

World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) Consultation Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark

Feedback Summary

Date: June 6, 2019

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark

Audience: Multi Stakeholder Consultation

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, to a diverse set of stakeholders, including NGOs, think tanks, and civil society organizations. 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

- Support expressed for the development of the FCV Strategy and welcomed the WBG's scaled-up engagement on this agenda.
- The Strategy should focus on contributing to the 2030 agenda, and have its objective rooted in the context of the SDGs.
- Focusing on addressing inequalities is key in addition to the Strategy's objective of contributing to poverty eradication.

2. Areas of Engagement

- Regional approaches are critical when addressing FCV challenges, given the cross-border nature of these issues. Therefore, the Strategy should examine how to address intercontinental factors, such as drug trade in Latin America, conflict across the Sahel, or the spread of violent extremist groups across the Middle East and Africa.
- Crucial to address grievances before they turn into emergencies. Rapid research activities can be an
 important way to better understand the grievances in place in local communities, and how they can
 be effectively mitigated.
- Understanding the political economy of FCV situations is critical systematically carrying out risk and resilience assessments in FCV-impacted countries is therefore key.
- Important for the Strategy to articulate how to engage with governments that may be contributing to the exacerbation of FCV challenges.
- Emphasis on social cohesion and trust is critical, not only between government and citizens, but also between different groups of citizens.

Feedback from Stakeholders

- The Concept Note's focus on climate change is very welcome. Moving forward, it is important that the Strategy focus on the linkage between climate change, natural resources, and environmental degradation.
- Focusing on strengthening the legitimacy of the state is important, but key to recognize that legitimacy is not built just on service delivery. Rather, it requires broader efforts to create trust and accountability as well.
- Important to develop tailored approaches to fragility, conflict and violence, as these challenges are often very different in nature and thus require different responses.

3. Security and Justice

- Welcome that the 2011 World Development Report is recognized in the Concept Notes. Important to explicitly focus on the importance of security, justice and the rule of law in the Strategy.
- Rule of law and justice are particularly crucial in the context of helping countries escape the fragility trap.
- Important for the WBG to engage in partnerships with security and justice actors, as well as traditional development actors.

4. Private Sector Development

- Welcome the emphasis on private sector. The Strategy should help to mainstream conflict sensitivity throughout the WBG's portfolio and should systematically carry out analyses on entry points for private sector development in fragile settings.
- The Strategy should examine the work and engagement of the International Labor Organization in fragile settings.
- Important to explore how development actors can support private sector development both in the formal and informal economy.

5. Partnerships

- Pleased to see the strong focus on partnerships and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus in the Concept Note.
- Important for the WBG to proactively explore developing or deepening partnerships particularly
 with local actors at the country level. Both the implementation and design of programs can benefit
 from partnerships with actors that have local knowledge operating in the most insecure areas.
- Data sharing and conducting joint analyses are possible modalities to engage more systematically with partners in FCV contexts.
- Important to work with humanitarian actors in order to ensure state actors respect humanitarian principles.
- Consulting with the G7+ is essential as part of the FCV Strategy development process.
- As part of the Strategy development process, important to reach out to a diverse range of stakeholder and emerging actors as well.

6. Operationalization of the Strategy

- The focus on the 4 P's is crucial, as this can help operationalize the operating framework and adapt the institution's tools, processes and incentives to focus on FCV.
- WBG strategies and programming in FCV should be flexible and adaptive enough to adapt if the situation on-the-ground changes.
- Monitoring and evaluation frameworks are critical to measuring success of the strategy and the WBG's engagement in FCV settings. In this context, the Strategy should explore a diversity of

Feedback from Stakeholders

indicators, including those linked with human rights and development, to see what would be most feasible and effective in FCV settings.

• Financing is important, but even more critical is the focus of development interventions and the quality of programming.

7. Additional Issues for Consideration

- Welcome the focus on addressing demographic issues. In this context, the Strategy should focus on sexual and reproductive health as well.
- Strategy should reference the 2016 World Development Report on digital dividend to help ensure full participation in the digital economy in fragile settings.

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World Bank Group Strategy for FCV - Phase 1 Consultations Feedback Summary

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