

# Forecasting and Strategy for Fragile States

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## Questions for a FS Strategy:

- ◆ Which states are most likely to blow up soon?  
(short-term crisis forecasting)
- ◆ Which states are good or poor bets for economic and political improvement?  
(medium-term development forecasting)
- ◆ For a given state, what are the problems it faces and how extensive are they?  
(state-specific assessment)
- ◆ In a given state, how effective are ongoing interventions—are we making progress and how much?  
(state-specific monitoring)

## The Uses of Forecasting

- ◆ Reduce things coming out of Left Field
- ◆ Targeting countries for pre-emptive interventions
- ◆ Understanding the factors most crucial to preventing near-term crises
- ◆ Anticipating the effects of changes in country conditions

## Analysis, Assessment, and Monitoring: Tracking Development Progress and Prospects

- ◆ Democratic and Economic Development are slow processes; success is measured in decades of progress
- ◆ Need snapshots and directions for short-term adjustment of strategy and tactics
- ◆ Many factors help or hinder success, need to see how they are all moving to assess and track progress and prospects

# Fragile States Assessment

- ◆ Focus on good governance
  - Reduces/manages conflict
  - Improves prospects for stable democracy
  - Improves prospects for economic growth
- ◆ Good Governance has several dimensions and areas of action:
  - Effectiveness
  - Legitimacy
  - Across security, politics, the economy, services

# A FRAGILE STATE GUIDE



## Fragile State Assessment Chart

	Security	Political	Economic	Social
<b>Guinea</b>	Effectiveness		▲	
	Legitimacy	▼		
<b>Ivory Coast</b>	Effectiveness	▲		
	Legitimacy	▲		▼
<b>Liberia</b>	Effectiveness	▲	▼	
	Legitimacy			

## Fragile States Assessment Uses

- ◆ Assesses medium-term development prospects (is it worth intervening?)
- ◆ Identifies areas and magnitude of problems for intervention in recipient states (priorities)
- ◆ Allows tracking of progress as interventions take hold (feedback)

# Indicators for State Assessment

## Political Indicators

- ◆ Elections
- ◆ Regime type and change
- ◆ Politicization of military, judiciary
- ◆ Politicization of Legislature (exclusionary laws)
- ◆ Political Factionalism (divisive policies and procedures)
- ◆ # of women and minorities in leadership positions across gov
- ◆ Free press
- ◆ Human rights adherence
- ◆ Transparent public budgeting
- ◆ Corruption
- ◆ Border controls
- ◆ Rule of Law
- ◆ Appropriate power-sharing

## Security Indicators

- ◆ Civilian control of the military/police
- ◆ Proper funding
- ◆ No ethnic capture
- ◆ Separation of police and military
- ◆ Judicial oversight of police
- ◆ Professionalization – role, mandate, training and oversight
- ◆ Size of standing forces, police
- ◆ % of budget /GNP devoted to military and police
- ◆ Presence and impact of militias
- ◆ Attacks on special groups
- ◆ Collective punishment/harm
- ◆ Control over State territory
- ◆ Small and medium arms flow; arms transfers and sales
- ◆ Violent crime rates
- ◆ Ongoing civil war casualty rates

# Indicators for State Assessment

## Economic Indicators

- ◆ Income distribution (proxies: GNP/cap controlled for ethnicity, region and religion)
- ◆ Inflation
- ◆ Unemployment/under-employment
- ◆ Economic shocks
- ◆ Trade (policies, partners, surplus/deficit)
- ◆ Gov debt/GDP
- ◆ Currency gap (Black Market/official rate)
- ◆ Energy Price and importation needed
- ◆ Transparent public budgeting
- ◆ Price of staple goods
- ◆ Citizen access to capital
- ◆ % of primary commodities
- ◆ % of manufacturing
- ◆ Tariffs, customs and taxation conform to int'l standards (including tax revenue generation)
- ◆ Environmental factors
- ◆ % of GDP through state-owned enterprises
- ◆ Austerity measures/ structural adjustment requirements

## Social Indicators

- ◆ Literacy rates (by gender and youth)
- ◆ Disease rates
- ◆ Ethnic/Religious Cleavages
- ◆ Gov response to natural disasters
- ◆ Population growth rate
- ◆ Freedom of Media (press/radio/TV)
- ◆ Urbanization (and growth and ethnicity)
- ◆ Infant Mortality
- ◆ % population in agriculture
- ◆ % of GNP spent on Education
- ◆ Enrollment (primary, secondary, tertiary)
- ◆ Access to clean water
- ◆ ICT/cap
- ◆ Immunization rates
- ◆ No of doctors per 1000
- ◆ No of clinics and hospitals per 1000
- ◆ Life expectancy
- ◆ Food sufficiency/nutrition
- ◆ Youth bulge (control for gender and age)
- ◆ Presence of NGOs (type and density)