How the Nepal Business Forum Has Been Crucial to Growth and Recovery

March 2015
Challenges to Private Sector Growth in Post-Conflict Nepal

- Lack of trust between government and private sector
- Private sector growth not articulated as a key Government objective
- Unclear understanding of the role of the private sector
- Overwhelming, uncoordinated demand from private sector for reforms – but no neutral space to engage
- SMEs stand to benefit most from reform – but have no space to air their constraints
The Role of the NBF in Addressing Fragility in Nepal

- **Building trust**
  - A joint vision for private sector growth
  - Constructive action-oriented dialogue vs. “complaining”

- **Securing high level buy-in for reform**
  - Improved coordination
  - Stronger possibility of implementation

- **Developing a prioritized action plan for reform**
  - Sequencing of reforms
  - Implementation helps demonstrate Government commitment to reform
  - Communication of reforms helps demonstrate that the country is open for business.
Lessons Learned – Trade-Offs in Designing PPD in FCS

Do I support the logistics constraints of the PPD or the capacity constraints?

How do I measure the results or impact of these reforms?

Do I focus on quick wins or long-term reforms?