



## IV Safer Cities Competition on “Safety and Security for Women and Girls in Cities” in Latin American and the Caribbean

We have the pleasure to announce that the IV Edition of the Safer Cities Competition on Safety and Security for Women and Girls in Cities in Latin America and the Caribbean has been launched. This call invites Latin American and Caribbean municipalities to present their applications of initiatives which improve security for women and girls in cities.

The theme for the 2007 competition is “safety and security for women and girls in cities” as follow up to the recommendations of the Second International Conference on Safety and Security for Women organized by, amongst other partners, the UN-HABITAT - Safer Cities Programme and held in Bogotá, Colombia in November 2004.

The competition aims at making visible the contributions of women and local governments to the development of policies and programmes addressing women’s participation in community development and decision making as well as violence against women and girls in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its main objective is to promote, disseminate and reward affirmative actions, strategies and measures that promote prevention, treatment and punishment of acts of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres, and increase women participation in community development and decision-making at the local government level. The enforcement of these actions should be guaranteed through policies, legislation, plans and programmes, while at the same time incorporating new proposals, methodologies and resources.

The regional competitions in 2007 will identify three gender responsive cities in each region, which promote governance principles that support women-friendly city management. The aim is to build on the work of numerous ongoing initiatives within the Latin American and the Caribbean regions, which tackle the issues of gender inequality and the continuing lack of women’s participation in social, political and economic fields.

For more information: [www.safercities-competitions.org](http://www.safercities-competitions.org) or [info@safercities-competitions.org](mailto:info@safercities-competitions.org) or contact directly UN-Habitat/ROLAC.

Yours sincerely,

*The team realizing the competition*