



2020-2022

TAP Network Strategic Plan

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Executive Summary

The Transparency, Accountability & Participation (TAP) Network is a diverse membership-driven network, representing a diverse range of civil society experts and practitioners on issues of peace, justice, inclusion and sustainable development at all levels. The TAP Network's ultimate ambition is to help transform people, institutions and societies to support lasting change for a more peaceful, just, inclusive, accountable and sustainable world at all levels. To achieve these goals, the TAP Network works on advancing implementation and monitoring for SDG16+ – aimed at Fostering Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies – and around ensuring accountability for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 2030 Agenda more broadly. The intrinsic link between SDG16+ and SDG accountability underpins all of TAP's core work, with the strength and unique added-value of TAP lying in its global leadership to mobilize, coordinate and empower civil society stakeholders around the convergence of these issues at all levels.

TAP's core objectives center around advancing collaboration and work towards three primary strategic goals: 1) Fostering a diverse, vibrant community of practice around TAP issues, 2) Improving SDGs/SDG16+ Localization and Capacity Building, and 3) Strengthening monitoring, data and accountability for SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda. Serving as a platform to bring together a wide range of civil society experts and activists around the SDGs, TAP works to help empower these partners by providing groundbreaking and innovative capacity building tools and programmes, and also learns from and benefits from the invaluable expertise, experiences and unique perspectives of its members.



Message from the TAP Steering Committee

The year 2015 was a momentous occasion – governments came together to commit to a shared ambition and framework for a vision towards 2030 with the adoption of 2030 Agenda and accompanying SDGs, including the groundbreaking commitments to SDG16 to Foster Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies.

Much has changed since the adoption of the SDGs, with the world facing a convergence of slow-burning crises, with civil society facing existential challenges in many contexts. As we enter this new phase of SDGs implementation, the work of the TAP Network and civil society more broadly becomes more important than ever, to pushing back on these disturbing trends and helping ensure accountability for the SDGs at all levels.

The launch of this Strategic Plan for the TAP Network effectively builds upon the extensive momentum the network has built over the years to advance SDG16+ and SDG accountability, and represents a year-long consultation process with TAP Network Members and Partners throughout 2019. As a platform that brings together a diverse array of civil society actors from around the world, the TAP Network can play a critical role in empowering local actors to advance this important work, and we call on all actors – including governments, donors and other institutions – to support these efforts going forward.

TAP's strength lies in its extensive and diverse membership, representing organizations in all regions of the world with expertise on a wide array of issues. In taking this Strategic Plan forward, TAP will work to empower civil society at the local level to advance SD16+ and hold their governments accountable to the SDGs, and will look to harness the collective voice of its members to drive change at the global level.



About the TAP Network

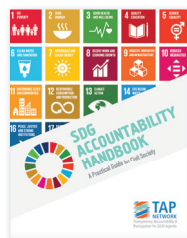
The Transparency, Accountability, and Participation (TAP) Network is a broad international coalition of civil society organizations (CSOs) working together to advance SDG16+ to promote peace, justice, and inclusive societies, and to help enhance accountability for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The TAP Network includes hundreds of civil society organizations operating in every region of the world, with TAP's work evolving to not only coordinate collective global advocacy on behalf of its members, but to also provide indirect or direct support to its members to advance SDG16+ and SDG accountability in their own contexts.

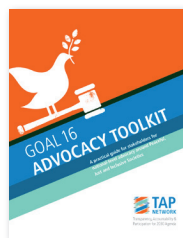
TAP's work also reinforces the assertion that SDG16+ and accountability for the 2030 are inextricably linked, and that efforts to deliver on the SDGs require participatory and inclusive institutions that are accountable to the very people that the 2030 Agenda pledges to "leave no one behind."

Learn more about the TAP Network's Engagement Structures on our website at www.tapnetwork2030.org/join

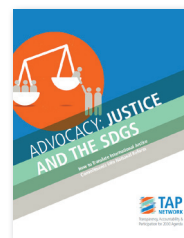
Check out other TAP resources



SDG Accountability Handbook
www.sdgaccountability.com



Goal 16 Advocacy Toolkit
www.tapnetwork2030.org/goal16



Advocacy: Justice and the SDGs
www.tapnetwork2030.org/accesstojustice



SDG16 Data Initiative
www.sdgaccountability.org/decade



Campaign for a Decade of Accountability for the SDGs
www.sdgaccountability.org/decade



Guidelines for SDG16 Spotlight Reporting
www.tapnetwork2030.org/sdg16reporting



"Voices of SDG16+: Stories for Global Action" Campaign
www.voicesofsdg16plus.org



Empowering Civil Society for Reporting and Action on SDG16
www.tapnetwork2030.org/empowermentreport



Rome Declaration on SDG16+
www.tapnetwork2030.org/romedeclarationdecade



TAP Network Partners Commitments
www.tapnetwork2030.org/partners



Global Alliance for Reporting on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies
www.un-globalalliance.org

Defining The Challenge

The year 2015 was a momentous occasion – governments came together to commit to a shared ambition and framework for a vision towards 2030 with the adoption of 2030 Agenda and accompanying SDGs, including the ground-breaking SDG16 on peace, justice and inclusion.

Since the adoption of the SDGs, the world is markedly different, as global trends around the protection of civic freedoms and increased frequency and impunity of human rights abuses and other atrocities against civil society have been less than encouraging. These disturbing trends continue to develop alongside the growing threat of the climate emergency and rising inequalities, and in a world that has seen a proliferation of conflicts that threaten and undermine global peace and stability.

Without concerted and ambitious action to implement the SDGs at all levels, these megatrends we are seeing today are likely to persist, and worsen over time.

Responding to these challenges with the SDGs and SDG16+

The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs must be seen as one of many opportunities to help fight back against today's disturbing trends. More specifically, action towards SDG16+ – an expanded definition of SDG16 that recognizes the integrated and interlinked nature of SDG16 issues with a wide range of other SDGs – has the potential to catalyze transformative shifts to institutions and societies that are critical to achieving the 2030 Agenda overall, as recognized by the Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+. TAP's work seeks to advance and address the recommendations and action plan outlined in the Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+.

Still, significant challenges related to the implementation of the SDGs, and accountability for these commitments, remain. In order to effectively implement SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda, Civil Society must be empowered to mobilize and engage with the SDGs at all levels, and to demand accountability from their governments to deliver results that are people-driven, and leave no one behind.

Defining SDG16+

From the beginning of negotiations on the 2030 Agenda, the TAP Network and the international community have recognized that SDG16 – with its 12 wide-ranging targets on issues around peaceful, just and inclusive societies – was linked with all other SDGs, and serves as a key enabler for the achievement of the entire 2030 agenda. The concept of "SDG16+" recognizes these intrinsic interlinkages that SDG16 has with other SDGs, and expands the scope of the issues that the TAP Network and the broader SDG16+ community look to advance around a wide range of issues.

You can find more information about SDG16+ at www.sdg16.plus

Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+

"Amplified Commitments and Partnerships for Accelerated Action: Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+" (Rome Declaration) outlines key messages, recommendations, and a broad call-to-action from civil society collectively around SDG16+. The Rome Declaration also features ambitious commitments put forward by civil society, and a bold call for all stakeholders to accelerate action towards SDG16+. The Rome Declaration was an important input into the 2019 Rome SDG16 Conference, and the subsequent High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), where SDG16 was reviewed for the first time in 2019.

Find out more about the Rome Declaration at www.tapntetwork2030.org/romedeclaration

Vision, Mission and Objectives

VISION

Transform people, institutions, and societies to support lasting change for a more peaceful, just, inclusive, accountable and sustainable world at all levels.

MISSION

Building and fostering a community of empowered civil society actors working to advance SDG16+ at all levels, and to hold governments accountable to the SDGs more broadly.

STRATEGIC GOALS

To achieve its mission and overall vision, the TAP Network works to support, contribute to and strengthen capacity of civil society stakeholders to localize and report on the SDGs and SDG16+ in their own contexts, and to provide a platform for collaboration, collective advocacy and peer-learning around SDG16+ issues and accountability for the 2030 Agenda more broadly.

Through this work, the TAP Network aims to concretely:

1. Empower national and local civil society to foster an active, vibrant and engaged global network to advance SDG16+ and SDG Accountability
2. Improve SDGs/SDG16+ Localization and Capacity Building
3. Strengthen Monitoring, Data and Accountability for SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda

How We Make An Impact



Theory of Change



How We Work

Membership Engagement

As a diverse civil society network, engagement with our members and partners remain at the core of the TAP Network's work.

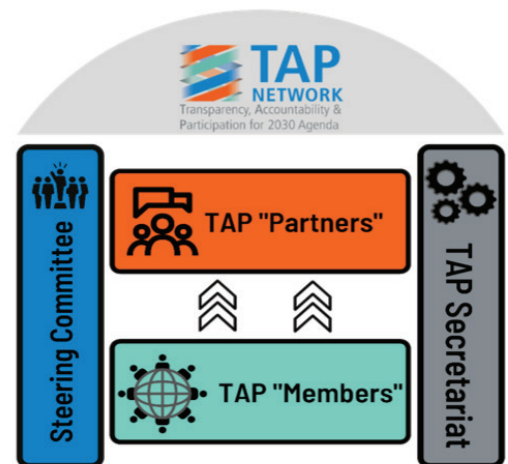
The TAP Network is a broad voluntary membership network of civil society organizations, all united by the common goals and objectives of advancing SDG16+ and SDG accountability. The TAP Network includes and engages some of the foremost expert organizations working to advance SDG16+ and social accountability at all levels. TAP's membership includes a diverse range of organizations, including local and grassroots groups, national, regional and thematic CSO networks, and international NGOs and independent think tanks. TAP benefits from the invaluable expertise, experiences and unique perspectives of its members, all of whom come together to collaborate on joint work and common positions under the TAP Network umbrella. This work is underpinned by recognition that we maximize reach and influence when many stakeholders speak with a unified voice.

TAP's strength lies in its extensive and diverse membership, representing organizations in all regions of the world with expertise on a wide array of issues. In addition to providing an important platform for sharing, peer-learning and joint advocacy coordination, the TAP Network helps to empower civil society partners to advance TAP's work at the national and local levels, including through its broad suite of capacity building tools and resources.

Leadership and Support

The TAP Network is led by a member-elected five-person Steering Committee, who serve two-year terms and represent the leadership of the TAP Network overall. The TAP Network is also supported by a dedicated Secretariat who are responsible for taking forward the day-to-day work and management of the Network overall. The TAP Network's engagement structures are broken down into two main categories: "Members" and "Partners," with each enjoying very different sets of privileges and benefits.

Find out more about the TAP Network's Engagement Structures at www.tapnetwork2030.org/join



TAP's Strategic Goals

TAP's ultimate ambition is to help transform people, institutions and societies to support lasting change for a more peaceful, just, inclusive, accountable and sustainable world at all levels. To do this, the TAP Network works to support, contribute to and strengthen capacity of civil society stakeholders to localize and report on the SDGs and SDG16+ in their own contexts, and to provide a platform for collaboration, collective advocacy and peer-learning around SDG16+ issues and accountability for the 2030 Agenda more broadly.

To this end, the TAP Network aims to achieve the following three goals:

- 1. Empower national and local civil society to foster an active, vibrant and engaged global network to advance SDG16+ and SDG Accountability**
- 2. Improve SDGs/SDG16+ Localization and Capacity Building**
- 3. Strengthen Monitoring, Data and Accountability for SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda**

This Strategic Plan will also be accompanied and supported by annual Work Plans. For elaborate details on the TAP Network's projects and programmes, visit our website at www.tapnetwork2030.org



GOAL I:

Empower national and local civil society to foster an active, vibrant and engaged global network to advance SDG16+ and SDG Accountability



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Empower national and local civil society to foster an active, vibrant and engaged global network to advance SDG16+ and SDG Accountability

Maintaining and improving the engagement of the TAP Network's Partners and Members remains at the core of the TAP Network's work. It does this by:

Coordination: Fostering an empowered community of civil society practitioners around SDG16+ and Accountability for the SDGs

- Maintaining pro-active engagement with TAP Partners and Members, including through innovating and improving TAP's online and in-person engagement opportunities
- Expanding TAP's presence and membership around the world, and improving ownership of TAP's work by its Partners and Members in all aspects of TAP's work
- Improving TAP's means of consultation and learning from TAP's Partners and Members, in an effort to ensure responsiveness to needs and priorities of the Network
- Strengthening linkages and follow-up with Partners and Members at the national and local levels, including working with partners directly on in-country activities
- Further development of online and digital platforms for TAP's Partners and Members to engage, including webinars, calls, listservs, forums and other innovative media

Advocacy: Increased recognition of the importance of civil society for SDG16+ and accountability for the 2030 Agenda

- Continue ongoing support around the "Decade of Action for SDG16+", including through advocacy for ambitious Commitments and "Accelerator Actions" by all actors towards SDG16+
- Further strengthening of the TAP's Network's advocacy around SDG16+ and Accountability for the SDGs, at all levels

Enhancing peer-learning and knowledge sharing platforms for TAP's Partners and Members

- Further development of the TAP's Network's online and digital peer-learning platforms to collect and showcase case studies, best practices, reports and other resources from TAP Partners and Members
- Developing innovative tools and platforms for ongoing and pro-active engagement from TAP Partners and Members with one another
- Improving the TAP Network's analytical and knowledge-sharing resources on various TAP Network priorities and showcasing the work of TAP Partners and Members
- Expanding the TAP Network's opportunities for connecting TAP's Network Partners and Members, including through digital and in-person convenings

Leadership: Expanding the role for civil society in working to advance SDG16+ and SDG Accountability through leadership in key spaces at all levels

- Continue TAP's ongoing leadership role in key global spaces around SDG16+ and accountability for the SDGs, and improve the presence and engagement of civil society in these processes
- Ongoing engagement within leadership structures of various multi-stakeholder initiatives on SDG16+ and SDG accountability

GOAL 2: Improve SDGs/SDG16+ Localization and Capacity Building



Photo Credit: Partners for Review

GOAL 2:
Improve SDGs/SDG16+ Localization and Capacity Building

The TAP Network looks to support capacity building of local and national civil society to engage with SDG16 and SDG accountability and action. It does this by:

Developing tools and resources to help empower and strengthen civil society capacities.

- Further development and expansion of the TAP Network's suite of capacity building tools and resources for civil society, particularly at the national and local levels
- Expand the TAP Network's online and digital media resources, to further strengthen engagement with these resources by its members
- Explore additional issue-specific resources with TAP Network Partners, and improve the accessibility of new and existing resources

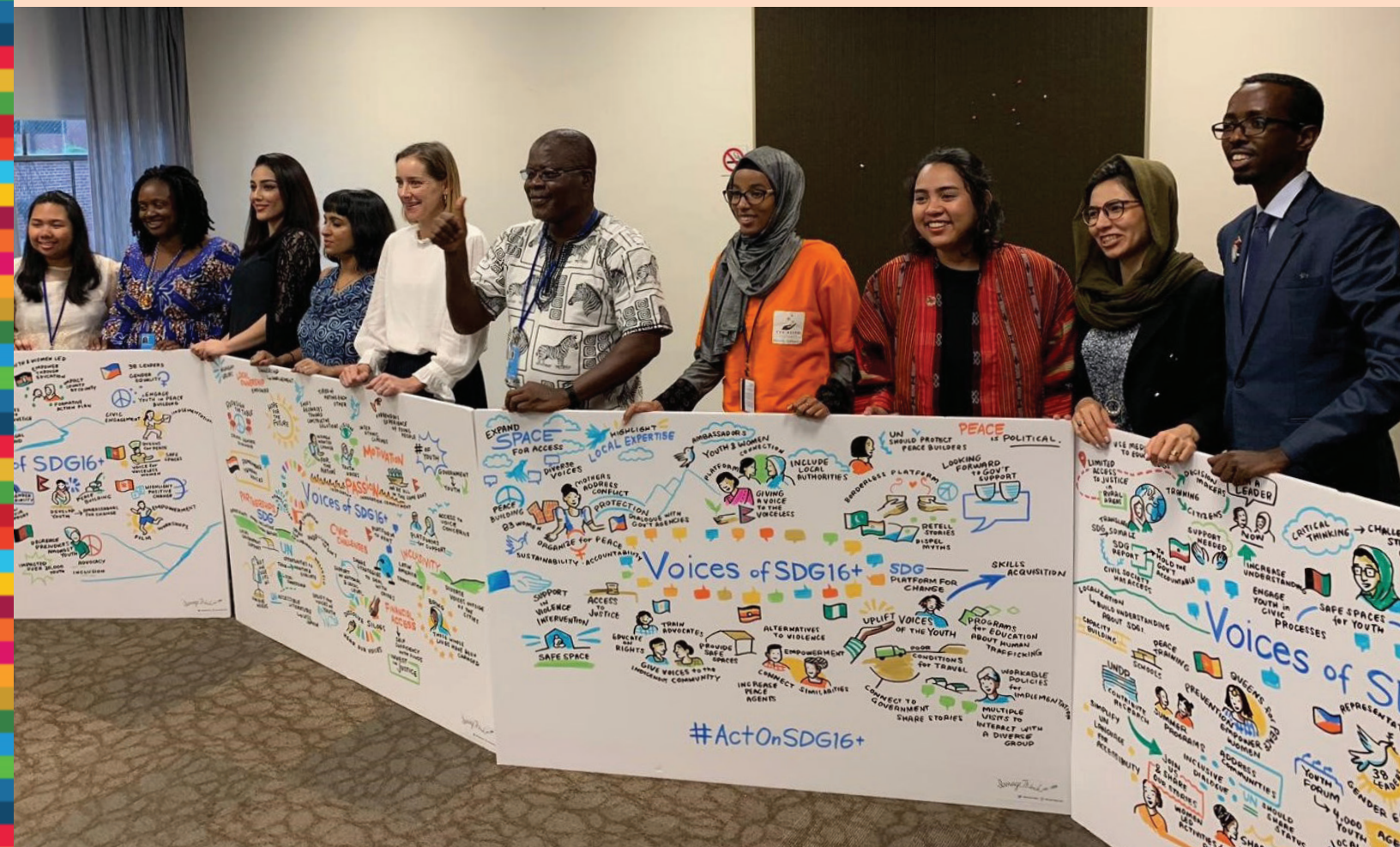
Supporting in-country capacity building initiatives to empower civil society.

- Ongoing work with its in-country partners and other global civil society networks to host national workshops and other activities in key countries
- Ensure adequate follow-up from capacity-building activities, and work with in-country partners to provide direct support, as necessary

Strengthening localization and mainstreaming to foster national action.

- Work with the SDG16+ Localization Consortium and other key partners to improve localization of SDG16+ into national programmes in key countries
- Strengthening work to enhance "Post-VNR" follow-up work in countries, including through the development of capacity building resources and platforms for sharing of best practices

GOAL 3: Strengthen Monitoring, Data and Accountability for SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda



GOAL 3:

Strengthen Monitoring, Data and Accountability for SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda

The TAP Network looks to enhance monitoring and accountability for SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda. It does this by:

Coordinating a Campaign for a “Decade of Accountability for the SDGs”

- Spearheading efforts to mobilize around a multi-stakeholder Campaign for a “Decade of Accountability for the SDGs”
- Fostering broad multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance key priority areas that underpin SDG Accountability at all levels

Strengthening Civil Society Spotlight Reporting on the SDGs and SDG16+.

- Provide tools and resources to improve the frequency, effectiveness and impact of Civil Society Spotlight Reporting on the SDGs, and on SDG16+ specifically
- Providing platforms for showcasing Spotlight Reports on SDG16+, with an aim to share experiences and to analyze approaches and trends around Spotlight Reporting overall.

Improving the recognition and use of non-official data to measure progress on SDG16.


- Ongoing work with the SDG16 Data Initiative to showcase non-official data sources and indicators
- Continued development of a yearly SDG16 data progress report with the SDG16 Data Initiative, to examine progress on SDG16 utilizing non-official data sources



TAP
NETWORK

Transparency,
Accountability &
Participation for
2030 Agenda

www.tapnetwork2030.org

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