



Fast Facts

Country: Peru

Duration: March 2014 – February 2017

Implementing UN Agencies: UNODC; UNDP; UNFPA; UNLIREC; PAHO

Other Implementing Partners: Ministries of Justice; Education and Health; National Police; Regional Government; Municipality of Trujillo; NGOs

Budget: \$4,870,750.63 (**UNTFHS:** \$2,179,320.63 **Others:** \$2,691,430)

Key Words: Crime and violence reduction; urban regeneration; community security; youth; women

BACKGROUND

Crime and violence are fast becoming a critical and pervasive threat to human security in urban areas of Peru, and between 2007 and 2011 the national crime rate increased by over 40%. Nowhere is this rise in crime and concerns among citizens about their own security more prevalent than in Trujillo, in the province of La Libertad. Considered Peru's second most dangerous city, the citizens of Trujillo live in fear of armed robbery, extortion, human trafficking, sexual violence, drug trafficking and gang-related violence. In addition, limited economic opportunities and an underperforming educational system, along with poor sanitation, a struggling health service delivery system and lack of safe public spaces further undermine the human security of Trujillo's most vulnerable communities and create fertile conditions

for the proliferation of violent gangs and criminal networks. Living in informal settlements at the city's edge, Trujillo's poorest and most marginalized communities, consisting primarily of rural economic migrants, bear the brunt of this rising crime and violence. In these communities over 40% of residents have reported having been victims of crime in 2013. At the same time, these vulnerable communities are also stigmatized as those responsible for the increase in crime across the city. Therefore, while the Government of Peru has made significant gains in the country's fight against crime, these top-down measures must be accompanied by bottom-up community-based mechanisms which address the root causes of crime and violence in Peru.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The project aims to develop a sustainable and multi-sectoral model for reducing crime and safeguarding human security in three of the most vulnerable and at-risk communities of Trujillo, with particular emphasis on empowering these communities. This is to be achieved by establishing practical and replicable

models for: (i) an integrated and prevention-oriented program to reduce serious crime rates; (ii) reducing gender-based violence in high-risk, crime-ridden communities; and (iii) reducing youth involvement in criminality.

OUR PARTNERS

Overall, the project targets around 11,750 direct beneficiaries in the communities of El Porvenir, La Esperanza and Florencia de Mora. This includes 1,600 women and female adolescents particularly vulnerable

to crime and violence, 7,600 adults and adolescents in vulnerable and high-crime areas as well as public sector officials and leaders from civil society and the private sector.

APPLYING THE HUMAN SECURITY APPROACH

Reducing urban violence and crime is a complex task that goes beyond merely improving law and order. It requires a comprehensive approach that can address the full range of human insecurities which drive criminality. To this end, the human security approach provides a comprehensive framework which, for the first time, presents an integrated solution to the numerous insecurities faced by Trujillo's most vulnerable communities. For example, the project is working to improve health care in the three target areas while also providing access to vocational training and income generation workshops. At the same time, activities are underway to reduce gender-based violence, eradicate the circulation of small arms, and educate youth on a range of issues including human trafficking, sexual and reproductive health and alternatives to criminality.

Moreover, the long-term success of crime and violence reduction rests on effective cooperation between local authorities and the communities they serve. Towards strengthening this State-society relationship, the project is based on a protection and empowerment framework which aims to build the capacity of local government, police and the justice

sector to better protect the communities, while empowering affected communities to engage with authorities and protect themselves from violence and crime. For example, the project will provide police with crime mapping software and training to better deploy their resources, while justice sector officials will receive training on how to prevent, investigate and prosecute organized criminal groups. Meanwhile, communities are empowered through community-based vocational, entrepreneurial and sports programmes which aim to foster a culture of peaceful coexistence in the city.

Lastly, past efforts to reduce violence and crime in Trujillo have been based on national or even international examples of best practice. However, by engaging the affected communities and local authorities in the development and implementation of this project, activities have been designed in response to the constellation of threats as well as the existing capacities specific to the communities of El Porvenir, La Esperanza and Florencia de Mora of Trujillo. Consequently, a localised model for participatory community development and crime reduction will be produced and replicated across the city.