

Fragile and conflict-affected situations

More than 1.5 billion people live in countries affected by violence, conflict, and fragility that wreak havoc and present key challenges to development across many regions and income levels. Fragile and conflict-affected countries are home to many of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people—people who are more than twice as likely to see their children die before age five and more than three times as likely to be unable to send their children to school.

Violence and conflict are driven by a range of political, economic and/or security related factors. The vulnerability of countries to violence and conflict, however, is often associated with the absence of capable and legitimate institutions that can address and manage those stresses, whether they are internal or external in nature. As the World Bank's *World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development* confirms, preventing conflict and violence requires enhancing the confidence of citizens in the state and in the capacity of its institutions to provide basic services, including citizen security and justice. A healthy state-citizen relationship is, therefore, key to preventing violence and conflict and also to helping countries exit from repeated and sustained cycles of violence.

Given its focus on state-citizen relationships and on empowering citizens and the state to use innovative tools and practical approaches toward engendering participatory and sustainable change, the World Bank Institute (WBI) plays a critical role in helping countries prevent con-



flict and/or transition out of conflict. WBI's engagement leverages its platforms including the use of innovative tools, coalition building and leadership support, structured learning, and knowledge exchange. Below are some highlights of the way WBI leverages its platforms to build capacity and promote inclusive engagement in development in countries trying to recover from conflict or, as is the case in the Middle East and North Africa, to move toward more democratic and inclusive systems.

Our approach

- Enhancing Social Accountability for Better Governance in Middle East and North Africa (MENA):** WBI partners with the MENA region in building the capacity of the newly-established Affiliated Network for Social Accountability (ANSA)-Arab World and is planning for a program to support capacity toward

fostering state-citizen engagement, drawing on a combination of WBI's tools and platforms.

- **E-Learning on Conflict, Security, and Development:** WBI is developing an e-Learning program to be used for training clients and partners on the main themes, findings, and recommendations of the World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development. The report underscores the inter-linkages between these three themes and the need for more integrated approaches to addressing them.
- **Using Innovation Platforms to Enhance Development Effectiveness,** WBI supports an ICT initiative for a participatory budgeting process in the DRC; and is piloting the Mapping for Results tool in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Haiti, Nepal, South Sudan, and other countries.

- **Collaborative Leadership for Development Impact** develops the skills of emerging leaders across sectors in fragile and conflict-affected states to help them catalyze change and lead reform initiatives that are critical for their societies.
- **Knowledge Exchange on Women's Access** to social and legal services to demonstrate how that access can contribute to achieving and maintaining development, peace, and security.
- **Promoting Capacity to Monitor and Participate in the Reform Process in Guinea** working with media, traditional communities, and civil society organizations.

Contact

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WBI is a global facilitator of capacity development for poverty reduction. We connect practitioners, networks and institutions and help them to find their own solutions to address development challenges. With a focus on the 'how' of reform, we link knowledge from around the world and scale up innovations. We work with and through global, regional and country-based institutions and practitioner networks and help them develop customized programs that respond to specific needs. WBI connects globally and delivers locally.

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