

Community of Democracies and the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

The Community of Democracies (CoD) is a global intergovernmental coalition comprised of the Governing Council Member States that support adherence to common democratic values and standards outlined in the Warsaw Declaration.

The Community of Democracies' mission to support democratic institutions and promote the democratic values finds complementarity in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) recognize that human rights, the rule of law, good governance, and peace and security are crucial for sustainable development, all of which are at the core of the Community's work. Therefore, the Community's Strategic Plan 2018-2023 listed democracy and development as one of the three cross-cutting themes that will be mainstreamed into all activities undertaken by the CoD.

Most relevant SDGs to the CoD's mandate:



Goal 16 creates a visible frame to contribute to strengthening of democracy worldwide, and its elements of peace, just and inclusive societies are central to the mandate of the Community.



Goal 17 on strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development, particularly through the subtarget on strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Goal 5, which sets out to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, particularly its subtarget 5.5 on ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.



With broad geographical participation, from new and old democracies, both from global South and developed countries, and the involvement of different stakeholders, in particular civil society, the **Community of Democracies** has a structure that facilitates a multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral approach necessary to help move forward the 2030 Agenda and preserve its integrity.

Examples of activities



Global Voluntary Supplemental Indicators for Goal 16

Effective monitoring of Goal 16, done in partnership with national stakeholders including civil society, will be critical in making progress in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. To complement the official monitoring process overseen by the UN, the Community developed Voluntary Supplemental Indicators for Goal 16, which aim to **facilitate better measurement of critical elements of peace, just and inclusive societies**, supporting the comprehensive achievement of Goal 16, and, in doing so, enable the achievement of the SDGs as a whole.

Ulaanbaatar Democracy Forum 2019

Held in February 2019 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, the Forum aimed to review and share good practices of Asian governments and civil society organizations engaged in **monitoring and implementation of the SDGs** and to strengthen collaboration and partnerships. The event was a second joint initiative of the Permanent Secretariat of the Community of Democracies, Asia Democracy Network and Asia Development Alliance in partnership with the government of the Republic of Korea.



The 7th High-Level meeting of the Inter-Regional Dialogue on Democracy (IRDD) on “Sustainable Democracy and SDG16: Path towards achieving peace, justice and strong institutions”

Held in the margins of the **UN General Assembly in New York in September 2018**, the event brought together the Secretaries General of global and regional organizations, including the Community’s Secretary General Thomas E. Garrett, to discuss and identify best practices and channels of collaboration for the achievement of SDG 16. Results of the IRDD are expected to be presented at the UN 2019 High Level Political Forum on “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”.

Inter-Regional Dialogue on Democracy: The role of global and regional organizations in the advancement of SDG 16



A multi-stakeholder workshop co-organized by International IDEA, UN Office in Geneva and the CoD on the margins of the **37th Session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva in March 2018**. The workshop discussed good practices, lessons learned, as well as challenges faced by international and regional organizations in support to their Member States for the achievement of UN 2030 Agenda and more specifically on Goal 16.

Busan Democracy Forum 2018

Held in January 2018 in Busan, Republic of Korea, this multi-stakeholder forum gathered participants from diverse sectors to discuss **how different disciplines could inter-connect to strengthen the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs**. The event was co-organized by the Permanent Secretariat of the Community of Democracies, Asia Democracy Network and Asia Development Alliance.



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