



SDG16+: Understanding linkages for greater impact

SDG16+ Coalition Global Workshops Series

8 June | 9 am – 11 am EDT | Online | Register at this [link](#) |

1. Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the progress made on the 2030 Agenda (CSPPS; [TAP Network](#)), including the targets of peace, justice and inclusion that compound SDG16+. Its implementation has been negatively affected by COVID-19, which has “created major disruptions in government functioning and has tested, weakened and sometimes even shattered countries’ systems of rights and protection” according to the [2021 Sustainable Development Goals Report](#).

2022 has seen people’s trust in governments at a new low ([2022 Edelman Trust Barometer](#)) and an overall decline in governments performance, including - and particularly with respect to - anti-corruption policies ([BTI Transformation Index](#)). The [International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance \(International IDEA\)](#) reports that “democratically elected governments, including established democracies, are increasingly adopting authoritarian tactics” (so called *democratic backsliding*). Low levels of representation and participation of marginalised and vulnerable groups in institutions and decision-making processes also persist ([Inter-Parliamentary Union](#) records that in 2022 only 25.9 per cent of MPs are women and just 2.6 per cent of MPs are under the age of 30). Over the past year we have also seen “[an epidemic of coup d'états](#)” and more coups in the previous five years combined ([The Wall Street Journal](#)).

Without continuous progress towards peace, justice, and inclusion at all levels, none of the SDGs can be delivered in full. SDG16+ includes the 12 targets from SDG16, as well as 24 other targets from seven other SDGs that directly measure an aspect of peace, justice, and inclusion ([Pathfinders; WFUNA](#)).

Recognition of the many interlinkages between SDG16+ and the other SDGs is an essential linchpin for governments and societies at every level to implement initiatives that are multi-faceted, that can promote measurable progress on peace, justice, and can simultaneously affect meaningful change on the environment and gender equality and multi-sectoral engagement. Without such an enabling environment, it will be difficult to realise the ambitious vision of the 2030 Agenda to end poverty, achieve gender equality, promote economic growth and combat climate change— the official themes for the 2022 and 2023 HLPF.

For example, recent findings suggest that “progress on key aspects of SDG 16 has enabling effects on aspects of SDG 1 and SDG 10 that are critical for COVID-19 recovery, namely, social protection, equal opportunities and poverty” ([DIE & UNDP](#)). Also, positive correlations have been identified also between SDG 16.3 on promotion of the rule of law and SDG 12.2 on the sustainable management of resources and the environment ([Amaruzaman, S et. al](#)).



While not under formal review at the 2022 HLPF, SDG16 also presents critical interlinkages with SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 14 on life below water, SDG 15 on life on land and SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals, undergoing review in 2022. For example, understanding the links between environment and human security is vital for effective conflict prevention, post-conflict reconstruction and promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies ([UNEP](#)). Women's access to and participation in effective institutions, justice and essential services is key to prevent instability, conflict and discrimination ([UN Women](#); [IDLO](#)). Similarly, all SDG17 targets have been found to enhance transparent, inclusive, accountable and effective governance, strong institutions, peace and security for all people in line with SDG16 ([UNDESA](#)).

A number of SDG16+ champion member states, civil society organisations and other stakeholders globally are reporting and spotlighting these interlinkages through the use of innovative monitoring and reporting methodologies, across Voluntary National Review (VNR), Voluntary Local Reviews (VLR) and civil society reports (spotlight reports).

The Workshop is organised by the SDG16+ Coalition as part of the Coalition's Global Workshop Series. It aims to consolidate innovative approaches and build capacity of relevant stakeholders on the interlinkages between SDG16 and SDG 5, SDG 14, SDG 15 and SDG17 through the showcase of best practices and lessons learned on SDG16+ monitoring and reporting.

Increased capacity of stakeholders from all sectors, together with a strengthened commitment of the SDG16+ Coalition around norms and standards on monitoring and reporting on SDG16+, are key to deliver on the 2030 Agenda.

2. Objectives of the Workshop

- To share success stories, lessons learnt and best practices on the identification and reporting of interlinkages between SDG16 and SDG 5, SDG 14, SDG 15 and SDG17 in VNRs, VLRs and civil society-led Spotlight Reports, with a view to consolidating innovative approaches on SDG16+ monitoring and reporting.
- To understand whether and what kind of guidance is available or needed for stakeholders to identify and understand interlinkages.
- To build the capacity of participants on SDG16+ monitoring and reporting through a peer-to-peer and cross-stakeholder exchange of knowledge about interlinkages between SDG16 and SDG 5, SDG 14, SDG 15 and SDG17.

3. Programme

Prior to the workshop, participants will be asked to answer a few questions included in the registration form. The goal is to get participants thinking ahead of the meeting, and potentially share ideas of recommendations that can then be shared during the workshop.



The responses to the registration form will also inform the number and thematic focus of the breakout groups and the outcome document of the workshop.

The session will start at 9:00 am EDT and run for 2 hours.

After a 10-minutes opening remarks/introduction from the moderator, panellists will be given 5 minutes to respond to the guiding questions posed by the moderator.

Participants will then be divided into smaller breakout rooms for a [n] minutes technical discussion on the priority questions posed by the breakout rooms facilitators.

Each breakout room will focus on one or more specific interlinkages between SDG16 and SDG 5, SDG 14, SDG 15 and SDG17. See section 6 below for more details about the breakout group thematic focus.

Attendees of a given breakout room will be selected based on relevant stakeholder groups (Member States, Civil Society, UN, etc.).

Rapporteurs from each breakout group will then be given [n] minutes to report back to the plenary session about challenges, opportunities, priorities and recommendations identified by the stakeholder groups.

The moderator for the event will finally summarise the key takeaways and close the event.

4. Participants and target audience

Panellists from the plenary session will be chosen from SDG16+ champions and based on demonstrable innovative approaches to SDG16+ monitoring and reporting.

Workshop participants will be invited based on the following criteria, and to ensure the highest possible level of technical expertise in the breakout rooms:

- Active participation in the global, regional, national and local discussion around monitoring and reporting on [SDGs...] including participation in coalitions, taskforces, working groups.
- Organisational mandates, including SDG Indicators custodianship, and organisation/entity's overarching goal (e.g. UNEP as custodian of many indicators for SDG 14: Life below water and SDG 15: Life on land; and UN Women as custodian of many indicators for SDG 5).
- Entities and organisations working on SDG interlinkages (e.g. the [Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators \(IAEG-SDG\) Interlinkages Workstream](#))

5. Plenary Session: Theme and Guiding Questions

In the plenary session, panellists will investigate best practices and lessons learnt on identification and reporting on interlinkages between SDG16+ and other SDGs in general - prompted by the following guiding questions posed by the moderator:

- a. What best practices (approaches, strategies, initiatives, etc) have you identified in mainstreaming SDG16+ in SDG reporting processes (VNRs, VLRs, CSO reports, etc)? How did



you ensure that interlinkages between SDG16+ and other SDGs were captured and highlighted in the SDG reporting process?

- b. What challenges and opportunities have you identified in this process?
- c. What is still needed?

6. Break out Groups: Theme and Guiding Questions

Based on best practices and lessons learnt shared by SDG16+ “champions” in the plenary session, the breakout groups will allow participants to dive deeper into the issue of interlinkages between SDG16 and SDG 5, SDG 14, SDG 15 and SDG17. Each breakout session will focus on a different priority area related to the interlinkages of the abovementioned SDGs.

Breakout group moderators will facilitate the discussion by prompting participants to reflect on the guiding questions posed during the plenary session vis-a-vis the specific focus of the breakout groups. This may entail use of specific tools for facilitating the discussion, e.g. miro boards, live polls, hibrid, etc.

Priority themes for the breakout groups are subsumed into the three macro areas gender, environment and partnerships and include, but are not limited to:

● Gender

- SDG16+ and the Women, Peace and Security agenda, linked to SDG target 5.5 (ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership).
- SDG16+ and Justice for All, specifically the links between Gender Equality SDG 5.c (Policies and legislation for gender equality) and 5.21 (Discrimination against women and girls), and the Justice SDG16+ targets 16.3 (Rule of law and access to justice) and 16.b (Non-discriminatory laws and policies).
- SDG16+ and efforts to combat violence against women and children, as noted in SGD 5.2 (Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and other types of exploitation).

● Environment

- SDG16+ and fight against illegal exploitation of flora and fauna including SDG Target 15.7 on wildlife trafficking and SDG Targets 14.4 and 14.6 on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.
- Access to information (SDG 16.10) and justice (SDG 16.3) for environmental rights defenders for the protection of oceans, seas and marine resources (SDG 14) and terrestrial ecosystems (SDG 15).

● Partnerships

- ODA for Sustaining Peace (SDG Target 17.2).



- Policy coherence and multi-stakeholder partnerships (SDG Targets 17.13-17.14 and 17.16-17.17) for effective, accountable and transparent institutions (SDG Target 16.6) and responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making (SDG Target 16.7).

Upon registration to the workshop, participants will have a chance to look at the priority themes for the breakout groups and will be asked to complete a short registration form that includes the following questions

- a. to which of the Breakout Groups would you like to be assigned”? and “what would be your second and third option?” in order to ensure a balanced participation across breakout groups.
- b. Is there any additional priority theme that you would like to be discussed in the breakout groups?

Each breakout group will feature a moderator and a note taker. The moderator, with inputs from the note taker (e.g. through a shared doc), will also report back to the plenary.

7. Agenda

ITEM	TIME	DETAILS
1.	00.00 – 00.00	<i>SETTING THE SCENE AND PANEL INTRODUCTION</i> Moderator: [name] (10')
2.	00.00 – 00.00	<i>PLENARY SESSION [35 min]</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● MS Representative [TBC]● Edgardo Bilsky, Director of Research, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) World Secretariat - <i>Local and Regional Governments Perspectives</i> (7')● Julia Kercher, UNDP Oslo Governance Centre - <i>Connections that Matter – The new UNDP/DIE study on SDG 16 Interlinkages</i> (7')● Constantin F.R. Nuernberger, Associate, White and Case - <i>Findings from the Review of the 2021 VNRs and SDG 16</i> (7')● Civil Society Representative [TBC]
3.	00.00 – 00.00	<i>BREAKOUT GROUPS [35 min]</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Focus on SDG 17. Moderator: Nohman Ishtiaq, Public Finance Management Expert, UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub● Focus on SDG 14. Moderator: Julia Kercher, UNDP Oslo Governance Centre● Focus on SDG 15. Moderator: Ann Cathrin Pedersen, UNDP's Nature, Climate Change, and Energy (NCE) Team



ITEM	TIME	DETAILS
4.	00.00 – 00.00	<i>RAPPORTEURS SUMMARY OF BREAKOUT ROOMS [20 min]</i>
5.	00.00 – 00.00	<i>WRAP UP – KEY TAKEAWAYS</i> Moderator: [name] (n')

8. Recommended Readings

David Leblanc. [How can interlinkages and principles in the 2030 Agenda such as "leave no one behind" best be operationalized?](#) (2019)

German Development Institute (DIE) and UNDP. [SDG 16 Interlinkages - Summary of Findings](#) (2021)

International Council for Science (ICSU). [A draft framework for understanding SDG interactions](#) (2016)

Julia Leininger, Anna Lührmann, Rachel Sigman. [The relevance of social policies for democracy: Preventing autocratisation through synergies between SDG 10 and SDG 16](#) (2019).

Måns Nilsson, Dave Griggs, Martin Visbeck. [Map the interactions between Sustainable Development Goals](#) (2016)

SDG16+ Coalition. [Call-to-Action "Act Now for SDG16+](#) (2020)

TAP Network. [Civil society reports, or spotlight reports.](#)

TAP Network. [Approaches and Methodologies for Civil Society Reporting on the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda \(Updated 2021\)](#) (2021)

UN Statistical Commission 50th Session (2019) (E/CN.3/2019/2) [Second Report of the Interlinkages Workstream](#)

9. Suggested Work Plan

Item	Lead(s)	Input	Timeline
Develop and finalize Workshop Concept note	UNDP, TAP Network, Pathfinders	SDG16+ Coalition SC	
Prepare invitation list	UNDP, TAP Network, Pathfinders	SDG16+ Global Coalition SC	



Prepare the save the date + standard invite email text (decide workshops dates) + create registration form	UNDP leads. TAP Network, Pathfinders (review)	SDG16+ Global Coalition SC	
Define who sends targeted invitations	SDG16+ Coalition SC	-	
Finalize Concept note details: date, time, title, guiding questions...	UNDP, TAP Network, Pathfinders	SDG16+ Global Coalition SC	
Send targeted invitations and collect RSVPs	UNDP, TAP Network, Pathfinders, and SC partners	-	
Prepare workshop program and materials to share ahead of the workshops	UNDP leads. TAP Network, Pathfinders (review)	Inputs from SDG16+ Global Coalition SC	
Define break out groups	UNDP, TAP Network, Pathfinders		
Define roles within the workshop (moderator, note-taker, logistics point)	SDG16+ Coalition SC	-	
Workshop 1			8th of June