Experiential and Perception Data: Measuring Goal 16 and Leaving No One Behind

ORGANIZED BY INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTATISTICA DE CABO VERDE (INECV); THE TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY & PARTICIPATION (TAP) NETWORK; UNDP, TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL AND OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

THURSDAY, 10 MARCH 2016 UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS

On Thursday, 10 March 2016, the Instituto Nacional de Estatistica de Cabo Verde (INECV), the Transparency, Accountability and Participation (TAP) Network, UNDP, Transparency International and Open Society Foundation co-hosted a side-event entitled *"Experiential and Perception Data: Measuring Goal 16 and Leaving No One Behind"* with participants and experts present from Member States, civil society, National Statistical Offices and the UN system.

As the focus of the discussions around the 2030 Agenda and SDGs moves towards implementation, measurement and monitoring, the global community has an opportunity to innovate and build upon the lessons learned from experiences with MDG measurement and data. With the "people-centered" nature of the 2030 Agenda, and its strong commitment that "no one will be left behind," survey, perception and experiential data and indicators are a critical means for ensuring that sustainable development policies and implementation are not just outcome-oriented, but people-oriented as well. These kinds of data are critical to help identify areas for improvement for policy-makers at all levels, as they measure the needs, priorities, perceptions and experiences of citizens, and help maximize development gains by providing a more comprehensive snapshot of progress towards the SDGs – and particularly towards Goal 16.

These data, currently available from a wide range of reliable sources, will also help to improve awareness, understanding and participation of citizens in the SDG monitoring process, and serve to magnify the voices of citizens in governance and decision-making processes. Including peoples' participation in monitoring progress towards the SDGs is also a crucial element of broader accountability for the Agenda, to ensure that monitoring processes are based on people's own assessments of progress, and not just governments or intergovernmental data.

This side-event convened experts from around the world with decades of experience with survey, perception and experiential data to share some key lessons learned from data sets that are already contributing to measuring development issues, and will explore practical applications for these kinds of data and indicators for SDG measurement and monitoring.

Panel of Speakers:

- **Mr. Antonio dos Reis Duarte,** *President of Cabo Verde National Institute of Statistics,* Instituto Nacional de Estatistica de Cabo Verde
- **Ms. Marie Laberge**, *Former UNDP Coordinator of SHASA GPS in Africa*
- **Mr. Martin Gramatikov,** *Senior Justice Sector Advisor,* Hiil
- **Mr. Alejandro Ponce,** *Chief Research Officer,* World Justice Project
- **Mr. Craig Fagan,** *Head of Global Policy,* Transparency International

Moderator: Mr. Patrick Keuleers, Director UNDP Governance and Peacebuilding Team, UNDP

SUMMARY

Mr. Antonio dos Reis Duarte, President of Cabo Verde National Institute of Statistics, *Instituto Nacional de Estatistica de Cabo Verde (INECV)* opened the session by presenting the perspectives of *INECV* in collecting survey-based experiential and perception data on various issues related to Goal 16 within the country. Mr. Duarte highlighted the potential for utilizing this kind of data to instigate policy change and change the lives of people within a country and community. For example, in Cabo Verde, surveys on sexual and physical violence served as the baseline of laws around gender equality, and led to a cultural change within communities, including through the training of police and law enforcement on issues of gender violence. Mr. Duarte expressed his belief that many of the current global indicators outlined by the IAEG-SDGs are not only feasible to measure, but have been measured previously in many countries including his own – for example through the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA-GPS). He expressed his view that discussions around data and indicators for measuring progress against Goal 16 or any other SDGs should not be focused on the relative value of objective vs. subjective, or qualitative vs. quantitative data, and instead on how these complement one another.

Mr. Duarte highlighted that his office has led the work of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics, which will focus largely on the development of metadata and common methodologies for measuring Goal 16 targets. The result of the Praia Group will be a handbook for NSOs on collecting governance and related Goal 16 data, and the group will work with experts from governments, NSOs, multilateral institutions, academia and civil society.

Ms. Marie Laberge, Former UNDP Coordinator of SHASA GPS presented on governance, peace & security (GPS) module of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA), developed by the community of African statisticians and supported by UNDP, the AUC, the AfDB and the UNECA which addresses gaps in nationally-produced governance data. This data is an essential tool for national planning and for preventing and managing conflict, yet despite this, very few African countries have official monitoring systems that supply timely and robust governance, peace & security statistics to national policymakers.

Ms. Laberge provided five take aways from her presentation:
1. Nationally-produced survey-based GPS statistics that are comparable across countries are feasible.
2. National Statistical Offices (NSOs) in both transitional and democratic states are interested and able to conduct such surveys — politically, financially and methodologically.
3. Survey results have revealed important differences in how the rich/poor, the young/old, the educated/uneducated, the employed/unemployed experience governance and peace in their daily lives.
4. Survey results have demonstrated the worth of using multiple indicators to get the 'full picture' — both perception-based and experience-based indicators.
5. SHaSA GPS survey results have proven to be methodologically robust, comparable to other economic and social statistics.

Mr. Martin Gramatikov, Senior Justice Sector Advisor, *Hiil* focused his presentation on Target 16.3 "Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for

all". He emphasized that is it crucial to examine the justice system from the perspective of people. He noted Hiil legal needs research at a national level consistently finds significant numbers of people who lack access to justice. Of those with justice problems, most do not end up in court. HiiL has found that on average 5% of legal problems end up in courts.

Mr. Gramatikov noted many problems in communities are of non-criminal nature. Studies show most problems are civil and administrative. He underlined that if we focus only on crime we are missing a huge proportion of people who lack access to justice to resolve their problems, many of which are fundamental to any notion of sustainable development. In addition, Mr. Gramatikov emphasized that when analyzing access to justice from the populations' perspective it is important to follow the "justice journey". He underscored that when people embark on an access to justice journey it is not only about the dispute resolution processes (e.g., a court decision) but actual outcomes.

Mr. Craig Fagan, Head of Global Policy, *Transparency International* emphasized that we cannot continue to treat governance/corruption in a silo and separate them from discussing policies on education for all, or mitigating climate change, or electoral and political reforms that enhance more representative, participatory and democratic political systems. He stressed we should consider using data collected by well-respected third party data generators, such as the regional barometer networks that already collect comparable data on corruption and bribery. In addition, he underscored the need for timely, accessible and comparable data for the SDGs and to leave no one behind. Furthermore, Mr. Fagan emphasized the need for disaggregated data.

Mr. Fagan provided an overview of Transparency International Corruption Perception Index which is the most widely used corruption set of data and indicators for issues of corruption, and presented the methodologies that Transparency International uses to collect this data. Another tool they use is the Global Corruption Barometer which is the largest cross-national population survey on governance issues. He presented the East African Bribery Index (based on public opinion surveys in Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania) as an example of data collected by Transparency International, but noted that this data can at times be somewhat contentious and hard to replicate in environments where bribery is less common. Mr. Fagan highlighted that data collected from Transparency International chapters around the world allows for exploration of country specific corruption concerns and, due to larger sample, a more fine-grained analysis of corruption per region, income, urban/rural and other socio-demographic factors.

Mr. Alejandro Ponce, Chief Research Officer, *World Justice Project* highlighted the World Justice Project (WJP) Rule of Law Index which provides original, impartial data on how the rule of law is experienced by the general public in 102 countries around the globe. The Index's scores are built from the assessments of local residents and local legal experts, ensuring that the findings reflect the conditions experienced by the population, including marginalized sectors of society. Mr. Ponce emphasized the importance of experiential and perception data by comparing the results of surveys carried out in numerous countries, including Afghanistan, Thailand, Honduras, Nepal, Morocco, Indonesia, Zambia and Mexico. Mr. Ponce also revealed that in 2016 WJP is planning to field a new survey module on public access to effective dispute resolution in more than 60 countries. This module will then be replicated in another 50 countries in 2017 and will be highly relevant for monitoring progress towards target 16.3.

SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS

- Ms. Marie Laberge: Perception and experience based indicators for Targets 16.10, 16.7 and 16.3: the SHaSA experience on Governance, Peace and Security
- Mr. Martin Gramatikov: Measuring access to justice for all through 16.3
- Mr. Craig Fagan: Measuring Goal 16: Getting the Data Right
- Mr. Alejandro Ponce: Perception And Experience Data: The World Justice Project Rule Of Law Index

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

- TAP Network Global SDGs Indicators: building a Framework that is Fit for Purpose: The TAP Network Global SDGs Indicator position paper identifies some of the key areas for further collaboration and work between the IAEG-SDGs, the Official Statistical community and stakeholders more broadly, and outlines some concrete recommendations on how we can best undertake this work together.

- The Virtual Network for the Development of Indicators for SDG16, hosted by UNDP, brought together various experts and stakeholders, including development practitioners, statisticians, UN agencies and civil society organizations to reflect on the best possible set of indicators for measuring governance, justice, peace and security in the Post-2015 development framework. The Virtual Network published its outcome in a Sourcebook on Measuring Peace, Justice and Effective Institutions

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