

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

## Feedback Summary

Date: 05/26/2019

Location: Amman, Jordan

**Audience: Government representatives** 

**Overview and Key Issues Discussed:** Olivier Lavinal and Naila Ahmed from the WB 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. Participants highlighted the challenges faced by Jordan in a region mirred by conflict and refugee crisis. Participants agreed with the overall relevance of the FCV Strategy in the Middle East, and in Jordan in particular. They called for more engagement from the WBG (World Bank and IFC) and for more innovative approaches in terms of financing middle-income countries that are facing several external shocks.

### 2. Theme: The FCV Harmonized List and the need to revise it to be more context-specific

Participants raised the question of the FCV Harmonized List. While they understood that Jordan was not on the list and did not oppose it, the need for a better identification of risks to respond to the specific challenges that Jordan was facing due to the Syrian crisis was largetly discussed. Participants welcomed the idea of better capturing fragility, conflict and violence and disaggregating these components to ensure more adequate responses. Participants asked how to better capture the vulnerabilities present in Jordan at all levels – including at household level – and called for disaggregated indicators harmonized across the donor community. Special focus put on transitions and on specific challenges faced by countries weathering shocks and crises needed to be better reflected in the Strategy. In this spirit, participants welcomed the emphasis put on prevention and reiterated their call to adapt the financing terms to the realities on the ground.

### 3. Theme: Priority areas where the WBG has a comparative advantage

Participants positioned growth as a key dimension where the WBG has a clear comparative advantage. The work done in the field of economic policy reforms, doing business, private sector development was identified as key to contributing to the prosperity of Jordan. Participants highlighted the strength of Jordanian institutions as well as the need to partner to improve the macro-fiscal environment. The

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series of Development Policy Loans is welcomed in this regard, and the benefit to develop results-based financing tools can serve the purpose of pushing for more reforms. The WBG should continue to offer sustained/steadfast engagement and develop solid data sets to monitor progress. Other areas to develop are the work with most vulnerable communities — youth and children, women, farmers (in lagging regions). Special attention on the needs of Jordan should be better reflected in the targeting of projects.

#### 4. Theme: Innovate for Impact in FCV settings

Participants outlined the importance of creating ownership and strengthening the approaches and tools to promote citizen engagement. Focusing on justice to develop inclusive growth trajectories was debated. Participants also highlighted the need to better take into account the disparities of income and acknowledge them when finetuning programs (social protection, employment creation, etc.). Programs at municipal level that acknowledge the humanitarian-development continuum and do not develop siloed approaches are of particular relevance. Linked to human capital, some participants even encouraged the team to work on a human resilience index to adapt the scope of projects.

#### 5. Theme: Focus on Implementation

The WBG program should monitor closely the political economy of the country and work with the government on how best to operationalize prevention. It is of great importance in countries that witness several cycles of crises and can contribute to mitigate the impact of shocks. The teams should work on a continued basis with the government on the identification of needs. Participants welcomed the idea of sharing good practices/successful policy examples with strong impact to inform the dialogue with government and create new avenues/themes for collaboration.

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

# **List of Participants: Government Representatives**

Organization	Representative
MOPIC – Research Department	Maha Katami
	Feda Gharaibeh
	Mutasim Alkilany
Ministry of Youth – Director General Assistant to Secretary General for Strategic and Technical Affaairs	Salem Al Hassan
Municipality of Greater Irbid	Ismail Al Hawari
Ministry of Agriculture	Eng. Hazim Al Smadi
Ministry of Agriculture	Eng. Nada Al-Freihat