

# World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) Consultation Meeting with Development Partners

# **Feedback Summary**

Date: 05/26/2019

Location: Amman, Jordan

Audience: Bilateral development partners and UN agencies

**Overview and Key Issues Discussed:** Ali Abukumail (Senior Financial Specialist, acting Resident Representative, Amman) and Olivier Lavinal (Senior Operations Officer, FCV Group) welcomed the participants present in Amman. Olivier presented the FCV strategy concept. Participants were then invited to ask questions and to express their views. For purposes of conciseness, the following summary highlights comments and recommendations that were provided by individual representatives.

### **Specific Feedback from Stakeholders**

#### 1. Overall

Participants welcomed the FCV Strategy and the consultations and commended the team for a well-thought Concept Note (CN). The areas of engagement seemed relevant to all participants. Special focus was put on the need to do more on the legitimacy of the state and on the people-centric approach as key enablers to development. The partnership strategy and eagerness to do more on this front was well noted and received, and participants stressed the difficulties to implement it at many times and the need to better coordinate to enhance effectiveness. The ultimate goal of promoting peace and prosperity was judged important as no development gains can be made without first addressing the political and institutional constraints of the countries. In terms of implementation, participants called for a more informed case to be made in favor of operational flexibility in FCV settings. Participants also acknowledged the need for greater efforts in the realm of strategic communication to help governments to push for bold reform agendas. Equally important, working to leverage private sector solutions was identified as a key pillar of engagement (but the conversation remained focused on the public side).

# 2. Theme: The security-development nexus

The question of working with security actors was identified as a focus area. Relating back to the theme of prevention, some participants argued for greater cooperation with security actors at national, regional and global levels (including with NATO). In regions where security is a central theme, the WBG should further engage in conflict-sensitivity programming, public expenditure reviews of the security sector and develop a better understanding of the linkages between security and development.

#### 3. Theme: Innovation to empower youth and create growth

#### **Specific Feedback from Stakeholders**

Participants highlighted the comparative advantage of the WBG in the arenas of economic policy and growth strategies. They called for the WBG to systematize its tools and approaches to continue to assist the governments to chart pathways for prosperity. This encompasses pushing for regulatory reforms (anti corruption policies, rule of law) and to innovate further. The role of digital transformation to spur growth and economic opportunities (notably among the youth) was very much highlighted. More needs to be done in this nascent arena to connect to global value chains and create wealth. In this regard, a number of initiatives are currently under consideration at the WBG for Jordan.

#### 4. Theme: Data management

Participants stressed the need for better data management. The challenge is both to harmonize data across institutions and to improve data collection and reliability. In countries with limited data capacity, participants called for a stronger engagement of the WBG in this field. The development of more disaggregated data sets is needed to inform programming and strategies and enhance project quality. Working in partnership with UN organizations and others to ensure that this be owned collectively (thereby becoming a global public good) should be further investigated on in the Strategy with clear recommendations on ways forward. In addition, the systematization of fragility assessments should be considered.

#### 5. Theme: Building trust and addressing illicit activities

Trust is at the heart of development of societies and at the core of stability and growth. As referenced in one of the areas of engagement of the FCV Strategy, it is critical to do more to increase the level of trust between governments and citizens. This requires unpacking the concept and be specific on recommendations to do so. It requires qualitative indicators and firm support from senior management to engage more with governments on such an important agenda item. To a certain extent, this connects to the constraints and challenges posed by crime and illicit flows. In many regions across the world, these illicit routes have a negative impact on our collective work at country level. Some participants called for a better understanding of the impact of violence on development and encouraged the team to further explore and provide operational recommendations to mitigate these risks.

Prepared by: Olivier Lavinal, FCV Group, olavinal@worldbank.org

# **List of Participants:**

Organization	Representative
ILO	Maha Kattaa
UN Resident Coordinator Office - Peace and Development Adviser	Anne Hagood
UN Resident Coordinator Office- Senior Human Rights Adviser	Ekkehard Strauss
Deputy of UN Women Jordan's Country Office Gender	Ana Lukatela
Advisor of UN Women Jordan CO	Rebeca Acin
UNHCR - Senior Livelihoods Officer	Anna Gaunt
Senior External Relations Officer	Ryan Marshall
DFID	Jan Wimaladharma
	Paul-Andre Wilton
	Mana Farooghi
	Will Helyar
EU - Attaché, PS and Economic Affairs	Maria larrera
USAID	Matthew Sumpter
German Embassy - Deputy Head of Development Cooperation	Bernd Kuzmits
Dutch Embassy - MENA Regional Envoy for Water and Energy Security Counsellor	Tessa Terpstra
Dutch Embassy	Roos de Kiefte,
Defense attaché	Veerle Vastwijk
Second Secretary / Political Affairs	
FAO - Programmes Officer	Wafaa Ramadneh