'Social and International Rescue Committee (IRC) on the IRC IWG in Session' Formal

Recommendations

Sustainable Development is not only very important from the perspective and context of free trade relations, economic or financial sustainability and recovery, but also in respect of "fragile" states whose development and economic recovery has been impaired as a result of political displacements and regional conflicts.

Fragile and Resilient States

Thus, sources of fragility could include for example, fragile states also recovering from serious and devastating impacts of financial crises – particularly slow recoveries and difficulties in maintaining economic and financial stability.

Causes of inability to transform aids and tools of economic development into stated purposes and objectives, objectives such as the eradication or alleviation of poverty, may be attributed to challenges involved in tackling practices related to financial crimes such as bribery, corruption, money laundering etc – as well as internally embedded institutional obstacles or hindrances, social and customary practices which need to be overcome.

In contrast, "A resilient state is one that has the ability to absorb shocks and respond to unexpected change, without falling back into conflict. And while it is simple to call for greater coordination among different stakeholder communities to help foster this resilience, achieving meaningful coordination is another matter." (IISD:2011) The following also constitute results derived from having evaluated relationships between climate change and fragile states:

Low - carbon shifts must be supportive of development and peace building; and developing programming and research that explores how to harmonize these objectives which could offer a way forward in realizing triple bottom lines;

Local knowledge and abilities are integral, so processes that can be shown to develop or strengthen local adaptive capacity could offer valuable lessons learned for other contexts. (IISD:2011).

The International Rescue Committee

The International Rescue Committee is an organization which "serves refugees and communities victimized by oppression and violent conflict on a global basis." It was founded in 1933 based on the following principles:

Protection and promotion of Rights

Participation

Capacity building

Partnership

Holistic programming

Notable amongst its programs is the commitment to governance and rights protection, community building and development, the rule of law and good governance.

In highlighting other problems relating to fragile states, and in particular, social accountability, during an International Rescue Committee (IRC) Forum, the IRC Working Session Forum's "Social Accountability in States of Fragility" working session, where he provided examples from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Sierra Leone, Guillaume Labrecque, Governance Advisor for IRC added:

We need to continue engaging in this dialogue and stimulate debates on how to best implement social accountability interventions in these contexts. There are so many lessons to capture around the world.

The "Local Government Scorecard" represents the IRC's latest social accountability tool implemented at scale in the DRC. Designed and implemented since 2012, the Local Government Scorecard (LGS) aims to strengthen the performance of nascent local government actors and local development committees, and improve responsiveness to priorities of citizens and local service delivery.

The approach allows local authorities and their constituents to jointly assess the quality of services, engage in problem-solving and develop local government service improvement plans. With support from the UK Government, the IRC makes targeted investments available to implement action plans.

Other scenarios where fragile state recovery and measures aimed at facilitating sustainable development need to be implemented include recent massive displacements resulting from political situations like those in Myanmar.

Drawing from lessons learned from the scenarios in the DRC, whilst implementing the Local

Government Scorecard, the following sources of constraint, as highlighted, would also need to be observed in other cases where fragile state recoveries are involved (Labrecque: 2016):

Firstly, where the distance between local officials and citizens is significant, local officials require institutional support to mitigate the distance with citizens.

Second, in order to improve trust between officials and citizens and to build confidence in the participation process, local officials need to have assets available to make commitments.

As will be demonstrated in the conclusive and ensuing chapter, the current state of global peace relations and prospects of progressive sustainable development in a world characterized by less de stabilizing impacts of regional displacements and conflicts appears to reflect hopeful signals in the knowledge that educational tools should not be regarded as a threat, but rather as a solution towards achieving meaningful effective goals and successful relationships which are built on symbiotic foundations and not solely aimed towards self justifying interests. Where working together and empowering the other or team members, represents progressiveness rather than a threat, then significant and rewarding gains are sure to be derived.

Coordination is a very key and vital element in the process of negotiations – as well as facilitating formidable accountability mechanisms between instruments and actors such as non governmental organisations.

How are non governmental organizations, stakeholders and other actors currently contributing to Sustainable Development – particularly in relation to vital environmental matters and climate issues? This Paris Club, Nature Conservancy collaboration not only highlights vital environmental strategies and developments which have taken place in respect of Seychelles since the inception of Project "Debt for Nature" to the current Project "Debt for Dolphins and Marine Conservation", but also the role of non governmental organisations in sustainable development.

Further, it illustrates the importance of the nature and extent of coordination involved between actors – as well as commitment through the engagement of environmental organizations, as well as stakeholders – such as the Paris Club and the Nature Conservancy.

The importance of coordination between the different actors, stakeholders and organizations involved does not only highlight how crucial such exchanges may impact on immediate environment, but also highlights how benefits which derive from one sector can have positive ramifications for other sectors.

The success of one project can trigger dominoes in encouraging the implementation of similar or related projects which will be welcomed since the involvement of other major stakeholders in

climate change initiatives is much needed in preserving valuable habitats as well as securing the future of marine and wildlife habitats.

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Appendix

Structure of transactions process

(Source: Convergence, CASE STUDY: SEYCHELLES DEBT CONVERSION FOR MARINE CONSERVATION AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION MARCH 2017)

Note: All figures in USD

PARIS CLUB CREDITORS

4.   20.2M debt buyback

4.   Transfer 21.6M in debt

GRANT PROVIDERS

TNC

SEYCHELLES GOV'T

1. 5M grant funding

2. 15.2M loan

3. 20.2M loan

7. Repay 15.2M loan at 3% for 10 years

6. Note 1: 15.2M
Note 2: 6.4M
(21.6M total)

SEYCHELLES CONSERVATION & CLIMATE ADAPTION TRUST

8. 5.6M (disburse 280k/year for 20 7%; FV of 6.6M)

9. 3M (invest 150k/year for 20 years years)   at

PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

CAPITALIZE ENDOWMENT