

TAP Network 2023- 2025 Strategic Plan



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SDG 16



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Executive Summary



This 2023-2025 Strategic Plan from the Transparency, Accountability & Participation (TAP) Network outlines the core foundation of our collective work together, and unpacks the unique added-value of the network overall. With the TAP Network representing a diverse range of civil society experts and practitioners on issues of peace, justice, inclusion and sustainable development, our value proposition lies in the strength of our collective advocacy and work together, underpinned by our belief that civil society can make a larger impact when coming together around common objectives.

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 addedvalue 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) Mobilizing civil society to



advance SDG16+; 2) Advocating for the role of CSOs in advancing SDG16+; and 3) Strengthening Sharing and Learning Amongst Civil Society around SDG16+.



Message from the TAP Steering Committee

The past several years have not been easv for the global community; amidst global а pandemic, increasing war and violence worldwide and a myriad of other crises, we have been backsliding on our mutual goals of international peace and justice. Since their inception in 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals, and SDG16+ in particular, have



been a roadmap towards a better future. Yet, as we near the halfway point to 2030, we are nowhere near its achievement. We believe that 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.

We are proud to put forward this 2023-2025 Strategic Plan for the TAP Network, which outlines the key objectives and theory of change for our collective work together. This plan will look to strengthen TAP's added-value as a convener, mobilizer and advocate, as well as the network's role in providing a platform for sharing and learning amongst civil society around SDG16+, and the 2030 Agenda overall.



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Foundation of Our Work (2023-2025)

Mission:

We connect and convene a vibrant, dynamic, diverse and inclusive community of civil society actors working to advance SDG16+ at all levels, and to hold governments accountable to the SDGs more broadly.

Vision:

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

Strategic Goals:

To achieve its mission and overall vision, the TAP works around:

- 1. Mobilizing civil society to advance SDG16+
- 2. Advocating for the role of CSOs in advancing SDG16+
- 3. Strengthening sharing and learning amongst civil society around SDG16+



About the TAP Network



The Transparency, Accountability and Participation (TAP) Network is a global civil society coalition working to advance and catalyze ambitious action to achieve SDG16+ to promote peaceful, just and inclusive societies. The TAP Network's members represent hundreds of civil society organizations (CSOs) around the world, and includes a diverse set of experts, activists and practitioners working on a wide range of issues related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Our Core Initiatives





SDG16 Data Initiative

Stories for Global Action Voices of SDG16+ Video Campaign

More information at https://tapnetwork2030.org/tools-resources

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Voices of SDG16+

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Browse and connect with TAP Partners using the TAP Partner Action Platform, an interactive database showcasing each organization's commitment and accomplishments for SDG16+. —

TAP Network

At its core, the TAP Network provides a platform for joint advocacy and mobilization at the global level, which is supported by innovative and dynamic storytelling to showcase the leadership role of civil society in advancing SDG16+ at all levels. As a membership-based network, TAP also provides opportunities, tools and resources for sharing and peerlearning amongst its membership.



<u>WATCH to learn more about TAP</u> <u>in our new introduction video</u>!



Defining the Challenge

It was a monumental occasion for the international community when governments came together to commit to a shared ambition and framework for a vision towards 2030 with the adoption of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda, including the ground-breaking SDG16 on peace, justice and inclusion. However, in the 7 years since the adoption of the SDGs in 2015, the international community has only seen marginal progress on achieving the SDGs, and progress towards SDG16 has been backsliding. The world today is defined by disturbing mega-trends, including increasing the rising tide of conflicts and war, increasing restrictions on civic freedoms, weakening institutions and increasing frequency and impunity of human rights abuses - all of which has been exacerbated by the global



COVID-19 pandemic. These negative trends continue to develop alongside the growing threat of the climate emergency and rising inequalities. Without concerted and ambitious action to implement the SDGs at all levels, these mega-trends we are seeing today are likely to persist, and worsen over time. Action towards SDG16+ – an expanded definition of SDG16 that recognizes the integrated and interlinked nature of SDG16 issues with a wide range

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+.



These upcoming three years, from 2023 to 2025, present critical opportunities ahead for the international community. With 2023 representing the "Halfway to 2030" point for the SDGs, the TAP Network will look to strengthen its work and membership to galvanize support for SDG16+, including at the 2023 SDGs Summit. TAP will mobilize its diverse membership through global campaigns around the 2023 SDGs Summit and 2024 "Summit of the Future", and will provide platforms for sharing, learning, cross-fertilization and action amongst civil society. Additionally, TAP's work in this important period will seek to advance and address the recommendations and action plan outlined in the Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+ and catalyze greater action on implementation of SDG16+. In order to effectively implement SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda, Civil Society must 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.

Learn more at: http://bit.ly/3YFFJSG



Our Approach: How We Make An Impact



The TAP Network's Theory of Change is underpinned by its three interconnected strategic objectives that represent our core added-value as a network. Through our work in these areas, we strive to strengthen and amplify civil society's work, engagement, reach and collective voice around SDG16+ issues at all levels. These intended outcomes are critical to achieving TAP's Mission of fostering an active cohort of civil society actors working to advance SDG16+, in an effort to achieve TAP's ultimate Vision of transforming people, institutions and societies to make positive and impactful change around SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda overall.



2023-2025 Strategic Goals

The TAP Network 2023-2025 Strategic Goals are interconnected and interdependent by nature - one cannot be executed to the fullest extent of achieving our vision without addressing the work of the other two. They represent three cross-cutting pillars of work that together address the core of TAP's purpose and mission. In designing and outlining TAP's work for the next couple years, it was clear that in every activity proposed, these goals were sewn into the fabric of how and why we would execute them. The "circle" of work and impact will guide TAP Network over the next three years to understand holistically, yet specifically, how we can work towards our role and mandate in the SDG16+ space.

Mobilizing civil society to advance SDG16+

- Connecting local to global
 - Providing platforms to ensure that the voice of local civil society and grassroots communities are reflected in global efforts to advance SDG16+.
- Partnerships
 - Expanding collaboration with key initiatives and partners around various SDG16+ issues to enhance SDG16+ implementation and accountability.



- Membership engagement
 - Strengthening work within TAP's membership to foster greater ownership and engagement with TAP's collective work.
- National/regional work
 - Utilizing TAP's diverse membership to ensure effective collaboration from the national level, to the regional level and to the global level.

2. Advocating for the role of CSOs in advancing SDG16+

- Storytelling
 - Showcasing inspiring stories from civil society change-makers around SDG16+ through dynamic and innovative storytelling mediums.
- Accountability
 - Fostering greater accountability for SDG16+ and the 2030 Agenda overall by providing tools and resources for national-level efforts from civil society to hold governments accountable.
- Data/reporting
 - Working to support greater transparency in data for SDG16+, and ensure that civil society is equipped to monitor and report on the 2030 Agenda.







3. Strengthening sharing and learning amongst civil society around SDG16+

• Capacity Strengthening through Peer-Learning

- Enhancing peer-learning amongst TAP's membership by providing opportunities for sharing of knowledge, experience and expertise
- Platforms for sharing
 - Building inclusive online platforms for civil society to share key resources, tools and reports, both within TAP's membership and to a broader audience



Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

While the TAP Network's overall work during this period will be guided by its strategic goals outlined above, the network places a high priority on ensuring that our work is responsive to the needs and priorities of our diverse membership. For this reason, the TAP Network will regularly review and evaluate its work over time, to maximize the impact and added-value that it provides to its Members and Partners. We do this by providing a myriad of opportunities for consultation and engagement with TAP's membership, and by enhancing opportunities for joint ownership of TAP's work on multiple fronts.





www.TAPNetwork2030.org