



 **HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
2024**



Sustainable Development Goal 16

*An Expert Group Meeting in preparation for HLPF
2024: Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating
poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery
of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions*

7 May 2024, United Nations Headquarters, New York

9:00 – 9:15	Opening remarks
9:15 – 10:30	<p>Taking stock of progress towards SDG 16 and reflections on the SDG 16 Conference</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What areas are most critically lagging behind in SDG 16 progress and why? What new or under-utilized policies and solutions could accelerate progress? 2. How can we best ensure follow-up to the commitments made at the SDG Summit in September 2023? What lessons have already been learned from the high-impact initiatives launched at the Summit? 3. What is the role of SDG 16 in the discussions around the Global Digital Compact?
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee break
10:45– 12:15	<p>Monitoring SDG 16</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the main challenges for monitoring progress towards SDG 16? How can national availability of data and international comparability be improved? 2. What is the role of non-traditional data sources in ensuring adequate monitoring? 3. What messages should be brought to the attention of the participants of the High-level Political Forum on sustainable development 2024 when it comes to the indicator framework of SDG 16?

	<p>4. What steps could countries take to ensure adequate financing and capacity development in different areas of SDG 16?</p>
12:15 – 13:00	<p>Spotlight topic – science, technology and innovation</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to harness science and technology for SDG 16 progress? What are some of the most promising technological solutions and what are the main challenges associated with them? 2. What strategies can be implemented to achieve SDG 16 through effective and efficient management of digital transformation? How can the responsible use of digital technologies be harnessed to ensure judicial advancements as well as peaceful and inclusive societies? 3. What types of protections and regulation would need to be in place to harness positive impacts and avoid negative impacts of digital technologies on security, justice, governance, and human rights, including rights of children and right to a healthy, clean and sustainable environment?
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:45	<p>SDG 16 as a cross-cutting enabler – environmental dimension</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the key interlinkages between SDG 16 and the environmental dimension of sustainable development? 2. What approaches could be put in place to maximize synergies among SDGs 7, 13 and 16 to ensure a just and fair transition and minimize risks of increased societal fractures and political instability? What is the role of SDG 16 in informing more ambitious national climate action plans (NDCs)? 3. What can be done to ensure the safety and rights of environmental activists and to protect them from retaliation?
14:45 – 15:30	<p>SDG 16 as a cross-cutting enabler – social dimension</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the key interlinkages between SDG 16 and the social dimension of sustainable development? What win-win solutions can be scaled up and what trade-offs need to be managed? 2. Highlighting the interlinkages between SDG 16 and SDG 5 on gender equality, how can the engagement of women and girls in achieving peaceful, just and inclusive institutions be enhanced and sustained? 3. What actions can be taken to promote and enhance for the role of youth-led initiatives and youth organizations and to ensure their full, equal and meaningful participation in political and civic spheres at all levels?

15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 16:30	SDG 16 as a cross-cutting enabler – economic dimension <i>Guiding questions:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What are the key interlinkages between SDG 16 and the economic dimension of sustainable development? What win-win solutions can be scaled up and what trade-offs need to be managed?2. How can the economic toll of conflict, violence and instability be reflected in monitoring of SDG implementation and how can the evidence-base be better used for effective policy making? What actions hold the most promise to tackle bribery and corruption?
16:30 – 17:00	Key messages from the meeting and closing