

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

Feedback Summary

Date: May 10, 2019

Location: Washington, DC

Audience: Government Representatives

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 government representatives from the United States Department of the Treasury. 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

- Participants noted that the Strategy is very timely and welcomed the one World Bank Group approach that articulates a common framework for the World Bank, IFC and MIGA.
- Welcome the focus on vulnerable communities as part of the FCV Strategy objective. This is particularly important given that these communities are often even more vulnerable in FCV settings than in non-FCV settings.

2. Key Areas of Engagement

- Important to focus on prevention, both for countries with fragile and weak institutions as well as those with escalating levels of conflict or violence.
- Important for Strategy to address subnational conflict in countries that are broadly stable yet experience localized conflict.
- The focus on violence is welcomed as an important part of the WBG's engagement in FCV settings.

3. Operating in FCV Contexts

- Important to ensure that projects in FCV are consistently of high quality and address the drivers of fragility.
- Success in FCV should not be characterized by the volume of financing, but rather about impact and results on the ground.
- The Strategy should provide concrete guidance to WBG staff on the type of instruments and tools that are most appropriate in different contexts.
- Important for Strategy to articulate how to engage in contexts when governments may be contributing to FCV challenges.

Feedback from Stakeholders

 Effective monitoring and evaluation is key in FCV in order to assess the impact and results of interventions on the ground.

4. Addressing and Mitigating Risks

- Important to understand that greater engagement in FCV settings entails higher risks.
- Safeguards and grievance redress mechanisms are particularly important in FCV settings given the complex and risky environments on the ground where projects are implemented.
- Third Party Monitoring can be crucial in FCV settings in order to enhance supervision in the most insecure environments.
- MIGA has an important role to play in FCV settings, and therefore key to understand how greater engagement in FCV may affect MIGA's risk profile.
- Reprisals against activists or civil society members in relation to WBG projects may be more common in FCV settings; WBG should prepare for that risk through dialogue with governments to:

 (a) prevent reprisals and (b) through adherence to proper protocols if there are instances of reprisals.

5. Additional Issues for Consideration

- Crucial that the WBG also work with small civil society organizations in FCV settings where they have a presence on the ground in hard to access areas or insecure environments.
- Important to consider how to engage in FCV-impacted countries experiencing high levels of debt.

Prepared by: Miguel de Corral, Strategy and Operations Officer, FCV Group, mdecorralmartin@worldbank.org

List of Participants:

- 1. Jess Isaacs, US ED Office
- 2. Chad DeLuca, US ED Office
- 3. Elizabeth Lien, Director, Office of Debt and Development,
- 4. Alex Severens, Director, Office of Development Results and Accountability
- 5. Katie Berg, Deputy Director, Office of Development Results and Accountability
- 6. Anthony Marcus, Director, MENA Office
- 7. Chuck Moravec, Director, MDB Office
- 8. Sean Suter, WB Desk in MDB Office
- 9. Susan Driano, Director, Africa Office
- 10. Patrick Stuart, Deputy Director, Africa Office
- 11. Franck Bousquet, Senior Director, WB FCV
- 12. Tracey Washington, Principle Investment Officer, IFC
- 13. Merli Baroudi, Director, MIGA
- 14. Steen Andersen, Program Coordinator, WB FCV
- 15. Miguel De Corral Martin, Strategy and Operations Officer, WB FCV
- 16. Bill Danvers, Special Representative, WB
- 17. Johanna Martinsson, Communications Officer, WB