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**INNOVATIONS FOR POVERTY ACTION  
PEACE AND RECOVERY PROGRAM**  
Homicide in Latin America and the Caribbean



IPA's Peace & Recovery Program (P&R) is pleased to announce that it is now accepting proposals for research on violence and homicide in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), supported by a pending grant from the Open Society Foundations (OSF). This document details P&R's new research focus, outlining the types of projects we support, our funding criteria, and the focus countries for the competitive fund supported by OSF.

Funding for this theme is subject to and conditioned upon IPA receiving funding from OSF. This funding is shared with J-PAL's Crime and Violence Initiative.

Please direct all questions to [peace@poverty-action.org](mailto:peace@poverty-action.org).

**I. Homicide in Latin America and the Caribbean**

With just eight percent of the world's population, LAC accounts for over a third of all homicides. Seventeen of the 20 countries with the highest homicide rates in the world are in LAC, as are 43 of the top 50 cities. To date, little evidence exists on what kinds of programs and policies can contribute to a reduction in this rate.

To that end, P&R has expanded its core research themes to include homicide in LAC. We seek to support some of the first rigorous studies, and policy and program pilots, on the impact of homicide and violence reduction interventions.

We will consider projects on the following topics:

- Prevention strategies, such as efforts to enhance conflict resolution capacity in violent areas, strategies to displace or quell criminal groups, efforts to protect vulnerable groups (such as youth and women), and gun, drug, and alcohol control initiatives
- Interventions at the individual level, such as CBT for high-risk youth
- Enforcement, security provision and justice sector strategies, including focused deterrence, hotspot policing, investigations, prosecutions, and trials
- Reentry, including strategies to rehabilitate and reintegrate offenders and perpetrators
- Studies that augment our understanding of homicide, such as work on individual motivations for participation in violence and homicide, or the role of criminal groups and networks in homicide

**II. Competitive Fund Overview**

IPA's Peace & Recovery Program (P&R) supports field experiments and related research. We will consider the following types of projects for funding:

**Exploratory grants.** These grants are to develop preliminary research ideas. The expectation is that these grants help researchers develop subsequent proposals for pilots or full randomized controlled trials (RCTs). Activities may include travel, relationship development, descriptive analysis, observational analysis, and data development or collection. These grants are earmarked for junior faculty, PhD students, and other researchers who do not have other sources of funding for travel and exploratory work. Exploratory proposals from tenured professors from major research universities will not be considered. Awards are between \$1,000 and \$10,000.

# Peace & Recovery Program: Homicide in Latin America and the Caribbean

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September 02, 2020