Dear friends and colleagues in the CDD Community of Practice,

We hope that this finds you and your loved ones in good health and that many of you had the opportunity to spend time with friends and family this summer. To those of you at the Bank, we hope that you are having a good start to the new fiscal year!

As we embark on FY22, we wanted to review and celebrate our collective work over the past WB fiscal year (July 2020 to June 2021). Below you’ll find our annual report for FY21, recapping the impressive work that we did together, especially in the face of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Your hard work and contributions are what keeps the CDD CoP and GSG strong, resourceful, and creative.

Here are some key highlights:

**CDD and COVID-19 Response**
- Across all regions, governments and task teams adapted CDD operations to deliver rapid community responses to support people in the midst of crisis.
- Provided operational support and maintained the [one-stop-shop on CDD-COVID resources](#) to help task teams preparing restructurings, AFs, or new operations

**A growing World Bank CDD Portfolio across all GPs**
• **The CDD portfolio is growing.** Total Bank lending towards CDD operations in FY21 was $8.6 billion, a 26 percent increase over FY20 ($6.8 billion), and 90 percent increase over the past five years ($4.5 billion in FY17)

• 374 active projects in 93 countries, 66% are IDA or IDA/blend, valued at $42.3 billion in Bank financing in FY21

• The CDD portfolio covers 29 of the 39 countries (74%) on the FY21 List of Fragile and Conflict-Affected Situations, as well as 11 other countries which were either on earlier harmonized lists of fragile situations when projects began, or are countries where projects are targeted at IDPs, refugees, or conflict zones.

### Supporting a community of learners

• Organized regular learning events: 12 webinars in FY21, including the Local Economic Development (LED) and Inclusive Recovery series

• Launched “CDD 3.0” during the Sustainable and Inclusive Communities: The Next Generation of Community-Driven Development event in December 2020

### CDD & FCV

• Provided cross-support to all six regions, including supporting the preparation of new programs and policy/programming guidance on social cohesion

• Supported task teams to roll out the Social Cohesion Toolkit developed with Mercy Corps to improve instruments and indicators measuring social cohesion

### CDD & LED

• Hosted the Local Economic Development: Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery webinar series on rebuilding local economies and communities in response to COVID-19

• Launched the LED Resource Page as an externally-available hub of resources, events, blogs, and discussions related to LED

• Launched LED Country Deep Dives in Kenya and Ethiopia to pilot the SD-wide LED approach for inclusive and resilient recovery

### Analytics/M&E

• Launched the Social Impact Monitoring Toolkit that collates resources, bulletins, presentations, and a database of findings on COVID-19’s social impacts

• Launched the CDD M&E Toolkit, an online resource for frequently asked questions and requested tools for the monitoring and evaluation of CDD programs

• Jointly with the Social Cohesion GSG, launched the Forced Displacement and Social Cohesion research effort to better understand how policy and development investments can promote social cohesion and reduce inequalities between and within displaced populations and host communities
Capacity Building of Community Institutions

- Developing a transformative grassroots leadership training program to serve as a resource for enhancing inclusion and women’s empowerment through community institutions in CDD operations that is scheduled to begin its pilot phase in fall 2021

We’d like to extend our sincere thanks to the many members who shared their time, energy, and knowledge with our community this year. We’re looking forward to another exciting year ahead with all of you!

Susan, Nik, Ashutosh, Stephen, Helen, Camila, Nindha, Myrtle, Anastasiia, and Liam

CDD AT GLANCE

Operations
CDD remains an important strategy for governments around the world to respond to core development challenges, including increasing access to basic services, infrastructure, and opportunities for poor communities. Total Bank lending towards CDD operations in FY21 was $8.6 billion, a 26 percent increase over FY20 ($6.8 billion), and 90 percent increase over the past five years ($4.5 billion in FY17). The active CDD portfolio was valued at $42.3 billion in Bank financing at the end of FY21. An additional $35.6 billion was
provided by borrowers and other donors ($30.9 billion by borrowers, and $4.7 billion from other donors).

The number of active projects has increased from 335 to 374, with CDD operations present in 93 countries, of which 66 percent are International Development Association (IDA) or IDA blend countries (the Bank’s fund for the world’s poorest countries). The CDD portfolio covers 29 of the 39 countries (74%) on the FY21 List of Fragile and Conflict-Affected Situations, as well as 11 other countries which were either on earlier harmonized lists of fragile situations when projects began, or are countries where projects are targeted at IDPs, refugees, or conflict zones.

Membership
The CDD Community of Practice (CoP) is one of the largest in the Bank, with 1,150 members, of which about 36 percent are external (primarily government counterparts, development partners, and academics).

COVID RESPONSE

This year, the CDD secretariat worked with the Sustainable Development front office to present, monitor, and report on the COVID-19 Pillar 2: Social Response. Under the Social Response Framework, CDD operations provided a platform for rapid COVID response investments around the world. By working through CDD programs’ community engagement structures, governments and task teams mobilized responses to mitigate local-level social and economic impacts while promoting longer-term recovery.

CDD programs provided funds quickly and directly to vulnerable communities through existing financial systems, created income generating opportunities through labor-intensive public works and livelihood activities, and supported access to essential public services like upgraded health facilities. Community platforms also allowed governments to work with community actors to identify the most vulnerable for targeted support and communicate culturally appropriate health messages. Examples of these approaches at work include:

- In the Philippines, scaling up support to reach 4.3 million households with isolation facilities, medical supplies and PPE, and improved sanitation.
• In Kyrgyz Republic, supporting the distribution of PPE and supplies to local authorities and the construction/rehabilitation of healthcare facilities.
• Supporting an estimated 18,000 tailors in the Central African Republic to produce 10 million masks (two free masks for every citizen), generating 1.7 million workdays.
• Using community-targeted cash transfers to reach 12 million vulnerable households in Indonesia.
• In India, the Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project is mitigating COVID-19’s economic disruptions for village enterprises by injecting working capital into an estimated 88,000 individual enterprises.

The CDD GSG prepared regular CDD COVID briefings for Senior Management, provided operational support, and maintained the one-stop shop on CDD-COVID resources that includes guidance notes on response strategies, monitoring the social impacts of COVID, and country-specific examples. The CDD secretariat also shared regular updates with task teams that included links to relevant WBG guidance notes, feature stories, and country-specific responses to COVID. Details on the GSG’s work on monitoring the social impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable groups are presented in the Analytics section below.

COMMUNICATIONS

Through our external communication efforts, the CDD secretariat works to promote effective ways for CDD approaches to help the world’s poorest communities.

• Blogs and Feature Stories – The GSG supported outreach on CDD approaches and COVID response efforts around the globe. Some examples include:
  o Strength in community: Tackling COVID-19 recovery in the Philippines through community-driven development
  o Monitoring the social impacts of COVID-19? Community data can offer important clues
  o A practical agenda for addressing climate-related conflict
  o Leaking Pot Practice Helps Boost Financial Literacy in Afghanistan
  o Transforming local economies for an inclusive and sustainable recovery
  o Creating more resilient and peaceful societies
  o Lifesaver in Times of COVID-19: Face Masks Made in Post Conflict Central African Republic
• **Newsletters** – Our [monthly newsletter](#), “What’s Happening,” offers a roundup of the latest news, operations, research, and debates related to CDD. We recently released our 81st issue, reaching over 1,000 subscribers.

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### LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE EVENTS

The CDD secretariat continues to organize a broad range of learning activities, in collaboration with teams inside and outside the Bank.

- **Local Economic Development (LED) Webinar Series: Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery** – In FY21, together with the Rural Livelihoods and Agriculture Employment GSG and Solutions for Youth Employment (S4YE), the CDD GSG hosted [a series of learning events](#) that explored pathways for the resilient and sustainable recovery of local economies, including:
  - April 20, 2021: [How can Municipalities Hosting Refugees Work with the Private Sector for Economic Recovery?](#)
  - April 1, 2021: [How can Blockchain Technology Support Local Economic Development Programs?](#)
  - March 16, 2021: [How have Women-led Social Enterprises adapted to the COVID-19 challenge? What can we learn for an inclusive recovery?](#)
  - December 2, 2020: [The Power of Savings Groups: An Underutilized Platform for Local Economic Development in Africa](#)
  - October 7, 2020: [How can we support the employment of vulnerable youth?](#)
  - September 23, 2020: [How can social innovators and entrepreneurs support inclusive local economic recovery?](#)
  - September 9, 2020: [How can we support community/women groups for longer-term local economic recovery and resilience?](#)

- **Learning events** – In addition to these series, the CDD GSG organized a number of webinars and events focusing on topics of interest to the CDD community, including:
JUST IN TIME SUPPORT

The CDD secretariat provides direct operational assistance, just-in-time advice, and other responses to requests from members of the CDD community. The CDD GSG also supports analytical work and knowledge products of relevance to clients, task teams, and partners that help enhance the quality of CDD operations.

- **Direct Operational Cross-Support** – In FY21, the CDD secretariat provided operational support to teams across all six regions.

- **Helpdesk Function** – The CDD secretariat continues to provide just-in-time advice to the broader community of practitioners. This year, we responded to an average of 4-5 requests per week, maintaining a service standard of responding to requests within 48 hours. Inquiries included requests for document reviews, sample TORs, operational guidelines, and support finding specialized consulting services. In answering these requests, the secretariat often draws on the collective experience and knowledge of the CDD community, who continue to be generous in sharing their time, experiences, and materials.

ANALYTICAL WORK
Social Impact Monitoring of Vulnerable Groups and COVID-19 Bulletin: Last year, the Social Development GP launched the Social Impact Monitoring of COVID-19 initiative to highlight the impacts of COVID on vulnerable groups using both primary and secondary data sources. Since the launch, the CDD GSG has supported primary data collection across CDD operations in 22 countries and amassed a searchable database of 900+ findings across 65 countries. We summarized key findings from these data sources in three Social Impact Monitoring bulletins:

- Bulletin 1 (July 2020)
- Bulletin 2 (September 2020)
- Bulletin 3 (February 2021)

We compiled the materials from SSI’s efforts to monitor COVID’s social impacts, including presentations and reports, instruments, and terms of reference in our Social Impact Monitoring Toolkit.

The GSG also supported the design of a phone survey tool that can be used as a cost-effective, multi-purpose, and replicable data collection mechanism. The platform, which allows for results to be uploaded online, was first piloted in the Kyrgyz Republic for COVID-19 monitoring.

CDD M&E Toolkit: The GSG launched the CDD Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit, a collection of resources for frequently asked questions related to the M&E of CDD projects. The toolkit includes example indicators for results frameworks, guidance on evaluation timelines, and examples of terms of reference and survey instruments.

Forced Displacement and Social Cohesion: As part of the World Bank’s effort to build the evidence on Forced Displacement, the CDD GSG with support from SCORE GSG is leading a research initiative on Forced Displacement and Social Cohesion. The work will produce a final report that synthesizes findings from 26 competitively commissioned background papers to better understand how policy and development investments can help reduce inequalities, alleviate social tensions, and promote social cohesion between and within displaced populations and host communities. Findings from this initiative are already being used to inform Central Asia’s response to the Afghanistan refugee crisis.
In the coming fiscal year, the CDD secretariat will continue to support the operationalization and monitoring of COVID-19 response activities, facilitate virtual knowledge exchanges and learning opportunities, and provide direct support to operations across the Bank’s portfolio. We invite you to look out for updates and resources on some of the following planned activities:

- Launch of the Transformative Grassroots Leadership Training pilot around fall 2021
- Operationalization of the SD LED COVID inclusive and sustainable recovery approach in select countries
- Learning events around women’s economic empowerment, Smart Villages, and digital innovation
- Release of updated CDD Evidence Brief and TA toward improving CDD M&E systems and supporting impact evaluations
- The delivery of the LED Master Class and CDD Core Course
- Forced Displacement and Social Cohesion papers and learning events

Please let us know if you are working on these issues and have insights to share or questions you want answered.

The Community-Driven Development CoP and GSG connects peers, thought leaders, and practitioners across governments, agencies, and academia, to share ideas and experiences on CDD approaches. This CoP/GSG is facilitated by the Global Programs Unit of the Social Sustainability and Inclusion Global Practice at the World Bank, with inputs from around the world.

To share papers, project news, interesting blogs, or upcoming events on CDD and other relevant themes with the CDD CoP, please email the CDD email and we'll incorporate these in the next "What's happening in CDD” newsletter.
To sign up for CDD CoP membership and receive our monthly newsletter, please click here.

Please visit and bookmark our sites!

CDD Global Solutions Group (WB internal):
https://worldbankgroup.sharepoint.com/sites/gsg/CDD/Pages/Home.aspx

CDD Collaboration4Development (C4D) (external):

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