



**World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV)
 Consultation Meeting with g7+
 Feedback Summary**

Date: April 10, 2019

Location: Washington DC

Audience: g7+ representatives

Overview and Key Issues Discussed: On the side-lines of the World Bank Group (WBG) Spring Meetings, WBG representatives from the World Bank, IFC and MIGA welcomed the g7+ delegation for consultation on the upcoming WBG Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV). WB Senior Director for FCV, Mr. Franck Bousquet, presented the FCV Strategy concept, followed by remarks from Mr. Martin Spicer, Director, Blended Finance, IFC, and Ms. Merli Baroudi, Director, Economics and Sustainability, MIGA. g7+ delegates were then invited to ask questions, share their inputs and express their views. The following summary highlights comments and recommendations that were provided by individual representatives.

1. General Comments
g7+ delegates welcomed the FCV Strategy concept and the invitation to join the consultation process. Comments focused on economic resilience, private sector engagement in FCV settings; strengthening state institutions, conflict prevention; vulnerable populations; the World Bank Group’s footprint in FCV settings and governance. More country-level consultation, the expectation of a strong monitoring mechanism for the overall implementation of the strategy, including M&E with relevant indicators on projects in FCV settings, was underlined. The effectiveness of the strategy will demand country ownership and context specificity.
2. Infrastructure and Private Sector
<p><i>Comments:</i> g7+ delegates encouraged the WBG to increase investment in infrastructure and supporting the private sector in conflict-affected countries and to provide assistance to small and medium enterprises, particularly in FCV settings in order to reduce poverty and have a sustainable peace.</p> <p><i>Recommendations:</i> “The FCV Strategy must realize that even in areas where there is conflict, there are areas that are stable. We should encourage the private sector to invest in areas that are stable.” “The national champions are the small and medium enterprises that need support, or they can’t survive.”</p>
3. Youth and Gender
<p><i>Comments:</i> g7+ delegates noted that the majority of the population in g7+ countries is young, which can be a source for stability if proper education and employment opportunities are provided. Participants urged the WBG to tailor development projects toward women and youth as an investment in human capital. Specifically, participants encouraged the WBG to focus on women as partners in the development process and to support projects that promote youth employment.</p> <p><i>Recommendations:</i> “Investment in human capital is important and will ensure hope for the future.”</p>

“Majority of population in g7+ countries is young which can be source of prosperity given employment opportunities”

Fragility

Comments:

Participants noted that fragility is a scourge that impacts economies but **not one** that should define the nature of people. Development and growth, they suggested, provide the basis for addressing fragility.

Recommendations:

“Global prosperity will be built on the stability in fragile countries.”

Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace

Comments:

Meeting participants recognized that the realities on the ground in conflict-affected countries are different depending on the nature of the conflict and that a tailored approach to addressing conflict is needed. Participants welcomed the focus on prevention as a means to promote peace and stability. They encouraged consistency in the tools used to address prevention. They noted and welcomed the increase in funding for prevention as a result of the 18th Replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA18).

Staffing

Comments:

Meeting participants noted that the WBG has increased its footprint in FCV settings and encouraged the WBG to go further.

Recommendations:

“In our country, we are well represented, and we have seen derivatives of having a bigger footprint.”

Participants:

Countries	Name	Position
Afghanistan	Mr. Zia Haleemi	Advisor to the Executive Office at the World Bank
Central African Republic	Three representatives from Minister of Economy, Planning and cooperation of Central African Republic office.	
Sierra Leone	H.E. Jacob Saffa	Minister of Finance of Sierra Leone
Solomon Islands	Hon. Denton Rarawa	Governor of the Central Bank Solomon Islands
South Sudan	Mr. Ocum Genes Karlo	Undersecretary of Planning of South Sudan
Togo	Mr. Awade M Essobozou	The g7+ Focal Point from Togo
Yemen	Dr. Najeb Mansour Al-Auj	Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of Yemen

g7+ Secretariat	Mr. Habib Mayar	Deputy of the General Secretary of g7+
	Ms. Helche Silvester	Communication and Media Officer

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