

FRAGILITY ASSESSMENTS

Enhancing the Stability of States & Effectiveness of Interventions



With almost half of the world's poor, and a combination of weak governance and divided societies, fragile states contribute disproportionately to the world's instability and humanitarian crisis.

- ✓ The New Deal places assessments at the center of its agenda
- ✓ The World Bank is rethinking how it undertakes and uses assessments
- ✓ Leading donors are increasingly emphasizing assessments
- ✓ The 2015 annual OECD report calls for "new approaches to assessing and monitoring fragility using metrics that do not reduce fragility measures to a single index."



Answering the global call for better Fragility Assessments



Assessments identify

- ✓ Potential sources of conflict and societal fractures
- ✓ Institutions that weaken social cohesion and human rights
- ✓ Obstacles to promoting inclusive development and jobs growth
- ✓ Opportunities to directly alleviate sources of fragility
- ✓ Issues that encourage violent extremism and political violence

- ✓ Assessments translate concerns about fragility into policies and programming that address it
- ✓ Policymakers currently struggle to use a fragility lens in operations; assessments can change this
- ✓ Economics or security drive most programming now, but political, societal, and institutional issues often more important



Why are fragility assessments so important?

How are our assessments different?

1. Synthesize expert on-the-ground analysis with inclusive outreach to a wide range of stakeholders
2. Focus on dynamics (which can be addressed), not end goals (which provide no road map)
3. Translate results into specific policy recommendations in key sectors
4. Emphasize informal, rather than only formal
5. Concentrate on horizontal societal interactions instead of just vertical state-society relationship
6. Seek out strengths to build on, instead of just looking for weaknesses to overcome
7. Use a conflict prevention lens across all areas even if country has no violent conflict
8. Give subnational and regional issues equal priority to national
9. Performed independently

Deep Institutional Analysis

- Effectiveness and Interaction of Institutions
- Equity of Institutions
- Perceptions of Justice
- Security
- Accountability Mechanisms
- Breadth of Economic Activity
- Behavior of Leaders

Deep Societal Analysis

- Political Dynamics
- Historical Legacies
- Social Cooperation
- Horizontal Inequalities
- Transnational Influences

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