

CRVS INSIGHT - ASIA PACIFIC



Getting Every One in the Picture -What is 'universal registration' ?

The first goal of the CRVS Decade is to ensure universal civil registration of births, deaths and other vital events. The [Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific \(RAF\)](#) is clear in defining what is meant by 'universal' in this context. According to the RAF, the CRVS system should register ALL vital event occurring in the territory and jurisdiction of the country or area, including among hard-to-reach and marginalized populations. This means that every one born within the territory should be registered, independent of nationality and citizenship.

Very few countries reported on specific efforts to ensure registration of hard to reach and marginalized groups in their baseline reports for the CRVS Decade. One noteworthy exception is Australia, which highlighted efforts to ensure registration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in the [baseline report](#).

The focus on universality and equity is closely aligned with the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) to ensure no one is left behind.

Who is your national CRVS focal point?

As part of the commitments under the Regional Action Framework, countries in the region were requested for nominations of national CRVS focal points in 2015. The role of the national CRVS focal points is to liaise with the ESCAP secretariat to report and monitor progress in implementing the Regional Action Framework, on behalf of all CRVS stakeholders in a country and the national CRVS coordination mechanism - if one exist.

The national CRVS focal points hence play a critical role in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework and ESCAP and development partners therefore regularly share information with the national CRVS focal points, such as through this newsletter.

If you want to know who is the national CRVS focal point in your country, please check the list of focal points with contact details [here](#).





PCRPN
Pacific Civil
Registrars Network

Trial of data sharing in the Pacific

The [Pacific Civil Registrars Network \(PCRPN\)](#) has been working to facilitate cross-border sharing of civil registration records where birth has occurred in one country and the death occurs in another country. This is a common situation in many Pacific countries and causes national security problems with personal identities remaining open following death and incomplete mortality data. In April, death record sharing will be trialed between New Zealand and Niue, Cook Islands and New South Wales (Australia). PCRPN has a paper outlining the issues of cross-border record sharing, which is available from jeff.montgomery@dia.govt.nz.



Viet Nam moves forward on the National Action Programme on CRVS

During 14-16 March, staff from the ESCAP Statistics Division met with key stakeholders in Viet Nam to discuss improvements to the CRVS system and the National Action Programme on CRVS. ESCAP staff and an expert consultant met with the Ministry of Justice, Agency for Civil registration, Nationality and Attestation, People's Committee of Nghia Tan ward, Ministry of Health, General Statistics Office and colleagues from UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO and UNFPA.

Given the importance of an effective monitoring and reporting plan for CRVS improvements, ESCAP is providing support to selected countries to develop and strengthen their national plans, as part of a project in collaboration with the [Bloomberg Data for Health Initiative \(D4H\)](#).

In addition, the experience and lessons learned during the country visit will contribute to the revision of the ["Guidelines for setting and monitoring the goals and targets of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific"](#).

Events & Media

[Launch of the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics \(CRVS\) eLearning Course](#)

22-23 May 2017,
Seoul, South Korea

[Health Data Conference and Workshops](#)

4-5 July 2017,
Cebu, Philippines

[Technical Seminar on Legal Framework on Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identity Management Systems](#)

17-19 July 2017,
Manila, Philippines

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 sejersent@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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