Education and Conflict in Fragile States: Challenges and Opportunities

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WHY WE FOCUS ON EDUCATION

Education is the Foundation for the Future:

- Education as route way to jobs, with better pay
- Education equips citizens to lay the foundations for their country’s rebuilding, public and private sector

Capitalizing on the Youth Bulge:

- Large % of their populations are under 30
- View this as an opportunity, not a challenge
PARTICULAR CHALLENGES in FRAGILE STATES

• Ensuring access to all students

• Understanding post-traumatic needs

• Weak institutions and systems of governance:
  ➢ Across the system: Supplying teachers, quality of training, accountability in public resources, performance metrics, rewards for schools, logistics and supply chain management, infrastructure

• Aligning education to the needs of industry and government:
  ➢ Our neglect of secondary, vocational and tertiary education
  ➢ Lack of alignment between education and the labor market
OPPORTUNITIES

• If human capital is aligned to growth potential, a base for peace and prosperity can be established

• We have the opportunity to achieve global and societal consensus on the centrality of education, while expanding the focus on MDGs to include the idea of “Education to Jobs”

• Opportunities to expand access to education from technology

• Opportunities to learn from how countries have built their education systems after conflict and disruption
Teacher Supply & Demand Assessment
Measurement & Evaluation
Teacher Training Program Design
Implementation
Labor Market Needs Assessment
Academic & Vocational Curricula Design
PROCESS OF ALIGNMENT
DILEMMAS

• Balancing short-term delivery with long-term system building

• Working with government, or around government with civil society

• Need long-term vision and policy frameworks to strengthen systems
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