

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

# Consultation Meeting in Washington, DC Feedback Summary

Date: May 29, 2019

**Location: Washington, DC** 

**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, to government representatives from the United States Department of State. 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. Key Areas of Engagement

- The 'pivot to prevention' is a critical and welcome focus of the Strategy. Important to articulate what
  exactly is meant by prevention, and the types of grievances and drivers of fragility the WBG will
  address.
- The focus on strengthening state legitimacy is important in order to help countries emerge from situations of fragility over the long-term.
- Crucial for the WBG to apply a political economy lens to its engagement in FCV settings.
- When thinking about development support for the prevention of violent extremism, it is important
  to understand the local context in order to promote granular and context-specific interventions.
  Country ownership is also key, and development interventions should be aligned with national
  strategies and action plans.
- When addressing the drivers of fragility or violent extremism, the WBG should examine both the material needs of people, as well as people's perceptions.
- Important for the Strategy to explore how to work with states that may contribute to FCV challenges.
- Private sector investment in FCV settings is critical. The Strategy should explore how to incentivize increased private sector investment in more risky contexts.

#### 2. Partnerships

- Welcome the Strategy's focus on partnerships cooperation among a wide range of actors is essential
  in order to effectively address FCV challenges.
- Important for WBG to work with regional organizations such as the African Union and governments to ensure local ownership.
- As part of the Strategy, the WBG should explore engaging further with NGOs operating in FCV contexts.
- Important for Strategy to clarify how the WBG engages with non-state and subnational actors.

#### **Feedback from Stakeholders**

 Working with local actors is crucial as well, particularly in countries that have undergone decentralization processes.

### 3. Operationalization of the Strategy

- Strong support expressed for the '4 P's' this is key in order to operationalize the operating framework of the Strategy.
- The focus on data collection and monitoring and evaluation is critical to ensure development interventions are effective in FCV Strategy. This is also an area where there could be the basis for further collaboration among multilateral and bilateral actors.
- Strategy should articulate clear indicators of success.
- Enhanced flexibility and agility in programming is key in FCV settings given rapidly changing dynamics on the ground.
- Important to unbundle the definition/classification of FCV in order to tailor development interventions to diverse situations of fragility, conflict, violence. This should also consider external shocks, such as the impact of forced displacement on a country.

## 4. Additional Issues for Consideration

- In addition to refugees and host communities, the Strategy should consider how to support internally displaced persons. Protection of displacement communities should also be a principle guiding the WBG's engagement in these contexts.
- Strategy should also consider how to address FCV in subnational contexts, as sometimes geographic pockets of fragility can exist in stable countries.

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#### **List of Participants:**

- 1. Michael Bittrick Africa Bureau
- 2. Eric Smith Economic Bureau
- 3. Michael Jacobsen Counter Terrorism
- 4. Tess McEnery Conflict & Stabilization Operations
- 5. Judith Welling International Narcotics & Law Enforcement
- 6. Oliver Wilcox Countering Violent Extremism
- 7. Jeffrey Sizemore Democracy, Human Rights, & Labor
- 8. Madeeha Ashraf Global Criminal Justice
- 9. Anna Nicole Populations, Refugees, and Migration
- 10. Patrick Quirk Policy Planning
- 11. Nicole Shepardson Populations, Refugees, and Migration
- 12. Leslie Thompson Near Eastern Affairs
- 13. Julie Jolles Office of the US Executive Director
- 14. Jessica Isaacs Office of the US Executive Director
- 15. Franck Bousquet, Senior Director, WB FCV
- 16. Sandra Jensen Landi, Senior Partnership Specialist, WB FCV
- 17. Miguel De Corral Martin, Strategy and Operations Officer, WB FCV
- 18. Tracey Washington, Principle Investment Officer, IFC
- 19. Merli Baroudi, Director, MIGA
- 20. Bill Danvers, Special Representative, WB