



## “Tracking support to SDGs – the case of peace and security” Expert meeting, 5 February 2019

46, Quai Alphonse le Gallo - 92100 Boulogne Billancourt – France

### Concept note

On 5 February 2019, the Secretariat of the TOSSD Task Force, hosted at the OECD, organises an expert meeting on “**Tracking support to the SDGs – the case of peace and security**”. The meeting will bring together experts from provider and recipient countries, international organisations, civil society organisations and research institutes, to examine various types of activities in the field of peace and security and discuss the relevance, opportunities and challenges of tracking related expenditures as part of financing for sustainable development. This discussion will contribute to defining the boundaries of the new statistical measure, TOSSD or “Total Official Support for Sustainable Development”<sup>1</sup>, in this area.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development indicates that “**There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development**” and a sustainable development goal has been established to “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels” (SDG 16 and twelve related targets, see Annex I). In line with the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs, TOSSD will cover financing for sustainable development beyond Official Development Assistance (ODA), recognising that some of the challenges faced today are global (e.g. security, migration, climate) and need a global response. Sustainable development in the TOSSD context being inherently linked to the SDGs, peace and security-related activities within the scope of SDG 16 or other SDGs could be included in TOSSD.

Moreover, very little information is available today on security expenditures in support of SDGs beyond ODA. TOSSD, by filling this data gap and by providing more transparency on these flows, could help the international community better coordinate its response to security challenges.

**The meeting will discuss what types of activities in the field of peace and security are relevant to the SDGs. The expected outcome is to provide recommendations to the TOSSD Task Force on:**

- **what peace and security expenditures should be reflected in the TOSSD measure, and**
- **whether some safeguards should be considered in this sensitive area.<sup>2</sup>**

*For any information, please contact*

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<sup>1</sup> TOSSD is being developed by an international Task Force with the objective of tracking the full spectrum of officially supported resource flows in support of the SDGs. For background, see [Addis Ababa Action Agenda](#), paragraph 55 and the Task Force website at: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/tossd-task-force.htm>.

<sup>2</sup> See the [Issues paper](#) discussed at a TOSSD Task Force meeting in May 2018 and the [Action points](#) of that meeting. The Task Force recommended a cautious approach to avoid unintendedly legitimising certain actions by making them eligible under TOSSD.



## Agenda

*All agenda items will be introduced by selected participants with expertise on the topic. Participants will then be invited to share their views on the specific issues identified for each topic.*

### 09:30 **Item 1. Welcome, introduction**

The TOSSD Task Force co-Chair (Laurent Sarazin) and Secretariat (Julia Benn, Guillaume Delalande) will present the main features of the new statistical measure TOSSD, and the status of its development. They will explain the objectives of the meeting, which has been requested by the TOSSD Task Force to help define the boundaries of TOSSD in the field of peace and security.

### 09:45 **Item 2. Peacekeeping**

*Examples: peacekeeping operations led by the United Nations (e.g. MINUSMA in Mali), the African Union (AMISOM in Somalia) or ECOWAS; NATO peace support operation in Kosovo (KFOR); Force Conjointe – G5 Sahel.*

#### **Presentations:**

- **UN peacekeeping operations, presentation by the UN Liaison Office for Peace and Security**
- **African Union peacekeeping (example of AMISOM), presentation by the EU**

Peacekeeping operations aim to contribute to reducing all forms of violence (SDG 16.1) and ending the abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence against and torture of children (SDG 16.2). Peacekeeping can also lay the groundwork for achieving other SDG targets, such as promoting the rule of law, reducing corruption and/or reducing transnational crime. Together with peacebuilding activities that tend to strengthen and solidify peace in order to reduce the risk of relapse into conflict, peacekeeping operations address the core issues that have negative impact on the functioning of the State and society.

In addition to their core business of facilitating a ceasefire or peace agreement, peacekeeping operations are increasingly involved in the protection of civilians and assist in the disarmament as well as restoring the rule of law. It could be considered that today's multidimensional peace operations in their entirety contribute to establishing an enabling environment for sustainable peace and development and hence support the SDGs.

#### **Issues for discussion – item 2**

- a. Can peacekeeping operations such as the ones listed in the examples be considered as support to SDG 16 targets or other targets and therefore counted in TOSSD?**
- b. Should there be specific exclusions/"red lines" such as in relation to the use of force?**
- c. Should there be specific requirements for such operations to be counted in TOSSD, such as a mandate/recognition by the UN Security Council or adherence to internationally agreed principles (e.g. humanitarian principles, principles of rule of law and good governance)?**
- d. Do expenditures for peacekeeping all take place at the recipient country level? Or are there expenditures at a global level that should also be considered?**



11:15 Coffee

### 11.30 **Item 3. Disarmament**

*Examples: demining, Small Arms and Light Weapons control, prohibition of chemical weapons (Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons), nuclear non-proliferation and other type of weapons of mass destruction control, Arms Trade Treaty and UNODA programmes*

#### **Presentation:**

- **NATO Trust Funds for safe destruction of surplus and obsolete landmines, weapons and munitions, presentation by NATO**

The UN considers disarmament and development as “two of the international community’s most important tools for building a world free from want” and they are strongly intertwined. Disarmament contributes to creating a situation with favourable conditions for development, while development leads to a situation where disarmament is favourable. Disarmament is often part of broader efforts to build or rebuild economic, social and governing structures, contributing to political participation and social integration.

In general, it is considered that disarmament policies contribute to decreasing military spending, relieving tensions and building trust between parties, halting new expenditures on arms and decreasing the risk of conflict and violence. This view is reflected in various SDG 16 targets, such as 16.1 (Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere), 16.4 (by 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows) and 16.a (strengthen relevant national institutions to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime).

More specific disarmament and non-proliferation treaties include language about support for sustainable development. For example, the Draft Convention on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons makes a clear link with SDG 16, as it considers the presence and risks of nuclear weapons as posing “grave implications for [...] socioeconomic development” and emphasises its state parties’ commitment to the founding principles of the UN.

Other examples are the NATO Trust Funds, many of which assist partner countries with the safe destruction of arms surplus and obsolete landmines, weapons and ammunition as well as capacity building in areas such as demining and stockpile management.

#### **Issues for discussion – item 3**

- a. Can disarmament activities such as the ones listed in the examples be considered as support to SDG 16 targets or other targets, and therefore counted in TOSSD?**
- b. Should there be specific requirements/exclusions?**
- c. Apart from treaties, are there other activities with a global reach which should be considered under TOSSD?**
- d. In the case of activities conducted at country level, e.g. non-proliferation in Iran or prohibition of chemical weapons in Syria, can costs be considered supporting sustainable development of the countries concerned, or globally?**
- e. How to deal with the question of negative externalities such as the trading of arms?**



13:00 Lunch

#### 14:30 **Item 4. Police, combatting transnational crimes and terrorism**

##### Examples:

*Police: Australian Federal Police mission in the Solomon Islands, Interpol.*

*Transnational crimes: EU antipiracy operation Atalanta (Naval force to deter, prevent and repress acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast); border security measures to avoid drug and human trafficking; cybersecurity.*

*Counterterrorism: UNODC programmes to strengthen criminal justice measures against terrorism and other organised crimes; NATO Sea Guardian operation (maritime counterterrorism in the Mediterranean).*

##### Presentations:

- **Australian peace and security assistance, presentation by Australia**
- **Combatting transnational crimes and terrorism, presentation by UNODC**

Law enforcement will play a fundamental role in achieving the targets formulated under SDG 16. They work to reduce all forms of violence, including against children (SDG 16.1 and SDG 16.2), but also contribute to promoting the rule of law at the national and international level (SDG 16.3), reducing illicit financial and arms flows, strengthening the recovery and return of stolen assets and combating all forms of organized crime (SDG 16.4). The latter also includes activities related to police response to transnational forms of crime, such as maritime piracy and drug-trafficking, and human trafficking. Hence financial flows aiming to fight these transnational crimes could be considered under TOSSD.

Criminal justice measures to counter transnational crimes have close ties with police activities related to combatting terrorism, including intelligence gathering and cybersecurity measures. SDG 16.a explicitly names combatting terrorism and crime as actions that should be undertaken to achieve sustainable, peaceful societies. This makes a strong case for considering these types of activities under TOSSD.

Given the highly sensitive nature of these areas of intervention, and the fact that some stakeholders are concerned that SDG 16 is used to justify securitisation of development, it seems important to put in place clear safeguards. In particular, funds reported as supporting the SDGs should not entail suppressions of democratic dissent and limitations of political participation of civil society groups.

#### Issues for discussion – item 4

- a. Can support to police including for combatting transnational crimes and terrorism, such as the examples listed above, be considered as support to SDG 16 targets or other targets, and therefore be counted in TOSSD?
- b. Should there be specific exclusions/“red lines” such as kinetic activities, use of force, support for armed response, combat operations, intelligence gathering?
- c. Should there be specific requirements/conditions e.g. with respect to human rights, rule of law and good governance?
- d. Regarding the definition of “terrorism” that should be used in the context of TOSSD, are there major issues to be aware of?



16:00 Coffee

**16:30 Item 5. Engagement with partner country military**

*Examples: financing partner countries' military spending, capacity building of partner countries' armed forces (such as the European Union Training Mission in Mali or NATO trust funds to support defence capacity building), provider countries' military interventions (such as the French operation Barkhane in Sahel)*

**Presentations:**

- **International co-operation in the field of security, presentation by France**
- **EU Military training mission in the Central African Republic (EUTM RCA), presentation by the EU**

Support to the military will help partner countries, for instance, to modernise or better equip their armed forces under the stated objective of fostering peace and stability in the country and/or region.

Given the security challenges faced by many fragile countries (e.g. in the Sahel), the question can therefore be raised as to what extent the support to these countries' military should be included in TOSSD, e.g. support in the form of military equipment or financing for military/defence budget, buildings and salaries of the armed forces.

Another form of engagement can be capacity building of armed forces. Some of the NATO trust funds support defence capacity building for countries facing significant security challenges, aiming to strengthen their defence and security institutions and capacities.

Efforts in engaging with the military, a key actor in the security sector, can be considered as support to the enabling environment for sustainable development. The question can then be raised as to whether such efforts fit under the SDGs and could be reflected under TOSSD with appropriate safeguards or whether support to the military in partner country should instead be a "red line" in TOSSD, to avoid securitisation of development policy.

**Issues for discussion – item 5**

- a. Can the financing of partner countries' military spending and capacity building of their armed forces be considered as support to SDG 16 targets or other targets, and therefore counted in TOSSD?**
- b. Should there be specific exclusions/"red lines" ?**
- c. What specific requirements/conditions could be put in place (e.g. spending accountability and transparency mechanisms as a prerequisite, respect for human rights, humanitarian principles, principles of rule of law and good governance)?**
- d. Are there activities that take place in the provider country itself and should be included in TOSSD on the ground that they contribute to peace and security at global level (e.g. research)?**

**18:00 Item 6. Wrap up and next steps**

18:15 Close



## ANNEX I. SDG 16 AND RELATED TARGETS

### **Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**

- 16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.
- 16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.
- 16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.
- 16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.
- 16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms.
- 16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.
- 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.
- 16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.
- 16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration.
- 16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.
- 16.a Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.
- 16.b Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.