

Harnessing The Power: CRVS Systems For 2030 Global Agendas

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND

The Sustainable Development Goals and the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescent's Health 2016-2030 set ambitious development targets for the future.

In the context of long term development, the SDG agenda recognizes that innovative and sustainable Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems, integrated with health and national ID systems, are powerful drivers for more inclusive economies and a broad range of future development benefits, producing critical measurement data for many population based indicators and targets: for example: Goal 16 refers specifically to providing legal identity for all, including birth registration. Across Goal 3 for Health, vital statistics are needed for monitoring key targets for mortality including reducing maternal, neonatal and child deaths. Vital statistics can also be used to measure progress in other areas – access to education, achieving gender equality and reducing inequalities.

However, CRVS systems, in conjunction with other systems, create a foundation for country administration, building the backbone of **inclusive development** through improving citizen participation and access to government and services including health; supporting **social protection**, bridging the gap for the most vulnerable; and creating opportunities for all segments of the population and distribute the dividends of increased prosperity fairly across society¹. At an individual level, civil status registration is essential for people to be able to realize their rights and to assume their obligations as they emerge from the legal relations to which they participate.

Yet, only about 72% of the world population has a birth certificate, and around half of all deaths in the world are not documented². Around 1 billion people in the world cannot prove their legal identity³. The problem is acute in developing countries, where there are greater numbers of citizens with no birth certificate, with undocumented persons unable to exercise rights and access services, including basic health and education services, and where deaths are not recorded. In these countries significant and sustained improvements in underpinning systems must be made to ensure concrete gains.

¹ OECD 2017 http://www.oecd.org/inclusive-growth/Policy_Brief_Time_to_Act.pdf

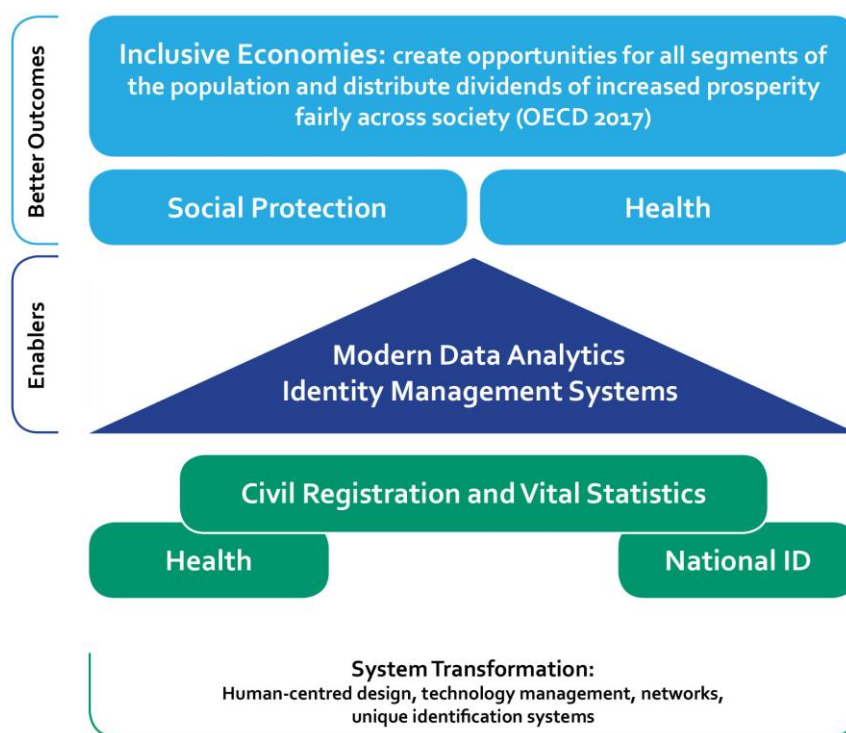
² WHO 2017. World Health Statistics 2017

³ World Bank <http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/id4d>



Across systems, every vital event must be recorded to protect and save lives and for inclusive development. New and improved approaches for systems, organization and processes are available which may help transform CRVS and related systems for greater potential benefit. This conference will explore with global and country experts the current status and use of innovation in CRVS in developed and developing economies, to generate 'current state' knowledge about CRVS, and to prioritize 'future state' research and innovation needs in the context of social protection, health and inclusive economies (Figure 1).

Figure 1



MAIN CONFERENCE THEMES

Better outcomes for social protection and health systems, in the context of inclusive economies will rely on new approaches including:

- **New enabling methods for CRVS and related systems**, including modern data analytics and identity management systems; and
- **System Transformation can be achieved** across CRVS and related systems using a human rights approach and human centred design.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE

1. To generate 'current state' knowledge about CRVS by exploring the current status and use of innovation in CRVS in developed and developing economies, providing a platform to experts for presenting their innovative and constructive ideas at international level.
2. To prioritize 'future state' research and innovation needs for development into a Global 3-5 year workplan including necessary partnerships and capacity building approaches.

AUDIENCE

The conference is an international event designed for CRVS practitioners from low and middle income countries, experts from the academia, UN Agencies, private sector and civil society working towards the future improvement of CRVS system. It will be a unique forum to take stock of the recent innovations in the field, tackle issues of common concerns, and debate possible high impact interventions and policy level responses to the challenges and concerns posed by the CRVS systems.

CONFERENCE OUTPUTS

- **Shaping the future:** Global knowledge on current and potential CRVS innovations.
- **Themes and priorities:** Agreement on areas of focus to be included in a Global 3-5 year workplan; using Innovation Taskforces to develop innovative and scaled approaches to support the achievement of targets in the Canada-financed World Bank-WHO Global Scaling up Plan.
- **Partnerships and capacity:** Agreement on the necessary partnerships and capacity building approach to support the forward looking agenda.

LANGUAGE

The languages of the conference will be French and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be available for the plenary sessions and panels, but not for the innovation labs or the presentation booths.

ORGANIZERS

The conference is a collaboration between the Centre of Excellence for CRVS Systems, WHO and UNICEF, in close cooperation with the Global CRVS Group.

AGENDA OVERVIEW

The conference will be run over two days, and include plenary and parallel sessions, and innovations labs.

- **Plenary sessions** will be led by a keynote speaker and high level panel addressing the main challenges and opportunities for CRVS systems from a strategic (medium to long-term) perspective.
- **Panel sessions** will allow the participants to engage with key elements within the broader agenda in a more concentrated way; for example, focusing on Inclusive development, modern data analytics and human-centred design principles.
- **Innovation labs** will enable concentrated discussion and workshopping by experts and country representatives of new and emerging approaches and technologies, presented as case studies, to consider in detail how these could be applied in countries seeking to strengthen their systems – for example, whether human-centred design approaches can be used to improve the reach of CRVS and other systems to vulnerable populations. The purpose is to recommend new approaches for further inclusion for development in a global workplan.
- The **final plenary session** will draw together discussions from the plenary and panel sessions, as well as from the innovation labs, to propose themes and priorities, partnerships and capacity as per the conference outcomes.

Conference: Agenda Structure

DAY 1 CONFERENCE

Opening Plenary SESSION: 9h00 – 11h00

- **Welcome Address: The global significance of CRVS systems** (Minister)

Panel discussion:

- Hon. Marie- Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie (*tbc*)
- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, WHO (*tbc*)
- Haishan Fu, Senior Director, World Bank Development Data Group (*confirmed*)
- Anil Arora, Chief Statistician, Canada (*tbc*)
- Minister, Philippines (*tbc*)
- Chief statistician Africa (*tbc*)
- CRVS systems and inclusive economies; social protection; and mutual benefits: health and CRVS systems

Break

Panel Sessions: 11h15 – 13h00		
Panel session 1 Inclusive development (World Bank with CoE)	Panel session 2 Human Centred Design (including demand creation) (UNICEF NY with CoE)	Panel Session 3 CRVS Innovations in Conflict and Emergency Settings (French Speaking) UNICEF WCAR with CoE

Lunch

Panel Sessions: 14h00 – 15h30		
Panel session 4 Social protection in the context of Inclusive development	Panel session 5 The role of unique Identification systems (World Bank)	Panel Session 6 <i>Proposed: Digital Innovations and Scaling</i> (French speaking)

Break

Panel Sessions: 15h45 – 17h15		
Panel session 7 Health in the context of inclusive development (WHO with CoE and UNICEF)	Panel session 8 Modern Data Analytics (UNSD and UNFPA)	Panel Session 9 Legal framework and protection of identities (CoE)

17h15 – 17h45
Day 1 Closing Plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflections (Panel Chairs)

DAY 2 CONFERENCE

Day 2 Opening Plenary: 9:00 – 10:30

Panel session:

- Cornelius Williams, Associate Director, Child Protection, UNICEF HQ (*confirmed*)
- Shaida Baidee, Director, Open Data Watch, Washington (*confirmed*)
- Oliver Chinganya, Director, African Centre for Statistics (*confirmed*)
- Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary, UNESCAP (*tbc*)
- UNHCR
- Lebanon
- Pacific Islands
- Other suggestions

Break

Innovation Labs: 10h45 – 12h15

Innovation Lab 1 Transforming CRVS Systems: Business process mapping and analysis SUGGESTED: Swiss Tropical Institute / Bloomberg	Innovation Lab 2 Modern Data Analytics SUGGESTED: Prabhat Jha / IHME	Innovation Lab 3 Health and CRVS WHO and UNICEF Facilitator: TBA
Innovation Lab 4 Human centred design: Increased demand and utilization of services through community partnerships (CoE with UNICEF)	Innovation Lab 5 New Technologies Blockchain and Distributed Ledgers – implications for CRVS and ID (Jane Thomason Abt and Associates)	Innovation Lab 6 Open Systems (Ed Duffus, Plan International)

Lunch

Innovation Labs: 13.30 – 15.15		
Innovation Lab 1 Transforming CRVS Systems: Business process mapping and analysis	Innovation Lab 2 Modern Data Analytics	Innovation Lab 3 Health and CRVS
Innovation Lab 4 Human centred design	Innovation Lab 5 New Technologies	Innovation Lab 6

Break

16h00 – 17h30
Closing Plenary: Putting it all together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of sessions, discussions and Ideas Labs (60 minutes) • Discussion of strategic areas of interest (lead on the discussion - Statistics Division and the Chair of the Global CRVS Group) • Agreement on priorities for further development (at least 15 minutes – led by UNSD)



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