

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

Feedback Summary

Date: June 4, 2019

Location: Stockholm, Sweden

Audience: Government Representatives

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, at a consultation hosted by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and featuring the participation of stakeholders from across the Swedish Government. Mr. Michel Botzung, manager of FCS Africa at the International Finance Corporation (IFC), also participated in this consultation. The session was held in the context of the Sweden-WBG High-Level Strategic Consultation. 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

- Strong support expressed for the development of a WBG FCV Strategy, as well as for the proposed approach articulated in the Concept Note.
- Participants noted that the FCV Strategy Concept Note is aligned with Sweden's approach to address the drivers of fragility and conflict.
- Welcomed the full alignment between the FCV Strategy and the approach to FCV under IDA.

2. Areas of Engagement

- A different development approach in FCV settings is critical welcome the differentiated approach articulated under the Strategy Concept Notes.
- Capacity building is key in FCV settings. Important for the WBG to therefore work closely with governments with low-capacity.
- Inclusion is not just about inclusion in decision making, but about addressing inequalities. When it
 comes to tax policies, or natural resource management, inclusion is critical the WBG has a key
 comparative advantage in helping to address these issues.
- The focus on conflict sensitivity is very welcome. This approach should be embedded throughout WBG programming.
- Building institutions and systems is key to helping countries emerge from situations of fragility.
- In fragile settings, it is important to work incrementally and adapt development interventions to the local contexts.

Feedback from Stakeholders

• While remaining engaged over the long-term is crucial, short-term wins are essential in order to both build and sustain peace.

3. Linkages with Gender and Climate Change

- The Strategy should make a strong link between conflict and gender and climate change. To this
 end, the FCV Strategy should be closely aligned with the WBG Gender and Climate Change
 Strategies.
- In addition to the focus on gender-based violence, it is crucial to promote peace by strengthening economic opportunities, equality, and voice and agency for women.
- Important to change the social norms of men and boys, and should therefore engage with these communities in fragile settings.

4. Private Sector Development in FCV

- The Strategy should focus on job creation, as there is strong linkage between unemployment and social unrest.
- Welcome the IFC's Impact investing principles as an important step in harmonizing principles among development finance institutions (DFIs).

5. Partnerships

- Partnerships across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus is critical in order to comprehensively address the challenges of FCV. The Strategy should seek to articulate how the WBG can contribute to making the international system work more effectively in FCV situations.
- The Strategy should build on the strong progress made to date (such as with UNHCR), and systematize partnerships at the country-level.
- Joint trainings and analyses such as risk and resilience assessments are important opportunities to create a shared understanding of FCV challenges amongst partners.

6. Operationalization of the Strategy

- The Strategy should propose a flexible approach in FCV settings given rapidly changing dynamics on-the-ground.
- Important for the Strategy to articulate how to adapt programming and processes to FCV settings in order to increase impact.

7. Additional Issues for Consideration

- Working on anti-corruption and transparency is key in FCV this should be addressed in the Strategy.
- When engaging with extractive industries, the "do no harm" principle is crucial, but also important to go beyond this and focus on 'doing good'.

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