



GOVNET-FSG Seminar Addressing corruption in Fragile States

**Background and Framing Questions
17 October 2007**



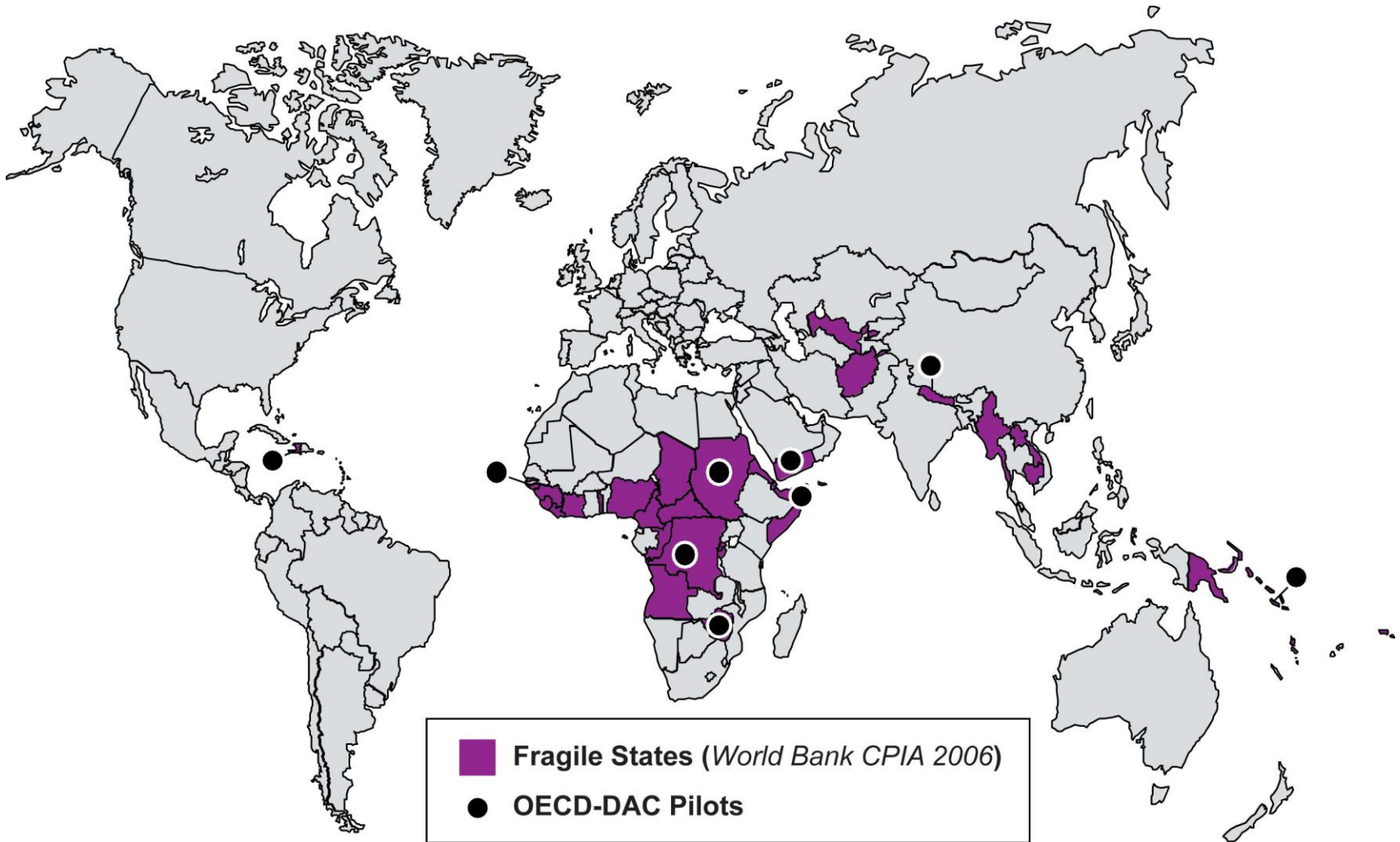
Fragile States: The Context

What are fragile states?

- States lacking political commitment, legitimacy or capacity to develop and implement pro-poor policies;
- Suffering from violent conflict and/or weak governance;
- Where the DAC partnership model is hard to apply;
- Bottom two quintiles of the CPIA (WB).



Fragile States: the Context





Fragile States: The Context

Types of fragile states

No agreed typology but need to recognize difference between:

- Post-conflict or political transition situations.
- Deteriorating governance environments.
- Gradual improvement.
- Prolonged crisis or impasse.



Fragile States: The Context

Why Fragile States Matter?

- Progress towards achieving the MDGs in fragile states is slower than elsewhere in the developing world.
- 1/3 of the world's poor live in fragile states.
- Spill-over effects resulting from state fragility has impact on neighbours, regions and international stability.



Why corruption in fragile states?

- Donors have traditionally targeted A-C interventions in more stable countries
- Ignoring A-C in fragile contexts in state building is risky
- Several donors now looking at these issues and developing strategy for targeted engagement



Framing Issues

- Why haven't donors given higher priority to A-C in states that are in situations of fragility?
- What are priority A-C measures in post-conflict situations?
- How can donors balance the need to build core state functions and deliver basic services with the need to address corruption in fragile settings?