

A Decade of Action for Justice for All

Shared Strategy for 2020-2023



To deliver justice for all by 2030 in a world where billions of people are not yet able to obtain justice, we must resolve justice problems, prevent injustices from occurring, and use justice systems to create opportunities for people to participate fully in their economies and societies.

The Task Force on Justice

Today, we are launching an ambitious and accelerated response to reach our common vision by 2030 and pledging to make the coming decade one of action and delivery.

Political declaration from the first SDG Summit

The shared strategy for 2020-2023 aims to guide action to accelerate implementation of the SDG targets for justice for all.

It has been developed with partners and provides a shared vision and direction that is inspired by the justice-related goals and targets of the 2030 agenda and the Justice for All report.

This shared strategy will be launched at the Innovating Justice Forum in The Hague in February 2020. It is a living document and will be further discussed and developed.

Mobilizing for Justice for All

The past two years have seen a remarkable international mobilization to accelerate implementation of the SDG goals and targets that call for justice for all by 2030. The Pathfinders' Task Force on Justice was at the heart of this movement.

The Task Force on Justice was chaired by ministers from Argentina, the Netherlands, and Sierra Leone, and by The Elders. Its flagship report, *Justice for All*, proposes an agenda for action that:

- **Places justice at the heart of sustainable development** – as a lever for reaching the furthest behind, creating conditions for shared prosperity, and promoting peace and inclusion.
- **Puts people at the center of justice systems** – and starts with an understanding of what works to meet their justice needs.
- **Moves from justice for the few to justice for all** – with a call for a transformation of ambition and a sustained effort to provide billions more people with access to justice.

A group of justice partners contributed to the research that informed the Task Force's recommendations and supported a mobilization for justice for all across national and international levels. The Task Force co-chairs and members invested in creating a political platform for action, as Ministers of Justice and other justice leaders recognized the opportunity for collective action presented by the 2030 Agenda.

February	Ministerial meeting and The Hague Declaration on Equal Access to Justice for All by 2030
April	World Justice Forum on delivering the promise of justice for all and mobilization of Commitments to Justice
May	Latin American regional ministerial meeting and the Buenos Aires Declaration on Equal Access to Justice for All
June	The g7+ Ministerial meeting and Joint Action plan on Access to Justice for All in conflict-affected countries
July	Launch of the Justice for All report at the UN's High-level Political Forum
September	Over 25 Acceleration Actions on Justice registered for the SDG Summit

2019: Justice for All milestones

A Decade of Action for Justice for All

At the SDG Summit:

- The Secretary-General, responding to calls from member states in the summit's political declaration, issued "a global call for a **decade of action** to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030."
- It was confirmed that the UN will use its 75th anniversary for a **global conversation on closing the gap** between the aspirations of the Agenda and current trajectories, and that it will continue to invite countries to submit acceleration actions to its online registry.
- The Secretary-General announced that he will hold the first **annual action platform** for driving the Decade of Action, as part of the UN's 75th anniversary summit on 21st September 2020.

Our aim is to place justice at the heart of the Decade of Action for the SDGs, establishing it as a key priority for the 2030 Agenda, while reinforcing the shift towards evidence-based and people-centered models. Focusing on **key events in 2020** will increase urgency, encourage governments and partners to commit to delivering measurable change, and build the foundation for scaling up throughout the 2020s.

Time horizon

Through this shared strategy, partners will be inspired by a long-term vision (10 years), work towards medium-term objectives (4 years), while acting urgently to seize short-term opportunities (1 year).

- **Long term (2030)** – realize a shift from a world where justice is only available to the privileged few, to one that protects rights and provides justice for all.
- **Medium term (2023)** – demonstrate measurable results at the second SDG Summit along three dimensions: increased resolution of justice problems, increased prevention of justice problems, and greater use of justice as a platform for delivering other SDGs.
- **Short term (2020)** – increased policy, programming, and financial commitments to accelerate action towards justice for all, backed up by a growing political and public mobilization.

Shared Strategy for 2020-2023

The 2030 Agenda's commitment to justice for all requires intensified international cooperation and revitalized partnerships for justice.

The shared strategy for 2020-2023 serves to bring justice partners together behind a collective understanding of the priorities for the coming years. It supports the alignment of efforts and strengthened cooperation.

Priorities

To accelerate implementation of the SDG targets for justice for all and promote measurable improvements in justice in countries around the world, partners have identified three priorities for the next four-year cycle of the SDGs, from 2020-2023:

- 1** - Our main priority is to support **accelerated action at national level**, through greater political support for people-centered justice, strengthened capacity to implement evidence-based strategies and plans, and increased commitments for which governments and other partners can be held accountable.
- 2** - National action needs **coherent and comprehensive support from international and regional actors**, and from multi-stakeholder partnerships and networks. Increased financing, better data and evidence, will improve implementation and increase the likelihood that measurable results are achieved by 2023.
- 3** - An effective and empowered global, regional, national, and local **movement for justice** for all will amplify demand for change, create space for partners from all sectors to work for justice for all, and counter adverse political trends.

Priority 1 | Accelerate Action at National Level

We will support an Action Coalition of countries prepared to make high-level commitments to accelerate action on SDG16.3 and related targets at the SDG Action Platform in September 2020. Each country will draw on the strengths of governments, justice providers, civil society, and the private sector.

This core group will be complemented by a growing number of subnational actors, legal empowerment activists, informal justice providers, professional networks, businesses, and other partners who are committed to providing people-centered justice services.

We will demonstrate a substantial increase in ambition in 2020 and will continue to build momentum for national action in subsequent years. By showcasing early results across a range of countries – and the impact of these results on people, communities, and societies – we will strengthen the case for change and increase the incentives for countries to make justice for all a priority.

Leadership for justice for all

- Mobilize and support Ministers of Justice and justice leaders from interested countries – with a call to make new commitments to accelerate action in 2020 or to accelerate implementation of existing commitments.
- Advocacy for accelerated action by priority countries from Task Force co-chairs, The Elders, and leaders of international/regional organizations.
- Mobilize political support at the ministerial level for advancing SDG16 and support for justice commitments, including through the OGP Coalition on Justice.
- Hold a series of regional and thematic gatherings of justice leaders, culminating in a Justice for All Summit.

- Identify and mobilize champions for justice from outside the justice sector, including political leaders from other sectors, civil society leaders and activists, private sector actors, celebrities, etc.
- Implementation and follow-up to the Justice for Women report, building on platforms such as Beijing+25.

Transformative national strategies and plans

- Form an informal and light-touch coordination group, within the Justice Alliance, supporting accelerated action in country. This group will help identify political, technical and financial support for countries willing to step up action.
- Support the development of ambitious and transformative actions through OGP's national action plans and support the implementation of these commitments.
- Leverage platforms for supporting the development of evidence-based national strategies and plans, such as HiIL's Justice Accelerator Labs, the forthcoming OECD-UNDP Global Hub on the Governance for the SDGs, OECD country reviews, UNDP Accelerator Labs, IDLO country programs, WJP's World Justice Challenge and Rule of Law Solutions Initiative, World Bank country programs, UNDP Global Program, etc.
- Explore strategies for localizing SDG16.3 and for implementing the Task Force recommendation to recognize, finance, and protect grassroots justice defenders.

Ambitious national commitments to accelerate action towards justice for all

- Support registration of justice for all commitments in the UN Global Registry of Voluntary SDG Acceleration Actions.
- Regular communications to showcase new commitments and successful implementation in country, including highlighting "champions of change" who are driving people-centered justice reforms.
- Presentation of Justice for All acceleration actions and financing commitments at the SDG Action Platform by one or more Heads of State.

Priority 2 | Build a global and regional alliance to support national action

To support action at national and subnational levels, we will work together as an alliance of international and regional justice partners, drawing on the comparative advantage of each partner and our collective influence as an alliance. Members of the Justice Alliance will work to create data and evidence to underpin action and support increased financing for justice for all.

We aim to build the "infrastructure" that the justice sector needs to drive results at national and local levels against SDG16.3 (and which was put in place during the MDG era for sectors such as health). This will provide a platform for a broader range of actors – civil society, foundations, the private sector – to contribute to measurable change. It will also strengthen connections between justice and those working on other SDGs such as health, education, social protection, and climate change.

We will:

- Continue to strengthen and expand the alliance of justice partners, working together to ensure that each partner is able to make a full contribution and has the tools needed to achieve impact.
- Reshape the justice field so that it can support transformational change through smarter financing strategies, better use of evidence and data, policies and implementation strategies informed by a people-centered approach, and increased learning between countries.
- Explore global commitments to accelerate action towards justice for all, including a new financing package.

Financing justice for all

- Strengthen the case for investment in justice for all, providing the foundation for continued advocacy for smarter and more sustainable funding.
- Support the development of and promote insights from key research contributions to the case for investment, including the World Bank’s flagship report on financing justice, Hiil’s SDG16.3 Pulse Report, and OECD work on the business case for justice.
- Explore strategies for bringing new foundations, impact investors, and private sector funders on board.
- Convene a funders’ collaborative to bring together public, private, and philanthropic funders and to develop financing strategies for SDG16.3, opportunities for collaboration, innovative funding approaches, and finance for systemic challenges and for developing justice as a “field.”
- Collaborate with the Norwegian Presidency of ECOSOC, which has made financing for development a priority and make *financing justice for all* a theme for the High-level Political Forum in 2020.
- Explore new modalities for financing justice, including the potential for a standalone catalytic fund.

Data and evidence to underpin action

- Develop a shared research agenda or research strategy to underpin implementation of SDG16.3 over the next decade, enabling more strategic investment in data and evidence, while promoting greater use of quality research in the implementation of the goal of justice for all.
- Support research in areas that were not fully covered by the Task Force, initially by working with a high-level group on justice for children that will be convened by SRSG on Violence against Children, the OECD, OHCHR, and UNICEF and on justice for refugees, bringing in CIC, IOM, UNHCR and OHCHR.
- Publish a series of challenge papers on the links between justice and other SDGs.
- Support the adoption and subsequent implementation of the new SDG16.3 indicator for civil justice and/or voluntary national data collection and analysis efforts.
- Publish a challenge paper exploring what data will be needed if measurable change is to be demonstrated ahead of the SDG Summit in 2023, based on the official indicator set, a new indicator on civil justice, and other sources of data.

Global commitments for justice for all

- Outreach to funders with the aim of announcing a \$50-100m package of new funding at the SDG Action Platform in September 2020.
- Explore the potential for other global or regional acceleration actions – e.g. on justice as prevention, innovation, or improvements in the regulatory environment that allow greater diversity in the provision of justice services.
- Develop and agree on a set of global policy “asks” to feed into campaigning and which can be promoted as part of the Decade of Action.

Priority 3 | Mobilize for justice for all

As a result of the mobilization in 2019, the profile for justice for all has increased significantly and we have begun to establish a new paradigm for people-centered justice. Increased effort and investment is needed if justice is to emerge as a breakout issue in 2020.

Justice partners will work together to build a platform for communication, advocacy, and movement-building. We will speak with one voice where appropriate, while maximizing the impact of our communication channels. We will promote advocacy both at a senior political level and from the grassroots, while generating greater attention for justice from outside the traditional sector.

We will:

- Promote the vision of the Task Force for a shift away from reforming institutions and towards putting people at the center of justice systems and justice at the heart of sustainable development.
- Draw together the collective communication strengths and assets of the justice partners, so the justice alliance speaks with one voice.
- Increase the number of high-profile champions prepared to speak out for justice and build public-facing campaigns that have global reach.

Shared narrative on justice for all

- Form a communications action group, within the Justice Alliance, to bring together the communications functions from major partners on a regular basis.
- Promote justice as a central priority for a Decade of Action for the SDGs.
- Develop a shared narrative and core messages on justice for all. The narrative will be solutions-based and will create a new understanding of the potential to build fairer, more inclusive, and more effective justice systems.
- Explore campaigning priorities and coordinate advocacy messages with the Justice for All campaign and develop partnerships with campaigning organizations, such as Global Citizen and Avaaz.
- Develop global policy asks across partner organizations that will sharpen the advocacy of all justice actors.
- Disseminate the Task Force report and recommendations through national and regional launches, and the publication of articles, blogs, and papers.

Justice for All champions

- Benefit from the leadership of The Elders on justice, as they amplify the voices of grassroots activists and civil society and engage with heads of state and policymakers to help drive development, social justice, and economic growth.
- Explore campaigning priorities on justice for women – as a priority for The Elders’ program on justice for all.
- Build a group of high-profile Justice Champions – drawing on partners’ Goodwill Ambassadors and Advocates – to increase the number of high-profile figures prepared to advocate for justice for all.

Justice for All campaign

- Work with the UN SDG Action Campaign to put justice at the heart of the 2020 Global Festival of Action for the SDGs and the Global Week To #Act4SDGs.
- Work with Global Citizen to explore the potential for a joint justice campaign and to explore the role of justice in the Global Goal Live: The Possible Dream – a year-long campaign to get the world back on track to achieve the SDGs.



Pathfinders for Justice

As the Task Force completes its work, the Pathfinders' grand challenge on justice will move into a new phase. In this new phase, the Pathfinders for Justice will work to put justice at the heart of the Decade of Action for the SDGs and to deliver measurable increases in justice in the lives of people, communities, and societies by the second SDG Summit in 2023.

The **Pathfinders for Justice** will bring member states and partners together in three main groupings:

- The **Action Coalition** will be a high-ambition coalition taking action for justice for all, in line with the agenda set out in the Justice for All report. It is the primary group for national justice leaders and will provide political leadership within the Decade of Action for the SDGs.
- The **Justice Alliance** will act as an informal grouping of international and regional partners. Working to support national actions, its sub-groups and workstreams will focus on key priorities and topics set out in this strategy.
- **Justice Champions** will build on the advocacy and leadership of The Elders. They are global leaders, public figures, celebrity "ambassadors," campaigners, and grassroots activists, willing to speak out and build the profile of justice for all.



Pathfinders' role is to influence and catalyze change through partnerships. Pathfinders acts as an **action platform** to accelerate delivery, guide more effective collaboration, promote innovation, and develop the knowledge that underpins effective implementation.

The Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies is hosted by the NYU Center on International Cooperation. Pathfinders will continue to lead and support on the implementation of the international agenda for action set out in the Justice for All report. The Pathfinders secretariat will facilitate the action coalition, the justice alliance and justice champions.

Shared strategy and the Justice Alliance

This shared strategy for 2020-2023 aims to guide action by partners and align their efforts. It was developed by the Pathfinders' secretariat following the Borderhouse retreat, which was held in the Netherlands in September 2019. It has been finalized after presentation to partners and further discussion and it takes into account comments received.

All justice partners that have contributed to the work of the Task Force on Justice have been invited to join the Justice Alliance and align their work to the shared strategy.

The Justice Alliance will remain open to new partners that wish to join and contribute to the priorities set out in this shared strategy.