

**SDG 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**

International Development Law Organization (IDLO)

*How Rule of Law can support the implementation of the SDGs*

As the only intergovernmental organization with an exclusive mandate to promote the rule of law, at IDLO we believe that to tackle the challenge of the SDGs effectively, the rule of law with its basic principles of equal protection, accountability and transparency, is a building block without which development cannot be sustained.

- In a ground-breaking move, the 2030 Agenda has put justice firmly at the heart of development, with a dedicated goal and related targets.
- Strong rule of law is essential as a foundation for economic and social development. There are great benefits to business, and other stakeholders, in respecting and supporting the rule of law. Where the rule of law is weak, it is harder for responsible businesses to function, to meet their legal obligations and have their legal rights protected.
- That is why we believe in innovative Partnerships where all stakeholders have a key role to play in the implementation of Goal 16 and the entire Agenda.
- At the policy level, IDLO is founding member of the UN Global Compact 'BUSINESS FOR THE RULE OF LAW' Framework, which seeks to advance justice by engaging responsible business to support the strengthening of legal frameworks and accountable institutions – serving as a complement to, not substitute for, government action.

The implementation of the SDGs won't be possible unless the private sector is at the table. The kind of work we do is critical for investment and creating the confidence of the private sector to invest and create jobs. IDLO is open to collaboration - we already involve the private sector in our policy work, and we are now open to more engagement.