

World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) Consultation Meeting with Multi-stakeholders Feedback Summary

Date: June 13, 2019 Location: Paris, France

Audience: Multi-stakeholders (Government, CSOs, Academics, Think Tanks)

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. Following the presentation, Michel Botzung, Manager in the Sub- Saharan Africa Department at IFC, addressed the specific challenges and directions related to the private sector. Participants were then invited to share their views. The summary below captures the key points, recommendations, comments and feedback raised during the meeting. The meeting was moderated by Mr. Olivier Lavinal.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders

1. Overall

Participants expressed their support for the WBG's willingess to engage and welcomed the opportunity to discuss the framework and directions outlined in the FCV Strategy concept note. Participants noted the great progress made over the last 10 years and called for a renewed ambition in the FCV settings. Overall, the dynamics of fragility are very relevant and promoting a dynamic understanding of FCV is key. Translating the framework into action will be essential. Participants emphasized the need to innovate in terms of strategic and operational partnerships, including with the private sector and with civil society (including the diasporas).

Participants raised the question of the definition of FCV and of the limitations of development organizations due to staff security. There should be special focus on engaging regional organizations and strengthening the regional architecture and the linkages between the country and regional levels. Donor coordination (with an understanding of who does what in crises situations) and aid effectiveness are among key challenges. In terms of personnel, some participants suggested to empower young staff and give them opportunities to train and grow. Finally, the questions of security and access to justice and how to reform these critical arenas was raised. Participants encouraged more partnerships in these sectors.

2. Theme: Legitimacy, accountability and inclusion of multiple stakeholders

Participants raised the importance of finetuning and operationalizing the understanding of legitimacy. It was recognized as a central element and some participants encouraged the WB team to go beyond traditional elements to include informal dimensions (beyond international norms). The terms of the social contract and the importance of the rule of law, the fight against corruption, the role of digital services (including in the fight against corruption) are drivers of fragility. The concept of grounded legitimacy could be useful in this sense. More broadly, the question of the inclusion of all stakeholders ranging from local to national elites, CSOs, and international actors (both humanitarian and development

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders

actors), as well as with the private sector. Success will require the development of multistakeholder dialogues and platforms and the strengthening of the means and capacities of civil society organizations. This is especially critical when the state is part of the limitations imposed on civil societies.

In terms of operationalization, participants raised the issue of programming and suggested to steer away from a logic centered on projects to adopt more fluid and agile responses with the long-term objective to build systems. This theme raises the importance of indicators of fragility and the tools that exist to track projects and monitor progress.

3. Theme: The role of the private sector

Participants insisted on the importance of designing conflict-sensitive programming. Working in FCV environments is as much focusing on new development approaches as it is on how to work in these settings. It is important to strike the right balance between good practices (including on safeguards, ESG, etc.) and operational flexibility with the private sector. There is great potential to develop the private sector dimension, building on risk analysis, and more needs to be done. Participants highlighted the importance to work with the informal sector (at times informal only because its dynamics and mechanisms are poorly understood). They asked: How to invest in infrastructure? How to protect these assets and structure value chains and job-creating sectors? How to systematize the most strategic sectors? This also relates to access to financing (including through micro-credits) and promote antimoney laundering schemes and insurance, or de-risking tools? On these items, participants called for a comprehensive approach across the WBG.

4. Theme: Joint diagnostic tools

The understanding of the local contexts – the political economy of countries and territories at stake – requires developing high(er) quality joint diagnostic tools. For some participants, it is important to shift away from business as usual approaches to enhance the quality and the inclusion of analytical work. It seemed equally essential to develop new formats (workshop mode for example) that will create new collective thinking and focus on concrete recommendations. Overall, the challenge raised is to create stronger linkages between knowledge and operations. To some participants, it was key to translate the outcomes and recommendations of these products into operations. In this spirit, and to pivot toward prevention, focus on the development of early warning systems (in partnership with the EU and other organizations).

5. Theme: Inclusiveness

The strategy should highlight the gender-based approach. Equally important to the participants was the idea of finding better and more innovative ways to include the youth both within the CSOs and IOs, and in the development contexts. Youth is essential for providing innovative solutions and taking risks. All stakeholders in the development ecosystem should find better ways to include the diaspora, as it will play an increasingly important role in the improvement of conditions in their home countries. Stakeholders in development contexts must also involve trustworthy and accountable private sector actors, as well as actors working in the justice system.

Prepared by: Olivier Lavinal, WB FCV Group, <u>olavinal@worldbank.org</u>, and Leonardo Valente, WB Paris Office.

List of Participants:

- 1. Claire Giroux, Programme Manager, CARE France
- 2. Hervé Bonino, Operations Manager, CARE France
- 3. Pierre Raynaud, Head of the Civil Society Unit, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
- 4. François Goemans, Director of Donor Relations, Action Contre la Faim
- 5. Laurent Bacos, Head of Public and Institutional Funding Unit, Médecins du Monde France
- 6. Sosso Feindouno, Research Officer, Fondation pour la Recherche et les Études sur le Développement International (FERDI)
- 7. Michael Siegel, Policy and Advocacy Adviser, Action Contre la Faim
- 8. Grégory Robert, Program Specialist, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie
- 9. Jean Pierre Delomier, Deputy Director of Operations, Humanity & Inclusion (Handicap International)
- 10. Laurent Wagner, Research Officer, Fondation pour la Recherche et les Études sur le Développement International (FERDI)
- 11. Jérôme Heitz, Director of Peace, Stability, and Security Department, Expertise France
- 12. Julien Serre, Deputy Director, Expertise France
- 13. Juana de Catheu, Governance and Security Advisor, Agence Française de Développement
- 14. François Gaulme, Research Officer, Institut Français des Relations Internationales (IFRI)
- 15. François Grünewald, Executive and Scientific Director, Urgence Réhabilitation Développement (URD)
- 16. Lucie Dechifre, Programs Coordinator, Chaine de l'Espoir
- 17. Maria Hachem, Doctoral student in Political, Cultural, and Historical Geography, Sorbonne Université, Paris IV
- 18. Arthur Germond, Deputy Head of the Fragility, Crisis, and Conflict department, Agence Française de Développement
- 19. Camille Chemin, Deputy the Programmes Direction, ACTED
- 20. Ange MBoneye, Development Officer, SOS Sahel
- 21. Nora Ghelim, Head of the Fragility, Resilience, and Global Approach Unit, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
- 22. Cynthia Ohayon, Project Officer, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
- 23. Lou-Andréa Pinson, Intern, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
- 24. Jean-Luc Galbrun, Officer, Coordination Sud