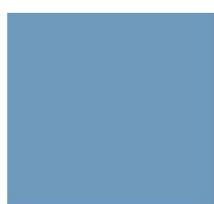


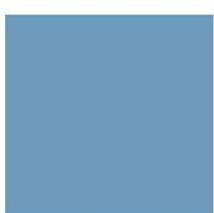
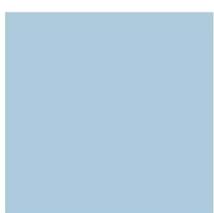
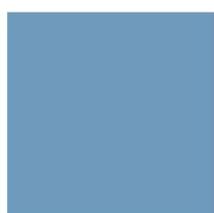
INTERNATIONAL **DIALOGUE**
ON PEACEBUILDING & STATEBUILDING

Concept Note for Updating Guidance Notes

Document 03



SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE WORKING GROUP
MEETING ON NEW DEAL IMPLEMENTATION
22-23 May 2015, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire



Working Group on New Deal Implementation

Concept Note: Taking the guidance notes updates process forward

(Fragility Assessments, Compacts, and New Deal Implementation)

BACKGROUND

Participants at the last Implementation Working Group meeting in October 2014 in Washington DC clearly indicated the need i) to move away from externally drafted guidance notes and for them to be driven and developed by the stakeholders in the dialogue, in particular from the country level, and ii) for guidance to better address the relationship between the instruments, offering greater strategic reflection on how they 'add up' to New Deal implementation, in different country contexts.

The commitment to ownership of the New Deal at country level suggests the importance of strategic reflection on New Deal implementation processes by those who have been engaged at the country level, over time. While attention has been placed on different instruments of the New Deal – notably the Fragility Assessments, Compacts and indicator development, insufficient attention has been given to how these instruments build upon another and feed into other national planning and monitoring processes. This requires an understanding of the political economy conditions surrounding these processes, and the actors involved (national governments, societal stakeholders/civil society, and donor country offices/headquarters). Some countries are considering re-doing or updating existing Fragility Assessments or elaborating Compacts in the light of recent events (e.g. Ebola, new political regimes in place, and/or the end of pilot period). This is a timely moment to revise existing guidance to address weaknesses identified with previous processes (see [New Deal Monitoring Report](#)) and the linkages between them.

CONCEPT, AIMS AND PROCESS

To address the above concerns and to promote national ownership and g7+ peer-to-peer sharing of lessons around New Deal implementation, guidance must draw on an interactive and inclusive reflection processes.

It is proposed that workshops at country level are the best way to do this, generating national lessons that can be shared and fed into global level collective reflection and guidance development that better reflects g7+ pilot country contexts. The guidance notes are intended to be 'living documents' that periodically incorporate new examples and insights as g7+ countries reflect on their experiences of New Deal implementation.

I. Country Level Workshops:

At country level, workshops will offer an opportunity for lesson sharing around New Deal implementation with International Dialogue stakeholders that have been involved in the process at country level. These workshops will examine the experience of New Deal implementation at national level, and identify specific achievements, challenges and opportunities. They will reflect upon the experiences to date with their Fragility Assessment, Compacts and the development and use of Indicators to monitor progress. Reflecting in

particular on the links between instruments, workshops will identify the challenges or obstacles to integration of fragility assessment findings in planning processes and the compact, and generate discussions about how these might be overcome.

The below questions can guide workshop reflection but would need to be contextualised and adapted depending on the country context:

- Has the Fragility Assessment (FA) effectively captured the drivers of conflict, fragility and resilience?
 - Are there new/old drivers that were not captured? (Evidenced by. threat or actual violence, voiced collective grievances, etc.)
 - What tools/frameworks were used (Fragility Spectrum, and, for example, conflict analysis or other tools) accurately capturing the drivers; are supplementary analyses/tools needed to do this? What are they?
 - What is the plan for FA(s); how often will they be done, and is/how is this process being institutionalized in any way?
- How is progress being measured against the FA?
 - Were indicators developed for this purpose, and are they/how are they being utilised, to what effect? Are the pilot 'common indicators' being tested, and is/how is the longer 'menu of indicators' (e.g. reflected in the Fragility Paper, that was a product of the pilot country indicator work) being utilised?
 - How is progress being measured within PSG areas but equally, *across* PSG areas, in ways that capture cross cutting challenges and opportunities to build resilience?
 - Is/how is progress being communicated in ways that build trust between New Deal stakeholders and national ownership of the New Deal process?
- How did the FA process and findings feed into the development of the Compact?
 - What aspects of the FA findings do the Compact address? What is the logic behind how the priorities in the Compact will drive progress towards resilience?
 - What aspects of the FA, deemed top priorities, are left out of the Compact, and how are these being addressed through other national planning tools and processes?
 - What are the lessons emerging to date around the role, utility and impact of New Deal Compacts that can inform their future development?
- How is the FA, indicators and Compact feeding into national planning processes as well international partner planning frameworks and strategies?
 - Is there 'one vision-one plan' and how are the FA findings feeding into this?
 - How are they informing UN, donor and other international partner planning frameworks and strategies in ways that offer lessons?
- What recommendations do national teams have for guidance on the FA, Compacts, Indicators, and general ND Implementation? How can these guidance products be made easier to understand and better to utilise, particularly for practitioners in the field?

Country specific findings and lessons emanating from these workshops will inform the International Workshop that will be held as part of the New Deal Implementation Working Group 'Strategic Reflection on Instruments Workshop' that will be held in Abidjan on May 22. Country workshops will need to take place around the beginning of May. See Appendix A for suggested National Workshop Agenda.

Participants: People involved in conducting the Fragility Assessments (Governments, statistical office, civil society, donors, consultants) at national level, as well as provincial/sub-national level representation (max 6-8 people per PSG group).

Each country would select **one rapporteur** to participate in global level workshop in Abidjan, in addition to the g7+ focal point.

Structure of Workshops:

The ultimate structure will depend on numbers of participants and the nature of the country processes to date. A two day interactive, reflection workshop is suggested, with possible sessions that include:

National Level Strategic Reflection Workshop on New Deal Implementation	
Day 1	
Morning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisiting New Deal aims, New Deal implementation strategy, and overview of the process at national level to date • Reflecting on the development, accuracy and results of Fragility Assessments (above questions) 	
Afternoon	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflecting on the development and utility of the indicators to measure progress (above questions) • Reflecting on the development and priority targeting of the Compact 	
Day 2	
Morning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic reflection on New Deal implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How are the requisite instruments producing overarching strategic results? ○ How are New Deal principles being observed and promoted? ○ Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats 	
Afternoon	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority actions to strengthen New Deal implementation • Next steps • Review and collective endorsement of lessons 	

A commissioned consultant or a designated rapporteur would accompany the national workshop and pull out lessons from the discussion, and write up a draft outcomes note. The same consultant/designated rapporteur would also be present at the global level workshop in Abidjan. S/he, would need to be adequately briefed, and able to draw out the main conclusions from country consultation workshops, in line with the questions listed above, and capable of effectively communicating them at the global level workshop, in ways that allow for comparability with the outcomes of other workshops.

A **national consultant** might support the logistical organisation of the national workshop. This needs to be determined by the country focal points.

II. Global Level Workshop

Experiences and lessons learned, distilled at country level, will then be discussed at a global level workshop linked to the next Implementation Working Group, on **22 May in Abidjan**. This workshop will draw lessons

across cases and provide an opportunity for participants to reflect collectively on the implications for Guidance Notes on the Fragility Assessment, Compacts, and New Deal Implementation.

This may include looking at 'light touch approaches' in countries where it was not possible to fully conduct a Fragility Assessment but hybrids have proven useful, such as in Somalia and CAR. This way the guidance notes can better address challenges that countries in conflict situation face.

Participants: Members of the Implementation Working Group (g7+ focal points, donors, civil society representatives).

PRODUCTS

Expected products of workshops at country and global level include:

- Country and Global Workshop Reports that draw lessons and insights from New Deal Implementation around key instruments – in particular the Fragility Assessments and Compacts, to date.

These will provide a basis for updating and developing guidance notes, including:

- Updated comprehensive **guidance note on Fragility Assessments** with country specific examples drawn from the Country Workshops and a two page practical step by step summary
- Inputs for updating the **guidance note on Compacts**
- The **New Deal implementation guidance note** could be updated. It should be made easier to read and understand and may be adapted to needs of different utilisers (government, country offices, civil society actors). It should answers questions on how to get involved in/start the New Deal process, build commitment and buy in, address obstacles and maximize opportunities for effective New Deal implementation.

PILOT COUNTRY STATUS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR COUNTRY LEVEL WORKSHOPS AND INPUTS:

- **DRC:** Completed Fragility Assessment in 2013 – is still going through validation process within the government. Good example to capture lessons learned. In preparation of compact process; great momentum with Olivier Kamitatu returning as Minister of Planning.
- **Sierra Leone:** Completed FA in 2012 and has just concluded a second round of FA in June 2014; has signed a compact in 2014.
- **Timor Leste:** Completed Fragility Assessment in 2012. Particularly interesting case as Timor Leste is considering doing another FA, in the light of forthcoming elections.
- **South Sudan:** Completed Fragility Assessment in 2012. Good to capture lessons from consultative process of FA and consultations leading to compact preparations.
- **Liberia:** Completed FA in 2012. Update and Compact preparations under discussion.
- **Comoros:** Consultative Fragility Assessment

To date, Focal Points from DRC and Sierra Leone have expressed willingness to organise Country Workshops prior to the Abidjan workshop. ***Ideally all pilot countries would have these workshops prior to the Abidjan meeting.***

Alternatively, **smaller country consultation meetings in pilot countries** could be held to elicit New Deal stakeholder inputs prior to the global level workshop. These would be less ambitious than the national level workshops, but endeavour to still enable a conversation with key stakeholders around the issues. These could be *half-day meetings* that gather representatives from Government, civil society, as well as nationally based INCAF members. These should include representatives from the PSG working groups, who participated in Fragility Assessments, indicator development and the compact development process.

FUNDING

Funding for the workshops can be provided through the UNDP Support Facility.

Estimated costs:

Budgets will be developed by country hosting workshop or ½ day meetings in collaboration with ID secretariat and UNDP support Facility, and will include:

- Workshop venue and meals
- Travel to Workshop (capital) for those coming from the provinces (transport, accommodation, per diem)
- Travel of rapporteur to global level workshop in Abidjan (transport, accommodation, per diem)
- Local translator
- Consultant

Funding for updating the guidance notes will be further explored, depending on route decided for undertaking these tasks. To the degree possible the updating of guidance will be stakeholder driven, without or with limited reliance on the use of external consultants.