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Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Through Government Effectiveness and Control Over Corruption (A Cross-Country Study)

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Abstract

This research is driven by the enormous challenges in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), often hampered by weak governance and rampant corruption in many countries. Therefore, this research aims to determine the impact of controlling corruption and the effectiveness of global governance on achieving SDG 16. The method used in this research is purposive sampling using cross-country quantitative data from 2017 to 2021, with the final sample consisting of 145 countries and a total of 725 observations. Data is collected from various international sources such as the World Bank, Transparency International, Sustainable Development Report, and Human Development Report. Hypotheses were formulated and tested using multiple linear regression analysis using the STATA-17 software program. The research results show that government effectiveness and the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) positively affect achieving SDG 16. Countries that score higher in indicators of government effectiveness and control of corruption tend to make better progress in achieving SDG 16, and vice versa. Therefore, strengthening efforts to achieve SDG 16 requires political reform to strengthen state institutions, increase transparency and accountability, and ensure effective control over anti-corruption.

Keywords: *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Corruption control, Government effectiveness, Political stability, SDG 16*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini didorong oleh besarnya tantangan dalam mencapai Tujuan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan (SDGs), yang seringkali terhambat oleh lemahnya tata kelola dan merajalelanya korupsi di banyak negara. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui dampak pengendalian korupsi dan efektivitas tata kelola global terhadap pencapaian SDG 16. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah purposive sampling dengan menggunakan data sekunder kuantitatif lintas negara pada tahun 2017 hingga 2021, dengan sampel akhir berjumlah 145 negara dan total 725 observasi. Data dikumpulkan dari berbagai sumber internasional seperti Bank Dunia, Transparansi Internasional, Laporan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan, dan Laporan Pembangunan Manusia. Hipotesis dirumuskan dan diuji menggunakan analisis regresi linier berganda dengan menggunakan program software STATA-17. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa efektivitas pemerintah dan Indeks Persepsi Korupsi (CPI) berpengaruh positif terhadap pencapaian SDG 16. Negara-negara yang memiliki skor lebih tinggi pada indikator efektivitas pemerintah dan pengendalian korupsi cenderung mencapai kemajuan yang lebih baik dalam mencapai SDG 16, begitu pula sebaliknya. Oleh karena itu, penguatan upaya pencapaian SDG 16 memerlukan reformasi politik untuk memperkuat lembaga-lembaga negara, meningkatkan transparansi dan akuntabilitas, serta memastikan pengendalian yang efektif terhadap antikorupsi.

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1. Introduction

In the era of globalization, crises of justice, corruption, and government effectiveness are major issues that affect the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Previous research shows that modern armed conflict often occurs in densely populated urban areas, causing long-term damage to infrastructure and health systems (Shelton, 2024). Weaknesses in public governance, particularly corruption, exacerbate these conditions and pose a significant obstacle to the achievement of the SDGs. (OECD, 2021). While many global initiatives have been launched, a report by Transparency International, (2023) shows stagnation in the fight against corruption, with the global average score remaining at 43 over the past five years. Corruption is also closely linked to democratic backsliding, including weakening civil liberties and judicial independence, especially in the Asia Pacific region where 71% of countries score below the regional average.

In recent years, there has been a significant rise in global attention to sustainability and human

development challenges. The launch of the UN 2030 Agenda in 2015, along with the "Sustainable Development Goals" (SDGs), created a unique international policy opportunity. The SDGs build on and broaden the scope of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were primarily focused on reducing poverty in developing nations, by introducing a universal, transformative, and integrative approach (UN, 2015). Among the 17 ambitious targets is SDG 16, which focuses on promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions. This agenda calls for active participation from all nations to achieve a balance between environmental sustainability and human development (Bowen et al., 2017).

Empirical studies examining how government effectiveness and corruption control impact the achievement of SDGs have yielded diverse findings. Faradila et al, (2024) found that effective governments tend to be better able to manage public finances, while strong corruption control supports a cleaner and more efficient environment for implementing accrual accounting. Brewer et al., (2008) emphasize the importance of strengthening institutions and improving public governance to improve government performance in Asia. Mombeuil & Diunugala, (2021) demonstrate that countries with stronger governance, reflected in high scores on World Governance Indicators (WGIs) like government effectiveness, political stability, and rule of law, generally experience lower levels of corruption as measured by the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI).

Based on empirical studies, there is a significant research gap regarding the influence of government effectiveness and controlling corruption on the achievement of SDG 16. Many existing studies do not measure the direct impact of these two factors. They are often limited to small samples or a few specific countries, so they do not reflect global diversity. This hinders the relationship between governance, controlling corruption, and achieving SDG 16, highlighting the need for broader and deeper research. In response to these limitations, this research analyzes data from 145 countries worldwide to provide comprehensive insight into achieving the SDGs through government effectiveness and controlling corruption. This research also differentiates samples based on developed and developing country categories, as well as by continent.

Theories that support these findings include approaches that adopt concepts from various scientific disciplines, such as governance theory which explains that government management involves various stakeholders, transparency and accountability are very important for reducing corruption and increasing efficiency (Bevir, 2011). Governance refers to a complex framework involving various participants, mechanisms, organizational structures, and institutions that contribute to decision-making and the execution of political strategies (Driessen et al., 2012). In the context of controlling corruption, institutional economic theory highlights the importance of strong institutions to enforce the law and create effective monitoring mechanisms (North, 1990). The World Bank, (2020) emphasizes several theories that support controlling corruption, including governance theory which emphasizes transparency, accountability, participation and efficiency in public administration to minimize opportunities for corruption.

This research provides several contributions and in-depth empirical evidence. First, this research fills the research gap in the field of public sector accounting, as stated by Chong et al., (2021) who examine the link between political institutions and controlling corruption, Mombeuil & Diunugala, (2021) who examine the link between government governance and achievement SDGs, and Furqan & Din, (2019) which analyzes public perceptions regarding corruption and its influence on public legitimacy and open government. The findings of this research not only contribute to providing additional explanation regarding the determining factors for achieving the SDGs as previously stated by Kaufmann et al. (2011); and Sakinah et al., (2024) but also contributed to developing previous research that analyzed the determining factors for the success of achieving the SDGs through governance and controlling corruption Glass & Newig, (2019); Alshubiri et al., (2023); Furqan et al., (2020) and (Abdullah et al., 2022). The effectiveness of the world government has positively influenced the achievement of global SDGs. Second, the results of this research found that there is a positive and significant influence of controlling corruption on the achievement of Global SDGs as found by Laupe et al., (2022) and (Johnston, 2005). This research also shows that controlling corruption, either directly or indirectly, positively affects achieving the SDGs and implies that countries must focus on strengthening political institutions and increasing transparency and accountability to achieve better sustainable development results.

The government has a central role in bridging the application of global principles into national policies and supporting local actions that contribute to achieving the SDGs (Barbier & Burgess, 2021). In addition, the role of civil society and the media is very important in eradicating corruption and increasing government effectiveness. Research by Galeazzo et al., (2024); Malito et al., (2021); Almaqtari et al., (2024) and Osei, (2020) show that government transparency and accountability greatly influence success in achieving SDG 16, which focuses on peace, justice, and strong institutions. In this context, government effectiveness is measured through Political Stability Without Violence/Terrorism, which describes the government's ability to maintain security and prevent violence that has the potential to hamper social and economic development.

In addition, research by Kaufmann et al., (2011) and Alesina & Perotti, (1996) highlights that political stability without violence is an important factor

in good governance and economic performance. Regan & Norton, (2005) emphasize that countries that can maintain political stability tend to achieve sustainable economic development. This stability allows the government to implement development policies more effectively, ultimately strengthening the achievement of SDG 16.

H_1 : Government Effectiveness Positively Impacts SDG 16

Corruption is one of the main obstacles to creating a stable and just environment and undermines public trust in government institutions. The study by Agu et al., (2024) mentions that Nigeria's effective governance strategies and anti-corruption efforts, like enhancing openness and responsibility, contribute positively, and positively impact public trust and institutional effectiveness. Thus, strengthening governance measures and international collaboration on member corruption contributes significantly to the achievement of SDG 16 at the global and national levels. Furthermore, Kaufmann Daniel, (2009) explains that corruption plays an important role in exacerbating the global financial crisis, especially through "state capture," where influential parties manipulate policies and legal institutions for personal gain. This phenomenon not only disrupts political stability but also creates an environment prone to conflict, as seen in the political crisis in Burundi. According to Leal & Marques, (2021) and Sartor & Beamish, (2020) the widespread impact of corruption is also related to globalization, where African countries show evidence that corruption hinders economic development and worsens the environmental impacts due to globalization. According to the World Economic Forum, (2019) corruption not only damages the economy but also causes loss of life. Therefore, controlling corruption must be a top priority in the global development agenda to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs, especially SDG 16, by creating a more just, transparent and sustainable world where government institutions work for the welfare of society.

H_2 : Controlling Corruption Has a Positive Impact on Achieving SDG 16

2. Research Method

This study uses secondary data and a quantitative method to investigate the connection between effective government, reduced corruption, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across different countries. The data for this research comes from various sources including the World Bank, the Sustainable Development Report, Transparency International (TI), and the Human Development Report, covering 214 countries from 2017 to 2021. The sample selection employs a purposive sampling technique. However, 23 countries do not have government effectiveness ratings, 4 countries do not have SDGs index data and 42 countries do not have corruption perception index data. As a result of insufficient data, the final sample size was determined to be 145 observations, representing 67.75% of the total countries worldwide for a single year of observation. Considering that the analysis encompasses 5 years, this study's total number of observations amounts to 725. All the data employed in this study is derived from the Sustainable Development Report score data for SDG 16, namely access and affordability of justice, World Bank score data for Government Effectiveness indicators, namely political stability without violence/terrorism, score data from Transparency International for the corruption perception index, World Bank data for population and gross domestic product, and Human Development Report data for the human development index.

To address the research questions and test the hypotheses, the empirical model used in this study is presented as follows:

$$SDG16_{it} = \beta 0_{it} + \beta_1 PSNV_{it} + \beta CPI_{2It} + \beta LNPOPUL_{3it} + \beta LNGDP_{4it} + \beta_5 HDI_{it} \text{ and } .....(1)$$

Table 1 outlines the operationalization of the variables in the equation (1).

Table 1. Operational Variables

Name	Variable Operationalization	Data source
$SDG16_{it}$	Index of accessibility and affordability of justice (ranging from 0 to 100, with 0 indicating the lowest access and affordability and 100 indicating the highest).	Sustainable Development Report
$PSNV_{it}$	Countries are classified by their level of political stability without violence or terrorism, with a scale from 0 to 100.	World Bank
CPI_{it}	The measure of anti-corruption effectiveness (scored from 0 to 100, with 0 representing high levels of corruption and 100 representing low levels).	Transparency International
$POPUL_{it}$	The natural log of the absolute population of a country.	World Bank
GDP_{it}	The natural log of the absolute value of a country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	World Bank
HDI_{it}	A combined measure of a country's overall human development, focusing on health, education, and living standards. It's ranked as "very high" (80+), "high" (70-79), "medium" (60-69), or "low" (below 60).	Human Development Report

Source: processed by researchers (2024)

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Results

A comprehensive summary of the descriptive statistics for the variables used in this study is provided in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Descriptive Statistics

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
$SDG16_{it}$	725	59.51	29.04	0	100
$PSNVRANK_{it}$	725	44.75	26.27	0.47	99.53
$CPISCORE_{it}$	725	44.67	18.76	11	89
$LNPOP_{it}$	725	16.28	1.62	12.54	21.08
$LNGDP_{it}$	725	2.18	5.51	-32.91	43.48
$HDIRANK_{it}$	725	0.73	0.15	0	0.96

Number of Observations = 725
Explanation of variable operationalization in table 2.
Source: Secondary Data, STATA-17 output (processed, 2024)

Table 2 presents the descriptive statistics for all the variables examined in this study. The average value of the SDG16 variable is 59.51, indicating that the countries included in this study generally have levels of justice access and affordability that require improvement, as this figure is far from the maximum of 100 on the SDGs percentile rank. The average PSNVRANK variable is 44.75, suggesting that the sample primarily consists of countries characterized by low political stability without incidents of violence or terrorism. Additionally, the average CPISCORE variable stands at 44.67, Implying that corruption continues to be a prevalent concern in most of the countries examined.

Table 3. Correlation Analysis of Variables

Variables	$SDG16_{it}$	$PSNVRANK_{it}$	$CPISCORE_{it}$	$LNPOP_{it}$	$LNGDP_{it}$	HDI_{it}
$SDG16_{it}$	1.000					
$PSNVRANK_{it}$	0.395*** (0.000)	1.000				
$CPISCORE_{it}$	0.432*** (0.000)	0.819*** (0.000)	1.000			
$LNPOP_{it}$	0.106** (0.004)	-0.453*** (0.000)	-0.207*** (0.000)	1.000		
$LNGDP_{it}$	-0.003 (0.917)	-0.011 (0.766)	-0.026 (0.484)	0.014 (0.691)	1.000	
$HDIRANK_{it}$	0.199*** (0.000)	0.381*** (0.000)	0.424*** (0.000)	-0.061* (0.096)	-0.105*** (0.004)	1.000

Number of Observations = 725
Explanation of variable operationalization in table 1
*** < 0.01 = P-Value Significant 1%
** 0.01 - 0.05
* < 0.06 - 0.09

Table 3 explains the findings from the correlation analysis of the key variables in this study. The variables PSNVRANK, which measures political stability in countries without violence or terrorism; CPISCORE, which assesses the level of corruption control in government; LNPOP, representing the natural logarithm of a country's population; and HDIRANK, which gauges the quality of human life, all demonstrate a positive and significant correlation with the achievement of SDG 16. In contrast, LNGDP the natural logarithm of the absolute value of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) or a country's economic size, does not exhibit a significant relationship.

This research uses a statistical method called multiple linear regression, analyzed using STATA-17 software, to test its hypotheses. Overall, the multiple linear regression results indicate an R-square value of 0.26, meaning that the research model accounts for 26% of the variation in the percentile rank of SDG achievement among countries globally, with a statistical significance level (F-statistic) of 1%. Additionally, the mean VIF is 2.26, suggesting that there are no multicollinearity issues present, allowing the model to reliably explain variations in government effectiveness.

Table 4. Hypothesis Testing Results

$SDG16_t = \beta 0_t + \beta_1\ PSNVrank_t + \beta\ cpiscore_{2\,t} + \beta\ lnpop_{3\,t} + \beta_4\ lngdp_t + \beta_5\ hdirank_t$

	Expected sign	SDG16
KONS		-66.042*** (0.000)
$PSNVRANK_{it}$	H1 : (+)	0.450*** (0.000)
$CPISCORE_{it}$	H2 : (+)	0.262*** (0.005)
$LNPOP_{it}$	H3 : (+/-)	5.816*** (0.000)
$LNGDP_{it}$	H4 : (+/-)	-0.003 (0.986)
$HDIRANK_{it}$	H5 : (+/-)	-1.385 (0.831)
Prob > F		0.000
R-Square		0.26
Obs		725
Mean Vif		2.26

Information
Explanation of operationalization of variables in table 1
*** = P-Value significant 1%

Source: Secondary Data, STATA-17 output (processed, 2024)

Table 4 indicates a positive relationship between global government effectiveness and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a coefficient of 0.45 at a significance level of 1%. This finding suggests that improvements in government effectiveness, as measured by the PSNVRANK for political stability without violence or terrorism, are significantly associated with enhanced progress toward achieving the SDGs. This result supports the first hypothesis (H1), which posits that government effectiveness has a positive impact on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Additionally, Table 5 reveals a positive effect of corruption control on SDG attainment, indicated by a coefficient of 0.26 at a significance level of 1%. The CPISCORE, which represents the Corruption Perception Index and indicates the level of corruption control within a country, shows a positive and significant correlation with the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This finding supports the second hypothesis (H2), which suggests that enhancements in corruption control, as indicated by the Corruption Perception Index, lead to better outcomes in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In other words, countries that are more effective at controlling corruption generally perform better in their sustainable development initiatives. Overall, the model accounts for 26% of the variation in SDG achievement (R-Square = 0.26), signifying that while the variables examined contribute significantly, there are still other unidentified factors influencing the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. These results further emphasize the importance of strengthening governance and anti-corruption measures as essential components of the global development agenda.

3.2. Discussion

The first key finding is that strong and efficient governments are associated with greater progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This supports earlier research highlighting the role of political stability, corruption control, and transparent governance in reaching SDG objectives Sachs, (2012). Further Meschede, (2020) stated that strong institutions are more important than economic factors in achieving sustainable development. Fung, (2006) emphasizes that public participation increases the legitimacy and sustainability of policies by ensuring that local needs and priorities are considerate in development planning and implementation. Thus, governance effectiveness not only influences policy implementation but also ensures that the SDGs are achieved through an inclusive and sustainable approach. These findings are consistent with previous research conducted by Bouckaert et al. (2018); Stott & Murphy, (2020); Moreno-Serna et al. (2020) which also shows the importance of government effectiveness in the form of political stability, integrity, transparency, and collaboration in creating the transformational change needed to achieve the SDGs.

The second finding also shows that controlling corruption affects the achievement of the SDGs. These findings support previous research, including Mungiu-Pippidi & Dadašov, (2016); Furqan et al., (2020); Putri Kurata Ayuni & Syarief Hidayatulloh, (2023); Abdullah M. I et al., (2022) who also highlighted that effective governance and controlling corruption are essential prerequisites for attaining the Sustainable Development Goals. They point out that without effective oversight mechanisms and integrity in governance, efforts to achieve sustainable development will be hampered. Thus, these studies support the importance of institutional reform and strengthening oversight capacity as crucial steps in improving governance performance and achieving sustainable development.

The conclusions of this research provide several practical benefits for ensuring the long-term trajectory of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). First, strengthening institutions is critical to building resilience in governance systems, enabling adaptation to changing political and economic conditions while ensuring consistent progress towards the SDGs. This includes increasing administrative capacity, implementing innovative governance practices, and implementing strong accountability mechanisms. Second, institutionalizing anti-corruption measures is important to maintain the integrity of governance, ensuring that resources are used effectively for the start of development. Strategies include encouraging transparency, enforcing regulations, and encouraging violations as necessary to minimize resource leakage and build public trust. Finally, regional and international collaboration can help countries learn from each other's experiences, share best practices, and jointly address governance challenges. These strategies provide a sustainable foundation for achieving the SDGs, as these practices enable countries to maintain consistency in implementation policies, ensure ongoing community engagement, and strengthen cross-sector coordination. In the long term, this helps countries overcome emerging obstacles, take advantage of global opportunities, and create systems that are responsive to changes in the global environment and the needs of future generations. In this way, countries can ensure that achieving the SDGs is not only temporary but is also integrated into a broader and sustainable development agenda.

Additional Testing

The study also analyzes governance effectiveness and corruption control across different geographical regions, including developed and developing countries and continents. This approach aims to enhance the understanding of regional differences. This method seeks to investigate how various political, economic, and social traits across different global regions might influence the connection between governance and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Additional testing is

needed to consider the possibility that the relationships between governance, controlling corruption, and SDG outcomes may differ significantly across regions due to varying institutional structures, cultural norms, levels of economic development, and environmental policies. This analysis is expected to provide more comprehensive and contextually specific insights to support more effective policies in each region.

Table 5. Additional Test Results for the Developing Countries

	Expected sign	SDG16
KONS		-67.278*** (0.000)
$PSNVRANK_{it}$	H1 : (+)	0.335*** (0.000)
$CPISCORE_{it}$	H2 : (+)	0.399*** (0.008)
$LNPOP_{it}$	H3 : (+)	5.491*** (0.000)
$LNGDP_{it}$	H4 : (-)	-0.001 (0.994)
$HDIRANK_{it}$	H5 : (-)	6,592 (0.395)
Prob > F		0.000
R-Square		0.14
Obs		450
Mean Vif		1.58
Information Explanation of operationalization of variables in table 1 *** = P-Value significant 1%		

Source: Secondary Data, STATA-17 output (processed, 2024)

Table 5 indicates a positive effect of government effectiveness on the achievement of SDG 16, with a coefficient of 0.33 and a significance level of 1%. This shows that with a stable political situation and minimal conflict, developing countries are better able to build strong institutions, maintain peace, and uphold justice, which is the core of SDG 16. Furthermore, Table 5 indicates a positive effect of corruption control on the attainment of SDG 16, reflected by a coefficient of 0.39 and a significance level of 1%. This suggests that with reduced corruption practices, developing countries are more likely to achieve SDG 16 targets, such as strengthening effective public institutions and reducing social injustice.

Table 6. Additional Test Results for the Developed Countries

	Expected sign	SDG16
KONS		-57.166*** (0,005)
$PSNVRANK_{it}$	H1 : (+)	0.573*** (0.000)
$CPISCORE_{it}$	H2 : (-)	0.121 (0.440)
$LNPOP_{it}$	H3 : (+)	6.081*** (0.000)
$LNGDP_{it}$	H4 : (-)	-0.061 (0.859)
$HDIRANK_{it}$	H5 : (-)	-15.800 (0.190)
Prob > F		0.000
R-Square		0.24
Obs		275
Mean Vif		2.17
Information Explanation of operationalization of variables in table 1 *** = P-Value significant 1%		

Source: Secondary Data, STATA-17 output (processed, 2024)

Table 6 indicates that government effectiveness has a positive impact on the attainment of SDG 16, with a coefficient of 0.57 and a significance level of 1%. This highlights the crucial role of political stability in developed nations in facilitating the achievement of SDG 16. With a more stable political situation and less conflict, developed countries can build strong and fair institutions, and maintain sustainable peace. In addition, table 6 also shows a positive coefficient of 0.12, but it is not statistically significant (p-value 0.440). This shows that controlling corruption in developed countries does not have a significant effect on the achievement of SDG 16 in this model. This may be due to the relatively low level of corruption in developed countries, so this variable is not a major factor in influencing the achievement of SDG 16 in these countries.

Table 7. Additional Test Result for the Asian Continent

	Expected sign	SDG16
KONS		-174.548*** (0,000)
$PSNVRANK_{it}$	H1 : (+)	0.555*** (0.000)
$CPISCORE_{it}$	H2 : (-)	-0.136 (0.470)
$LNPOP_{it}$	H3 : (+)	11.663*** (0.000)
$LNGDP_{it}$	H4 : (-)	-0.425 (0.154)
$HDIRANK_{it}$	H5 : (-)	8.108 (0.587)
Prob > F		0.000
R-Square		0.38
Obs		175
Mean Vif		1.77
Information Explanation of operationalization of variables in table 1 *** = P-Value significant 1%		

Source: Secondary Data, STATA-17 output (processed, 2024)

Table 7 indicates a positive effect of government effectiveness on the achievement of SDG 16, with a coefficient of 0.55 and a significance level of 1%. This underscores the critical role of political stability in the Asian region in facilitating the achievement of SDG 16. In contrast, the CPISCORE variable presents a negative coefficient of -0.13 and lacks statistical significance (p-value of 0.470). This implies that corruption control does not significantly affect the achievement of SDG 16 in Asian countries due to various factors. First, systemic and intractable corruption in many Asian countries means that anti-corruption efforts have not yielded tangible results. Secondly, political stability and the size of the population may play a more significant role in achieving SDG 16. In countries with greater stability, it is possible to establish robust institutions, even in the presence of high corruption levels. Additionally, ineffective anti-corruption policies may diminish the direct effect of corruption control on the attainment of SDG 16.

Table 8. Additional Test Result for the African Continent

	Expected sign	SDG16
KONS		-204.913*** (0,000)
$PSNVRANK_{it}$	H1 : (+)	0.529*** (0.000)
$CPISCORE_{it}$	H2 : (+)	0.779*** (0.000)
$LNPOP_{it}$	H3 : (+)	12.432*** (0.000)
$LNGDP_{it}$	H4 : (-)	0.058 (0.858)
$HDIRANK_{it}$	H5 : (-)	11.525 (0.144)
Prob > F		0.000
R-Square		0.53

Obs	205
Mean Vif	1.86
Information	
Explanation of operationalization of variables in table 1	
*** = P-Value significant 1%	

Source: Secondary Data, STATA-17 output (processed, 2024)

Table 8 indicates that the variable PSNVRANK positively affects government effectiveness in achieving SDG 16, with a coefficient of 0.52 and a significance level of 1%. This implies that political stability is crucial for supporting the achievement of SDG 16 in Africa. Greater political stability and reduced violence significantly enhance institutions and improve justice and peace systems. Moreover, the CPISCORE variable shows a favorable effect on reaching SDG 16, evidenced by a coefficient of 0.77 and a significance level of 1%. This implies that reduced corruption enhances the chances for African nations to establish robust, fair, and transparent institutions.

Table 9. Additional Test Results for the North American Continent

	Expected sign	SDG16
KONS		129.463*** (0,000)
PSNVRANK$_{it}$	H1 : (-)	0.232 (0.066)
CPISCORE$_{it}$	H2 : (-)	0.260 (0.073)
LNPOP$_{it}$	H3 : (+)	-5.281*** (0.000)
LNGDP$_{it}$	H4 : (-)	-0.008 (0.962)
HDIRANK$_{it}$	H5 : (-)	-2.661 (0.742)
Prob > F		0.000
R-Square		0.76
Obs		70
Mean Vif		4.08
Information		
Explanation of operationalization of variables in table 1		
*** = P-Value significant 1%		

Source: Secondary Data, STATA-17 output (processed, 2024)

Table 9 indicates that the variable PSNVRANK has a positive coefficient of 0.23 but is not significant at the 1% level (p-value 0.066). This implies that political stability in North America positively influences the achievement of SDG 16, though this effect is not strong enough to be deemed statistically significant at the highest level. Furthermore, Table 9 reveals that the CPISCORE variable has a positive coefficient of 0.26 with a p-value of 0.073, which is also not statistically significant. Nevertheless, this suggests a trend indicating that controlling corruption may have a positive effect on achieving SDG 16, even if this effect is not strong enough to be considered significant in this model.

Table 10. Additional Test Results for the South American Continent

	Expected sign	SDG16
KONS		-35.418 (0,104)
PSNVRANK$_{it}$	H1 : (-)	0.129 (0.297)
CPISCORE$_{it}$	H2 : (+)	0.655*** (0.000)
LNPOP$_{it}$	H3 : (+)	4.419*** (0.001)
LNGDP$_{it}$	H4 : (-)	0.037 (0.806)
HDIRANK$_{it}$	H5 : (-)	7.124 (0.569)
Prob > F		0.000
R-Square		0.55
Obs		60

Mean Vif	1.85
Information	
Explanation of operationalization of variables in table 1	
*** = P-Value significant 1%	

Source: Secondary Data, STATA-17 output (processed, 2024)

In Table 10, PSNVRANKit (political stability and non-violence) has a positive coefficient of 0.12 but is not significant (p-value 0.297). This indicates that, within the context of the South American continent, political stability does not significantly influence the achievement of SDG 16, as countries in South America generally exhibit relatively high levels of political stability. In contrast, the CPISCORE (Corruption Perception Index) shows a positive coefficient of 0.65, significant at the 1% level. This implies that controlling corruption is both important and significant for achieving SDG 16 in North America. The lower the level of corruption, the higher the likelihood of attaining the goals of peace, justice, and strong institutions.

Table 11: Additional Test Results for the European Continent

	Expected sign	**SDG16**
KONS		1.575 (0.943)
PSNVRANK$_{it}$	H1 : (-)	0.100 (0.427)
CPISCORE$_{it}$	H2 : (-)	0.229 (0.120)
LNPOP$_{it}$	H3 : (+)	4.573*** (0.000)
LNGDP$_{it}$	H4 : (-)	0.144 (0.686)
HDIRANK$_{it}$	H5 : (-)	-20.752 (0.943)
Prob > F		0.000
R-Square		0.10
Obs		210
Mean Vif		1.90
Information		
Explanation of operationalization of variables in table 1		
*** = P-Value significant 1%		

Source: Secondary Data, STATA-17 output (processed, 2024)

Table 11 shows that in continental Europe, PSNVRANK has a positive coefficient of 0.10 but is not significant (p-value 0.427). This suggests that in Continental Europe, most countries already have relatively good political stability, so the influence of this variable may not be so significant in predicting variations in SDG16. In addition, CPISCORE has a positive coefficient of 0.22 but is not significant (p-value 0.120). This also indicates that in Europe, corruption levels in several countries are already quite low, which means that variations in CPI scores may not significantly affect the achievement of SDG 16. Instead, other factors, such as robust government policies, regulations, or legal frameworks, may play a more crucial role in achieving SDG 16 in Europe.

4. Conclusion

The study affirms that government effectiveness and corruption control are essential for attaining the SDGs, particularly about justice, peace, and strong institutions. According to the findings, countries with effective governance and minimal corruption are more likely to succeed in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 16. The government needs to strengthen political institutions, increase transparency and accountability, and maintain political stability through effective security policies. The active participation of civil society in government oversight and anti-corruption advocacy is essential, supported by the media acting as an independent watchdog. Collaboration among the private sector, international organizations, NGOs, and the government is essential to bolster anti-corruption initiatives and enhance government effectiveness.

This research implies that governments in various countries need to focus on improving political stability, corruption control, and transparency to create an environment conducive to sustainable development. Secondly, the role of civil society and the media as independent watchdogs need to be strengthened to create significant social pressure for increased government accountability and transparency.

This study only uses 5 years of data and only analyzes 1 SDG's global target, namely Peace, Justice

and Strong Institutions, specifically indicator 16.3.1, namely the measurement of public confidence in the justice system and indicator 16.3.3, namely the level of accessibility to justice. And 1 indicator of world government effectiveness is Political Stability Without Violence/Terrorism.

Future research should aim to expand upon this study by adopting a more holistic approach that examines additional factors influencing the achievement of the SDGs. Given that the variables in this study account for only 26% of the impact, there remains 74% attributable to other factors that could affect SDG attainment. Additionally, future researchers should consider analyzing SDG achievement with regard to aspects such as government policies, funding, infrastructure, partnerships, education, political stability, institutional capacity, technology, economic conditions, environmental policies, health, social inequality, the role of civil society, data and monitoring, climate change, and human rights and social inclusion. A deeper investigation into these factors will yield a more thorough understanding and aid in developing more effective strategies for achieving sustainable development goals.

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