Innovative, Safe, and Cost-effective Digitization

3rd CR8 Regional Conference of the CR Professionals in South Asia: Get every one in the picture

Bhaskar Mishra | Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF
Digitization = enabler for continuum of services

Pre-birth

- Notification
- Declaration

Validation

Registration
- Certification

Post-registration
Children without birth registration

Globally, 154 million unregistered children under five
38 million unregistered children under one

In South Asia, 41 million unregistered children under five
10 million unregistered children under one

26% of globally unregistered children (U1 and U5) are from South Asia.
Innovative digitization

1. Should strictly conform to the CRVS business process
   - A non-negotiable priority
   - Deviations noticed during digitization:
     i. adding extra steps to CRVS business processes
     ii. additional validation and scrutiny checks at the certification stage

2. Extent of digitization based on ground realities
   - Develop solutions that can work in diverse and challenging settings.
   - Hybrid and gradual approach to digitization
   - Addresses the concerns of widening the digital divide.
3. Alternate options for issuing a UIN

- Should not become a barrier and means of exclusion
- A dynamic linkage with the national ID system.
- Real-time generation
- Mobile phones as a tool to send sets of information

4. Gradual approach to linking national ID of parents

- Collecting NID numbers during routine health services, especially antenatal services.

5. Health-CR-NID pathway

- Organic and cost-effective manner.
- ‘Collect once and use multiple times’ and ‘move information, not people’
Safe digitization

Mandated by CR law as certificates are legal documents
- Harmonization of provisions with IT laws
- Data protection, privacy, confidentiality, ethics, intended and proportionate use with no repurposing
- Clearly defined data sharing protocols

Adequate protection at all stages
- Collection (credentials, lost devices, auto-cleaning)
- Transfer (encrypted, data loss)
- Processing (authority, approval, trails)
- Storage (safe & protected location(s), backup)

Other concomitant measures
- Data ownership
- Auditing of CRVS applications
- SOPs for handling of devices, especially mobile devices and handover
Cost-effective digitization

Cost of CRVS solutions
• One-time cost (development & deployment) and recurring cost (routine maintenance support and need-based enhancements/customization)

Cost of equipment - proportionate and progressive investment in IT infrastructure
• Initial investment, maintenance, and replacement
• Piggy ride on the automation process in the health sector
• Use the available infrastructure of the NID/IT/e-gov departments

Align CRVS's digital strategy with the national digital framework

Partnerships with mobile service providers

Cost should not be passed on to clients
This model represents a holistic approach to civil registration, vital statistics and identity management recommended by the United Nations, adapted from the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 3. It can be adjusted to national circumstances and governing structures as necessary.
“Buy” or “Make”
Six steps to evaluate the eCRVS solutions

1. Desk research and solution identification
   - 15 solutions identified, consultations with >10 countries

2. Outreach to vendors for requirements analysis (self-reported)
   - 7 solutions responded and were analyzed

3. Live demos to validate the responses
   - 6 Solutions participated in live demo

4. Maturity analysis of the solutions (self-reported)
   - 6 Solutions responded and analyzed

5. SWOT analysis for each solution as summary of step 2-4
   - 5 Solutions shortlisted
   - CRVS platforms – Key findings report to be published in May 2023

6. Analysis of Data Privacy & Security for shortlisted solutions
   - Data Privacy and Security Assessment to be released in Q4/23

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1) Adapted from Digital Square Global Goods Maturity Model  
   SWOT: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats

Completed  
Ongoing
African eCRVS Shared Asset

Consist of three key elements:

1. **Design Principles**
   - Technology principles
   - Non-Technology Principles

2. **Digital CRVS solution**
   - A consortium approach
   - Interoperability with health and national ID systems.

3. **Governance body**
   - Led by representatives from African countries
   - The African Union, UNECA, UNICEF, ID4Africa, OpenCRVS and other partners in support
Thank You!