Supporting CRVS Decade

• There are regional Pacific networks for statistics and health information BUT registrars have not previously had a dedicated network to focus on our issues.
• Formed at the Civil Registrars meeting in Pattaya 2014.
• Opportunity to share information, lessons learned, and good practice.
• Fosters coordination and integration of Civil Registrars’ input and ideas into the implementation of the Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan and the Asia Pacific Regional Action Framework for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics.
What we have done

• Coordinating group established including registrars from the Cook Islands, Fiji, New Zealand, Samoa, and Vanuatu.
• Membership for any State or Country level Civil Registrar – 45 Registrars from 36 countries or states
• Associate membership extended to relevant partner agencies – 21 organisations
• Business partners – 12 businesses
• Terms of Reference and small work plan
• Three large meetings + smaller workshops
• E-newsletter to over 300 addresses
Lots of players ...
Our resources

- Ourselves as registrars
- New Zealand providing secretariat and funding for data sharing project
- Agencies fund and help if our work programme aligns. So far NZ Foreign Affairs and UNICEF have funded workshops
- Business partners sponsor workshops too
Our First Meeting
- technology and legislation

Nadi – June 2015

• Translating goals into action – locally and regionally
• Using technology to achieve our goals
• Legislation and policy settings to support information sharing
• Capacity building – understanding statistics (SPC)
• Innovation (business partners)
• Followed by smaller events – Data Analysis (Noumea - 2016), smaller country planning (Auckland - 2017)
Our second full meeting – Disaster preparation and response

Suva – October 2017

- Sharing recent experiences and learnings from disasters
- Developing country level action plans to improve CRVS resilience to disasters
- Considering possible regional approaches to disaster response
Our third full meeting – Legal Identity and Identity Security

Noumea – July 2019

• Understanding legal identity; country experiences and plans; international principles and recommendations
• Role of ICT in legal identity and identity security; country experiences in implementation of CR IT systems; the role of legislation in legal identity
• In association with Health sector leaders - role of the health sector in CR and legal identity; Importance of unique identification codes and best practices in their implementation
Our fourth full meeting ..... Nah, then came COVID ..

• During the pandemic we kept the newsletter going, showing small country registrars that “we are in this together”
• Collegial support and advice as registries adapted to the pandemic context

• Next meeting is in March 2023 in Suva, Fiji.
  • CRVS digitisation in the Pacific
  • Climate change and CRVS – what does it mean for civil registrars?
  • Visits to registration facilities
Our work plan

- **Vision:** by 2024 to have joined up ways of working which are flexible and responsive with shared legislative/IT/Data CRVS systems for the Pacific.

- **Work Plan Priorities:**
  - Jointly work to improve CRVS targets (UNESCAP) across region (2015 – 2024)
  - Investigate shared IT platform for use across the region as countries replace their system (2016 – 2019)
  - Regional CRVS disaster planning and response (2017)
  - Pacifica ministerial meeting on CRVS (2019)
  - Ongoing advice and information sharing on civil registration functions and systems.
  - Provide expert civil registration input to regional initiatives, including identity
  - Securing ongoing funding for activities

- **Help the 3 Asia sub-regions to establish functioning networks!**