



**World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV)
Consultation Meeting in Washington, DC**

Feedback Summary

Date: April 13, 2019

Location: Washington, DC

Audience: Government representatives from various countries of the the Middle East and North Africa region who attended the World Bank-IMF Spring Meetings

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 during the meeting.

Feedback from Stakeholders	
1. Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad support expressed for the strategic directions and areas of engagement articulated in the concept note. • The objective of the Strategy is critical, as peace and stability are necessary to support long-term prosperity. Welcome the WBG’s focus on FCV, as development interventions have an important role in promoting peace.
2. Key Areas of Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to understand that each FCV situation is different, and therefore tailored approaches are required depending on the context. • Welcome the focus on conflict prevention, as it is crucial to invest more in the early stages of conflicts before they turn into full blown crises. • Forced displacement has led to significant socio-economic challenges across the region. The Strategy must therefore address both the sources of conflict, as well as the cross-border spillovers.
3. Drivers of Fragility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Strategy should highlight the challenges posed by corruption as a driver of fragility. • The Strategy should also consider the political economy issues that are often at the root of conflicts.
4. Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support from the international community, and partnerships between a wide range of stakeholders – including the private sector, international organizations, and bilaterals – are critical to overcome FCV challenges. • Welcome the strong focus on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

Feedback from Stakeholders

5. Additional Issues for Consideration

- Critical that the Strategy emphasizes the importance of country ownership in addressing FCV challenges.
- The Strategy should emphasize the need for long-term approaches in FCV contexts, as these challenges do not have simplistic solutions and thus require long-term engagements.
- Crucial to place a strong focus on youth, and specifically with regards to generating employment opportunities as a way to foster stability and address grievances before they escalate into violence.
- Important to find innovative ways – through technological solutions for example – to more effectively and efficiently implement development programs in insecure environments.
- The Strategy should emphasize the importance of macroeconomic stability in FCV-impacted countries, recognizing in particular the macro impact of external shocks.
- IFC and MIGA have an important role to play in FCV settings, especially through the IDA Private Sector Window, to foster local private sector development and promote foreign investment.

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