

- “Strengthening Human Security by Fostering Peaceful Coexistence and Improving Citizen Security in Three Municipalities of Sonsonate, El Salvador.” Lead agency: UNDP El Salvador
- “Improving the Condition of Human Security of Vulnerable Populations in Soacha, Colombia.” Lead agency: OCHA Colombia

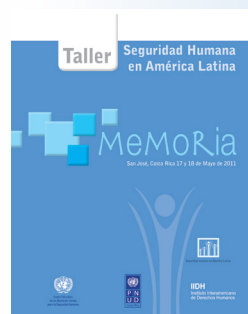
A regional workshop was held in May 2011 to analyze these case studies and to establish lines of action for the future.

Study of the agendas of the multi-lateral bodies in Latin America in order to offer recommendations from a human security approach

The objective is to study more profoundly the agendas relating to security and development of bodies of integration with regard to the main threats that affect the diverse sub-regions and to propose alternatives policies and actions from a human security approach.

Proposal for training in human security

A methodological proposal for the incorporation of a human security approach into public policies and specific projects, taking into account the realities and perspectives of Latin America and the Caribbean, will be formulated.



Dissemination and divulgation

Promoting the dissemination of knowledge, analysis and discussion on human security will be conducted through the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) and the publication of studies and training materials.



IIHR
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Regional Project



Promotion and Development of the Human Security Concept in Latin America



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Seguridad humana en América Latina

Objectives

The Regional Project “Promotion and Development of the Human Security Concept in Latin America” is an initiative of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Costa Rican Office and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IHR), which is headquartered in that country. It is financed by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS).

The topic of security has taken on a great importance in the regional, sub-regional and national agendas of the nations of Latin America. It has, however, often been interpreted restrictively as something that only concerns the State –territorial integrity and national interests- and less a topic that involves the protection of its people in the broad sense.

What is human security?

Human security means protecting the vital core of all human lives from critical (severe) and pervasive (widespread) threats and situations in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfillment (CHS, 2003).

Elements of the definition:

- By “vital core of all human lives” we refer to that group of fundamental rights that deal with survival, livelihood and dignity.
- Human security is protective since it is derived from a recognition that people and communities can be threatened by events that are beyond their control. But human security also seeks to empower persons so that they can act on their own behalf and can become resilient faced with difficult situations and threats.
- Human security is based on the following principles: people-centered, multi-sectoral, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented.

This regional initiative seeks to go beyond these restrictive ideas of security in order to promote the adoption of a human security approach in understanding the challenges of development in Latin America, with emphasis on a regional approach but working with certain selected countries. Its specific objectives are:

- To establish an advisory platform for the project from different perspectives (human development, human rights and human security) through the creation of a high-level Advisory Council.
- To validate and disseminate the concept of human security in Latin America based on a systematization of regional projects and research.
- To deepen the understanding and acceptance of human security in Latin America among political leaders, policy makers, analysts and academics.
- To provide guidance to the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security regarding the priorities in human security in Latin America.

Advisory Council

Co-Chairs

- Heraldo Muñoz, Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP
- Sonia Picado, President of the IHR and of the UN Advisory Board on Human Security

Members ex-officio

- Luiza Carvalho, UN Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative in Costa Rica
- Roberto Cuéllar, IHR Executive Director

Activities

Inventory of Initiatives Related to Human Security in Latin America

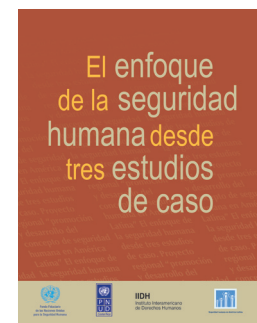
The objective is to compile the principal activities related to human security implemented in Latin America by the United Nations and other relevant bodies, identifying the regional and national efforts.



Systematization of Projects on Human Security

The objective is to learn the practical application of a human security approach from the perspective of the projects financed by UNTFHS, with an emphasis on the following case studies that have applied such an approach to deal with the different threats detected in the region:

- “Natural disasters in Peru: From Damage Limitation to Risk Management and Prevention.” Lead agency: UNDP Peru



Members

Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Brazil
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