



Bridging the Data Gap to Monitor Progress in Advancing Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies at the Time of COVID-19

Tuesday, 14 July 2020, 1:00pm – 2:00pm (New York EDT)

Panelists’ Bios and Programme

Introduction.....1:00 pm – 1:05 pm

Data and Global Monitor of COVID-19’s Impact on Democracy.....1:05 pm - 1:10 pm



Laura Thornton leads and manages a portfolio of programmes that supports democracy world-wide through the development and application of global comparative knowledge resources and tools, supporting democratic reforms, as well as actively contributing to shaping the global and regional policy agendas by bringing the democracy lens and perspective to debates at that level. This portfolio includes Electoral Processes, Constitution-Building Processes, Political Participation and Representation, and Democracy, Assessment, Analysis and Advisory Unit—a unit responsible for the Institute’s work on citizen-led assessments of democracy—and the integration of Gender, Diversity, and Conflict sensitivity into the work of the Institute.

Prior to joining International IDEA on 1 April 2020, Thornton joined the National Democratic Institute in 1998 and served as a global associate and senior director in Georgia since 2014. In Georgia, Thornton managed multiple complex programmes including public opinion research and disinformation research and analyses, technical assistance to parliament and local government bodies, security sector reform and oversight, civil society advocacy, political party democratization and development, and election monitoring, analysis and reform efforts.

Before joining NDI, Thornton worked as a consultant for the Democracy and Governance unit at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and as a survey researcher in Serbia and Kosovo. She also worked for women’s health and political advocacy organizations in Thailand and the United States. Her academic background includes degrees, course work, publications and research in international history and development, comparative government and political science, and gender issues. Thornton earned her master’s degree from Princeton University in public and international affairs.

Partnerships on SDG 16.....1:10 pm - 1:15 pm



John Romano is the Coordinator of the TAP Network, based in New York. Prior to joining the TAP Network, John worked at Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), coordinating global advocacy campaigns around the UN’s Post-2015 sustainable development agenda. He has also worked for the UN Secretariat with UNDESA’s Division for Sustainable Development, where he helped facilitate the engagement of civil society in the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development, and coordinated the UN’s social media coverage for the conference. John has a M.S. in Sustainability Management from Columbia University and a B.A. in Environmental Studies and Geography from Ohio Wesleyan University.



Governance Indicators Handbook.....1:15 pm - 1:20 pm



Malene Almeida is the Coordinator of the Praia City Group Secretariat since December 2017. Prior to joining the Praia Group, she worked as a strategic consultant and operations areas at Deloitte Portugal for almost 5 years, in Portugal and Angola. She also made an incursion in the areas of marketing and communication. She holds a master’s degree in industrial and management engineering from Técnico Lisboa.

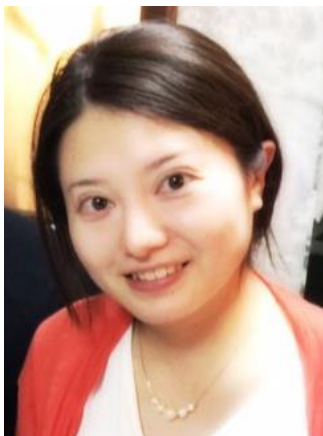
Analyses on SDG 16.3.....1:20 pm - 1:25 pm



Joel Martinez is the Director of Engagement at the World Justice Project, where he works to connect and develop a global network of grassroots organizations through the Resource Hub, organize and lead strategic convenings, including the World Justice Forum, and support practical, locally-led programs through the World Justice Challenge. Mr. Martinez previously worked to develop and scale the *WJP Rule of Law Index*, a quantitative measurement of how the rule of law is experienced and perceived by the general public, helping grow country coverage from six countries in 2008 to over 100 countries in 2016. He led the administration of the Qualified Respondents' Questionnaire for two years, collecting in-depth survey data from thousands of practicing attorneys, and led the administration of the

General Population Poll for five years, overseeing the collection of over 100,000 household surveys in more than 100 countries. Findings from the *WJP Rule of Law Index* have been cited by numerous global leaders and institutions, including media outlets such as *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, and *The Guardian*. Mr. Martinez earned his B.A. in Economics and Political Science from Middlebury College.

SDG 16 as an Enabler for the 2030 Agenda.....1:25 pm - 1:30 pm



Tomoko Vazeer specializes in SDG localization, Local Governance and SDG 16 at UNDP Regional Hub in Amman with extensive experience in country support to the Arab region. Specifically on the SDG localization, Ms. Vazeer has provided country support to Palestine, Tunisia, Iraq, Somalia and Egypt as well as regional support to 18 Arab States through conducting workshops and training for government, academia and CSOs, drafting a SDG localization roadmap and facilitating sub-national SDG reports. Prior to UNDP, Ms. Vazeer worked at the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and closely with Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) with a focus on international development, notably the areas of governance and poverty reduction where she provided advisory in project management in South Sudan, Malawi, Mauritius, Lesotho and Eswatini (Swaziland).



Q&A..... 1:30 pm – 1:55 pm

Moderator and Closing Remarks.....



Massimo Tommasoli is Permanent Observer for International IDEA to the United Nations in New York. He holds a PhD (doctorat) in social anthropology from the École des hautes études en sciences sociales in Paris. He worked in the field of aid and development at the OECD/Development Assistance Committee in Paris; at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate General for Development Cooperation in Rome; and at UNESCO in Addis Ababa. He is a visiting scholar at the LUISS University in Rome and at the City College of New York. He has lectured at various Universities in Italy and Spain, the UN System Staff College in Turin, and at UNITAR in New York. He has fieldwork experience in Colombia, the Horn of Africa, and the Russian Federation. His publications include: *Nel nome dello sviluppo (In the Name of Development)*; *Politiche di cooperazione internazionale (International Aid Policies)*; *Democracy and the Pillars of UN Work*; and *El desarrollo participativo: Análisis sociales y lógicas de planificación*.