



Workshop on the midterm reporting of the Asia-Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Decade, 2015-2024

20 September 2019
Bangkok, Thailand
Concept Note

Background

In Bangkok, Thailand, November 2014, governments attended the first Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) and proclaimed the Asian and Pacific CRVS Decade (2015-2024). Through the declaration of the CRVS Decade, governments gave 2015-2024 as a timeframe for realizing their shared vision that all people in Asia and the Pacific will benefit from universal and responsive CRVS systems facilitating the realization of their rights and supporting good governance, health and development.

During the 2014 Ministerial Conference, Governments also adopted the Ministerial Declaration to “Get Every One in the Picture” in Asia and the Pacific and committed to focusing their efforts on improving national CRVS systems by endorsing the Regional Action Framework for CRVS in Asia and the Pacific (<https://www.getinthepicture.org/asia-pacific-crvs-decade-2015-2024>).

The Regional Action Framework facilitates collaborative action at local, provincial, national and international levels by enabling stakeholders to align and prioritize efforts, as well as by monitoring progress toward achieving the shared vision. The Regional Action Framework is composed of three overarching goals as well as fifteen, nationally set targets and eight implementation steps meant for supporting national CRVS system improvement.

At the beginning of the Decade, in 2015, all countries in Asia and the Pacific were invited to submit baseline reports and articulate goals corresponding with the Regional Action Framework. Thirty-nine countries submitted baseline reports analyzing the status of their CRVS systems, setting targets, highlighting progress made so far, as well as emphasizing areas necessitating support and resources to be achieved.

To monitor progress in implementing the Regional Action Framework, a midterm review of the Decade will be held during the 2019 calendar year. The midterm review will form the basis for deliberations at the second Ministerial Conference to be held during the third quarter of 2020. To facilitate national reporting, ESCAP will send a questionnaire to all countries in Asia and the Pacific and develop the aggregated midterm report from the responses.



At the fourth meeting of the Regional Steering Group in November 2018, members asked development partners to support preparations for the midterm review with a specific focus on facilitating and providing technical assistance for country assessments of CRVS systems. For this reason, ESCAP is organizing a workshop on 20 September 2019 to support selected countries in completing their CRVS self-assessment and their submission of midterm questionnaire.

Objectives

The goal of the workshop is to support countries in submitting their responses to the midterm questionnaire and to make sure they are included in the discussions that will take place at the second Ministerial Conference in 2020. In this regard, the workshop participants will:

- *Understand the concepts behind the various targets of the Regional Action Framework;*
- *Share best practices for self-assessments and setting national targets; and,*
- *Understand the methodology and data requirements necessary for completing the midterm questionnaire.*

Format of the workshop

The workshop will be hosted at the UNESCAP Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, on 20 September 2019, after the fifth meeting of the Regional Steering Group for CRVS. It will feature presentations from ESCAP, as well as from countries which submitted responses to the baseline questionnaire. The workshop will be designed to give time for participants to understand the midterm questionnaire and its guidelines and use their own data (when available) for completion.

Participants

National CRVS Focal Points participating in the fifth meeting of the Regional Steering Group on 17-19 September 2019. Focus is on countries which will not benefit from such workshop as part of other ESCAP activities.

Language

The working language of the workshop will be English.