



Accelerating SDG16+ action to restore human wellbeing & build back better

Concept Note

Hosted by TAP Network, Pathfinders, Global Alliance, WFUNA and CSPPS

HLPF2020: SDG 16+ Community Side Event Tuesday, 14 July, (8:00 to 9:15 a.m.)

The pandemic has unleashed a cascade of economic, political and social turmoil that has deepened inequality, fuelled violence, weakened public services and institutions, and exposed growing injustice in communities around the world. Amid these challenges, a cluster of governments, civil society, and businesses are stepping up commitment and action to restore human wellbeing and build back better. This high-level multi-stakeholder event will spotlight the nexus between SDG 16+ and COVID19, both the challenges and way forward to ensure protection, voice, agency and accountability for those most marginalized both during and in the aftermath of the crisis. Panellists will share concrete actions, solutions and recommendations to ensure the decade of action for sustainable development is grounded in promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies where no one is left behind.

This event will look at why SDG 16+ needs to be the foundation of reset and recovery strategies and stress the urgency to adopt an integrated approach involving all sectors to mitigate the potential institutional, social, and economic fallout from the pandemic in a peaceful and fair manner.

This event will examine ways to:

- **Forge a new social contract** rooted in rebuilding public trust in institutions and ensuring that everyone contributes fairly to prevent the cost of the crisis from being borne by those who can least afford it. This requires giving special attention in our crisis management and recovery programs to the poor, unemployed and vulnerable communities.
- **Adopt an inclusive, whole-of-society approach** that recognizes the decisive role of governments and leverages an engaged and empowered citizenry. This includes coordinating public health emergency actions, protecting civic space, and combating misinformation and disinformation.
- **Ramp up global solidarity efforts and collaboration mechanisms.** The race to save lives, develop a vaccine, and generate global economic recovery must lift all countries and all people. This will require immediate debt relief and large mobilization of resources from both public and private sources.
- **Make people your partners**, through inclusive institutions that listen to people's justice problems and hold political leaders to account, working with community leaders and grassroots actors to tackle injustices and limit the pandemic's impact on daily life.

- **Embrace a fragility, conflict and violence lens** across all response and recovery strategies. This requires integrating risk mitigation within emergency health strategies to prevent new disruptive and dangerous patterns of violence and doubling our efforts to control the flows and circulation of arms.
- **Enforce emergency measures in a fair, just and proportionate manner** by independently scrutinizing new measures and holding political leaders to account, introducing safeguards for at-risk communities, and encouraging and supporting justice actors to work in partnership with communities and respect human rights.
- **Invest in intersectional and gender-disaggregated data** to guide response and recovery efforts, keeping privacy and security in mind for person-level data. With this data, all sectors can work better together to fill gaps and address the needs of all communities.
- **Engage local governments and partners on the front-line**, such as city mayors, faith-based leaders and civic groups and other peacebuilders, who can directly influence COVID-19 responses and violence reduction, promote positive behaviour change, and build lasting peace and stability

AGENDA

Moderator: Sarah Lister, Head of Governance, Bureau of Policy and Programme Support, UNDP

Speakers:

1. **H.E. Ambassador Omar Castañeda Solares**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations (7 min)
2. **Mr. Amin Ben Khaled**, Advisor, Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations (7 min)
3. **Ms. Judith Kaulem**, TAP Network Co-Chair and representative of Poverty Reduction Forum Trust-Zimbabwe (7 min)
4. **Michelle Breslauer**, Senior Manager at the Governance & Peace, UN Global Compact (7 min)

Interactive Q&A, reflecting on the key questions (20 min)

Closing Remarks by Moderator

Organizing partners:

- [Global Alliance for Reporting Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies](#)
- [World Federation of United Nations Associations – 16+ Forum \(WFUNA\)](#)
- [Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies](#)
- [Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding \(CSPPS\)](#)
- [Transparency Accountability Participation Network \(TAP-Network\)](#)