



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

Feedback Summary

Date: 24 April 2019

Location: New York

Audience: UNICEF

Overview and Key Issues Discussed: World Bank Group representatives 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. Collective comments and recommendations are noted as such.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders
<p>1. General Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciate the focus on prevention and key role of human capital. • Good to recognize that engagement in fragile states means considerably higher risk and higher costs. It is very important for UNICEF to see where the Bank will go and where it will not go – please be as explicit as possible, for example also on the humanitarian-development nexus. Recognize the higher cost of doing business in FCV contexts. • Upstream planning is essential. Long term vision – recognize that the engagement in fragile countries is long term and plan accordingly. • Be clear on what needs adapting in the Bank’s business model and communicate clearly to partners what will change. • Participants underlined the importance of the WBG Human Capital project in FCV settings. • The Bank might find inspiration in UNICEFs framework for engagement in fragile countries. Launched last year. • Would appreciate involvement of UNICEF country resident representatives in country level strategy consultations as much as possible. • We appreciate how the FCV strategy also strongly captures the issue of climate change, which is one of the greatest long-term threats to children.
<p>2. Focus areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciate the focus on vertical social cohesion – the peace building elements of service delivery. Could explore horizontal cohesion as well. The focus on the concept note is very state-focused. Using social service provision to explore the horizontal dimension. While the state-society trust is essential, it is not sufficient, as the major preventative benefits stem from the intersection of vertical and horizontal social capital
<p>3. Gender and youth</p>

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicit focus on gender and youth is great. But maybe the Bank could be more inclusive on the age group. Unpack the age dimension - in the UN we talk about 10-24 as 'young people'. Adolescence is a very strategic age group to engage with, and studies show that children as young as 10 get 'politicized' or mobilized to violence for example. • More focus on women as key enablers of prevention. Not just a vulnerable group. • The issue of giving voice applies to both women and youth – they are not just vulnerable groups, but enablers of prevention. Proactively engage with youth-led organizations is difficult, but important. If we are serious about engaging with young people, we have to engage with the non-violent youth organizations on the ground. Bring their voices in. Youth agency – economic, political, social, cultural. Draw on outcomes of the consultations from “The Missing Peace” around youth, peace and security.
4. Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please see us as partners, not implementers/contractors. • The Bank has a very strong value add on the analytical side. Incomparable to others. The data can help inform the programming of others – example of WB analysis in Palestine being influential on UNICEF programming. Urge more knowledge/information sharing. • Make tools like the RPBA's more flexible.
5. Forced displacement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What to do with the internationally displaced persons. This should be discussed in the strategy.
6. Humanitarian-development-peace nexus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nexus approach appreciated. • Draw from the experience in the education sector on funding across the humanitarian-development nexus through education in fragile contexts. Lots of lessons learnt for example under Global Partnership for Education expansion to FCS. • Please explicitly recognize the principles of 'do no harm'. The volume of the Bank's engagement will risk harming otherwise. • Limitations in the Bank's working model can limit our effectiveness on the ground in our partnerships. For example, in Yemen. • The World Bank brings a lot to the nexus. Example of feedback from Sanaa: “the WB urged us not to let it collapse” - that is what development brings in collaboration across the nexus. • The Bank can contribute much on humanitarian-development data sharing, analysis and joint platforms.

List of Participants:

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