



African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum

REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

14-15 March 2017

Johannesburg, South Africa

Background

The challenges to community safety in Southern Africa are significant and complex. Rapid urbanisation accompanied with high levels of unemployment, severe income inequality, systemic corruption, and poor health and educational outcomes all contribute to high levels of crime and violence throughout the region. Criminal justice responses are only part of the solution to making people safe. Recognising this, there are many examples across the region that promote more holistic and developmental strategies to safety that extend beyond the purview of the criminal justice system.

At a regional level the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have long expressed concern over ‘the escalation of crime at both national and transnational levels’,¹ as they threaten safety throughout the region, extract a high cost in terms of health and security, and undermine attempts by government and other actors to address development, poverty and equality issues. Through the vision of the SADC Declaration and Treaty, the Southern African region promotes a shared future in an environment of peace, security and stability, regional cooperation and integration based on equity, mutual benefit and solidarity.

SADC’s Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (SIPO II) demonstrates growing realisation of the importance of safety and development interventions in achieving this vision. The objectives set out under the chapter on Public Safety include promoting and encouraging best practices to establish a common approach to handling public security and safety matters.²

¹ UNODC (2013). Making the Southern Africa Development Community Safer from Crime and Drugs: Regional Program 2013-2016. Available at: [https://www.unodc.org/documents/southernafrica//Stories/UNODC - SADC - Regional Programme - online.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/southernafrica//Stories/UNODC_-_SADC_-_Regional_Programme_-_online.pdf) <Accessed on 25 November 2016>

² Southern African Development Community (SADC), 2015. *Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, Revised Edition*. Available at: http://www.sadc.int/files/6313/6880/3040/03514_SADC_SIPO_English.pdf <Accessed on 22 October 2016> [Herein referred to as ‘SIPO II’]

At the same time over the past five years, important initiatives to strengthen community safety have been underway in countries across Southern Africa. In Namibia, Mozambique and South Africa, civil society and community-based organisations have worked with national and local governments to promote developmental responses to community safety and the challenges of crime and violence with encouraging results.

This conference brought together stakeholders from the across the region to share lessons and, in seeking a partnership with SADC, promoted the implementation of the SIPO2 by building a community of safety practitioners in the region.



Attendance

Nathaniel //Areseb	Urban Trust of Namibia
Juma Assiango	UN-Habitat
Patrick Burton	Centre for Justice and Crime Prevention
Boniface Cheembe	Southern African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (SACCORD)
Mxolisi Khalane	Mbumba
Gloria Khoza	UNICEF
Pier Lemaire	International Centre for the Prevention of Crime
Lezanne Leoschut	Centre for Justice and Crime Prevention
Gillian Makota	Centre for Justice and Crime Prevention
Muzi Masuku	Open Society's Initiative for Southern Africa
Amanda Melville	UNICEF
Selebatso Mokgosi	Southern Africa Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO)
Neil Naidoo	Eastern Cape Department of Safety and Liaison
Ronald Nare	Zimbabwe Peace and Security Trust
Godfrey Phonchi	Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)
Ripfumelo Sithole	Center for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation
Kelly Stone	African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCOF)
Sean Tait	African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCOF)
Giselle Warton	University of Cape Town's Safety and Violence Initiative
Dalli Weyers	Social Justice Coalition

Bongumusa Zondo	African Forum for Urban Safety
Mpiwa Mangwiro	Sonke Gender Justice

Welcome and Introductions

Sean Tait introduced himself as the Director of APCOF before continuing to provide a background to the conference.

The purpose of this regional conference is to share experience on crime and violence prevention practice from across the region and, through this lens, explore the synergy between local practice regional organs such as SADC and SARPCCO and their potential to facilitate shared learning between countries and communities. SADC's Organ for Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation's is potentially best positioned to lead such co-operation given its mandate to strengthen regional partnerships in matters relating to public safety and security.

The idea of this regional conference had first been mooted in a smaller reference group meeting held on 7 and 8 September 2016 and attended by some of the same participants as this regional conference. At that reference meeting, participants supported the idea that SADC had an important role to play in promoting crime and violence prevention responses for the region. The development of a set of SADC endorsed guidelines on Crime and Violence Prevention were proposed and a follow up the conversation in the format of the current conference was planned to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to identify the key values and principles that could be enshrined in such guidelines.

In this regard, the agenda for this regional conference was structured to provide for expert input during the first day and to explore a way forward during the second.

A copy of the position paper submitted to SADC as an outcome of the reference meeting is attached to this report as Appendix 1

Policy and Practice in Promoting Community Safety in SADC

Assistant Commissioner of Police Godfrey Phonchi introduced himself as the Head of the Police Component of the SADC Stand By Force.

He provided an overview of SADC, the SIPO II, and directives to the Public Security Sector in Southern Africa. The SADC Declaration and Treaty, which establishes the SADC as a Regional Economic Community (REC), promotes interdependence and increased integration of all national economies in the region.

SADC's Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation provides for the establishment of the Organ, which is mandated to oversee implementation of the Protocol. The Organ's objectives are provided in the SIPO II, which was revised and adopted as a 5-year strategy in 2010, and has recently been extended to 2020.

SIPO II sets the agenda for peace and security for the region; identifies the nature of security threats and challenges, specifically in relation to transnational crime; and provides for the collaboration and mobilization of resources in combating transnational organized crime. Accordingly, the objectives of SIPO II include the following:

- Protect the people and safeguard development of the region against stability arising from the breakdown of law and order.
- Promote political cooperation among state parties and the evolution of common political values and institutions.
- Develop common policy approaches on issues of mutual concern and advance such policy collectively at international fora.
- Promote regional cooperation and coordination.
- Develop close co-operation between the police and state security services of state parties in order to address:
 - Cross border crime; and
 - Promote a community based approach to domestic security.
- Observe and encourage state parties to implement United Nations, African Union and other international conventions and treaties on arms control, disarmament and peaceful relations between state parties.

SIPO II's Objective 2 for the Public Security Sector presents a potential location for promoting crime and violence prevention initiatives across the region given that it obligates the Organ 'to promote regional coordination and cooperation on matters related to public security and safety and establish appropriate mechanisms to this end'. One of the key strategies in achieving Objective 2 is to 'promote and encourage best practices to establish a common approach to handling public security and safety matters'.



In the discussions that followed, the definition of security was discussed, noting this needed to encompass both the state security but also human security if it was to be true to the ideas of promoting public safety. Issues which emerge as concerns for state security such as terrorism and cross border crimes, often have their origins in local vulnerabilities. While there is an important role for criminal justice institutions, other sectors (including health, social development and education, for example) have an important role to play.

The interconnected future of the region where challenges, be they environmental or socio-economic in nature, have knock on effects through migration or border insecurity were evident, and it is thus in the interests of members states to co-operate on issues related to public safety peace and security. In many ways, a strong prevention response promoted in crime and violence prevention practice, which relies on a good diagnostic and planned responses to identified threats and challenges, is an example of an early warning system at local level.

Crime Prevention Theory and Practice

Lezanne Leoschut from the Centre for Justice and Crime Prevention provided a theoretical overview of the current debates in crime and violence prevention.

She said that crime and violence has become one of the major challenges facing governments, specifically in developing countries. It presents a hurdle for social and economic development and is threatening to derail efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. However, in her opinion, governments are not powerless against crime and violence. There is a lot that can be done to reverse the trends, starting with understanding why crime and violence occurs in the first place.

Beginning with definitions she defined crime as the commission of a specific action that is forbidden by law, or the non-commission of an action that is required by law. The term is often used to refer more broadly to the sum of all the crimes and dangers that are faced and experienced by communities.

Our understanding of what counts as violence is determined by our cultural influences, which are expressed in terms of social norms and values. There is no universal definition of violence at an international level, but for the purposes of this discussion, the World Health Organisation definition was used - namely '[t]he intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation.'

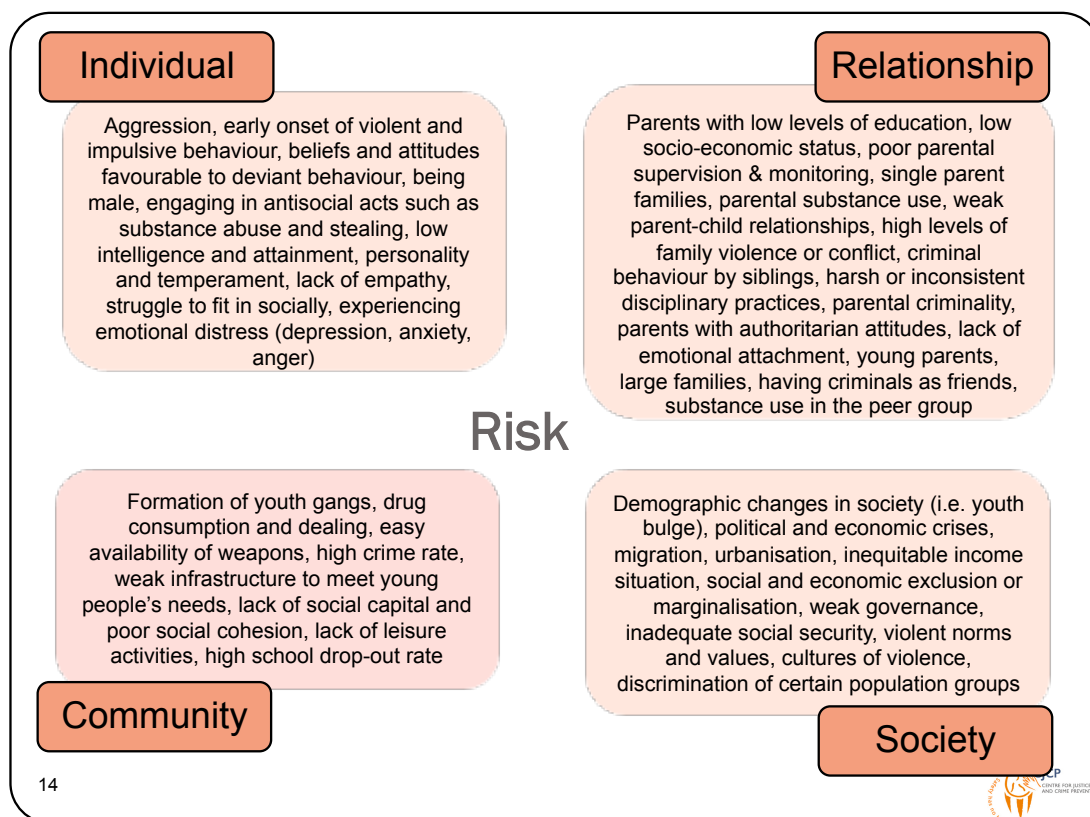
Safety is the absence of crime, risk, or threat of being hurt, the condition of being safe and a safe environment is one in which economic growth can occur, where poverty and social exclusion can be reduced, where individuals and families can live free of crime and violence, as well as, free of the fear of crime and violence.

Crime prevention, taken from the UN Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime was defined as '...strategies and measures that seek to reduce the risk of crimes occurring

and their potential harmful effects on individuals and societies, including fear of crime, by intervening to influence their multiple causes.'

In recent years, there has been a shift in language and conceptualisation of crime and our responses to it. The change in language signifies an important shift in understanding. Where crime prevention theory and practice perceives the environment and opportunities as being the underlying causes of disorder – violence prevention theory and practice, on the other hand, is concerned with the behaviour that results in disorder. Violence prevention is therefore concerned with changing behaviour rather than merely changing the environment and opportunities to commit crime. This emphasis on behaviour change represents a major shift away from the dominant reliance on the formal criminal justice system to police crime. It recognises the role of those sectors traditionally not considered actors in the crime and violence arena such as health, education and social development/welfare.

Crime and violence are difficult to understand and prevent because the causes are multi-layered and complex. They result from many different and inter-connected factors. We need to understand the multiplicity of these factors in order to come up with solutions that will really address the causes of crime and violence, rather than just the symptoms.



One theory for understanding violence prevention is the ecological model which recognises the individual and their relationship with self, family, community and society at large. The ecological model helps us understand what makes someone at risk of becoming involved in crime and violence. Risk factors are those things that increase the risk of people or places becoming associated with crime and violence.

Simply put, a risk factor is a 'variable that predicts an increased probability of later offending' including victimization. The model helps us see risk as being directly related to the individual as well as the social contexts in which the individual lives.

Just by being present in a person's life, a risk factor does not guarantee that the person will become involved in crime and violence. Risk factors have a cumulative effect. The more risk factors that come together at the different levels, the greater the likelihood of crime and violence occurring. When we are able to identify the people most at risk, we are better able to design effective prevention strategies.

Research on risk factors has prompted investigation into protective factors. These protective factors provide a buffer between exposure to risk factors, and the onset of anti-social or criminal behaviour. They also mediate or moderate the effects of exposure to risk, resulting in the reduced incidence of problem behaviour and are understood to offset the onset of delinquency via four main processes:

- Reducing risk;
- Reducing negative chain reactions;
- Establishing self-esteem and self-efficacy; and
- Opening up opportunities.

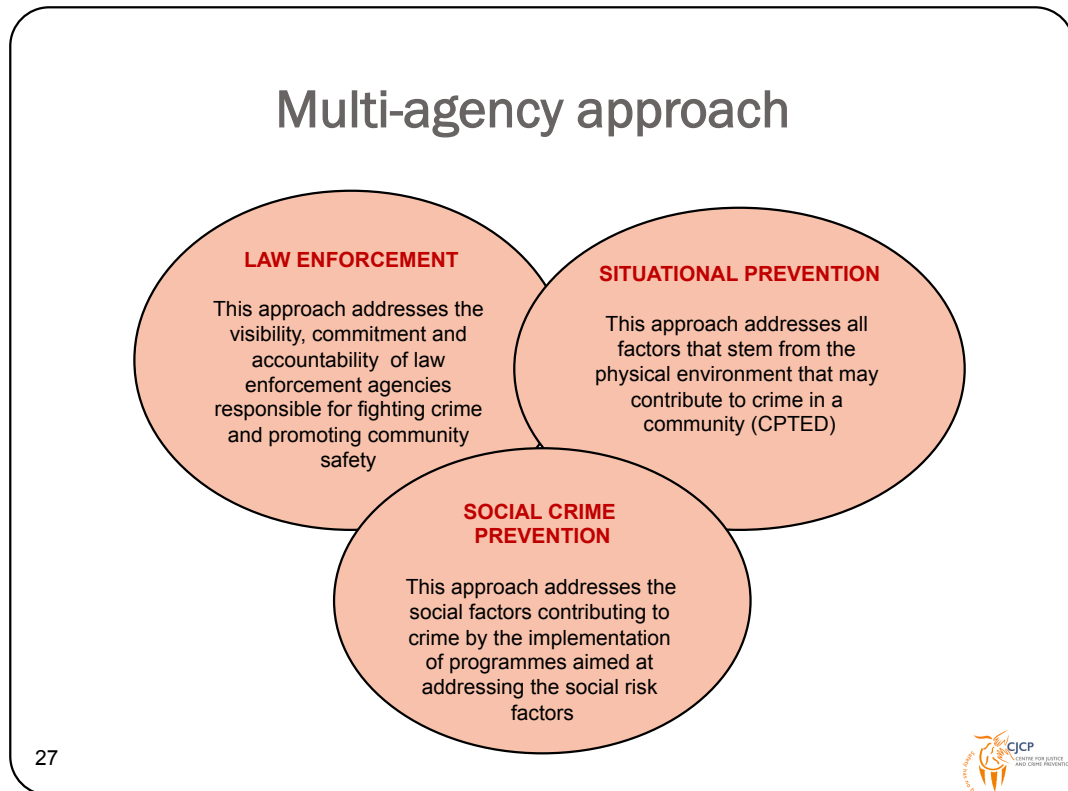
Protective factors have not been as extensively researched as risk factors. Available research shows that protective factors can take the form of either the absence of risk or be something conceptually different to it such as:

- Poor school performance versus excellent school performance; or
- Poverty versus the presence of involved and supportive parents.

Violence prevention efforts hinge on identifying risk and protective factors and determining *when* in the course of development they emerge. It is important to see each potential offender as someone who is developing over the course of life and in specific settings. To be effective, the prevention efforts must be appropriate to the individual's stage of development and target the risk and protective factors prevailing at that stage. This comprises activities and interventions that are designed to *reduce the risk factors* believed to increase the likelihood of violence and *enhance the protective factors* that lead to an individual's ability to make good choices *throughout their life*.

A co-ordinated effort is required. A number of sectors have important roles to play in the systemic prevention of violence. Working in a single sector is not enough to ensure a sustainable prevention approach. Simultaneous interventions operating at all three levels of prevention are required across the lifespan of individuals to stem the tide of crime and violence. Although in practice, political and personal differences, as well as, financial shortfalls often hinder the actual cross-sectoral cooperation – such cooperation is the foundation for effective and sustainable violence prevention. Inter-sectoral consultation, co-operation and collaboration, effective and integrated service delivery, and community engagement and accountability – at all spheres of government – is an imperative for building safer communities. In addition to the criminal justice system, the roles of the health, social

development and education systems are important in addressing risk and protective factors that influence crime and violence. Short-term measures, such as those undertaken by the criminal justice system, need to be augmented with long-term prevention approaches that generate positive social change, in order to reduce levels of crime and violence



Promoting the Impetus for Urban Safety in the SADC Region

Bongomusa Zondo from the African Forum for Urban Safety (AFUS) said that none of the world regions are urbanising as fast as Africa. The UN estimates that Africa will soon cease to be predominantly rural. This presents an opportunity to improve standards of living for millions of urban citizens. It also presents challenges in terms of the severe pressure on the existing service such as energy, water, transportation, sanitation and basic health. As cities carry on delivering services, issues of crime prevention and promotion of peace become very important.

The main purpose of AFUS is to enhance the capacity of local governments in Africa to be better equipped to deliver urban safety for all citizens, particularly the most vulnerable which is to be achieved through:

- Consolidation, development and promotion of the exchange of lessons practices and experiences amongst African Cities – ‘Community of Practice’;
- Development of practical tools for the implementation of urban crime prevention and safety;
- City to City cooperation - development of exchange and collaboration mechanism amongst municipal safer cities coordination teams; and

- Integration and coordination – development of regional position and capacity for local government involvement in regional and global initiatives.

Local Government is a key actor within SADC and as such, together with a clearly articulated vision for and the capacity to play a role in promoting safety, is an important partner in this initiative.



International Examples of Regional Responses to Crime and Violence Prevention

Pier Lemaire introduced the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC), which was established in 1994 to promote the UN guideline on the prevention of crime. It is a unique international forum and resource centre dedicated to the exchange of ideas and knowledge on crime prevention and community safety. ICPC seeks to promote crime prevention, encourage the development of inspiring practices, and foster effective exchange between criminal justice systems and civil societies across countries and cities. It is currently actively involved in a number of prevention initiatives including on urban crime, human trafficking, radicalization, etc.

Speaking to the issue of regional co operation Mr. Lemaire drew on the example of the Council on Baltic States (CBSS), which works on a wide range of issues from crime prevention to social and economic development. The CBSS is a flexible, demand-driven and result-oriented forum for regional cooperation. To this end, the CBSS identifies political goals, create action-plans, initiates projects and serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas concerning regional issues of common interest.

Safe & Secure is a long-term priority of CBSS. A well-developed cooperation exists in most fields of law enforcement, including cross-border crime-related networks of police, border guard, prosecutors and tax administrations. Law enforcement often cooperate cross-sectionally, thus bringing added value for our regional cooperation. Part of Safe & Secure priority are the highly developed and practical expert level cooperation structures, such as: The Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings.

This Task Force addresses both enforcement and prevention strategies including:

- Forced labor and forced marriages;
- Transfer of knowledge and best practices; and
- Technical support and capacity building including a standardized guideline to classify crime across the region.

The Task Force helps to identify the new trends in human trafficking and has a focus on municipalities recognizing the importance of urban action. In this regard it has assisted cities to develop local guidelines against human trafficking.

Similarly the European Union Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN) supports practitioners at state and non state level to promote crime prevention practice across Europe and has been successful in recognising the different cultures and contexts and value systems in which it is operating. The EUCPN was established in May 2001 to promote crime prevention activity in Member States across the European Union, and to provide a means through which valuable good practice in preventing crime, mainly “traditional” crime, could be shared.

The goals of the Network are to:

- a) Be a point of reference for the target groups of the Network;
- b) Disseminate qualitative knowledge on crime prevention;
- c) Support crime prevention activities at national and local level; and
- d) Contribute to the EU policy and strategy of crime prevention and to contribute to various aspects of crime prevention at EU level in respect of the strategic priorities of EU.

Policing and Crime Prevention

Senior Superintendent Selebatso Mokgosi of SARPPCO spoke to the issue of policing and crime prevention in the region. He provided a brief overview, recognising the colonial past of many police organisation’s which had been set up to serve colonial interests and were often militarised in their posture. They had extensive powers to enforce draconian laws. Crime prevention was not reflected in the objects of the early police.

Recently considerable effort has gone into transforming police suitable for policing the modern democracies of the continent. This has seen shifts from:

- A fire-fighting approach (reactive) versus a pro-active approach (prevention);
- A more community service orientation;
- Observance of human rights; and
- Recognition of the value of community involvement in policing.



Crime prevention and community policing are more common in police debates but continued exposure to discussions such as this were very beneficial to the police.

Among the challenges still affecting the move towards a more regionalised response to not only policing, but to crime and violence prevention, include:

- Lack of harmonised processes, protocol and legislation;
- Lack of community trust often caused by isolated cases but spread through information technology; and
- Lack of forums where members of the community meet with the state organs to deliberate on their difference.

As a way forward S Supt Mokgosi was of the opinion that police needed to co-operate more closely with the community. This could only be done on the basis of trust, and facilitated through clear strategies. National commissions on crime prevention were important but to extend beyond the role of the police, they have to be led by agencies other than the police.

Children, youth and safety

Gillian Makota of the Centre for Justice and Crime Prevention discussed the subject of children youth and safety.

Globally, 8 out of 10 children aged 2 and 14 years old are subjected to some form of violent discipline at home. Seven in 10 children experience psychological aggression, while 6 in 10 experience physical punishment. In South Africa, young people who have been victims of violence are 6 times more likely to commit a crime than those who have not been victimised. Violence is learned in childhood, for example experience of corporal punishment from caregivers, witnessing violence in the family, through bullying and aggression in schools and in the community, and can result in

lifelong effects, as violence is perceived to be a normal method of interacting with others.

Forms of violence include neglect, emotional violence sexual violence, physical violence and harmful traditional and cultural practices. The absence of developmental investment to become healthy, well adjusted adults, for example:

- Limited childcare, afterschool care and recreation;
- Parenting practices that promote violence; and
- Limited opportunities for personal growth for the youth.

Violence is often a common feature in the homes, schools and communities, and has become an accepted component of young people's social interaction.

Phase	Development Milestones
Prenatal <i>Unborn babies</i>	Infanticide by expecting young mothers
Infancy <i>0–6 years</i>	A high-risk group with specific health, nutrition and psychosocial needs as well as early childhood development needs.
Childhood <i>7–12 years</i>	Primary school-going children with specific education and developmental needs and the age when life skills learning should begin.
Adolescence <i>13–17 years</i>	Secondary school-going children and adolescents. More of school drop outs likely to be doing hazardous work with specific needs in terms of sexual and reproductive health, psychosocial support, education, developmental and life skills needs.
Young Adulthood <i>18–24+ years</i>	Youth or young adults in higher education or vocational skills training institutions, out of school or in early employment and young mothers, all who face a unique set of challenges as they make the transition to adulthood.

Prevention needs to respond to the root causes of child and youth violence. Strengthening young people's resilience to risk factors and can reduce youth's susceptibility to violence and crime, and thus increase safety for all of society. The impact of violence inflicted on children and young people often initiate or catalyse a pathway to violence and offending by the victim. Violence against children and youth increases the social burden responsibility as remedial measures are more costly than preventative, with prevention better than cure.

The transition from youth to adulthood is a particularly vulnerable time and prevention here could reduce the risks for many young people becoming victims or perpetrator of crime and hence both impact on community safety and the burden carried by the police and criminal justice system. Risks include:

- Reduced adult supervision – increased peer influence;
- Physical, cognitive, emotional, and social change;
- Brain maturation continues until early 20s;
- Risk-taking and stimulation seeking behaviours; and
- Vulnerabilities young people face at this time as a result of their lack of independence, lack of maturity, propensity to take risks and susceptibility to peer influence.



Gender based violence prevention strategies

Mpiwa Mangwiro of Sonke Gender Justice spoke to the subject of gender based violence prevention strategies and regional application. Among the considerations for prevention are:

- Reducing alcohol and substance abuse;
- Broader social and economic factors;
- Access to education; and
- Reducing impunity within the criminal justice system; and
- More gender equitable practices.

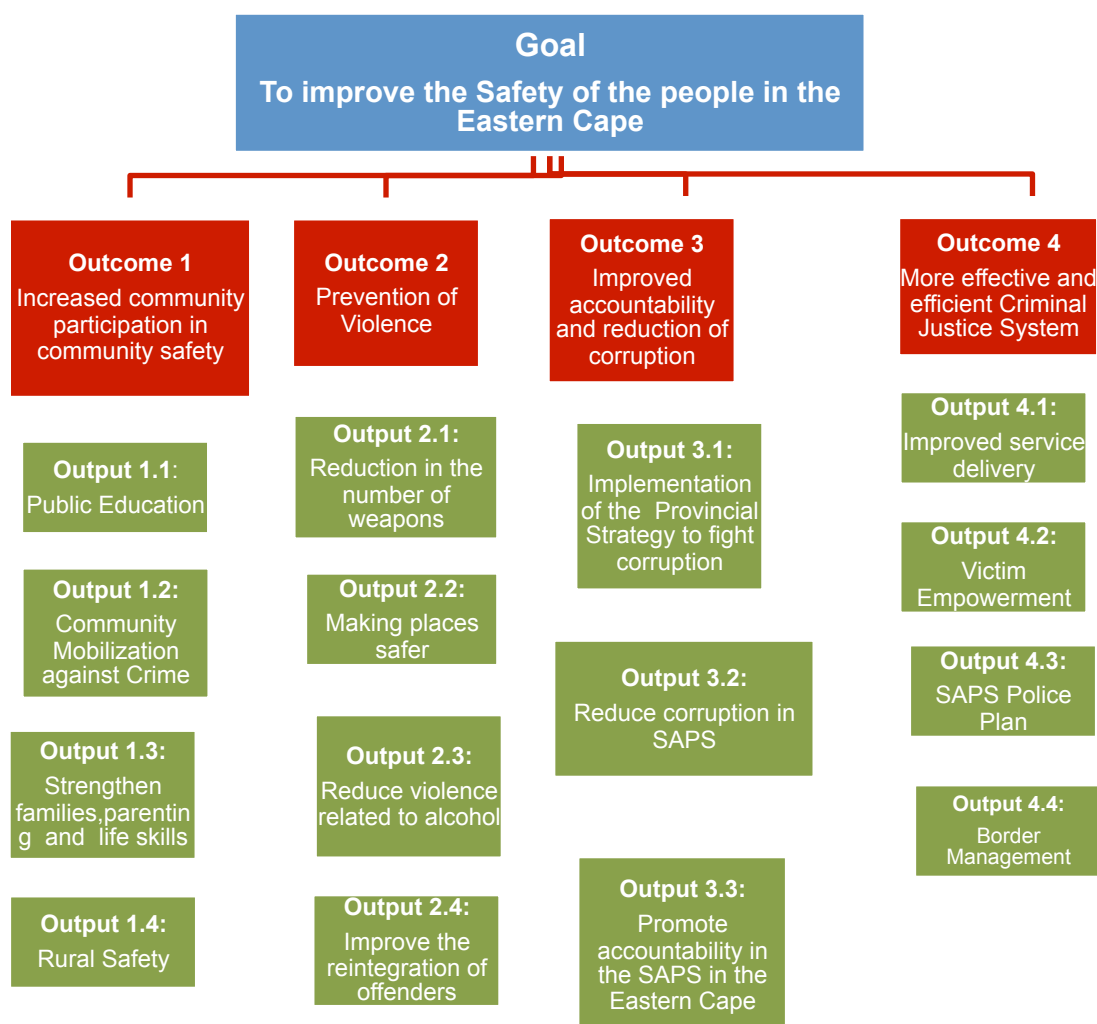
Among the strategies of Sonke's work are those of:

- Challenging harmful gender norms, including especially inequitable and dominant masculinities; and
- Educating community leaders, religious leaders, parents, etc.

Provincial Responses to Community Safety in South Africa

Neil Naidoo of the Eastern Cape Provincial Government's Department of Safety and Liaison discussed the issue of provincial government responses to promoting safety through the lens of the Province's Safety Strategy.

The Province's vision for safety is set out foremost in the Provincial Development Plan, which calls for increased community participation in safety, prevent violence with a specific focus on gender based violence and strengthening the criminal justice system as strategic actions. This is then articulated in detail in the Provincial safety Strategy, The Strategy was approved by the Provincial Executive Council after a thorough consultative process on 4 June 2016 and is set out against four strategic outcomes and in many ways resonate with the strategic objectives of the SIPO II in respect of public safety.



The strategy is driven by the Provincial Safety Strategy Committee, which has developed a monitoring and evaluation framework to promote stronger lines of accountability.

Local Responses to Community Safety in Namibia

Nathaniel //Areseb introduced himself as the representative of the Urban Trust of Namibia and CEO of the Namibia Association of Local Authority Officials (NALAO), a forum of municipal managers in Namibia.

The program *'Action for a Safe and Caring Society'* under project title *"Community and Local Authority Based – Violence Prevention Project"* originated out of frustration around the ineffectiveness of criminal justice focused approaches to deal with crime and violence. It required ideological shifts to:

- Focus on what we want not what we are against;
- Inspire communities and local authorities to lead action to influence policy and practice;
- Draw fresh perspectives and conceptual understanding from regional and international practice; and
- Focus on underlying causes of crime and violence than on symptoms.



The process, over several years, included:

- Learning and exchange dialogue;
- Building relationships and alliances;
- Initial concern identification (key informants and actors, literature review, focus group discussions);
- Exploring concerns through Safety Audits;
- Multi-sectoral Safety Strategy Planning;
- Establishment and training for Community Safety Forums; and
- Safety plan implementation through Safety Forum.

Three sites were identified to pilot the intervention with a view to learning lessons and then up scaling to inform national government policy. The sites were:

- Rehoboth: dominantly dormitory town where vast majority of parents commute to work in Windhoek.
- Okahandja Park (Windhoek) – informal settlement in Windhoek initially planned as a reception area to deal with rapid urbanisation.
- Oshikango – a border town.

The research methodology underpinning the initial safety auditing, and included:

- Qualitative and quantitative methods (including household survey; document analysis; stakeholder interviews;
- 300 households per site interviewed;
- Local coordinators and interviewers were key in the process of identifying high, low and medium density areas; and
- Enumerators went through a two day training, then tested interviewing skills by administering questionnaire to one another under supervision by an experienced researcher.

The information captured through the auditing process included:

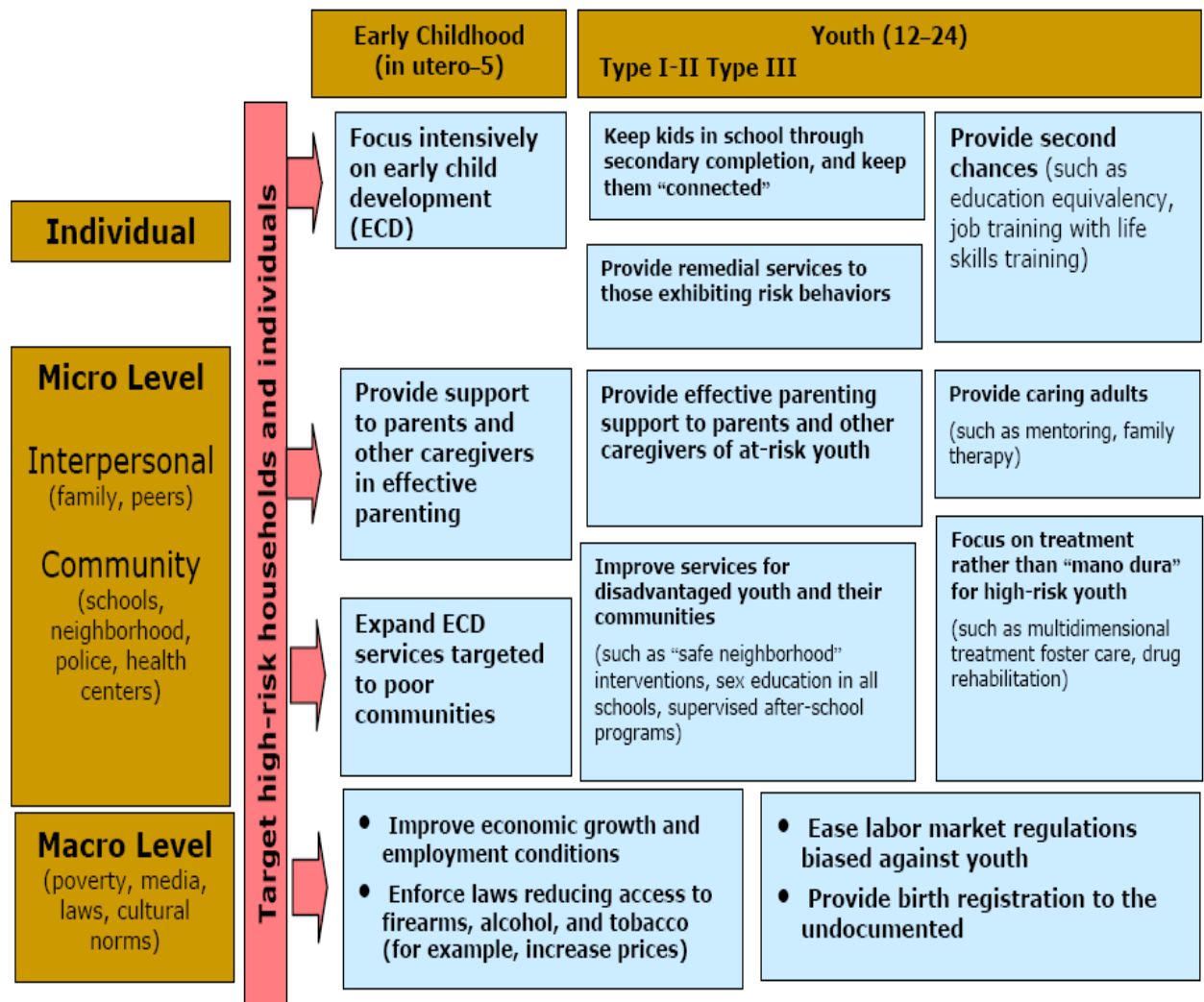
- Individual and household demographics;
- Attitudes towards and perceptions of the neighbourhood;
- Access to facilities and amenities in the community;
- Access to addictive substances and weapons;
- Exposure to violence at home, school and community;
- Perceptions of safety and fear of crime;
- Access to basic support and other services in the community;
- Perceptions of the police; and
- Involvement in social initiatives.

This data was then used to develop locally owned multi-sectoral safety plans managed by local safety committees under the leadership of local government.

At the heart of the safety forum is the principle of coordination and collaboration between different stakeholders, with systems put in place to monitor tasks and keep all involved accountable. Most important each stakeholder maintains active engaged interest, commitment and participation in crime prevention. The focus is not only law enforcement but also long term activities to address root causes. The forums were also supported by training and capacity building in a crime and violence prevention through a partnership with the Polytech of Namibia. Forum members included:

- City of Windhoek;
- Namibia University of Science and Technology;
- Ministry of Health and Social Services;

- Ministry of Safety and Security;
- NAMPOL;
- Windhoek City Police;
- Churches;
- Youth organisations;
- Neighbourhood Watch;
- Men and Women Against Crime and Violence Network; and
- Lifeline Childline Namibia.



Safety and Violence Prevention in Zambia

Boniface Cheembe of SACCORD discussed current challenges in Zambia. He said that formal programmes on crime and violence prevention were not evident in Zambia, however he saw merit in their peace building potential in the current social economic and political climate of Zambia. The crime and violence prevention approach provides an opportunity for local communities to begin to identify and respond to safety

concerns exacerbated by the challenges noted earlier and including rapid urbanization and the pressure on basic services.

Promoting Crime and Violence Prevention in SADC

Discussion took place on the utility of regional leadership in promoting crime and violence prevention. Participants noted the progress made with regard to crime and violence prevention and the success achieved through strong collaboration between state and non-state actors. The conference discussed the principles and values with regard to crime and violence prevention they would wish to see promoted in the region. These included

- Local ownership – unless we get local communities to be able to articulate the concerns in their context and the types of strategies and approaches, there will be little chance of sustainability;
- Evidence-based approaches,
- Learning and ongoing learning;
- Clear accountability mechanisms, which should be balanced with an approach on coordination and flexibility;
- Gender-sensitivity;
- Multi-stakeholder/inclusive approach;
- Political leadership;
- Capacity-building based on the needs;
- Participation, not consultation;
- Age, gender and diversity (including culture, race, disabled, etc.);
- Urgency - some things can't wait. There are issues that need to be prioritized and address in the short term along with long-term issues that need investment;
- Rural challenges; and
- Collaboration and mutual trust.

At the conclusion of the conference, participants called on the Southern African Regional Economic Community, including the institutions of the SADC, such as the Organ for Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation and SARPPCO, to champion crime and violence prevention approaches for Southern Africa as viable strategies to achieving the objectives of SIPO II. In the short term, this can meaningfully be taken forward through the development of a credible regionally endorsed guideline for crime and violence prevention to assist states and practitioners.

As an advocacy tool the participants crafted the following declaration to be presented to SADC.

CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

WE, practitioners involved in crime and violence prevention across Southern Africa, during the Conference on Crime and Violence Prevention in Johannesburg from 14-15 March 2017;

INSPIRED by the African Union's *Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want* vision of an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena, targeting among others: improved human security with a sharp reduction in violent crimes; and safe and peaceful spaces for individuals, families and communities;

RECOGNISE the clear links between peace, security and sustainable development, the importance of developmental approaches to community safety, and the need to promote regional integration and cooperation in responding to crime and violence throughout Southern Africa.

WE RECALL our communication with the SADC Secretariat on the importance and need for crime and violence prevention leadership in the region.

WE FURTHER RECALL that in January 2012, SADC Member States launched the Revised Edition of the Strategic Indicative Plan (SIPO II), which aims to strengthen responses to challenges threatening peace and security throughout the region by inter alia developing a community-based approach to domestic security.

WE NOTE the Public Security Sector's obligations under Objective 2 of SIPO II to promote regional coordination and cooperation on matters related to public security and safety, and to establish appropriate mechanisms to this end; and to use strategies that encourage best practices for developing a common approach to public security and safety matters.

WE RECOGNISE the body of knowledge and the leadership developing in some Southern Africa countries over the past decade on inclusive multi-disciplinary processes in promoting effective responses to crime and violence across the region;

WE ARE DETERMINED to address the safety challenges of the region by promoting responses that provide for both law enforcement and developmental crime and violence prevention that prioritise safety, healing and reconciliation of individuals and communities;

WE RECOGNISE that emerging best practice in crime and violence prevention should:

1. be premised on local buy-in underpinned by participation, advocacy, consultation and honest interaction between state and non-state actors;
2. be based on evidence, be mindful of continuous learning and review;
3. be facilitated through processes that ensure accountability, ensure balance between coordination and innovation, provide for communication between different levels and different spheres of influence, emphasise collaboration and multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approaches, driven by political and technical leadership across spheres of traditional, local, national and regional government; and
4. provide for holistic and integrated approaches that take into account age, gender and diversity, capacity-building and sustainability, the need for

immediate and long-term results, and be mindful of application in rural and urban contexts.

SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE the generation and sharing of innovative and promising practices for developing common approaches to public safety

THEREFORE RECOMMEND that the Southern African Regional Economic Community, including the institutions of the SADC, such as the Organ for Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation and the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Committee (SARPCCO), to facilitate the development of guidelines for crime and violence prevention for Southern Africa.

Johannesburg 15 March 2017