CRVS INSIGHT - ASIA PACIFIC

Pacific civil registrars from 16 countries discuss common challenges and solutions to disaster response

The Pacific Civil Registrars – Disaster Preparation and Response Workshop was conducted in Suva, Fiji from 2-5 October. The workshop aimed to increase Pacific civil registrars’ understanding of the current status of CRVS systems in the region and the role they as civil registrars can play in disaster response. “In times of emergency, a birth certificate can help to find children separated from their families, and return these children safely home,” said Sheldon Yett, UNICEF Pacific Representative. CRVS systems are also crucial for replacing identity documents or accessing government services after being displaced following a disaster.

At the meeting, registrars also discussed innovative ways to achieve universal registration of births and deaths and their commitments under the Regional Action Framework. All presentations from the workshop are available on www.pacific-crvs.org

The workshop was made possible with the support of the Brisbane Accord Group and funding from UNICEF, New Zealand Foreign Affairs and Trade Programme, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, De La Rue, Object Consulting, Canadian Bank Note Company and Axiell.

Global Leaders Join ID4D High-level Advisory Council

The World Bank Group’s Identification for Development (ID4D) High-level Advisory Council held its first meeting on 12 October 2017. The Council is composed of eminent leaders from the public and private sectors, and will provide strategic guidance to the ID4D Initiative as it scales up its country and regional engagements. The creation of the Council recognizes the key role of robust, inclusive and responsible ID systems in advancing progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as promoting social protection, women and girls empowerment, financial inclusion, governance, healthcare, digital development and improved humanitarian responses.

New OSCE/ODIHR publication on good practices in identity management aims to support states in improving civil registration and identification systems
A new publication highlighting good practices in identity management was launched at an event in Vienna on 29 September 2017. The document identifies best practices both in providing evidence of identity through the issuance of travel documents and ID cards, as well as in ensuring access to economic, civil and political rights.

The Compendium of Good Practices in Identity Management in the OSCE Region was produced jointly by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), which contributed information on identity management and freedom of movement, and the OSCE Transnational Threats Department, which contributed information on travel document security.

The publication is the result of consultations initiated in 2013, and the subsequent process has involved a series of expert meetings as well as a detailed questionnaire distributed to all OSCE participating States in August 2016. The compendium builds upon existing ODIHR expertise in providing technical support to participating States in civil registration, identification, and population registration and reform.

Call for interest: Consultant on CRVS capacity building for refugees and stateless persons in South-East Asia

Refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons and persons of undetermined nationality often face substantial challenges in having their vital events recorded. As a result, the Regional Support Office for the Bali Process, located in Bangkok, has been developing a CRVS tool-kit that will enhance the capability of states to capture and register this kind of information. To this end, the office is seeking a consultant to take forward and finalize a draft version of the CRVS tool-kit in consultation with a designated technical advisory group for the region. The scope of activities will also include creating a program for a workshop to test the tool-kit’s viability in close collaboration with a Bali Process member state.

Anyone interested in this opportunity should contact info@rso.baliprocess.net by Tuesday 24 October 2017. For more information on this opportunity and the Bali Process please visit www.baliprocess.net.

Events & Media

**CRVS Partnership Meeting**

17 October 2017
Bangkok, Thailand

**Third Meeting of the Regional Steering Group for CRVS in Asia and the Pacific**

18-20 October 2017
Bangkok, Thailand

**Workshop on the operation of CRVS and Identity Management systems in East Asia**

13-17 November
Hanoi, Viet Nam

A Call For Contributions
Do you have anything you want to share? We welcome contributions to the newsletter and website. If you have a story on CRVS, insights, events, information or tools, please send them through to sejersemi@un.org

For more information, contact the Statistics Division of United Nations ESCAP at stat.unescap@un.org or +66 2288 2593, or visit www.getinthepicture.org

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