict with the law, in municipalities, micro-regions and border areas.

| TERTIARY PREVENTION | **Strategic objective:**
Design and develop specific local level programs and projects for victims of violence and people in conflict with the law.

Strategy I: Promotion of community organization for tertiary violence prevention at the local level.

Strategy II: Design and development of local plans for violence prevention at the tertiary level, in communities and regions with high rates of crime and violence.

Strategy III: Promotion of linkages between the public and the police at the community level, in order to prevent violence and crime.

Strategy IV: Regional construction and dissemination of local and municipal models for tertiary prevention of violence.

Strategy V: Development of models for the social inclusion of young people in conflict with the law at the local level.

Strategy VI: Design and strengthening of post-penitentiary models of accompaniment for young people who have been in conflict with the law.

Strategy VII: Creation of spaces and models of democratic participation at the local level, targeting populations affected by violence and crime. |
| INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING | **Strategic objective:**
Strengthen the capacities of bodies and institutions involved in the promotion of plans for violence prevention at the local level in SICA member countries.

Strategy I: Improvement of human resource capacities of municipal and national institutions operating at the local level, as well as agents of change, to prevent violence through training programs designed specifically for the local level.

Strategy II: Promotion of best practices, systematization and exchange of successful local experiences for the prevention of violence between SICA member countries.

Strategy III: Design and dissemination of models of prevention of violence from local governments to SICA member countries.

Strategy IV: Construction of an information system on the intervention approaches for the prevention of violence in the SICA member countries at the local level, in order to share knowledge, approaches and experiences.

Strategy V: Development of public-private partnerships for joint and coordinated implementation of projects and actions for the prevention of violence at the local level. |

GUIDELINE VIII: SUPPORT FOR REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION

This guideline seeks preventive action to prevent people who have already experienced or perpetrated violence from becoming agents that reproduce violence and crime. Preventing the reproduction of violence is an area of fundamental action at the tertiary level of prevention.

PRIMARY PREVENTION	NA
SECONDARY PREVENTION	NA
TERTIARY PREVENTION	**Strategic objective:** Contribute to the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims and perpetrators, preventing revictimization and recidivism, respectively, respecting their human rights in SICA member countries. **Strategy I:** Fostering alternatives to prison for people in conflict with the law. **Strategy II:** Contribution to the generation of inputs for the revision of the criminal law regarding sentencing, procedural deadlines and the use of alternatives to imprisonment. **Strategy III:** Development of educational campaigns aimed at the families of victims and perpetrators to raise awareness about the benefits of alternative measures (restorative justice). **Strategy IV:** Improvement and implementation of restorative justice mechanisms. **Strategy V:** Providing expert legal advice to victims. **Strategy VI:** Comprehensive care to individuals and families affected. **Strategy VII:** Development of comprehensive programs to support families of prisoners or individuals in conflict with the law. **Strategy VIII:** Promotion of public-private partnerships to support labor and reintegration programs, including entrepreneurship programs for prisoners and former prisoners.
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING	**Strategic objective:** Contribute to strengthening inter-agency and inter-sectoral coordination for the specialized care of victims and perpetrators in SICA member countries. **Strategy I:** Capacity strengthening of personnel in their respective areas of victim and perpetrator assistance. **Strategy II:** Strengthening of inter-agency and inter-sectoral coordination and articulation for specialized care for victims and perpetrators, and their families. **Strategy III:** Promote public policies in this area with a focus on human rights, gender, as well as generational and multicultural considerations.

5 | IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The implementation of the strategies contained in this Strategic Framework will be carried out through the development of an Action Plan, which will mainly consist of country and regional programs and projects, and key activities defined by the Sub-commission on Violence Prevention. The Action Plan will be prepared by the Sub-commission on Violence Prevention of the Central American Security Commission and approved by the latter.

The first Action Plan will consist of the projects arising from the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA), which are already being promoted. As previously mentioned, the Security Commission approved the following six (6) priority projects for the Violence Prevention component (B) of the ESCA in 2011, for an implementation period of five years:

1.	B.A.1	Prevention of Violence Against Women in Central America
2.	B.B.1	Social Prevention of Violence and Crime affecting Youth in Central America
3.	B.C.1	Prevention of Drug Abuse, Treatment, Rehabilitation and Reintegration in Central America
4.	B.D.1	Regional Project on Education and Training for Work in Central America
5.	B.E.1	Social Prevention of Violence from Local Governments in Central America
6.	B.F.1	Prevention of Armed Violence in Central America

1. Projects of ESCA Component B: Violence Prevention
(Summary of objectives and expected results)

PROJECTS	OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
B.A.1 Prevention of Violence Against Women in Central America	**General objective:** Contribute to the reduction of violence against women, trafficking in women and femicide, through interventions on the factors that contribute to it. **Specific objective:** Increase institutional capacities for the prevention and response to the violence against women, trafficking and femicide at regional, national and local levels.	1. Improved regional and national coordination for the implementation of prevention and response to violence against women, trafficking and femicide. 2. Capacity of the institutions at regional, national and local levels strengthened for the prevention and response to the violence against women, trafficking of women and femicide. 3. Implementation of local comprehensive plans and mechanisms for addressing violence against women, trafficking and femicide, in selected territories (10 municipalities). 4. Implementation of a technical, administrative and financial management, monitoring and evaluation and systematization mechanism for the project
B.B.1 Social Prevention of Violence and Crime affecting Youth in Central America	**General objective:** Contribute to the reduction of the social factors and conditions that lead to violence and crime affecting children, adolescents and youth, at regional, national, local and transboundary levels. **Specific objective:** Strengthen implementation, monitoring and evaluation of comprehensive policies to prevent violence and crime affecting children, adolescents and youth at the national level.	1. Strengthening of the capacities of state institutions responsible for implementing comprehensive violence prevention policies according to the characteristics of each country and region. 2. Systematization and implementation of an intervention model with a comprehensive approach to primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of violence affecting children, adolescents and youth at national and regional levels in selected territories.
B.C.1 Prevention of Drug Abuse, Treatment, Rehabilitation and Reintegration in Central America	**General objective:** Mitigate the negative impact of psychotropic substances on individuals, families, communities and society. **Specific objective:** Reduce the incidence and prevalence of psychoactive substances.	1. Public policies for the prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration strengthened and/or created by regional, national bodies, local governments and civil society. 2. Design and implementation of a comprehensive, integrated regional system of prevention and specialized care for vulnerable groups adapted to the Central American reality.

B.D.1
Education and Training for Work in Central America

General objective:
Reduce the risks of youth engaging in criminal activities and joining organizations.

Specific objective:
Create opportunities for access to formal education and vocational training for youth aimed at employment and self-employment.

1. Creation and strengthening of a system of non-formal education articulated with the formal education system in each country.
2. Creation and strengthening of a model center of non-formal education by country to help train and integrate youth in the labor market.
3. Implementation of the self-employment and youth entrepreneurship component, in coordination with state institutions, the private sector and civil society.
4. Creation and strengthening of national and regional observatories to analyze the integration of young people into the labor market.

B.E.1
Social Prevention of Violence from Local Governments in Central America

General objective:
Contribute to the reduction of risk factors of violence at the local level.

Specific objective:
Increase active participation of national and local stakeholders in strategies for the social prevention of violence in border areas and municipalities.

1. Development and implementation of public policies for the prevention of violence and crime at the national level with a regional perspective.
2. Design and implementation of policies and plans for the social prevention of violence in three municipalities of each country.
3. Design of a violence prevention model in micro-regions of the Gulf of Fonseca and Trifinio and border territories selected by the countries.
4. Implementation of a technical, administrative and financial management, monitoring and evaluation and systematization mechanism for the project.

B.F.1
Prevention of Armed Violence in Central America

General objective:
Contribute to the prevention and reduction of armed violence, at the regional, national, cross-border and local levels.

Specific objective:
Reduce the risk factors related to marketing, transfer, possession, production and misuse of weapons, ammunition, explosives and related materials, which lead to armed violence, in order to foster a culture of peace.

1. Sensitization of the school population on the impact of armed violence, culture of peace and legality.
2. Development of the capacity of civil society organizations, community-based organizations, media, teachers, the private sector in strategies for the prevention of gun violence.
3. Sensitization and training of the of selected border municipality populations in the prevention of armed violence, reporting of illegal arms trafficking and strengthening of a culture of peace.
4. Implementation of a technical, administrative and financial management, monitoring and evaluation and systematization mechanism for the project.

In addition to these projects, other projects and activities relating to the priorities established in the ESCA Prevention component may be implemented. These projects will also be integrated into the Action Plan of the Strategic Framework.

In the Declaration of Guatemala, adopted at the International Conference in Support of the ESCA, held in June 2011, all SICA member countries and the donor community (Group of Friends of the ESCA) demonstrated that the strategy combines the joint efforts of SICA member countries and the international community in the fight against transnational organized crime. It recognizes the principles of shared and differentiated responsibilities to confront this scourge on a new basis of cooperation, resource additionality, regional scope of projects and respect for the WWParis Declaration on Aid Effectiveness for Development. In this context, the ESCA Action Plan with Costs was launched, with consensual regional priorities and 22 regional project profiles, including six on the Prevention component as presented above.

To monitor projects under the ESCA, an Evaluation, Coordination and Monitoring Mechanism (MECS) was established. The MECS includes three bodies: a political body (Central American Security Commission), an executive body (with high-level representatives of SICA member countries and the Group of Friends) and a support body (Group of Friends and International Organizations). At the operational level, the MECS has the Monitoring Committee (composed of representatives of SICA member countries); the General Secretariat of SICA acts as the technical secretariat of the Committee, supported by the Democratic Security Directorate.

In order to monitor the Action Plan of the Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence, the Sub-commission on Violence Prevention will establish the corresponding coordination mechanisms under the MECS. The Sub-commission will submit semiannual reports to the Commission on progress in implementing the Action Plan of the Strategic Framework; the Sub-commission will also update the Action Plan as its implementation progresses. To this end, it will have the support of the General Secretariat of SICA, through the Violence Prevention Coordination body of the Security Directorate.

ANNEX

Representatives of SICA member countries in meetings of the Sub-commission on Violence Prevention of the Central American Security Commission, held between March and May 2014, where the Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence was developed

Belize	• Jewel Crawford, Department of Youth Services, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Costa Rica	• Freddy Mauricio Montero Mora, Vice-minister of Governance and Police • Ethel Melania Abarca Amador, Responsible of the International Cooperation Office • Ana Lucía Cascante, Adviser to the Vice-minister of Peace, Minister of Justice and Peace • José Humberto Inagaki Vargas, SICA Coordinator, General Directorate of Foreign Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Sussi Jiménez, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Costa Rica in El Salvador
Dominican Republic	• Henry Rodríguez Castellanos, Vice-minister, Ministry of Interior and Police • Karina Mañón, Technical Coordinator, Vice-ministry for Economic and Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Modesto González, Director of Social Management, Ministry of Interior and Police • Álvaro Andón, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of the Dominican Republic in El Salvador • Adamilka Tavares, SICA Technical focal point, Vice-ministry of Foreign Affairs for Economic and Trade Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
El Salvador	• Juan Javier Martínez, Vice-minister of Justice and Security, Ministry of Justice and Public Security • Lorena Guadalupe Montano, PREPAZ General Director, Ministry of Justice and Public Security • Luisa Morataya, PREPAZ Deputy Director, Ministry of Justice and Public Security • Nory Guadalupe Morales, Project Coordinator, Ministry of Justice and Public Security
Guatemala	• Martha Alejandra Chew Díaz, Community Violence Prevention Unit, Head of Department of the Community Organization of Prevention, Vice-ministry for Violence and Crime Prevention, Ministry of Governance
Honduras	• Fanny Ondina Velásquez, Chief of Staff, Sub-secretariat of State in Security and Prevention • Carlos Fabricio Merino, Sub-secretariat of State in Security and Prevention
Nicaragua	• Erlinda Castillo Chevez, Head of the Direction of Women and Children Police Commissariats, National Police • Pedro José Rodríguez Argueta, Head of the Direction of Youth Issues, National Police
Panama	• Yesenia Isabel González de Jaén, Legal Adviser, Office of Integral Security, Ministry of Public Security • Karina Zambrano, Violence Observatory of the Integrated System of Criminal Statistics (SIEC), Ministry of Public Security

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