SHIFTING TO PREVENTION

UN-WORLD BANK STUDY ON PREVENTION OF VIOLENT CONFLICTS (WB-UNDP-PBSO-DPA-DPKO)
In the 21st century, conflicts have increased sharply since 2010

Global trends in armed conflict, 1946-2014

Source: Center for Systemic Peace 2014
Source: Uppsala Conflict Database and Global Terrorism Database
Violent conflict are becoming more complex

Data Source: UCDP/PRIO Dyadic Dataset + UCDP Non-State Conflict Dataset
Terrorism-related fatalities are skyrocketing (2000-2015)
The majority of violent conflicts are occurring in Africa, MENA, Asia.
Two-thirds of battle-field deaths (2000-15) come from 7 conflicts. But, an estimated 3 to 15 people die indirectly for each person who dies directly from war (Geneva Declaration, 2008).
Large Number of today's violent conflicts are about transition in political systems.
World record in forced displacement since WWII

By end-2014, 59.5 million people were forcibly displaced

- 19.5 million refugees
- 38 million IDPs
Objective

- Improve Interplay between tools of international actors (security, preventive diplomacy, international norms and human rights, and development policy) and domestic policy making
What to focus on

- Type of violent conflicts are not new but the context is fast changing
- Difficulty of “building” Institutions
- Refocusing on agency: what makes people mobilize around violence
- Grievance, relative deprivation, perception of exclusion, (voice and livelihood)
- Power and politics
- Many things work but we focus on what does not work (counterfactual)
Messages

• Better coherence between economic, social, security and political tools is needed.
• Better interaction between local actors and international actors
• Development interventions in fragmented and polarized environments need to be done differently
• Gender and youth
• WHERE-WHEN-WHAT LEVEL-WHO-WHAT
Major Challenges

• When the State is the problem
• When the actors do not want to be part of the “system”
• A system built for post world war status quo
• Tensions between global norms and sovereignty
• Is the global order neutral