



## **BRIEF: ROLE OF PRIVATE SECTOR ON REPORTING & MONITORING SDG 16+ AND THE CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

*The Global Alliance for Reporting on Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies is a coordinating platform for Member States, private sector, civil society and UN agencies to promote and strengthen evidence-based reporting, monitoring and measurement of SDG 16. It currently co-chaired by Sierra Leone and the UK. More details on the Alliance can be found here:*

[https://www.sdg16hub.org/system/files/2020-02/Global%20Alliance%20Flyer\\_0.pdf](https://www.sdg16hub.org/system/files/2020-02/Global%20Alliance%20Flyer_0.pdf)

As a multi-stakeholder coordinating platform the Global Alliance is committed to stakeholder engagement and advocate for a specific role for private sector to work within their companies and also within their respective communities on issues related to SDG 16+ and Agenda 2030 very much framed around the Guiding principles.

The Global Alliance recommends that the following measures be considered by member states and businesses:

- **Identify a clear and legitimate role for private sector.** Due to concerns about what role for business in society is appropriate and how political activity may create pushback or problems, many private-sector actors note concerns about engaging with issues relating to peace and good governance. Even actors who want to work positively may not have a good initial understanding of how to do so. Identifying a clear and legitimate role will be important. Outreach by government to companies or business associations can be important in developing pathways to engagement seen by companies as legitimate. Outreach by civil society organizations to both government and private sector can help to spur conversations and develop shared understanding and new approaches that are effective and appropriate. Multisectoral partnerships incorporating participants from the government, private sector, and civil society can be useful for developing effective, impactful, and accepted pathways for engaging the private sector.
- **Conduct a mapping of the local political context in which businesses operate.** Businesses are embedded in the local contexts in which they operate, and may be subject to pressure by the government, or implicated in political dynamics contributing to problems covered under SDG 16. Any actor—whether state or CSO—interested in supporting public–private partnerships for reporting under SDG 16 should engage in a careful mapping of the local dynamics before approaching specific businesses or business associations for participation. This mapping should ensure that the businesses are not implicated in problematic dynamics, and that the state government is not likely to pressure or punish businesses for releasing data about state performance or use the released data in the commission of further abuses. UN groups and civil society organizations interested in peace and in supporting the SDG
- **Work with legitimate private sector associations and networks.** As part of the Voluntary National Review process or human rights monitoring mechanisms member states should consider working with business associations. One specific example member states can engage with are the Global Compact Local Networks as nature partners for private sector engagement on human rights.