Supporting crime prevention policies at local level:

*The role of crime victims surveys*
“Problem-oriented approach”

SARA
(John Eck & Bill Spelman)
1. Scanning
2. Analyzing
3. Responding
4. Assessing

“5Is”
(Paul Ekblom)
1. Intelligence
2. Intervention
3. Implementation
4. Involvement
5. Impact assessment

Important points:
1. Data collection
2. Involvement of the community as whole in the solution of crime problem
Data collection is key to problem-solving

1. For knowledge-based crime policy...
   - You need to know ‘the facts’
2. To interpret your knowledge....
   - You need to compare across years, and across cases
3. To obtain comparable data....
   - Means that common standards have been applied

Based on Kauko Aromaa (HEUNI)
Main types of data collections for crime prevention

1. Administrative statistics:

“statistics that governments produce, finance, or routinely incorporate into their decisions” in order to keep track and control their operations (Starr, 1987).

Criminal justice statistics are those routinely collected by governmental institutions dealing with crime (directly or indirectly).

E.g. Police data; Prosecution/Court data, Prison data

2. Sample Surveys

Ad-hoc sample surveys developed to measure the extent of crime victimization or to measure attitudes towards crime and criminal justice.

E.g. Victimization Surveys, Corruption Surveys, Self-reporting surveys
1. The wide range of problems facing police requires methods beyond enforcement of the law.

2. Importance of including citizens' view and review in the process of crime analysis and prevention.
Focus on **individuals** and their direct experience of crime
- Whether or nor reported to the police (dark figure)
- Thus providing an independent measure of crime

Describe the nature of everyday experience of victimisation (what, when, who).

Estimate the extent of «difficult to measure crime» (e.g. fraud, OC, etc.)

Show which types of people are most at risk (by collecting socio-demographic information).

Measure other crime-related topics – e.g. fear of crime, prevention measures, perception/performance of the police and the CJS.

Use sample survey methodology – mainly to get representative samples.

Focus on particular groups (e.g. businesses, women, ethnic minorities)

Focus on particular types of crime (e.g. domestic violence, sexual victimisation).
Crime Victimization Surveys – Disadvantages

• Can’t cover all crimes
  ➢ murder (obviously)
  ➢ victimisation of children difficult
• Non-response can be high
  ➢ Are non-responders different?
• Do respondents remember everything? Minor offences likely to be forgotten
• Do respondents tell interviewers everything? (Domestic violence)
• Sampling error
  ➢ Problematic for more uncommon crimes (e.g. robbery, fraud, etc.)
Atlas of Victimization Surveys

Center of Excellence in Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice – INEGI – UNODC

http://www.cdeunodc.inegi.org.mx/unodc_en.html#
## Tavola 10 – Vittime di reati individuali per luogo e località in cui si è verificato il reato e tipo di reato. Anni 2008-2009 (per 100 vittime dello stesso reato)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LUOGHI DEL FATTO</th>
<th>Scippo</th>
<th>Borseggio</th>
<th>Furto di oggetti personali</th>
<th>Rapina</th>
<th>Aggressione</th>
<th>Minaccia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In strada, parco, giardini pubblici</td>
<td>68,4</td>
<td>29,5</td>
<td>12,9</td>
<td>52,3</td>
<td>34,6</td>
<td>21,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mezzi pubblici, automobile, posteggio, stazione</td>
<td>17,8</td>
<td>33,3</td>
<td>6,2</td>
<td>25,2</td>
<td>15,2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al mercato, negozio, fiera, ufficio postale, banca</td>
<td>8,7</td>
<td>20,8</td>
<td>7,2</td>
<td>5,1</td>
<td>6,0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavoro, scuola</td>
<td>1,9</td>
<td>0,7</td>
<td>1,5</td>
<td>9,9</td>
<td>11,5</td>
<td>39,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casa propria o di amici o parenti e spazi attinenti</td>
<td>1,9</td>
<td>0,7</td>
<td>1,5</td>
<td>9,9</td>
<td>11,5</td>
<td>39,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locali pubblici e luoghi del tempo libero</td>
<td>3,3</td>
<td>11,7</td>
<td>28,8</td>
<td>1,6</td>
<td>17,7</td>
<td>6,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minaccia per telefono, sms, posta ordinaria o elettronica</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totale</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
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</table>

Source: Istat 2010, Reati Vittime e percezione della sicurezza
CVS for Identifying vulnerable hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORA DEL REATO</th>
<th>Scippo</th>
<th>Borsaggio</th>
<th>Furto di oggetti personali</th>
<th>Rapina</th>
<th>Aggressione</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dalle 0.01 alle 3.00</td>
<td>3,3</td>
<td>1,5</td>
<td>2,6</td>
<td>2,2</td>
<td>9,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalle 3.01 alle 6.00</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>0,3</td>
<td>1,8</td>
<td>5,0</td>
<td>3,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalle 6.01 alle 9.00</td>
<td>6,2</td>
<td>3,3</td>
<td>3,9</td>
<td>3,0</td>
<td>2,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalle 9.01 alle 12.00</td>
<td>19,6</td>
<td>34,5</td>
<td>31,8</td>
<td>16,1</td>
<td>14,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalle 12.01 alle 15.00</td>
<td>15,1</td>
<td>15,6</td>
<td>10,1</td>
<td>6,8</td>
<td>9,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalle 15.01 alle 18.00</td>
<td>23,6</td>
<td>22,3</td>
<td>18,2</td>
<td>20,8</td>
<td>11,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalle 18.01 alle 21.00</td>
<td>19,8</td>
<td>14,1</td>
<td>15,5</td>
<td>19,2</td>
<td>22,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalle 21.01 alle 24.00</td>
<td>9,9</td>
<td>6,3</td>
<td>7,7</td>
<td>19,1</td>
<td>22,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non ricordo</td>
<td>1,7</td>
<td>2,2</td>
<td>1,6</td>
<td>7,9</td>
<td>4,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non so</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totale</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Istat 2010, Reati Vittime e percezione della sicurezza
### CVS for Identifying vulnerable population groups

**Table 22 - Persons of 14 years and over as victims of crimes against individuals by sex, age, and type of crime. Years 2008-2009 (per 100 persons with the same characteristics)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Scippo</th>
<th>Borseggio</th>
<th>Furto di oggetti personali</th>
<th>Rapina</th>
<th>Aggressione</th>
<th>Minacce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SESSO</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maschi</td>
<td>0,4</td>
<td>1,3</td>
<td>2,4</td>
<td>0,5</td>
<td>0,7</td>
<td>1,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Femmine</td>
<td>0,7</td>
<td>2,0</td>
<td>2,1</td>
<td>0,2</td>
<td>0,5</td>
<td>0,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CLASSE D’ETÀ</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-24</td>
<td>1,0</td>
<td>2,9</td>
<td>6,5</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>1,4</td>
<td>1,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>0,7</td>
<td>2,0</td>
<td>3,7</td>
<td>0,6</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>1,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>0,5</td>
<td>1,4</td>
<td>2,0</td>
<td>0,4</td>
<td>0,7</td>
<td>0,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>0,4</td>
<td>1,5</td>
<td>1,6</td>
<td>0,2</td>
<td>0,5</td>
<td>0,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>0,3</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>0,2</td>
<td>0,2</td>
<td>0,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-70</td>
<td>0,3</td>
<td>1,1</td>
<td>0,4</td>
<td>0,1</td>
<td>0,2</td>
<td>0,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71 e oltre</td>
<td>0,4</td>
<td>1,3</td>
<td>0,3</td>
<td>0,1</td>
<td>0,1</td>
<td>0,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totale</strong></td>
<td>0,5</td>
<td>1,6</td>
<td>2,2</td>
<td>0,4</td>
<td>0,6</td>
<td>0,9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Istat 2010, Reati Vittime e percezione della sicurezza
Victimization by type of crime. Rate per 100,000 population. Year 2015 and 2014.

CVS for Evaluating the effect of new counting rules for administrative statistics

Sources: Crime Survey for England and Wales, Office for National Statistics / Police recorded crime, Home Office
Figure 7  Trends in theft of a car, broken down by type of theft; one-year prevalence rates (percentages) for countries for which data is available for at least three rounds of surveys*. Data from the 1989-2005 ICVS and 2005 EU ICS

Fonte: Van Dijk et al. 2007
Facilitating speaking about problems;
Assessing easiness of access to justice and identifying problematic areas;
Assessing law enforcement performance and evaluating public policies;
Providing transparent information to the public on crime problems.
CVS for Increasing citizens participation in crime prevention

- Last Swiss Crime Victims Survey (2015/2016),
- Finances by Swiss cantonal police forces to measure trust in the police,
- Results are used by police forces to improve their activities starting from citizens’ needs.
Crime Victims Surveys help in identifying individual and environmental risk factor both at macro and micro level and evaluating public policies.

CVS help integrating perception measurements and experience-based indicators.

CVS help creating comparable and replicable monitoring instrument over time and across countries.

Citizens’ participation in the evaluation of public policy for crime prevention is of crucial importance.
Effective and sustainable public policies need:
- an adequate analysis of the problem to be addressed,
- a reliable methodology to collect information about this problem,
- a sound assessment of the response to this problem,
- an opportunity for transparency in public debate (analysis and dissemination of the results to the wide public).

Include the development of regular crime victims surveys in the public policy agenda in order to:
- identify risk factors at individual and local level;
- monitor progress of crime prevention initiatives;
- involve civil society not only in risk assessment but also in the process of crime prevention (informal security) and in the improvement of law enforcement agencies.
- Transparency of information will be ensured through accurate analysis and wide dissemination of the results.
Thank you for your attention!

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Supporting crime prevention policies at local level:

The role of crime victims surveys