



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

Feedback Summary

Date: May 30, 9-10.30 am

Location: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Audience: Government stakeholders

Overview: xxx and Xavier Devictor, Manager, Fragility, Conflict & Violence Group, World Bank, welcomed the participants present in Addis Ababa. They 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 |
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| 1. General Comments |
| <p><i>Comments:</i> Participants welcomed the WBG's initiative to prepare an FCV strategy and expressed broad endorsement of the Concept Note, including of its people-centric approach and complete cycle intervention.</p> <p>At the same time, participants highlighted that current WBG processes (i.e., lengthy and complex) sometimes hinder the impact of programs in changing contexts.</p> <p><i>Recommendations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Whilst recognizing that this is necessarily a broad agenda, the strategy will need to find the right balance between country and regional focus, and identify priority issues for countries, even as they face different challenges.- More agility in WBG processes will need to accompany the strategy for impacts in FCV contexts. |
| 2. Theme : Government leadership, political responses and partnerships |
| <p><i>Comments:</i></p> |

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders

Participants emphasized the importance of government leadership. While a development response is important, the solution to conflict is political and belongs to the respective governments.

Prevention needs strong political and security elements, and needs to also factor in borderland issues and transnational crime. Existing initiatives in the Horn of Africa can provide a framework for engaging on cross-border issues.

At the same time, partnerships are key, and participants highlighted the need to engage with the private sector, humanitarian and development partners, Civil Society Organizations and volunteer organizations, and regional organizations (e.g. Intergovernmental Authority on Development).

Recommendations:

- While the WBG can provide support, cross-sectoral government leadership is essential and needs to be reflected in the strategy.
- The convening role of the WBG can support partnership efforts. Mobilization of actors, resources and ideas then need to be brought down to project level.

3. Theme: Analyzing context

Comments:

For prevention, key is to manage long-term trends (e.g., climate change, demographics) and to identify root causes (e.g., link to natural resources, land).

For forcibly displaced populations (refugees and Internally Displaced Persons), the approach needs to factor in the wider development impacts of displacement, for example, decreases in food production where the majority of the displaced are farmers. As such, this requires a regional understanding of causes and consequences of displacement and conflict, where borderland and cross-border movement also require a security analysis and response.

It is equally important to analyze macro-economic impacts that can have wide-ranging effects on populations and increase tension in countries. Fast economic growth can lead to loss of social cohesion and instability (e.g., youth unemployment). While sound fiscal policies are important, fiscal austerity can also be a destabilizing factor and constitute a risk.

Recommendations:

- Risk mapping and identifying early issues at local level is important to better understand context and adapt prevention strategies, including early warning systems and risk mapping.
- FCV countries need to be supported and may require more fiscal flexibility.

4. Theme: Digital technology

Comments:

Risks related to digital technology were raised (e.g., social media connects but can also fuel tension).

Recommendations:

- The risks related to ICT should also be factored into the discussion on how digital technology can support the FCV strategy.

List of Participants

| No. | Organization | Name | Designation |
|------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| 1. | Agency for Refugee and Returnee Affairs | Mr. Addisu Kebennessa | Director General |
| 2. | Ethiopia Investment Commission | Mr. Anteneh Alemu | Deputy Commissioner, Investment Division |
| 3. | Ministry of Agriculture | Mr. Abebaw Abebe | Legal Expert |
| 4. | Ministry of Education | H.E. Mrs. Tsion Teklu | State Minister |
| 5. | Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Ato Dawit Yirga | Director, Neighboring Countries Affairs |
| 6. | Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs | Mr. Zerihun Gezahegn | Advisor to the state Minister Labor Affairs |
| 7. | Ministry of Peace | H.E. Mr. Zeynu Jemal | State Minister |
| 8. | Ministry of Peace | H.E. Mr. Kayidaki Gezahagn | Advisor to Minister |
| 9. | Ministry of Urban Development and Construction | Ato Ethiopia Bedecha | Special Advisor to the Minister |
| 10. | Central Statistical Agency | Mr. Biratu Yigezu | Director General |
| 11. | Planning and Development Commission | Ato Habtamu Getachew | Director |
| 12. | Ministry of Health | Ato Aschalew Abayneh | Head and Adviser State Minister |