



PREVENTING MINORITY YOUTH VIOLENCE

SARA (scanning, analysis, response, and assessment) model worksheet

This worksheet exercise tracks the key elements of the SARA (scanning, analysis, response, and assessment)¹ model problem solving method. This is a framework used by community policing agencies to identify and solve repeat crime and community problems. The worksheet can help aid in planning a minority youth violence prevention program.

1. Scanning

What did you identify as recurring problems of concern to the public and the police in your jurisdiction? What are the consequences of these problems for the community and the police; how are these problems prioritized? What broad goals did you develop for your Minority Youth Violence Prevention programming? How did you confirm that these problems exist, how frequently do these problems occur, and how long have they been taking place? Which problems did you select for closer examination?

2. Analysis

What conditions preceded and accompanied these problems? What data did you collect to analyze them? What research are you aware of about the types of problems you're seeking to address?

How are these problems currently being addressed in your jurisdiction? What are the strengths and limitations of the current response?

How have you narrowed the scope of the problem as specifically as possible?

Which resources may be helpful in developing a deeper understanding of the problem?

What is your working hypothesis about the problem?

3. Response

What alternative approaches did you consider after you analyzed the problem(s) you're focusing on?

What do you know about what other communities with similar problems have done?

What is the response plan under your Minority Youth Violence Prevention proposal, and who are the primary responsible parties for carrying it out?

What are the specific objectives for your response plan?

What are the primary activities under your response plan, and who will carry them out?

1. "The SARA Model, Center for Problem-Oriented Policing," accessed June 7, 2019, <https://popcenter.asu.edu/content/sara-model-0>.

4. Assessment

Conducting a process evaluation and impact evaluation are key to assessing the effectiveness of your Minority Youth Violence Prevention program.

How will you collect pre- and post-response qualitative and quantitative data?

How will you determine whether broad goals and specific objectives are being attained?

How will you Identify any new strategies needed to augment the original plan?

What ongoing assessments will you conduct to ensure that you are having the desired impact?



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services
145 N Street NE
Washington, DC 20530

To obtain details about COPS Office programs, call
the COPS Office Response Center at 800-421-6770.

Visit the COPS Office online at www.cops.usdoj.gov.



Center for Court Innovation
520 Eighth Avenue, 18th Floor
New York, NY 10018