



World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV)

Consultation Meeting with USAID

Feedback Summary

Date: May 13, 2019

Location: USAID, Washington DC

Audience: Representatives of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Overview and Key Issues Discussed: Susan Fine, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator for Policy, Planning, and Learning, welcomed the participants and thanked the World Bank team for the strategy concept note and the issues it highlights. Franck Bousquet, Senior Director in the World Bank, presented the FCV strategy concept with input from Tracy Washington, IFC, and Merli Margaret Baroudi, MIGA. The participants were invited to ask questions and to express their views. For purposes of conciseness, the following summary highlights comments and recommendations that were provided by individual representatives.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders
1. General Comments
Participants welcomed the WBG process of developing a strategy and noted USAID’s full engagement on this agenda. “We see confluence around this space – Countering Violent Extremism, Stabilization Assistance, etc.” Participants noted that a parallel process is currently underway to redesign USAID into three new bureaus, including the creation of the Bureau for Conflict Prevention and Stabilization, as well as the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, mirroring the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus. The participants found the four P’s outlined in the Concept Note to be a useful framework for discussion around FCV challenges.
2. Humanitarian-development collaboration
The participants raised the following points/questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making inroads on the humanitarian – development nexus is a focus for the coming years, which will require strong coordination and in some cases, a cultural shift.• How do we as international donor community ensure alignment of our priorities without establishing rigid coordination processes?• The ideas presented in the concept note resonate very well with the resilience model that USAID is committed to. Afghanistan is an example – what is the coherence there? We pivot back and forth between types of interventions instead of thinking across.• Resilience perspective: Lots of interesting pilot projects on building resilience capacities, example in the area of forced displacement. The Bank should scale these pilots up.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders
3. Prevention
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One central challenge is to get resources to flow to countries at risk before there is a major crisis. • It would be helpful for USAID to lean on the Bank in certain cases, where USAID may have challenges in mobilizing resources early enough. • The importance of the Do No Harm principle was raised. • Hard-earned lesson from USAID: Not all development is anti-fragility and anti-violence.
4. State legitimacy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep focus on state fragility – important to have the pressure on this agenda. • The Bank’s challenge - being connected to the government. What happens when the government is the perpetrator? The WBG has come a long way in its engagement with the private sector and the civil society, but the perception is still that the Bank is tied in with the government. • Will the Bank join bilateral partners in difficult dialogues with the government, when the government becomes the source of the problem? This has been a source of tension before. • Convening power is important – and it comes across clearly in the concept note.
5. Engagement with private sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Happy to see engagement with private sector noted in the Concept Note. We need to think more carefully about this. We are not tapping into all the prevention work that goes on in the private sector in terms of political risk analysis, etc.
6. Monitoring and Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better M&E framework is important. USAID has done some work to train staff to learn how non-permissive conditions impact the effectiveness of Agency programs and learn about tools and resources to improve programming and build resilience. • USAID is happy to share this type of training with the WB and share experiences on third party monitoring, adaptive procurement, scenario planning, and working with disaster relief and military personnel in FCV settings.
7. Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional and subnational entities – this is important. How will the WBG work with these within the current operational model? Happy to share USAID experiences in this regard. • Comparative advantage – what is best done outside the Bank, by whom? For example, in connection with the relations with governments.
8. Excluded groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to reduce gender imbalance. Youth is also important. But do not exclude other vulnerable groups – ethnic minorities, religious groups etc..

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List of Participants:

USAID

Bureau for Policy, Planning, and Learning

- Susan Fine, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator
- Jeff Szuchman, Director, Office of Policy
- Eric Ambrose, Senior Program Analyst

Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance

- Robert Jenkins, Deputy Assistant Administrator
- Ryan McCannell, Acting Director, Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation
- Shawnee Hoover, Senior Advisor, Office of Food for Peace
- Andy Billo, Senior Humanitarian Advisor, Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

Bureau for Africa

- Cheryl Anderson, Deputy Assistant Administrator

Bureau for Asia

- Javier Piedra, Deputy Assistant Administrator
- Trevor Hublin, Office of Sustainable Development Bureau for Asia

Bureau for Europe and Eurasia

- Matthew Carpenter, Senior Analyst and Coordination lead on Countering and Preventing Violent Extremism

Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs

- Karen Freeman, Assistant to the Administrator

Bureau for Food Security

- Jessica Anderson, Conflict Advisor, Office of Country Strategy and Implementation

World Bank Group

- Franck Bousquet, Senior Director, World Bank
- Merli Margaret Baroudi, Director, MIGA
- Tracy Washington, Principle Investment Officer, IFC
- Robert Beadle, Advisor to U.S. Executive Director
- Jessica Isaacs, Advisor to the U.S. Executive Director
- Bill Danvers, Special Representative, World Bank
- Sandra Jensen Landi, Senior Partnership Specialist, World Bank