# ommunity onflict resolution rime prevention

Some thoughts to raise discussion on the prevention of community-based conflicts

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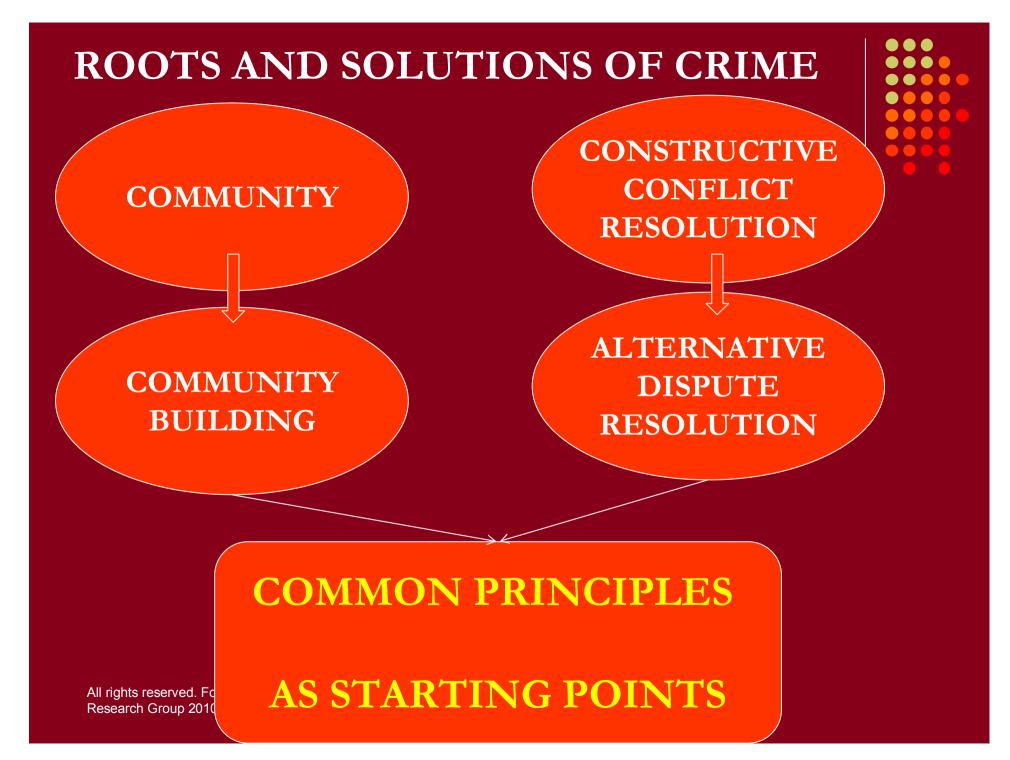
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#### Preventing conflicts?

Of

Applying constructive conflict resolution techniques to prevent crime?



### (SOME) COMMON PRINCIPLES AS STARTING POINTS:



- trust, honesty amongst the actors
- voluntary and active participation bottom up responsibility taking
- involvement of an external and impartial professional (mediator, facilitator) into the decision-making
- empowerment of the parties
- autonomy: articulation of our own interests and needs
- 'widening the circle': involvement of supporters: widening the internal and external social network and the available resources

### (SOME) COMMON PRINCIPLES AS STARTING POINTS:



- (re)building and (re)strengthing community bonds
- cooperation and partnerships: thinking. learning, planning and working in a team
- sustainability seeking for long term solutions
- "learning by doing"
- cohesion through communication
- future-orientation

## Background of the model programme



- The invitation...
- 800 habitants, 20% Roma
- 3 months and approx. 3500 EUR by the Ministry of Justice (Crime Prevention Comm.)
- a multidisciplinary team of 10 professionals: mediators, community developers, social workers, film makers, photographer, communication cons.
- a network of 11 consortium partners led by the Foresee Research Group



#### And then the questions....



#### What is the actual conflict?



• Intra-group conflicts: cla comm.

• Structural proble level of ed atton, migration,

Are these
"special"
requests of
certain
communities?

• Needs: employment, respect, schooling, transport, playground.... (4.56 – 6.30)



## What supportive factors are already available?

(on local, regional, national, international, inter-agency levels?)



# Whom to involve? What if only a minority believes in the change?



# What to actually do? For how long? With how much money?



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# How to handle the existing power dfferences?

How to make the different parties believe they can indeed become partners of each other?



#### **OUR CONCLUSIONS IN FOUR POINTS:**

1. Trust is a must. Towards themselves, towards us.



- 2. Trust cannot be achieved solely by social work, or community building, or ADR.
- 3. These approaches need to be combined so that people gain trust through strengthening their individual security, their integrated position in the community and their constructive conflict resolution methods.
- 4. It is worth looking beyond conflicts labeled as 'ethnic' or other 'sub-culture-related conflicts' and focus on the real and basic needs of each other. Maybe then more agreement is possible.



#### ....AND YOURS?

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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Our film on the project:

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