

# **Report on Safe Community Project**

**District 3 of Tehran**

**February 2011**

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## I) Introduction and Mayor's Message

This report includes the socio-economic data as well as progress report contributing to the application of Tehran District 3 to be recognized as a "Safe Community".

District 3 has developed and implemented a series of plans and policies in order to achieve the status of a safe community. These plans and policies have been designed through ongoing field approach and interaction with key stakeholders so that they take into account the geographical, socio-economic, cultural and structural characteristics of District 3 while improving the core safety indicators in the community. This report will introduce a number of these initiatives which are being implemented to achieve our overall goal of elevating the safety standards in District 3.

The District's Mayor has played an important role in advancing the agenda and as his message below indicates, he remains committed to achieving the stated goal of District 3 being recognized as a "Safe Community".

### I.1) Mayor's Message

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

In Islamic teachings, the human being is the central element in all aspects of development. It is this central role that obliges us to attend to the notion of human development on all levels.

Safety is not only a basic need of human beings, but also a necessity in paving the way for social and economic development in a modern urban society. As such, when we attend to the issue of safety, it is not just because we are interested in securing a specific status, but because we believe that safety will help our citizens and also our city to grow and achieve its true potential in development.

Consequently, District 3 of Tehran has embarked on the process to elevate its safety standards to internationally acceptable levels. We knew from day one that it will be a long and challenging journey, but we have never hesitated in the face of existing difficulties and obstacles. By establishing working committees and expert groups, the District's Municipality has developed and implemented various policies to address safety shortcomings. These policies have not just focused on physical amendments, but also attended to soft issues such as culturally-driven behaviors, social norms as well as safety in virtual space etc.

We know that safety is an evolving concept and that we cannot rest thinking that we have achieved a certain standard. There will be new tasks and challenges ahead and the most critical issue for us has been to inject a degree of sensitivity into the thinking and acting of key stakeholders. Furthermore, we believe that an ongoing interaction between the Municipality, other official institutions, social stakeholders



and NGOs will help us identify future issues and respond to them in a manner that is worthy of a community that wants to call itself a “Safe Community”.

With God’s help, we believe that we have laid the ground for District 3 to be actively pursuing the safety concept and to be prepared for all future tasks and responsibilities. We also look forward to working more closely with international organizations in promoting safety in Tehran, particularly in District 3.

Yours sincerely,

Pejman Pashmchi Zadeh (Ing.)  
Mayor  
District 3 of Tehran

## **II) Tehran District 3’s Structure**

Compared to Iran’s ancient cities, Tehran is a relatively new city. It was originally a village north of the ancient city of Rey which became the country’s capital about two centuries ago.

Urban development documents indicate that the area that has become District 3 was developed in the 1950’s when some of the old villages (e.g. Vanak, Qolhak etc.) were merged into the city’s structure. It is interesting to note that one of the main avenues in this District (Shariati Avenue) was actually the old road from Tehran to Shemiran (now part of northern Tehran).

Four major state-owned land areas (the premises of the national broadcasting company IRIB as well as the International Exhibition grounds in the north and military camps as well as the Abbas Abad area in the south) have squashed the private properties in between and have led to the emergence of a business district in this area.

District 3 of Tehran covers an area of 2,945 hectares and it is known as the Capital of the Iranian Capital. It is one of the most developed Districts in Tehran in terms of infrastructure and urban planning. Consequently, many institutions such as businesses, universities, embassies, the United Nations’ headquarters as well as cultural and governmental institutions have decided to base their operations in District 3.

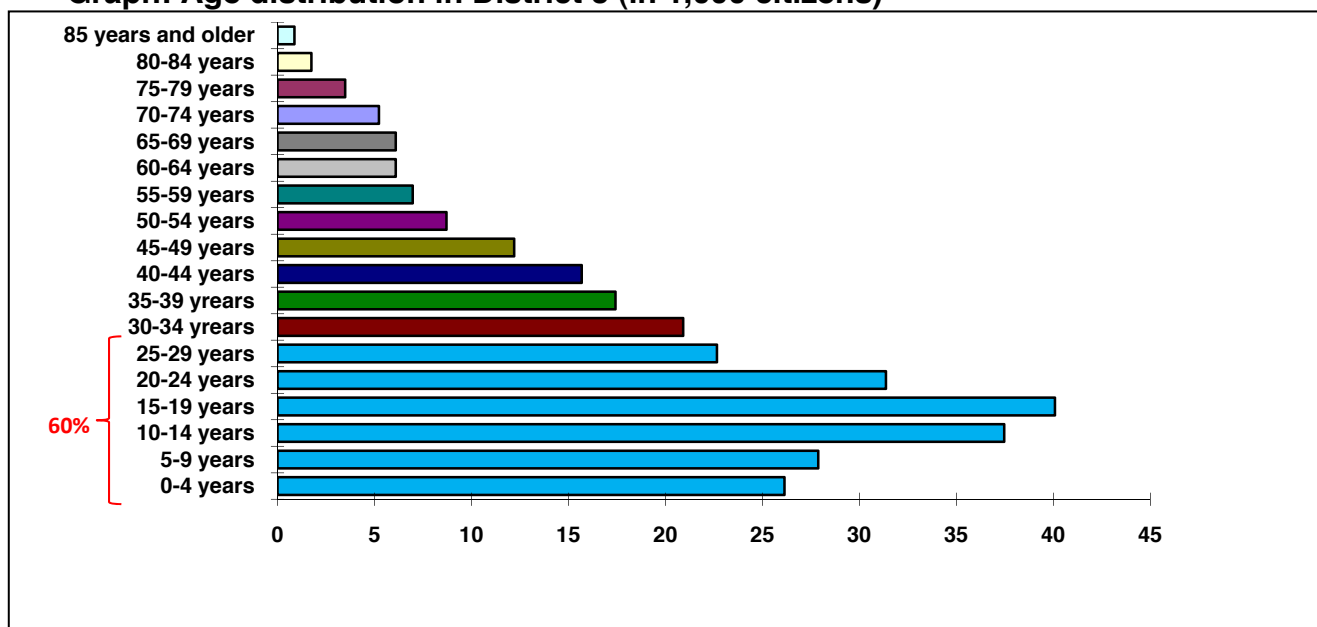
District 3 has a resident population of 290,000 (see table below). As it is one of the major business districts in the Iranian capital, it has a commuting population of about 1.2 million citizens.

Key demographic and socio-economic facts are summarized below:

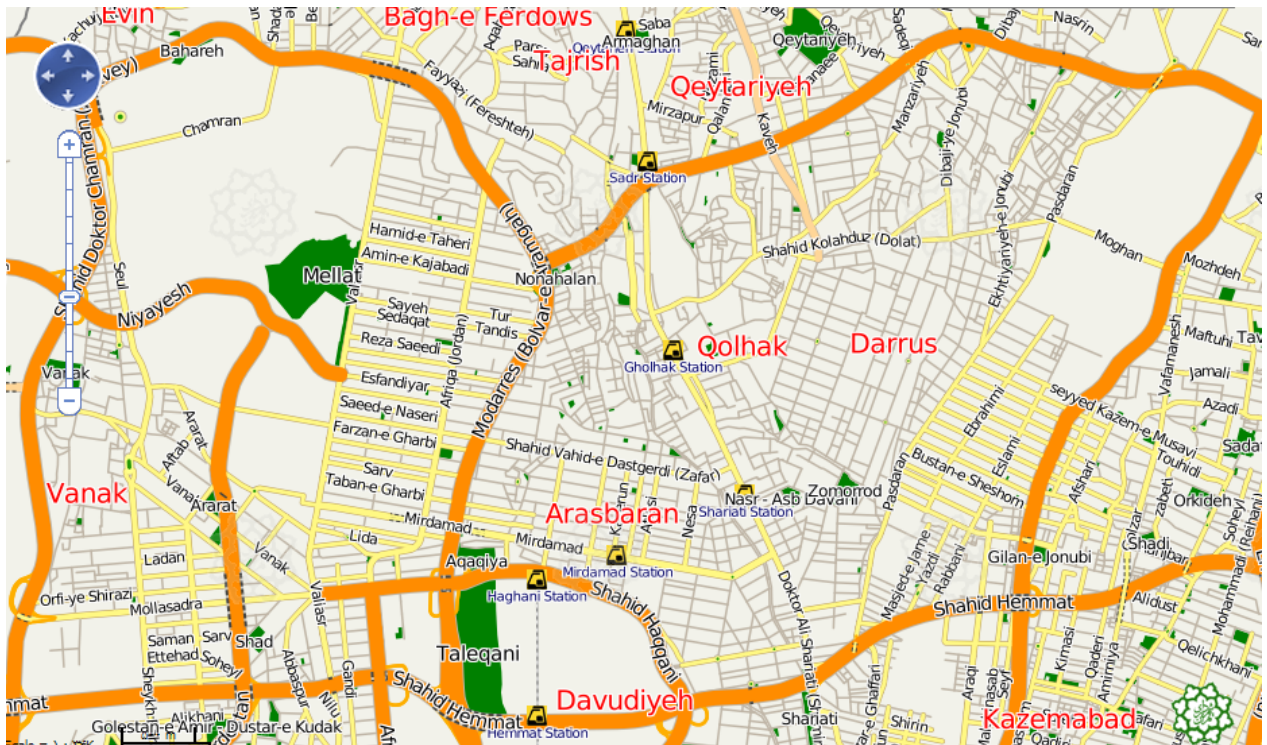
|                              |                |                                    |          |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Population (2010)</b>     | 290,726        | <b>Literacy rate</b>               | 95.0%    |
| <b>Male</b>                  | 141,186        | <b>Unemployment rate</b>           | 4.5%     |
| <b>Female</b>                | 149,540        | <b>District Area</b>               | 30 sq km |
| <b>Number of households</b>  | 91,987         | <b>Unemployed population</b>       | 13,083   |
| <b>Population growth</b>     | 1.58%          | <b>Illiterate population</b>       | 7,186    |
| <b>Total Area</b>            | 2,945 hectares | <b>Number of residential units</b> | 100,774  |
| <b>Thereof green area</b>    | 116 hectares   | <b>Number of commercial units</b>  | 18,341   |
| <b>Per capita green area</b> | 21 sq m        |                                    |          |

The following graph indicates the age distribution of the resident population in District 3:

**Graph: Age distribution in District 3 (in 1,000 citizens)**



The following map shows the geographic boundaries of District 3:



The following table shows the utilization of land in District 3:

**Table: Land Utilization in District 3 of Tehran**

| Utilization of Land   | Area (in hectares) |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Residential           | 1155.6             |
| Commercial            | 100.3              |
| Office units          | 190.9              |
| Green Area            | 277.2              |
| Un-built, barren land | 161.3              |
| Streets and other     | 683.3              |
| Sports facilities     | 114.7              |

The District's climate becomes warmer and less humid from north to south. The annual rainfall has been reported 220ml. Maximum range of rainfall starts in November and ends in May involving 90% of annual rainfall. The average temperature is 16°C.

### III) Our Goals and Initiatives in Safe Community Project

The reasons District 3 decided to join the Safe Community network include:

- Desire to prevent injuries and provide greater safety for our citizens;
- Desire to learn from the experiences of other Safe Communities;
- The fact that existing infrastructure and organizational realities were suitable for such a process;
- The belief that international safety standards will help our District to realize its full potential in socio-economic development;

Before this program was initiated, key risks in this District could be summarized as follows:

- a) Traffic risks;
- b) Injuries in workplace due to lack of awareness about health and safety instruments and issues;
- c) Domestic violence, especially against women and children;
- d) Incidents in educational facilities including injuries in schools;
- e) Injuries in residential units due to inappropriate architecture and also lack of awareness about safety instruments and issues;
- f) Hazardous environments and urban infrastructure for elderly citizens;
- g) Insufficient quality of basic infrastructure to provide for disabled citizens;

Our overall vision for creating a Safe Community has been to:

- Prevent injuries and accidents and reduce injuries based on the standards and norms applied by the International Safe Community network;
- Promote the safety standards for children including the promotion of standards developed in District 3 for the entire Tehran area and for the entire country<sup>1</sup>.
- Act as guiding partner for other urban areas in Iran<sup>2</sup>

In order to address the safety risks in District 3, the Steering Committee for Safe Community engaged in the following activities and initiatives:

- Drafting and ratification of the District's Safe Community Policies which include:
  - Promotion of safety standards for the District's citizens through close collaboration with official stakeholders as well as NGO and community-based organizations (CBOs);
  - Special attention to all issues related to child safety in all environments and with a vision to develop solutions that could be utilized in all urban environments in Iran and beyond;

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<sup>1</sup> This objective has been pursued through a close collaboration with Unicef in Iran as well as through the establishment of a permanent office for the promotion of child safety in Iran in this District.

<sup>2</sup> This objective has partly been achieved as District 3 has become the guiding partner for the Island of Qeshm.



- To feel responsible towards safety issues in other communities and to look beyond the needs of our own District;
- - Awareness building among the public and key stakeholders through public relations and the media;
  - Holding of various workshops with the aim to educate relevant stakeholders to achieve the objectives of Safe Community including:
    - Workshop for the District Executive Managers in all governmental and non-governmental institutions promoting the concepts of Safe Community;
    - Workshop on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) focusing on how companies could promote safety in their CSR projects;
    - Etc.
  - Focusing on Specialized Working Committees as described in Section IV of this report.

The detailed activities of the Steering Committee included:

- Establishment and equipment of the Secretariat;
- Participation in the meetings of the Tehran Safe Community Policy-Making Council;
- Drafting of the needed forms and templates for the registration of accidents and incidents and promotion of the usage of such forms;
- Convention of preliminary meetings with the members of various Working Groups;
- Visits to the field activities of various Working Groups and drafting of progress reports;
- Production of books and articles in connection with Safe Community and distribution of such material to directors and experts involved in Safe Community processes;
- Interaction with the representatives of international organizations with the objective of involving them in the specialized work on Safe Community;
- Drafting of educational material on Safe Community issues;
- Collaboration with Unicef Iran in promoting child safety concepts;
- Collaboration with the ministry of health and the ministry of the interior to focus on the Millennium Development Goals prescribed by the Un Agencies;



## IV) Actual Performance with regard to Safety Indicators

### IV.1) Indicator 1:

As described above, the work in District 3 was structured around a Steering Committee and managed through a permanent Secretariat which overlooked the work in the specialized working groups (see below).

The organizational chart of the organization developing, implementing and supervising the various projects is depicted below:



Below, the detailed activities of each of the above mentioned working groups have been outlined:

#### *1) Specialized Working Group on “Incidents in Schools and Educational Facilities”*

Key members of this group included:

- Deputy Mayor in charge of social affairs;
- Representatives from Ministry of Education,
- Member of the Board of the Science and Arts Foundation;

Most significant plans and projects of the Working Committee on “Incidents in Schools and Educational Facilities”:

- Holding of specialized meetings between working committees and representatives of the Ministry of Education and the coordination of efforts to reduce the safety risks for primary schoolchildren;
- Education of parents of primary schoolchildren with regards to safety issues in the transportation between homes and schools;

- Identification and improvement of all shortcomings in urban infrastructure (such as water canals, bridges etc.) that could become hazardous for schoolchildren;
- Identification of schools that may not be resistant to earthquakes and other natural disasters and drafting of plans on how to improve the conditions of such properties;
- Implementation of the project entitled “Safe Crossings” in collaboration with other relevant organizations;
- Design and implementation of educational workshops on issues related to safety of children;
- Drafting and implementation of a project on “improvement of commuting related to schoolchildren”;
- Academic study on “Behavior Patterns of Schoolchildren” with the objective of reducing threats and vulnerabilities in school environments as well as during commuting;

## *2) Specialized Working Group On " Incidents, Natural Disasters & Urban Environment"*

Considering the fact that Tehran is prone to natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods, as well as the likelihood of epidemic and unexpected developments, this Working Group has focused on reducing the time to respond to disasters as well as increasing the efficiency of responses with the objective to reduce damages and losses.

- Convention of Working Group sessions involving representatives of relevant entities such as fast-response organizations (fire brigades, emergency medical services, utilities, telecommunications, aerial transportation, police, Basij mobilization forces, gas distribution etc.) as well as community-based organizations;
- Convention of Crisis Management Headquarters’ meetings in the District Municipality as well as in sub-districts;
- Distribution of search and rescue tools and equipment in special locations across the District (machinery, equipment, snow-clearance vehicles, salt and sand etc.);
- Organization of educational workshops for all relevant organizations with regard to search and rescue (topics such as earthquakes, floods, fire, epidemics, heavy rain etc.);
- Implementation of various drills to practice and prepare for crisis situations;

- Identification and improvement of all vulnerable and hazardous streets and locations;
- Organization of workshops on “Life and Environment” for all age groups;
- Drafting of automated processes for the registration of all natural disasters;
- Creation of search and rescue teams and their equipment;
- Identification of all old structures in the District and initiation of the process to renovate such buildings and structures;
- Public awareness campaign through banners and posters in order to reduce incidents;
- Publication of brochures and other awareness materials for residential and commercial units in all fields related to natural disasters;
- Installation of warning signs (eg. For drinking water);
- Identification of old tall trees and the axing of such trees to avoid incidents related to their collapse;

### *3) Specialized Working Group on “Incidents in Leisure Events”*

Key members of this group included:

- Deputy Mayor in charge of Urban Services;
- Municipal Director in charge of Green Areas;
- Municipality’s environmental experts;

Most important activities so far:

- Improvement and increase in safety of children’s play grounds (upgrading the surface as well as play instruments);
- Installation of signs indicating “drinking water”/ “non-drinking water” for safety and health purposes in public parks and facilities;
- Increased installation of sports tools for general population’s use in public parks;
- Preparation of relevant material for publications on “safety in leisure activities”;
- Data collection on incidents and accidents in Leisure Event;
- Improvement and increase in safety of children’s play grounds (upgrading the surface as well as play instruments);
- Increased installation of sports tools for general population’s use in public parks;

- Installation of signs indicating “drinking water”/ “non-drinking water” for safety and health purposes in public parks and facilities;

#### *4) Specialized Working Group on “Incidents in Residential Units”*

Key members of this group included:

- Deputy Mayor in charge of urban development and architecture;
- Representative from the Policy-Making Council of Safe Community;
- Two experts;
- Architect from Azad University;

Most important activities so far:

- Implementation of plans to secure the safety of pedestrians around construction sites;
- Installation of secure surfaces around construction sites;
- Supervision over observation of safety regulations for construction workers;
- Mechanical soil-testing in order to analyze soil resistance;
- Carrying out of various tests on new structures (welding tests for iron structures and concrete tests for concrete buildings);
- Observation of energy efficiency of buildings;
- Observation of fire safety in buildings;
- Drafting of a Guideline for Promotion of Safety of the Elderly and Disabled in Residential Units;
- Awareness campaign for parents to promote child safety dealing with household-specific hazards (such as chemicals, hazardous equipment, household appliances etc.) through the publication of print material;
- Awareness campaign to educate citizens on how to prevent silent deaths caused by CO suffocation;

Most important future programs include:

- Establishment of cross-sectoral committees in the District’s urban management including relevant entities from the six sub-districts for the prevention of incidents in residential units;
- Drafting of continuous supervisory plans to overlook safety issues in residential environments;
- Finalization of new regulations to promote safety;
- Implementation of new rules and regulations in pedestrian pavements and residential buildings to facilitate the movement of disabled citizens;
- Increased attention to the external features of buildings with the objective to prevent safety incidents;

#### *5) Specialized Working Group on “Public Relations and Public Education”*

Key members of this group included:

- Municipal Director in charge of Public Relations;
- Academic experts;
- Educational experts;

The most important actions include:

- Awareness campaign for citizens through the media, newspapers, news agencies and the District's website;
- Location-based advertising through publication of material and distribution of booklets for specific sub-districts;
- Public competitions with the aim of increasing awareness among citizens, especially school and university students;
- Creation of a municipal database to include the views of the elite, university professors and experts.
- Identification of vulnerable and accident-prone locations as well as safe locations with the aim to improve overall safety conditions;
- Establishment of the Specialized Committee involving experts, thinkers and elite members;

Most important future programs include:

- Holding meetings and seminars about Safe Community with professors and experts;
- Communication and exchanging of ideas with other Safe Communities or cities that are implementing these plans to learn from their experiences;
- Publication of booklets and brochures based on common needs of the community;
- Installing banners, billboards and stands to increase the awareness of citizens;
- Informing through press, popular newspapers, Tehran Municipality's and the District's websites and agencies regarding the step by step execution of these plans including interviews with senior staff;
- Sending text messages to citizens and notifying them to observe safety tips;
- Carrying out studies in collaboration with university students and experts to identify points of vulnerability which should be corrected;

#### *6) Specialized Working Group on "Social Vulnerabilities"*

Key members of this group included:

- Deputy Mayor in charge of Social Affairs;
- Representative from the Ministry of Education;
- Representatives from the District's Judicial Authority and Police;

- Representatives from NGOs working on women's issues as well as Rehabilitation Center for drug addicts;

The most important actions include:

- Categorization and prioritization of social vulnerabilities;
- Data processing relating to "addiction" and "drugs";
- Data collection on incidents and accidents emerging from social vulnerabilities;
- Data processing relating to collected information on "divorce";
- Data processing relating to collected information on "child labor" and "street children";
- Collaboration with the District's NGOs and other relevant entities;
- Promotion and advocacy of a safety culture in line with the Safe Community indicators;

### *7) Specialized Working Group on "Working Space and Urban Development"*

Key members of this group included:

- Deputy Mayor in charge of technical issues;
- Representative from the Policy-Making Council of Safe Community;
- Representatives from all utilities companies;
- Representatives from Tehran Metro, Fire Brigades etc.

The most important initiatives included:

- Standardization and related education on the utilization of venting systems for gas-fueled equipment;
- Creation of relevant pavement space to prevent safety incidents around gas distribution facilities;
- Collaboration with all utilities companies (gas, water, sewage and electricity) and collection of data to prevent any physical accidents involving urban development equipment with utilities facilities;
- Prevention of accidents in projects sites through relevant warning signs;
- Improvement of water canals in order to revitalize greenery;
- Utilization of signs and warning bands to make citizens aware of construction and development activity;

Most important future programs include:

- Improvement of the traditional sewage system in order to prevent street collapses in light of the construction of a modern sewage system;
- Identification and repair of the metal lids of water canals;
- Improvement of street pavements;
- Identification of water accumulation points and expansion of water canals to avoid water-related hazards;
- Construction of a new sewage system;

### *8) Specialized Working Group on "Traffic Incidents and Accidents"*

Key members of this group included:

- Deputy Mayor in charge traffic management;
- Representatives from Traffic Police, Emergency Medical Services and Ministry of Education;

The most important activities include:

- Installation of solar-powered warning signals, caution tanks, plastic cylinders and lining around major forks on motorways in order to alert drivers;
- Installation of pedestrian flyovers, especially on motorways;
- Installation of street bumps at points with increased pedestrian traffic, especially around schools to increase safety levels for pedestrians;
- Improvement of pedestrian pavements to facilitate the traffic of disabled citizens;
- Installation of push buttons at traffic lights to increase the safety of the crossing of blind citizens;
- Installation of mirrors to prevent collisions between vehicles and express bus services;
- Correction of geometrical characteristics of traffic routes to increase safety;

Most important future programs include:

- Installation of traffic mirrors in order to reduce accidents involving heavy vehicles;
- Installation of speed control signs in the District's main motorways;
- Installation of guard rails at motorway shoulders as well as central fences with elastic features;
- Improvement of hazardous curves on roads and motorways;
- Improvement of accident-prone locations on motorways;
-



## IV.2) Indicator 2:

Considering the fact that children are among the most vulnerable social groups in industrialized societies and also the fact that the young population of District 3 is on the rise, the Safe Community pays special attention to the issue of safety and security of children.

Furthermore, various vulnerable age groups were identified and specific approaches were developed for these age groups as follows:

### a) 0 to 14 years:

Traffic accidents, falls and burn injuries are the main incidents in this age group. Therefore, the District's programs for this age group are focused on the mentioned categories. It should be noted that violence has not been identified as a risk to this age group. As incidents take place at home, in schools and in transit between these two locations, the initiatives evolved around the following agenda which was developed in regular meetings of the working committees including representatives from the Ministry of Education, Traffic Police, School Deans as well as community-based organizations:

- Identification of hazardous locations around schools;
- Marking the crossings for school pupils and installation of lights around these crossings;
- Presence of traffic police at these crossings at times when students leave their schools;
- Identification of and attention to specific environments (such as under bridges and flyovers, construction sites) which may be abused against school children;
- Presence of police around schools (especially girl schools) at critical times;
- Education of key stakeholders through banners, posters and other media close to schools;
- Publication of brochures containing educational material for students, especially about how to respond to crises such as natural disasters, fire etc.);
- Drafting of specific methodologies for the registration of incidents and accidents in educational facilities;
- Equipment of educational facilities with fire fighting tools and capsules;
- Creation of a specialized website for the issue of safety in educational facilities;
- Holding of a seminar on "Student Safety in Urban Traffic" with the objective of promotion of safety and reduction of accidents;
- Student visits to emergency services (fire brigades, medical services etc.);
- First Aid training workshops for students;
- Improving the safety of playgrounds in parks and public places;

- Training sessions for parents to educate them on safety issues in home environment;
- Training sessions for parents to educate them on safety issues in the transition from home to school and vice versa;
- Drafting a plan to “Improve Safety in Student Excursions” which will be implemented soon;
- Creation of a database on the issues of street children;
- Establishment of stations to carry out vision tests for children;
- 

**b) 14 to 24 years:**

This group is mainly affected through traffic accidents as well as social vulnerabilities. It has been established that those citizens who end up as beggars on the District’s streets are commuters and do not reside in the District.

Initiatives for this age group include:

- Cooperation with NGOs to address key issues;
- Promotion of safety concepts based on the indicators of Safe Community;
- Study on the actual incidents derived from social vulnerabilities;
- Categorization and prioritization of incident types;
- Processing of issues relating to drug addiction;
- Investment in new cultural and sports facilities in order to fill the leisure time of citizens in this age group in order to prevent their attraction to unsafe activities;
- Awareness campaign on risky behaviors and their consequences including education on AIDS and other issues;
- Drafting and print of educational materials on unsafe relations for this age group;
- Training sessions for parents to educate them on risks for this age group and how to prevent unsafe behaviors and violence;
- Transformation of the areas where criminals used to assemble to sports, educational and cultural centers with the help of this age group’s representatives in the various committees;
- Legal imposition on motor cyclists to wear helmets;
- 

**c) 25 to 64 years:**

The majority of the injuries and deaths in traffic accidents belong to this age group. As some of the safety risks can be distinguished based on gender, some of the initiatives for this age group are gender-based:

- Ongoing collaboration between the Municipality and institutions such as Emergency Services, Fire Brigades and Traffic Police in order to identify and address issues relating to critical traffic areas with a high number of accidents, critical points with regard to social vulnerabilities;

- Training workshops for housewives with the objective to generate awareness on safety risks at home and how to prevent injuries;
- Drafting and production of educational material for housewives on safety at home;
- Awareness campaign on the risk of “silent death” through suffocation;
- Cooperation with NGOs in addressing social vulnerabilities;
- Organization of seminars in various sub-districts on identifying best practices in safety in the District;

**d) 65 years and older:**

The majority of injuries and deaths in this age group are caused by traffic accidents and falls. Related initiatives include:

- Holding of brainstorming sessions with experts in this field in order to identify key safety issues for this age group;
- Equipment of pedestrian flyovers with escalators to facilitate the crossing of streets by this age group;
- Study on key safety risks for this age group at home and at work;
- Establishment of appropriate areas for sport and activities of this group in parks and public places;

**e) Actual progress:**

The following table summarizes key statistics on the achievements of the Safe Community approach in District 3:

| Item                                      | Year 1387 (21 Mar 2008 to 20 Mar 2009) | Year 1388 (21 Mar 2009 to 20 Mar 2010) |
|---|--|--|
| Number of injuries in traffic accidents   | 949                                    | 815                                    |
| Number of fatalities in traffic accidents | 7                                      | 3                                      |
| Number of play grounds with safe surface  | 29                                     | 59                                     |
| Number of parks with sports facilities    | 20                                     | 46                                     |

The causes of social vulnerabilities in District 3 can be categorized as follows:

| Cause   | Percentage of Incidents |
|---|-------------------------|
| Drug addiction and trafficking;                       | 21%                     |
| Street children;                                      | 16%                     |
| Begging;  | 17%                     |
| Violence including domestic violence (against women); | 18%                     |
| Harassment of women;                                  | 15%                     |
| Homeless people;                                      | 13%                     |

Drug addiction has been identified as the key problem in this District and special awareness campaigns are underway to educate key age groups on the health and safety risks in this category.

Furthermore, the Safe Community Steering Committee has addressed a number of other issues that are summarized below:

- Cooperation with NGOs that work on prevention of suicides;
- Organization of workshops on educating families about the signs of suicide attempts;
- Specialized work on incidents in workplace, especially injuries caused in urban development projects;
- Special focus on injuries related to the gas network (see table below);
- Improvement of safety signs in parks and public places;

The following table shows the improvement in injuries related to the city's gas network:

Table: Gas-related incidents in District 3:

| Item   | Year 1386 (21 Mar 2007 to 20 Mar 2008) | Year 1387 (21 Mar 2008 to 20 Mar 2009) | Year 1388 (21 Mar 2009 to 20 Mar 2010) |
|--|--|--|--|
| Collision with gas poles                       | 116                                    | 96                                     | 60                                     |
| Pipe bursting as a result of construction work | 2                                      | 6                                      | 1                                      |
| Inability to control the gas leak in incidents | 17                                     | 6                                      | 2                                      |
| Gas-related fires                              | 3                                      | 5                                      | 1                                      |

It should also be noted that falls related to drilling works on the city's water network have been reduced to zero as a result of the Safe Community project activities.

### IV.3) Indicator 3:

The most vulnerable group in District 3 are children. As described earlier, our work had a special focus on children.

Furthermore, as homes are a key location for incidents leading to injuries, many of the above mentioned initiatives have focused on educating housewives on safety at home. For the same group (housewives and women in general) a special women-only park has been established in District 3 to provide this group with a safe environment for leisure and sports activities.

In addition, special workshops have been designed and held for young girls to help them prevent domestic violence against them and also violence on the street.

#### **Safety in the Internet**

One of the vulnerabilities that we have identified in our community can be described as the “intangible threats of the virtual world to our children”. With the growth of Internet usage and also mobile communications, our community’s children are exposed to the dangers of the virtual world of the Internet ranging from unsuitable content for children to distribution of illicit material and also the phenomenon of inappropriate contacts between criminals and children and other vulnerable groups.

To address this issue, the Municipality of District 3 joined forces with an established NGO in Iran (Science and Arts Foundation – [www.saf.ir](http://www.saf.ir)) to study the phenomenon of “safety in the Internet” and to provide key stakeholders (i.e. schools, parents, official institutions and also the youth) with the needed training. The District 3 Municipality has now allocated an annual budget to this project which includes the following steps on an ongoing basis:

- Establishment of a Working Group on “Safety in the Internet” with experts and officials from the fields of education, IT and sociology;
- Designing of an awareness campaign including the drafting and production of information material in various formats (brochures, CDs, online information etc.);
- Production of a book that can be provided to schools for the use of teachers and parents;
- Design and implementation of training workshops for key stakeholders; and
- Research on international standards, success of implemented programmes etc.

## Other Target Groups

For citizens using sports and recreational facilities in public parks, District 3 has introduced a number of safety measures in parks and sports facilities (including safe surface etc.).

The table below offers a timetable for the process of the Safe Community project in District 3 of Tehran:

| Dec 09            | Mar 2010                               | Apr to Sep 2010                                      | Oct 2010                                | Oct to Dec 2010                                       | Dec 2010   | Jan 2011   |
|-------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| Start of the work | First Visit from Karolinska University | Establishment of working groups and their activities | Second visit from Karolinska University | Improvements and continued work by the working groups | Preparations to assist the Qeshm Island to join the Safe Community Network | Joint visit to Qeshm between District 3 and Karolinska University to kick-start the Qeshm Safe Community project |

### IV.4) Indicator 4:

In this category, District 3 has engaged in an extensive collection and registration of data. A project under the title: “Unique Injury Registration System” has been outsourced to a local firm. The subcontractor has designed the mentioned system by involving governmental or non-governmental entities that are related to injuries or accidents.

The objectives of this system are to:

- Limit statistical mistakes of organizational reports
- Facilitate information availability
- Classify Corporate injuries and accidents
- Establish effective participation between organizations
- Produce reliable reports of accident and injuries throughout Tehran.

To develop an appropriate system for Tehran, the subcontractor investigated the registration process and focused on reporting contents, database framework and methodologies in different countries such as Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Canada, UK, France, Australia, Slovenia, India and Indonesia.

Injuries have been classified by three reputable systems, i.e. ICECI, ICD-10 and DSMIV-TR. The Tehran Municipality subcontractor has verified ICECI, ICD10 and classification procedures that are being used by Iranian organizations.

The executive objectives in this project include:

- Investigate factors that may cause accidents and injuries
- Determine injuries and accident codes
- Design the procedure to gather information on injuries and accidents
- Design forms for the documentation of injuries and accidents
- Design templates for reports
- Monitor and evaluate activities
- Execute programs based on timetable
- Standardize the process of gathering information
- Design injury registration software
- Prepare a guideline for using the software

So far, the following steps have been taken:

- Communicating with various organizations
- Collecting information from organizations
- Organizing focus group discussions about injuries registration
- Investigating injuries and accidents registration process
- Designing and testing injury forms in some organizations

The chart below identifies the partner organizations in this process:



#### IV.5) Indicator 5:

Following the activities related to Indicator 4, information on accidents and injuries as well as actual priorities were determined. Consequently, the Policy-Making Council on Tehran Safe Community established a working group entitled “Documentation, Supervision and Evaluation” which includes experts on health, epidemiology,



software development and safety. This working committee is tasked to prepare the documents and forms and to evaluate the various projects through methods such as balanced score cards, observation, questionnaire-based survey, etc. This appraisal process would be repeated every six months in order to identify progress and bottlenecks and to amend or adjust projects accordingly.

#### **IV.6) Indicator 6:**

In this regard, District 3 experts on safety issues have worked on 3 levels:

- We have organized workshops and conferences in our own District to generate deeper awareness about safety concepts as well as our own initiatives. These include:
  - Seminar on “automotive safety” in collaboration with technical stakeholders;
  - Conference on promoting Corporate Social Responsibility;
  - Conference and initiatives in collaboration with Unicef celebrating the “International Child Day”;
  - Conference on Metropolises and Safe Community;
- We have joined national conferences such as:
  - Conference on the joining of 5 Tehran Districts to the International Safe Community Network;
  - National Conference on Safe Community in Tehran;
  - Training workshop on preventing intentional injuries and incidents such as suicides.
- We are planning to participate in international conferences such as:
  - Preparation of an article for participation at the Swedish International Conference on Safe Community in 2011;

Furthermore, a number of articles and brochures have been drafted and produced in District 3 utilizing the vast experiences of the international Safe Community Network. We also look forward to offering Tehran’s experiences to other member cities.

It should also be noted that the Permanent Headquarters of “Promoting Child Safety” has been established in District 3 upon a decree issued by Tehran Mayor, Dr. Mohammadbaquer Qalibaf.

District 3 has also published a number of books and booklets including:

- a) Snow Booklet (safety on snow)
- b) Booklet on Sub-Districts (guide to emergency, medical and educational centers, hospitals, fire brigades ... in each sub-district)
- c) Guide for Citizens (including guidelines for mental health, time management, dealing with municipal entities etc.);
- d) Many brochures on safety related issues;
- e) Bilingual brochures for the benefit of foreign residents.

## Appendix: Complete List of Members of Working Groups in District 3

To be completed later.

| Group | Name | Position |
|-------|------|----------|
|       |      |          |
|       |      |          |