# VIOLENCE PREVENTION A WORTHWHILE ALTERNATIVE FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE



### ONE OF THE MOST RENOWNED

CANADIAN ORGANIZATIONS
IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
HAS BEEN WORKING IN
AFRICA, THE AMERICAS AND ASIA

**SINCE 1958.** 



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ORGANIZED CRIME INVOLVING YOUTH ARE OF PARTICULAR GROWING CONCERN IN TERMS OF SAFETY IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS. URBAN CRIME, INCLUDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING, DRUGS, WEAPONS, HIGH CORRUPTION AND HOMICIDE RATES, AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN HAVE STYMIED DEVELOPMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES ALIKE, IMPACTING PROSPERITY AT THE STATE LEVEL.

Once it determines the

factors that trap people in

a cycle of violence, CECI

takes action to end that

1) better understanding

2) increased awareness

on the part of individuals,

groups, and organizations

about issues that compro-

of causes related to human

cycle. We believe that

change begins with

security, and

mise safety.





Since I received training and the proper tools, I have become a baker with my wife. I am happy and can also give advice to young people on how to stay busy and productive. I was the first to start this project and I am still on the right path.



Miguel Rivera, professional training attendee, La Chacra, San Salvador

# REACTION

We believe that reducing violence requires people, organizations and state services to take a vested interest in cultivating a desire to change social and conflict resolution structures.

FOR EVERY SHARED PROBLEM, THERE IS A SHARED SOLUTION.

# THE KEY TO THE SUCCESS OF CECI

and its partners lies in a preventative, actionoriented approach to violence, especially one that promotes the economic empowerment of youth, girls and women and that involves actions to educate and support authorities and justice systems.



# **ACTIONS**

For nearly 20 years, we have involved entire communities to better prevent violence against women and violence involving criminal youth gangs. Our actions may include improving police stations, improving the handling of violence, and even implementing sports infrastructures to motivate vouth to get out of street gangs. We are always driven by a desire to get people interested in working together with the common goal of reducing crime and violence.

#### Q GUATEMALA, ACHIEVEMENTS EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA, **BELIZE AND** THE DR

PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN INSTI-**TUTIONAL CAPACITIES FOR PRE-VENTING CRIME BY OBSERVING** SYSTEM INTEGRATION AND THE SAFETY OF DEMOCRACY IN CEN-

TRAL AMERICA This initiative was staggered out over three years and operated on a \$1,8 million budget. It consisted of creating an observatory for developing and building the capacities of civil society organizations and member states. Thanks to the compiled statistics placed on online observatory platforms, these organizations and member states now have a greater understanding of the complex problem of violence, especially illegal immigration and arms trafficking. The platform also helps us to support prevention, intervention, better safety reforms, and promotion of greater human security.

#### 700 WORKERS

IMPROVED THEIR ABILITY TO WORK TOGETHER AND NOW HAVE ACCESS TO A THOROUGH ANALYSIS OF THE RECOMMENDA-TIONS FOR IMPROVING PREVEN-TION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND VIOLENCE INVOLVING YOUTH GANGS.

#### **Q** GUATEMALA, **EL SALVADOR**

#### PROJECT FOR THE **PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST** WOMEN AND GIRLS

Violence, particularly domestic and sexual violence against women and



#### **MILLION**

girls, is widespread throughout Central America. This 14-month project operating on a \$1.2 million budget made safety and justice systems more accessible and efficient and

increased the ability of institutions as well as local, national, and regional organizations to take action. It also facilitated better coordination of prevention, awareness, training, and support interventions for victims of violence.

#### **9,000 WOMEN**

BENEFITTED FROM IMPROVED CONDITIONS.

#### **Q** GUATEMALA, **EL SALVADOR**

#### **VIOLENCE AND CRIME PREVENTION PROJECTS**

Both of these four-year projects, operating on budgets of \$3.2 million and \$1.44 million respectively, resulted in the implementation of community crime pre-



#### MILLION

vention programs. These initiatives were compatible with local development and governance activities and based on a citizen safety approach. They included a

wide range of preventative measures targeting at-risk youth and women, about 50 local organizations, the police, small business, families and schools.

A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION OF VIOLENCE AND CRIMINAL **ACTIVITY AMONG** 

**3000 BENEFICIARIES.** 60% OF WHOM WERE WOMEN

**CECI.CA**