Coalition of Faith-Based Organizations
Spirituality and Justice Initiative

#Wanted: Champions for Prevention
Violence, Human Rights, and Evidence-Based Prevention

Veronica Martinez-Solares
FBO’s Influence can shift from epidemic of violence and human rights violations to saving lives and respect for rights

1. They know directly the problems of the communities, at the most micro level unit.

2. They know the positive social capital in communities that governments are rarely able to identify.

3. With a very broad convening power.

4. They still have great influence at the community level in two aspects: moral and the culture of lawfulness (together with teachers and doctors)
1. Violence and crime are the main threats to Latin America

The Data
The cold hard numbers

Economic costs:
- 3.55% GDP - IDB

The victims:
- One third of all murders happen in Latin America
- 17 homicides every hour
- Mexico: the country where homicide has grown the fastest in the world
- Central America: the deadliest subregion on the planet.

Homicide rate per 100,000 by gender for World regions
From 1993-2017, global total rate declined from 7.4 to 6.1 but Americas stayed in range of 14.5 to 16.7. In 2017 Americas increased to 17.2 (UNODC 2019, 18)
Gender-Based Violence

- Latin America (Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, the Dominican Republic, Peru, El Salvador and Bolivia) concentrate 81% of global cases.
- In El Salvador, a woman is killed every 18 hours.
- Homicide in Mexico has reduced the life expectancy of young women by 20%.
- Sexual violence: 25% of all acts of violence against women in the region.
- Every single day, 747 women are injured in Mexico – IPV + unknown aggressors.
- In Mexico, 3 out of 5 women have suffered some form of VAW. In the region, the rate is 1 out of 3.

The United Nations estimates that 1 in 3 women will face violence during their lifetime.

Latin America has the highest rates of gender-based violence in the world.

- Six countries, Brazil, Peru, Mexico, Argentina, El Salvador, and Bolivia represent

70% of violence is committed by an intimate or known partner.

98% of femicides go unprosecuted.

81% of cases
2. Militarisation violating human rights does not save lives / Diagnosing causes, using evidence, planning, training saves lives

The Solutions
Rapid increases in militarization violate human rights and do not save lives

- “Mano dura” in Central America
- Militarization in several countries
- Constant human rights violations
- Excessive use of prison
El eje Seguridad Ciudadana tiene como objetivo, apoyar a aquellos gobiernos que han optado por un enfoque preventivo a la hora de diseñar e implementar políticas públicas de seguridad ciudadana.

**Evidence: the other road**

**ESQUEMA REFERENCIA**

**Marco Conceptual**
- Existing efforts
- Laws

**Condiciones de funcionalidad**
- Political Will
- Governance
- Technical leadership
- Management

**Processes**
- Institutionalization
- Coordination
- Targeting
- Inclusion
- Equity and gender
- Ethics
- Regional collaboration

**ESQUEMA REFERENCIA**

**Contextualización**

**Aprendizaje/ Fortalecimiento permanente de capacidades**

**Institutionalization**

**Coordination**

**Targeting**

**Inclusion**

**Equity and gender**

**Ethics**

**Regional collaboration**
Why violence and crime prevention is Everybody's Business?

Coalition of many actors for prevention

The Truce: El Salvador
Reductions of 50% in

COLOMBIA - Bogotá
Reduced availability of alcohol
Reduced guns
Gender violence

MÉXICO - Coahuila
Multi-stakeholder coordination and local interventions
Reduced alcohol

ARGENTINA - Córdoba
Cordova Citizen Security Plan
Coordinated work in neighborhoods and communities

Vilalta, C., 2019
3. #Wanted: Champions for Prevention
Urgently Needed from FBOs

The opportunities
Urgent needs

- Social support and community solidarity
- Support and care for migrants
- Support and attention of crime victims
- Defense of the human rights of vulnerable sectors such as indigenous people, migrants or victims of serious human rights violations
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Gracias
Thank you

Veronica Martinez-Solares