An overview of the linkages between CRVS and Identity Management System

Theoretical and practical considerations and Country examples

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Romain Santon | Vital Strategies
Legal Identity begins at birth with biographic information collected through Civil Registration System.

Identity strengthens with biometrics information collected through national ID system.

Identity ends at death, but not its legal effects, so death information collected through Civil Registration must be linked with National ID.
CRVSID for good governance

A complete and efficient CRVS system

- Realization of human rights
- Efficient service delivery
- Evidence-based policy making and programme monitoring
- Fool-proof electoral database

A complete and efficient national ID system (A secure identity)

Leaves no one behind
- the key mantra of Agenda 2030 development agenda
UN Legal Identity Framework on CRVSID system

A holistic, integrated and life-cycle based approach
The basic characteristics of a population register

- A population register is a repository of **up-to-date** information on some basic characteristics of all residents of a country.

- A population register is **continuously updated** by linking reports of events recorded in other administrative registers, mainly from civil registration and immigration records.

- A population register has the potential to provide data on a population and its characteristics on a **continuous basis** at all administrative levels.
**Differences between a population register and an identity register**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population register</th>
<th>Identification register</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stores information of all residents of a country.</td>
<td>May include only those residents who attain a legally minimum age (usually 18 years) and in some countries only citizens are included.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envisages continuous (in some countries, real-time) updating based on information on vital events recorded in the civil registration system.</td>
<td>Is not necessarily updated from civil registration data on a continuous and/or in real-time basis; may be largely demand-driven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does not include biometric information, such as photographs and fingerprints.</td>
<td>A modern identification register necessarily includes biographic and biometric information of all registered individuals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A fully developed population register can provide data to produce population and vital statistics and also migration statistics on a regular basis.</td>
<td>Identification registers that include only adult persons cannot be used for producing population and vital statistics.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Visual representation of the national id system with update* mechanisms

*Other updates such as adding biometric information is also possible

A simplistic view of the UNLIA Framework civil registration, vital statistics and identity management system (CRVSID)

Unit of importance in a population register, and ID system is the person

Source
A diagrammatic representation of a CRVSID system in a steady state

Countries* where the CRVSID system is in steady state

- Bhutan
- Botswana
- Rwanda
- South Africa
- Mongolia
- Namibia
- Kyrgyzstan
- Thailand

- This list is not exhaustive and does not include high income countries
Enabling Environment for establishing and sustaining a CRVSID system
(Examples)

Institutional arrangement

Both CR and ID systems are implemented by different ministries (India, Tanzania, Mozambique, Bangladesh)

Both CR and ID systems are implemented by the same ministry but separate departments (Kenya, Ethiopia, South Africa)

Both CR and ID systems implemented by one entity (Nepal, Bhutan)
## Enabling Environment for establishing and sustaining a CRVS-ID system

*(Examples)*

### Legal Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Separate law for CR and ID system</th>
<th>Unified law on CR and ID</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Cambodia (in process)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Countries that moved to steady state does not necessarily assure full identity coverage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Unregistered population (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimates of the unregistered population (UP) for each economy are produced by adding together the number of unregistered persons below and above a cut-off age, which varies between countries.

\[ UP = UP_A + UP_B \]

Source: Identification for Development (ID4D) Global Dataset | Data Catalog (worldbank.org)

Estimates of the unregistered population (UP) for each economy are produced by adding together the number of unregistered persons below and above a cut-off age, which varies between countries.
Key takeaways

• Robustness and sustainability of ID system requires interoperability with a CR system

• The legal identity is conferred through birth registration and is ended with death registration

• The CRVS ID system is usually built through ‘stock-and-flow’ approach

• Moving to a steady state does not necessarily means completeness

• Civil registration should be complete, timely and accurate

• Vital Statistics is a part of the identity eco-system