



OECD calls for action to reduce armed violence.

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Every year some 740 000 people die across the world because of armed violence. Young men without resources, jobs or hope for the future are most at risk of turning to violence, particularly in many parts of Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa, as well as poor pockets of OECD countries.

A new OECD publication, *Armed Violence Reduction: Enabling Development*, provides advice to donors and policy makers on how to reduce armed violence.

As Richard Carey, OECD-DAC Director, notes: "This work is part of the OECD's focus on bridging security and development. Our objective is to support aid effectiveness in partner countries. As some of these countries are in conflict or fragile situations we also need to focus our work on state and peace building, security system reform and violence reduction strategies."

Armed Violence Reduction warns that urban violence, youth gangs and criminality will continue to rise unless we all start to deal with the causes of violence. Donors and governments need to react now and grow better at tackling the causes of violence by working on a number of fronts ranging from public health, community security and crime control to employment programmes.

The publication maintains that dramatic population growth and accelerated migration from villages to cities are putting pressure on social services and societal structures in many poorer countries, cultivating violence and hostility.

OECD's work on armed violence reduction provides concrete examples of the nature of violence and provides guidance on how donors can support a sustainable response. Security and development must be brought together to build peace in fragile countries. Work on armed violence reduction is one practical way of achieving this synergy.

To obtain a copy of *Armed Violence Reduction* please visit the OECD website:
<http://browse.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/pdfs/browseit/4309151E.PDF>