

Overcoming the data gap on SDG 16: Tools and Approaches to accelerating data collection and reporting on SDG 16

18 February 2021,
9:00 - 10:30 AM (New York Time)

Background

Sustainable Development Goal 16 aimed at *Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels* has been considered an enabler to other goals and increasingly countries are including it as part of their national development plans and strategies. Since 2015, the number of countries reporting on SDG 16 at the High-Level Political Forum in New York has been steadily increasing.¹ The 2020 Voluntary National Reviews² showed that over half of the countries presented a statistical annex and some countries presented an extended statistical annex or a separate indicator report. Despite this clear improvement, key challenges cited related to gaps in data availability and insufficient data, data collection constraints, and data disaggregation, to which the countries expressed the need of financial support but also technical support. However, as the Institute for Economics and Peace notes in its review of SDG 16+ data availability, only 44 of the 56 indicators have any data available at all - from official and unofficial sources.³ Official reporting through the SDG reporting process indicates an even more stark picture. SDG 16 remains a goal with few Tier I indicators, only 7 out of 24 indicators, and of those only 4 are measured at the national level.

The measurement of peaceful, just and inclusive societies has greatly progressed since 2015 with establishment of international guidelines, refinement of indicators, strengthening of statistical systems, and the goal integration into National Strategies for Development Statistical and National Development Plans. The challenge now is to operationalize the methodologies into tools that can help countries collect data and overcome the multiple obstacles that they may face at the country level – from political will, to financial and technical resources, to the new challenges brought by the COVID-19 Pandemic.⁴

¹ [Global Alliance: White & Case Review of the 2019 Voluntary National Reports \(VNRs\)](#)

² [2020 Voluntary National Reviews Synthesis Report](#)

³ Institute for Economics and Peace: [SDG16+ Progress Report 2019](#)

⁴ [Monitoring the State of Statistical Operations under the COVID-19 Pandemic](#): According with a study conducted by UNSD and World Bank there is a positive trend, if in May 2020 only 35% of statistical offices were open, on October 2020, 77% were open, and 21% partially open.

Investment in improved tools and approaches and improved coordination at global, regional and national level is urgently needed to accelerate SDG 16 implementation and to inform COVID-19 responses that mitigate the pandemic's adverse effects on those most left behind.

The SDG 16 Survey jointly developed by UNDP, UNODC and OHCHR aims at providing a coherent survey instrument that countries can use to measure progress on multiple survey-based indicators on SDG 16. This session aims to share some of the initial findings and lessons as the tool is being finalized in 2021.

Objective

The side event aims to share information on the development of the SDG 16 Survey and to highlight initial findings and country experiences from piloting the survey.

Target audience

The side event is directed to countries interested in learning about or have experience in collecting data on SDG 16.

Interlinkage with UNSC Agenda items

The event supports agenda item:

3 (a): Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The side-event focuses on the data collection of SDG indicators in accordance with the approved metadata, respecting the recommended data flow and disaggregations

3 (b): Coordination of statistical programmes

The side event will address the coordination of global, regional and national initiatives as a means of reducing duplication and enhancing support

3 (l): Household surveys

The main tool discussed will be household surveys dedicated to collect data on governance, access to justice, violence, corruption, discrimination and human trafficking.

Platform

Zoom

Registration

[Click Here](#)

Language

English

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