



TEN THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT FRAGILE STATES

1. More than half of the world's fragile states are in Africa (20 out of the 36).
2. These African states are home to more than 200 million people, approximately 20 percent of the continent's population.
3. With 50% high rates of malnutrition, 20% high child mortality and 18% lower primary completion rates, fragile states lag behind on almost all development indicators.
4. GDP per capita in fragile states averages \$333, while GDP for the rest of the world is almost 3 times that (\$945).
5. Yet, today almost half of fragile states are middle-income, a complete shift from a decade ago when most were low-income countries.
6. One in six fragile states depends on minerals or fuel for 75% or more of their exports.
7. Lack of economic opportunities and high unemployment are key sources of fragility.
8. 77% of all post-Cold War international crises have involved at least one unstable or fragile state.
9. The annual global cost of conflict is estimated at \$100 billion.
10. On average, development assistance remains the biggest financial flow into fragile states, followed by remittances and foreign direct investment. However, $\frac{1}{4}$ of foreign direct investment goes to only 7 countries, most of which are resource-rich.

(Sources: African Development Bank, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, World Bank, World Development Report, and World Economic Forum)

