

MDG Challenge in the context of Fragile States

Fragile States Seminar

7 January 2009

We Save the Children  Will you?

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DFID's view

Fragility defined as the lack of capacity or willingness to deliver core state functions for the majority of people, including the poor, thereby making it difficult to establish effective aid partnerships; states either incapable and /or without political will including extremely difficult situations of complete state collapse (Somalia) and /or armed conflict (DRC), insecurity and political instability and state repression (Zimbabwe)

Link with MDGs

- The World Bank in its 2007 Global Monitoring Report measuring progress on MDGs singled out fragile states (along with gender equality) as posing the greatest challenge for achieving MDG targets.

MDGs at risk

Indicator	Total in developing countries (millions)	Total in fragile states (in millions and % share)
Total population (2004)	5,427 million	485 million (9%)
MDG1—Poverty (2004)		
Extreme poverty	985	261 (27%)
Malnourished children	143	22.7 (16%)
MDG2—Universal Education		
Children of relevant age that did not complete primary school in 2005	13.8	4 (29%)
MDG4—Under-Five Mortality		
Children born in 2005 not expected to survive to age five	10.5	3.3 (31%)
MDG5—Maternal Health		
Unattended births	48.7	8.9 (18%)
MDG6—Diseases		
TB deaths	1.7	0.34 (20%)
HIV+	29.8	7.2 (24%)
MDG7—Environmental Sustainability		
Lack of access to improved water	1,083	209 (19%)
Lack of access to improved sanitation	2,626	286 (11%)

Who are they?

- No agreed list, commonly used ones include: Fund for Peace, DFID, World Bank (LICUS), etc.
- Save the Children generated list of “conflict-affected fragile states – CAFS” (International Save the Children Alliance 2007): total of 28 countries, issues of low income vs lower middle income
- The OECD DAC four-part typology: arrested development, deterioration, early recovery, post conflict transition

Characteristics

- Characteristics of fragility
 - Conflict
 - Significant violation civil & political rights
 - Weak capacity of duty bearers
 - Low or negative rates of economic growth
 - Poor governance
 - Lack of /collapse of basic services

OECD DAC

- 10 principles for engagement:
- context,
- do no harm,
- focus on state building,
- prioritise prevention,
- links between political security and development objectives, promote non-discrimination,
- align with local priorities,
- coordination,
- stay engaged,
- avoid exclusion.

Save the Children's current level of engagement: direct & indirect

- Policy work on education, health
- Aid effectiveness
- Engagement in 2 networks (INEE & Fragile States health network) – steering committee level
- “Treading a Delicate path”
- “Last in Line, Last in School” – education and CAFS
- Indirect: Humanitarian Policy Unit; Governance work (Policy & Learning); Use of Natural Resources & Public Expenditure
- Upcoming: role of private sector in FS
- Impact of economic growth on non-income poverty

Gaps

- Funding aversion
- Conflict mitigation & prevention
- Livelihoods, social protection and Development
- Civil Society and Accountability
- Child Survival & Inequity

Funding Aversion

- Receive 43% less aid than they should according to population poverty etc
- Donors still favour middle income that satisfy donor criteria
- Short term & unpredictable aid
- Prioritisation of aid away from service delivery (i.e. security sector reform)

Conflict Mitigation & Prevention

- Important defining characteristic of Fragile States
- 90% of the LICUS countries have been in conflict/currently in conflict
- Current focus (DFID) is on assessment tools of conflict & fragility
- Gap 1: Lack of focus on the role of sectoral programs in the prevention/mitigation of conflict
- Gap 2: Lack of focus on potential synergy between peace building agents and sector program work

Livelihoods, social protection & development

- Livelihoods promotion and social protection are both approaches to reducing household poverty – one long term and the other more immediate
- Employment generation for mothers and youth key – but need to understand context better
- More analysis of role of private sector in this regard
- Social protection powerful short term intervention tool – challenge is to move towards the setting up of longer term sustainable systems owned by the state

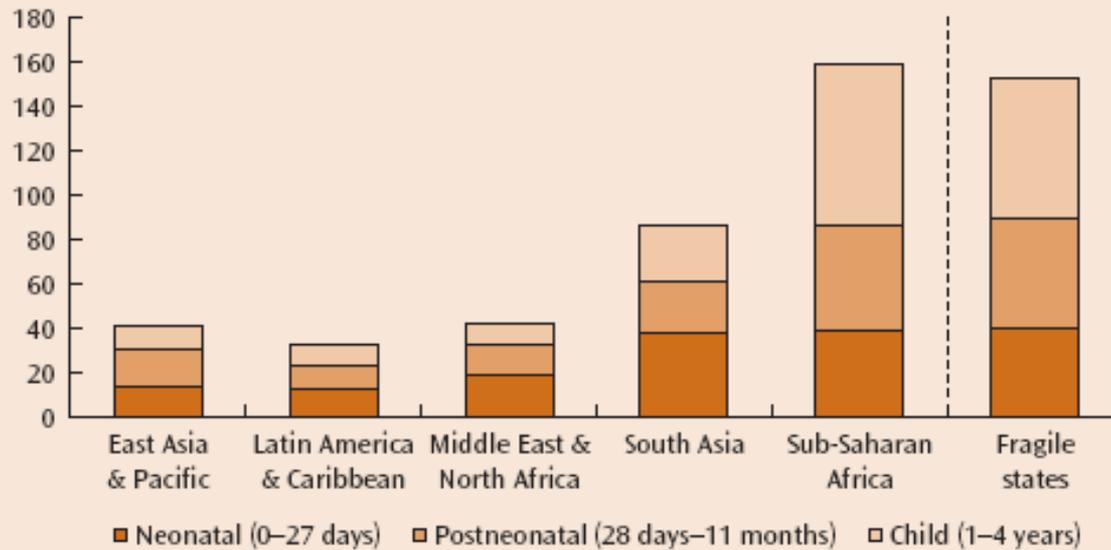
Civil Society & Accountability Mechanisms

- “Compact” between state and citizen, citizens right to monitor the state (Ombudsman)
- Gaps:
 - Organisational accountability: often neglected
 - “Compact” between state and citizen often weak in fragile contexts: focus often on accountability of state to donor
 - Short route to long route; how to move from initial service delivery to state building

Child Survival and Inequity

MDG 4 FIGURE 4 Composition of under-five mortality in developing regions based on most recent data, 1995–2003

Deaths per 1,000 live births



Source: WHO report, 2005 (unweighted averages).

Child Survival and Inequity

- Gap 1: Overall weak focus on child survival by Government and donors beyond short term emergency measures
- Gap 2: Weak or non-existent health and nutrition systems
- Gap 3: Few national level strategies, policies or institutional capacity to tackle child mortality
- Gap 4: Poor political commitment and donor aversion

Child Survival and Inequity

- Gap 5: Limited data, analysis and documentation on child and maternal survival and the impact of the burden of disease, death and equity on the household and livelihoods in fragile states.
- Gap 6: Limited analysis of the drivers of inequity in the different typologies of fragile states
- Gap 7: Lack of focus on universal coverage to effective child survival interventions

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