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AID EFFECTIVENESS IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS

Session 3: Aid effectiveness

WORKING IN AND ON FRAGILITY: FROM OBSTACLES TO GUIDANCE

Thursday 20 April 2017



ACADÉMIE
DE RECHERCHE ET
D'ENSEIGNEMENT
SUPÉRIEUR





BELGIUM AND FRAGILITY?

- ✓ Strategic note on situations of fragility (2013)
- ✓ Law on development cooperation (2013)
- ✓ Political priorities

 **OPERATIONALISATION**



EU WORKSHOP IN KINSHASA

31 'FOOD FOR THOUGHTS' ALONG 3 LINES

- ✓ Reinforce the understanding of fragility, its dynamics and its « resilience »
- ✓ Integrate a fragility dimension in interventions
- ✓ Adapt approaches, frameworks, tools and instruments to fragility



FROM THE 'FOOD FOR THOUGHTS' TO THE IDENTIFICATION OF OBSTACLES TO A FRAGILE SENSITIVE APPROACH?

4 work streams

20 missions

37 policy notes, working papers, ...

3 Tools



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TOOLS DEVELOPPED FOR BE COOPERATION : #THREE

**GUIDANCE
ON
FRAGILITY**



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FRAME

**Fragility
Resilience
Assessment
Management
Exercise**

Analysing risks and opportunities



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**CONCEPT
NOTE ON
INCENTIVES &
PARTNER
COMMITMENTS**



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GUIDANCE ON FRAGILITY



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WHAT IS IT?

- ✓ A practical and pedagogical tool for Belgian development actors to integrate a fragile-sensitive approach



WHAT IS IT FOR?

- ✓ To be used as **crash course** for staff not yet trained or experienced in working in fragile contexts
- ✓ To be used as a daily work **reference** to incorporate a fragility dimensions throughout the programme cycle and the different aid modalities



WHAT DOES IT CONTAIN?

- ✓ Nine chapters inspired by the **principles** of engagement in situations of fragility and including key dilemmas, questions, guiding modalities, examples and resources
- ✓ A checklist that translates the key principles into concrete **questions** that should be taken into account in order to ensure that any process, exercise or decision integrates a fragile-sensitive approach



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EXAMPLE

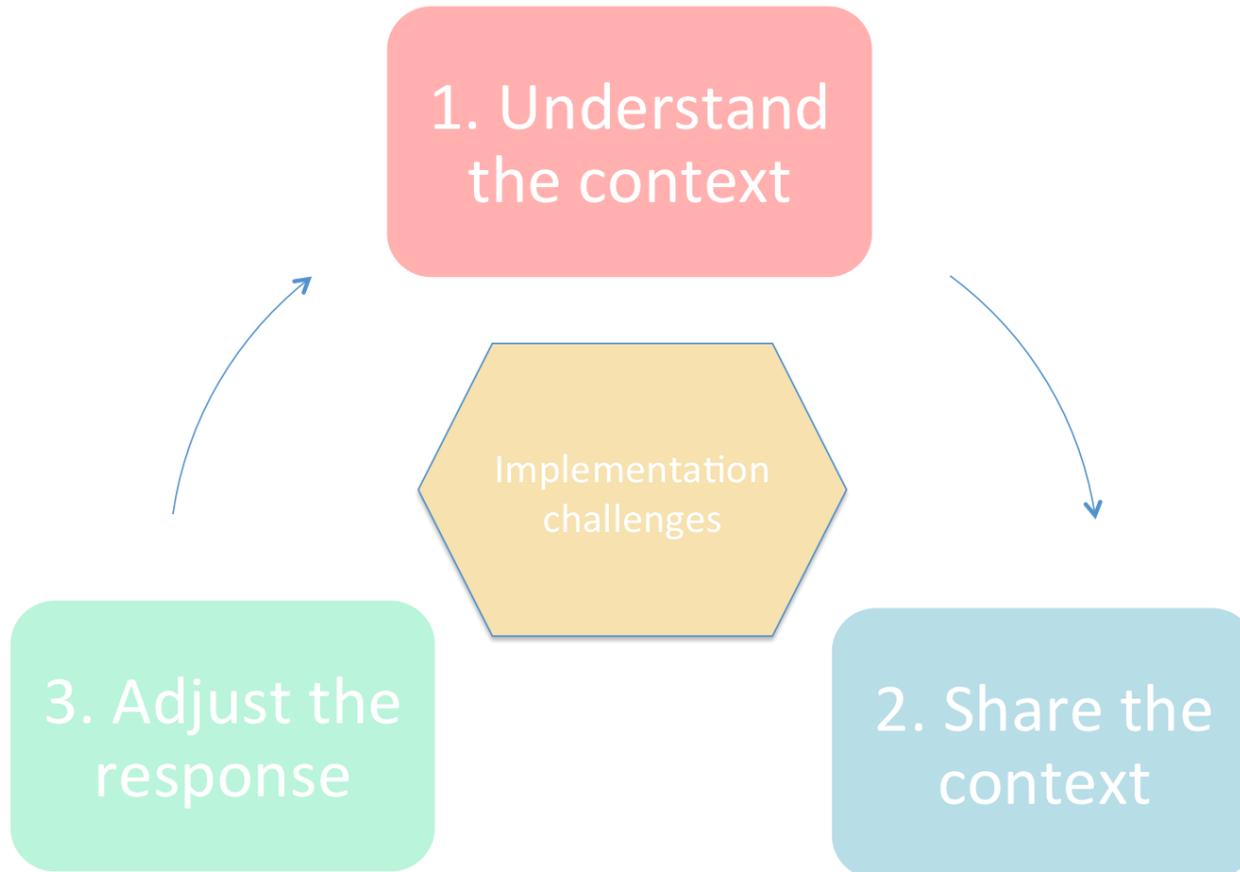
CHAPTER 1 : START FROM CONTEXT



Municipal archives, somewhere in Central Africa, 2008



PRINCIPLE





CHECKLIST

- 1. What relevant (internal and external) analyses are available in order to have a well-informed view of the context** (specify when possible: e.g. political economy analysis, conflict sensitivity, risk analysis, institutional capacity assessment, etc.)? What additional analyses are needed (specify)?
- 2. What (internal and external) expertise is available** in order to analyse and monitor the context on a continuous basis?
- 3. How and when have the relevant actors been consulted** in order to have a comprehensive view of the context (partners, beneficiaries, other donors, drivers and spoilers)?
- 4. How do management tools and procedures allow effective adaptation towards a changing context** (specify)?

FRAME

**Fragility
Resilience
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Exercise**

Analysing risks and opportunities



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WHAT IS IT?

- ✓ Supporting tool to assess and manage **risks** and **opportunities** when working in fragile contexts.



WHAT IS IT FOR?

- ✓ To be used by Embassies for **monitoring** of context and programme **identification**.
- ✓ **Flexible** enough to adapt according to needs and objectives of end-user



WHAT DOES IT CONTAIN?

- ✓ Guidelines – 4 Questions
- ✓ Annex A – 10 Fragility Components
- ✓ Annex B - Tool

FRAME

Fragility Resilience Assessment Management Exercise

Analysing risks and opportunities

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RESTORING RESILIENCE IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS



DIMENSION 1: Economic Fragility

Economic fragility is vulnerability to risks stemming from weaknesses in economic foundations and human capital including macroeconomic shocks, unequal growth and high youth unemployment.

Component 1: Long-term drivers of economic growth

- **Food security:** food security is a fundamental indicator of a country's resilience to economic shocks, refers to prevalence of undernourishment, access to food, subsistence agriculture, local markets, dependence on imports, food price volatility...
- **Social development:** refers to access to social services – in particular education and health services – guaranteeing a healthy and educated population (human capital) to support economic development.
- **Economic development:** is there a pattern of progressive economic decline or growth shocks measured by per capita income, GDP, debt, poverty levels, inflation, and other economic measures? Or is it possible to observe economic growth?
- **Regulatory quality state:** refers to the ability to implement policies that support sustainable economic development. Or is there a growth of hidden economies, including the drug trade, smuggling, and "cashier rights"? Do economic state programmes or policies impose social hardship?
- **Resource rent dependency:** refers to oil rents, natural gas rents, coal rents, mineral rents, and forest rents. Resource dependence leaves an economy open to (i) shocks in the global system as prices fluctuate and (ii) greed and grievance mechanisms that can result into conflict. But resource rents can also be invested to support sustainable economic development.
- **Aid dependency:** similar to resource rents aid can be used by elites to maintain power. Similarly, aid shocks can alter the domestic balance of power and induce conflict. On the other hand, aid budgets can be necessary to prevent humanitarian crises, conflict or to cover basic needs.
- **Remoteness:** remoteness is a structural obstacle to trade and growth and is particularly harmful in the case of landlocked developing countries. New infrastructure or trade policies can reduce the isolation of such countries.

Component 2: Individual access to economic opportunities

- **Unemployment rate:** high rates of unemployment may lower the opportunity cost of alternative income through illegal activities (going armed, rebellion, looting and illegal drug trade, smuggling, ...) High rates of unemployment may also breed or further grievances among ethnic groups or among opposition groups and government, further contributing to social and political discontent.
- **Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET):** in particular youth unemployment can pose a threat to social stability. A specific case in question is when there is a substantial reservoir of highly educated youth without access to economic opportunities, acting as a catalyst for social grievances and protest.
- **Vertical inequality:** refers to income inequality (GINI coefficient) and unequal



RISK MATRIX	UNL/ODD	IMPACT	LEVEL	AGENCY
Dimension 1 : Economic Fragility	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO
1. Long-Term Economic Development	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
2. Labour Market Instabilities	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
Dimension 2 : Environmental Fragility	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO
3. Environmental sustainability and stress vulnerability	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
4. Natural Resource Risks	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
Dimension 3 : Political Fragility	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO
5. Checks and balances and protection of human rights	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
6. Political Stability	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO	ROSL/LO
Description of ...				
Description of ...				
Description of ...				



EXAMPLE

COMPONENT 6 : POLITICAL STABILITY





4 QUESTIONS

- ✓ What are the **results** the intervention wants to achieve, and what level of **risk appetite** is accepted to achieve these results?
- ✓ How might the **10 components** of fragility **affect** the achievement of these results?
- ✓ What are the **risks** and **opportunities** that are very likely to occur and will have a high impact?
- ✓ How will you **accept, share, mitigate or avoid** the identified risks, and how will you **exploit, enhance, share or neglect** the identified opportunities?



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KEY FINDINGS



KEY FINDINGS

- ✓ START FROM CONTEXT ... RESOURCES**
- ✓ START NETWORKING ... ACTORS**
- ✓ WORK WITH THE GRAIN ... FLEXIBILITY**