Improving CRVS in Asia and the Pacific: Getting every one in the picture

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Tanja Sejersen, Statistician, United Nations ESCAP
Meeting of Civil Registration Professionals of South Asia (CR8)
Maldives, 26-28 November, 2019
Overview

1. Background

2. Organisation of the CRVS Decade

3. Progress and next steps
1. Background
“By 2024, all people in Asia and the Pacific benefit from universal and responsive CRVS systems that facilitate the realization of their rights and support good governance, health and development”
Overview of CRVS Initiative

- **First Ministerial Conference, November 2014**
  - Declaration of the Asia-Pacific CRVS Decade 2015 – 2024
  - Ministerial Declaration to ‘Get Every One in the Picture’ in Asia and the Pacific
    - (ESCAP Resolution 71/14)
  - Regional Action Framework
    - 3 Goals
      - 15 targets set by countries
    - 7 Action Areas and 8 implementation steps
  - Regional Steering Group
Ambition of the Decade

Goal 1: Universal registration of births, deaths & other vital events

Goal 2: All individuals are provided with legal documentation of civil registration of births, deaths and other vital events, as necessary, to claim identity, civil status and ensuing rights

Goal 3: Accurate, complete and timely vital statistics (including on causes of death) are produced based on registration records and are disseminated
Key Principles

- Countries take the lead
- A stepwise approach
- Flexibility and responsiveness
- Building on local expertise
- Consistency with international legal principles
- Coordination and alignment, including with sub regional initiatives
Implementation steps

- National CRVS coordination mechanism
- Conduct a comprehensive assessment
- Set the national target value for each target and assess inequalities related to CRVS experienced by subgroups of the population, and, where appropriate, set national targets to address those inequalities
- Comprehensive multi-sectoral national CRVS strategy
- Assign a national focal point
- Report relevant information to the ESCAP secretariat by December 2019
2. Organisation of the CRVS Decade
Timeline of CRVS Decade, 2015-2024

- **First Ministerial Conference**
  
- **Baseline questionnaires submitted to countries**
  - Countries appoint National Focal Points for reporting progress and self-select targets for CRVS system improvements

- **2014**

- **2015**

- **Midterm questionnaires submitted to countries**
  - Through the NFPs, countries report on their progress toward meeting the self-selected targets

- **2019**

- **Second Ministerial Conference**
  - Celebrate progress, strengthen links between IDM and CRVS, accelerate improvements, and refocus political commitments

- **2020**

- **Beyond 2020**
  - Final questionnaires submitted to countries
  - Third Ministerial Conference
# CRVS Decade: Organisation

## Regional Steering Group
- Consist of countries and development partners
- Oversight and guidance for implementation of the Regional Action Framework
- Taskforces to provide support

## CRVS Partnership
- Development partners
- Discuss and coordinate partners’ activities to avoid replication
- Standardize partners’ message about the CRVS decade

## National Focal Points
- Country representatives (1 per country)
- Responsible for reporting to ESCAP
- Communication link between country stakeholders and partners
## Organisation in your countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>National Focal Point</th>
<th>Regional Steering Group Member</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>Ms. Ghazalan Koofi, Central Civil Registration Authority</td>
<td>Mr. Hasibullah Mowahed, Central Statistical Organization</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Mr. Md. Ashfaqual Amin Mukut, Cabinet Division</td>
<td>Mr. A K Mohiuddin Ahmad, Cabinet Division</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>Ms. Dorji Pelzom, Ministry of Health</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>India</td>
<td>Dr. Vijay Kumar, Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner</td>
<td>Mr. Janardan Yadav, Office of the Registrar General</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>Ms. Fathimath Riyaza, National Bureau of Statistics</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Ms. Indra Kumari Thapaliya, Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>Dr. Muhammad Asif, Ministry of Planning, Development &amp; Reform</td>
<td>Mr Zafar Hasan, Ministry of Planning, Development &amp; Reform</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>Mr. P.V. Gunathilaka, Department for Registrations of Persons</td>
<td>Ms. M.M. Darshanie, Ministry of Health, Nutrition &amp; Indigenous Medicine</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
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Regional CRVS Partnership

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CRVS Insight
3. Progress and next steps
Progress in the Asia-Pacific: Political Commitment and Coordination

Achievements

- Strong country initiatives and partnership support
- Political support
- Establishment of national targets, strategies and embedding CRVS improvements in national development plans

Challenges

- Despite progress, coordination can still be improved
Progress in the Asia-Pacific: Registration Completeness

**Achievements**
- Improved registration legislation and procedures for access
- Registration campaigns and mobile registration increasing outreach

**Challenges**
- Completeness and inequality assessments
- Awareness and user engagement
Progress in Asia-Pacific: Vital Statistics

Achievements
✓ Notable progress in production and dissemination of vital statistics based on registration records
✓ Increased capacity for CoD certification
✓ Growing partner support for this area of CRVS

Challenges
✓ Despite improvements, still huge gaps in CoD certification and coding (ICD-10)
✓ Data sharing and awareness of the potential for using CR data for VS production
✓ Institutionalization of vital statistics production
2020 Ministerial Conference on CRVS

Objectives
- Substantive event to assess and celebrate progress of the Asia-Pacific CRVS Decade (2015-2024)
- Identify where to focus efforts towards 2024 (Legal identity, SDGs, causes of death, …)

Preparation
- Led by the Regional Steering Group for CRVS to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive process
- Supported by ESCAP and other development partners
- ESCAP and other partners actively engaged to raise needed resources

Midterm Questionnaire
NOW

Midterm Regional Report
2020

Ministerial Conference
October 2020
Thank you!

For more information, please visit:

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