

World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) Consultation Meeting with Private Sector Group

Feedback Summary

Date: 4th July 2019, 11am – 1pm

Location: Lagos, Nigeria **Audience:** Private Sector

Overview: IFC Nigeria Country Manager welcomed the participants and presented the FCV strategy concept. Participants were then invited to ask questions and to express their views. The following summary highlights key points, recommendations, comments and feedback raised during the meeting.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders

1. General Comments

Comments: How are countries designated as FCV countries? What criteria is used to make this determination? Improved clarity is required on the process.

Recommendations: The basis for categorizing a country as FCV should be made public. The team responsible for making such calls are often removed from events at "Ground Zero" and are seen to either rely on 3rd party information or desk top research. The FCV evaluation team should conduct more public engagement to arrive at their decision.

2. What the Private Sector sees as obstacles in making more investments in FCV areas

Comments: There is a lack of data in these areas. Market operators are unable to assess the quantum of economic activity that occurs in FCV areas. These areas are characterized by high levels of informality and broken value chains. They also worry about targeted cases of kidnapping and ransom demands at private sector players.

Recommendations: Business and Economic landscape needs to be better understood by the Private Sector. Improved data collection and authenticity of data will go a long way in allowing businesses to make decisions on deploying capital

3. Can the Private Sector deliver greater development impact in FCV areas

Comments: Government needs to recognize the inherent hardship in these areas and design an incentive regime that not only attracts businesses to these areas but encourages them to make long-term commitments which invariably helps build resilience in these areas.

Recommendations: Incentivize businesses that demonstrate a willingness to go to FCV designated

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders

areas through specifically designed incentive programs. Encourage uniformity in incentive regime within the country as it reduces operating costs for businesses who will like to have a national presence including in FCV areas

4. What the Private Sector can do to address drivers of conflict in FCV areas to contribute to stability

Comments: Activities in FCV areas should be community centric, meaning due to the lack of government presence the community remains the only mechanism that maintains social cohesion and order. In most areas these communities can create a social structure that allows them to carry on in their day to day activities. Identify talent and ensure they are retained in the community. Influx of Development Agencies and NGOs although with the best of intentions, unfortunately has an unintended effect of causing economic distortions in FCV areas by creating an artificial spike in cost of goods and services.

Recommendations: A concerted effort should be made to funnel funding from Development Agencies and other NGOs into job training and skills acquisition in preparation for a return to a post conflict life. Private sector investment on the heels of creating a pool of employable talent provides an incentive for employees to remain in their communities and begin to grow and develop the socioeconomic framework required to guard against a return to fragility.

5. How IFC, World Bank & MIGA can better support the Private Sector in FCV areas.

Comments: The WBG conducts a plethora of research that identify gaps in value chains, describes how markets operate and what could be done to address these gaps. The private sector operators would want such diagnostics to be shared with them to aid their decision-making process. The WBG has a role to play in assisting the private sector de-risk investments in these affected areas. Simplification of intervention services or process of engagement with communities.

Recommendations: Cultivating stronger working relationship between the private sector and WBG would create an opportunity for structuring tailored solutions that have an increased likelihood of success. Design a report specifically for FCV areas that is circulated to the private sector and /or uploaded unto the WBG page for ease of accessibility.

List of Participants:

| | Name | Organization |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Kyari Abba Bukar | TSIC |
| 2 | Suleiman M Dikwa | Green Sahara |
| 3 | Amal Hassan | Outsource Global |
| 4 | Aisha Yakubu Bako | IFC |
| 5 | Eme Essien Lore | IFC |
| 6 | Ibrahim Dikko Adamu | IFC |
| 7 | Femi Ogunjimi | Cardinal Stone |
| 8 | Zouerra Youssoufou | Aliko Dangote Foundation |

| | Name | Organization |
|----|-------------------|-----------------|
| 9 | Mustafa Indimi | Oriental Energy |
| 10 | Danladi Verheijen | Verod |
| 11 | Obi Ozor | Kobo 360 |
| 12 | Ife Oyedele | Kobo 360 |

Prepared by: Ibrahim Dikko Adamu, Country Officer, Nigeria, iadamu@ifc.org