CRVS INSIGHT - ASIA PACIFIC

The Center for Disease Control needs your help with study on 'what works'
The CDC, WHO, UNICEF, and ESCAP are collaborating on a systematic review and meta-analysis to identify policy interventions to improve birth and death registration. For the purposes of this review, policy is defined as a novel legislation or change in programme implementation designed to improve birth and/or death registration. Some possible successes come to mind (e.g. providing free vaccination services if a child has a birth certificate, requiring a death certificate before burial/cremation, requiring a birth certificate for school enrollment, etc.) but having the formal synthesis of what is working and what is not working may help the CRVS field progress. CDC are seeking any published or unpublished studies, reports, or analyses that would be beneficial for the synthesis. Please email asuthar@cdc.gov for more information.

New Principles for Identification
The World Bank Group Identification for Development (ID4D) initiative and the Center for Global Development have released a set of Principles on identification for sustainable development: Toward the digital age. The principles identifies a set of common principles fundamental to maximizing the benefits of identification systems for sustainable development, while mitigating many of the risks.

A Blog on the Principles has also been developed to increase awareness and promote the Principles through social media.

SDG target 17.19.2
The Sustainable Development Goals give increased impetus for improving CRVS systems since a large proportion of the indicators are relying heavily on data, which can be obtained from well functioning CRVS systems. In addition to this, two specific indicators highlight the need for registration. This includes indicator 16.9 as well as indicator 17.19.2: “Proportion of countries that (a) have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years; and (b) have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration”. This indicator falls within Goal 17, which highlights the need for revitalizing global partnerships for sustainable development with a focus on capacity building for improved data, monitoring and accountability.

As part of the follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Goal 17 will be reviewed in-depth at the 2017 High Level Political Forum (HLPF) by member states and stakeholders in July 2017.
Improving national CRVS systems in small Pacific Island States

Last week, participants from Health, Statistics and Civil Registration in six small Pacific Island States met in Auckland, New Zealand to share experiences and identify ways forward to improve national CRVS systems. The participants visited the Auckland Civil Registration Office to identify procedures and structures which could inspire improvements in Cook Islands, Niue, Tuvalu, Tokelau, Nauru and American Samoa and spent the week discussing national CRVS improvement plans, activities and progress.

The small Pacific Island States share some of the same challenges but are also identifying shared solutions to issues, including possible collaboration on Cause of Death coding, IT systems and data sharing.

The meeting was organised by several partners of the Brisbane Accord Group, which coordinates CRVS support activities in the Pacific. Organizers included the Pacific Civil Registrars Network, SPC, Australian Bureau of Statistics and ESCAP.

Events & Media

**Expert Group Meeting on Management and Evaluation of CRVS Systems**
20-24 February 2017
New York, UN Headquarters

**Digital Health Conference in the Asia-Pacific and AeHI N 5th General Meeting**
6-10 March 2017, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

**48th session of the Statistical Commission**
7-10 March 2017
New York, UN Headquarters

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.

You are receiving this email since you have shown interest in or participated in CRVS activities in the past.