RESILIENCE: THE ROLE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

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The Elements of Good Governance

- Fragile, failing and failed states face three deficits:
  - Security: failure to protect people and property.
  - Effectiveness: failure to provide basic services and economic opportunity.
  - Legitimacy: failure to provide responsive and accountable government, protection of basic rights, representation and inclusiveness for all.
Functions of a State:

- National treasury manages public finances;
- National actors oversee international relations and public borrowing;
- National enterprise actors invest in natural, industrial, intellectual assets;
- National economists/trade actors regulate and oversee the market;
State Functions

- National military controls a monopoly on the means of violence;
- National judiciary and police uphold the rule of law;
- National legislature define social contract, delineate citizenship rights and duties;
- National actors in education, training, health and welfare, invest in human capital;
- National executive control the public administration, and
- National utilities actors, run effective infrastructure services.

1. Dr. Ashraf Ghani, Fixing Failed States, Institute for State Effectiveness
Legitimacy is the perception by the populace that the governing regime has authority, the ability to govern, and responds to citizen needs. Without legitimacy, states have difficulty in functioning, and a loss of legitimacy is one element that can lead to state failure. Legitimacy for a governing regime involves the meeting of citizen expectations.
State Effectiveness

Ability of the state to provide basic services: education, and health;
Public sector services include: clean water, electricity, roads, sewerage, transportation, etc.;
Service delivery by State, Non-governmental actors, and private sector with government as guarantor. If citizens perceive that it was an external party such as donors, humanitarian agencies, or military forces, are providing services – this decreases the perception of government legitimacy.
Security

- Security is defined as the failure to protect people and property. Failed and failing states are coping with a lack of safety and security.

- Security includes “physical security, human security, freedom of movement, border security”

- Security is the first requirement of stability and a foundation for the other governance functions.

- Re-establishing security requires dealing with the police, military, and paramilitary units, and private militias through a mix of rebuilding forces, professionalizing, reforming and revised force structure.
Transition from emergency response to sustainability assistance requires attention to how the state functions, and how government and citizens interact.

Governance is the integrating piece of stability operations, not simply one category of tasks and interventions.

Desired state-building objective is resilience =

### The Resilience Cycle

#### State-society linkages
- Processes, structures, institutions
  - Inclusion
  - Equity
  - Transparency
  - Accountability
  - Responsiveness
  - Individual/group rights
  - Checks and balances
- Actors
  - State
  - Civil society
  - Private sector
  - Diaspora

#### Government “steering and rowing”
- Government as guarantor of:
  - Services
  - Welfare and security
  - Economic opportunity
- With delivery by:
  - Government
  - NGOs
  - Private sector

#### Social contract
- Rule of law
- Human rights
- Coercive power