

This tool is part of:
Building safer communities through systemic approaches to violence prevention -
A toolkit for participatory safety planning

Published by:
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Inclusive Violence and Crime Prevention for Safe Public Spaces (VCP) Programme

The entire toolkit is available on: www.saferspaces.org.za

TOOLTWO

WHAT'S BEHIND THE VIOLENCE? RISK FACTOR ANALYSIS



What you need as basis for this tool:

The participants should be familiar with the definition of “risk factors of violence”.



Objective:

To have participants identify and analyse risk factors on the different levels of the ecological model. To enable participants to place the youth at the centre of their analysis.

To increase participant awareness that the coincidence of multiple risk factors (that are beyond the control of young people) increases the likelihood of them resorting to violence; and in so doing to discourage and reduce stigmatization of young people.



Aspects of Data Collection/Analysis:

Risk factors for violent behaviour; different levels of the ecological model.



Material needed:

Several pin boards (if available), also big sheets of paper, either big brown paper or several sheets of flipchart paper connected to form big sheets, moderation cards with different colours (if available), otherwise coloured A 5 sheets of paper, pins, glue and/or tape.



Preparation:

For each working group you will need one prepared pin board or big sheet of paper. It shows as titles the 4 different levels of the ecological model (individual, relationship, community, society) and under each level 1 or 2 concrete examples for risk factors. [If risk factors have already been identified, then give each working group a copy of a list of these risk factors, without any explanations. (You can also give the groups these risk factors in the form of a set of cards -- one risk factor per card). As facilitator you are familiar with the concept of the ecological model and risk factors on its different levels (Book 1, p. 39-41).]

Procedure:

You start to explain the task by referring to one of the prepared pin boards, with one or two examples of risk factors on the four different levels of the ecological model.

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WHAT'S BEHIND THE VIOLENCE?
RISK FACTOR ANALYSIS**Task 1 (if you provide a list of risk factors already identified)**

Have a look at the different risk factors on the cards which you now distribute. These are risk factors which have been found in your neighbourhood/community in a previous phase of this process. Have a closer look and discuss on which level you would place the respective risk factor. On which level it is effective? Place it there.

OR Task 1 (if so far no risk factors have been identified)

What are factors in your neighbourhood/community that increase the likelihood that young people may develop violent behaviour? Write them on the cards – one risk factor per card.

Task 2 (if so far no risk factors have been identified)

Have a closer look at the risk factors and discuss on which level you would place the respective risk factor, on which level it is effective. Place it there.

Task 2 or 3 respectively:

Depending on the participants of the workshop and the tools planned to follow, there can be a final task in which each group identifies with glue dots (or dots made with markers) which of the risk factors are most prevalent in their community, and which, according to the participants, contribute most to violence. The prioritisation allows you to continue working with selected risk factors in a forthcoming stage of using the toolkit.



Figure 2: Risk Factor Analysis, VCP workshop, 02./03.09.13 in Jansenville, Ikwezi

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Plenary:

The groups present their summarised results, showing their respective pin boards or big flipchart sheets.

One option: each group presents the prioritised risk factors with explanations, as well as those risk factors which caused longer discussions. If issues remain unclear, these should be taken up by the facilitator/s and explained.



Observations: (Additional notes for the facilitator)

You can modify this tool in various forms. Instead of placing the risk factors as shown above, they can be placed in the ecological model, which is prepared by drawing concentric circles, with youth in the middle (as done in tool A5). Another option is to analyse the risk factors with a specific gender, age or culture perspective.

In any case: pay attention to limit the complexity of this analysis to a manageable extent.



End Product:

By the end of the exercise, the objectives set for this exercise would have been met. The key outputs include:

- Pin boards which show the diversity of risk factors for violence, placed in different categories that relate to the different levels of the ecological model.
- The participants have continued the process of shifting their perspective on violence and crime.
- They have put youth in the centre of analysis.
- The participants are familiar with the idea that young people often cannot influence the risk factors contributing to violence, and thus the participants have moved a step away from stigmatising youth.

