

Concept Note

Title: Kick off meeting for the Measuring Adult Mortality Community of Practice

When: 17th May 2023, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM **OR** 18th May 2023, 7:00 - 8:00 PM Bangkok Time

(Dynamic Time Zone Converter: <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html>)

Background:

In countries which have well-established civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems, estimates of adult mortality are regularly generated from data collected through death registration. This allows tracking changes in population health, as well as the impact of epidemics and other crises, in near real-time¹. In other parts of the world, however, these systems are often deficient and seldom yield reliable monthly or annual series of vital statistics². Achieving high levels of death registration (>80%) is one of the key indicators of progress towards the sustainable development goals (SDGs). Efforts to strengthen civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) through an integrated approach in accordance with the Legal Identity Agenda and to ensure a Legal identity for ALL (SDG 16.9) in countries remain a priority.

Better coverage of older age groups, documenting risk factors, identifying socioeconomic disparities, measuring short-term fluctuations, and measuring the completeness and gaps in death registration and health information systems have all been identified as emerging data needs. The COVID-19 pandemic most recently brought into sharp focus the need for reliable mortality estimation tools for countries with deficient death registration systems, including those which did not prove sufficiently robust to deal with a health crisis.

The Measuring Adult Mortality Community of Practice (MAM-CoP) is established in response to requests from countries as consolidated in an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Innovative methods to measure the Impact of COVID-19 on Mortality through Surveys and Censuses organized in Abu Dhabi August 2022 by UN Statistics Division, in collaboration with the UN Population Division, UNESCAP and New York University Abu Dhabi. The EGM meeting was organized under the guidance of the [WHO-DESA Technical Advisory Group on COVID-19 Mortality Assessment \(TAG\)](#). Participants in the EGM were drawn from national statistical offices (NSO's), Health ministries, academia, Research and Regional and international organizations.

The MAM-CoP virtual space will offer experts, NSO's, relevant ministries and other partners an opportunity to share knowledge and experiences through peer-to-peer exchanges and learning in collecting/analyzing adult mortality data through household surveys, censuses, and integrated data for countries without reliable CRVS systems. Together, community members will also identify areas requiring further methodological development including testing and piloting; and developing guidelines.

¹ Jm A, J S, I K, L Z, C R, Ti M, et al. Quantifying impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic through life-expectancy losses: a population-level study of 29 countries. *International journal of epidemiology* [Internet]. 2022 Feb 18 [cited 2022 Sep 17];51(1). Available from: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34564730/>.

² A global assessment of civil registration and vital statistics systems: monitoring data quality and progress - PubMed [Internet]. [cited 2022 Sep 17]. Available from: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25971218/>.

Objective: The objective of the kickoff meeting is to signify the start of the Measuring Adult Mortality Community of Practice (MAM-CoP) that will bring together experts, researchers, and practitioners from different fields to share knowledge and best practices, collaborate on research and interventions, and ultimately contribute to reducing adult mortality rates and to agree upon the path forward and ways of working.

Participants:

The kickoff meeting will bring together experts, researchers, National Statistics Offices, health ministries and other line ministries responsible for mortality statistics in the country and practitioners from different fields, including but not limited to:

- National statistical offices (NSO),
- Health Ministries,
- Other ministries responsible for mortality statistics,
- Public health practitioners,
- Researchers and academia,
- Humanitarian organizations in response to emergencies,
- Civil society organizations,
- Development partners
- Regional and international organizations.

Organizers:

The kickoff meeting is being organized by UNESCAP, UNSD and New York Abu Dhabi University.

Contact details:

For more information about the Measuring Adult Mortality Community of Practice (MAM-CoP) and the kickoff meeting, please contact escap-crvs@un.org