

A Refreshed WBG Strategy for Engaging in FCV Settings

Summary | Meetings with INGOs and CSOs in Geneva

April 3–4, 2025

The team met with partners in Geneva to discuss the World Bank Group's refreshed FCV Strategy.

Participants:

- Australia
- Burkina Faso
- Canada
- Ethiopia
- EU
- Kenya
- Mozambique
- The Netherlands
- Uganda
- FAO
- IASC Secretariat
- ICRC
- IFRC
- ILO
- IOM
- OCHA
- UNDP
- UNHCR
- WHO
- World Vision International
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- Save The Children
- IRC
- Interpeace
- Geneva Center for Security and Governance
- International Institute for Sustainable Development

Key Takeaways:

Member States

- **Appreciation of WBG FCV work:** Participants from both FCV-affected and other countries expressed appreciation for the WBG's work on FCV, sharing specific examples.
- **Narrative:** The importance of developing a strong narrative—at a time when the rationale for FCV work is questioned—was highlighted during the discussions.
- **Partnerships:** Participants encouraged the WBG to focus on partnerships—including with non-development actors—as a key element of the FCV Strategy.
- **Jobs and private sector:** Participants welcomed the focus on jobs and the private sector, while noting the challenges of mobilizing private investment in such contexts and cautioning against private actors diverging from development goals.

UN Partners

- **Humanitarian–development nexus:** Participants raised questions on the humanitarian–development nexus and the Bank's role when humanitarian programs are no longer financed.
- **FCV Envelope and IDA:** Participants were curious about the future FCV Envelope under IDA, as well as UN contracting for third-party implementation.
- **Strong support for prevention:** Participants emphasized the importance of prioritizing prevention in FCV contexts.
- **Regional dynamics:** Participants advised incorporating regional dynamics and spillovers, as well as cross-border issues, into the Strategy. There was also a suggestion to explore ways the WBG could support subnational governance and service delivery.
- **Forced displacement:** Participants encouraged continued WBG engagement on refugees, IDPs, and host communities from a development perspective.

- **Partnerships and collaboration:** There was a call for deeper collaboration, including with non-development actors, to enhance complementarity. Participants also recommended consulting and engaging directly with communities affected by fragility.
- **Climate–FCV linkages:** Participants highlighted the need to address climate change as a driver and amplifier of fragility.

Civil Society Partners

- **Concerns about the current environment:** Participants noted that the current environment makes it particularly difficult to develop a multi-year strategy.
- **Narrative:** Participants encouraged the WBG to develop a strong narrative to maintain support for FCV and poverty eradication.
- **Strategy alignment:** Some participants emphasized that the FCV Strategy should be developed in coordination with other ongoing processes and global developments, rather than in isolation. Participants encouraged the WBG to consult and engage at the community level.
- **Financing:** Participants encouraged the WBG to consider channeling financing through NGOs. There were questions about whether the WBG could help fill gaps where humanitarian work is no longer funded.
- **Prevention agenda:** Participants expressed strong support for the prevention agenda.
- **Climate–FCV linkages:** Some participants underscored the importance of addressing linkages between FCV and climate change in the Strategy.