Outline:

1. Provide a short brief on the Safer Cities Programme.
2. Review progress of past resolution 23/14: Sustainable urban development through policies for safer cities and urban crime prevention.
3. Look ahead to GC 24.
Why safer cities?

- City homicide rates tend to be higher than national averages.
- Homicide rates can be several times higher in low-income areas than in the rest of the city.
- In Delhi, 9 of 10 women have been harassed on the streets.
- In Lagos, 70% of residents feel unsafe going out at night.
- Violent crime accounts for 25% to 30% of offences in cities globally.
- A lack of safety affects all, and in particular the poor.
- What Mayors are not concerned about safety in their city?
- Without safety, people’s participation in the community life and governance processes in the city is hindered.
Traditional response vs. the new approach

- Focusing on the criminal justice system (police, tribunals, prisons)
- Focusing on major crime, leaving petty crime and ‘incivilities’ without response
- Targeting effects instead of causes – reactive instead of preventive
- Often short term and non sustainable results

- Adopts an integrated, multi-sectoral approach
- Local Authorities take the lead
- A role for everybody in building local safety, respecting everybody mandates
- Need to target causes to reach lasting results
Evolution of the Safer Cities approach


Phase 2 (2006-2011): multi-dimensional approach to urban safety

Phase 3 (2012-...): enhancing urban safety through planning, management & governance
Safer Cities Programme: How We Do it

Two **interlinked** but distinctive services:

- a network hub (GNSC),
- a design service.

This two-track approach links the normative programme at the global level with the urban operational level. **Mutually reinforcing.**
How We Do It

A coalition, with leaders assembling all key partners, engaging citizens, and supported by a secretariat and communications strategy.

- Diagnosis and assessment: surveys, safety audits, street scans
- Development of citywide strategy and action plan: visioning, consultation
- Process and impact evaluation, feedback, tool development
- Implementation: training, coordination of partners, joint actions
- Institutionalization: Networks for exchange and replication
Achievements

- **UN-Habitat has led the paradigm shift** – from policing to urban planning, management & governance.

- **Tools adapted and tested** (in 77 municipalities in 23 countries).

- **National policies developed** integrating the local level safer cities approach (Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania and Mexico).

- Launched the **Global Network on Safer Cities in September 2012**.

- **Synergies established with other UN agencies** on safer cities – more agencies/funds/programmes are adopting the approach.
What Resolution 23/14 asks for...

- Mainstream the issue of crime prevention, urban safety and social cohesion in sustainable urban development.
- Compile best practices, policies and tools related to urban crime prevention within the context of sustainable urban development.
- Guidelines on access to and delivery of urban crime prevention within the context of sustainable urban development.
- Regional and inter-regional programme as mechanisms to promote triangular, South-South, and city-to-city cooperation in urban safety through exchanges of experts, best practices and policy options.
And what we have done...

- Approach has gained traction within the UN system and with a range of external partners to the point where we have convened the Global Network on Safer Cities (advisory panel, steering committee).

- Consolidating tools on urban safety based on best practices and evidence. Production date: April 2013.

- Developing an Urban Safety Monitor to bolster the evidence base. Some pilot cities coming on board already.

- Finalizing draft UN-Habitat guidelines on Safer Cities. Production date: April 2013.
Emerging Initiatives

• Development of UN Guidelines on Safer Cities/International Standards.

• Development of Urban Safety Monitor by 2014.

• Establish a Global Safer City Award – innovative practices for knowledge exchange.

• By 2016, anchoring the Global Network on Safer Cities in the regional/global associations of local government.

• Establishment of a UN-wide Trust Fund on Safer Cities.
Why a UN-Trust Fund on Safer Cities?

- Prevention is under-funded - especially at the local level.
- As the approach goes global the funding mechanisms must change to support the scale of activities.
- Trust fund is a mechanism to mobilise resources for national, sub-national and local level work on urban safety from a wide array sources such as middle-income countries, private sector, etc.
- Through a call-for proposals format, the Trust Fund can encourage coordination in the area of urban safety and promote cooperation amongst actors and levels of government.
- GNSC provides the body in which the Trust Fund can sit – hence already have a platform in place.
Looking ahead to GC 24

- Seeking the support of Member States at the Governing Council to allow UN Habitat to:
  
  i). Determine the fiscal viability of the trust fund modality through consultations with a wide variety of partners.

  ii). Undertake further study of existing UN Trust Funds to ascertain best practices in terms of operating principles and practices to inform the final design.

  iii). Proceed with a consultative process with member states based on the above information, and if agreeable and viable to establish such a trust fund.

- Mechanism to do this is a Resolution in the Governing Council that allows the process to develop a trust fund to proceed.
Proposal of next steps:

• Seeking support of the Governing Council to allow UN-Habitat to pursue the feasibility of the establishment of a UN-wide Trust Fund on Safer Cities

• Seeking support of member states for a resolution in GC 24 requesting UN-Habitat to establish the Trust Fund on Safer Cities

Thank You!
Achievements

77 municipalities in 23 countries have received technical support