



**Local strategies to fight violence and crime for inclusive urban governance in West Africa**

**28 -29 April 2016 | Dakar, Senegal**



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**Workshop report: Summary**

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## BACKGROUND

At the close of the Habitat II Conference in 1996, security was recognized as a basic service that should benefit all citizens, without distinction. The fundamental reason behind this stance is the rise of incivility, disorder, and delinquency in urban areas. In 2001, Anna Tibaijuka said: "urban settlements are places where crime and delinquency are increasing significantly."<sup>1</sup>

Experts have long explored the links between poverty and crime. Recently, the 2011 *World Development Report* noted that "the poverty gap is widening between countries affected by violence and others." It also noted that "whenever a country undergoes three years of major violence [which includes deaths by homicide], the gap is 2.7% wider" despite poverty reduction efforts.<sup>2</sup>

Existing data on urbanization, extreme poverty, and urban violence are worrying: on average, one third of urban dwellers live below the poverty line. Urban residents are at greater risk to kill or be killed than others and urban homicide rates are higher than the national averages. Compounding this, almost all population growth in coming decades will be concentrated in slums and informal settlements.<sup>3</sup>

Prominent security experts believe that the conflicts of the future will take place in cities that will not be able to adapt to the rapid pace of population growth. Organized criminal violence — associated with the drug trade in some countries — is now linked to national policies. Indeed, in some urban centers gangs and militias have replaced public authorities, providing services and protection to communities, often at very high prices. Social and family violence are also important issues, especially for the most vulnerable groups including women, girls, and youth.

An in-depth study commissioned by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in 2012 revealed that the direct impact of urban violence on the poor is well known.<sup>4</sup> We also begin to understand the indirect impact of violence, including population displacement, disruption of social services, slumping economic growth, and brain drain, along with its inherent costs, such as increased law enforcement expenditures.

Forms of gender-based insecurity are also noteworthy: in urban areas, men are more likely than women to be victims of assault or robbery, while women and girls are most often prey to sexual or domestic violence.

Furthermore, studies under the aegis of UN-Habitat stress the correlation between the governance of cities and prevalence of crime in urban areas. Surveys on victimization conducted in Abidjan between 1998 and 2007, Bamako in 2008, and Ouagadougou between 2010 and 2011<sup>5</sup> show that, in general, citizens in towns are differently affected by violence: indeed in cities, few offenses are perpetrated in administrative and commercial centers, as compared with those in suburban areas. Similarly, the type of offense committed changes as one moves from the central hub towards the

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<sup>1</sup> Tibaijuka A. 2001. "Preface", in M. Chalom et al. *Urban safety and good governance: the role of Police*, UN Habitat and ICPC, p.56.

<sup>2</sup> World Bank. 2011. [World Development Report 2011: Conflict, security and development](#). Washington: The World Bank.

<sup>3</sup> World Bank. 2011.

<sup>4</sup> Muggah, Robert. 2012. [Researching the Urban Dilemma: Urbanization, Poverty and Violence](#). Ottawa: IDRC.

<sup>5</sup> See; Diagnostics of delinquency and insecurity in Abidjan, Bamako and Ouagadougou

suburban areas. This results in two situational factors contributing to crime and violence dynamics: presence and response capacity of public security officers on the one hand, and housing type on the other. This raises issues of urban governance and unequal access to public services among citizens.

By organizing this subregional symposium, IDRC, the City of Dakar and UN-Habitat plan to stimulate reflection on the magnitude of these phenomena, and to propose strategies and priority actions that could be used by urban authorities to address the challenges of insecurity, violence, and exclusion besetting them, in close collaboration with public and private stakeholders.

Thus, based on knowledge generated by research supported by IDRC, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), and UN-Habitat, and by other experts from the region, the aim of the symposium is to offer policy recommendations for developing an inclusive urban security action plan in West African municipalities.

As part of the overall framework of economic and social development in urban communities, the Symposium was organized around these key themes:

- The nature, actors, causes, and consequences of urban violence and crime;
- Territories, spatial segregation, facilities, and insecurity;
- Urban Local Governance and radicalization;
- A critical review of responses to crime and exclusion in West African cities; and,
- Safer and more inclusive municipalities: how to improve policies, practices, funding, and coordination of prevention of urban crime and urban inequalities?

The meeting's primary objective was to contribute to improving urban governance in West Africa through the provision of practical knowledge and evidence to effectively fight violence, inequality, and exclusion in urban communities.

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#### **Keynote Address, Mr. Khalifa Sall (Mayor of Dakar)**

Mr. Sall highlighted the tremendous opportunity for exchanges on the issue of safe cities that the symposium presents. Stressing the willingness of local officials to tackle security issues, he expressed the hope that this symposium would be a sharing opportunity for everyone.

The mayor called for solutions to insecurity. He noted that to speak of insecurity is first to worry about public safety and determine what coaxes a citizen to break the rules and engage in incivility leading to violence. Is it lack of integration? Is it faulty policy? The causes of violence are diverse and constantly present in our daily lives, but the manifestations all result in social if not societal harm.

Fundamentally, the issue of security can not be trusted solely to the local authorities, said Mr. Sall. It is under the purview of the state and the local authority is but a delegate acting on behalf of the state. Central governments are responsible for local security, but they need the assistance of local authorities. Combatting insecurity begins in family compounds and continues in neighborhoods before expanding to the local authorities. To this end, the local authorities are challenged in their ability to answer questions that are inherently social. Scourges such as emigration at any cost, drug

trafficking, hostage-taking, and others Mr. Sall considered as forms of radicalism emanating from a lack of familiarity with each other and generating violence to which no country is immune.

Reflection by all authorities is required to curb this unhealthy process, noted the mayor. Likewise, it would be important to return to the values that have always underpinned our social balance, as catalysts of harmony and peace. Finally, he called for proactivity on these issues to avoid a snowballing of these phenomena.

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## **THEME 1: THE CHALLENGES OF URBAN SECURITY IN WEST AFRICA**

**Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi**, Secretary General of UCLG – Africa

**Mrs. Maye Seck Sy**, Technical Advisor (Urban Security) to the Mayor of Dakar

**Mrs. Ramata Thioune**, Senior Program Specialist, Governance and Justice, IDRC

### **Key messages:**

- Local authorities are central to fighting crime and violence. National authorities need to provide greater support to them and bring them into strategies and interventions to fight crime. As urbanization in Africa continues, local governments will have even greater challenges to face, chief among them the demographic changes and the “youth bulge”.
- Security is not a science and is not the responsibility of the state/the police alone. Training and research on defence and security issues and multi-stakeholder dialogue are important.
- Local populations and the local economy also play important roles as urban economies are key contributors to economic growth. This must be considered in the context of broader human security questions. NGOs and civil society are able to support security efforts.
- Population growth should be an opportunity. But with little hope and few employment prospects, youth in cities are more of a security management risk than otherwise. Youth see politics as a game, rather than a process of empowerment.
- Safety is a collective issue, recalling the African proverb, “What you do for me, but without me, is against me.”
- Radicalism of youth comes from despair and being unable to see a future for themselves. Some would take meaning in death as martyrs than live a meaningless life. This is exemplified in the bravado of Senegalese youth who embark for Europe saying, “Barça or barsakh”: Get to Barcelona or die trying.

### **Principal recommendations**

1. Strengthen training and research on security issues;
2. Explore ways to enhance synergies between the Defence and Security Forces;
3. Strengthen resilience through strategic planning for local development.

## **PANEL 1: Nature, actors, causes and consequences of violence and urban crime**

**Prof. Francis Akindès and Dr. Felicien Kouame**, Alassane Ouattara University, Côte d’Ivoire

**Prof. George Owusu**, University of Ghana

**Prof. Theo Macaire Kaminar**, University of Kinshasa

**Dr. Djibril Diop**, University of Montreal

**Mr. Paulin Claude Danho**, Mayor of the municipality of Attécoubé (Abidjan); Vice-President of the Ivorian Forum for Urban Safety

**Mr. Jean Paul Ntambua**, Mayor of Mbuji Mayi, DRC

**Prof. Francis Akindès and Dr. Felicien Kouame** Alassane Ouattara University / Côte d'Ivoire

- Urban violence in Côte d'Ivoire is both political and social.
- Migration and changing perceptions of violence fuel urban criminal violence related to rural land issues.
- Political violence, including stabbings and desecration of holy places, was largely limited to the political crisis in 2010 and centred on Abidjan and Duékoué.
- Social violence exists in Abidjan, Bouaké, and Duékoué. It is focused on bus stations in urban centres through the emergence of the "Microbes"<sup>6</sup> phenomenon. Likewise, rape is a persistent problem with victims of increasingly low age (girls under 5 years).
- Violence, poverty, and urbanization are linked: in marginalized areas informal planning, a shortage of basic services and space for illicit activities combine to create an ecosystem that exclude youth from society.
- In these spaces, youth are de-socialized and re-socialized by violence. Poverty, a lack of social control, and few job prospects push them out of society to crime and violence. They are then resocialized in the street and the violent youth gangs that take them in.

**Prof. George Owusu**, University of Ghana

- Crime is not exclusively explained by poverty.
- Social and community cohesion are weakened due to resilience strategies such as the fortification of houses. Low social cohesion fuels crime.
- Middle-class neighborhoods see more crime than their wealthy or low-income counterparts. The wealthy are able to afford more sophisticated crime-prevention tools while strong social cohesion in low-income communities curtails crime.
- Recommendations include: strengthening the police and the judiciary; promoting governance and urban planning; building the capacity of communities to respond to crime and violence through strengthened social capital; and, anchoring crime prevention in a decentralized governance system.

**Prof. Theodore Macaire Kaminar**, University of Kinshasa

- The drivers of violence in Kinshasa and Mbuji-Mayi include: poverty among youth, social fragmentation, drugs and alcohol addiction, armed conflict, migration to urban areas and the lack of community law enforcement.
- Perpetrators of violence are mainly drug-addicted youth gangs, known as "Kulunas" in Kinshasa and "Suicidaires" in Mbuji-Mayi. Their names reflect their perception as "socially dead" and who have

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<sup>6</sup> The "microbes" are youth age 20 to 25 working in groups to attack and rob their victims, mostly using knives. Some also use kalashnikovs.

nothing to lose. They range in age from 15 to 25. Girls and young women are also members, taking on roles as watchers or as bait for victims.

- Their violence results in a host of social ills, including: sexual assault, unwanted pregnancies, spread of sexually transmitted diseases, stigmatization of certain neighbourhoods, forced displacement, cycles of insecurity, trauma and stress, loss of livelihood or employment, exclusion from education, and increased health care costs.
- Local populations have set up self-defence committees in response.

**Dr. Djibril Diop, University of Montreal**

- Urbanization is creating an increased sense of insecurity among Senegalese citizens.
- The profile of offenders is young (75% between 15 and 35) and young girls are increasingly involved as perpetrators.
- Police presence is below the recommended rates and Dakar's residents are organizing to tackle crime. More people are carrying weapons, and 24-hour private security and vigilantism are on the rise.
- Urban insecurity creates space for terrorist and organized criminal networks.
- Corruption prevents law enforcement agencies from performing their duties appropriately.
- Police strategy has focused on purchasing new equipment, hiring new staff, conducting sting operations, updating regulations to address new threats (such as cybercrime), and reorganizing the defence and security services.
- Best practices for safer cities include: innovation in policing for sustainable solutions; community involvement in security management; social development for prevention; and integrated urban policies with police as a partner.

**Discussion**

- Addressing the challenges faced by youth is a pressing concern.
- The absence of planned urbanization is a major cause of acute urban disorder. Solutions must be analyzed comprehensively, involving local councillors, mayor and national governments.
- Research is crucial to inform urban policies
- Local authorities are under-resourced and struggling to play their full role in providing safety to the people.
- In Mali, similar challenges face youth. An added concern is radicalization by foreign preachers who recruit in the country's mosques.
- Considering the link between migration and urban violence, investing in youth integration strategies in rural areas could benefit both areas.
- Parents play a crucial role in supporting their youth and providing guidance to them.
- Informal security and vigilantism is a strong concern, particularly as local authorities and mayors lack the resources to provide the security residents demand. Senegal's Community Security Agency is an example of how to redirect energy from informal security mechanisms into more formal and legitimate ones.

**Key recommendation**

1. Track Indicators of crime and develop a guide to allow mayors to have a reading on security and thus address all crime-prone areas.

## **PANEL 2: Territories, spatial segregation, facilities and insecurity**

**Dr. Raphael Kouadio Oura**, Alassane Ouattara University, Côte d'Ivoire

**Dr. Charlotte Wrigley-Asante**, University of Ghana

**Dr. Claude Ngomsi**, UN-Habitat

**Mr. Bampo Paul Mensah**, Accra City Council, Ghana

**Mr. Juma Assiago**, Safer Cities Programme Coordinator, UN-Habitat

**Dr. Raphael Kouadio Oura**, Alassane Ouattara University, Côte d'Ivoire

- In Abobo, police are responsible for urban security but due to insufficient numbers, must rely on the army at times. Any preventive measure would depend on the relationship between the police and all entities in place.
- Individuals take their protection into their own hands
- Criminals network with powerful community members for their own protection

**Dr. Charlotte Wrigley-Asante**, University of Ghana

- Women and men are involved in crime in different ways.
- Pickpocketing is the most common crime, but few women are perpetrators.
- Women feel less secure than men.
- Lack of public lighting, inefficient police, gangsterism, and narrow roads are some of factors contributing to insecurity.
- Sex crimes are more prevalent in low-income communities where women are the main victims. Victims of sexual crimes (also poorly reported in the formal security structures) often prefer informal financial compensation to prosecution. The consequence is that the statistics do not always reflect the magnitude of these crimes.
- Recommendations to make Ghana's cities safer include:
  - Improving urban infrastructure
  - Securing bus stops and public toilets
  - Increasing police presence in communities
  - Enforcing (statutory) rape laws
  - Develop economic opportunities for youth

**Dr. Claude Ngomsi**, UN-Habitat

- African cities lack equipment in peripheral areas.
- Social problems such as segregation on land and disproportionate access to resources are also problematic.
- Different types of crime lead to different responses: some victims do not report humiliating crimes.
- Different actors must be mobilized to create security: for example, families play an important role in ensuring children are educated. Cities could support these efforts.

- Other areas where the state and local communities can help strengthen urban security include: police staffing and public lighting.

### Discussion

- Civil society has a role to play in finding solutions to urban insecurity.
- Controlled urbanization is a means to control crime.
- The Sustainable Development Goals create an opportunity to modernize cities.
- Only holistic approaches to safety – inclusive approaches involving local and central authorities – can lead to long-term solutions.
- Authorities must make an effort to understand all layers of the population through a social integration framework.

### Panel 3: Urban Local Governance and Radicalization

#### Keynote Address: Dr. Bakary Samb (Director, Timbuktu Institute)

- There is no accepted definition of what a “radical” is
- There is a strong correlation between demography, security and radicalization.
- Indicators of radicalization include: rapid population growth, high youth unemployment, youth vulnerability, lack of infrastructure, and an absent state.
- The Boko Haram movement in the Sahel sees its roots in the oil crisis of the 1970’s combined with a crippling drought led to unemployment, a lack of religious control, marginalization, and poverty.
- Decentralization failed to address these problems.
- Radicalization connects two symposium themes: urban concentration and the youth bulge.
- In countries hosting Boko Haram, the frustration of unemployed youth and socioeconomic factors with an economy largely dependent on Lake Chad create the conditions for terrorism.
- 41 million people under 25 may become radicalized.
- Poor countries will be forced to devote much of their already-thin budgets to security issues.
- Potential solutions include developing a reliable urban planning system and including local authorities, local governments, and city managers in inclusive policies to prevent – rather than respond to – security challenges.

### Discussion

- Disruptions in family life is a contributing factor to radicalization.
- Sexual violence must be named when discussing radicalization: forced marriage, slavery, abuse, gang rape, trafficking in women, all of which are tied to gender discrimination, domestic violence and (post-)conflict.
- The key components of radicalization have existed for some time. Perhaps “tilting” is a more appropriate term.
- Governance, municipality, and radicalization are linked.
- Participatory budget processes are a way to include different groups in society.
- The socio-cultural aspects of radicalization must be recognized and understood.
- Youth are radicalizing because they are losing hope of ever fitting into society.

- Links between migration, human-trafficking, and radicalization are strong and need good education, job-creation, and reintegration policies to address the concerns of would-be migrants.
- Devolution of responsibilities from the central state to municipalities must come with added resources so that cities can fund programming.
- Data on radicalization is sparse and needs to be strengthened.
- Military solutions are counterproductive and strengthen radicalization.
- Religion is not the only fact that pushes young people to join radical movements. Market forces, ethnicity, and socio-cultural pressures also contribute.

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## **THEME 2: SOLUTIONS AND ANSWERS TO VIOLENCE AND URBAN INSECURITY**

**PANEL 4:** Critical review of answers to crime and exclusion in West African cities

**Dr. Willy Mbalanda**, University of Kinshasa

**Ms. Roxane Perron Martel**, Center for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence

**Mr. Clement Ouango**, Director of Ouagadougou Municipal Police, Burkina Faso

**Mr. Aristide Konan Kouassi**, Deputy Director of Yopougon Municipal Police, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

**Ms. Nomvuso Shabalala**, Deputy Mayor of Durban

**Dr. Pape Khaly Niang**, Director, National Agency for Community Security

**Dr. Willy Mbalanda**, University of Kinshasa, DRC

- Congolese governments have focused on strengthening deterrents to crime: community policing, awareness raising about the Kulunas (youth gangs), training and mentoring, collaborating with civil society, and establishing local self-defence committees.
- Nevertheless, the police continue to be under-resourced.
- To create safe and inclusive cities, the government needs to:
  - Protect and secure public and private facilities
  - Create and rehabilitate vocational schools
  - Implement a labour policy and establish a living minimum wage to fight poverty
  - Address urban-rural links by ensuring that rural areas are also secure.

**Ms. Roxane Martel-Perron**, Center for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence, Canada

- Radicalization is a process by which people adopt extreme belief systems, with a will to use, encourage or facilitate violence for the triumph of an alleged ideology.
- Its forms include politico-religious radicalization (Jihadism, Christian Identity), the extreme right (neo-Nazis, skinheads, identity nationalism, sovereign citizens) or left (anarchists, radical environmentalists, animal rights) or single cause (anti-abortion, anti-women, Wali).
- Radicalization *per se* is not a problem but when it leads to violence that is a problem.
- CPRMV promotes a personalized psychosocial intervention approach focusing on:
  - training, education and awareness by working on the underlying root causes;
  - mobilizing the community through a holistic and multidisciplinary approach;

- intervention and personalized psychosocial support;
- facilitating reintegration.

**Mr. Clement Ouango, Ministry of Decentralization and Public Security, Burkina Faso**

- Cities need to ensure public security, public salubrity, public peace, morality. and the beauty of public space.
- To these ends, the city uses the municipal police, civil Municipal Services and State Security Services.
- An integrated prevention strategy includes three key elements:
  - trust between populations and institutions,
  - peaceful conflict resolution and
  - active participation of the "target audience" in prevention strategies.

**Mr. Konan Aristide Kouassi, Municipal Police of Yopougon, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire**

- In Côte d'Ivoire, the state has made safety a priority, through multifaceted initiatives at the institutional level:
  - Restoring state authority and public order, including creating specialized institutional structures; rehabilitating and equipping police stations and barracks; improving access to justice; training security forces on human rights; implementing development projects; reforming the security sector; demobilizing, disarming, and reintegrating ex-combatants; and improving control of small arms and light weapons.
  - Devolution of responsibility for national initiatives to communities around local security interventions
- Key lessons learned include the need for sufficient funding, improved dissemination of good practices, and the need to collaborate.

**Discussion**

- South Africa faces genuine security challenges with 66% of the population aged under 35 years.
- Durban has an integrated development plan that allows good budget planning. However, security issues must first be enrolled in the plan in order to be budgeted. Durban launched a 3-phase program to:
  - Manage and prevent crime
  - Plan crime prevention programming
  - Implement the plan in synergy with the community
- Today it is imperative to assert a direct relationship between religion and radicalism. Radicalism now requires a societal response, which must be analyzed before defining it.
- We must focus on prevention of radicalization – particularly social prevention – because the deterrent response of prison has shown its limits.
- A multidisciplinary approach is needed to give an accurate picture of crime in a city.
- Senegal's experience with municipal policing, in which municipalities were provided police forces and then they were removed shows the need for alternative approaches, such as Dakar's youth brigades approach, to fill the void of community policing.

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## **REPORTS OF SMALL GROUP WORK**

**Safer and more inclusive municipalities:** how to improve policies, practices, funding and coordination of crime prevention and urban inequalities?

Across the groups, several key recommendations emerged:

1. Establish mechanisms to share information and experience across stakeholder groups
2. Strengthen knowledge on key urban safety and security topics
3. Strengthen the capacity of municipalities to take an active role in providing safety and security to their citizens
4. Expand the idea of who is a security actor to include municipal governments, local and community organizations, and individual citizens
5. Ensure a gender- and youth-sensitive analysis in urban security decision-making
6. Prioritize crime prevention

*Detailed results from individual groups are included in Annex A.*

### **Discussion**

- Participants noted that all groups have put the citizen at the heart of security issues and of the fight against violence and crime. Security is not just the business of officers in uniforms, but of all citizens.
- Focus should be on education and training.
- Planning and budgeting are also priorities.
- Today security is at the heart of community affairs.
- Unfortunately, according to some participants, local officials in the ECOWAS countries have security powers devolved to them but they do not exercise these due to lack of information. This needs to change.
- Some municipal leaders made a strong plea to the state to give local authorities their rightful place, to support them in assuming the security responsibilities delegated to them. Expert security advisors to mayors was proposed as one solution. A methodological guide to familiarize mayors with their responsibilities was also proposed as was a tool to sensitize citizens to the language of urban security.
- The difference between vigilante committees and local warning committees was noted through the experience of the latter in Cameroon.

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## **THE DAKAR DECLARATION**

**The participants agreed the Dakar Declaration (see Annex C).**

### **NEXT STEPS**

1. Draft and share a report of the Symposium.
2. Continue to reflect and research to find solutions to our common security problems.

3. Feed the results of the Symposium into the documents being prepared for the Habitat III Conference in Quito, Ecuador, in October.
4. Share these experiences with the Durban Forum on Urban Security in June.
5. Continue these discussions at subsequent forums, such as in Ouagadougou in 2018.

## ANNEX A: Small Group Work

### Group 1: **Governance of urban safety: the actors**

1. Regional solutions:
  - a. Strengthen knowledge on crime and violence in order to define shared policies
  - b. Establish platforms for exchange and sharing;
  - c. Establish a sub-regional framework for managing security challenges;
  - d. Define a framework for sharing information;
  - e. Develop a border defense system;
  - f. Develop anti-terrorism strategies;
  - g. Initiate a policy against the proliferation of light weapons and small arms.
2. National solutions:
  - a. Challenge the security system with a view to its extension beyond defense;
  - b. Clarify concepts from police and security standpoints, that is to say, to distinguish between technical and policy roles, based on evidence;
  - c. Update strategies and training doctrines;
  - d. Focus on prevention;
  - e. Initiate a development strategy to reduce inequalities and exclusions;
  - f. Move towards breaking down boundaries to include all stakeholders;
  - g. Establish sharing and exchange platforms;
  - h. Empower all levels to strengthen intelligence, surveillance, and warning mechanisms;
  - i. Define a regulatory framework;
  - j. Define roles and responsibilities of different actors at each level of competence (Regional, decentralized state and community);
  - k. Promote the policy of disseminating legal texts;
  - l. Build capacity of all stakeholders to facilitate implementation of responsibilities;
  - m. Ensure supervision and scaling of defense and security structures
3. Local solutions:
  - a. Give policing powers to Local Government authorities, in partnership with the Defence Forces and all other actors;
  - b. Pool strengths and skills between communities;
  - c. Establish a consultative frameworks for surveillance, warning monitoring and evaluation (permanent and a crisis unit at the departmental or provincial level (consultation framework), local (municipal council) and community (warning committee);
  - d. Develop strategic documents and operational action plans (observatory type);
  - e. Share all information allowing for monitoring profiling;
  - f. Regulate ethics by disseminating and sharing information and through law enforcement;
  - g. Advocate and communicate the exercise of police power and get buy-in among populations;
  - h. Respect sharing of information, preventive, and deterrent policies;
  - i. Establish support policies to fight against social inequalities;
  - j. Integrate security dimensions in planning documents and urban planning;

- k. Define risk prevention plans;
- l. Holistic approach to addressing security problems through an interconnection between the various urban issues that affect urban security.

**Group 2: Citizen participation as a vehicle for sustainable security and prevention policies**

1. Recommendations:
  - a. Make of the citizen a security actor;
  - b. Promote gender in the co-production of policies and practices;
  - c. Build the capacity of actors and provide them with tools to carry and implement security policies;
  - d. Promote public basic education; training in citizenship since infancy, nurture citizens to develop a concern for belonging;
  - e. Promote experience sharing, make visits to and disseminate successful experiences;
  - f. Establish consultative frameworks and ensure dialogue and decision making;
  - g. Promote job creation policies for young people.
  - h. Enforce the mayor's police powers, with an added value for community and participatory security;
  - i. Rethink the city by improving the framework and promoting living together;
  - j. Dedicate days to political dialogue between States, elected officials, local stakeholders, and communities.
  - k. Organize security, rather than delegating it.
2. Action Plan:
  - a. Educate the citizens and strengthen their basic capacities;
  - b. Put in place appropriate structures for community mediation;
  - c. Articulate justice and community mediation together;
  - d. Strengthen human resources of local authorities
  - e. Link together life, environment and safety;
  - f. Ensure advocacy involving populations in developing legislation, regulations and conventions;
  - g. Create an emulation framework and encourage best practices;
  - h. Strengthen warning and watchdog strategies and tackle issues of vulnerable people: women, people with disabilities, etc.;
  - i. Implement tailored information, literacy and training for citizens.
3. Research:
  - a. Local safety diagnosis in Local Communities with a focus on practices;
  - b. Diagnosis of new forms of insecurity at local and sub-regional level, and identification of new forms of resilience;
  - c. Related links between security in West Africa and legal and institutional frameworks to manage security in the region;
  - d. Informal insecurity in West Africa;
  - e. Place, role and strategy of citizen involvement in citizens' issues.

**Group 3: Evaluation, financing and accountability**

1. Develop and disseminate methodological tools for evaluating and funding policies and practices;
2. Analyse and upgrade cultural values with a potential for improving public security and tranquility;
3. Assess measures that strengthen the security of women, children and persons with disabilities in public areas;
4. Conduct a quick diagnosis of the operating mode, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of neighborhood councils and vigilance or self-defense committees;
5. Capitalize and enhance the actions of neighborhood councils or vigilance committees;
6. Promoting compliance with regulations in the planning and urban development process;
7. Study the cost and benefit of financing of crime prevention by public stakeholders the private sector and the communities;
8. Create specific budget lines within municipalities to fund crime and violence prevention activities;
9. Establish collaboration between local authorities and MPs to strengthen advocacy on grants to the communities for security measures;
10. Mobiliz private sector participation in financing the prevention of crime and violence;
11. Strengthen, or possibly, generalize grants from local and central government to district councils;
12. Promote inter-municipal planning and implementation of actions to reduce and prevent crime;
13. Nurture a climate of trust between decision makers and communities to ensure the transparent collection and management of taxes;
14. Capitalize and disseminate best practices to reduce corruption and improve access to public services;
15. Capitalise and disseminate best crime reduction practices in municipalities in West Africa;
16. Fund the establishment of police stations and public health services in markets
17. Evaluate forms of incivility and irresponsible conduct of the stakeholders in their professional settings;
18. Make the diagnosis of crime and safety improvement efforts in big Senegalese cities like Dakar Senegal, Thies, Pikine, Rufisque and Guédiawaye

#### Group 4: **Governance and urban safety**

1. Recommendations
  - a. Rethink the structure of the city and the legal framework and strengthen the city
  - b. Understand the city's social dynamics and human capital;
  - c. Prioritize crime prevention;
  - d. Solve the problem of collaboration and coordination between different governance levels;
  - e. Establish regional networks;
  - f. Strengthen the Police inclusively;
  - g. Consider management in emergency situation and cross-border crime, which would imply networking and an intelligent financial system;
  - h. Use technology to fight against crime; e.g. use of GIS for crime prevention.
  - i. Establish a network(s) for knowledge sharing, technical assistance, and funding

- j. Develop a database on security, safety, and crime to map crime and rethink the use of statistics for security planning
- 2. Citizen participation, inspired by the experience of Durban:
  - a. Establish within the municipality a unit for community participation. All stakeholders can discuss security issues within this unit.
  - b. Develop a participatory budget preparation: sharing the proposed budget with communities prior to approval.
  - c. Involve vulnerable groups (women, youth, persons with disabilities)
- 3. Accountability
  - a. Monthly update report to the community
  - b. Evaluate the performance of all members of the municipal team
  - c. Internal audit of the municipality's accounts (preliminary audit)
  - d. Set up the following committees:
    - i. Committee for Monitoring the municipal public account (MPACT)
    - ii. Ethics Committee for performance management of community representatives

Support Committee to Community Representatives in fulfilling their missions.

ANNEX B: Symposium Programme

ANNEX C: Dakar Declaration

ANNEX D: List of Participants