Meeting of the Civil Registrars of South Asia: 
National CRVS Coordination Mechanisms 

24-25 July 2018 
Kathmandu, Nepal
1. CRVS system organization in Bhutan

- Centralized/Decentralized?
  - *In Bhutan CRVS System is centralized*

- Different **agencies** involved
  - MoHCA (Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs)
    - Gewog (Block) – Local level
    - Community Centre – Local level
    - Dungkhag (Sub-district) – Sub-national level
    - Dzongkhag (District) - Sub-national level
    - Department, MoHCA – National level
Contd…

- **MoH (Ministry of Health)**
  - BHU (Basic Health Unit) – Local level
  - District Hospital - Sub-national level
  - Regional Referral Hospital - Sub-national level
  - National Referral Hospital - National level

- **NSB (National Statistic Bureau)** - National level

- **RBP (Royal Bhutan Police)** – Sub-National & National level

- **RSTA (Road Safety and Transport Authority)** - Sub-National & National level
2. CRVS Coordination mechanism in Bhutan

Main Roles and Responsibilities of the agencies and level (MoHCA)

- Gewog (Block)
  - Verify and confirm the parentage of the new born
  - Confirm incidence of deaths

- Community Centre
  - Apply the documents online for registration

- Dungkhag & Dzongkhag
  - Verify the documents submitted online

- Department of Civil Registration and Census (DCRC)
  - Verify and approve the application submitted online
  - Generate report
  - Submit data to NSB for generation of report
  - Coordinate meetings with agencies for improvement of CR system
Main Roles and Responsibilities of MoH
- BHU, District, Referral hospitals
  - Issue birth notification
  - Issue death notification
  - Issue birth certificate (at national level only)
  - Issue death certificate (at national level only)

Main Roles and Responsibilities of NSB
- Publication of VS report

Main Roles and Responsibilities of RBP (Sub National & National level)
- Prepare report on incidences of deaths caused by accidents and other crime and send it to health facilities for issuance of death notification
Main Roles and Responsibilities of RSTA (Sub National & National level)
- Assist RBP in preparing death reports caused by road accidents for submission to Heath facility for issuance of death notification
In Bhutan there is national level CRVS coordination between MoH, MoHCA, NSB and local governments. The objectives of the mechanism is to facilitate the following:

**Birth**
- Accurate reporting of incidences on births in the country with time of delivery, weight at delivery, name of health facility, name of doctor who certify the birth etc
- On time submission of forms (online) by officials at local and sub-national level for registration
- Confirmation of parentage of the new born by local government officials
- Report generation

**Deaths**
- Facilitate recording of death information by DCRC based on the information furnished by MoH on time, cause and place of death
- Facilitate making rural life insurance claims
- Registration of deaths within a prescribed timeline which is not later than one year.
Agencies who are part of the national level coordination mechanism

- Department of Civil Registration and Census
- NSB
- Health Management Information System, MoH
- Gewog (Block)
- Dungkhag (Sub-District)
- Dzongkhag (District)
Contd…

- The other agencies involved in the coordination mechanism are RSTA and RBP.
- There are no formal coordination mechanism developed between RSTA and RBP.
- The task related to CRVS are carried out by these agencies as part of their official mandate.
How Coordination mechanism work (Horizontal)

For Birth

MoH → MoHCA → NSB → Gewog/District

Death

RSTA → MoH → MoHCA → NSB → RBP
Contd…

♀ How Coordination mechanism work (vertical)
♀ For Birth

- MoHCA
- NSB
- District
- Gewog
- Dungkhag
- Health Facility
Contd…

How Coordination mechanism work (vertical)

For Death

- MoHCA
- NSB
- District
- Gewog
- Health Facility
- RSTA/RBP
While the coordination between MoHCA, MoH, District and Gewogs function on a formal settings (through Administrative orders) with defined terms of reference (SOP), the coordination with other agencies are not formal. These agencies perform the task related to CRVS as part of their official mandate.

The coordination among the agencies where there is formal settings is being monitored through:
- Regular review of CR forms
- Submission of information on birth and death to DCRC by MoH through review of notification forms
The coordination between MoH and MoHCA till date has been very effective particularly because:

- CR information are accurately captured by DCRC based on the information forwarded by MoH and local government officials.

- MoH facilitates creating awareness on the need for timely registration of birth and death in the civil registration records.

- Birth and death notifications issued by MoH facilitate citizens to register birth and death on time.
Contd…

Important gains

- Completeness rate for registration has improved over the years
- People are made aware of registration requirements
- Birth registration forms are now made available in MCH book

Challenges

- As the agencies have other important mandates, it is difficult to update changes and make improvement as meetings cannot be organized when required
- Lack of Resources
- Manpower expertise
THANK YOU