

16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



Strengthening Institutions for Change: Fostering Effective and Inclusive Governance for Sustainable Development

22 MARCH 2019, 10:00-11:25

Room 18, International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG)

Interpretation in English and Russian



OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this roundtable are:

- share knowledge and lessons learned on adapting, implementing, monitoring and reporting on SDG 16 at the national level, following the “Leave No One Behind” principle;
- provide a space for interactive discussions on the effect that Peace, Justice, Accountability and Inclusion can have on other SDGs of the 2030 Agenda;
- discuss traditional and emerging partnerships and stakeholder engagement for achieving SDG 16.



GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. What are illustrative examples of SDG 16 achievements and which clearly demonstrate how Peace, Justice, Accountability and Inclusion can help advance other SDGs?
2. What has worked well and what have been the challenges in implementing, monitoring and reporting on SDG 16, particularly in integrating with other SDGs and reaching those most left behind?
3. What has worked well and what have been challenges in adapting SDG 16 to the national level and local levels, e.g. engaging stakeholder in selecting national indicators as well as fostering bottom-up empowerment?
4. What has worked well and what have been challenges in monitoring and reporting on SDG 16?

CASE STUDIES

- **Albania: “Enhancing accessible and inclusive public service delivery systems in Albania”**

This case study will discuss efforts and investments made by the Government of Albania in reforming the public administration and the judiciary and improve public services. With delivery of quality and inclusive public services particularly at the local level as one of the major initiatives supported by the Government of Albania, the case study will discuss progress in making access to justice more equitable and inclusive particularly for the most vulnerable.

Presenter: Besmir Beja, Councilor to the Minister of Justice, Albania
- **Kyrgyzstan: “New referral mechanisms involving vulnerable groups to respond to gender-based violence”**

This case study will share the experience of Kyrgyzstan in engaging the vulnerable groups in strengthening the protection mechanisms and ensuring access to justice and fundamental rights for survivors of gender-based violence. It will highlight the importance of joint efforts of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, the civil society, the beneficiaries and UN agencies’ team in ensuring fundamental rights of gender-based violence survivors and establishing participatory referral mechanisms based on the new Law on Protection from Family Violence (endorsed in April 2017).

Presenter: Elvira Surabaldieva, Member of Parliament, Kyrgyz Republic
- **Moldova: “Human-centered and gender-sensitive electoral education: practical innovative approaches to enhance the democratic processes”**

This case study will present the efforts made by the Central Electoral Commission from the Republic of Moldova in pioneering inclusive civic engagement tools to enhance voters’ participation in the electoral processes. The case study will focus on providing best examples of targeted innovative electoral education and voter information programmes for a more transparent and fair elections, and establishment of the sustainable information networks.

Presenter: Corneliu Pasat, Head of Communications, Public Relations and Media Department, Chairperson of the Central Electoral Commission, Moldova
- **North Macedonia: “Increasing gender responsiveness and effectiveness of institutions through gender-responsive budgeting”**

This case study will discuss the application and institutionalization of Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) as a tool for strengthening gender responsiveness of line ministries and state institutions in the Republic of North Macedonia. Specifically, the case focuses on the experience and practical solutions for application of GRB by central government institutions i.e. line ministries/state administration bodies. It showcases the historical overview of how GRB was introduced as a concept for transformative financing for gender equality and as a policy making tool that advances country’s National and International commitments to GE.

Presenter: Sanela Shkrijelj, Chief of Cabinet of Ministers, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, North Macedonia



BACKGROUND

The 2030 Agenda emphasized that ...” [democracy, good governance and the rule of law.... are essential for isustainable development, including sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection, and the eradication of poverty and hunger.](#)” Sustainable Development Goal 16 on promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies further highlights the importance of addressing **peace, justice and inclusion** which are deemed inherent development challenges in an increasingly complex, volatile, and uncertain world. In many countries around the world, including in the Europe and Central Asia region, current negative trends include the risk of conflicts and lack of safety, the low or stagnant capacity of institutions to deliver services to citizens, and human rights increasingly challenged. Changing these trends and achieving sustainable development requires further global efforts. Therefore, concerted efforts are needed to overturn the negative trends on democratic principles and human rights and address public needs and expectations. SDG 16 will be a key driver and thus provides a clear opportunity to draw upon and consolidate regional and national efforts to achieve sustainable development in the pan-European region and beyond.

Based on the notion of **Leaving No One Behind**, countries have committed to strengthen inclusive and participatory political processes, reduce all forms of violence, ensure access to justice for all and protect human rights by reaching the furthest left behind first. “Today, some of the most serious inequalities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia are gender-based”¹ and unemployment is high in the region, especially among women and young people, with up to 55% of women being unemployed compared to 30% of their male counterparts. Out of the 16,5 million people living with disabilities in the region, many live in poverty and face multiple visible and invisible barriers in their daily lives.² Furthermore, the Roma population, considered the most vulnerable and marginalized group in Europe, is estimated at 10-12 million out of which 80% is predicted to experience various levels of social exclusion.³

Apart from being a critical goal in its own right, SDG 16 is considered an enabler: promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, providing justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels helps realize all other SDGs. [SDG 16+](#) is a term that has been coined to indicate that there are targets in other SDGs that also address peace, justice and inclusion, such as reducing illicit flows and corruption with targets for discrimination and equality (SDG4, 5 & 10), targets for institutions and good governance (SDG1, 5, 10, 11, 16 & 17), targets for preventing and ending gender-based violence, various harmful and abusive practices (SDG5, 8 & 10),⁴ and targets for promoting and enforcing laws and policies for the protection of the planet and sustainable development (SDGs 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, & 15) which further emphasize the role and importance of SDG16 across Agenda 2030 as a whole.

¹ [UNDP, Europe and Central Asia – Focus Gender Equality](#)

² [UNDP, Europe and Central Asia – Not All Barriers are Physical](#)

³ [UNDP, 2017, Leaving no One Behind in Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Roma Inclusion in Europe](#)

⁴ [Center on International Cooperation, 2016, SDG Targets for Fostering Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies](#)

UN Inter-agency Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) missions conducted in the Europe and Central Asia region identified governance as an accelerator platform across all countries where the MAPS missions took place. These accelerators included the need to develop modern and efficient public administration; promote digital transformation and social innovation; strengthen democratic governance and peace; and protect human rights and the rule of law, all deemed necessary for development to be sustainable.

SDG LINKAGES

The round table will address SDG 16 and its linkages to Agenda 2030 overall and specifically to SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment, SDG 10 on reducing inequalities, and SDG 17 on partnerships.

PARTICIPANTS

The main target audience for this round table is line ministries and national partners that are leading the implementation of SDG 16 in selected countries, civil society organizations active in the field of supporting peace, justice and effective institutions, academia as well as the private sector serving as an emerging partner for SDG 16 implementation.

MODERATOR

The round table discussion will be moderated by Mr. Tomáš Rákos, Public Participation Expert, Czech Republic.

ORGANIZERS

This round table is organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Istanbul Regional Hub in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

FURTHER INFORMATION

- [Towards SDG 16: Promoting Just, Peaceful and Inclusive Societies in Europe and Central Asia](#)
- [SDG16 HUB](#)
- [Monitoring to Implement Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies](#)
- [Goal 16 – the Indicators We Want: Virtual Network Sourcebook on Measuring Peace, Justice and Effective Institutions](#)

For more information on this round table, please contact:

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