



**Implementing Inequality Assessments and Strengthening Demographic Analysis Capacity on CRVS in Bangladesh**

## **Concept Note**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> capacity building workshop on**

### **“Implementing Inequality Assessments and Strengthening Demographic Analysis Capacity on CRVS in Bangladesh”**

**Date: 24 to 27 September 2023**

**Venue: Dream Square Resort, Mawna, Gazipur.**

#### **Background:**

To ensure quality data for the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Inequality Assessment, the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) has been actively working in collaboration with ESCAP Statistics Division to enhance the country's CRVS System. Building on these efforts, a significant milestone was achieved with the successful organization of the "First Capacity Building Workshop for Assessing Inequalities in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) in Bangladesh."

Central to this collaborative effort is the objective of enhancing the capacity of stakeholders. This necessitates equipping relevant ministries, divisions, and agencies with the knowledge, tools, and techniques required to connect CRVS data effectively. The goal is to enable these stakeholders to generate vital statistics and demographic indicators directly from CRVS data. One key aspect of capacity building focuses on direct estimation methods. Stakeholders are guided through the complexities of directly deriving vital statistics, including but not limited to life table methods. This hands-on training empowers participants to apply these methods effectively and derive essential demographic insights. In addition to direct estimation, the collaboration emphasizes the importance of indirect estimation techniques. These methods, including small area estimation and spatial modeling, provide a complementary approach to generating vital statistics. They are particularly valuable when dealing with complex data scenarios and can enhance the accuracy and comprehensiveness of demographic indicators.

The capacity-building initiative not only focuses on technical methodologies but also on the holistic utilization of CRVS data. Participants are guided on how to interpret and compile CRVS data effectively, ensuring that the data generated align with international standards and best practices. A paramount motivation behind enhancing CRVS data capacity is the alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These global goals demand accurate and disaggregated data, which are pivotal for monitoring progress and ensuring that "No one is left behind." The collaboration seeks to empower stakeholders to meet these data needs comprehensively.

Enhancing capacity also extends to addressing disparities and inequalities in data collection and reporting. It ensures that the CRVS System is inclusive, leaving no population group behind. The collaborative efforts are aligned with the "Get Every One in The Picture" Ministerial declaration and the Regional Action Framework, emphasizing the need to assess and address CRVS-related inequalities. Furthermore, the importance of a robust CRVS System became pronounced during health crises like the COVID-19 pandemic. A well-functioning system is essential for understanding the impact of such crises, especially among vulnerable populations. Enhancing capacity is critical for improving preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

## **Continuing the Journey:**

The collaborative partnership between BBS and ESCAP's Statistics Division underscores Bangladesh's commitment to advancing its CRVS System and enhancing the capacity of stakeholders to generate vital statistics and demographic indicators directly and indirectly. It is a journey that seeks to align the nation's data capabilities with international best practices, fostering inclusivity and equity in data collection and reporting.

## **Objectives:**

The primary objectives of this workshop are:

1. To further enhance the capacity of relevant ministries, divisions, and agencies in Bangladesh for the direct and indirect estimation of vital statistics and demographic indicators from CRVS data.
2. To provide participants with hands-on training on advanced methodologies, including life table methods, small area estimation, and spatial modeling.
3. To empower participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to apply these techniques effectively in their respective roles.
4. To facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration among participants, fostering a network of experts in CRVS data analysis and interpretation.

## **Expected Outputs:**

At the end of this workshop, participants are expected to:

1. Possess advanced knowledge and skills in generating vital statistics and demographic indicators directly from CRVS data.
2. Understand the nuances of direct estimation methods, including life table techniques.
3. Be proficient in utilizing indirect estimation techniques such as small area estimation and spatial modeling.
4. Be equipped to apply their expertise within their organizations and contribute to the improvement of the CRVS System in Bangladesh.
5. Foster stronger collaboration and knowledge exchange among relevant stakeholders.

## **Genre of the Workshop:**

This workshop will be highly participative and interactive. Sessions will focus on the objectives of the project, methodologies for direct and indirect estimation, and the interpretation of CRVS data. Participants will actively engage in discussions, share their experiences, and have the opportunity to seek guidance from international experts.

## Target Audience:

This national workshop will bring together 25-30 participants from relevant ministries/Divisions/Agencies who have expertise in compiling and reporting data for the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System (CRVS) Inequality Assessment.

## Duration and Venue:

The workshop will span four days, from December 24 to 27, 2023, and will be held at the Dream Square Resort in Mawna, Gazipur.

## Proposed Topics:

The workshop will cover a range of topics, including:

- Role and scope of SVRS for Demographic Estimation
- MCCOD and Verbal Autopsy in Health MIS: Scope for improved CRVS
- Bottlenecks of Demographic estimation of Birth and Death registration in Bangladesh
- Measuring Completeness of Birth and Death Registration
- Exercise Session: Measuring Completeness of Birth and Death Registration
- Measuring unmet needs and its inclusiveness
- Small area estimation for Demographic Estimates from CRVS and SVRS data
- Spatio-temporal adjustment for Demographic Estimates

## Previous Workshops:

A one-day inception workshop was organized on September 28, 2022, at Le Meridien Hotel, Dhaka, in collaboration with ESCAP. This workshop served as the foundation for the ongoing collaboration and capacity-building efforts. Additionally, a three-day workshop took place from December 19 to 21, 2022, at the Bangabandhu International Convention Centre (BICC), Dhaka, providing stakeholders with essential knowledge and skills for CRVS data assessment.

## Outcomes of the Previous Workshop:

The previous three-day workshop in December 2022 witnessed significant achievements. Participants gained comprehensive knowledge of direct and indirect estimation methods for vital statistics using CRVS data. They developed a deeper understanding of the challenges associated with data compilation and reporting and explored possible solutions. Importantly, participants left the workshop with the capacity to apply their newfound expertise, disseminate knowledge within their organizations, and establish rapport with relevant stakeholders.

## Conclusion:

The upcoming workshop represents another step in Bangladesh's journey toward strengthening the stakeholders' capacity to generate vital statistics and demographic indicators using CRVS and SVRS data. It aligns with global goals, addresses disparities, and prepares the nation for effective responses to health crises. The collaborative partnership between BBS and ESCAP's Statistics Division continues to shape a data-driven future where no one is left behind.