



Multi-sector Approach to Preventing and Reducing Violence and Crime: Why It Matters?

In today's complex social landscape, addressing violence and crime requires more than just law enforcement. A multi-sector approach brings together diverse stakeholders—from education and health to community organizations and families—creating a comprehensive prevention and support network. The OAS collaborative strategy, led by the Department of Public Security of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security, not only tackles the root causes of violence but also fosters resilient communities, empowering individuals and institutions to work in harmony. By integrating various perspectives and resources, we support member states in developing sustainable responses that both reduce crime rates and enhance social cohesion and individual well-being.

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OAS | More rights
for more people

1 Cultivating Socioemotional Skills Through Music

Imagine a world where every vulnerable youth has the opportunity to grasp an instrument, to find their voice. Through the OASIS program, young people develop crucial socioemotional skills via musical learning and self-expression. Our trained music instructors guide students to listen, collaborate, and persevere—while building self-esteem, peaceful coexistence, and self-control.

OUR PURPOSE

To develop socioemotional skills in school aged children and youth in situations of social vulnerability, through regular music practice.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Socioemotional skills classes for youth through regular music training.
- Sensitize communities with regular public concerts for a culture of peace.
- Train music organizations in socioemotional teaching methods, including risk factor identification and referral mechanisms.

2 Strengthening State and Community Capacity Through Training

We provide comprehensive training to a diverse group of stakeholders to recognize and mitigate violence risks among students, their families, and communities. Our program equips public sector personnel (in security, justice, education, health, and social work), community leaders, and civil society organizations with essential tools and knowledge. By empowering these key figures, we create a network of informed individuals capable of acting locally in addressing violence at various levels.

OUR PURPOSE

To strengthen public sector and municipal community networks in preventing violence and providing assistance to victims and survivors of violence and crime.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Comprehensive online and in-person training on violence prevention, gender-based violence, assistance and protection of victims and survivors.
- Multi-sector capacity building activities for public officials and civil society organizations on preventing violence and assisting and protecting victims.
- Teacher training on socioemotional skills and violence prevention in schools.
- Development and implementation of protocols for the assistance of victims and survivors of violence.

3 Empowering Families: A Cornerstone of Violence and Crime Prevention

A comprehensive approach to combating violence must address its root causes, which often originate in the home environment of young people. Our training equips parents and caregivers with healthy parenting skills and knowledge about gender-based, domestic violence and trafficking in persons. By educating on risk factors and support services, we lay a foundation that fosters positive behavior and reduces violence at its source.

OUR PURPOSE

To educate families on violence prevention and crime, and available support services.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Train parents and guardians on topics such as gender-based violence, domestic violence, and healthy parenting practices.
- Provide entrepreneurship workshops and seed capital opportunities for mothers to promote their economic independence from violent partners and provide family stability.

4 Psychosocial Support: The Importance of Mental Health on Violence and Crime Prevention

Mental health support is crucial for violence prevention and survivor assistance. A team of psychologists and social workers provide psychosocial support to vulnerable youth, families, and adults. They also conduct workshops in schools and community centers. The team also leads the creation of a prevention network to protect the community from risks of violence and crime.

OUR PURPOSE

Enhance psychosocial support for youth, families and adult members of the community, living in conditions of socioeconomic vulnerability or affected by violence and crime.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Facilitate assistance and service referrals with a team of psychologists and social workers.
- Self-care and other violence prevention workshops for youth and other groups in the community living in conditions of socioeconomic vulnerability.
- Develop community prevention networks linking public sector and civil society stakeholders.
- Deploy professionals to provide care and connect beneficiaries with existing community assistance services, ensuring effective follow-up for each case.
- Build technical capacities to assist and protect survivors of trafficking in persons and gender-based violence.

5 Developing Comprehensive Frameworks for Violence and Crime Prevention

We develop assessments, guidelines, manuals, protocols and other type of documents that will assist stakeholders in implementing initiatives to prevent violence and crime.

OUR PURPOSE

To enhance frameworks to address the different types of violence and crimes.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Local-level assessments on violence and crime affecting youth, identify community strengths, areas for improvement, and map existing prevention and assistance services.
- Guidelines and protocols for the prevention of violence.
- Development and/or updates of protocols and other normative frameworks to improve victim and survivors' assistance and protection.
- Frameworks to prevent trafficking in persons and survivors' assistance.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"Through the OASIS-OAS program, where more than 1,000 children and young people have benefited (...) during the last 7 years.

We have a special interest in continuing this project and that (...) the work that has been done throughout these years gets secured by the State of Honduras, so we could replicate it in the different municipalities of our country."

Annarella Vélez Osejo, Secretary of Culture, the Arts, and the heritage of the peoples of Honduras.

"The resilience of the community of Tela towards armed violence has improved (...) thanks to the interventions associated with the PACAM-OASIS Program."

Ricardo Calix, Major of Tela, Honduras.

"I have definitely noticed a very positive change in my daughter's behavior, she has developed remarkable discipline and has learned to work as a team during the sessions. In addition, it has improved their confidence and social skills."

OASIS Mother.

"Now he is more responsible, he gets better grades, he is more collaborative."

OASIS Father.

"My son has better control of his character, he is more responsible with his homework and I see him happier."

OASIS Mother.

OUR IMPACT

2,000+

vulnerable youth trained in life skills through music

96% improved social-emotional skills

230

officials trained in violence prevention

94% better equipped to detect risks and assist victims

200

families educated on healthy parenting

92% improved parenting skills

94% reported positive changes in children's behavior

1,700

community members engaged in violence prevention through regular workshops

10+

protocols created for trafficking and gender-based violence

5,000+

professionals trained on the investigation, prosecution and assistance and protection of victims of trafficking in persons

1

national anti-trafficking law approved

COUNTRIES WHERE WE HAVE WORKED



El Salvador



Honduras



Peru



Haiti



Jamaica



Saint Lucia



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