Session 2: National CRVS coordination mechanisms and strategies
- Where are we and what works

Third meeting of the Regional Steering Group for CRVS in Asia and the Pacific
18-20 October 2017
Ministerial Conference on CRVS 2014: Outcomes

- Declaration of the Asia-Pacific CRVS Decade 2015 – 2024
- Ministerial Declaration to ‘Get Every One in the Picture’ in Asia and the Pacific
- Regional Action Framework comprising:
  - 3 Goals
  - 15 targets set individually by countries
  - 7 Action Areas
  - 8 implementation steps
Implementation steps

- Conduct a comprehensive assessment
- Set the national target value for each target
- Assess inequalities related to CRVS experienced by subgroups of the population, and, where appropriate, set national targets to address those inequalities
- Assign a national focal point
- Report relevant information to the ESCAP secretariat
- National CRVS coordination mechanism
- Comprehensive multi-sectoral national CRVS strategy
34 of 58 countries have established national coordination mechanisms, many of these since 2014.

15 of 58 countries have developed national CRVS strategies.
Why are we focusing on this?

- Principle of the RAF that countries take the lead
- Sustainability is only ensured when CRVS improvement is embedded in national plans and grounded in legislation
When are CRVS coordination mechanisms successful?

- High-level political commitment (e.g. overseen or reporting to Prime Minister)
- Comprehensive Stakeholder analysis
- Clearly defined membership and include all relevant stakeholders
- Formalized to ensure sustainability
- Define Terms of References including concrete objectives and well-defined governance structure
- Clear meeting schedule and reporting structure

- National CRVS improvement strategy through consultation with all stakeholders
- Detailed workplan with specific activities, responsibilities and timelines
- Monitoring framework for the workplan
- The strategy and the workplan is linked and aligned with national development plans and SDG implementation
- Shared understanding of risk and a clear plan for risk management
- Appropriate resources for activities
Why are national CRVS strategies needed?

A strategy

“A strategy is a ‘method or plan chosen to bring about a desired future, such as achievement of a goal or solution to a problem’.”

A national CRVS strategy should outline how a country aims to reach the goals and national targets of the CRVS decade.

Thinking strategically means going from ad hoc activities to prioritized and systematized actions with a larger impact.
Key to a strategy’s success

- Strong vision and mission
- Commitment/endorsement
- Resources
- Coordination
- Monitoring of progress
- Links to stakeholders’ workplans and strategies and national development plans
Linking CRVS with national development and SDG plans

- CRVS efforts both benefit from and contribute to ongoing SDG efforts
- CRVS touches on/contributes to many domains of government and society (10 Goals, 26 Targets)
- CRVS systems need to develop a *strategy* to ensure they benefit from participation in the SDG program
- CRVS should be integrated with ongoing SDG efforts at the national, sub-regional and regional levels
How do we move forward?

- How do we ensure existing coordination mechanisms and national improvement strategies function well?
- What actions can be taken to initiate/accelerate setting up coordination mechanisms and developing strategies?
- How can a broader range of countries leverage the emphasis on SDGs to secure political, institutional and financial support for CRVS improvements (domestically and with donors etc)?
- In all of the above scenarios, what types of regional support can further country actions?
How can the RSG support countries in these efforts?