



Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies: SDG 16 implementation and the path towards leaving no one behind

27 – 29 May 2019

Rome, Italy

Session A1: Ending and preventing violence: Advancing peace and sustainable development as mutually reinforcing processes

Date: 27 May 2019, 16:30 – 18:00

Description:

The session will focus on the links between peace and sustainable development, elucidating the relation between the 2030 Agenda and sustaining peace, with a focus on investing in prevention of all forms of violence. Through empirical data, lessons learned, stories and concrete examples from in-country contexts the discussion will demonstrate how working to prevent violence and sustain peace can lead to progress towards the SDGs and vice-versa.

The session will focus in particular on prevention of conflict and violence, to save lives and resources in the spirit of the sustaining peace resolutions and the ambition to “Leave No One Behind.”

The discussion will identify entry points to address conflict drivers and root causes of violence early, both in conflict affected and non-conflict affected settings.

The session will highlight the multi-dimensional aspects of violence that can manifest itself in various forms, including:

- gender-based violence and violence against children, including violence in the early years, school-related violence and bullying;
- violence that affects marginalized groups (e.g. women and youth), leading to grievances and sense of injustice;
- conflicts over natural resources, their management, access and the distribution of their benefits;
- all forms of violent crimes;
- violent extremism.

The session will emphasize the importance of prevention efforts, for example through:

- using inclusive and equitable development efforts to reduce inequalities and address violence, exclusion and discrimination;
- engaging women, youth and children as agents of change;

- investments in inclusive and sustainable approaches to help individuals, households, communities and societies be more resilient and thus able to respond non-violently to shocks and crises;
- investments in evidence-based strategies for crime prevention;
- fighting illicit trafficking of humans, arms and cultural objects; and
- peace education and teaching of non-violent conflict resolution methods.

Throughout the session, speakers will discuss how through comprehensive and multidisciplinary approaches, and national efforts, which can be supported by the international community, we can strengthen resilience, build and sustain peace and make progress towards SDG 16 to reduce violence, both in conflict and non-conflict settings. These efforts can simultaneously contribute to the achievement of other SDGs.

Objectives:

- Elucidate the interconnection between sustaining peace and Agenda 2030;
- Share a range of experiences and insights from conflict and non-conflict settings on implementation of SDG 16 targets that drive progress towards positive peace and resilience to all forms of violence; and
- Identify how to build on existing solutions and good practices to stimulate progress on the implementation of SDG 16, particularly in its violence reduction component.

Key questions:

- 1) What are the main challenges, key areas of progress, and areas of potential rapid acceleration?
- 2) How can we enhance data-driven monitoring and reporting processes to support evidence-based action?
- 3) What key interventions and policies can help us ensure that no one is left behind?
- 4) How do we support countries to translate the common narratives of Agenda 2030 and Sustaining Peace into actionable policies that are nationally owned and inclusive?
- 5) Since those at highest risk of engaging in violence or being victimized are often exposed to multiple risk factors, how can we ensure effective, holistic interventions for prevention?
- 6) What are key interventions and policies to empower and build the resilience of children and young people to be agents of peace, development and justice?

PBSO, UNICEF, FAO, SRSG VAC, UNESCO and UNODC have been facilitating the organization of this session