

## **CRVS Insight**

April 2021 - 2

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### **Gap analysis of CRVS inequalities in Pakistan**


The "[Gap Analysis of Current CRVS Registration Practices and Mapping of Potential Data-Sources Focusing on Marginalized Populations in Pakistan](#)" report has been released by the Government of Pakistan's [CRVS Technical Support Unit](#), with the support of ESCAP. Based on reviews of the country's CRVS practices and interviews with stakeholders and beneficiaries, it aims at providing a general overview of the inclusion of marginalized group within the CRVS system.

The report comes as part of the efforts made by the Government of Pakistan to make its CRVS system more comprehensive and inclusive, and will inform capacity building activities at the national and provincial levels.

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**Launch:**  
**CRVS Systems Improvement Framework**



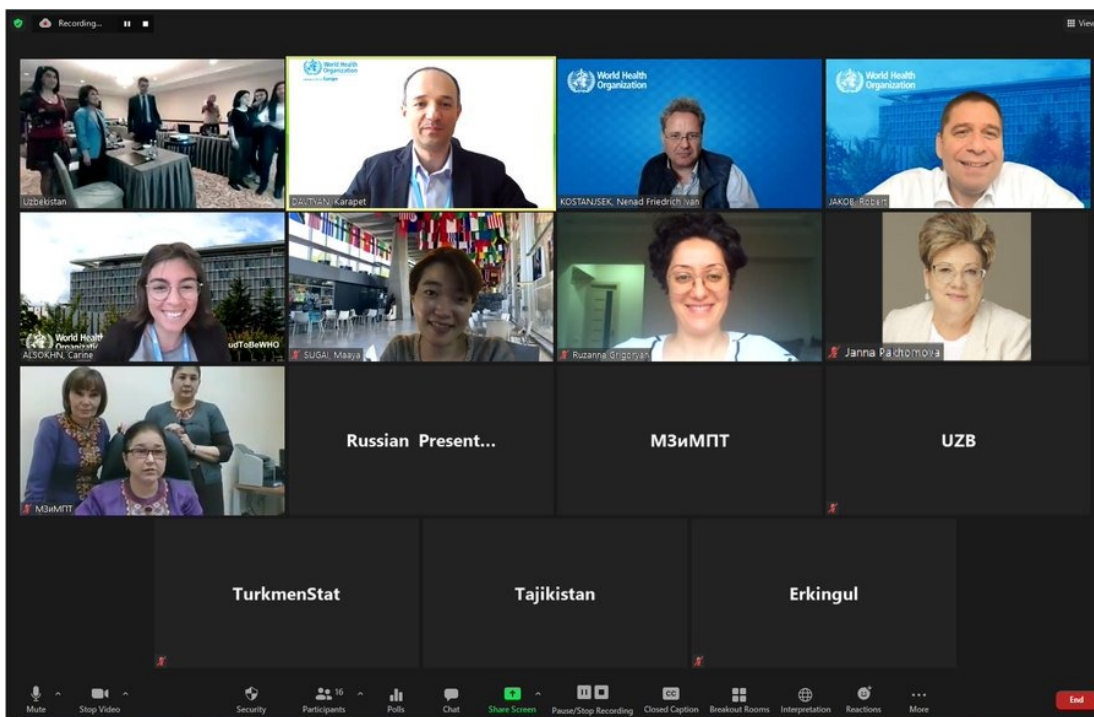
**Wednesday April 28, 2021**  
**3 pm – 5 pm (East Africa Time)**

### **Launch of the new CRVS improvement framework**

To assist countries in the development of their CRVS systems, several partners such as UNECA, the Centre of Excellence for CRVS systems, Vital Strategies and ESCAP have worked together to create a tool for CRVS improvement. It adopts a modular and step-by-step approach to help in assessing the shortfalls and plan improvements to ensure everyone is registered.

The framework will be launched via a webinar on **Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 3:00 - 5:00 pm East Africa Time**. Please register [here](#). eLearning modules will also be made available to enhance accesibility.

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### WHO Training on ICD-11 for North and Central Asian countries

The 11th Revision of the International Classification of Diseases classification ([ICD-11](#)), is being rolled out across North and Central Asia by the World Health Organization (WHO) through training programs.

Ministry of health representatives from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan completed training last month on the revised coding system, which allows for the provision of more accurate and up-to-date data on morbidity and mortality.

With more countries adopting the classification system, the aim of the training was to familiarize countries with the content, structure and changes to improve coding skills, data quality and reporting of causes of death.



### **New stillbirth reporting chapter added to CRVSID Legal & Regulatory Review Toolkit**

The [Global Health Advocacy Incubator \(GHA\)](#) has announced an update to the [Legal and Regulatory Review Toolkit on CRVSID](#) to include a chapter on stillbirth reporting and registration.

The new stillbirth chapter fills a critical gap in the toolkit by addressing how the law can help to ensure that all deaths are counted, including this important subset of perinatal deaths.

The toolkit comprises of 12 chapters, each covering a different facet of CRVSID and has been used in over 20 low and middle-income countries in the [Data for Health Initiative](#) and the [Global Grants Program](#).

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for **Health Data**  
Technical Package

# Global report on health data systems and capacity, 2020

## **WHO publishes a global report on health data systems and capacity**

The World Health Organization's Global report on health data systems and capacity, 2020 presents the results of country health information system assessments conducted between 2018 and 2020, featuring 133 countries and representing 87% of the global population.

Released in January, [the report](#) presents up-to-date data on civil registration at the global level, revealing large gaps that are preventing universal registration. More generally, it provides a comprehensive overview of what is needed to produce high-quality health data in every country.



### **CRVS champion: Fathimath Riyaza**

Each month, our community newsletter puts a spotlight on one person from Asia-Pacific who has gone above and beyond in their efforts to support CRVS programmes, raise awareness of CRVS issues or lead CRVS improvement efforts in their home country. This month we are delighted to highlight Ms. Fathimath Riyaza from the Maldives.

#### ***What is your current title and role?***

I am currently the head of Demographic and Social Statistics Division at Maldives National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). I am mainly involved in conducting population and housing census, strengthening social statistics and improving vital statistics in the country.

***Can you please share with us a particular experience which highlighted the importance of CRVS to you?***

Improving vital statistics has been an ongoing effort of the government, but without much importance. While working as part of the country team for UNESCAP's project on 'Strengthening national capacity in producing and disseminating vital statistics from civil registration records', I realized the need for timely dissemination of vital statistics and the importance of addressing the challenges that cause delays. With this aim, we have been able to bring together all the key stakeholders involved in this process and to establish a national coordination mechanism for CRVS in the country. It is also during this process that we have been able to ensure the smooth transition of vital registration from the previous system to the new Vital Registration System (VRS). Different agencies have been working non-stop even during the pandemic to ensure the successful roll-out of the new system and to make sure every birth is registered.

***How are you currently involved in CRVS improvements?***

As national focal point for CRVS and in my official position, I am responsible for improving and coordinating CRVS activities in the country. This includes liaising with donor agencies for funding, coordinating work among different government agencies. We have been able to establish the national coordination mechanism as a technical committee and we ensure all matters are discussed among the members.

As part of my work related to coordinating all CRVS related work within the government agencies, my main projects now include:

- o Provide support to Department of National Registration in preparation for CRVS bill which will be enacted soon.
- o Provide support to the development of reporting module from the new VRS system and closely coordinate with Ministry of Health on the outputs
- o Monitor and report on CRVS related funding received from UN agencies
- o Work closely with national consultant on UNESCAP project 'Assessment, Analysis and Redesign of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Processes'.

***How would you like to see CRVS in Maldives develop by the end of the CRVS Decade?***

Since 2018, we have been working closely with relevant stakeholders to roll out the new VRS system and have been able to achieve it in 2020. My hope is that with this milestone, we will be able to achieve registration completeness, issuance of birth certificates within one year and have regular vital statistics reports available for effective policy decisions.

***Which advice would you give to others trying to improve CRVS systems?***

Keep striving. Your countless efforts do make a difference. Begin with looking at how the system functions now, identify ways of improving civil registration. Start reporting with whatever available data. Demonstrate to policy makers the importance of having a good functional CRVS system in the country. Ensure sustainability of all CRVS work and always engage with national coordinating mechanism for CRVS related matters.

The seventh meeting of the [Regional Steering Group for CRVS in Asia and the Pacific](#) will take place online on 18 and 19 May. It will support the preparations for the Second Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific planned for 16-19 November 2021. You can find more information [here](#).

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### **NEW RESOURCES**

Tonga recently published its [Vital Statistics Report](#) for the period 2013-2018. Based on data from the Civil registry and the Ministry of Health, it provides key insights in the demographics of the country.

The [Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities](#) has published the third volume of its "How Covid-19 is changing the world: a statistical perspective". Among analyses of the impact of the crisis, a contribution by ESCAP looks into how CRVS systems could help measure and alleviate its effects.

The World Bank has developed a set of guidelines for the [creation of disability-inclusive ID systems](#). Persons with disabilities often have higher risk of exclusion from civil registration and identification systems, which puts them at risk of further exclusions. The report provides guidance on how to fight those exclusions.

A paper on the [effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on CRVS systems](#) worldwide has been published with the collaboration of many international partners. It maps how systems were impacted depending on the laws and regulations in place, to see how a better continuity of service could be achieved.

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This e-mail has been sent to @ because you have expressed interest in CRVS activities in Asia and the Pacific.

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