SDG16 Status and Opportunities in South and South-West Asia

SDG South and South-West Asia Subregional Forum
10-12 October 2023
SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Focus of the Presentation

• Background
• Global Picture
• Detail comparisons (Global, South, South-West Asia)
• Data Gaps
• Conclusion
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Background

• Drastically different
• Interlinked
• Dangerously off-track and worryingly slow
• Trust waning
• Stagnating or in reverse
• Lacked the data
Main Topics measured by Goal 16 indicators

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- Violence
- Trafficking in persons
- Access to justice
- Illicit financial and arms flow
- Corruption
- Effective, accountable and transparent institutions
- Responsive and inclusive decision-making
- Access to Information and fundamental freedoms
- Terrorism and crime
- Non-discrimination
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Goal 16 indicators: Main Progress and Setbacks (Global)

**Main Progresses**

- Increase in the number of countries that adopted laws to guarantee public access to information
- Some progress on the proportion of children under the age of 5 who were registered at birth
- Some progress in the number of independent national human rights institutions
- Increase in data availability for goal 16 indicators

**Main Setbacks**

- Homicide at a 20-year high in 2021
- Increase in conflict-related (civilian) deaths in 2022; the first increase since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda.
- Decrease in the number of victims of human trafficking detected due to the reduced capacity of anti-trafficking responses and the ability to identify victims
- Increase in the number of unsentenced prisoners, in particular among women
- Government budget deviations on the rise
- Increase in the number of killing of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists in 2022
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Progress Assessment of the 17 SDGs (Global)
Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of the overall prison population, 2015 and 2021

Proportion of countries where prisoners outnumber the prison capacity, 2021 or latest available year
Proportion of individuals and businesses that experienced bribery when interacting with public officials, 2021 or latest year since 2015

Ratio of young Members of Parliament aged 45 or under to the proportion of the national population (aged 45 or under)
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SDG 16 in South Asia – Where data exists, it shows major challenges remaining to achieve targets in a majority of countries (2021)
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Comparison of SDG 16 targets - Uneven progress
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SDG 16 targets – Expected achievement

**Asia and the Pacific**

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**GOAL 16**

16.1 Reduction of violence & related deaths
16.5 Corruption and bribery
16.3 Justice for all
16.7 Inclusive decision-making
16.6 Effective institutions
16.4 Illicit financial & arms flows
16.2 Human trafficking
16.10 Public access to information
16.1a Capacity to prevent violence
16.9 Legal identity
16.8 Inclusive global governance
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16.9 Legal identity
16.8 Inclusive global governance
16.7 Inclusive decision-making

**South and South-West Asia**

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**GOAL 16**

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**Legend key**

- **MAINTAIN** progress to achieve target
- **ACCELERATE** progress to achieve target
- **REVERSE** trend to achieve target
- **Cannot be measured**
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South-Southwest Expected Gap

- Unsentenced detainees
- Intentional homicides
- Government expenditure
- Conflict-related deaths
- Physical, sexual violence or robbery
- Safety feeling walking alone in neighborhood
- Children experiencing physical punishment by caregivers
- Young women/men experiencing sexual violence
- Violence reporting to authorities
- Formal or informal dispute resolution
- Illicit financial flows
- Seized small arms and light weapons recorded and traced
- Public asked for a bribe
- Bribery
- People satisfaction with public services
- Women and youth in parliament
- Population trust in decision-making
- Membership/voting rights in international organizations
- Birth registration
- Violence against journalists, trade unionists and human rights advocates
- Policies on public access to information
- National Human Rights institutions
- International human rights violation
- Internally displaced persons
South and South-West Asia data availability by countries and territories in 2022

- Pakistan
- India
- Bangladesh
- Sri Lanka
- Turkey
- Nepal
- Iran (Islamic Rep. of)
- Afghanistan
- Bhutan
- Maldives

Legend:
- Green: Sufficient (two or more data points)
- Light Green: Insufficient (one data point)
- Gray: No Data
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Targets 16.9: By 2030, provide legal identity to all, including birth registration

The birth of some 1 in 4 children under the age of 5 has never been officially recorded 2022

Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose birth has been registered

- Koshi
- Madhesh
- Bagmati
- Gandaki
- Lumbini
- Karnali
- Sudurpaschim
- National
How Setbacks in Goal 16 Indicators may Influence other Goals

- An increase in the homicide rate leads to a decrease in GDP per capita levels and growth rates.
Conclusion

- Political will with practical action needed to accelerate SDGs achievement.
- SDG 16 is an enabler for the other SDGs.
- To bridge the data gap, all countries must demonstrate their commitments to SDG monitoring, in particular Goal 5 and Goal 16.
- Where data exist, we see huge challenge remain to achieve targets.
- Integrated data collection system from local, province, national, regional to global is must.