The Asia Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (2015 – 2024) Timeline

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United Nations ESCAP

Ninth meeting of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific

Bangkok, Thailand, 10-12 May 2023
Background

Asia-Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015-2024

“By 2024, all people in Asia and the Pacific benefit from universal and responsive CRVS systems that facilitate the realization of their rights and support good governance, health and development”
Commitment by 2024

Universal civil registration of births, deaths and other vital events;

All individuals are provided with legal documentation of civil registration of births, deaths and other vital events, as necessary, to claim identity, civil status and ensuing rights.

Accurate, complete and timely vital statistics (including causes of death) are produced based on registration records and are disseminated.
A look back at our midterm review (latest snapshot)
**Where are we at the midterm of the Decade?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas</th>
<th>Actioned</th>
<th>Being actioned</th>
<th>Need for action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth registration</td>
<td>2A</td>
<td>1A 1B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death registration</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>1D</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cause of death recording</td>
<td>1E</td>
<td></td>
<td>3D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vital statistics</td>
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<td>3F 3G 3H</td>
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**Targets**

1A Birth registration within 1 year
1B Birth registration for children under five
2A Issuance of birth certificate
1D Death registration within 1 year
2B Issuance of death certificate
1E Recording of causes of death by the health sector
3D Reduction of ill-defined causes of death codes
3F Publication of births and deaths statistics
3G Publication of causes of death statistics
3H Publication of a vital statistics report
Birth registration: Progress is bridging the gap between regions
Achievements

The number of children under five in Asia and the Pacific whose birth was never registered decreased from 135 million in 2012 to 64 million in 2019.

1 in 5 still unregistered in 2019

Pacific: 30% of children under five in Pacific whose birth has never been registered.

Fig. 1 Number and percentage of children under five whose birth has never been registered

South and South-West Asia | 50.2 million

South-East Asia | 9.5 million

East and North-East Asia | 3.5 million
Death registration: Less incentives, lower completeness
Increased attention due to COVID-19
Vital Statistics: As birth and death registrations improve, more countries are regularly using civil registration records for vital statistics.
Implementation steps:
Catalysts of progress

8 steps to
- Identify needs
- Set objectives
- Monitor progress
- Report achievements

Efforts made by countries since 2014 to achieve their national targets, with support from partners

Only 6 countries have assessed CRVS inequalities
Areas to accelerate progress

- Regions: Pacific, South-East Asian, South Asian and South-West Asian regions
- Increased reporting
- Death registration – slower progress than births
- Quality of information on deaths and their causes
- Producing vital statistics based on civil registration
- Achieving implementation steps
# Regional Action Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Members and associate members submitted baseline report to the secretariat</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>Regional baseline analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Members and associate members submitted midterm report to the secretariat</td>
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<td>2020</td>
<td>Midterm regional review conducted</td>
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<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>Members and associate members submit final report to the secretariat</td>
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<td>2025</td>
<td>Final regional review conducted</td>
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Key factors for completing the questionnaire

- National Focal Points must act as the central coordinator
- Involve the relevant development partners
- Involve the relevant ministries
- If possible, ESCAP recommends hosting a small summit to allow representative to validate answers and respond to National Focal points questions
Regional synthesis report to serve as inputs for the Ministerial Conference in 2025.

2025 Ministerial Conference to celebrate the endpoint of the current Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (2015 - 2024)

Direction and key focus areas towards the 2025 Ministerial Conference
Thank you!

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