Cross-border collaboration and efforts to improve CRVS in South-East Asia

Meeting of the Civil Registrars of South Asia

Kathmandu, Nepal – 24 – 25 July 2018

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Key points of the Presentation

• Ongoing efforts to improve CRVS and develop cross-border collaboration in South-East Asia

• Regional cooperation projects that could reinforce the national efforts and cross-border collaboration on CRVS

• Lessons learnt from the efforts to improve CRVS
Ongoing efforts and cross-border collaboration in South-East Asia
The Philippines: Civil registration and Yolanda/Haiyan Response in 2013

- 6,293 persons killed, 28,689 injured and 1,061 missing.
- 3,424,593 families and 16,078,101 individuals affected.
- UNHCR supported government in the IDP response:
  - Civil registries: rebuilding and equipment
  - Civil society: supporting project to facilitate replacement or acquisition of documents
  - Supporting affected communities
  - “Build back better”
Bangladesh: Birth registration for children born to registered refugees

- Government/UNHCR project to register the births of registered Rohingya refugees born in Bangladesh
  - Children born in Bangladesh since 1991 were registered in the Government’s digital Birth and Death registration system (over 60 per cent of 18,564 children by April 2017)
  - Children born to registered refugees since June 2016 registered by civil registrars, with birth notification issued by refugee camp doctors
Thailand: Inclusion of all persons of concern in the civil registration system

- 1,841,743 non-nationals (with irregular status) living in Thailand including former undocumented migrant workers, stateless persons, refugees (as of Dec 2017)
- Civil Registration law reform in 2008 – Birth and death registration for all.
- Bilateral agreements with Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar – Regularization of the undocumented migrant workers through civil registration including BR
Cambodia: Legislative reform for CRVS and identity management

• Carry out universal birth and death registration for all within the territory and aim to have a special procedure for birth and death registration of hard-to-reach and marginalized population groups.

• Issue everyone within the territory with identity documents – with different identifiers for citizens and non-citizens.

• Delink birth registration from the registration of marriages.
Viet Nam: Address cross-border migration through civil registration

- Viet Nam – Lao PDR: Bilateral agreement to address irregular migration, birth and marriage registration of people residing at the border area

- Viet Nam’s efforts in addressing civil registration-related problems for stateless ethnic Vietnamese from Cambodia who reside permanently in border provinces with Cambodia including their children
Regional cooperation projects
ACWC-UNHCR Regional Cooperation Project on legal identity

• “Promoting inclusion and sustainable development in building the ASEAN Community through ensuring the recognition of the legal identity of all women and children in ASEAN”

• Objective: to promote the realization for ASEAN’s women and children’s right to birth registration, documentation, inclusion, legal identity and nationality

• Activities: Self-evaluation through reviewing the legislations and practices; Capacity building; and sharing of good practices
Bali Process Civil Registration Assessment Toolkit

• The toolkit was developed by the Regional Support Office (RSO) of the Bali Process jointly with UNHCR and some States in the region that sit in a Technical Advisory Group.

• Objective: To help states in assessing and improving the civil registration of births, deaths and marriages of the hard-to-reach and marginalized population groups in order to provide basic protection.

• Activities: Pilot the toolkit in one or two States and replicate in other States.
Lessons learnt from the efforts to improve CRVS
Benefits of CRVS to States

- To obtain comprehensive population data on all residents to improve State administration, governance and security.
- Contributing to migration management, planning and monitoring.
- Generating vital statistics to measure SDG targets and allows monitoring of inclusion and that no one is left behind.
- Assisting the efficient delivery of services and access to basic rights for all.
- Enabling every resident, including refugees, stateless persons and migrant workers, to contribute to the economy of the country.
- Honoring international and regional commitments.