



TV

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## HAITI: CAPOEIRA

### VIDEO

MAN WALKING W/ A DRUM

FEET DANCING

KID ON HIS HEAD

MAN AND BOY DOING  
CAPOEIRA – BRAZILIAN  
MARTIAL ARTS

FLAVIO SOARES,  
INSTRUCTOR, VIVA RIO  
TALKS ON CAMERA

BELAIR STREETS

### AUDIO

Capoeira is a martial art from Brazil. And it's being taught in this Port-au-Prince neighborhood, Belair, as a way to keep the peace among armed gangs. Viva Rio, the Brazilian NGO running the project, believes that teaching kids discipline and respect through martial arts could help keep them out of gangs. The project is called "gingando pela paz", which means "swaying for peace" in Portuguese. Instructor Flavio Soares explains. (26)

### FLAVIO SOARES: (Portuguese) **M**

*"Gingando" - a term that comes from Rio de Janeiro's street culture - is the capoeira player's way of not confronting his problems head-on, of always looking for alternatives. The capoeira player never looks only straight ahead, he always searches for different ways to approach his opponent." (18.25)*

### NARRATION

In Belair, the "opponent" is violence. And Viva Rio is working with the Haitian government to

WOMAN GETTING WATER

find innovative solutions. In May 2007, the NGO helped negotiate peace accords among neighborhood gangs – and so far, the accords have held. (14.25)

MOVING SHOT - STREETS

UN PEACEKEEPER ON PATROL

UN troops also play an important role in keeping the peace. As the Haitian police recruit to increase their ranks, more than 9000

FACE OF A PEACEKEEPER IN A MIRROR

peacekeepers are providing patrols in unstable neighborhoods - like Belair. Their presence since 2004 has greatly reduced the incidence of kidnapping and armed violence across Haiti.

SOLDIERS FEET THROUGH AN ALLEY

Brazilian Army Sergeant Gustavo says the daily patrols are key. (23.25)

SGT. GUSTAVO, BRAZILIAN BATTALION, MINUSTAH, ON CAMERA

SGT. GUSTAVO: (Portuguese) **M**

*“The goal of our patrols is to maintain a secure environment. We keep a constant visible presence in the streets. When the population sees us, it helps to keep the peace.”* (10.25)

PEACEKEEPER LOOKING AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD

NARRATION

Viva Rio’s approach in Belair is pragmatic – promote peace through culture and education. For every month without violence, three kids in four conflicted neighborhoods get an educational scholarship. (11)

KIDS IN AN ALLEY

MAN WATCHES THE CAPOEIRA PRACTICE

Roberto Martinez has worked with Viva Rio in Belair for the last four years. He says the project is an important way to bring community leaders from conflict zones together. (9.2)

ROBERTO MARTINEZ: (Creole) **M**

ROBERTO MARTINEZ,  
PROJECT COORDINATOR,  
VIVA RIO, ON CAMERA

*“The “Drums for Peace” project is promoting peace accords between community leaders. It helps to avoid conflicts between the gangs in the different neighborhoods of Belair. The role of this project is to keep schools open, traffic moving, and hospitals running. Just keep the community accessible. (14.5)*

MAN PLAYS A “BERIMBAU” –  
CAPOEIRA INSTRUMENT

KIDS PLAYING CAPOEIRA

#### NARRATION

Viva Rio has successfully used the same community approach in Brazil’s gang-infested slums. Now they are bringing more than 200 kids from conflict zones in Haiti together to learn capoeira– and stay out of trouble. Nineteen year-old Magdala Marc is one of them. (15.2)

MAGDALA MARC, CAPOEIRA  
PARTICIPANT, TALKS ON  
CAMERA

MAGDALA MARC: (Creole) **F**

*“Capoeira is fun, it gives us something to do. And violence seems to be happening less. Young people choose to do this program and they don’t participate in violence so much anymore.” (11.30)*

MAN PLAYING INSTRUMENT  
KIDS PLAYING CAPOEIRA

#### NARRATION

For instructor Flavio Soares, teaching these kids capoeira is more than simply learning how to kick and punch. (6)

FLAVIO SOARES,  
INSTRUCTOR, VIVA RIO, ON  
CAMERA

FLAVIO SOARES: (Portuguese) **M**

*“So now it’s a different sort of fight. Before, capoeira was used by slaves to fight for their freedom. Now we are fighting for human development.” (9.25)*

## NARRATION

POSTER FOR THE PROJECT  
KIDS PLAYING CAPOEIRA  
KIDS FACES  
CLAPPING

Viva Rio hopes that, through cultural development, peace can take root in a neighborhood that was once at war. Their innovative approach teaches kids not just to fight – but to believe in a better future. (12)

UN LOGO

This report was produced by Amelia Shaw and Blagoje Grujic for the United Nations. (5)