



**World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV)
Consultation Meeting in London, United Kingdom**

Feedback Summary

Date: April 26, 2019

Location: London, United Kingdom

Audience: Multi-stakeholders (CSOs, Think Tanks, Academia)

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. The meeting was moderated by Mr. Jakob Kopperud.

Feedback from Stakeholders
1. Operationalization of the Strategy
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical that the Strategy focuses on the “how”. This will be essential to the successful operationalization of the Strategy across the entire WBG.• High-level commitment from the WBG may be important to ensure operational teams systematically design and implement conflict-sensitive programs.• Important to clarify the WBG’s tolerance for greater risk taking in the most challenging and insecure environments.• Prioritization will be critical to addressing tradeoffs faced in FCV settings. Crucial for the WBG to be clear about the tradeoffs and assess the types of interventions that will have the greatest impact.• A strong monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework will be key to the Strategy. The WBG can leverage its convening power to collect lessons learned and best practices in developing a robust M&E framework for FCV settings, including those that consider protection issues.• Important to invest more in data collection in FCV settings in order to develop development programs tailored to the local needs on-the-ground.
2. Drivers of FCV
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Important to consider how elites can play a role in driving conflict.• External interventions can also drive and exacerbate FCV challenges – this should also be considered when analyzing the drivers of fragility.• Critical to address horizon inequalities, gender equality issues and human rights as drivers of FCV. As part of the Strategy, the WBG should consider how to influence the policy dialogue on these issues.

<p>Feedback from Stakeholders</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to develop strong political economy analyses to better inform more effective programming in FCV settings. These types of analyses should be shared more widely to have a common understanding of the risks and on-the-ground dynamics.
<p>3. Prevention</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on prevention is critical. International actors need to significantly step-up the focus on risk mitigation. • It is important to consider how women peacebuilders can play a key role in successful prevention approaches.
<p>4. Partnerships</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no clear division between humanitarian and development assistance, but important to clarify the role of the WBG when operating in humanitarian contexts. • Crucial to have development actors working in conflict settings given the increasingly protracted nature of conflicts. Partnerships between humanitarian and development actors are therefore key to breaking silos and providing the collective support needed to address short- and long-term challenges. • Important to assess the value of different partners on-the-ground, including local actors who can often provide unique support in the most challenging and insecure environments. • Partnerships with academic actors with knowledge on niche subjects can be important in terms of developing informed and evidence-based approaches.
<p>5. State Legitimacy</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When strengthening legitimacy, important that we do not focus efforts on strengthening those actors driving conflict. Rather, it is critical to strengthen the legitimacy of institutions so they are more inclusive and accountable. • Important to articulate how the WBG operates in situations where there is a lack of legitimacy and trust in state institutions, and in which the state may be contributing to the drivers of fragility. • Nonetheless, working with government actors is crucial, as development and humanitarian assistance is successful when it is part of state-led efforts.
<p>6. Definition of FCV</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on violence is critical in order to address ‘unrecognized conflicts’ that have significant development implications. The definition of FCV should be flexible in order to capture such situations. • Important to recognize that there is no clear boundary between fragile and non-fragile situations.
<p>7. Regional Approaches</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key for the WBG to operate at all levels – at the global, regional, national, subnational levels. • Focusing on border regions is critical, as these regions are often central to conflict dynamics.
<p>8. Private Sector</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector investment is key in FCV settings, but it should not be viewed as a panacea – crucial for private sector approaches to be fully aligned and complement public sector approaches. • Important to clarify how we measure success of private sector work in FCV settings. • The IDA Private Sector Window should not only address financing gaps in low-income countries, but also address those issues specific to FCV-impacted countries.
<p>9. Climate Change</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The linkage between climate change and fragility challenges is key. To this end, even the more successful countries who have escaped fragility may be vulnerable to climate shocks. • Strategy should consider climate justice issues, as well as climate security.

Feedback from Stakeholders
10. Staffing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crucial to have the right type of staff on-the-ground who understand the local context.• Additional regional expertise is important, particularly given the cross-border nature of conflicts.
11. Additional Issues for Consideration
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategy should capture the work done on illicit economies and illicit financial flows, for example on drug or human smuggling networks.• Important to reflect on the impact, role and perception of WBG programming in FCV. In addition, we should consider the impact of broader development interventions in FCV-impacted countries, for instance those related to the Belt Road Initiative.

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ANNEX A

List of Participants:

Organization	Name	Title
ALNAP	Paul Knox-Clarke	Head of Research
Chatham House	Dr. Patricia Lewis	Research Director for International Security
Christian Aid	Máiréad Collins	Syria, Iraq and Lebanon
IISS	Virginia Comolli	Head of the Conflict, Security and Development Programme
IISS	Francesca Grandi	Senior Fellow for Conflict, Security and Development
International Alert	Julian Egan	Head of Advocacy
Institute for State Effectiveness	Marika Theros	Senior Fellow
LSE	Dr. Neelam Raina	UKRI GCRF Global Challenger Leader - Security, Protracted Conflict, Refugees and Displacement
Oxfam	Annabel Morrissey	Conflict and Fragility Lead
Saferworld	Tim Midgley	Senior Conflict and Security Advisor
Save the Children	James Denselow	Head of Conflict and Humanitarian Policy and Advocacy
Save the Children	Jessica Winn	Partnership Advisor (World Bank Group)
SOAS	Jonathan Goodhand	Professor in Conflict and Development Studies
SOAS	Jasmine Bhatia	GCRF Project on Drugs and State Fragility
Start Network	Emma Flaherty	Technical Advisor and Manager of the Crisis Anticipation Team
Start Network	Adam O’Kane	Head of Resource Mobilisation
Tony Blair Institute for Global Change	Declan Sharkey	Project Coordination Officer
University of Sussex	Professor Clionadh Raleigh	Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED)