



## Towards a World Bank Group Gender Strategy Consultation Meeting on June 3, 2015 Feedback Summary Tunis, Tunisia

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The consultation meeting with **development partners** was held on June 3, 2015 in Tunis, Tunisia. After a presentation by the World Bank Group Gender Team on the background, intended scope and process for the strategy, the floor was open for participants' comments and recommendations. The summary below captures the main points and recommendations raised during the meeting.

**Total Number of Participants: 6**

### Feedback from Stakeholders

#### 1. KEY GENDER GAPS THE WORLD BANK GROUP SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION AS PRIORITY TO HELP COUNTRIES REDUCE POVERTY AND PROMOTE MORE EQUITABLE SOCIETIES

The World Bank Group (WBG) should consider as priority the following:

- **Data and statistics:** We need to look at the data more closely and disaggregate it by sector to have a more accurate indication of the level of women participation in the economy – official data for Tunisia says is 28%, one of the highest in the world, but the figure is challenged by the development partners who consider the rate is higher in reality. There is also a need to document what is happening in the informal sector.

- **Gender-based budget:** The WBG should encourage the government to include gender-sensitive indicators in the performance-based budget they are already working on and to consider a possible progression towards a full gender-based budget. It is important that the budget accompany the reforms.
- **Engaging with the private sector:** in developing the renewed strategy the WBG should tap into the experience of the private sector. In the case of Tunisia, the private sector could be a champion of the gender agenda, as they are a bit ahead of the curve from the public sector.

## 2. RECOMMENDATIONS AND/OR EXAMPLES OF BETTER DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS THAT CAN BE USED TO HELP THE UNDERSTANDING OF CONSTRAINTS TO GENDER EQUALITY – BEYOND THOSE CURRENTLY USED BY THE WORLD BANK GROUP, IE. COUNTRY GENDER ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH ON GENDER.

- The WBG could help to identify and/or design the right instruments to help integrating the issue of gender across sectors. It is important that specialist across sectors get training in gender so that they can think more intuitively about this when designing their operations. Responsibility should not lie exclusively in the gender specialists.

## 3. ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS.

- It is important to revise the **definition of gender:** gender is often understood as women issues but gender equality is not possible if we consider only women in isolation, we need to incorporate men in the discourse of gender. The WBG should indicate clearly in the strategy the definition of gender used for the purpose of this strategy.