



**World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV)
Consultation Meeting with Civil Society Organizations, Academics
Feedback Summary**

Date: June 12, 2019

Location: Hague, the Netherlands

Audience: CSOs, academics

Overview: Franck Bousquet, Sr. Director of the World Bank’s FCV Group, along with Izabella Toth, Senior Strategist, Cordaid, welcomed the participants present in the Hague for this consultation. Franck presented the FCV strategy concept. Participants were then invited to ask questions along each of the four areas of engagement and to express their views. For purposes of conciseness, the following summary highlights comments and recommendations that were provided by individual representatives.

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders
1. Overall
Participants expressed their support for the WBG’s willingness to engage and welcomed the opportunity to discuss the framework and directions of the FCV Strategy concept note. All agreed that the work with CSOs and local actors was critical to inform WBG programming and scale up partnerships (with vast array of partners including non-traditional stakeholders) for impact. Overall, participants were supportive of the proposed four areas of engagement in the Concept Note. They focused mostly on the people-centric approach, with a strengthened approach on economic and social justice. Many questions were raised on the legitimacy of the state. Participants called for more action to be taken by the WBG on issues such as social and economic inclusion and partnership with civil society, at both national and community levels. While they welcomed the people-centric approach, they called for more granularity. Participants also noted interest in seeing recommendations from the joint UN-WBG Pathways to Peace study reflected in the strategy.
2. Theme: Legitimacy of the State
The FCV landscape raises many different issues, mostly related to the legitimacy or lack of legitimacy of the states. Both on the prevention agenda, as well as how to address issues related to institutional fragilities, participants highlighted the importance of tackling the question of the legitimacy of the state. The main angle was related to renewing the social contract in order to build trust between citizens and the states and/or the rule of law. The challenge is to build systems that anchor pluralism and guarantee more inclusion and better institutions. Participants agreed on the importance of trust and institution-building as one of the key paths to shift away from fragility to sustainable growth. For the WBG, the question also relates to the added value/comparative advantage of the institution. Depending on the situations on the ground, responses vary, and the roles and responsibilities of the various actors need to complement each other.
3. Theme: Conflict-sensitivity
Participants insisted on the importance of designing conflict-sensitive programming. Working in FCV environments is as much focusing on new development approaches as it is on how to work in these

Specific Feedback from Stakeholders

settings. In contexts with high vertical and horizontal inequalities, the stakes are high to ensure that the services provided are process-driven as much as output-driven. At the community level, CDD approaches should highlight the quality of the access and of the delivery of services as it creates a sense of ownership and enhances effectiveness. In terms of operational responses, the discussion addressed the continuum between humanitarian and development support, relating to the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus. In the spirit of the Grand Bargain, aid should focus on both dimensions in order to be effective.

4. Theme: Mitigating spillover effects

Participants highlighted the imperative to act at the regional level. The regional approach and cooperation should be further strengthened and the WBG should play a key convening role. Cooperation with AU and ECOWAS on issues such as early warning is instrumental to make progress in FCV contexts. Regional architectures should be promoted, both to strengthen analytical frameworks (regional and subnational joint analytics) and to foster cooperation on prevention agenda. Participants also outlined the importance of focusing on the most vulnerable populations. Forced displacement is a case in point to demonstrate the drive to strengthen the linkages between humanitarian and development assistance. These challenges triggered new tools and mechanisms (such as the GCFF) and called for enhanced partnerships. Participants called for more creativity in terms of building entrepreneurial ecosystems and pushed for instruments that promoted de-risking tools. Under SDG16, the question of identity was raised. On this matter, digital services (including blockchain technology), or initiatives like ID4D, could be scaled up.

5. Theme: The FCV Strategy should include focus on grievances and exclusion

The FCV Strategy cannot promote economic and social inclusion without laying out a clear value proposition on how to address grievances and exclusion – which are at the core of FCV issues in Tunisia. Participants emphasized the imperative to focus on inequalities of all sorts, including vertical and regional inequalities. This is key in terms of individual self-esteem and inclusive growth. In line with the concept of ‘relative deprivation’, the failed aspirations of the middle-class, youth, and other vulnerable segments of the society generate frustration, and can translate into violence. It questions the nature of the social contract and the need for tax justice, the establishment of social protection systems, and raises the issue of fair burden-sharing. Participants encouraged the WBG to do more on social and economic justice in the context of conflict prevention.

Prepared by: Olivier Lavinal, FCV Group, olavinal@worldbank.org

List of Participants:

	Name	Organization
1	Kees van den Broek	CARE Nederland
2	Pascal Richard	GPPAC
3	Mallika Joseph	GPPAC
4	Marjolein Wijninckx	Pax for Peace
5	Charlotte Vollaard	Oxfam Novib
6	Thijs Berman	NIMD (Executive Director)
7	Jos Dusseljee	CORDAID
8	Kees Zevenbergen	CORDAID CEO
9	Sarah Casteran	Mercy Corps NL
10	Marcel Smits	Economics and Peace
11	Peter Heintze	KUNO Executive director
12	Kaj Thomsson	Maastricht University
13	Emma Winberg	Mayday Rescue Foundation
14	James Le Mesurier	Mayday Rescue Foundation (CEO)
15	Mansoob Murshed	International Institute of Social Studies
16	Dr. Shyamika Jayasundara-Smits	International Institute of Social Studies
17	Izabella Toth	Cordaid
18	Sander Werrie	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
19	Linda van de Rijt	Ministry of Foreign affairs
20	Maud Eskes	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
21	Fleur Verbiest	MFA
22	Marina de Paiva	Civil Society Platform for Peace and State building