

World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) Consultation Meeting in Washington, DC

Feedback Summary

Date: April 11, 2019

Location: Washington, DC

Audience: Government representatives from various countries of the Africa region attending the World

Bank-IMF Spring Meetings

Overview: The World Bank Group (WBG) FCV Strategy concept note was presented by Mr. Franck Bousquet, Senior Director of the World Bank's FCV Group, to government representatives from various countries of the Africa region during the World Bank-IMF Spring Meetings. Following the presentation, participants were invited to share their views. The summary below captures the key points, recommendations, comments and feedback raised during the meeting.

Feedback from Stakeholders

1. Overall

- FCV is a critical challenge to address for countries across the Africa Region.
- The focus on the nexus between conflict, development and economics is very important.
- Support expressed for the WBG's approach to FCV, and for the wide-reaching consultations plan.
- Important to develop a tailored approach to FCV depending on the specific country context.
- Scaling-up financing is critical in order to maximize impact on-the-ground.
- When need to think about the end goal of the Strategy and where we want to collectively be post-2025.

2. Key Areas of Engagement

- Prevention is critical and must be a strong focus of the Strategy.
- Youth employment is essential in order to address grievances that can lead to violence, and therefore we need investments in jobs, SMEs, infrastructure, agriculture, etc.
- It is critical to remain engaged in times of crisis and help countries manage these difficult moments important for development institutions to remain committed over the long-term.
- Critical to focus on strengthening institutions and building capacity.
- The Strategy should make the link between security and development, specifically by looking at security expenditures and how development programs can support countries impacted by FCV.
- Development support to address refugee shocks is very important, particularly given protracted and emerging refugee crises.

Feedback from Stakeholders

- Refugee shocks lead to a strain on governments' ability to provide services helping both refugees and host communities is therefore essential.
- The WBG should consider a regional approach to addressing FCV challenges given the far-reaching and cross-border consequences of FCV.

3. Drivers of Fragility

- Strategy should consider both internal and external shocks that can drive and exacerbate fragility.
- Looking at exogenous factors, such as climate change, is critical when thinking about the drivers of FCV.

4. Private Sector

- Important for IFC and MIGA to remain engaged in fragile settings despite higher risks, as private sector investment can have a significant positive impact.
- Need to also focus on supporting local SMEs and how to help them prosper and grow in fragile settings.

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