



# Addressing Fragility in Africa: Key Issues and Strategic Directions

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Fragile States Department (ORFS)



# Overview

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(2014-19)

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# Challenges of fragility in Africa

- ▶ Every single country is vulnerable
- ▶ Fragility holds back development prospects of entire regions
- ▶ Security, development and the environment are so intertwined that they must be addressed together
- ▶ There is no silver bullet, each situation is different
- ▶ We have to deepen our understanding and tailor our approach
- ▶ We must stay engaged



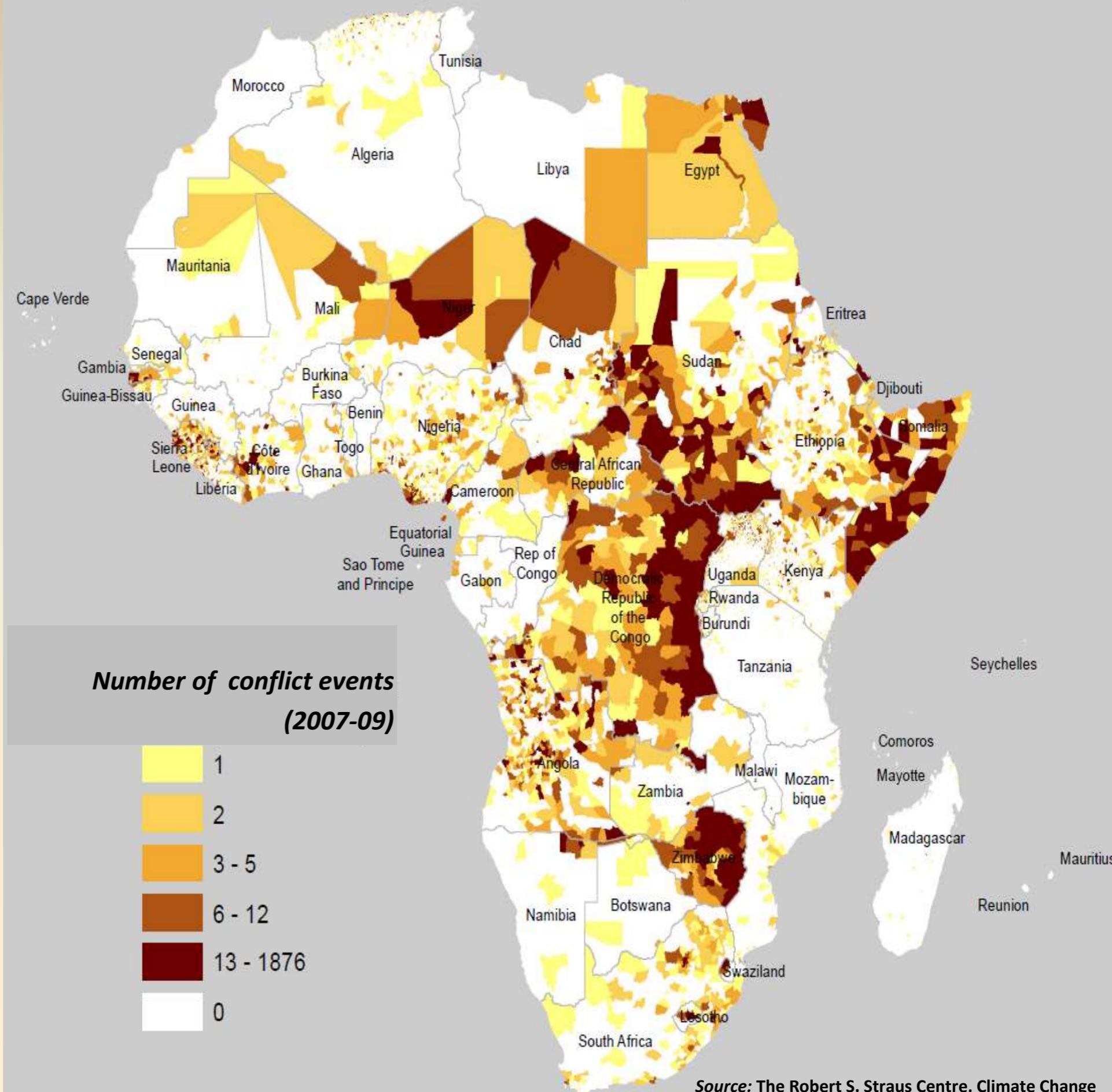
**+200 million** people affected by fragility and conflict

*2015 MDGs off-track*

at least **20 countries** classified as FS

many more affected by regional and sub-national pockets of fragility

reversal to armed conflict is always a risk - (*CAR, South Sudan, Somalia*)







# Opportunities for building peace and resilience

## *HLP recommendations for the AfDB*

### Leadership role on issues of fragility and focus on the following areas:

- Youth employment
- Private sector development
- Empowering women
- Economic aspects of security and justice
- Promoting resilience through regionalism

### Enhance Bank's business model:

- Boost speed and flexibility
- Build partnerships
- Strengthen organizational capacity
- Engage thematically





# Strategic directions for Bank's engagement

## ► From “fragile states” to “fragile situations”

- Fragility does not respect national boundaries
- Regional challenges require regional solutions
- Pockets of fragility within a country can pose a risk for the state and neighbors
- However, entry point for Bank's operational engagement remains the state

## ► Systematic use of a “fragility lens”

- Deep understanding of the context is crucial for effective engagement
- Country and regional programming will be guided and monitored by this analysis
- Project design and implementation will be geared to address fragility and build resilience

## ► Developing the Bank's capacity to engage

- This is not “business as usual” and calls for adapting the Bank's organizational model and building staff capacity across departments
- The Fragile States Unit was upgraded to a Department, with increased staffing capacity, to lead this process

# Bank's engagement anchored on....

## ▶ New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States

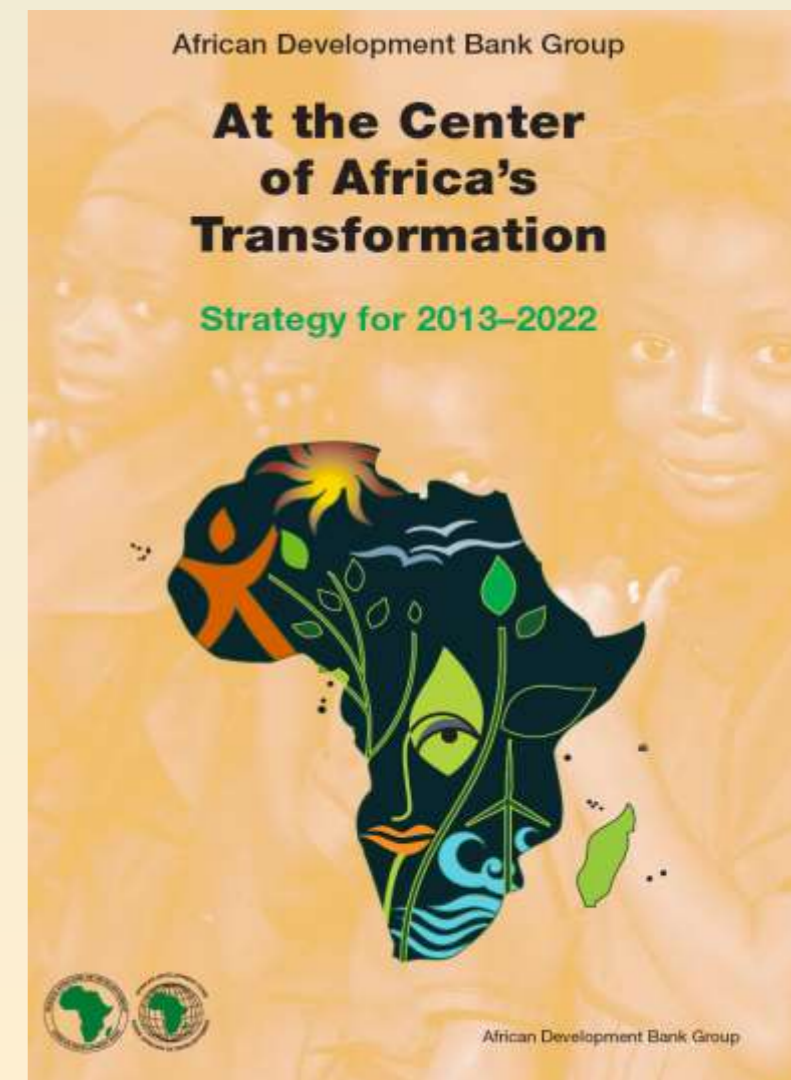
- Supporting country-led transitions and engage through a reformed partnership framework
- Use the 5 Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals: Legitimate politics, security, justice, economic foundations, revenues & services

## ▶ Bank Strategy 2013-2022

- Fragile States as an area of special emphasis
- Focus on inclusive growth and transition to green growth are highly relevant strategies to address fragility
- Using the Bank's areas of comparative advantage to build resilience

## ▶ Bank objective

- Address fragility and build resilience at national and regional levels and thereby contribute to building peace and stability on the continent





# Highlights: Bank Group Strategy for Engagement in Fragile Situations (2014-19)

## ▶ Seven key elements of the Bank's approach

- Apply a **fragility-lens** to detect, prevent, and respond to fragility
- Build resilience not only at the national level but also at the **regional level**
- Assist governments to address **pockets of fragility** within their countries
- Integrate a **gender perspective** in all programs to build resilience
- Strengthen the role of **non-state actors**, notably civil society and private sector
- Strengthen **partnerships** to complement the Bank's mandate (security and justice) and enhance its effectiveness
- Plan for **scale**, through sequenced operations that build in lessons and aim at high impact

# Highlights: Bank Group Strategy for Engagement in Fragile Situations (2014-19)

## Two areas of operational focus

- **Strengthen state capacity and support effective institutions.** Legitimate and capable institutions are at the heart of overcoming fragility
- **Promote inclusive and equitable patterns of growth and development,** notably through sustainable natural resource development (including agriculture), private sector-led job creation, and access to basic infrastructure





# Q & A

