Global Alliance for Reporting Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies is a coordinating platform for UN Member States, private sector, civil societies and UN Agencies to strenghten evidence-based reporting, monitoring and measurement of Sustainable Development Goal 16.

Reporting on SDG 16 in Voluntary National Reviews
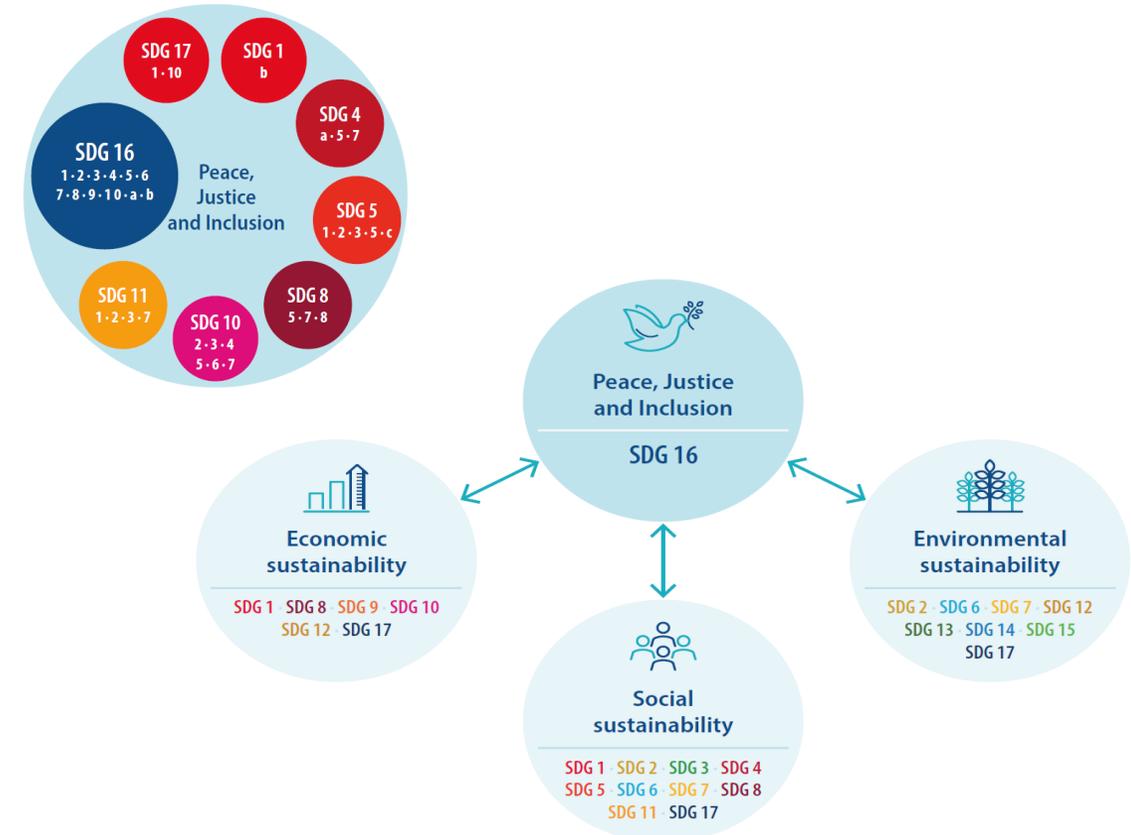
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Sustainable Development Goal 16

- **SDG 16 - Peace**, **Justice** and **Inclusion**: New goal

- **SDG 16+**: Peace, Justice and Inclusion reflected also in other goals

- SDG 16 an important goal to **enable** other goals

Why are VNRs important? Why is Reporting on SDG 16 Crucial?

- **VNRs are not an end in themselves**, but rather a stock taking exercise to assist in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. VNRs help to **strengthen accountability on the commitments** Member States have made and provide an important **platform for partnership and multi-stakeholder engagement** on the 2030 Agenda. **VNRs are most effective when they are undertaken as part of national planning processes.**

- While over 85% of Member States that submitted VNRS in 2019 reported on at least one SDG 16 indicator, **comprehensive reporting on SDG 16 still lags other goals** (White & Case VNR Analysis). SDG 16 is a relatively new development focus area that requires innovative approaches and the use of previously untapped data to monitor.

- The **urgency of progress on SDG 16 as both an outcome and an enabler** of sustainable development couldn't be more pressing. Through the lens of SDG 16+,which traces the themes of peace, justice, and inclusion throughout the 2030 Agenda, we can see and harness **the catalytic impact of SDG 16**..

- **Reporting is a useful tool** to not only track achievements on SDG 16 but to also drive them forward. In other words, if an effective monitoring system is being used, there is **more accountability** and often clarity for getting things done. Moreover, if reporting is carried out **through an inclusive and participatory process** it can also lead to greater ownership of the 2030 Agenda at all levels of society and strengthen pathways for collaboration across sectors.

- Presenting a VNR at the High-Level Political Forum adds international visibility and political commitment to the important process of monitoring national progress on the SDGs. **By including SDG 16 in a VNR, a Member State is reaffirming their commitment** to creating peaceful, just, and inclusive societies and demonstrating transparency by acknowledging strengths and weaknesses in their approaches. By speaking openly about challenges in monitoring, reporting, and implementing SDG 16, Member States can learn from peers that have had similar experiences and mobilize support from the international community to accelerate progress

Useful Steps to draft an SDG 16 Chapter

Planning

- Due to the cross-cutting nature of SDG 16, a workplan is helpful to coordinate the activities amongst the various actors involved in preparing the SDG 16 related content of the VNR. Ensure that enough time is allocated to develop the content through an inclusive and participatory process, integrate the content with different sections of the VNR, as well as validate the final content with all stakeholders

Stakeholder Analysis

- Because SDG 16 is directly related to issues affecting all citizens, a transparent multi-stakeholder engagement process is essential for providing a comprehensive picture of progress and deepening national and local ownership.

Jointly defining priorities

- The scope of the SDG 16 review should be informed by the views of all stakeholders. Through the identified strategies for multi-stakeholder engagement, determine what aspects of SDG 16 are available/the most pressing to report on in the VNR

Data Collection & GAP Analysis

- An evidence basis for progress on SDG 16 is important for a VNR, but 100% of data is not needed to review SDG 16. In addition, identifying SDG 16 data gaps and challenges in a VNR can provide impetus for the creation of new monitoring systems to improve data availability on SDG 16, including with international support

Incorporation into VNR

- Recognizing the indivisibility of the 2030 Agenda and that SDG 16 has firm links to other goals, the final content needs to be fully integrated and aligned the rest of the VNR

Multi stakeholder Validation

- To continue the inclusive and participatory process of developing the SDG 16 related content of the VNR and localize ownership, it's important that the final content is validated by the diverse stakeholders engaged throughout the process

HLPF Presentation

- The stakeholders engaged in developing the SDG 16 related content of the VNR make good candidates to travel with the Member State delegation to present the findings at the HLPF. Involving non state representatives in the VNR presentation demonstrates inclusivity from beginning to end of the VNR process and emphasizes the importance of multi-stakeholder contributions to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda

Post VNR/National Planning

- The momentum created through the VNR process can help advance implementation of SDG 16 after the HLPF presentation. The evidence gathered and the network of stakeholders created for the VNR should be utilized to take forward important action points

The scope of the SDG 16 review should be fully informed by the views of diverse stakeholders (i.e. move away from passive consultation and a pre-set agenda). Through the identified strategies for multi-stakeholder engagement, determine what aspects of SDG 16 are available/the most pressing to report on in the VNR, options include:

Comprehensive review of all SDG 16 indicators *(recommended)*	Chile's 2019 VNR provided the data and sources available for all indicators of SDG 16 since 2015. The VNR also described actions taken, challenges experienced, and plans for further SDG 16 implementation.
Specific targets/indicators of SDG 16 that are most relevant to the national context	Azerbaijan's 2019 VNR provided a detailed chapter on SDG 16 with activities, results, and data for seven targets (16.1, 16.2, 16.3, 16.6, 16.9, 16.10, 16.A) with corresponding indicators
Priority themes in SDG 16 to cluster relevant SDG 16 targets/indicators under	Uruguay's 2019 VNR grouped the SDG 16 targets and indicators into four themes (Violence and Security; Access to Justice and Rights; Transparency, Governance, and Access to Information; Participation and Inclusion) and describes challenges and successes for each.

Examples: Data Collection and Gap Analysis

An evidence basis for progress on SDG 16 is important. While data on all SDG 16 indicators may be difficult to find it is vital to be as comprehensive as possible. In addition, identifying SDG 16 data gaps and challenges in a VNR can provide impetus for enhancing data collection on SDG 16 in the future, including with international support.

The United Kingdom's 2019 VNR used a combination of global data, government, and nongovernment sources. Data available on all SDG 16 indicators is included in a Statistical Annex to the VNR. The annex lists sources for each indicator and offers an explanation for any difference between the global indicator and the national indicator used. Data can also be accessed through the publicly available UK National Reporting Platform.

In the preparation of Sierra Leone's 2019 VNR, civil society took the lead in data collection, holding consultations across the 16 districts of Sierra Leone. Data was also collected from the government, district/local councils, traditional leaders, UN agencies, media groups, the private sector, and various studies, surveys, and reports. The Data Collection Instrument used is included in the Annex of the VNR.

During Pakistan's 2019 VNR preparation the Government launched its 'Data Reporting Gaps Analysis' study. Each SDG was analyzed for the efforts required to report on its relevant target. National data collection tools were modified to improve data availability with a focus on the inclusivity, equity, and sustainability aspects of the SDGs. The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) upgraded the country's data collection tools. The PBS formed four Technical Sub-Committees to review and finalize data collection instruments and the calculation of indicators based on an internationally acceptable methodology. Through a broad consultative process, they approved certain amendments in data collection tools for both institutional and survey-based instruments.

SDG 16 Chapter Examples

2018 Uruguay SDG 16 Chapter

Inclusive & participatory

- The VNR has been prepared in a participatory and multi-stakeholder approach
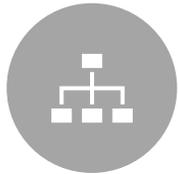
Clusters targets and indicators

Covers all indicators

Available data

- Statistical data is not provided, but data sources

LNOB

- Specific mentioning of challenges for vulnerable groups

No statistical annex

Violence and security

Uruguay has one of the **lowest homicide rates in the region**.

Innovations in the fight against crime:

- **Preventive:** community policing oriented to problems (POP).
- **Deterrent - repressive:** High operational dedication programme (PADO).

Fight against gender-based violence:

- Amendment to the penal code, creating the **figure of femicide**.
- Creation of **police substation** for **Specialized Units of Domestic and Gender Violence** (VDG).

Action Plan 2016-2019 "for a country free of gender violence with a generational perspective".

Early Childhood, Children and Adolescents National Plan 2016-2020.

- 3rd. strategic guideline: prevent, detect and respond to different types of violence.

CHALLENGES

Homicides in Uruguay:

- **Settling scores and organized crime:** cause **37%** of all homicides.
- **Fire weapons:** are used in **60%** of homicides.
- Gender violence is the main cause of homicide of women:
  - **every 15 days a woman is killed** by gender violence.
  - **4 out of 10 women** had previously filed a **gender violence report**.

Enactment of the comprehensive Law to guarantee women a life free of gender based violence:

- **every 17 minutes a woman claims to be a gender violence victim.**

Eradicate abuse and violence against children:

- **1 out of 2** children between 2 and 14 years old **suffer discipline with violence**.
- The number of children and adolescents assisted by the Uruguayan Institute of Children and Adolescents for **negligence, abuse and sexual abuse incidents have increased 50%** in the last 2 years.

Human trafficking:

- Uruguay: **country of origin of trafficking (before)** → **country of origin, transit and destination** of human trafficking (now).
- **Lack of statistical information.**
- Need of concretion of the **Integral Law for the Prevention and Combat human**.

Access to justice and rights

ACHIEVEMENTS

Reform of the **Code of Criminal Procedure** (CPP: inquisitive (before)→ **accusatory, adversarial, oral and public** (as of 2017).

Creation of the **Victims and Witnesses Unit** of the Public Prosecutor´s Office.

Creation of the **National Institute of Human Rights** (2012).

Progress in the fight against discrimination with the creation of:
- Honorary commission against racism, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination.
- Honorary National Commission of the Disabled.

CHALLENGES

Adults in conflict with the criminal law:

- **Imprisonment rate: increased by 40%** in the period 2005-2016, being currently **one of the highest in the region**.
- Little consideration of **alternative penalties** to the deprivation of liberty.
- **Rights violation: 55%** of people deprived of their liberty **do not have a final judgement**.
- **Lack of information** about **physical and sexual violence in confinement situations**.

Adolescents in conflict with the criminal law:

- Need to **improve the conditions** of deprivation of liberty for adolescents.
- **Move towards the transition** to a system based **on noncustodial measures**.

There are still barriers to **access to justice for family members of victims** of crimes that occurred during the **military dictatorship**.

Transparency, governance and access to information

ACHIEVEMENTS

Uruguay:
- **1st** in Latin America in **technological development and e-government**.
- **1st** in Transparency in Latin America and **21st in the world**.

Start-up of the **Access to Public Information Unit** (2009).

In a regional partnership with **UNESCO**, 191 **judicial operators** joined capacity building activities on Freedom of Expression, Access to Information, Transparency and Safety of Journalists.

Transparency:
- Creation of the **Transparency and Public Ethics Committee**.
- **National Action Plan of Open Government**.

CHALLENGES

Move forward in the provision of **public services online**: in 2013, **35%** of Uruguayans declared to be satisfied with these services.

Bribery and corruption:

Need for a **National Action Plan**.

Participation and international insertion

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Creation of **institutionalized participation spaces**.
- **Proximity Government Plan**.

CHALLENGES

Elaboration of the **Map of Citizen Participation in Uruguay** and of the **First National Catalog of citizen participation online**.

Uruguay

CASE STUDIES: What does a strong VNR/SDG 16 CHAPTER LOOK LIKE

2019 Timor Leste SDG 16 Chapter

Inclusive & participatory

- A participatory process trough establishment of a CSO advisory group and marginalized groups (women, youth, people with disabilities, LGBTI)
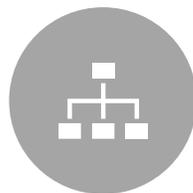
No clustering of targets

The themes of the SDG 16 indicators are covered

Available data

- Limited data with only 24% coverage of SDG 16 indicators

- Data is gathered from line ministries, the UN, INGOs etc.

LNOB

- A section on LNOB is provided, although not SDG 16-specific

- A situational analysis for vulnerable groups, including women, children and people living in rural areas is included

Statistical annex is provided

Timor-Leste SDG 16 chapter

Context

Following 500 years of Portuguese colonial rule and 24 years of Indonesian occupation, the nation restored independence on 20 May 2002 as the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. The Timorese emerged from a bitter independence struggle and devastating period of conflict to vote in a unique referendum in 1999 that resulted in the restoration of independence. The United Nations transitional administration (UNTAET) was deployed to administer the Territory, exercise legislative and executive authority during the transition period and support capacity-building for self-Government. In 2002, as an independent country, Timor-Leste joined the UN and a new UN Mission was created (UNMISET). From 2002-2005, this mission provided support to the core administrative structures critical for the stability of new country.

The Indonesian withdrawal and the militia uprising destroyed most of the country's basic services, productive assets and institutions. The country's infrastructure collapsed with the water supply, sewerage plants, electricity and communications devastated. Schools and health clinics were destroyed, with low levels of literacy and formal education existing among the general population. In the aftermath of the independence struggle, the newly formed Government responded to immediate needs while trying to maintain peace and stability. However, facing huge challenges to rebuild the country and create a Government from nothing, and without the capacity and resources needed to accelerate reconstruction, violence and instability flared up again in 2006. A new UN peacekeeping mission was established in 2006 and continued to support the new Government until 2012 when the UN mission ended. With the security gradually improving, the country invested in rebuilding infrastructure, targeting the health and basic education needs of its population and starting the long progress of building a Government and strengthening institutional capacity. Institutional frameworks and Government systems were out of date or non-existent, and complicated by language due to the previous governing regimes of Portugal, Indonesia and the UN administration.

35

- 10 pages
- SDG 16 as a priority goal in the VNR
- Low data availability
- Contextual analysis of social cohesion and levels of stability in the country is in focus

2019 Azerbaijan SDG 16 Chapter

Inclusive & participatory

State institutions, academia, civil society, private sector, youth organizations
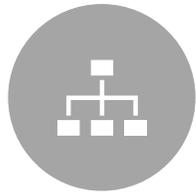
No clustering of targets

Cover target-level and indicator-specific level, with statistical and numeric data, including trends, successes and challenges

What data

- New data inputs, including communication technologies extracted from e-courts & e-justice kiosks

- Online surveys

- Private sector

LNOB

- Commitment to human rights strengthened

No statistical annex

Azerbaijan SDG 16 chapter

- 13 pages

- Covering all SDG 16 targets and indicators

- Examples of traditional and alternative data sources

- SDG 16 chapter developed in a participatory process

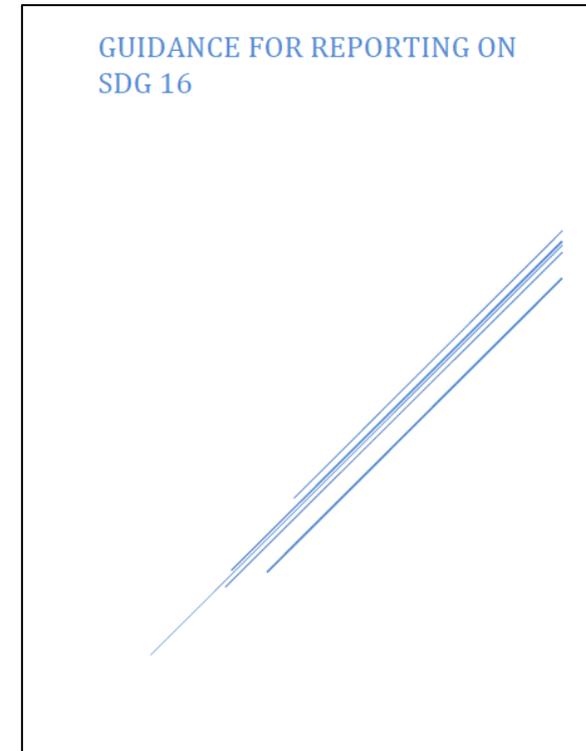# SDG 16 monitoring: Available Support

Global Alliance products
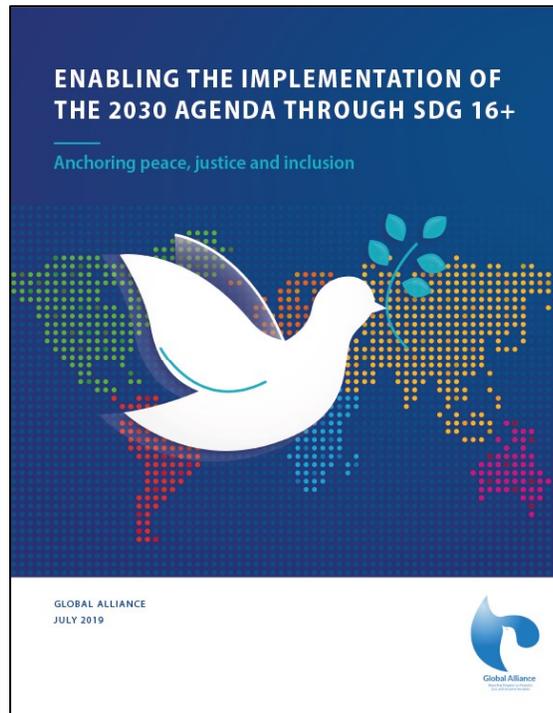
July 2019
https://www.sdg16hub.org/landing-page/sdg16-report

GUIDANCE FOR REPORTING ON SDG 16

Revised version forthcoming
July 2020

Praia City Group on Governance Statistics

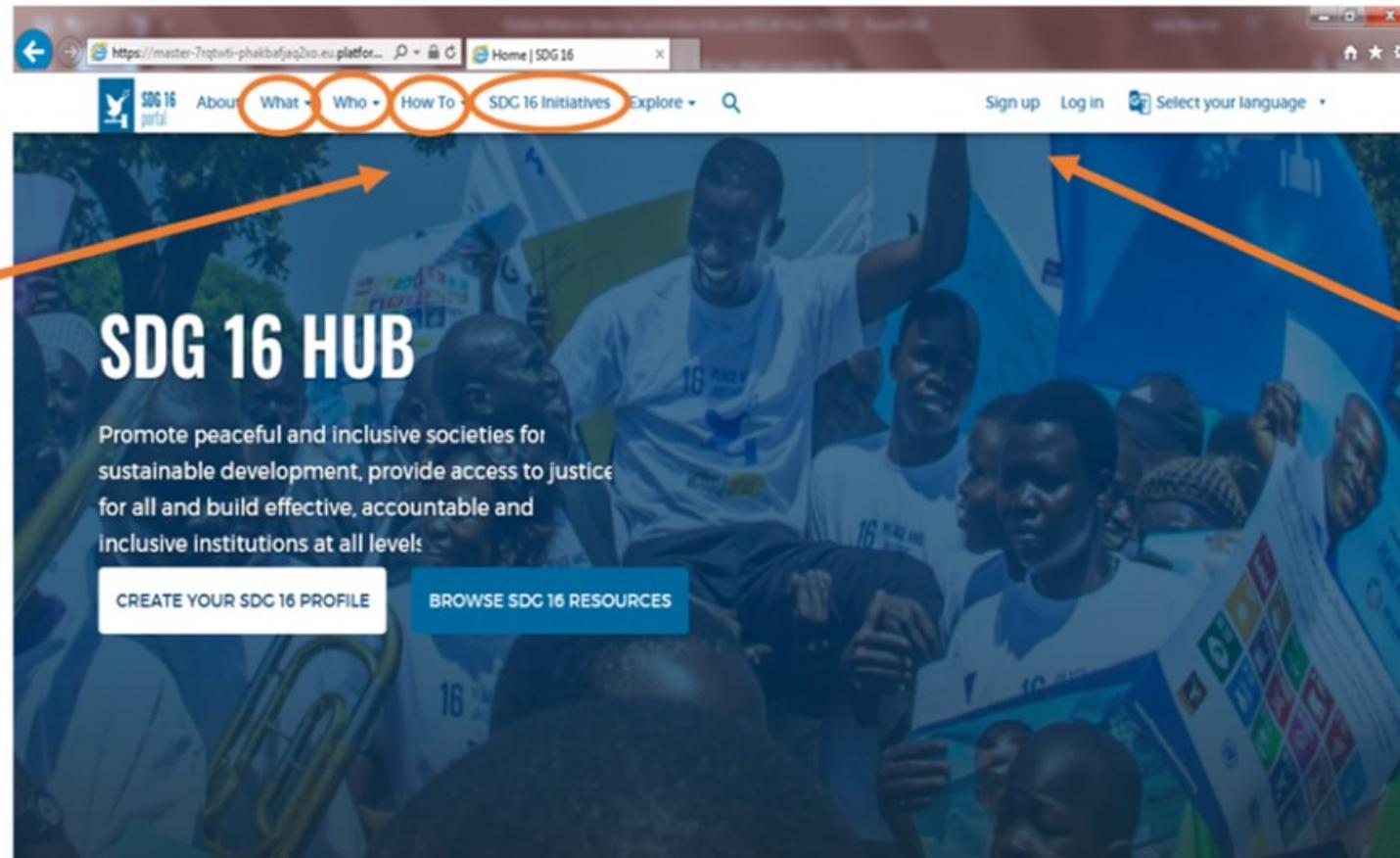**Handbook on Governance Statistics** launched March 2020 at UN Statistical Commission
https://blogs.prio.org/2020/03/improved-data-to-assist-in-the-prevention-and-management-of-conflicts/

Provides methodological and practical guidelines on how to measure 9 topics related to governance (Human Rights, Non-discrimination, Participation, Openness, Access to and quality of justice, System responsiveness and satisfaction, Absence of corruption, Trust, Safety and security) including SDG 16 related data and indicators

SDG 16 Hub - https://www.sdg16hub.org/