

# **FRAGILE COUTRIES AND THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**

# Tanzania

- Tanzania is now on the verge of transition. It is blessed by abundant natural resources.
- Tanzania has a young population which becomes better educated every day.
- How to use these resources to the benefit of all Tanzanians is one of the most prominent discussions
  - Resources can be both a curse and a blessing.
- This is indeed a golden opportunity for Tanzania, not only for its own sake, but also to act as a role model to its peers and the whole region.

# 1. Fragile States in the international development agenda

- So-called 'fragile states' have emerged as one of the priorities among the international development community.
- Why this has happened?
  - Poor situation of fragile countries
  - Poor development results and aid effectiveness
  - So far 20 fragile and conflict affected countries have met one or more MDG
  - Growing acceptance with the interlinkage between development and security

- It is time the international community realized it must do things differently
- About 1,5 billion people live in the group of between 30-50 fragile states, majority of which are located in Africa. By 2015, nearly half of the world's extreme poor will live in fragile low- and middle income countries.
- The concept of fragility is much contested.
- There is less dispute on the severe impacts this group of states impose on the security and well-being of their populations.
  - There is also a growing group of fragile countries, who don't mind being called fragile.

- The common “symptoms” that describe the group of fragile states can be found
  - (1) Conflict, instability and violence
  - (2) Inequality and exclusion
  - (3) Poor governance and state’s inability to provide basic services
- Often all of the above mentioned factors are present at the same time and it is very difficult to exit from such situations.
- Also the global factors increase the fragility of states and regions.

- The fragility is a huge problem in the continent. It is also a regional problem as fragile states may create fragile areas.
- Out of Africa's 55 countries ten are likely to remain in the "fragility trap" beyond 2050
- Conflict zones are particularly fragile and caught in a vicious circle with instability – and simultaneously undermining development and governance
- Burning questions are how to do peacebuilding and statebuilding in fragile contexts and to what things should we concentrate on?

## 2. Solutions to Fragility – New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States

- More focus should be on ways how to do development aid in fragile states.
- In 2008, in the Accra High Level Forum, *International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding*, was tasked to prepare the goals for peacebuilding and statebuilding and a plan for more effective aid in fragile states.
  - *New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States* agreement
- The New Deal concentrates in those issues that matter the most to the people who live in fragile and conflict affected countries
  - Focus on the most urgent priorities and the priorities is what makes New Deal 'new'

- The priorities:
  1. Legitimate politics
  2. Security
  3. Justice
  4. Economic foundations
  5. Revenues and services
- These goals, once achieved, at its best offer the way out of fragility
- The New Deal also addresses the problem of scattered aid efforts
  - It guides to work together and coordinate activities towards the common goals



- Rising out of fragility has to be from the beginning country-owned and country-led. New Deal is about building the legitimacy of state but that can't happen without involvement of civil society and without enhancing the trust between the state and its people and within the groups.
- In the New Deal it is recognized that the process of moving from greater fragility to greater resilience, peacebuilding and statebuilding, is deeply political.
- New Deal calls for the legitimate leadership, commitment, ownership, political dialogue and participation in all its phases.

### **3. The co-chairmanship in the IDPS**

- Minister Pekka Haavisto was chosen as a co-chair of the International Dialogue together with the Finance Minister of Timor Leste, Emilia Pires.
- The implementation of the New Deal in pilot countries is the main focus of the International Dialogue until 2015. The New Deal pilot countries in the African continent are the CAR, DRC, Somalia, South-Sudan, Liberia and Sierra Leone.
  - In South Sudan the Compact to guide its peace- and statebuilding was about to be launched before the recent skirmishes started.
  - In Somalia, Liberia and Sierra Leone we have seen encouraging developments despite of the huge challenges still ahead.

- We must continue working hard on New Deal implementation and learn our lessons from the setbacks.
- The fragility is not only the concern for the individual fragile countries, but it often has a spill-over effect. We are open for an enhanced partnerships and innovative ways to bringing forward the New Deal agenda, tied to sustainable peace and development.

## 4. Peace in the post-2015 global development agenda

- Peace is a universal goal and matters to all
- It is time to bring the issues of peace, freedom from violence and stability into the mainstream of development thinking and practice and include them to the post-2015 development agenda.
- The causes of conflict and fragility are multiple and complex.
- Conflict and violence undermine development, just as lack of development can help spur violence and conflict.
- Investing in violence prevention can accelerate overall economic development

*Here are some examples how violence negatively affects development:*

- *In the World Development Report (2011) it is stated that “a country making development advances, such as Tanzania, loses an estimated 0,7 percent of GDP every year for each neighbor in conflict”.*
- *In many urban environments in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa gun-related violence is the single largest cause of death among young men between 14-25 years.*

- Conflict, violence, and fragility do not occur in a vacuum.
- Collective action is needed at the global level to address these dynamics and to help countries overcome their negative impact.
- The High Level Panel, has recommended own goals for post-2015 agenda for both the good governance and effective institutions and stable and peaceful societies.
- The discussions are not expected to be easy. New champions are needed to bringing forward the idea of including peace, freedom from violence and stability to the post-2015 agenda.