

Network Membership Coordination Call June 1, 2022 8:30 ET / 12:30 GMT

Executive Summary

TAP Secretariat

John Romano, TAP Coordinator - <u>romano@tapnetwork2030.org</u> Ellery Wong, TAP Communications & Outreach Officer - <u>wong@tapnetwork2030.org</u> Alonna Despain, TAP Advocacy Fellow- <u>despain@tapnetwork2030.org</u>

Chairing Meeting: John Romano, TAP Coordinator Meeting Agenda:

- 1. Updates from the TAP Secretariat
- 2. Membership Consultation

***If you need a translation of these minutes, please do not hesitate to contact TAP Advocacy Fellow, Alonna Despain, at <u>despain@tapnetwork2030.org</u>

This monthly coordination call was hosted by the TAP Secretariat and chaired by TAP Coordinator, John Romano, to discuss TAP's priorities, opportunities and planning priorities for this year and beyond.

This call aimed to provide updates and more information on a number of current and upcoming opportunities for TAP Membership engagement, and seek your feedback and priorities for 2022 as the TAP Network moves towards our upcoming independent consultation and membership survey.

AGENDA ITEM #1 Updates from the TAP Secretariat

1. Staffing

Claudia Villalona, the TAP Network Program Coordinator, transitioned out of the office. She has been replaced by the incoming Advocacy Fellow, Alonna Despain.

2. Office

TAP is transitioning back to an office space at the UN Church Center hosted by World Vision. TAP will share this information with members as it gets settled in the new office space.

3. **Opportunities**

<u>Voices of SDG16+ Campaign</u>: This is a video campaign where the TAP Network is accepting videos that tell your organization's story around SDG16+, showcasing your work and your role as a champion of

SDG16+. The application is open for the next couple weeks. A link to the opportunity can be found here: <u>https://voicesofsdg16plus.org/2022voices/</u>

<u>Membership Engagement Consultation</u>: TAP wanted to consult with its membership on how they are experiencing work within the network, what areas can be improved, what challenges are, etc. We are looking for as many detailed inputs as possible, as feedback back is critically important for us going forward with planning processes. The second half of this year will be a strategic planning process for 2023 and beyond. Links to the survey in four languages can be found below: English: <u>https://bit.ly/2022TAPsurvey</u> French: <u>https://bit.ly/2022TAPsurveyFR</u> Spanish: <u>https://bit.ly/2022TAPsurveyES</u> Arabic: <u>https://bit.ly/2022TAPsurveyAR</u>

<u>Independent Evaluation</u>: TAP is hiring an independent consulting firm to do a review of TAPs impact and how we work. It is an opportunity to take a look at where we are doing things right, but also what we need to improve upon. This will largely inform next steps around improving membership engagement (high priority for this steering committee) as well as inform the strategic planning process.

<u>Preparing for HLFP</u>: HLPF is a little over a month away. TAP will have more info to share on opportunities around HLPF in the upcoming weeks. This year there is a little less engagement as SDG16 is not under review this year. However, HLPF is still relevant and a great opportunity for us to explore interlinkages with the SDGs that are under review. We will host a few events and workshops (more info on these workshops and events is forthcoming). HLPF will be in a hybrid format this year. In person participation will be very limited. Majority of engagements will be virtual.

AGENDA ITEM #2 Consultation Discussion

TAP encouraged all members to utilize the survey as its the best way to provide input. This will inform strategic planning and membership engagement planning.

The membership on the call then took part in a live Mentimeter Survey. The results of the survey are found below:

Share up to 3 words that best describe the TAP Network in your view



TAP



Your Engagement with the TAP Network



Focus and Priorities for TAP's work



The TAP Network should improve its coordination and opportunities for engagement at the GLOBAL level 4.5

The TAP Network should improve its coordination and opportunities for engagement at the REGIONAL level

The TAP Network should improve its coordination and opportunities for engagement at the NATIONAL 4.3 yel

The TAP Network should improve its coordination and opportunities around various THEMATIC issues and topics, or around specific processes

Suggestions for geographic or thematic coordination and engagement?



TAP should encourage its members through information, materials and resource sharing on thematic areas so more people at community level understand TAPs work

Low Priority

Coming up with frequent forums, and engaging members in sharing updates on their activities on a regular basis in line to the SDG16+, and other members can help them in contributing ideas on how to improve the projects. Working group on advocacy and capacity building

How to get donors supporting SDG16 more?

Beyond advocacy, concrete programmatic areas will be nore impactful	

High Priority

4.8

TAP should be intentional in reaching young persons across the globe

Reflections on Priorities for 2023 Strategic Plan: Rate how important specific work streams are for you in TAP's work





A few attendees reflected on some items that are missing from the list of 2023 priorities. One individual shared that fundraising should be a priority in the 2023 strategic plan. Another emphasized participation and civic space issues. Finally, another individual spoke on the importance of solidarity and support (for example: if my country is in conflict, if I'm passing through a conflict- opportunities to reach out for Visa procedures simplified, access to reach out to donors, etc).

There were several questions and discussion points on the call following the survey. These included:

- Increased collaboration on a regional and national level
- Increased engagement and mobilization on an individual level (moving beyond solely working with organizations)
- Questions were asked about the current activity, if any, of working groups
- TAP should have more informational materials and resource sharing, including a brochure for current members on how to better engage with the network/available opportunities
- Being more intentional in reaching young people/youth
- Coming up with more frequent/regularly occurring forums on SDG16+, where members of the network can share ideas and activities with each other

In the discussion, the TAP Secretariat shared that we don't want to duplicate the work taking place on a regional level. Instead, the Network should consider how we work better with those platforms and networks instead of creating new things that are just more work for everyone and duplicate the work of other existing networks. Responding to points on individual engagement- our membership is on an organization basis, so mobilizing individuals does represent a current gap.

On the issue of working groups, the groups the TAP Network had previously are dormant at the moment. We've had them before in advocacy (the most active group), data and spotlight reporting, and groups on the regional level (one in Africa, Asia, Latin America). Part of the challenge is that working groups require a bit of a leadership role from the members as the secretariat has very limited staff. Also, working groups are something that should be owned by the membership. Keeping these groups operational takes time and all civil society organizations working here with TAP do so voluntarily. Essentially, keeping these groups active has been a capacity issue, but that's why the Secretariat is asking in the survey and consultations if you are interested in leading some of this work.

Coordination and a lack of idea sharing came up in the discussion as something to be improved. One idea shared on this point was adding a platform that allows groups to track their own, and each other's, successes. It was also suggested to start trying to work more on a regional level in terms of connecting each other. Furthermore, the TAP Coordinator recalled that in 2019 TAPhad regional focal points where we identified organizations leading regional working groups that then reported back to the TAP Secretariat. It provided a good bridge between the work at the global level and your work at the national level.

Another attendee brought up the importance of interpreting these kinds of coordination calls in French also as a way to improve activity for organizations who don't operate in English. The TAP Coordinator noted that translation is a big challenge due to the expense. For smaller meetings we might not be able to get simultaneous translation because of the cost, but for bigger meetings we try to ensure translation is available. Similarly, another member asked how TAP can better mobilize French countries in West Africa on particular experiences and lessons learned on democracy and social justice.

Finally, one member shared that COVID-19 posed a lot of challenges. Nigeria has a lot of cynicism about the SDGs and the country's capacity to meet the goals by 2030, and then COVID added a lot of challenges and more cynicism. The member emphasized that we need some reigniting of energy and passion, and asked if there is a way TAP can help with that. The TAP Coordinator linked this point back to discussions on the TAP Network moving beyond just the policy space, and noted that the Network will be considering how to increase grassroots mobilization and individual mobilization.

To close the meeting, the TAP Coordinator reiterated that if members had any more concrete ideas on these points or on anything else moving forward, to please fill out the survey.