



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

Feedback Summary

Date: June 12, 2019

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Hague, the Netherlands

Audience: Government Representatives.

Overview: Mr. Gert Kampman, Deputy Director Stabilisation and Humanitarian Aid Dept welcomed participants, provided opening remarks, and moderated the meeting. Mr. Franck Bousquet, Sr. Director of the World Bank’s FCV Group, presented the main features of the World Bank Group FCV Strategy Concept Note. Participants were then invited to ask questions and share their views. The summary below captures the key points, recommendations, comments and feedback raised during the meeting.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders
1. Overall
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants expressed broad support and endorsement of the strategic directions and areas of engagement outlined in the concept note.• Concept Note aligns well with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ approach to preventing conflict and addressing the root causes of instability as articulated in its aid policy (May 2018).
2. Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants noted expectation that the strategy would operationalize some of the recommendations from the (well-received) joint WBG-UN <i>Pathways to Peace</i> study.• Partnership with UN organizations at the country level, particularly on the prevention agenda, is essential. Participants questioned what incentives or behavioral changes need to happen within the WBG and UN for more systematic joint engagement.• It was noted that UN organizations are generally ready to implement in FCS more rapidly than the WBG which requires up-front analytical work. Important to acknowledge comparative strengths and flexibilities of each institution to support efficient role out of joint programs. The WBG’s convening power and engagement with Finance Ministries can be used to advantage.• Need to engage systematically with all bilateral actors in FCS (growing role of China in FCS was noted).• Recommended that the strategy includes support for the role of civil society as a driver of stability.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders
3. Programming
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants recognized the importance of designing FCV-sensitive strategies and projects but underlined that working in a ‘conflict-sensitive’ manner comes down to implementation and dealing with complexities on the ground. Not clear that WB operations across sectors are currently conflict-sensitive (i.e Ebola response in DRC). How will the strategy enable staff to work differently in conflict settings without hindering implementation?• Interventions should not only ‘do no harm’ but should also promote peace and stability. Likewise, in working with the private sector, how will mobilizing more conflict-sensitive private sector support be institutionalized across the WBG?• The people-centered approach is highly welcome. The strategy will need to balance focus on citizens while also supporting capacity building of government institutions. Experience has demonstrated that moving away from supporting state actors in conflict situations (i.e Mali) is not a solution. Rebuilding of state capacity and support for communities needs to happen in parallel.• How will the strategy prioritize WBG financing instruments in FCS – will criteria be elaborated? Participants noted that the IDA Crisis Response Window was seen as effective for early action.
4. Monitoring and Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants suggested that the cooperation with the UN should also extend to M&E, and called for increased efforts on data harmonization, development of joint knowledge management system (need to push boundaries in this area).• Participants noted support for M&E systems that enable an adaptive ‘learning loop’ and ability to course correct during implementation as outlined in the Concept Note, but underlined that the challenges putting such a system into practice should not be underestimated.
5. Personnel
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong support for increased decentralization of staff working on FCV and encouragement to be ambitious on this front. Strategy should include not only quantitative but qualitative measures to ensure staff with right experience and expertise on the ground. This will require right package of incentives.• Increased staff presence will also support greater cooperation between Humanitarian and Development actors.
6. Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants encouraged the WBG to be ambitious on the risk component of the strategy. Accept limitations of relying on evidence-based driven programming, which may not be available or applicable to conflict settings. May require letting go of traditional ways of working, including greater reliance on CSOs for implementation.• Participants recognized that the strategy will be developed within the confines of the World Bank’s mandate and cautioned that factors beyond mandate (human rights, weapons proliferation, geopolitics, quality of government leadership) heavily influence stability. The also asked what role WB can play in security sector reform?

WBG Strategy for FCV - Phase 1 Consultations Feedback Summary

List of Participants:

	Name	Organization
1	Gert Kampman	Deputy Director Stabilisation and Humanitarian Aid Department, Head Stability & Security Division
2	Wilma van Esch	Head Rule of Law & Peacebuilding Division
3	Eveline de Bruijn	Senior Policy Advisor Rule of Law & Peacebuilding
4	Fleur Verbiest	Policy Officer International Financial Institutions
5	Franck Huisingh	Senior Policy Officer Stability and Security
6	Hanjo de Kuiper	Worldbank Coordinator, Multilateral Division
7	Jeroen Muntinga	Policy Advisor Rule of Law & Peacebuilding Division
8	Linda van de Rijt	Policy Officer Stabilisation and Humanitarian Aid Department
9	Mark Versteden	Strategic Policy Advisor Asia and Oceania
10	Martijn Beerhuizen	Senior Policy Officer Stability and Security
11	Maud Eskes	Policy Officer Conflict Prevention
12	Piter Pals	Policy Officer Jordan at MENA Department
13	Dr Ruud van der Helm	Coordinating Adviser International Cooperation, Department for North-Africa and the Middle-East
14	Sander Werrie	Policy Coordinator Rule of Law & Peacebuilding Division