We are pleased to share the Community Update of the SDG16 Hub! This month’s edition features new and exciting resources, tools, initiatives, and events.

**UPDATES** featured in this SDG 16 Community Update include:

- Tacking Stock of SDG 16 at the High-Level Political Forum 2023
- Global SDG 16+ Coalition at HLFP 2023
- #SDG16Now Campaign
- Pathfinders Report: Rising to the Challenge: Building Peaceful, Just, Equal and Inclusive Societies in a Divided World
- Summary of the SDG 16 Conference
- Sign on to the Rome Civil Society Declaration 2023
- Summary of the Regional Training on Measuring SDG 16 in the Pacific
- Updates from the Praia Group on Governance Statistics

We are enthusiastic to continue providing SDG 16 updates including on events, resources, and initiatives. For any inputs and feedback, please write to contact@sdg16hub.org.
High-level Political Forum 2023

The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) is the core United Nations platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda) and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The HLPF is being held 10 – 19 July 2023 and the theme this year is “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels”. While not under formal review at the 2023 HLPF, SDG 16 presents critical interlinkages with the SDGs being reviewed - namely SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation, SDG 7 on affordable and clean energy, SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities, and SDG 17 on partnerships for the Goals.

The SDG 16 Hub HLPF 2023 page has now been launched. We encourage you to check it out as the latest events and initiatives on SDG 16 will be posted. Please contact us at contact@sdg16hub.org if you would like your organizations specific events, initiatives and resources to be shared through this space.
The Global SDG 16+ Coalition at HLPF 2023

The Global SDG 16+ Coalition, created in 2021, is an informal, voluntary grouping of civil society organizations, SDG16+ initiatives, member states, United Nations agencies, funds and programs and other multilateral representatives working jointly to accelerate progress towards SDG16+. The Global SDG 16 Coalition has launched a joint statement in the lead up to HLPF 2023 urgently calling on the international community to:

- Recommit to the 2030 Agenda and bring concrete action-oriented “National Commitments” to advance peace, justice and inclusion
- Invest in SDG16+ interlinkages and the Data to Back Them Up
- Tackle Financing for SDG16+

The Coalition has also emphasized the need to strengthen mechanisms for meaningful, inclusive and sustained multi stakeholder consultation at all stages of policymaking processes around SDG16+, from planning and design to implementation, follow-up & review. This includes the process to identify “National Commitments to SDG Transformation” that governments will bring to the 2023 SDG Summit.
A side event organized by the Coalition entitled ‘SDG 16+ as an Enabler for the 2030 Agenda’ is being held Wednesday, 12 July 2023, 6:30-8:00 PM EST. The event is bringing together stakeholders from across the SDG16+ community to take stock of progress towards SDG16+ and share in lessons learned and strategic approaches for strengthened implementation going forward. As such, it will also look to key opportunities for mobilization leading into the SDG Summit in September 2023 and beyond, drawing upon recent and upcoming research by the SDG16+ community. As we look to the various milestones before us, this event provides an opportunity to come together and demonstrate our collective commitment to, and action towards, a more peaceful, just and inclusive world. For further information and to register please click here.
#SDG16 Now Campaign

The #SDG16Now Campaign is a global movement working towards accelerating action on Goal 16 of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - promoting peaceful, just, and inclusive societies. As the UN SDG Summit approaches in September 2023, we have a vital opportunity to issue transformative commitments and renew financing to achieve SDG16+ by 2030. If you're passionate about creating a more peaceful world and want to be a part of this important cause, then joining the #SDG16Now Campaign is the perfect way to make a difference.

The #SDG16Now Campaign calls to:

1. Mobilize Transformative Commitments for SDG16+
2. Strengthen and Catalyze Robust Financing for SDG16+
3. Recognize and Harness the Indispensable Role of Civil Society for SDG16+

With the international community facing a convergence of crises around peace, justice and human rights, the global SDG16+ community has an opportunity to re-shift its efforts and commitments to ensuring that SDG16+ is high on the agenda and serves as a central focus of the upcoming global SDG Summit in September 2023. Please [Join the campaign](#)!
New Pathfinders Report: Rising to the Challenge: Building Peaceful, Just, Equal and Inclusive Societies in a Divided World

Amidst a context of polycrisis and backsliding of the SDGs, including the SDG targets for peace, justice, and inclusion (SDG16+), and 2023 marking the halfway point of the 2030 Agenda, it is critical to assess where we are on SDG16+ globally, highlight successes amidst significant challenges, and think through strategic approaches to drive its implementation over the next seven years. This would both catalyze and sustain progress across the SDGs, combatting the impact of the interlinked and cascading crises affecting people’s everyday lives everywhere.

With that in mind, the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies has just published: “Rising to the Challenge: Building Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies in a Divided World”, a report that provides an overview of the state-of-play on SDG16+ globally while highlighting strategic and cross-cutting solutions in policy and practice across contexts and next steps, amidst backsliding of the SDGs and the polycrisis. Specifically, it outlines the SDG16+ framework, after which snapshots of some of its key components are presented, including global violence; access to justice; and inequality, exclusion, and division. These snapshots are complemented by a forward-looking section, which describes key approaches and the means by which SDG16+ can be, and has been, advanced, drawing upon examples from national, and subnational levels. A concluding section highlights opportunities for urgently needed advocacy, policy development, and collaboration on peace, justice, equality, and inclusion (SDG16+) at all levels through 2030 and beyond. This report has been designed to be complementary to, and supportive of, the work of partners in this space, including those focused on different components of SDG16+ in our collective efforts to meaningfully and sustainably act on SDG16+ as an enabler for the 2030 Agenda.
Summary of the Fourth SDG 16 Conference

Focused on the theme "SDG 16 as a compass for navigating intersecting crises", the 4th SDG 16 Conference was convened by UNDESA, the International Development Law Organisation (IDLO) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, to review progress on SDG16 ahead of the High-level Political Forum (HLPF).

The Conference covered three broad themes: promoting the United Nations New Agenda for Peace; restoring trust in public institutions; and promoting participatory decision-making to accelerate transformative action: food systems and climate change. In addition, three plenary sessions of the Conference were dedicated respectively to: (i) taking stock of progress on SDG 16; (ii) looking forward: the SDG Summit and beyond; and (iii) misinformation and disinformation. The Conference also featured 9 parallel sessions and a knowledge exchange component.

Approximately 250 participants attended in person while 500 participants were registered online over the 3 days, with a mix of representatives of governments including ministers, officials from the three branches of government, officials from the UN system and other international organizations, as well as experts from think tanks and academia, civil society organizations working on SDG 16, and youth leaders. The outcomes of the 2023 Conference will inform discussions at the HLPF in July 2023 and the SDG Summit. There was also strong representation from civil society at the Conference. The outcomes of the 2023 Conference will inform discussions at the HLPF in July 2023 and the SDG Summit.
The Rome Civil Society Declaration 2023

This year marks the halfway point of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, making 2023 a crucial year to re-think our commitments to the SDGs predefined in 2015. The 2023 Declaration calls for urgent action toward revitalized and transformative commitments on SDG16+ and emphasizes key areas civil society stakeholders have identified that need immediate action and genuine commitment to prosperous, peaceful and inclusive societies. The recommendations are as follows:

- Recognising and utilising SDG16+ as an enabler for achieving the 2030 Agenda and responding to current global crises as well as a development outcomes
- Delivering bold and ambitious commitments at the 2023 SDGs Summit, 2024 Summit of the Future and beyond
- Delivering catalytic financing for SDG16+ and fixing a broken global financial system
- Recognizing the indispensable role of civil society for SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda, and expanding civic space

SDG16+ is in need of new and collaborative actions. Bold commitments for urgent action are needed now! **Endorse the document today!**
Summary of the Regional Training on Measuring SDG 16 in the Pacific

The Regional Training Webinar Series on Measuring SDG16 in the Pacific took place from 18th May to 22nd June. Organized by UNODC, UNDP, OHCHR, UNESCO, UNICEF, Pacific Community, the training brought together experts from national statistics offices and line ministries to learn the methodology to produce each SDG 16 indicator. The events counted an average 62 participants from 56 countries, including Cook Islands, Fiji, Micronesia (Federal State of), Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

Training resources, including recordings and presentations can be found online https://www.sdg16hub.org/basic-page/regional-training-measuring-sdg-16-pacific. For more information contact: mariana.neves@undp.org or sdg16indicators@undp.org
Updates from the Praia Group on Governance Statistics

Following a participatory survey design process, the Praia Group on Governance Statistics has developed model survey questionnaires on participation in political and public affairs and on non-discrimination and equality. Volunteer NSOs in 13 countries around the world are now taking part in the cognitive testing of these questionnaires – namely in Cabo Verde, Colombia, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ireland, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Norway, South Africa, Peru and Vietnam. For a detailed account of the path-breaking methodological work carried out by the Praia Group on Political Participation and on Discrimination, see this article published by the Statistical Journal of the International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS) in June 2023.