IFC’s CASA initiative
Conflict Affected States in Africa

Supporting private sector growth in Africa’s fragile and conflict affected situations (FCS)

The CASA geographic footprint

AFRICA’S FRAGILE STATES
A greater focus on investment, trade, and entrepreneurship is helping many African countries build strong, stable economies. Still, in FY16, IFC classified 22 of sub Saharan Africa’s 48 countries as ‘fragile or conflict affected situations’ (FCS). These FCS suffer from ongoing – or the legacy of past – violence, and face serious economic challenges, including damaged infrastructure, small private sectors, and weak regulatory environments and institutions. Entrepreneurs in FCS often struggle to access capital and training, while governments in these countries operate with a limited tax base.

THE CASA INITIATIVE
Recognizing the special challenges fragile countries face, IFC launched the Conflict Affected States in Africa Initiative (CASA) in 2008 to help Africa’s FCS rebuild their private sectors, create jobs, and attract investment. Supported by donor partners Ireland, the Netherlands, and Norway (and by Denmark and Sweden in select countries) CASA:

• funds IFC advisory projects in FCS directly;
• provides market intelligence and advice; and
• helps governments strengthen their business environments.

A flagship program of IFC FCS Africa Program, CASA positions coordinators in many of the countries where it operates, allowing them to work closely with public and private sector partners.
IFC’s Advisory Services Portfolio in FCS (FY15)*

ALL FCS (GLOBALLY)
111 projects worth $158 million

ALL FCS (SUB SAHARAN AFRICA ONLY)
45 projects (40% of global) worth $59 million (37% of global)

CASAS COUNTRIES ONLY
33 projects (73% of African FCS) worth $41 million (69% of African FCS)

Companies, govt. agencies and other entities advised
1,362

Laws, regulations amendments enacted
33

Savings to firms through better business environment
$12.6 million

Deposit accounts opened
56,500

Jobs created
1,100

Loans facilitated
20,000

Companies, govt. agencies and other entities advised
1,362

About IFC
IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Working with more than 2,000 businesses worldwide, we use our capital, expertise and influence to create opportunity where it is needed most.

In FY15, our long-term investments in developing countries rose to nearly $18 billion, helping the private sector play an essential role in the global effort to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity. For more information, visit www.ifc.org and www.ifc.org/africa

Working with IFC’s FCS Africa Program
IFC’s FCS Africa Program partners with governments, development and financial institutions, and other groups and individuals to maximize its impact in Africa. For more information, please contact the following:

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