

## **Creating Inclusive, Peaceful Societies and Transparent Institutions: An Intrinsic Goal of Sustainable Development**

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**Abstract:** This paper attempts to highlight some of the terms that aim at building an inclusive peaceful societies and transparent institution keeping in mind the goal of Sustainable Development. The official agenda for Sustainable Development adopted on 25 September 2015 has 92 paragraphs, with the main paragraph (51) outlining the 17 sustainable development goals and its associated 169 targets, include the following such as End poverty, End hunger, Achieve food security, Ensure healthy lives, Promote well being, Reduce inequality, Build resilient infrastructure, Protect restore and Promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development and **Promote and create peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, inclusive and transparent institutions at all levels is among one of the most important intrinsic goal of the sustainable development.** Thus this paper will discuss the goal of sustainable development in general and specifically deal with the goal of creating and promoting inclusive and peaceful societies, transparent and accountable institutions. And how can these types of societies be created? How can transparent institutions be established? What is the procedure? And what are the factors which are responsible for creating this positive environment suitable for Sustainable Development.

**Keywords:** Goals of Sustainable Development, Inclusive and Peaceful Societies, Transparent Institutions and Access to Justice.

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### **Introduction**

The aim of this paper is to highlight all the goals of sustainable development specified in 2015 ,On September 25th, in general that countries, government, the private sector, civil society and the people like us will have the opportunity to adopt a set of goals to **end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all** as part of a new sustainable development agenda and the goal 16 dealing with the theme of the paper specifically. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years. Thus before discussing all about goals to be achieved we have to first talk about sustainable development for better understanding.

### **Sustainable Development**

Sustainable development meant to be Environmental, Economic and Social well-being for today and tomorrow. There are many definitions define the sustainable development in many ways but the most famous and frequently quoted definition known as the **Brundtland Report:**

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It contains within it two key concepts:

- the concept of **needs**, in particular the essential needs of the world's poor, to which overriding priority should be given; and
- the idea of **limitations** imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs."

We can also say that sustainable development involve that we see the world as a system—a system that connects space; and a system that connects time. The example to think of the world as a system over space, you grow to understand that air pollution from North America affects air quality in Asia and to think of world as a system over time you start to realize that decisions of our grandparents made about how to farm the land continue to affect agricultural practice today.

### **The Sustainable Development Goals**

The Sustainable development goals (SDGs), officially known as Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, are an intergovernmental set of aspiration Goals with 169 targets. UN adopted 17 SDG at the UN Sustainable Development summit in Newyork in September 2015. FDSO Trustee

Janos Zlinsky was active in the development of these goals as part of a UN open working group (Open Working Group) formed in 2013 whose discussions and proposals formed the basis of the agreed SDG agenda. The Goals are contained in paragraph 51 United Nations Resolution A/RES/70/1 of 25 September 2015. . These goals will replace the MDG from the beginning of the 2016. The further discussion in detail about the goals will be held one by one

**Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere**

Poverty is not all about lacking financial resources but it is more than that including hunger and malnutrition Its , limited access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusion as well as the lack of participation in decision-making. So to counter poverty not only economic but also social and political growth must be inclusive to provide sustainable jobs and promote equality.



**Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food Security and improved nutrition and Promote Sustainable agriculture**

To end hunger and for having food security we must concentrate o how we can grow, share and consume our food with keeping constant focus on agriculture, forestry and fisheries because they can provide nutritious food for all and generate decent incomes and this all rural development should be people friendly and people centred, protecting the environment also at the same time. now, our soils, freshwater, oceans, forests and biodiversity are rapidly degraded. Climate change is also putting more pressure on the resources we depend on, increasing risks associated with disasters such as droughts and floods and this continuous increasing condition forcing the people to migrate to cities in search of opportunities. A insightful change of the global food and agriculture is needed because food and agriculture sector offers key solutions for development, and is central for hunger and poverty eradication.



**Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and Promote well being for all at all Ages**

Healthy lives and the well-being of all at all ages is a key to sustainable development. Many Significant efforts have been made to increase life expectancy and reducing some of the common killers related with child and maternal mortality. Major progress has been made on increasing access to clean water and sanitation, reducing malaria, tuberculosis, polio and the spread of HIV/AIDS. However, many more efforts are needed to fully wipe out a wide range of diseases and many different persistent and emerging health issues.



**Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality Education for all and promote lifelong learning**

Education is the foremost factor to improve people’s lives and the main focus of sustainable development is on the betterment and wellbeing of the people. Major progress has been made towards increasing access to education at all levels and increasing enrolment rates in schools particularly for women and girls. Basic literacy skills have improved tremendously, yet bolder efforts needed to make even greater strides for achieving universal education goals.



**Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all Women and Girls**

Processes will fuel sustainable economies and benefit societies and humanity at large. Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. While the world has achieved progress towards gender equality and women’s empowerment under the Millennium Development Goal but still women and girls continue to suffer discrimination and violence in every part of the world. Providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making



**Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all**

Water scarcity, poor water quality and inadequate sanitation negatively impact food security, livelihood choices and educational opportunities for poor families across the world. Clean, accessible water for all is an essential part of the world we want to live in. There is sufficient fresh water on the planet to achieve this. But due to bad economics or poor infrastructure, every year millions of people, most of them children, die from diseases associated with inadequate water supply, sanitation and hygiene. So we should take stand on this front also for achieving the goals of sustainable development



**Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, Sustainable and modern energy for all**

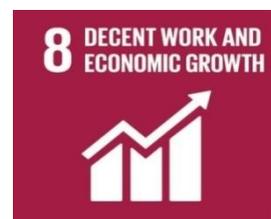
Energy is central to nearly every major challenge and opportunity the world faces today. Be it for jobs, security, climate change, food production or increasing incomes, access to energy for all is essential.

Sustainable energy is opportunity – it transforms lives, economies and the planet. Reducing the carbon intensity of energy is a key objective in long-term climate goals



**Goal 8 Promote inclusive and Sustainable economic Growth, employment and decent work for all**

Roughly half the world’s population still lives on the equivalent of about US\$2 a day. And in too many places, having a job doesn’t guarantee the ability to escape from poverty. This slow and uneven progress requires us to rethink and retool our economic and social policies aimed at eradicating poverty



**Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure; Promote Sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation**

Investments in infrastructure – transport, irrigation, energy and information and communication technology – are crucial to achieving sustainable development and empowering communities in many countries. It has long been recognized that growth in productivity and incomes, and improvements in health and education outcomes require investment in infrastructure.

Inclusive and sustainable industrial development is the primary source of income generation, allows for sustained increases in living standards for all people.. Without technology and innovation, industrialization will not happen, and without industrialization, development will not happen.



**Goal 10: Reduce Inequality within and among Countries**

There are many significant efforts have been made towards lifting people out of poverty. The most vulnerable nations – the least developed countries, the landlocked developing countries and the small island developing states – continue to make inroads into poverty reduction. However, inequality still persists and large disparities remain in access to health and education services and other assets. There is growing consensus that economic growth is not sufficient to reduce poverty if it does not involve the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental.

To reduce inequality, policies should be universal in principle paying attention to the needs of disadvantaged and marginalized populations.



**Goal 11: Make Cities Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable**

Cities can be define as hubs for ideas, commerce, culture, science, productivity, social development and much more. At their best, cities have enabled people to advance socially and economically.

However, many challenges exist to maintaining cities in a way that continues to create jobs and prosperity while not straining land and resources. The challenges cities face can be overcome in ways that allow them to continue to thrive and grow, while improving resource use and reducing pollution and poverty. The future we want includes cities of opportunities for all, with access to basic services, energy, housing, transportation and more.



**Goal 12: Ensure Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns**

Sustainable consumption and production is about promoting resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure, and providing access to basic services, green and decent jobs and a better quality of life for all. Its implementation helps to achieve overall development plans, reduce future economic, environmental and social costs, strengthen economic competitiveness and reduce poverty.



**Goal 13: Take Urgent Action to Combat Climate Change and its Impacts**

Climate change is a global challenge that does not respect national borders. Emissions anywhere affect people everywhere. It is an issue that requires solutions that need to be coordinated at the international level and it requires international cooperation to help developing countries move toward a low-carbon economy.

People are experiencing the significant impacts of climate change, which include changing weather patterns, rising sea level, and more extreme weather events. Affordable, scalable solutions are now available to enable countries to leapfrog to cleaner, more resilient economies. The pace of change is quickening as more people are turning to renewable energy and a range of other measures that will reduce emissions and increase adaptation efforts.



**Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the Oceans, Seas and Marine resources**

The world's oceans – their temperature, chemistry, currents and life – drive global systems that make the Earth habitable for humankind.

Our rainwater, drinking water, weather, climate, coastlines, much of our food, and even the oxygen in the air we breathe, are all ultimately provided and regulated by the sea. Throughout history, oceans and seas have been vital conduits for trade and transportation. Careful management of this essential global resource is a key feature of a sustainable future.



**Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss**

Forests cover 30 per cent of the Earth's surface and in addition to providing food security and shelter, forests are key to combating climate change, protecting biodiversity and the homes of the indigenous population, deforestation and desertification – caused by human activities and climate change – pose major challenges to sustainable development and have affected the lives and livelihoods of millions of people in the fight against poverty. Efforts are being made to manage forests and combat desertification.



**Goal 16: Promote Just, Peaceful and Inclusive Societies**

Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals is dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels.



**Goal 17: Revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development**

A successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. These inclusive partnerships built upon principles and values, a shared vision, and shared goals that place people and the planet at the centre, are needed at the global, regional, national and local level. Urgent action is needed to mobilize, redirect and unlock the transformative power of trillions of dollars of private resources to deliver on sustainable development objectives

The main focus of my paper is to discuss the role of peaceful societies and transparent institutions in achieving the goal of sustainable development because only then the goal of sustainable development will be achieved when the institutions will work transparently and fairly. And all the goals, rules laid by governmental and nongovernmental organisations depend on the fair implementation on the part of the organisations and loyal obligations on the part of the people. It is only possible when organisations are transparent in their dealings and affairs and people feel their dues and their rights are fulfilled.

Thus in this way goal 16 of Sustainable Development is an stand alone goal on peaceful societies, rule of law and capable and accountable institutions and the thrust of my paper is to discuss how these inclusive and



peaceful societies, rule of law and transparent institutions can be created and how people can feel their dues and their rights are fully enjoyed by them so this will be discussed in detail

The inclusion of a goal to promote peaceful and inclusive societies in new post-2015 development agenda marks significance awareness that peace and security is critical for poverty eradication and sustainable development. However concerns have been raised over how to achieve progress towards such a goal.

**Goal 16** of the Sustainable Development Goals is dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels.

**Focus Area 16: Peaceful and inclusive societies, rule of law and capable institutions**

- the rationale behind having a stand-alone goal including rule of law is that there are aspects of the rule of law that relate intrinsically to the sustainable development (such as equal on peaceful al access to justice, fight against corruption) that do not find their place under other focus areas or specific goals. It would be a lost opportunity not to have these aspects addressed under a stand-alone umbrella and would deprive sustainable goals agenda from addressing core aspects of the development.
- at the same time, the nature of the rule of law should be reflected as well in the updated document, as the rule of law acts as an enabler for other sustainable development goals.
- we would like to stress that stand-alone goal and enabler-type of approach are not mutually exclusive, but mutually reinforcing and coherent. Generally, that is expected to contribute to sustainable peace and good governance. However, these directions need to be translated into targets articulated as specific outcomes that matter to people and that will motivate and guide action

**Creating peaceful and inclusive societies:**

Point 16 C) (inclusive, participatory decision- making): we strongly support a target on participation and inclusion that will ensure the existence of mechanisms for all people to take part in and influence decisions made by the government in a transparent manner. Barriers to participation should be removed, especially for those marginalized groups which are systematically excluded.

**Indicators to assess:** access to public information, legal framework to ensure regulatory transparent and public dialogue on decision-making, as well as perception indicators such as public satisfaction with and acceptance of decision making processes.

**Rule of law, capable institutions:**

Point 16 a) (effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels) The rule of law and development have a significant interrelation and are mutually reinforcing, making it essential for sustainable development at the national and international level so it is for us of utmost importance in the context of sustainable development as we only can develop ourselves throughout public institutions that we create and entrust with shaping our lives. It is why this target of effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels has a cross-regional support and should remain under the rule of law goal to reflect the substantive contribution to this process.

**Indicators to assess:** the existence of public auditing, the existence of legal framework for ensuring access to public information.

**Point 16b) (justice system)**, similarly to point a), is a mandatory target to development. Along with other delegations, we would like to add the expression “to all” in conjunction with “equal access”, the word “impartial” and the expression “human rights” in conjunction with “justice system”. The phrase would read as follows [dictation speed]: “by 2030 provide **equal access to all** to independent, **impartial** and responsive justice systems, including related to **human rights**, property and tenure rights, employment, business, taxation, trade and finance”. The rationale behind this last addition is that accountability for human rights violation is universally agreed and needs to find its reflection in a sustainable development environment.

**Indicators to assess:** existence of legal framework for and independent and impartial organization and functioning of the justice system, existence of judicial remedies for addressing human rights violations.

**Point 16c)** (on public services, including legal identity) – we support and consider that universal birth registration should be achieved. The text would have the following reading: “by 2020 provide public services for all, including through universal birth registration”

**16Point 16 e) (anti-corruption)** Among the institutions most affected by corruption are the judiciary and police as it stands now needs to be reshaped to reflect international commitments engaged by states on anti-corruption that are easy to measure: “by 2030 establish effective institutional and legal frameworks to prevent and combat corruption in all its forms”. This target should stand alone and therefore we would prefer to address in separate target “combating illicit financial flows”, that address areas beyond anti-corruption such as anti-money laundry, tax evasion and unfair trade policies.

**Point 16f) (freedom of media association and speech)**, we consider that it is important to focus on their promotion and respect in accordance with the existing international commitments and not on “removing unnecessary restrictions”, which is difficult to assess and implement. We suggest the following reading of this target: “**ensure that all people enjoy freedoms of expression, opinion, association, peaceful assembly, the right to information, as well as the protection of civil society space**”.

**Indicators to assess:** the existence of enabling legislative framework promoting freedom of speech and independence of media and allowing the registration and development of the civil society organisations; number of existing associations, number of persons applying to access information and accepted requests, etc).

• We note that the current version of the document, does not refer to “good governance” and we would like to reiterate our wish to include “good governance” in the title of the focus area 16 and as a specific target that would read as follows: “by 2030 develop good governance practices through organization of genuine, periodic free and fair elections”. Such target is mandatory for ensuring inclusive and participatory approach to development of the society as a whole.

**Indicators to assess:** existence of legal framework for inclusive and participative electoral systems, existence of parliamentary processes. ‘A point has been reached in history when we must shape our actions throughout the world

### **Conclusion**

Through indifference and in ignorance we can do massive and irreversible harm to the earthly environment so defending and improving the human environment for present and future generations should become an imperative goal and it is possible through applying and following the goal of sustainable development by all the government and non-government organisations at national and international level.(United Nations 1972).

**Robert Allen (1980)** defined sustainable development as ‘development that is likely to achieve lasting satisfaction of human needs and improvement of the quality of human life’.

However we can compile our work by summarising that all the goals of sustainable development are meant only for the well being of the humans at present as well as future generation whether you talk about any of the goal. Every goal is linked with human being safety and his surroundings and environment. And on the other hand my paper thickly discuss the **Goal 16 of SDG** that aim at “**promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**”, includes ...

**16.1** reduce all forms of violence and related death everywhere

**16.2** end abuse, exploitation and trafficking

**16.3** promote the rule of law at the national and international level

**16.4** by 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows

**16.5** substantially reduce corruption and bribery

**16.6** develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all level

**16.7** ensure responsive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels

**16.8** strengthening the participation of developing countries in global governance

**16.9** by 2030, provide legal identity for all including birth registration

**16.10** ensure public access to information and protect freedoms in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

This goal is an stand alone goal because it has in fact been seen by many commentators as being the transformational goal and key to ensuring that agenda can be accomplished. The reason is all the goals are made and implied for the well being of the present and future generations and this dream cannot be fulfilled until and unless the institutions are fair and transparent in their affairs, rule of law is prevailed, society is free from corruption, and people enjoying freedom of speech, expressions and the feeling of fulfilling their dues and rights.

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