SDG 16+ case studies

As noted in the ‘About this report’ section, **blue text boxes** highlight policy efforts by 25 countries prepared in collaboration with UN Country Teams, to adapt, implement, monitor and report on SDG 16+ issues.

**Green text boxes** highlight other relevant information on SDG 16+ issues that emerged during the Technical Consultations or was featured in the review of recent literature on SDG 16+.

The full versions of the country case studies captured in the blue boxes may be accessed on the SDG 16+ hub (www.SDG16hub.org).

**BOX 32. Argentina: Legal framework on corruption**

Argentina has adopted several international standards on organized crime and corruption that are consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) as well as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC). These standards include the optional protocols against illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms. In line with the requirements of these Conventions, special investigative techniques are being implemented, such as electronic and other forms of surveillance as well as undercover operations. Witness protection systems have also been established for those in organized crime who wish to cooperate with the government.

The Ministry of Justice and Human Rights is in charge of “National Coordination to Combat Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism.” It is also the leading agency in conducting the “National Assessment of the Risk of Financing of Terrorism and the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction,” a key tool for risk assessment and prevention in this field.

Source: UNCT Argentina

**BOX 33. Burkina Faso: Strengthening the judiciary to prevent corruption**

Burkina Faso has embarked on a number of reforms to strengthen the independence and efficiency of its judiciary.

A law has been adopted to separate the executive from the judicial branch by removing the President/Head of State’s seat on the Superior Council of the Judiciary. This law was accompanied by the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat to the judiciary that will assist with human resources and administrative matters. Salaries for judges have been increased in a bid to dissuade judges from acting corruptly.

Source: UNCT Burkina Faso
Box 34. Burkina Faso: Participatory governance

The country has developed social accountability and citizen oversight initiatives to increase transparency in the allocation of local level resources. These initiatives also strengthen the capacity of local officials to monitor budgets. An expenditure tracking survey has revealed inequities in resource allocation across schools and communes.

The government has also created platforms for citizen engagement by holding annual, two-day dialogues with groups from civil society to discuss openly a broad range of policy issues. Through citizen engagement platforms such as “Presimetre” and “Dialogue Citoyen,” where the public can interview the President and State ministers on live television and radio shows and question their performance. Presimetre and other initiatives have encouraged citizens’ interest in government accountability.

Source: UNCT Burkina Faso

Box 35. Dominican Republic: Improving data collection and analysis on homicide rates

In the Dominican Republic, citizen perceptions of insecurity and obstacles to the rule of law undermine confidence in government institutions. The homicide rate is still considered high by most international standards, although it is gradually improving. Most homicides in the Dominican Republic are committed using firearms, although that has also diminished over time.

Reporting efforts on SDG target 16.1 are led by the Citizen Security Observatory (OSC), which consists of eleven institutions that contribute official data on crime and violence. The OSC has the authority to compile, cross-reference, validate and analyze such data in order to update the national security panorama, as well as to monitor and evaluate government action aimed at violence prevention. The OSC’s website complies with the national law on access to public information. It both and displays and makes available disaggregated data in a wide variety of formats.

The OSC has worked with the Dominican Republic’s National Statistics Office to ensure that data on indicator 16.1.1 on intentional homicide rates is compliant with the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS).

Since its creation in 2012, the OSC has published 29 quarterly Statistical Reports on Citizen Security as well as a variety of thematic recommendations and reports and detailed data maps of provinces, municipalities and neighbourhoods. The reports and data maps have fed into public policy formation by the National Council on Citizen Security, presided over by the President of the Dominican Republic.

Source: UNCT Dominican Republic

Box 36. Haiti: Working with youth to tackle gender based violence

Goal 16+ has helped organise policy responses in Haiti to physical, sexual and psychological violence against women. In the city of Jérémie, a project to create a culture favorable to peace amongst young people has been developed. This project was created by the national government, working together together with the Municipality of Jérémie, the Haitian National Police (PNH), the Office for the Protection of Civilians (OPC), and an assortment of ministries. Civil society (youth and women’s associations), the private sector, educational institutions and international partners (UNDP, UN WOMEN, IOM) were also involved.

The project, “Support to conflict resolution and the promotion of social cohesion through youth organizations in the city of Jérémie,” consists of two main activities. The first supports youth participation in public affairs. Through the workshops and training that form part of this project, young people can engage in face-to-face discussions with community elders, political party representatives and municipal decision-makers to express their day-to-day challenges.
As a result, young people are building their leadership skills while also playing a role in sustainable development. They are demonstrating their capacity to take part in public affairs of the city and to become ambassadors of peace.

The second prong of this project seeks to raise awareness about the need to decrease violence, especially Gender Based Violence, to promote a culture of peace. This training examines the causes of violence and its consequences for economic livelihoods and community development. Through this training, young men and women have also explored the link between different types of masculinities and gender-based violence, including from a feminist perspective. As a result, young men have expressed a strong willingness to fight against gender discrimination.

Workshops and meetings take place on weekends in order to accommodate the participation of young people. Youth associations are consulted on the design of the project, as well as the selection and implementation of activities.

Source: UNCT Haiti

BOX 37. Jordan: Implementing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda

Jordan is a country with two major conflicts on its borders. In addition to hosting large refugee populations, the country also struggles with high levels of youth unemployment, violence against women and children and weak citizen participation in governance and politics.

Jordan is making efforts to implement the 2000 United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (S/RES/1325), on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS). The Jordanian “National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security” (JONAP) was developed in consultation with the government, security sector actors and a range of civil society groups, including refugee women. The plan commits to delivering gender-responsive humanitarian services to refugees including psychological, social, legal and medical services. The JONAP also sets out strategies to recruit and involve more women in security sector institutions and to prevent violent extremism.

The strong national commitment to the JONAP is evidenced by the implementation of institution-specific action plans. The Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF), for example, has developed an internal plan for implementation of their JONAP commitments. This plan has strengthened institutional understanding of the concept of ‘gender’ across the security sector.

To address violence against children, the National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) launched a multi-sectoral national strategy and set of action plans (2019-2021) to end violence against children. This plan was endorsed by various government ministries and the private sector. The plan aimed at improving response services to the survivors of violence, with a robust component for changing social norms and promoting positive behaviors to discourage violence as means of discipline for children. Amendments have also been made to the Domestic Violence Law and the Penal Code. Advocacy efforts are currently focused on achieving cabinet- and parliament-level endorsements of a set of laws that allow for a child’s best interest to be considered in all decisions and actions.

Source: UNCT Jordan

BOX 38. Jordan: Media literacy and access to information

The Jordanian government is promoting media and information literacy. It has supported public debates, focus group discussions and workshops with academics and policy makers, as well as country-wide celebrations of the Global Week on Media and Information Literacy. Extracurricular activities on this theme have been piloted in schools and workshops have been developed for university students.

A truth-telling e-platform to identify and alert the public about news deemed to be false has been launched recently by the government. To facilitate the citizenry’s right to access information, the national, online platform “Your Right to Know” aims at providing accurate news in an objective and transparent manner. Three to four posts are published on the platform per week to address rumours, lies, and misleading news. The platform currently
Enabling the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through SDG 16+: Anchoring peace, justice and inclusion

Box 39. Lebanon: Reform of the Internal Security Forces

Modern Lebanese history has been marked by conflict as well as by political and institutional instability. In spite of these cultural, legal, and institutional challenges, the Internal Security Forces (ISF) have embarked on a major reform under the Strategic Plan 2018-2022. This plan aims to transform the ISF from a police force to a police service and to promote legal equality in Lebanon.

The ISF was able to develop the Strategic Plan with staff buy-in following broad internal consultations at all levels of the institution. This effort is noteworthy because legal equality has been hindered in the past by the absence of informed debate both inside this institution as well as with the public.

Historically, the ISF was driven by a military culture and organized through a top-down leadership model. The Strategic Plan represents a major shift in this ethos towards a more “protective” approach to policing. For example, women, men and children forced to commit acts of prostitution are now increasingly seen as victims of trafficking, rather than perpetrators of a crime.

Key components of the Strategic Plan, like instituting community policing in ISF stations and strengthening internal oversight mechanisms, are currently being implemented just one year into its mandate. While the country’s new legal framework for policing offers tools to ensure legal equality, there is also a need for the executive branch to implement measures to do so as well.

The Strategic Plan for the ISF indicates political will and openness to reform that enables Lebanon to report on progress on several Goal 16 indicators (notably: 16.1.1; 16.1.3; 16.3.2; 16.5.1; 16.5.2; 16.6.2 and 16.10.1). Implementing Goal 16 represents an opportunity for open debate amongst institutions and the public on the type of security and justice people want in Lebanon.

Source: UNCT Lebanon

Box 40. Liechtenstein: ‘Liechtenstein Initiative’ to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking

Despite strong normative and legal frameworks, modern slavery and human trafficking are tragically common in today’s world and affect virtually every country. An estimated 40 million people were living in modern slavery in 2016. Modern slavery and human trafficking are not only grave human rights violations. They also constitute lucrative illegal business models, which generate $150 billion in revenue every year.

Liechtenstein’s commitment to prevent and combat illicit financial flows and protect human rights has resulted in a public-private partnership, the “Liechtenstein Initiative” for a Financial Sector Commission (FSC) against Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking. Its aim is to identify and interrupt illicit financial flows associated with modern slavery and human trafficking.

The FSC has been jointly developed by the Government of Liechtenstein and the United Nations University Centre for Policy Research. Other partners include the Governments of Australia and of the Netherlands, as well as a Liechtenstein bank, the Liechtenstein banking association and philanthropic foundations.

The FSC brings together a wide range of financial sector stakeholders, global regulators, UN mandate-holders and survivors of modern slavery and human trafficking to discuss the financial sector’s role in tackling modern slavery and human trafficking. The
commission issues recommendations on practical, relevant and actionable steps for financial institutions worldwide. These will be presented at the forthcoming United Nations General Assembly in September 2019 in New York.

Areas of focus include guidance on understanding and identifying the proceeds of modern slavery and human trafficking in customer-bases and investment portfolios; best practice in public and private sector investment to address the drivers of modern slavery and human trafficking; best practice on remedy, including both law enforcement and bank-led initiatives; lessons learned on effective regulatory policies and practices; innovations in responsible investment and lending practices; the use of financial institution leverage in other sectors; the protection of the financial sector from risks associated with money-laundering and terrorist financing related to human trafficking; due diligence in compliance and investment decision-making to mitigate associated risks and innovative financing mechanisms to address the drivers of modern slavery and human trafficking. The FSC thus contributes to the implementation of a set of SDG 16+ targets, including 16.2, 16.4, 8.7 and 5.2.

Source: Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein to the UN

**BOX 41. occupied Palestinian Territory: Protection of juveniles**

The Palestinian government adopted the Juvenile Protection Law in 2016. This law unifies domestic and international law, and updates the Palestinian juvenile justice system. Specifically, it recognizes minors, defined as those under the age of 18, as victims in need of protection, rehabilitation, and reintegration into society, rather than as criminals deserving punishment.

The SDG 16 working group that is led by the Ministry of Justice is mindful of the role it can play in furthering other SDGs. For example, the working group will use its position to push for expediting the adoption of the Family Protection Bill. This bill will contribute to ending all forms of violence (SDG 16) — particularly violence against women and girls (SDG 5) — and to educating the general public on human rights and gender equality (SDG 4).

Source: UNCT in the occupied Palestinian Territory

**BOX 42. Panama: Developing meaningful participatory governance processes**

There are seven indigenous peoples groups in Panama. Despite Panama’s sustained economic growth, the country has one of the highest rates of inequality in the region. In indigenous territories, 80% of the population lives in poverty and 63% in extreme poverty. In non-indigenous areas, 20.7% of the population live in poverty and 9.8% in extreme poverty.

The average daily salary of an indigenous person is $3 while non-indigenous people in rural areas receive an average daily wage of $10 per day and in urban areas, $17. Chronic malnutrition affects 19% of children under five years old in Panama, although this figure reaches almost 62% in indigenous territories. 61% of indigenous peoples have access to drinking water, in contrast with 95% of non-indigenous people. The infant mortality rate for indigenous children under five years old is double that of non-indigenous children of the same age: 38 per 1000 live births compared to 19 (UNFPA). Maternal mortality among indigenous women is four times higher than that of non-indigenous women: 462 per 100,000 live births versus 92.

The indigenous territories are largely inaccessible. There is a lack of local government capacity to provide health and education services. Public investment in the territories has been low and only three out of 12 collect standardised, disaggregated data, hindering the planning of useful development policies for these regions.

A National Dialogue Table was formed in 2012 to bring together the national government, represented by the Ministry of Interior, and 12 indigenous congresses and councils representing the seven indigenous peoples groups. The aim was two-fold: first, to improve the relationship between the national government and the indigenous peoples, which is frequently marked by conflict and division. A second aim was to plan for sustainable development outcomes in the indigenous territories with respect for human rights.
The Dialogue emphasised participatory decision-making. It entailed more than 90 consultations coordinated by the 12 indigenous governance bodies, with more than 10,000 indigenous men and women consulted (SDG 16.7). Following on these meetings, stakeholders developed the Integral Development Plan for Indigenous People, which sought to ensure the inclusion of indigenous peoples in democratic governance and to recognize their cultural and collective rights. (SDG 16.6, 16.7).

The challenge is to maintain these participatory decision-making processes over time. The National Council for the Development of Indigenous People monitors the implementation of the Integral Development Plan. The Council also promotes intercultural dialogue between government institutions and representatives of the indigenous peoples. In a similar vein, the Advisory Committee of Indigenous Women has also been created to monitor implementation of the plan. This body is composed of 12 women representing the 12 indigenous governance bodies (SDG 5.5 & 16.7).

To date, the plan has enabled indigenous peoples to participate in public policy decisions. Indigenous peoples have received technical assistance to strengthen their representation in indigenous and non-indigenous institutions and bodies. The National Council’s periodic meetings reduce political conflict and recognize and respect indigenous justice systems according to their internal structures and mechanisms. All of this is in line with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Law Nº 37 of 2016 in Panama, both of which require ‘free, prior and informed consent’ and guarantee that development policies and outcomes will not negatively affect the culture or means of governance and subsistence of the indigenous territories.

Source: UNCT Panama

**Box 43. Tanzania: Improving access to justice through legal aid**

The Legal Aid Act (2017) and relevant regulations improve access to justice for all in Tanzania, including women, children, and other disadvantaged groups (rural and urban poor, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS and refugees). This is in accordance with the stated SDG principle of “Leaving No One Behind.”

The law increases oversight and coordination of legal aid services by reinforcing collaboration between the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, assorted development partners and Legal Aid Providers.

LAPs have a code of conduct which guides them on ethical legal aid service provision, as well as a web-based registration and performance monitoring system. Assistant registrars have been appointed country-wide to register LAPs in every district and to coordinate between the formal and informal sectors on legal aid services.

**Provision of legal aid services**

In collaboration with legal aid providers, development partners and local government authorities, the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs instituted the celebration of ‘Legal Aid Week’ in December 2017 and November 2018. This celebration promotes the right to legal aid to indigent people through direct services and through the dissemination of self-help materials and public education. As a result of these events, approximately 50,000 people were informed of their rights through media campaigns, while 7,000 people, including some in detention, received direct legal aid services. These services included included legal advice and legal documentation as well as dispute resolution and legal representation in bail proceedings.

**Quality assurance**

The Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs has introduced a training curriculum and manual for paralegals to ensure quality standards in legal aid. The training covers human rights, land rights and family law.

**Legal aid in places of detention**

The Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs has developed guidelines for the provision of legal aid services in places of detention. It has entered into a Memoranda of Understanding with the Tanzania Police Force and the Tanzania Prison Services for collaboration in legal aid services in their respective areas. A total of 166 Police and 114 Prison officers were trained on legal aid to enable them to work with LAPs in police stations and prison facilities. The Prison Services have also established legal aid desks.

**Legal aid by order of court**

The Chief Justice has issued Circulars for the provision of legal aid in civil and criminal cases in accordance with the requirement of the law. The Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs has entered into a MoU with the judiciary to collaborate on legal aid service matters.

Source: UNCT Tanzania
Box 44. Tanzania: Equal Treatment of Refugees

The government has deployed nine social welfare officers to support the case management of children with acute protection concerns, including sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in the three refugee camps in Kibondo. These individuals are embedded within the case management operations of the International Rescue Committee and Plan International. Based on previous experience from the influx of Burundi refugees, the social welfare officers are deployed long-term to ensure continuity of case management and follow-up. They encourage refugees to utilize national protection systems. Legal services for all survivors of SGBV, including refugees, are supported by the Tanzania Police Force. There are 430 gender and children desks located in select districts throughout the country, including in the three refugee camps. Judicial officers, State attorneys, advocates, public prosecutors and social welfare officers are being trained to respond to and fast track SGBV cases.

Source: UNCT Tanzania

Box 45. Mexico City: Reducing possession of firearms

Mexico City has put in place a local programme for voluntary disarmament (SDG 16.1 & SDG 16.4) that aims at raising awareness among citizens of the risk of possessing firearms. The programme exchanges firearms and explosives for economic or in-kind support. It also distributes educational material for children on how to build a culture of peace in exchange for “war toys.”

Source: UCLG: education, cultural policies and initiatives developed at the sub-national level for the promotion of peace

Box 46. Climate Change, natural resource management and conflict

The shrinking of the Lake Chad Basin in Africa has led local groups to compete for diminishing livelihood resources. Climate impacts on the lake have not only led to competition between civilians, but have become a recruitment tool for armed militant groups. UN Resolution 2349 was adopted in 2017 to highlight the need to address climate-related risks in order to tackle the conflict in the Lake Chad basin. In July 2018, a debate was held on “understanding and addressing climate-related security risks.”

To provide solutions for the Lake Chad Basin, a financing agreement was signed between UNESCO and the Lake Chad Basin Commission in 2017 to fund the project “Applying the Model of Transboundary Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage Sites to Promote Peace in the Lake Chad Basin through the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources” (BIOPALT). This agreement is a component of the Programme to Rehabilitate and Strengthen the Resilience of Lake Chad Basin Systems, funded by the African Development Bank. BIOPALT aims to safeguard and sustainably manage the hydrological, biological and cultural resources of the Lake Chad Basin. This includes the establishment of an early warning system for droughts and floods, the restoration of degraded ecosystems and the development of income-generating activities. The project will also help member States to prepare the nomination of the Lake Chad Basin as a transboundary biosphere reserve on the World Heritage List.

Source: UN News (2019); UNESCO (2019).
**BOX 47. Women, institutions, peacebuilding and natural resources management and conflict**

The Joint Programme of UN Women, UNDP and the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) on Women, Natural Resources and Peace leverages the growing body of evidence showing that the participation of women not only contributes to the conclusion of peace talks, but also to the implementation of peace agreements and the sustainability of peacebuilding processes. The programme promotes natural resource-based interventions as a tool for strengthening women’s participation in peacebuilding efforts, governance and decision-making and economic revitalisation.

The programme was piloted in Al Rahad, North Kordofa, Sudan, a community beset by climate-related environmental degradation. The project seeks to strengthen women’s roles in local peacebuilding processes over natural resource-based conflicts. It builds women’s capacity to participate more effectively in local planning and decision-making bodies that govern access to and use of natural resources.

In Colombia’s province of Chocó, the local population continues to bear the brunt of that country’s military conflict, even while coping with impacts of climate change. A pilot project there aims to support the government of Colombia to realize its vision on gender, rural development and the environment as presented in the Havana Accords. This project specifically seeks to enhance women’s capacities for conflict prevention and resolution of natural resource disputes.

Source UN Environment, UN Women, UNDP and the UN Peacebuilding Support Office 2018

**BOX 48. Finland: Developing anti-bullying behaviour through the KiVa programme**

The KiVa programme seeks to reduce bullying at school and in the local community in Finland. It targets multiple forms of victimization, including verbal, relational, physical, and cyberbullying. This innovative approach, developed at the university of Turku, is intended for children aged 7 to 15. It focuses on the role of bystanders — i.e., fellow pupils who witness bullying events. Through classroom, the programme teaches children to recognize bullying and to respond when they see it.

KiVa is a behaviour-oriented intervention based on extensive research showing that victims report distress when others do nothing to help, and that bullies are encouraged by onlookers’ apathy. The program has been shown to reduce both self- and peer-reported bullying and victimization significantly. In addition, studies report positive effects on pupils’ ‘liking school’, as well as academic motivation and achievement. KiVa also reduces anxiety and depression and has a positive impact on students’ perception of their peer climate. 98% of victims involved in discussions with the schools’ KiVa teams felt that their situation had improved.

Source: UNESCO/UNODC ‘Strengthening the rule of law through education: A guide for policymakers’

**BOX 49. Gender Inequality and Violence Nexus**

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is both a cause and consequence of inequality, impacting the lives of women and girls beyond just survivors. Fear of violence can prevent women from pursuing education, work or exercising their political rights and voice. VAWG is also a consequence of gender inequality. In many places, gender-based violence is reinforced by discriminatory laws and exclusionary social norms that undermine women and girls’ opportunities for education, income and independence. Sometimes, VAWG accompanies shifting power relations within households and communities, especially when there is resentment against women and girls who move away from conventional roles.

Box 50. The Kyrgyz Republic: Participatory referral mechanisms to help victims of gender-based violence

Since 2000, there has been an increase in the number of acts of sexual violence against women, girls and boys registered in the Kyrgyz Republic. In response, 48 women’s NGOs as well as community leaders gathered evidence of GBV law enforcement in this country. Together with women from vulnerable groups and survivors of violence, they advocated for the 2017 Law on Protection from Family Violence.

The law establishes participatory referral mechanisms to ensure the fundamental rights of gender-based violence survivors. These take the form of “GBV committees.” The committees are comprised of local municipal government representatives, social and medical workers, police and members of the NGO community, including local crime prevention and crisis centers. Collectively, these groups respond to cases of gender-based violence, including family violence (physical, psychological, economic) as well as sexual violence, early marriage, forced marriage, polygamy and trafficking in persons.

Local women’s NGOs and crisis centre associations play the leading role in establishing and managing the GBV committees. In 2018, GBV committees were established in 16 territorial administrations of Kyrgyzstan. 949 protection orders were issued by police to GBV survivors, who received various types of legal advice on topics such as property rights, child support, social benefits, divorce, professional education and employment.

Lessons learned:
- Comprehensive measures should be in place to address gender-based violence and ensure that victims of violence have access to immediate means of protection and that perpetrators are adequately punished;
- Capacity-building of relevant officials should be a part of National Action Plans to ensure the systematic application of gender-sensitive procedures to deal with victims of violence;
- Adequate assistance should be provided to victims of violence in cooperation with non-governmental organizations that provide shelter and rehabilitation to victims;
- Disaggregated statistical data should be collected on domestic and sexual violence.

Source: UNDP, UNODC

Box 51. Tajikistan: Expanding identification for stateless persons

The Government of Tajikistan has approved the expansion of statelessness identification and reduction activities in eight new districts. With this decision, the Government has confirmed its commitment to address the issue of statelessness in the country. The initiative is implemented as part of the UNHCR-UNICEF Coalition on ‘Every Child’s Right to a Nationality’ and is combined with a birth registration component targeting some 2,500 children. UNHCR continues to advocate for the adoption of an amnesty law in Tajikistan to address statelessness issues among persons for whom solutions cannot be found under existing legal frameworks.

Source: UNHCR

Box 52. Tunisia: Improving access to justice and service delivery

The International Legal Assistance Consortium is working to improve access to justice and service delivery in Tunisia. It seeks to improve case flow management, increase interactions between justice seekers and the judicial system and upgrade human and IT resources to ensure a more coordinated, efficient and unified Administrative Tribunal.

**Box 53. The Republic of Moldova: Youth Score Card to tackle inequalities at the local level**

The Youth Score Card project aims to collect accurate, evidence-based information about the varied needs of young people across the regions of the Republic of Moldova at the local level. It is also a tool to monitor the implementation of SDGs locally.

Young people (14-35 years old) from the Republic of Moldova represent more than one third of the total population. But the situation and needs of young people differ significantly across regions in the country. Data aggregated at the national level often obscures inequalities in accessing basic services among young people from different regions.

The Youth Score Card assesses youth experiences in 6 key areas: (i) education; (ii) participation in decision-making process; (iii) employment; (iv) risk situations; (v) health and (vi) social inclusion. For each area, separate indicators are selected based on criteria such as relevance, frequency and availability of data, and so on, with priority given to SDG indicators where these exist (e.g., education and health). The Youth Score Card then ranks all administrative units in Moldova in terms of youth development and provides evidence for policymakers to address the specific needs of young people at the local level. This ranking will be updated every two years to monitor progress and adjust youth policies at the local level.

The Youth Score Card has led to the development of an interactive database of indicators related to the development of young people in Moldova. This tool enables a comparison of youth development between regions and identifies key areas requiring policy attention at both the national and local levels. In addition, its implementation has led to greater participation of young people in local and national policymaking processes.

The Youth Score Card is available on www.scorecard.md. The website includes an interactive map of Moldova and its administrative units.

Source: UNDP Moldova

**Box 54. UNESCO: Tackling illicit flows in cultural property**

UNESCO is working with countries to combat the illicit trafficking of cultural property. It does this by strengthening the capacity of national law enforcement and custom officials, the judiciary, and banking professionals, and by engaging the global art market. UNESCO is also working with member States to support the restitution of cultural property.

The Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970) is the first international legal instrument for the protection of movable cultural property in times of peace. The international community has given new impetus to the Convention, due to the urgent need of people to reaffirm their identities through cultural heritage in a globalised world. Moreover, the public is becoming increasingly aware of the dangers of international cultural heritage despoliation.

The effectiveness of the 1970 Convention lies in the number of States that have ratified it and their diligence in implementing. UNESCO provides expertise in building capacity in this area. To do this, it collaborates closely with other organizations such as INTERPOL, UNIDROIT, the International Council of Museums, the World Customs Organization and the UNODC, as well as art market representatives and specialized police forces. The purpose of these interactions is to establish national and international networks involving all stakeholders related to the protection of the cultural heritage and the art market. UNESCO is also developing awareness-raising programmes for the general public regarding the importance of safeguarding cultural heritage and preventing illicit trafficking. Sensitizing local populations in this way constitutes the most effective tool against the pillage and illicit trafficking of cultural objects. The Convention has also provided for significant advocacy on the importance of cultural property restitution.

Source: UNESCO
**Box 55. Nestlé: Program to prevent bribery in the business value chain**

Nestlé Ecuador has a pilot programme to implement SDG 16.5, which seeks to “substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms.” The particular focus of this programme is on the private sector. The ambition is to transfer the values and best practices of large enterprises regarding integrity and the prevention of bribery to medium-sized enterprises located in the same value chains. The program was led by Nestlé Ecuador, together with key local stakeholders including the country’s pan-industry platform, ‘Ecuador2030.’ The program utilizes tools provided by the UN, Transparency International (TI) and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).

The program will provide a toolkit to guide large enterprises through concrete actions in implementing the initiative with medium-sized enterprises in their value chain. Each medium-sized enterprise will in turn create its own, tailor-made “model of bribery prevention,” guided by tools provided by the program.

Source: Nestlé Ecuador

**Box 56. Ukraine: Respect for the rule of law in public administration**

Since 2014, the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) has been supporting self-assessments throughout Ukraine in order to measure the respect for the rule of law in public administration. Over 350 agency staff and 8000 service users have been interviewed to assess their satisfaction with administrative services in line with six rule of law principles: legality, accessibility, transparency, the right to be heard, the right to appeal and accountability (SDG 16 indicators 16.5.1 and 16.6.2). 15 municipalities owned the assessment process and were supported through peer-to-peer exchange and assistance by FBA in developing action plans based on the assessment findings. An explanation of the assessment methodology can be found in: UNDP-FBA Users’ Guide for Assessing Rule of Law in Public Administration (2015).

Source: Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) Project Website: http://ruleoflaw.in.ua/

**Box 57. Nigeria: Youth initiatives on justice, the rule of law and strong institutions**

The SDG 16 Innovation Challenge is an initiative designed by the Accountability Lab in partnership with OANDO plc, an African integrated energy solutions provider based in Nigeria, and supported by the Canadian High Commission in Nigeria. Its goal is to find creative solutions for SDG 16 around issues of justice, the rule of law and building strong institutions. The competition supports young men and women between the ages of fifteen and thirty-five to supercharge their innovative ideas about governance, bolster their skills and connect with others.

The ideas that emerged during the innovation challenges in the cities of Lagos and Abuja were inspiring and encouraging. One proposed project to improve relations between the police, the federal government and the judiciary by training 5,000 policemen nationally. Another advocated a digital platform to help indigent families find competent legal aid providers for relatives held in pre-trial detention centers. These individuals are often held for periods that exceed the maximum sentence guideline for the alleged offence. Another idea called “Frame for Progress” further supported SDG 16 targets by using visual storytelling to help rural communities track local budgets and expenditure, as well as to identify gaps in social justice programmes.

One of the consistent learnings that candidates took away from the innovation challenge in targeted communities was the need to engage with civil society social structures in order to strengthen those structures and ensure the development of sustainable solutions.

The winning idea, Hope Behind Bars, tackles the wrongful incarceration of young people by providing them with pro bono legal services and support. In the two months following the Challenge, Hope Behind Bars represented 17 inmates, freeing 12 of them from prison — a commendable effort in ensuring timely access to justice.
As part of Accountability Lab’s ongoing work to support SDG 16, it is providing financial and technical support to Hope Behind Bars through its Accountability Incubator. This support includes capacity-building, peer-learning, communications advice, network building and assistance with logistical supply chains.

Source: Accountability Lab http://www.accountabilitylab.org

**BOX 58. Thailand: From tolerance of diversity of gender and sexual orientation to inclusion**

LGBTI people are part of families, communities and the wider society. But they continue to experience stigma and discrimination, violence, exclusion and denial of fundamental human rights just because of their sexual orientation and gender identity.

Structural barriers, and discriminatory norms and practices exist that exclude LGBT persons from fully participating in society and enjoying the benefits of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Being LGBT in the Asia and the Pacific is a regional initiative aimed at addressing inequality, violence and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status. It also promotes universal access to health and social services. The project is a collaboration between governments, civil society, regional institutions and other stakeholders to advance the social inclusion of LGBTI people.

A landmark survey involving 2,210 participants from across Thailand — both LGBT and non-LGBT people — revealed that there was a significant level of support for inclusive laws and policies among the non-LGBT respondents. According to the results of the survey, more people support than object to things like same-sex unions, adoption rights for LGBT people, including more than two options for “sex” in official public documents and lifting the ban on blood donations for men who have sex with men. In addition, a significant portion of the respondents (between 20 and 23%) did not feel strongly either way on these issues.

In Thailand, UNDP is supporting the efforts of national stakeholders to enhance legal protections for non-discrimination based on gender, to provide access to legal identity documents with correct gender markers to transgender people, to sensitize the Royal Thai Police on issues related to sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression and to address the specific health and safety needs of transgender inmates in the justice system.

Thailand has the opportunity, the resources and the public support to build on these efforts and transcend from being a land of relative tolerance for LGBT to being one of true inclusion.

Source: UNDP Blog Thailand and UNDP Thailand
Enabling the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through SDG 16+: Anchoring peace, justice and inclusion (2019).

The Global Alliance for Reporting Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies, available at: https://www.sdg16hub.org