

Development Challenges in Conflict-Affected Countries

- 1. Poverty, marginalisation, and vulnerability:**
 - Economic, social and political inequality among culturally, ethnically, or socially defined groups.
- 2. Unsustainable exploitation of natural resources and environmental deterioration**
 - Direct harm of natural resources and ecosystems, for example, through hazardous substances or overtaxing renewable resources.
 - Indirect harm to the environment often caused by coping strategies of local and displaced people in emergency situations or via uncontrolled overexploitation.
- 3. Insecurity, militarization, and lawlessness**
 - Distorted traditional power structures that include active non-state armed groups and easily accessible weapons.
 - Human rights abuses and violent crime.
- 4. Societal divisions**
 - Residual politicisation and stereotyping.
 - Bridges between social groups are weak, though group ties and identities within groups are strong.
- 5. Poor governance, corruption, and low capacity**
 - Decimation of government institutions and organizational linkages.
 - Poor coordination among local and national institutions, formal and traditional institutions, the state and the (newly developing) civil society.
 - Corruption.
 - "Brain drain," the loss of the country's most skilled workers.
- 6. Poor economic performance, limited fiscal resources, and disruption of infrastructures and public services**
 - Damaged infrastructure, scarce employment opportunities, reduced foreign investment, big shadow economies, and increased capital flight.
 - Inability to collect taxes, manage resources, implement policy, or uphold the rule of law.
- 7. Regional and external risks**
 - Receipt of support or intervention from other countries that is not context-sensitive.
 - Conflict as a result of the direct or spillover effect from external involvement.