World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV)
Consultation Meeting with staff from European Commission services
Feedback Summary

Date: June 14, 2019

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Audience: European Commission officials

Overview: Franck Bousquet, Senior Director of the World Bank’s Fragility, Conflict & Violence Group, presented an overview of the WBG’s Strategy for FCV Concept Note. Participants then shared their views and recommendations. This summary captures the key points, recommendations, and feedback raised during the meeting, which will be complemented with additional comments from the European Commission services (submitted online).

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<th>Specific Feedback from Stakeholders</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1. General Comments</strong></td>
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<td>• Participants asked to clarify the motivation for adopting a new FCV strategy. Important to clearly define concept of fragility, as well as definition of violence.</td>
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<td>• Essential to hold consultations on FCV strategy with partner countries at local and national levels.</td>
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<td>• Outline if this strategy aims to develop new tools for WBG to operate in FCV contexts and implement the strategy.</td>
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<th><strong>2. Partnerships</strong></th>
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<td>• Appreciate the emphasis on partnerships; important to outline how concretely coordination on ground will work out in practice. Outline level of coordination with IMF.</td>
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<td>• Important to have CSOs involved in partnerships, given their experience on women, gender, and peace and statebuilding.</td>
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<td>• Need to look at more flexible means of triggering cooperation frameworks (e.g. joint Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessments), even when the political landscape is not favorable, and when for instance the state is a driver of conflict.</td>
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<th><strong>3. Humanitarian-Development-Security Nexus</strong></th>
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<td>• Important to outline how WB will work on the humanitarian/development nexus, especially when working with refugees.</td>
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Specific Feedback from Stakeholders

- Clarify how WB/donors can integrate the political dimension when the state is contributing to FCV challenges, especially in terms of prevention. Need to be able to tackle this tension between humanitarian principles (e.g. of neutrality) and dev-political intervention. How to link hum-dev-political dimensions and make it work in sensitive situations.

4. Climate/Natural Disasters

- Climate is well addressed in the concept note, but natural disaster preparedness/management needs to be further elaborated.

5. Drivers of conflict

- Important to consider drivers of conflict, changing nature of fragility, sometimes leading to violence. Essential to introduce flexibility to respond to changing crisis.
- Clarification on approach to conflict sensitivity, especially conflict sensitivity of private sector engagement (e.g. when natural resources are involved).

6. Other

- Need to look at macro/fiscal stability and to work on debt issue, efficiency of expenditure (so both DRM and PFM).
- Key to focus on the importance of natural resources and biodiversity and outline the WB approach in these areas.

List of Participants:

Valentina Villoria (DEVCO C6)
Jeroen Witkamp (DEVCO E1)
Philippe George Jacques (DEVCO B2)
Patrick Rabe (DEVCO B2)
Maria Fernandez Fernandez (DEVCO B2)
Machteld Bierens de Haan (DEVCO A3)
Efterpi Verigaki (DEVCO A5)
Matteo Oppizzi (DEVCO D2)
Chloé de Soye (ECHO C1)
Daphne Spyropolou (DEVCO B2)
Mario Ronconi (DEVCO B2)
Alessandro Villa (DEVCO A3)
Banu Maaroouf (DEVCO B1)
Tallulah Hewett (DEVCO B)
Nathalie Brajard (DEVCO A4)
Marc Petterman (DEVCO B2)
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