PROMOTE PEACEFUL, JUST AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES

Info digest

Welcome to the SDG 16 info digest!

This is the first edition of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 monthly info digest that will provide regular updates on this global goal. In this digest you will find information related to SDG 16, sharing with you the recent developments at the global, regional and country level.

The info digest will update on recent events and activities within the UN System and from outside; and share 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 this update with Mónika Füstös and Aseem Andrews.

RECENT ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS – Updates from UN / UNDP:

The Nexus Of Urbanization, Violence And Conflict: Linking SDG 11 And SDG 16
19 May 2016

On 19th May Deen Sharp (CUNY) and Hanne Kristoffersen (UNDP) organized a Brownbag seminar to present the main findings and recommendations from the panel event on 18th of April 2016: "The nexus between urbanization, violence and conflict: Linking SDG 11 and SDG 16", co-hosted by CUNY, the Permanent Missions of Lebanon and Norway to the UN, UNDP, UN-Habitat, and the IRC, in coordination with the Global Alliance for Urban Crises. This one-day panel engaged academics, policy makers and member states to debate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in fragile settings affected by violence and conflict and to reflect on policy recommendations to be taken forward to WHS and Habitat III.

This brownbag focussed on the global rapid – and often – unplanned urban growth where many urban areas exhibit a mix of low institutional capacity, rising violence and growing instability, and inequitable development. Between now and 2030, the world's urban population is projected to grow by 1.5 billion people. More than 90 percent of that urban growth will occur in areas located in the developing world, mostly in Africa and Asia. A significant proportion of this urban expansion will occur in fragile contexts, plagued with recurrent violence and conflict. Frequently, the urbanization process is poorly managed, resulting in inequitable, exclusionary and fragmented cities and increased risk of violence. This makes it necessary for humanitarian and development organizations to change their ways of working. "Leaving No One and No City Behind" has to be a shared principle.The recording of this brown-bag can be found here.

Global Tripartite Alliance for Goal 16: First Partners' Meeting
18th May 2016

Over 50 people from member states, civil society, academia, private sector and United Nations organisations met to discuss the proposal of a Global Tripartite Alliance for Goal 16. The purpose of this initial meeting was to bring together potential partners and interested parties for an informal, roundtable discussion on establishing a global partnership on advocacy, planning and technical assistance on reporting on SDG 16. In the meeting, there was broad consensus that building broad-based partnerships to support Goal 16 was a welcome approach; and the participants acknowledged that comprehensive reporting is directly linked in successfully achieving SDG16. Substantive, technical and procedural issues were the focus of the discussion and a request to further elaborate how the alliance would function in practice. Comments and suggestions are welcome and being considered and will be incorporated into the revised concept note. To confirm interest the Global Tripartite Alliance for Goal 16 please contact Aparna Basnyat /Christi Sletten.

Modernizing the Marketplace for Governance Data
17 May 2016

As second event of the measurement series a presentation on the Governance Data Alliance, its work streams and contribution to measuring Goal 16 was made by Nathaniel Heller, Managing Director at the Results for Development Institute (R4D). Numerous organizations around the world collect and analyze data on the different dimensions of governance — ranging from corruption perceptions to fiscal transparency to business regulation and freedom of the press. These data sets are available on various platforms in different formats. No single organization can solve those problems alone. In an effort to build a collective response to strengthen the production, use, and impact of governance data, a number of organizations and individuals have formed the Governance Data Alliance which encourages greater coordination amongst data producers to fill data gaps while simultaneously investigating who governance data users actually are. The goal is to produce and aggregate high-quality but accessible governance data that policymakers and other change agents can use to take action. The video of this session is available here.

Raising to the Challenge: The Bertelsmann Transformation Index (BTI) meets SDG 16
2 May 2016

BTI project managers Sabine Donner and Robert Schwarz introduced – by the invitation of UNDP and the Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN - the BTI's methodology and review process and presented the assessment's potential contribution to measuring SDG 16. At the meeting it was discussed how its data can contribute to country-specific recommendations for effective development by detecting strengths and weaknesses. The Bertelsmann Transformation Index (BTI) presents a qualitative approach with regard to monitoring the quality of democracy, market economy and governance in 129 developing and transformation countries on a regular basis. Since 2006, it has measured successes and setbacks on the path toward a democracy based on the rule of law and a market economy anchored in principles of social justice. The event was the first of a series dedicated to potential third-party measurement tools for SDG 16. More details >>

16+ Forum

WFUNA, The World Federation of United Nations Associations, launched the 16+ Forum WFUNA, The World Federation of United Nations Associations, launched the16+ Forum to engage Member States, civil society organizations, UN agencies and other stakeholders on issues related to the 'peaceful, just and inclusive societies' theme of the 2030 Agenda. The 16+ Forum provides participants the opportunity to exchange on strengthening global efforts to communicate, implement, and monitor activities related to Goal 16 and the 2030 Agenda. Learning from best practices, innovative efforts, and success stories, the 16+ Forum is a knowledge-sharing space for the community of interested actors. The first session of 16+ Forum in April 2016 was held with the aim of exploring the interlink ages between Goal 16 and the other the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as connections with other UN processes. Here you can read about the event >>

EXTERNAL NEWS:

ID2020 features 'lots and lots of Blockchain'
Identity problems for 1.5 billion people or about 30% of the global population makes them vulnerable to legal, political, social and economic exclusion. They often cannot access basic services of state institutions, education, health care, justice etc. This enormous problem is linked with the achievement of several of the Sustainable Development Goals, including SDG 16. Representatives from over 50 technology businesses, including representatives from at least half dozen blockchain-centered companies, discussed this issue during the inaugural ID2020 summit, held at the UN headquarters in New York on 20th May. The purpose of the annual event is to make sure that every human being has access to identity services, even if they have no state-issued identification. Read more here >>

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum

On the afternoon of 4th May 2016, the WSIS Action Line facilitators covering cultural diversity (C8), media (C9) and ethics (10) joined forces at the 2016 WSIS Forum in Geneva to explore how these diverse perspectives could contribute to addressing the challenges and targets under Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG 16). The event used an innovative structure built around 4 sessions. The first session featured Dr. Indrajit Banerjee, Director of UNESCO's Knowledge Societies Division and Dr. Tomasz Janowski, Head and Founder of the United Nations University's Special Operating Unit on Policy-driven Electronic Governance. This high-level session served to set the stage and underscored the contribution of UNESCO's knowledge societies concept and Next Generation Digital Government to the realization of SDG 16. Read more about the event here >>

Agenda 2030

Econa, a Norwegian interest and labour organization for MBAs and master graduates in business administration, has launched an initiative to form an interdisciplinary alliance to foster sustainable business. The initiative was launched at an event in Oslo on 25 May, where the topic for discussion was 'Opportunities inherent in sustainable business practices and the implications that the Sustainable Development Goals will have for Norwegian businesses up to 2030'.

Paul Gulleik Larsen, director of the Post-2015 agenda at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, welcomed the initiative, and stated that the SDGs cannot be reached without a sincere effort from the business community. More about the event >>

The European Development Days
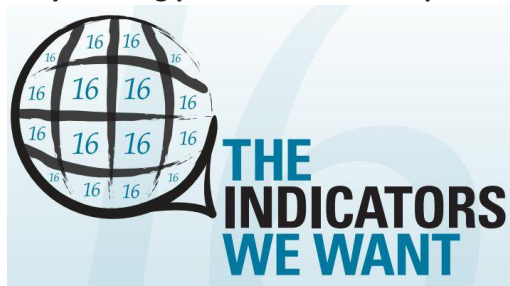**15-16 June, Brussels**

The European Development Days are Europe's (EDD) leading forum on development and international cooperation. Organised by the European Commission, the forum brings the development community together each year to share ideas and experiences in ways that inspire new partnerships and innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. This year, the focus is on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. More details and programme >>

RESOURCES – publications, tools, blogs and videos:

Final report on illustrative work to pilot governance in the context of the SDGs

In the latter part of 2014, a group of countries started on an initiative to pilot illustrative work on governance in the context of the discussions on the SDGs. That was the start of an interesting initiative supported by UNDP in five pilot countries - Albania, Indonesia, Rwanda, Tunisia and, at a later stage, the United Kingdom which showcased the feasibility of measuring governance-related targets through the pilot work, including in global and national consultations and helped to confirm the importance of including Goal 16 in the overall SDG framework. In addition to presenting the different phases of the Pilot Initiative, the report draws out the main lessons learned from the Pilots experience, and identifies some guidelines for work on implementation of aspects of Goal 16. For more information please see here >>

Why building peaceful societies is part of the sustainable development agenda?

*Patrick Keuleers also writes about this pilot project in his latest blog. He discusses the strong focus on peaceful, just and inclusive societies in the 2030 Agenda – and explicit recognition that there can be no peace without sustainable development and no sustainable development without peace. Read his full blog here.***Goal 16 – The indicators we want: Virtual Network Sourcebook on Measuring Peace, Justice and Effective Institutions** *is an publication by UNDP on the measurement of SDG16. This report is the outcome of a discussion among many experts from statistical offices, UN Agencies, civil society and academia who were actively engaged in the design of a monitoring framework for Goal 16, to support the development and decision on indicators on the global, regional and national levels and well as an input to the work of the United Nations Statistical Commission's Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) and the Praia Group on Governance Statistics.You can download this publication from here >>*

UNDP/PRIO Expert Meeting on Measuring SDG 16: Targets 16.1 on Peace, 16.3 on Justice, 16.7 on Inclusion and 16.10 on Freedoms
28-29 January 2016, Voksenåsen Conference Centre, Oslo, Norway

In January, UNDP's Oslo Governance Center (OGC) and the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) convened an expert meeting to consider in detail various indicators for SDG16 on peace, justice and accountable institutions. The meeting was attended by 78 representatives from National Statistical Offices (NSOs), governments, multilateral agencies, research and policy institutions, and civil society organizations. Please, find details on this here >>

The World Development Indicators *is regularly updated by the World Bank and new data are added in response to the needs of the development community; the 2016 edition includes new indicators to help measure the Sustainable Development Goals.Find the booklet here >>*

Achieving the Impossible: Can we be SDG 16 believers?*: This paper discusses the trajectory for achieving SDG 16 and focuses on how development co-operation providers and other actors can better support developing countries to achieve the goal. Please find Alan Whaites' (OECD) publication on SDG 16 here >>*

Greater than the sum of our parts: global partnerships for Goal 16 - *The purpose of this paper is to inform and guide discussion about how global multi-stakeholder partnerships can most effectively collaborate in support of the 2030 Agenda's commitment to peaceful, just and inclusive societies. A draft of the paper was prepared as background for a workshop in London in March 2016, co-hosted by Saferworld and the UK and Netherlands governments. The workshop brought together a range of global partnerships, as well as senior governmental, multilateral and civil society representatives. The paper was refined on the basis of inputs, debates and outputs of the London workshop. It will inform the development of a strategy for global cooperation in support of Goal 16. Download the paper here.*
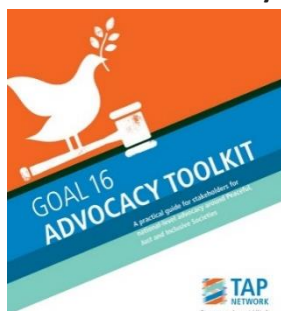
Options for measuring conflict deaths in Goal 16 - *This paper is intended as a contribution to the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) as it begins the process of 'tiering' and setting standards for global indicators. Specifically, it provides an overview of different approaches to measure indicator 16.1.2, "Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause". It argues Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) data is robust enough for immediate use, but that internationally agreed methodologies will need to be developed for official statistics on conflict deaths. Download the paper here.*

Business Tools

A responsible business can through its core business, strategic social investment, public policy engagement and collective action make meaningful contributions to lasting peace, development and prosperity while ensuring long-term business success. The SDG Compass provides guidance for companies on how they can align their strategies as well as measure and manage their contribution to the realization of the SDGs. The SDG Compass also provides a collection of business tools which allows companies and organizations to explore commonly used tools that may be useful when assessing your organization's impact on the SDGs. Companies can filter the tools by Type of tool and SDG. More on the Compass on SDG 16 >>

The Goal 16 Advocacy Toolkit

The Transparency, Accountability & Participation (TAP) Network is a broad network of CSOs that works to ensure that open, inclusive, accountable and effective governance is at the heart of Post-2015 sustainable development agenda, and that civil society are recognized and mobilized as indispensable partners in the design, implementation of and accountability for sustainable development policies, at all levels. They emphasize the critical importance of Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda on peaceful, just and inclusive societies and accountable institutions. They provided a toolkit for civil society and other nongovernmental stakeholders with guidance on how to engage with their governments and other local, regional or international stakeholders to support the planning, implementation, follow-up and accountability of Goal 16.
The TAP Advocacy Toolkit >>

VIDEOS

The SDG 16 is of particular importance for the 12 Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR). Watch the video on the webinar organized by UNDP Oslo Governance Centre and ICGLR to figure out why. Video >>

Press Conference by Forest Whitaker, actor and Sustainable Development Goals Advocate and Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Video >>

SDG 16 calls for peace, justice and strong institutions. This video focusses on the role of local and regional governments in implementing participatory decision-making and the need for them to become even more responsive to their communities, making sure no group is excluded. Video >>

In this TEDx video, Prof. Patrick Walsh discusses the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. He claims that all of us are responsible for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Video >>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Praia City Group on Governance Statistics annual meeting
4-6 July, 2016 Paris, France
Members of the Praia City Group on Governance Statistics will be meeting in Paris, from 4 to 6 July 2016. The meeting will be hosted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21). The Praia Group was created by the UN Statistical Commission to develop a Governance Statistics Roadmap for 2016-2020 that addresses the conceptualization, methodology and instruments for producing governance statistics relating to SDG16 indicators. [Read more here >>](#)

4th High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)
11-20 July, 2016
The Fourth High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), convening under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), will take place on 11-15 July 2016, followed by a three-day ministerial meeting of the Forum on 18-20 July 2016. The HLPF is the body tasked in the 2030 Outcome Document with driving delivery of the SDGs and will be underpinned with voluntary reports on the national level based on national monitoring frameworks. The theme of the 2016 session will be ['Ensuring that no one is left behind'](#). Any organisation or person can participate in HLPF through the [major groups and other stakeholders](#) format. All stakeholders are also invited to organize [side events](#),and [register multi-stakeholder partnerships and voluntary commitments](#) in support of the SDGs.

UN Global Compact Leaders Summit
22-23 June 2016, New York
The UN Global Compact (UNGC) Leaders Summit 2016 aims to stimulate action by businesses on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are expected to drive markets and the development of sustainable products, services and business innovations. Companies will provide examples of transforming operations and strategies to advance the SDGs through responsible business practices and finding opportunities for growth and innovation. [More information >>](#)