MONITORING PROGRESS ON SDG16 AT THE TIME OF THE PANDEMIC:
LAUNCH OF THE SDG16 DATA INITIATIVE 2020 GLOBAL REPORT
SDG16 Data Initiative Secretariat
Online (Via WebEx): Thursday, 12 November 2020
9:00 am - 11:00 am (New York EST)

In 2015, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted unanimously the ambitious 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that comprises of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including Goal 16's promise of peaceful, just, and inclusive societies. Today, in the margins of the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations and amidst development challenges related to the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic, there is a need to assess where we are, what data is needed, and set a roadmap on the next steps towards the achievement of SDG16.

The **SDG 16 Data Initiative**, a consortium of 17 organizations dedicated to the implementation and open tracking of progress toward the SDG16 targets, has collectively established an online resource at www.sdg16.org that combines official and non-official data on SDG16 and produced a Global Report that seeks to present the current state on the advancement around SDG16.

As the result of this joint effort, the **SDG16 Data Initiative** is pleased to present its fourth annual Global Report, part of a series aimed at evaluating global progress on SDG16 both as a stand-alone goal and as an enabler for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The Global Report provides governments, UN officials, civil society actors, the academia and other stakeholders with a resource to help understand progress on the SDG16 targets. It also provides an evidence base for identifying gaps in both the implementation and monitoring of SDG16, and for altering course to accelerate implementation where needed. In addition, by relying on both official data collected by National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and robust non-official data collected by civil society organizations and other institutions, the Global Report provides a holistic view of progress under each of the SDG16 targets, within the SDG16+ conceptual framework.

Among the key issues analyzed in this edition of the Global Report, we highlight global violence and sex-disaggregated data; official and non-official data for conflict analysis; trade-related illicit financial flows; corruption; valid and viable measurement of SDG16 targets; access to information; and data gap on peace, justice, and accountable institutions.

The purpose of this online event is to launch the Global Report, and have a conversation on its key elements, while further discussing challenges and opportunities for the achievement of SDG16, with special focus on:

- The crucial role of civil society in supporting and complementing the work of governments in collecting, monitoring, and reporting on data for SDG16.

- SDG16 as an enabler of the broader Sustainable Development Agenda; and the impact of the current pandemic and its intensifying effect on many pre-existing challenges to achieving peace, justice, and inclusion.

- Positive developments that contribute to the Decade of Action and Accountability, building on highlights of the three previous SDG16DI Global Reports covering the availability of data on all 12 SDG16 targets (2017); the triune aims of SDG16 for peace, justice, and inclusion (2018); and the state of SDG16 globally according to nonofficial data for all 12 targets (2019).

- Reinforcement of the importance of non-official data in monitoring the governance, impact and response to COVID-19.

The virtual meeting is intended as the launch of the SDG16 Data Initiative Global Report 2020, and as a platform to continue the conversation on the advances around SDG16 and the data gaps that still exist in the task of assessing progress.

The meeting proposes a multi-stakeholder space to highlight trends and seeks to present an outlook for the next years, showcasing specific cases that would help identify challenges and opportunities on the creation of data that would contribute to the UN's institutional frameworks to measure progress, and complement the work that National Statistical Offices are doing for this purpose, as presented through Voluntary National Reviews (VNR).

ABOUT THE SDG16 DATA INITIATIVE

The SDG16 Data Initiative is a collective project by a consortium of 17 organizations seeking to support the open tracking of the global commitments made by more than 194 countries on peace, justice, and strong institutions.

The initiative aims to complement the current efforts underway to develop an official indicator framework for monitoring the SDGs. It is intended that national statistical systems will eventually produce the majority of the data for these indicators. The UN Statistical System and other global organizations will then collate this official data at the global level. However, official data availability and coverage is currently limited, and it may take years to develop capacities and to collect data for official monitoring through official statistical systems. In the interim, we should draw on available data to help countries get started with monitoring SDG16.

The SDG16 Data Initiative, formed by a group of organizations with expertise in these areas, aims to fill this role. The initiative is an attempt to pull together data sets in an open format to track SDG16 and provide a snapshot of the current situation, and eventually progress over time. To this end, we include both global and complementary indicators, presented with official and unofficial data. The process also seeks to identify potential challenges in data quality, availability, and coverage that need to be addressed.

AGENDA

9:00-11:00   **MONITORING PROGRESS ON SDG16 AT THE TIME OF THE PANDEMIC: LAUNCH OF THE SDG16 DATA INITIATIVE GLOBAL REPORT**

Moderator: Massimo Tommasoli, Permanent Observer for International IDEA to the United Nations

9:10-10:30   **Discussion Panel**
- **John Romano**, Coordinator, TAP Network
- **Liv Tørres**, Director, Pathfinders Initiative, Center on International Cooperation (CIC), New York University
- **Annika Silva-Leander**, Head, Democracy Assessment Unit, International IDEA
- **Bill Orme,** Author, on behalf of Global Forum for Media Development
- **Adriana Fraiha Granjo,** Research Assistant, Transparency International
- **Anne-Séverine Fabre,** Data Expert, Small Arms Survey

10:30-11:00   **Q&A**