PROMOTE PEACEFUL, JUST AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES
Info Digest – Edition 8

Welcome to the SDG 16 info digest – edition 8!

This eighth edition of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 info digest presents an overview of SDG 16 activities in the last months of 2017 and provides updates from global, regional and local perspectives on this sustainable development goal. In the digest, you will find information on important past and future events, related resources, knowledge products and tools.

The SDG 16 info digest provides updates on recent events and activities within the UN System and outside and shares information about resources, including publications, articles, blogs, tools and upcoming events. We invite you to share any SDG 16 related information and resources that we can feature in future editions of this digest with Aseem Andrews.

RECENT ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS – Updates from UN / UNDP:

SDG16 related high level meetings on indicators, monitoring, localization:

UNDP Oslo Governance Centre (OGC) hosted Expert Group Meeting on SDG indicators 16.6.2 and 16.7.2. Oslo, 4 – 5 December 2017

An Expert Group Meeting discussed two tier III indicators under UNDP's interim custodianship: SDG 16.6.2 - proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services; and SDG 16.7.2 – proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group.

The meeting, which included members of the Praia City Group on Governance Statistics provided a space for reviewing and validating the work that has been done since the first Expert Group Meeting of statisticians and governance experts, convened in May 2017. Based on the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting, UNDP will refine the methodological proposals and identify further steps and actions towards an agreed international standard and metadata for global reporting on these SDG indicators. For more information write to: Alexandra Wilde

Sixth meeting of the *Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)*. Manama, 11-14 November 2017.10.30

The sixth meeting of the [IAEG-SDGs](#) *was hosted in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, by* [The Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (DERASAT)](#)*. The objectives of the meeting included: reviewing the tier classification; discussing the proposed guidelines on data flows and global data reporting; reviewing progress made on the methodological development of tier III indicators; discussing issues related to the work stream on data disaggregation and progress made on the data reporting calendar.*

Global Alliance PR Breakfast Meeting, 12 December, New York.
The Permanent Missions of Argentina and Norway to the UN helped co-organise a PR-level breakfast meeting on "Peaceful, just, and inclusive societies and the 2030 Agenda". The breakfast gathering and discussion provided an opportunity to discuss recent research findings and lessons learned in ensuring peaceful, just, and inclusive societies as part of achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda. Three key initiatives promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies were highlighted: The Global Alliance for Reporting Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies; Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies and The 16+ Forum.

SDG16 related regional meetings:

Pacific Regional Workshop on monitoring the Sustainable Development Goal 16: Supporting countries to track progress on Rule of Law and Access to Justice, Anti-Corruption and Effective Institutions. Coral Coast, 21-24 November 2017

The overall objective of the workshop was to contribute to better quality of planning, monitoring and reporting on SDG 16 in the areas of rule of law and access to justice, anti-corruption and effective institutions, while exploring a model for tailoring SDG indicators to better suit the country context and identifying data sources that would strengthen SDG tracking and reporting at the country and regional level. This will then support evidence-based policy formulation to accelerate SDG implementation.

In the Pacific, currently no country has data available covering all the indicators required to measure SDG 16, with data available for only 43 per cent of the indicators. UNDP Pacific Office, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) convened this regional SDG 16 workshop to bring together representatives from 15 Pacific Island Countries from the technical areas of National Planning Departments, Statistic Offices and Government bodies and rule of law and access to justice, anti-corruption, effective institutions stakeholders and regional bodies engaged in the SDG agenda.

The Pacific Regional Workshop enabled representatives of National Development Planning Departments, Statistical Offices, institutions focused on anti-corruption, rule of law and access to justice, and other key stakeholders to share their experiences and challenges in integrating SDG 16 targets and indicators in their national policies and in producing data for these indicators. While the focus was on targets 16.1, 16.3, 16.4, 16.5 and 16.6, to ensure a comprehensive approach, other relevant SDG 16 targets were also discussed. Participants

discussed the existing methodologies to measure global indicators, presented experiences, and explored potential common avenues for the development of additional national indicators. Bringing together relevant national institutions and key stakeholders aimed at better streamlining national efforts in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

Regional Forum on Innovation in Governance: Making Progress in Achieving SDGs. Chisinau, 14-16 November 2017.

The Regional Forum, which took place in Moldova, aimed at creating a platform for sharing knowledge and experience on emerging innovation approaches, practices and tools, as well as their effect on public services delivery models and approaches.

It brought together leading international and national speakers from Finland, the United Kingdom, France, Malaysia, Singapore, Armenia and Georgia, to discuss a wide range of topics, including experimental policy-making, accessible and citizen-oriented public services and efficient public service delivery.

A Regional Agenda for Action for the SDGs

UNDP contributed on November 2 and 3 to a meeting, hosted by the Region of Valencia, Spain, to exchange experiences on the specific role that regional governments have for the implementation of the SDGs. The conference gathered thirty regional governments from several European countries, as well as from Ecuador, Colombia, Mexico and Tunisia, together with UNDP, UNICEF, OECD, and a few civil society organizations. All together they defined guiding principles and lines of action for regional governments to improve the territorial articulation and horizontal collaboration between regional governments, civil society, the private sector and the university, with the objective of forging strategic alliances and networks for monitoring and attaining the Agenda 2030 and its 17 SDGs. Specific emphasis was given to Goal 16, as effective, inclusive and accountable institutions were recognized as central to enabling the SDG implementation process. More info [HERE](#).

SDG16 knowledge and learning events:

OGC organized webinar "Monitoring to Implement SDG16: Lessons from a multi-country pilot initiative. 6 December 2017

The webinar was organized as part of the launch of the UNDP publication "[Monitoring to implement Peaceful Just and Inclusive Societies](#)", a pilot initiative on National Level Monitoring of SDG16. The webinar moderated by Aseem Andrews provided an opportunity to hear about this pilot initiative from Jairo Acuña-Alfaro and Alexandra Wilde, who shared the details of the pilot, key findings, lessons learned and proposed ways forward. Their presentation was followed by an online Q&As and interventions from participating pilot countries. Watch the recording [here](#).

Annual Lecture of the University of Leeds Centre for Global Development (CGD). Leeds, 29 November 2017.

On 29th November 2017, UNDP's Oslo Governance Centre (OGC) participated in the Annual Lecture of the University of Leeds Centre for Global Development (CGD) on "Leaving no one behind - pipe dream or possibility? An interdisciplinary panel on prospects for the SDGs". In her keynote presentation, OGC's Julia Kercher laid out the history, the dimensions as well as the underpinning principles and mechanisms of the SDGs, highlighted key differences between the SDGs and the MDGs, and illustrated the important role of research in the context of the SDGs. The second keynote was delivered by Professor Richard Lilford, Professor of Public Heath, at University of Warwick, who presented findings from his work on health of people who live in slums. The panel included CGD co-director and Professor of Education and International Development Caroline Dyer and Prof. Lea Berrang-Ford, Professor on Climate and Health at the Sustainability Research Institute. The lively discussion with a full auditorium brought up a multitude of multi-disciplinary questions such as on how to measure "Leave No one Behind", how to deal with inconsistencies of the SDGs (e.g. a plain growth target vs environmental targets) and how countries take into account political economy issues when implementing the SDGs.

RESOURCES – publications, tools, blogs:

The importance of SDG16 for creating peaceful, just and inclusive societies

The importance of SDG16 for creating peaceful, just and inclusive societies

See the new video in our YouTube channel! This video highlights various aspects related to SDG 16 and how they are linked to the creation of peaceful, just and inclusive societies.

Click here to access the video

ISACS: How UNDP Helps to Reduce Illicit Arms Flows and meet SDG Target 16.4

SDG Target 16.4 calls for a significant reduction in illicit arms flows by 2030. Such flows, especially of small arms and light weapons, hinder development by destroying lives and undermining governance and the rule of law. Illicit arms flows are problematic not only for countries affected by conflict but also in middle- and high-income countries that suffer from elevated levels of inter-personal violence and/or organized crime. UNDP helps countries to hit Target 16.4 by leading the UN System in developing and using International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS). These standards, which are being used in 110 countries, provide practical guidance to governments on putting in place effective controls over the full lifecycle of small arms and light weapons — from manufacture, marking and recordkeeping to stockpile management, national legislation and destruction. The Secretary-General has acknowledged the contribution of ISACS by saying that the standards "contribute directly to the implementation of the SDGs." More at www.smallarmsstandards.org

UNDP supported SDG16 Portal

UNDP is leading efforts in developing an SDG16 knowledge portal, intended to be a one stop platform to facilitate the capture, analysis and deployment of relevant knowledge and information about the progress of implementation on peaceful and inclusive societies. This platform will have many innovative features such as: promoting interaction, knowledge sharing and learning to enable deployment from one context to another through a community-based interaction model; encouraging a partnership approach where representatives of governments, civil society, international organizations, youth representatives and policymakers will be able to learn from each other and draw lessons from the experiences of different countries and sectors; provide a repository of resources and guidance along with a list of subject matter experts on this Goal. The main domain areas of the portal are planned to be implementation, monitoring and reporting on SDG16, including best fit solutions from the national level, voices from the ground, information about governance statistics (e.g. indicators literature; links to governance databases/indices). The intended audience for this portal is covering UN as well as external partners, representatives from Member States, civil society, academia, researchers, donors, media, private sector and the public at large. It will link with other related online platforms/initiatives, avoiding duplication while ensuring coverage of the extensive knowledge of all stakeholders working on the implementation, measurement and reporting on SDG 16. For more information contact: Aseem Andrews

➢ **Reports**

Monitoring to implement SDG16: Pilot Initiative on National Level Monitoring of SDG16:

Read the UNDP report which summarizes the findings emerging from a pilot initiative to support inclusive processes and methodologies for monitoring SDG16 in six countries: El Salvador, Georgia, Indonesia, South Africa, Tunisia and Uruguay along with Mexico (not part of the pilot initiative but simultaneously developed a similar methodology).

Click here *to download and read the report.*

Sustainable Development Goals Fund Report on 'Business and SDG 16 Contributing to Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies'

The report serves as a practical guide for sharing best practices on how the private sector can incorporate SDG 16 - which focuses on building peaceful, just and inclusive societies - into business planning. It shows how an effective legal framework can help the private sector build trust with the public and civil society, and details the role of business in creating conditions that would improve areas such as corporate social responsibility, governance, transparency and accountability. The report includes illustrations of success stories and case studies from around the world, on for example corruption prevention and reporting system for potential compliance violations.

To download the report, click HERE.

GSMA '2017 Mobile Industry Impact Report: Sustainable Development Goals'

The 2017 Mobile Industry Impact Report is the second annual study assessing the mobile industry's impact in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition to measuring the progress that the mobile industry is making against the SDGs, the report also noted several commitments and initiatives that the GSMA and its members will focus on delivering over the next year, contributing to further success with the SDGs.' To download the report, click HERE.

International Council for Science and International Social Science Council "Review of Targets for the Sustainable Development Goals: The Science Perspective".

In the words of the ICSU/ISSC, the report 'provides an independent scientific review of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets, as submitted to the UN General Assembly by the UN Open Working Group (OWG). It is a unique tool designed primarily for negotiators, technical support teams and other actors engaged in defining a universal, integrated and transformational set of global goals and targets for sustainable development and the political declaration on the post-2015 development Agenda. In particular it is a resource for technical review of the targets carried out in preparation for their adoption and translation at the national level. With more than 40 contributing authors from 21 countries, the report brings together a wide range of scientific expertise across the natural and social sciences in an accessible and concise manner.'

To download the report, click HERE.

African Policy Circle Position Paper on 'Sustainable Development Goal 16: The Challenge of Sustaining Peace in Places of Crisis'.

The position paper, written by Helen Kezie-Nwoha & Aditi Lalbahadur seeks to 'unpack the role that civil society and other NSAs can play in implementing the SDG agenda in times of crises, sketching out the evolving nature of conflicts in Africa. The paper elaborates on some of the main root causes, before outlining a link between the UN, the SDGs, and conflict prevention as an important policy framework for addressing violent conflicts. It also looks at the role of the African Union (AU) and its policy responses to crises on the continent, concluding with recommendations for how the AU and the UN could synergize their interventions and/or responses to crises in the region in order to improve the implementation of SDG 16 in conflict-affected countries'. For more information and to download the position paper, click HERE.

➢ **Tools**

DIE and SEI Online Tool and Database to Analyze NDC-SDG Links

'The German Development Institute (DIE) and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) launched a tool that highlights synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) submitted by countries under the Paris Agreement on climate change.

The NDC-SDG Connections database and online visualizations are based on an analysis more than 160 climate plans in terms of their contribution to the SDGs. The tool, which was presented on 6 November 2017, on the side-lines of the UN Climate Change Conference in Bonn, seeks to provide decision makers, civil society and other stakeholders with a concise overview of how the Paris Agreement supplements the 2030 Agenda'. To access the online tool, click HERE.

DESA Presents Updated Capacity Building Delivery Model

'The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) has updated its approach to capacity building for UN Member States to support the realization of the SDGs. DESA describes its "new vision" as enabling Member States to "adopt an integrated, transformative, people-centered approach to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and that leaves no one behind."

Representatives presented the "capacity development delivery model" at an event with the UN General Assembly's (UNGA) Second Committee (Economic and Financial), on 29 November 2017. The model is also described in a three-

page document. According to the document, three key goals will guide DESA's efforts to build Member States' capacities: advance coherent, evidence-based policy and planning frameworks for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda; build effective and accountable national institutions for inclusive and participatory decision-making processes to support sustainable development; and strengthen national technical capacities to mobilize the means of implementation (MOI) for the 2030 Agenda'. To access the three-page document, click HERE.

➢ **Blogs**

Embracing SDG16+ in Somaliland: an opportunity for change

Following peaceful elections in November, hopes are high in Somaliland. With a new government in place, there is an opportunity to address some of the major concerns of Somalilanders such as eradicating female genital mutilation, increasing access to justice and widening political participation. Saferworld has been looking at how the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can contribute to peaceful, just and inclusive societies in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. In Somaliland, we believe that SDG16 and other relevant targets across the 2030 Agenda – collectively referred to as SDG16+ - can provide a framework for the government to work with civil society and decision-makers to deliver lasting change.

Blog UNLOCKED, from UNDP Sri Lanka

In the words of UNDP Sri Lanka, "UNLOCKED is a space for Sri Lankan youth to share their perspective on development with the aim of creating positive change in the world". Many of the publications at UNLOCKED address topics that are connected to SDG16. You can subscribe to the blog by clicking HERE.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

11th Annual Forum of Developing Country Investment Negotiators, 7-9 February 2018, Nairobi.

The Annual Forum of Developing Country Investment Negotiators provides a platform for discussing trends and perspectives aimed at ensuring that investment agreements support sustainable development goals. The 11th Annual Forum will be co-hosted by the Kenya Investment Authority (KenInvest), the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and the South Centre. More info, HERE.

First Global Conference of Inter-agency Platform for Collaboration on Tax, 14-16 February 2018, UN HQ, New York.

The Inter-agency Platform for Collaboration on Tax plans to hold its first global conference on the theme of 'Taxation and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'. The conference aims to take forward the global dialogue on the role of tax in achieving the SDGs, and seek country insights on relevant challenges and opportunities. Thematic areas tentatively include: Domestic resource mobilization and the State; Role of tax in supporting sustainable economic growth, investment and trade; Tax and the social dimension: addressing poverty, inequality and health; Tax capacity development; and Tax cooperation and the SDGs. The concept note and agenda are under consideration. The Platform is a joint initiative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the UN and the World Bank Group, aiming to facilitate cooperation among the organizations. More info, HERE.