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PILOT INITIATIVE ON NATIONAL-LEVEL MONITORING OF SDG16

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Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

This report summarizes the findings emerging from a pilot initiative led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and with financial support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), from November 2016 to July 2017, to support inclusive processes and methodologies for monitoring SDG16 in six countries: El Salvador, Georgia, Indonesia, South Africa, Tunisia and Uruguay. Additionally, this report presents information from Mexico, which was not part of the pilot initiative but simultaneously developed a similar methodology in coordination with these countries.

The report will be useful to anyone interested in knowing more about the various approaches adopted by participating governments to monitor SDG16 in collaboration with non-governmental actors, the main challenges they faced in doing so and lessons learned from their experiences.

It is hoped that the multi-stakeholder monitoring approaches adopted by the participating countries, which are reviewed in this report, will be instructive in other contexts as more countries prepare to report in the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 breaks new ground in articulating and emphasizing the purpose and outcomes of good governance in development. But governance is a fairly new domain in official statistics, with few international standards defining its measurement and few countries and statistical offices having experience in producing governance statistics.

As countries prepare to fulfil their obligation to report on SDG16, they have an unprecedented opportunity to heed the call of the 2030 Agenda to break down traditional barriers between official and non-official data producers and form new partnerships for the production of governance statistics and information.

While monitoring is often considered one of the last steps in the policy cycle, the 2030 Agenda asks governments to develop national indicators and a monitoring system as a priority—before SDG implementation. Meaningful reporting on SDG16, perhaps more than any other, requires a certain level of analysis and contextualization at the country level if its 12 targets are to be "grounded" in national realities and reflect national development priorities. In turn, SDG monitoring systems can be used to monitor the implementation of existing national plans and budgets where this is not yet happening consistently.

The UNDP pilot initiative aimed to support El Salvador, Georgia, Indonesia, South Africa, Tunisia and Uruguay to translate the global SDG16 indicators into a country-owned monitoring system that is supported by relevant and meaningful governance, peace and security measures, can be accessed by stakeholders and can be used to track progress.

The **three main objectives** of the initiative were to:

1. Develop and implement an inclusive monitoring methodology that includes both government and civil society;
2. Make the monitoring process open and transparent and ensure that data is publicly accessible;
3. Use this inclusive approach to SDG16 monitoring to propel implementation, by engaging stakeholders

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