

Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies

“The new agenda recognizes the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies that provide equal access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights (including the right to development), on effective rule of law and good governance at all levels and on transparent, effective and accountable institutions.”

Agenda 2030 states that “there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.” The new agenda sets ambitious targets for tackling violence, insecurity and injustice, and for strengthening the governance and institutions that will underpin a more sustainable future.

These targets are of critical importance at a time when large numbers of people feel that development has left them behind, have low levels of trust in institutions, and are worried about violence and instability.

In recent years, many countries have made significant progress on peace, access to justice and inclusive institutions, but an analysis of the targets demonstrates that accelerating their delivery poses daunting challenges.

New York University’s Center on International Cooperation, in association with the governments of Brazil and Switzerland, is working with other UN member states, international organizations, global partnerships, civil society, and the private sector to explore these challenges. A number of countries have already participated intensely in meetings where there have shared their national experiences and highlighted what works. Among them are: Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Mexico, Qatar, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, and the United States.

In the early years of the agenda, leadership will be of great importance. ‘Pathfinders’ from all parts of the world and from all sectors have an opportunity to step forward to demonstrate the strategies, tools, resources, and partnerships that can accelerate progress in building peaceful, just and inclusive societies.

Urgent work is needed to build consensus on strategic priorities for implementation of the SDG targets, bringing together partners around a roadmap that will strengthen delivery and guide more effective partnerships and collaboration.

The challenge is to demonstrate measurable progress ahead of the High-level Political Forum in 2019, providing a platform for scaling up delivery in the 2020s.

From SDG16 to SDG16+

SDG16 is the main goal for “fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence,” but it has strong links with other goals, in line with the indivisible nature of Agenda 2030.

In all, 36 targets from seven other SDGs *directly* measure an aspect of peace, inclusion or access to justice, with only a third of these found in SDG16. These targets are illustrated on page 3.

The SDG16+ targets are supported by other targets in areas such as employment and growth, inequality, and resilience in the face of economic, social, and environmental shocks. These are all areas which contribute to the achievement of peace, or to a broader conception of a just and inclusive society.

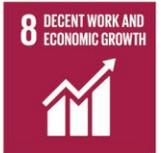
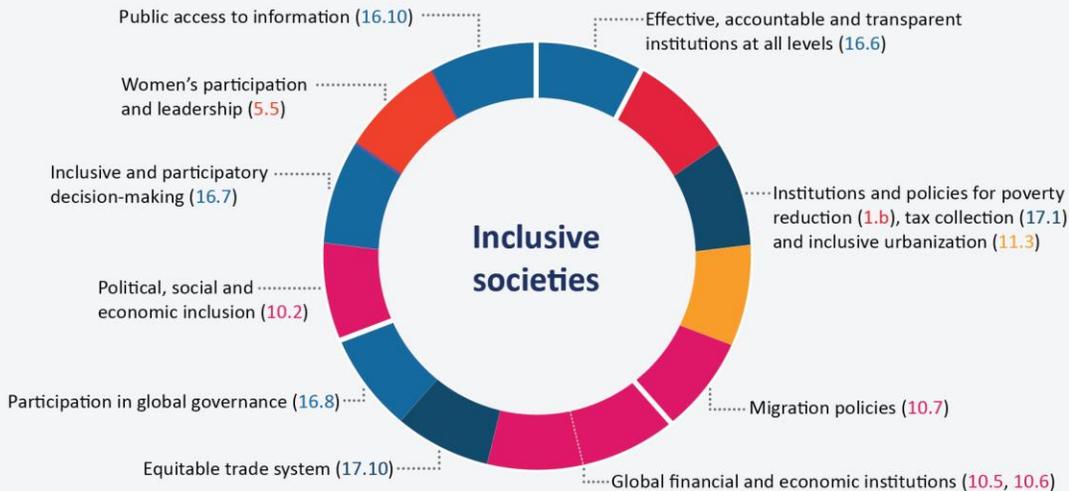
The SDG16+ targets, in turn, provide the foundations for ensuring that “all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality.” They provide the institutions and enabling environment for sustained and inclusive growth, and they underpin the collective action that is urgently needed to reverse environmental degradation and protect the planet.

Why we need an integrated approach to peaceful, just and inclusive societies:

- 1** An integrated perspective **strengthens the case for universality**, encouraging all countries to take full account of the complex interactions between peace and sustainable development.
- 2** Integration emphasizes factors that **entrench inequality in all societies**, with those most likely to be left behind experiencing the highest levels of violence and injustice, and being least likely to benefit from good governance and effective institutions.
- 3** A **gender and human rights perspective** is placed at the heart of efforts to achieve peace, justice and inclusion, in line with Agenda 2030’s commitment to ensuring “all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality.”
- 4** The **regional and global dimensions** of building peaceful, just and inclusive societies are emphasized, with more than 40% of the SDG16+ targets partly or wholly international in their formulation.
- 5** **Collaboration between sectors** is essential for effective implementation, given the need to bring together actors from governance, justice, human rights, public health, education, jobs, social welfare, and other sectors.



We are determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence.



In order to accelerate implementation of the SDG16+ targets, platforms and partnerships for collaboration need to be strengthened. The Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies initiative is working to build consensus around strategic priorities for SDG16+ delivery.

Our priority is to provide a platform for member states and other stakeholders to develop a roadmap for the implementation of SDG16 and related targets. We will work with partners to build political momentum for delivery, increase coherence across sectors, and deliver results at a scale that is in line with Agenda 2030's ambitions.

Build political momentum for delivery

Unite growing numbers of decision makers behind a compelling case for action

- Develop projections and scenarios that allow policymakers to understand the task ahead.
- Set out a case for investment in SDG16+ delivery priorities and explore how the most effective policies and interventions can be financed.
- Create a resonant narrative that will inspire a social movement to mobilize behind SDG16+.

Deliver results in line with Agenda 2030's ambitions

Focus on proven solutions and delivery at scale in order to demonstrate success at the HLPF in 2019

- Continue to focus on national pathfinders, bringing together countries who are leaders in SDG16+ implementation.
- Collate evidence for what works and present it in a format that is tailored to the needs of policymakers and other decision makers.
- Focus on transboundary threats and opportunities for more effective international cooperation, accelerating action on the regional and global dimensions of SDG16+.
- Develop a strategic approach to collecting and presenting the data that will underpin effective delivery and that can be used to demonstrate success.

Increase the coherence of those leading implementation

Bring key partners together behind a roadmap that will maximize opportunities for delivery

- Map existing action to deliver SDG16+, building an integrated picture of all relevant sources of data and evidence, and of national and international best practice.
- Provide a forum for partners to come together to explore delivery challenges and to identify major opportunities for transformative change.
- Increase networking between the major global partnerships that will play a strategic role in the success of SDG16+.
- Build consensus around strategic priorities for data, evidence generation, delivery and movement building, and use as a basis for a roadmap that will strengthen coalitions and support delivery.