

### Fast Facts and Figures:

- It is estimated that 60 per cent of all urban dwellers in developing countries have been crime victims, with rates of 70 per cent in parts of Latin America and Africa (UN-HABITAT, Global Report on Human Settlements, 2007)
- Violence makes up at least 25 to 30 per cent of urban crime and women, especially in developing countries, are twice as likely as men to be victims of violent aggression, including domestic violence. (State of the World's Cities Report, 2006-2007)



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- Hundreds of women were abducted, raped and murdered in and around the city of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, over a 10-year period. (Fact Sheet from the United Nations Secretary-General's Campaign, Unite to End Violence Against Women)
- On average, at least one in three women is beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused by an intimate partner in the course of her lifetime. (Fact Sheet from the United Nations Secretary-General's Campaign, Unite to End Violence Against Women)
- In Australia, Canada, Israel, South Africa and the United States, 40%-70% of female murder victims were killed by their partners, according to the World Health Organization (WHO)
- Violence against women during or after armed conflicts has been reported in every international or non-international war-zone. Between 250,000 and 500,000 women were raped during the 1994 genocide in Rwanda and between 20,000 and 50,000 women were raped during the conflict in Bosnia in the early 1990s. (Fact Sheet from the United Nations Secretary-General's Campaign, Unite to End Violence Against Women)

### What can be done:

- UN-HABITAT's Safer Cities Programmes supports local authorities in developing countries to prevent crime and violence through advocacy, training and city level activities.
- Local authorities can improve the city's physical environment—for example, through better street lighting, building better alternatives to dark and secluded walkways, or even by positioning bus stops in safer areas.
- Greater involvement of women and girls in planning and management of public spaces empowers them and often leads to overall improvements that benefit all local residents.
- Gender mainstreaming by local governments in crime prevention policies and programmes and gender-responsive budgeting helps to build the institutional framework needed to improve safety and security for both women and men.
- Development of services for women affected by violence helps them to recover, regain confidence and explore options for reducing the risk of further violence.
- Gender sensitisation campaigns help to change attitudes and behaviour that condone and perpetuate violence against women.