



TAP Network Response to Second Meeting of IAEG-SDGs

While there is still much work to be done, the [Transparency, Accountability and Participation \(TAP\) Network](#) and its over 160 associated civil society organizations are encouraged that discussions at the Second Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs represent progress towards refining global indicators to measure the Sustainable Development Goals.

However, we have several concerns. First, we are concerned at the lack of depth in the discussions around Goal 16, in particular, during the meeting in Bangkok from October 26-28. There were insufficient opportunities for experts to contribute to the discussions and address the questions raised by IAEG Members on the metadata and methodologies for many Goal 16 indicators. Going forward, the TAP Network stands ready to continue its work and contribute our expertise, methodologies and metadata on these Goal 16 indicators to help the IAEG-SDGs and international community ensure meaningful measures of progress and accountability. You can find our comprehensive [recommendations for Goal 16 Indicators and Metadata](#), and all other related resources [here](#).

We are further concerned by the lack of discussion around survey-based indicators and data during the Bangkok meeting, particularly for Goal 16. We call on NSOs and the UN Statistics Division to find concrete and practical ways for people's experiences and perceptions and third party or 'non official' data to contribute to assessments of progress. Surveys are often the best methodological approach to measuring issues of peace, justice and governance – and across Goal 16 themes, a large number of countries and organizations already use surveys to understand progress. Such approaches also further Goal 16's ambitions by enhancing people's voices, providing a more accurate, timely snapshot of progress, and promoting accountability. Such tools can help to ensure all voices, including those from marginalized groups are heard.

Additionally, given the nature of the issues being discussed in Goal 16, there is a strong case for independent and impartial data producers outside of official statistical systems to play a role, including from civil society. We look forward to partnering with NSOs, governments and UN agencies to drive a data revolution that truly leaves no one behind.

We appreciate the efforts of the co-chairs and IAEG-SDGs Members to open up an additional online platform for stakeholders to engage in the discussions around the "green" indicators going forward. The TAP Network stands ready to help coordinate inputs to contribute to this work, around Goal 16 in particular. Similarly, we ask that this transparent and participatory approach is carried over and

expanded into the ongoing discussions around the “grey” indicators and for the High-Level Group. Inputs and metadata from civil society stakeholders can help ensure a robust and comprehensive final set of indicators, particularly for Goal 16. This will also help ensure ownership by all stakeholders, who will play a critical role in the measurement, implementation and accountability for the 2030 Agenda.

In alignment with the co-chairs of the IAEG-SDGs, the TAP Network is united in the belief that this global indicators list should be a living, breathing document that will require frequent refinement over these next 15 years. As such, we look forward to working with NSOs, governments and all other stakeholders in ensuring that these indicators – particularly for Goal 16 – are truly transformative and are reflective of the ambition set out by the 2030 Agenda.

Endorsed by: AfroLeadership, Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research, Development & Integrity Intervention Goal Foundation, ENDA Tiers Monde, Global Financial Integrity, Human Rights First Rwanda Association, Indonesian Legal Resource Center (ILRC), Initiative for Equality (IfE), International Budget Partnership, International ATD Fourth World, Migration and Development Civil Society Network, Namati, Nonviolence International, Open Society Justice Initiative, Plan International, Restless Development, Saferworld, Save the Children, Sightsavers, Somos el Presente, Stakeholder Forum, The Nubian Rights Forum, World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)