This month’s edition of Results Matters focuses on GPRBA’s support for projects in countries categorised by Fragile, Conflict, and Violence (FCV).

Global fragility landscape has worsened significantly in past few years, as recent conflicts are compounded by other crisis (disease, Climate-change, food insecurity, energy shocks, economic recession, political instability, and more). The COVID-19 pandemic and its socio-economic impacts are aggravating existing FCV risks and increasing poverty—approximately 23 million people in FCV contexts became extremely poor already in 2020. By 2030, it is estimated that more than half of the world’s extreme poor will live in countries characterized by FCV. Similarly, number of people living in proximity to conflict — defined as within 60 kilometers of at least 25 conflict-related deaths — has nearly doubled since 2007.

Additionally, as of this year, more than 100 million people are forcibly displaced. This sudden, large influx of forcibly displaced people, typically concentrated in urban areas, can compound existing development challenges and strain infrastructure and service delivery systems in host cities. People living in FCV are more likely to suffer multiple deprivations than those in other places, and FCV disproportionally impacts women, girls and most vulnerable population, this includes forcibly displaced people, who face increased social and security risks. Lastly, even though some refugee hosting countries may not be classified as FCV contexts, the spillover of regional instability can lead to fragility. This is true for countries across the income spectrum. All these factors limit FCV countries’ response to shocks and crises, making delivering essential services critical in these countries.

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GPRBA’s engagements in FCV contexts support a vital pillar of the World Bank’s FCV strategy: ‘To help countries transition out of fragility by promoting approaches that can renew the social contract between citizens and the state, foster a healthy local private sector, and strengthen the legitimacy and capacity of core institutions.’

GPRBA has funded 14 projects in countries and regions classified as fragile and conflict-affected, underscoring the utility of the RBF approach in specific challenging environments. GPRBA’s experience in FCV countries has shown that factors associated with fragility are not necessarily the best indicators of an RBF project’s outcome. Rather, technical capacity of the recipient, quality of design, flexibility during implementation, and the degree of technical assistance provided throughout the project lifecycle are stronger predictors of a project’s success. Therefore, GPRBA will
continue to develop new multisectoral activities and knowledge products with a particular focus on FCV.

Feature Story

**Local participation in a fragile environment – Liberia**

Encouraging local participation is crucial when implementing infrastructure and service provision projects in fragile environments. Engaged communities increase a project’s adaptability to the local context and build a local support base. This is particularly important in waste management interventions, where behavior change and local ownership towards cleanliness are fundamental conditions for a project’s success. Therefore, the ongoing Cheesemanburg Landfill and Urban Sanitation Project (CLUS) in Greater Monrovia, co-financed by GPRBA, has introduced a community incentive system. This system operates as a competition between eligible communities on cleanliness, waste reduction and recycling initiatives. Communities that score highest on the cleanliness index are provided an in-kind incentive in the form of a small infrastructure project (e.g., installation of solar lights or water or waste points for the community, rehabilitation a public toilet, etc.). The results are announced at public events every quarter. The competition is working well in Monrovia City Corporation and Paynesville City Corporation, with six awards granted to date. Along with motivating communities to improve their performance, these awards contribute to increased awareness, which is likely to drive demand for primary waste collection services from community-based enterprises.

**Building Sustainable and Inclusive SWM Systems – Yemen**

The World Bank, in collaboration with UNOPS, has been working towards restoring access to critical urban services in Yemen. Building on the rehabilitation efforts of ongoing World Bank activities, the Yemen Integrated Urban Services Emergency Project II (YIUSEP II) task team is considering an RBF component to ensure long-term financial sustainability of solid waste management (SWM) operations in Yemini cities. Therefore, to assess the feasibility of an RBF intervention, GPRBA financed a technical assistance (TA) activity in the cities of Aden, Sana’a, and Mukalla. The assessment will inform the design of an RBF intervention that supports improved user fee collection, in order to address the fundamental problem of financial sustainability of SWM services. It will also facilitate city-wide service level improvements, expand the provision of SWM services to underserved communities and include key performance indicators related to improved outcomes for women and informal workers engaged in the waste value chain.
GPRBA Annual Report 2022

FY22 marked a significant transition for GPRBA. The Partnership operationalized its new Umbrella funding structure and carried out a retrospective independent evaluation of the program’s impact and effectiveness during the FY15-20 period.

GPRBA’s strategy for the next fiscal year draws upon recommendations and guidance from the FY22 independent evaluation and will encompass changes to both GPRBA’s processes and its portfolio.

FCV-Related GPRBA Resources

Output-Based Aid For Solid Waste Management in Nepal
RBF Case Study

This case study features the Nepal Output-Based Aid Solid Waste Management project. Implemented between June 2013 and June 2017, the project benefited approximately 120,000 households across five municipalities in Nepal. An earthquake in Nepal and a sustained fuel crisis intensified the challenges associated with fragility during project implementation.

Solomon Islands Energy Access Program
RBF Case Study

This case study examines the Solomon Islands Energy Access Program. Implemented between November 2016 and March 2020, the project electrified 2,403 households, representing 127 percent of the target. The results were even more commendable because it was implemented in a low-resource and fragile environment.

West Bank Solid Waste Management
Lessons Learned #16, 2019

This note showcases the results of the West Bank Solid Waste Management project. It also discusses the lessons learned in implementing a SWM project in a fragile and conflict-affected area like the West Bank.

Output-Based Aid in Fragile and Conflict Situations
OBA Approaches #47, 2015

This note discusses the challenges of service delivery in situations classified as FCV-affected and illustrates how OBA approaches can be utilized effectively.
Navigating Multiple Crises, Staying the Course on Long-term Development: The World Bank Group’s Response to the Crises Affecting Developing Countries

This report highlights the recent crises that are contributing to growing macroeconomic imbalances, including the COVID-19 pandemic and its after-effects, the ongoing war in Ukraine and its global impact, and rising inflation and weakening economic recovery. These crises are exacerbating the already high risk of debt distress and leaving many households vulnerable. This paper details the WBG’s crisis response and proposes a framework tailored to the current situation.

Blog: Addressing fragility is critical for development

February 2022

World Bank President David Malpass pledges that the World Bank will continue to work closely with governments, civil society groups and the private sector to help developing countries alleviate extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity to avoid cycles of conflict and violence.


Addressing the challenges of FCV is critical to achieving the World Bank Group’s twin goals of ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity. By 2030, more than half of the world’s extreme poor will live in countries characterized by FCV. Preventing and mitigating FCV challenges is key to making progress toward the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Fragility Forum 2022

This Forum included a series of sessions around FCV challenges and opportunities. One such session titled, “SOS: Cities, Climate Conflict, COVID-19 and Communities,” was co-organized by the World Bank’s Urban GP and Club de Madrid, and focused on intersectional risk and multiple crises. The panel included former heads of state from Belgium and Senegal, the Governor of Borno state and the Economic Advisor from the Barranquilla mayor’s office.

E-Learning

Self-Paced Course on Results-Based Financing

Would you like to learn about the basic concepts and principles of results-based financing? If so, take the self-paced online course “E-Learning on Results-Based Financing Approaches: Key Concepts and Principles.”

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