



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



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SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the interconnectedness of contemporary challenges and the need for comprehensive and participatory approaches to address them. UNODC has adopted the same lens to understand the security challenges of individual cities. Building inclusive societies by focusing on city safety and resilient governments lies at the heart of UNODC’s work at the urban level.

The role of local government is vital as this is the layer of government closest to the people, and it often has significant decision-making and spending power. Accordingly, recognizing that the future success of the SDGs resides in large part in cities, UNODC is determined to contribute to the "localization" of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for urban policy-makers and planners, particularly those residing in the Global South.

UNODC’s Urban Safety Governance Approach, based on the Urban Safety Governance Assessments, aims to make urban environments safe, inclusive and resilient by addressing the multi-causal factors of violence, crime and insecurity. To date, assessments have been carried out in communities in Barbados, Kenya, Mexico and Uzbekistan. The approach ensures that crime prevention and community safety strategies, policies and programmes are tailored to meet grassroots needs and take account of the interface between global crime threats and local vulnerabilities. In addition to strengthening the role of cities in dealing with crime and violence, it also emphasizes building communities’ resilience by addressing structural issues such as corruption and lack of transparency and providing a space free of drug use, terrorism and organized crime.



UN entities work closely together to address the different targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda. UNODC assists Member States in achieving the following target:

11.7: By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

Considering UNODC's strong experience and knowledge in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice, creating institutional resilience and capacity building, promoting education for justice and peace, crime prevention among youth, combatting gender-based violence and promoting gender equality, and preventing and responding to substance abuse, UNODC's Urban Safety Governance Approach can contribute to the development of effective and humane responses to urban issues and assist Member States in achieving SDG 11.

