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## CRVS Insight

July 2022

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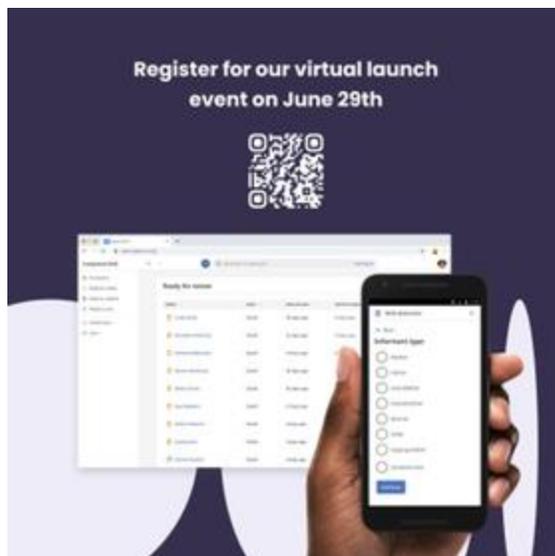


### **REGIONAL CRVS INITIATIVE FEATURED IN ESCAP'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION HIGHLIGHTS 2020-2021**

ESCAP's regional initiative to 'Get Every One in the Picture' was featured as a 'Building Back Better Story' in [ESCAP's Technical Cooperation Highlights 2020-2021](#). The excerpt highlights the role played by the regional initiative during the COVID-19 pandemic to raise awareness of the critical role of CRVS and lessons learned from the pandemic, as well as the ongoing technical support and capacity strengthening activities that ESCAP has spearheaded to ensure ongoing improvements to CRVS systems in Asia and the Pacific.

The report presents a diverse selection of projects that ESCAP has implemented with impact at the regional, subregional and country levels and, as such, paints a portrait of ESCAP as a strong development partner and provides a reference for good practices to achieve shared development goals.

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### UPCOMING LAUNCH OF OPENCRRVS VERSION 1.0

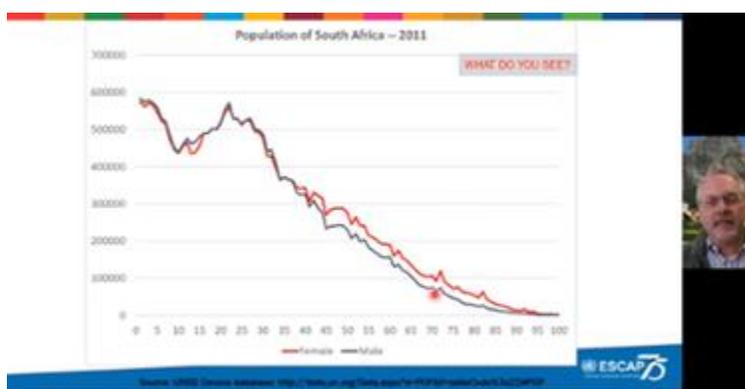
OpenCRVS will be launching version 1.0 of the open-source digital CRVS system on **Wednesday 29th June**. The virtual event will include a demonstration of new product features, a panel discussion with digital public goods leaders, and an opportunity to ask the team any questions you have about this digital public good for CRVS.

You can join one of two webinar sessions being held on the 29th June 2022:

Session 1: June 29th at 9:00 am (BST) / 11:00 am (EAT) / 1:30 pm (IST)

Session 2: June 29th at 10:00 am (EDT) / 3:00 pm (BST) / 5:00 pm (EAT) / 7:30 pm (IST)

If you are considering CRVS digitisation - **REGISTER** [here](#) to learn more about the product, architected to help countries achieve their strategic CRVS objectives.



### REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC TRAINING WORKSHOP ON EVALUATION OF AGE AND SEX DATA

The regional demographic training workshop on evaluation of age and sex data was organized by ESCAP's Statistics Division as part of an ongoing project to strengthen the demographic capacity of countries to support improvement of CRVS systems and the production of vital statistics.

The workshop was conducted virtually from the 30th May to 3rd June and facilitated using a combination of pre-recorded lectures, virtual training sessions, intensive hands-on practical exercises and one-on-one drop-in sessions. All instruction and practical sessions were provided and facilitated by Professor Thomas Moultrie, Professor of Demography, University of Cape Town, South Africa with support from ESCAP staff. Participants from 22 countries in Asia and the Pacific, received technical guidance and instruction on appraisal of age and sex data collected in national censuses to take into consideration any potential errors or biases that may impact the accuracy of estimates being produced.

Course materials covered the importance of evaluating age and sex data, types of error, sources of error, and techniques for investigating the accuracy of age and sex data using Microsoft Excel.

The programme, presentations and pre-recorded videos can be found [here](#).



### **EGRISS STATELESSNESS SUBGROUP MEETING TO FINALIZE THE INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON STATELESSNESS STATISTICS (IROSS)**

This week, experts from across the globe met in Copenhagen to continue work on developing and adopting common standards and definitions to improve the quality and quantity of statistics about stateless populations. Work on the International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics (IROSS) has been ongoing since 2019 and the complete draft will be submitted to the 54th session of the UN Statistical Commission in March 2023. The development of the new recommendations is part of the work of the [Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics \(EGRISS\)](#). Civil registration records is potentially a key source of data for statistics on stateless populations. The benefits and shortcomings of CRVS systems for this purpose was discussed widely during the expert group meeting, with several civil registration authorities and National Statistical Offices from Asia, and other regions represented at the meeting. For more information concerning EGRISS' latest activities, please refer to the annual [report](#).

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**eLearning course**

**Using Gender Data for Analysis, Communications and Policy Making**  
in the context of SDG monitoring and beyond

**WHAT DOES IT OFFER?**

**I. Using and interpreting gender data**

- An introduction to gender statistics
- Gender data literacy
- Finding the right gender data and conducting basic analysis

**II. Using gender data for analysis**

- Calculating gender statistics for SDG monitoring
- Analyzing microdata with a gender angle
- Multi-level disaggregation analysis to monitor the SDGs
- Integrating survey and geospatial information data for gender analysis

**III. Using gender data for communication and policy dialogue**

- User-producer dialogue
- Communicating gender data
- Utilizing gender data for policy making

And lots of exercises and a final exam!

**WHO ARE THE MODULES FOR?**

- Stakeholders who wish to understand gender integration in statistics
- Policymakers who are looking to enhance their use of gender data in evidence-based decision-making
- Academicists who wish to focus or enhance their research using more gender data
- Civil society organizations that wish to enhance their use of gender data for advocacy
- Media personnel interested in integrating gender data into their media products for a more comprehensive picture
- Anyone else passionate about knowing what gender data is and how to use it!

**HOW TO ENROL?**

If you already have a user account on the SIAP Learning Management System (LMS), please enter username and password to log in and access the course directly: <https://lms.siap.org/SCAP/ENROL/ENROL/ENROL/ENROL>

**If not:**

- Go to <https://lms.siap.org/enrol/newuser>
- Click on the "Create New Account" button and provide all information required to set up your account using the name you would like on the certificate. After submitting the registration form, you will receive an email confirmation.
- Activate your registration by clicking on the link provided in the email.
- Then select the course "Using Gender Data for Analysis, Communications and Policy Making in the context of SDG monitoring and beyond" from the list of available courses on "Population and Social Statistics" or access directly using this link: <https://lms.siap.org/SCAP/ENROL/ENROL/ENROL/ENROL>

**Contact Us**

ESCAP: [esap@un.org](mailto:esap@un.org)  
 UN Women: [gender.statistics@unwomen.org](mailto:gender.statistics@unwomen.org)  
 SIAP: [siap@siap.org](mailto:siap@siap.org) (for technical issues, see the platform)

## LAUNCH OF THE E-LEARNING COURSE FOR MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS

The e-learning course on *Using Gender Data for Analysis, Communications and Policy Making in the context of SDG monitoring and beyond* was launched during an [Asia-Pacific Stats Café on 7 June 2022](#). The self-paced e-course developed by SIAP, ESCAP and UN Women has been designed to strengthen skills in using and analyzing gender data and statistics for monitoring the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and beyond. The course explores topics spanning the interpretation of gender data, calculating gender statistics for SDG monitoring and integration of survey and geospatial information data for gender analysis and use of gender data for communication and policy dialogue.

The course is designed for both experts and non-experts in mind and interested participants may enrol by following the links in the event [flyer](#).



## UNITED NATIONS EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON INNOVATIVE METHODS TO MEASURE THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON MORTALITY THROUGH SURVEYS AND CENSUSES

This hybrid meeting organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) will take place on **23-25 August 2022**, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

The meeting will discuss and agree on a set of proposed recommendations for censuses and surveys based on ongoing research and experiments, and particularly in low-income and middle-income countries. These recommendations will seek to (a) improve adult mortality data collection in terms of quality, availability and timeliness; and (b) generate census and survey data that could be used to measure the impact of epidemics, pandemics and other disasters on adult mortality. The proposed recommendations would cover innovations in questionnaire design; interview methods and sampling strategies, as well as integration of surveys and censuses with other data sources on mortality (e.g., civil registration, health information systems).

Please find [concept note](#) and information about the event [here](#).

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### **CRVS CHAMPION**

This month, our community newsletter would like to highlight **Dr. Muhammad Asif**, a CRVS Champion who has contributed remarkable efforts to support CRVS programmes in Asia-Pacific, raise awareness of CRVS issues and lead CRVS policy improvement in Pakistan.

*What is your current title and role?*

I am working as Chief Health at Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives. My areas of expertise include public policy, strategic planning, and monitoring & evaluation. I examine and process mega development projects for consideration of the competent forum for approval. I pioneered initiatives which include acceleration and enhancement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Pakistan for which I developed National CRVS Revamps and Reforms Framework. I am the National CRVS Focal Person and leading the implementation of the project titled Strengthening of CRVS System. This project will pave the way for achieving universality and harmonization of births and deaths registration with NADRA and strengthen union councils in registration of marriage and divorce through the revamped system. I also developed the Institutional and Policy Framework for the Deworming Initiative in Pakistan which is the guiding document and served as the basis for deployment of the first ever mass level deworming drive in school-aged children in Islamabad. The initiative is currently being expanded in the rest of the country. My role in CRVS is to guide policy-related matters and oversee the overall implementation and coordination of CRVS reforms. Being the focal person of CRVS I participate in all National and International CRVS forums.

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

Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives is responsible for developing the National Vision, formulation of Broad Policy Framework, and undertaking Strategic Planning. This requires continuous, latest, and up-to-date statistics to enable informed decision making and evidence-based policy and planning. Also, Pakistan is a signatory to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and a huge wealth of data and information for various targets and indicators of SDGs can be easily derived from the vital events registration records. The CRVS system in Pakistan was fragile, dysfunctional and fragmented. Therefore, I initiated the dialogue for the development of the Universal CRVS system in Pakistan. Starting with a needs assessments in various thematic areas of CRVS, the Government of Pakistan started a journey towards a robust, responsive and uniform CRVS system in Pakistan.

*How are you currently involved in CRVS improvements?*

The CRVS project is initiated and progressing under the health section of the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives. Being the chief/lead of the health section, I am also supervising CRVS implementation at the national level.

The national Steering and coordination committee was formed with the chairmanship of the Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives to steer and coordinate CRVS progress at the national level. I have developed a National Framework for CRVS Reforms in Pakistan. We are transforming Islamabad (Capital of Pakistan) into the CRVS model district by implementing all CRVS reforms. Other than this, currently I am involved in the development of the National Strategic Plan on CRVS, CRVS Act, and the National CRVS report for Pakistan.

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

In harmony with Vision 2030, outlining that “By 2030, all people in Pakistan will benefit from universal and responsive CRVS systems that facilitate the realization of their rights and support good governance, health, and development”, Pakistan is following paradigm shift in terms of shifting responsibilities of registration from individuals/families to the state and mainstreaming of health sector in the CRVS system, under the ‘National Framework of Vital Events Registration Reforms’. Intersectoral collaboration and development of effective linkages among concerned departments and institutions is the key to obtain data on vital events and generate trustworthy statistics.

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

Intersectoral collaboration and development of effective linkages among concerned departments and institutions is the key to obtain universal CRVS systems and generate trustworthy statistics.

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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Session 1: June 29th at 9:00 am (BST) / 11:00 am (EAT) / 1:30 pm (IST)

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REGISTER [here](#)

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## RESOURCES

- Performance barriers of Civil Registration System in Bihar: An exploratory study. [Full paper](#).
  - [Kiribati Data Production Policy](#): The National Statistics Office of Kiribati, in partnership with the Office of Civil Registration has developed a Data Protection Policy which aims to ensure the security of data in Kiribati. The policy provides a much needed model for other countries seeking to include data protection measures in their legal frameworks.
  - The international Programs Center of the U.S. Census Bureau has released a Select Topics in International Censuses on [Using Administrative Data in Traditional Censuses](#).
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## VACANCIES

- Call for Applications: Population, Ethics, and Human Rights Fellowship : Follow the [link](#) for more information.
  - Opportunity for an internship (2 to 6 months) with the Statistics Division's Civil Registration and Vital Statistics team. For more details, follow this [link](#).
  - UNLIA TF is looking for a consultant to help develop a costed strategic action plan to implement the UN Legal Identity Agenda framework for achieving SGD 16.9 – legal identity for all, including birth registration by 2030. The link of the vacancy with specific tasks and deliverables is available [here](#).
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As we are always looking to improve content, we'd love to hear your feedback and input for articles. CRVS Insight is written for you and your feedback matters to us!

If you have a new resource, upcoming event or article you would like highlighted, please send submissions along with an accompanying photo to [escap-crvs@un.org](mailto:escap-crvs@un.org).

Please note by submitting photos you are granting ESCAP Statistics Division permission to publish the photo in the current article and any future articles it deems appropriate.

This e-mail has been sent to [rattanakittiaporn@un.org](mailto:rattanakittiaporn@un.org) because you have expressed interest in CRVS activities in Asia and the Pacific. If you would like to stop receiving future communications, please [click here to unsubscribe](#).