

FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT POPULATIONS IN SITUATIONS OF **FRAGILITY, CONFLICT AND CRIMINAL VIOLENCE** - 2024-2027

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Fragility, conflict, and criminal violence (FCCV) undermine the quality of life and livelihoods of millions of people in Latin America and the Caribbean. Each new shock and crisis in these settings reinforces underlying fragilities and creates ripple effects that usually span across borders and can affect development prospects of other regions.

Addressing, preventing, and mitigating these situations is a global public good, critical to countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, their populations, and to the main mandate of the Inter-American Development Bank Group (IDB Group) to improve lives in the region.

While the IDB has extensive experience and comparative advantages tackling FCCV-related issues, we have so far lacked a unified approach to the topic as a Group. This new framework provides clear guidance on adapting our work to FCCV settings and aims to deliver tangible impacts through both financial and non-financial initiatives.

THE APPROACH

IDENTIFYING SUBNATIONAL AND TERRITORIAL FCCV POCKETS

The development of a classification methodology to identify geographic areas affected by FCCV in Latin America and the Caribbean is essential to better inform the IDB Group's strategic and operational decision-making. The framework has two distinctive features specifically tailored to the address the unique characteristics of the region:



It has a focus on pockets of FCCV at the subnational and territorial levels. Most countries in the region are middle-income, have relatively stable central governments, and therefore do not qualify as fragile according to current methodologies, but face challenges in specific geographic areas that may span across national borders.



It emphasizes the destabilizing effects of criminal violence and the feedback loops with institutional fragility. Latin America and the Caribbean is the most violent region in the world, largely due to organized crime, which constrains growth, affects the well-being of populations and poses a huge challenge to the legitimacy of institutions and governance.



IDB GROUP'S DEFINITION OF FRAGILITY, CONFLICT, AND CRIMINAL VIOLENCE (FCCV)

Fragility as insufficient capacity of the state, or the subsystems within it, to deliver basic public services and create the needed resilience to mitigate, manage, or recover from the effects of shocks; **conflict** as situations where organized groups, sometimes including the state, use violence to settle grievances or assert power, generally linked to political agendas; and **criminal violence** as scenarios marked by high levels of interpersonal and organized violence, including the use of force or the threat of the use of force, linked to criminal activities.



OBJECTIVES AND LINES OF ACTION

The new Framework to Support Populations in Situations of Fragility, Conflict and Criminal Violence is a first step towards a more coherent and ambitious approach in the IDB Group to address these challenges. The document provides guidance to the IDB Group's public and private windows to tailor their work to the specific needs and capacities in these environments, so we achieve more impactful results through **three objectives**:

1. Identify and address the drivers, manifestations, and effects of fragility, conflict and criminal violence.

2. Strengthen sector work and technical sector support to address fragility, conflict and, in particular, criminal violence.

3. Provide tailored approaches to better serve country needs and respond to the diverse realities on the ground.

To achieve these objectives, the framework encompasses **three key pillars and fit-for-purpose actions** in the IDB Group's work:



Applied knowledge. We will enhance our applied knowledge agenda to better identify and understand FCCV in the region, closing knowledge and data gaps both with internal sources and by sharing information and lessons learned with other stakeholders.



Sector support. We will foster essential areas of technical work to better address drivers, manifestations, and effects of FCCV. We are talking about a multidimensional problem and therefore an approach focused on institutional strengthening to improve service delivery, as well as prevention and mitigation of risk factors, placing people and human rights at the center, is critical.



Strategic and operational approach. We will adapt our strategic and operational approach to the areas affected by this phenomenon to increase adaptability, simplicity, accountability, and implementation capacity.



THE FRAMEWORK, PART OF A BROADER IDB GROUP PROCESS

Implementing actions and measures under the framework requires close coordination among the IDB, IDB Invest, and IDB Lab teams; strong ownership and political commitment from country authorities; deep collaboration with partners and other stakeholders; as well as human and financial resources.

Meeting the challenges of FCCV brings complexities and sensitivities, and continuous learning, adaptation and engagement of clients, partners and other stakeholders are essential to move forward. This framework, which is not intended to be a comprehensive strategy but rather a first institutional guideline, is part of the implementation path of a broader process, anchored in the new IDB Group Institutional Strategy.

Download the Framework to Support Populations in Situations of Fragility, Conflict and Criminal Violence [here](#):



www.bit.ly/FCCV-En



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