



World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV)

Consultation Meetings in Tokyo, Japan

Feedback Summary

Date: April 23-24, 2019

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Audience: Government Stakeholders (Japan International Cooperation Agency, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Overview: The World Bank Group (WBG) FCV Strategy concept note was presented by Mr. Franck Bousquet, Senior Director of the World Bank's FCV Group. Following the presentation, participants were invited to share their views. The summary below captures the key points, recommendations, comments and feedback raised in numerous meetings held over two days with government stakeholders.

Feedback from Stakeholders
1. Areas of Engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support was expressed for the proposed four areas of engagement.• Prevention is critical not only before conflicts arise, but afterwards as well in order to avoid the reoccurrence of conflict.• Emphasis on the importance of strengthening inclusiveness throughout programming in order to ensure a people-centered approach in FCV settings.• Strategy should consider the types of activities the WBG can support in situations of deep fragility.• Building trust between the government and its citizens is important in order to restore legitimacy and foster sustainable governance.• Support to vulnerable or marginalized groups in society, and enhancing social cohesion and co-existence are crucial in order to address, and prevent, the emergence or escalation of conflict, including violent extremism• Country ownership is critical. External actors such as the WBG must work with governments to build capacity and facilitate the types of nationally-led interventions needed to address FCV challenges.• Capacity building is indispensable to overcome fragility. Building the capacity of government is particularly important, though attention should also be placed on strengthening the capacity of local community-level groups who can complement and support government efforts.
2. Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Important to clarify the Bank's comparative advantage, especially vis-à-vis humanitarian actors in conflict settings and when investing in prevention-focused activities.• The partnership with the UN is critical – the Strategy is an opportunity to clarify how exactly the WBG can partner with UN actors depending on the FCV situation.

Feedback from Stakeholders

- Important to align Strategy within broader international efforts, including G7 and G20 initiatives.
- International partnerships are critical, but crucial to also hear directly from the voices of the most vulnerable to understand their perceptions of the role of international actors in conflict settings.
- The humanitarian-development nexus is key given the protracted nature of conflicts, but important that both humanitarian and development assistance focus on strengthening government capacity rather than building parallel systems.
- The Strategy is an opportunity to articulate how the security-development nexus can be further operationalized to respond to crises.

3. Additional Issues for Consideration

- Strategy should consider global trends, such as the rise of state-driven violence, criminal violence, and violent extremism, as well as broader dynamics such as great power competition.
- Strategy should make the link with SDG 16, as well as the concepts of “leaving no one behind” and “sustaining peace”.
- Quality infrastructure investment, global health (Universal Health Coverage and preparedness for pandemics), resilience against natural disasters, and debt management in FCV are important issues that should be considered as part of the Strategy.
- ICT can play a transformational role in FCV-impacted countries and can help support institutions and capacity-building efforts.

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