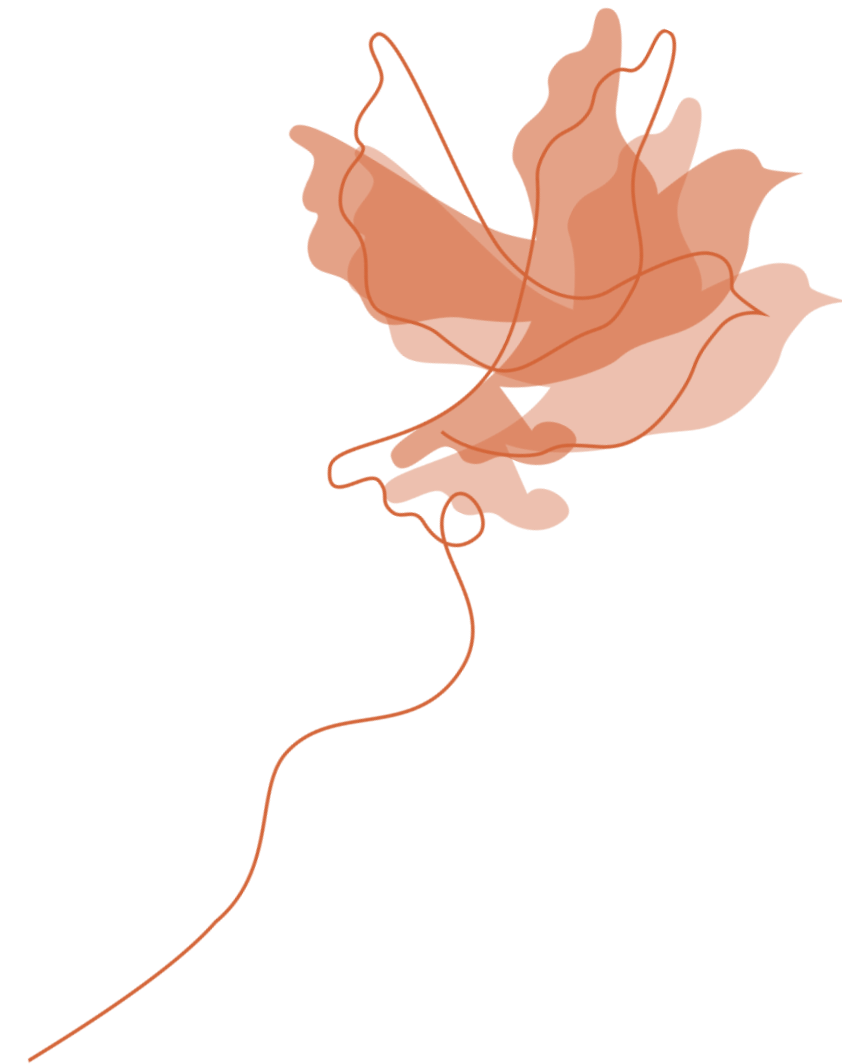


# Improving SDG 16 data availability



## 11<sup>th</sup> Workshop on VNRs in the Arab Region

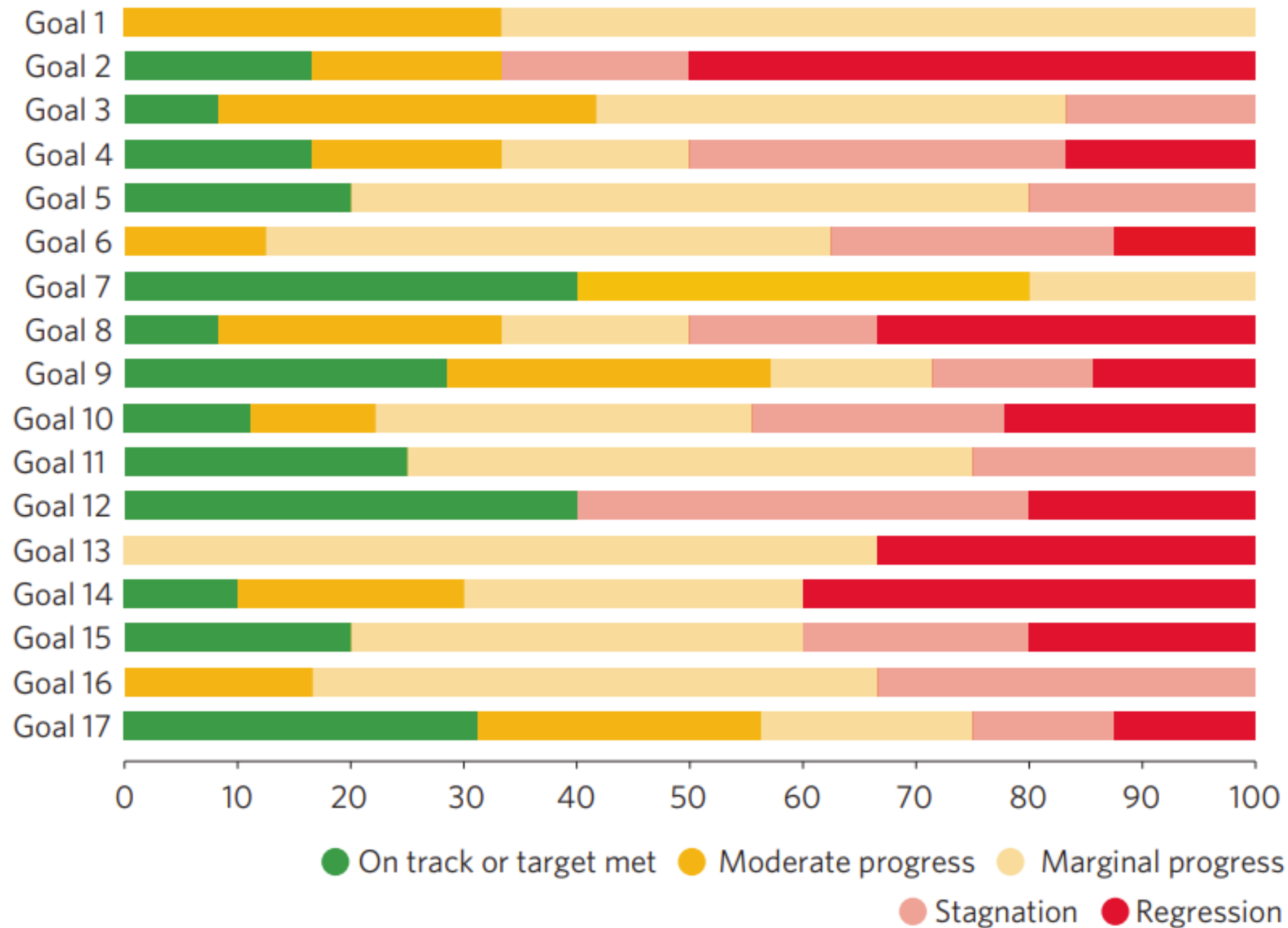
Session 4 – Improving SDG 16 Reporting in VNRs

16 October 2024

Mariana Neves, Governance Statistics Specialist, UNDP Global Policy  
Centre for Governance, [mariana.neves@undp.org](mailto:mariana.neves@undp.org)

# Progress on the SDGs

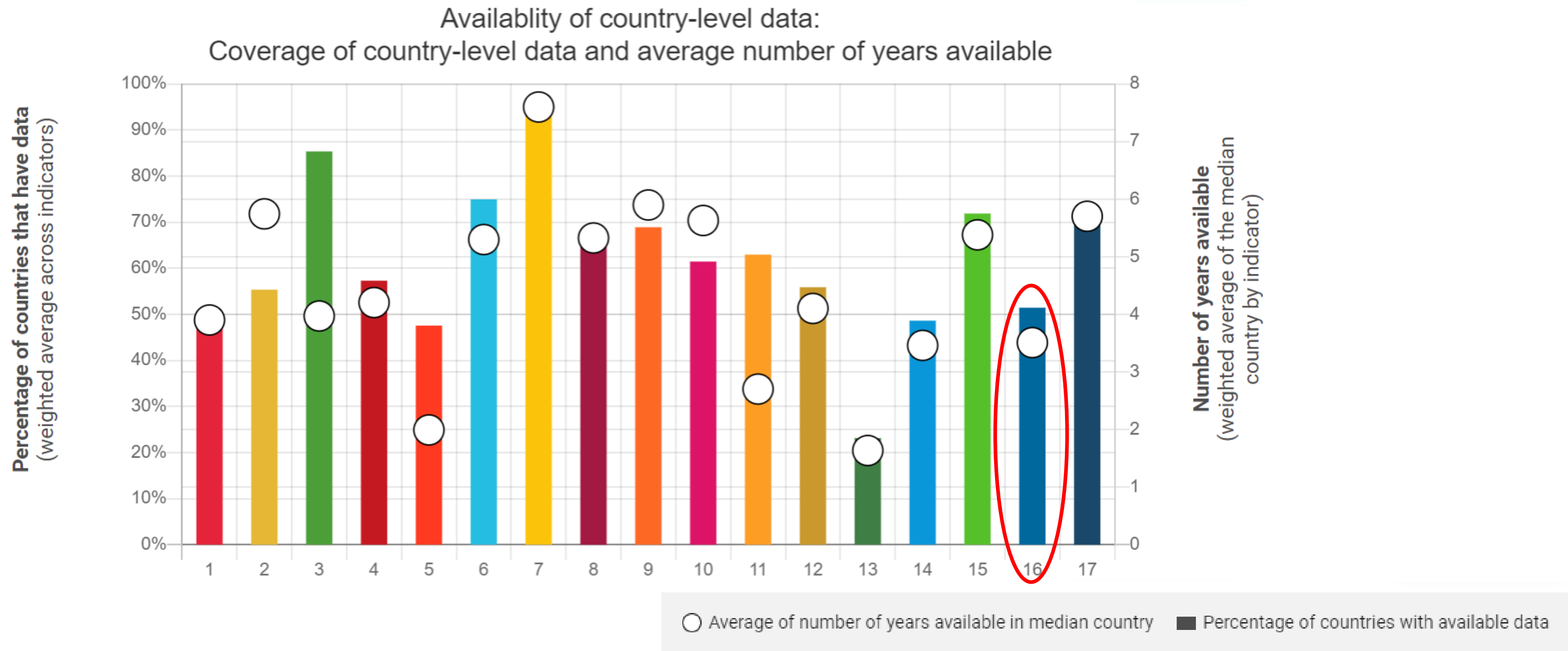
Progress assessment for the 17 Goals based on assessed targets, by Goal (percentage)



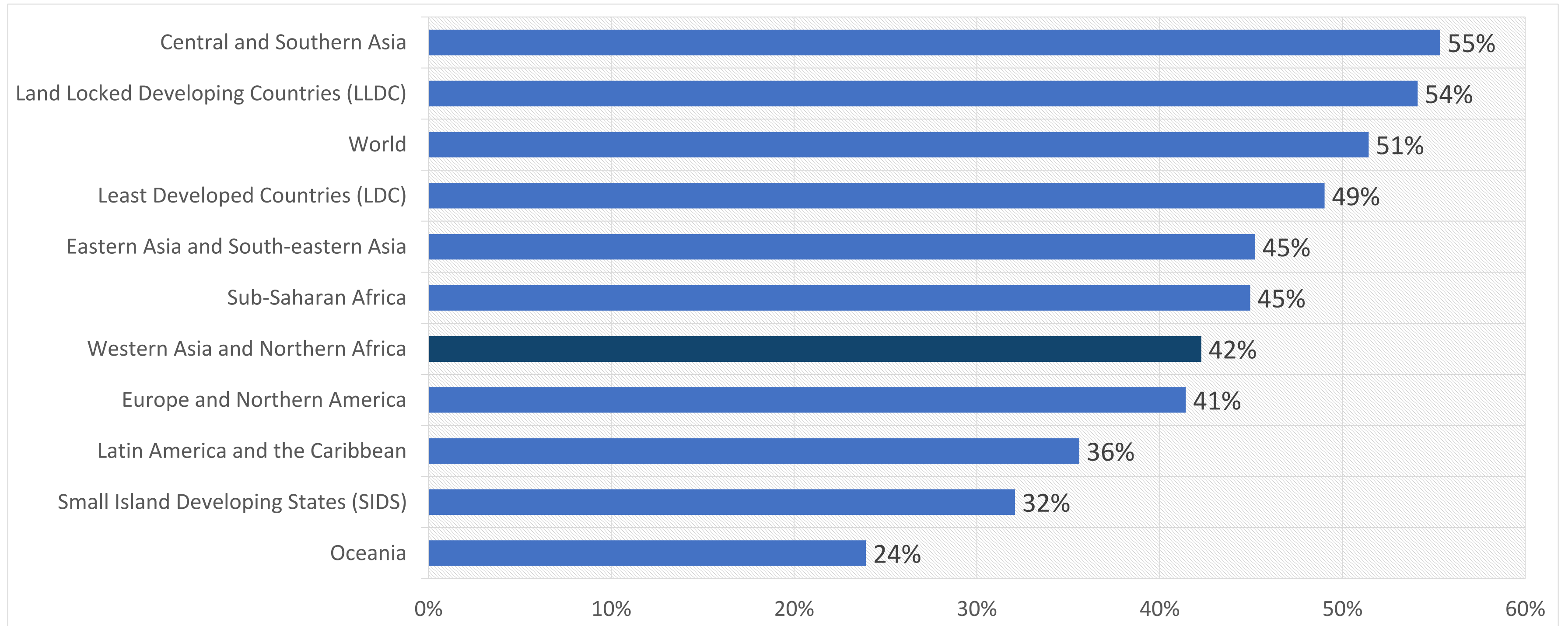
2024

# Data availability has greatly improved

- Goal 16 on peace, justice and inclusion is the missing link for sustainable development – critical enabler for all SDGs



# Data availability in SDG 16 – Regions



# UNDP SDG 16 Indicators

16.3.3

Access to  
dispute resolution  
mechanisms



**Measures the accessibility of civil justice institutions and mechanisms (both formal and informal)**

Broad Assessment of public justice needs and unmet legal needs  
Barriers to accessing justice and resolving legal problems  
Understanding of the formal and informal mechanisms landscape

Tunisia and State of  
Palestine

16.6.2

Satisfaction  
with public  
services



**Measures levels of public satisfaction with last experience with public services**

Targets essential services aimed to provide health, education and 'government services'  
Goes beyond measuring quantity, which is not always a reflection of quality  
Provides a broader assessment of the attributes associated with service delivery

Tunisia and State of  
Palestine

16.7.1b

Inclusive  
representation in  
the public service



**Measures and participation and representation of vulnerable groups in decision making positions in the public service**

Targets gender, youth, disability and 'nationally relevant population groups'  
Representation discourages auto-exclusion

Comoros, Egypt, Iraq,  
Lebanon, Mauritania,  
Oman, State of Palestine,  
United Arab States

16.7.1c

Inclusive  
representation  
in the judiciary



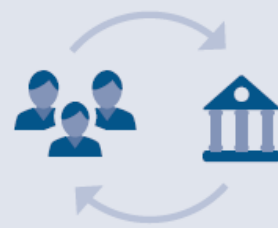
**Measures and participation and representation of vulnerable groups in decision making positions in the judiciary**

Targets gender, youth, disability and 'nationally relevant population groups'  
Representation promotes trust and observance of decision making

Bahrain, Iraq, Lebanon,  
Libya, Qatar, State of  
Palestine, Sudan, United  
Arab States,

16.7.2

Inclusive and  
responsive  
decision-making



**Measures the relationship between the State and the people across all developmental contexts**

Is a proxy to political participation  
Assesses the state ability to listen to the population, in the citizen perspective  
Identifies the degree of expectation in terms of state action in responsive to all groups needs

Tunisia and State of  
Palestine

# UNDP SDG 16 Indicators

16.3.3

Access to dispute resolution mechanisms



16.6.2

Satisfaction with public services



16.7.1b

Inclusive representation in the public service



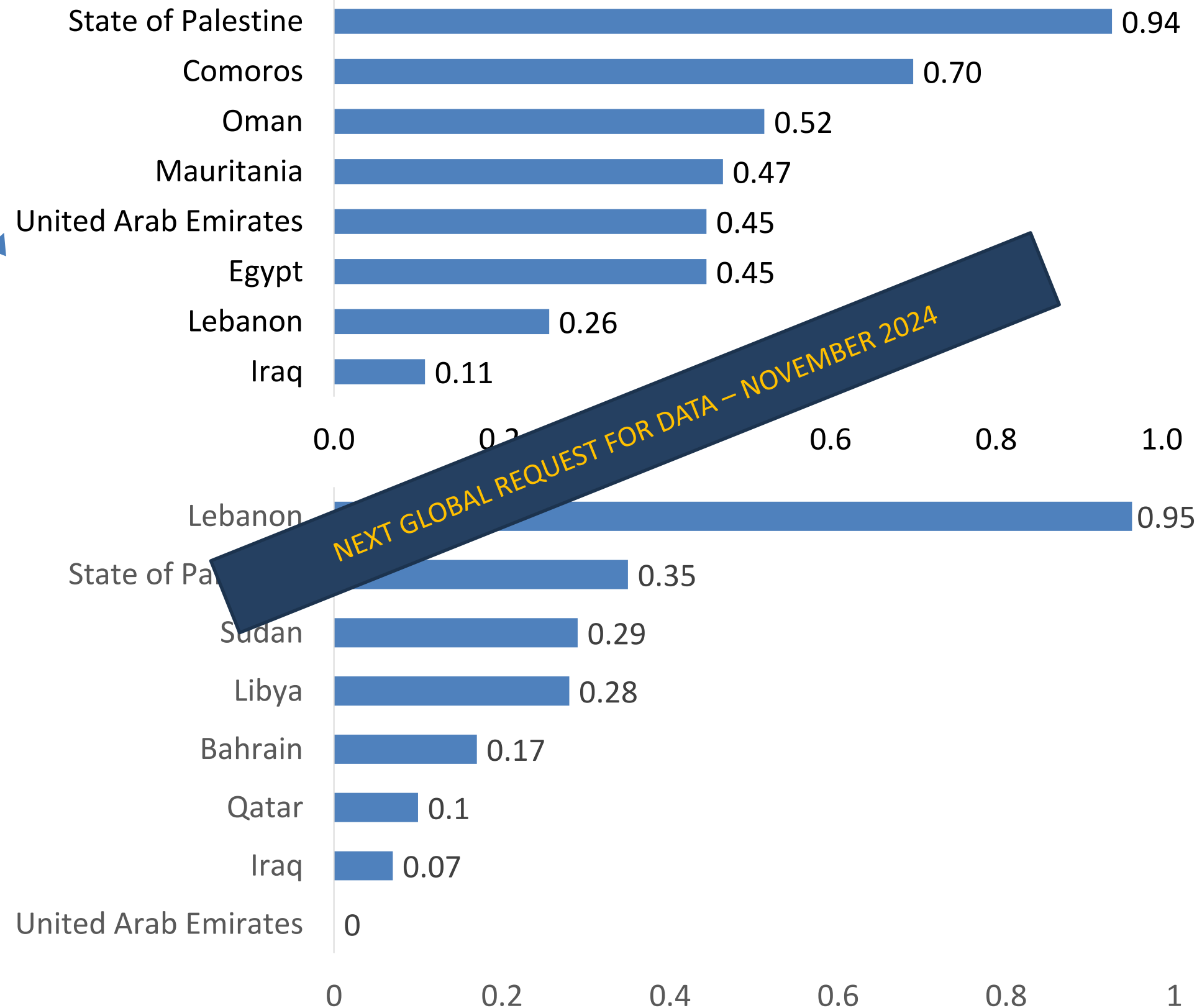
16.7.1c

Inclusive representation in the judiciary



16.7.2

Inclusive and responsive decision-making



Tunisia and State of Palestine

Tunisia and State of Palestine

Comoros, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Mauritania, Oman, State of Palestine, United Arab States

Bahrain, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Qatar, State of Palestine, Sudan, United Arab States,

Tunisia and State of Palestine

# Why measure?

- **Using survey data focuses on people and their experience** – it shifts the focus from the ‘supply-side’
  - **Administrative records** are still underused and can be maximized to support statistical data production
- 
- **Provides transparency and monitors quality of governance** being delivered to people.
  - There is a unique opportunity to invest in these domains and leverage the data collection for broader **political engagement and dialogue** on potentially sensitive topics
  - **Disaggregated data on governance, justice, human rights** help us better understand who is being left behind and excluded
- 
- We are **technically and methodologically prepared** to provide support on SDG 16 – with globally accepted methodologies in place
  - There is a **growing demand from countries** for support on SDG 16 measurement
  - A **joint-UN approach in the implementation of tools and technical support** to countries in measuring progress on SDG 16 makes it easier for national partners
  - It is an important opportunity to give **‘visibility’** to the SDG16 topics and put them into the policy agenda



# How to address the data gap?



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



**UNITED NATIONS  
HUMAN RIGHTS**  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



Administrative data sources

- ❖ 7+ indicators
- ❖ Better data coverage
- ❖ For some indicators, as high as 75% of countries

Population Surveys

- ❖ 9 Indicators
- ❖ Very low data coverage
- ❖ For some indicators, as high as 20% of countries

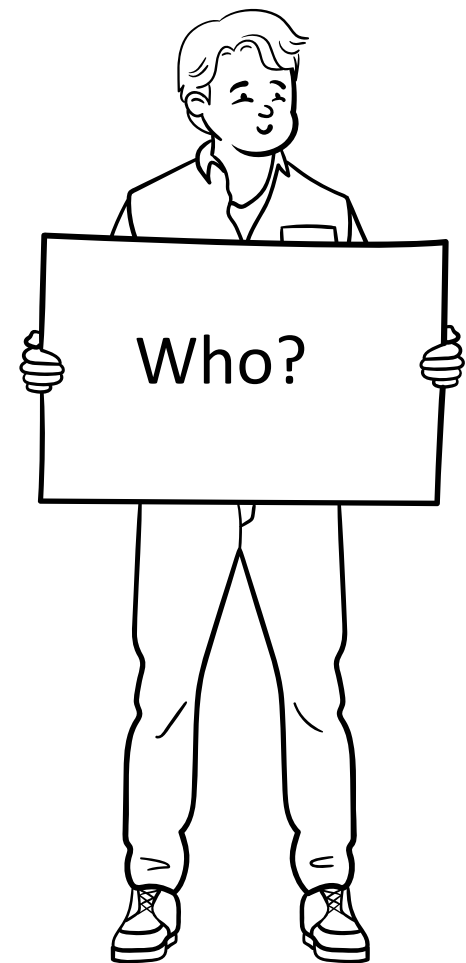






# Survey implementation

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## Target population

- 18+ years
- Resident population
- One randomly selected respondent per household
- No proxy interviews

## Data collection

- Face to Face with tablets (CAPI)
- Length: approx. 28 -30 min

## Sample

- adjusted to local needs
- random probability design
- national coverage

## Technical Assistance

- Joint team of experts UNDP, UNODC and OHCHR provide technical support and operational advice, open to engage with UN country teams and national authorities

Questionnaire and Implementation Manual available at:

<https://www.undp.org/publications/sdg16-survey-initiative>

# Lessons, Challenges and Opportunities

## LESSONS

- **Producing data on governance is inherently political.**
  - Producing disaggregated data on who has access to decision making or who is excluded from political processes is important .
  - Need to be aware of and mitigate for misuse of data – “do no harm” principles need to be considered in both the production and dissemination of data.
- **At the national level, push back on measuring governance has not been as controversial to measure as initially expected.**
  - On a case-by-case basis it can be on specific issues, but in general there is no general pushback despite the broader global context.
  - NSOs have shown strong interest and engagement in the development and testing of tools – e.g. SDG 16 Survey, Praia Group materials, etc.

## CHALLENGES

- **Data gap on SDG 16/governance remains significant but data availability is progressively increasing**
  - Methodologies on measuring governance still new and NSOs not fully aware or have limited capacities
- **Better data does not automatically mean better policy making**
  - Necessary to also invest in improving the dissemination and use of the data - for accountability and informing policy
- **Demand for data has increased, but investment is limited**
  - Decreased appetite in supporting the strengthening of national statistical systems – long term investment
  - The attention has often shifted towards new data/big data etc.

## OPPORTUNITIES

- **Partnerships are critical for success**
  - Limited resources and multiple demands facing NSOs, joint approaches benefit both the supporting agencies and the NSOs
  - Partnership is needed also for pushing forward advocacy on the use of governance statistics
- **Innovation is needed to overcome data gap on SDG 16**
  - Willingness of NSOs and other partners to explore new methodologies and approaches for data collection
- Increasing global/ regional **recognition of governance statistics** as a domain where data production is necessary