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# Portuguese Strategies to Keep the Local Community Safe

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# Introduction

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Security is a fundamental right of the citizens preserved in the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic.

Along this presentation will be explored which are the methods that Portugal adopted to keep the citizens safe.



# Crime Prevention

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The UN 2002 guidelines for the prevention of crime gives 8 basic principals for the prevention of crime:

- 1. Government leadership.*
- 2. Socio-economic development and inclusion.*
- 3. Cooperation/partnerships.*
- 4. Sustainability/accountability.*
- 5. Knowledge base.*
- 6. Human rights/rule of law/culture of lawfulness.*
- 7. Interdependency.*
- 8. Differentiation.*

# Guidance on Local Safety Audits

**“ Prevention is better than cure! That applies to illness, accidents and natural disasters. And it applies to crime.”**

The Local Safety Audits (in Portuguese: Local Safety Diagnosis) were created by the European Forum for Urban Safety. It states that the prevention of the crime has a important impact on the creation of security in the community, so it is important to create strategies that give priority to prevention.

If preventive action by the police on the part of the population tends to ease the feeling of insecurity in the community, preventive policing should be used.



# Guidance on Local Safety Audits

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The “Local Safety Diagnosis” is a systematic evaluation of a specific geographical area that seeks the collection of information to characterize the crime and the victimization. In this way, it is possible to help, for example, the police in intervention with each community.

The General Direction of Internal Administration (in Portuguese DGAI) adapted this guidance into the Portuguese system to a better understanding of local problems with the security.

# The Integrated Proximity Policing Program (PIPP)

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The Integrated Proximity Policing Program was implemented in the Portuguese national territory through strategic directive no. 10/2006 of May 15.

Proximity policing has the ultimate objective of increasing the sense of security on the part of the Portuguese population.

The Public safety Police (PSP), a national civilian police are the responsible of this program where the purpose is knowing the local reality, living and feeling the problems of the community, and being able to promote the creation of a network of partnerships, involving police, population and social institutions.



# The Integrated Proximity Policing Program (PIPP)

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There are two specific programs included in the Proximity Policing where police officers from a subunit receive training for a better acknowledge to solve certain problems, and those are:

- **Victim Support and Support Teams (EPAV);**
- **Safe School Program (EPES).**



# Local Security Contract (CLS)

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In 2008, the Minister of Internal Administration (MAI) and the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities (ANMP) concluded a protocol in the matters of the Local Security Contract where the citizens and the cities have a partnership.

**The main focus of the Local Security Contract are:**

- Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency;
- Elimination of Criminogenic Factors;
- Reducing Social Vulnerabilities;
- Promotion of Citizenship and Gender Equality.



# Local Security Contract

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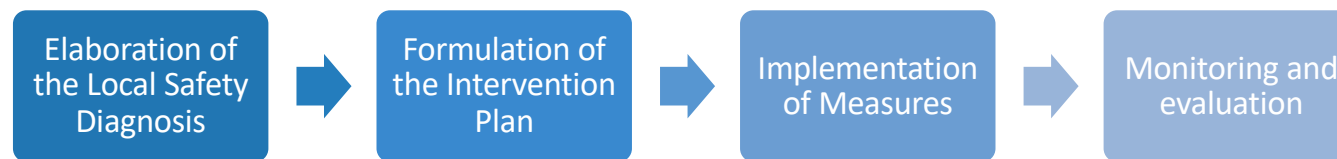
There are 3 different areas of intervention:

- **The Municipality;**
- **Urban Areas of Social Risk;**
- **Where atypical and / or specific phenomenon occur that can change citizens' daily lives.**

# Local Security Contract

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Main Stages of the Local Security Contract:



# Conclusions

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It is possible to conclude that in Portugal exist two different strategies to keep the local community safe. They are very similar as both have the main focus of keeping the relationship between security forces and the community.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!