

# Principles of a Vital Statistics System

# Civil registration

- Continuous gathering of information on all relevant vital events occurring within the boundaries of a country or a well-defined area within a country.
- “ideal source from which to derive accurate, complete, timely and continuous information on vital events”.

# Vital statistics

“the collection of statistics on vital events in a lifetime of a person as well as relevant characteristics of the events themselves and of the person and persons concerned”

Source: United Nations Principles and Recommendations for vital statistics, Revision 3 (2014)

# Vital events for statistical purposes

- Births
- Deaths, foetal deaths
- Marriages
- Divorce, annulment, judicial separation
- Adoption
- Legitimation
- Recognition

# Components of a Vital Statistics System

- legal registration
- statistical reporting of, and
- collection, compilation and dissemination of statistics pertaining to vital events.

# Principles of a Vital Statistics System

- Universal coverage.
- Continuity
- Confidentiality of personal information in vital statistics microdata and any associated statistical reports
- Regular dissemination

# EXERCISE (4 groups)

- Each group to be allocated one of the four principles.
- Discuss what the principle means to you and your experiences with it either personally or in the context of your work (15 minutes)
- Come up with a story that explains the principle is and will help others to understand its importance, some of the challenges/issues and how these can be overcome (3 minutes each)