



CIVIL REGISTRY SYSTEM IN TIMOR-LESTE



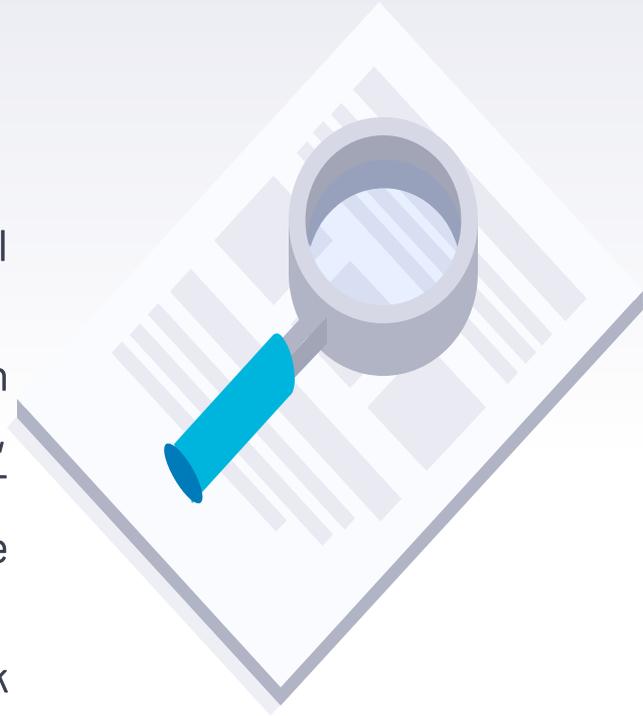
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Introduction

- On May 20, 2002, the young nation inherited nothing a civil registration system and virtually non-existent.
- The legal system in force, taking into account the succession of States (Portugal and Indonesia), the occupation (Indonesia), the transitional regime of UNTAET (UN), which left UNTAET Regulation number 1/2003 that provisionally regulates the registration of the existing population in Timor-Leste
- implement legal framework including all legislative framework concerning the process of legalizing the registration



Legal Basis / Legislative Frameworks

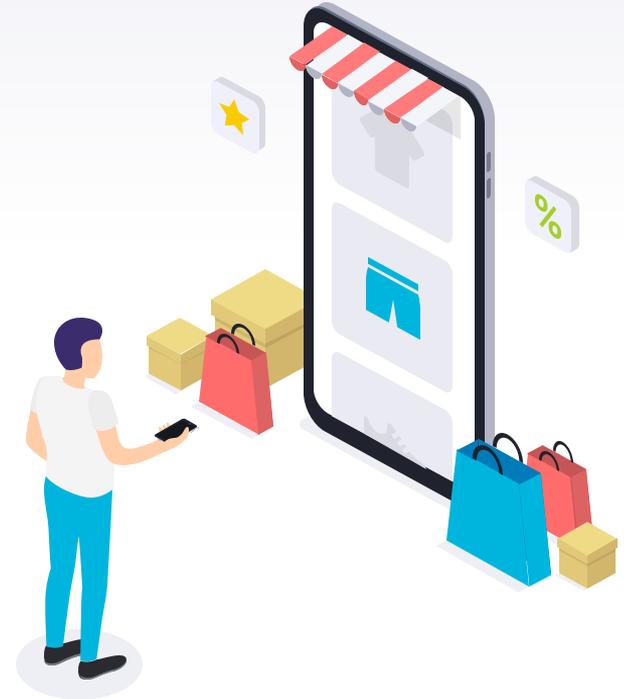
Existing legislation in Timor-Leste:

1. Civil code and Law n°. 10/2011, 14 September, is a legal foundation to implement civil registration in Timor-Leste. Civil Registry Code, which complements the existing laws and specify further details of civil registration is currently being finalized.
2. Organic law of Directorate General of Civil Registration and Notary n°. 38/2019 on the establishment of civil registration office in sub-municipality
3. Government Decree on CRVS in 2022.
 - ▶ Jointly ministries developed a draft Government Decree on CRVS in 2022.
 - ▶ The Government Decree is for officially establishing two national steering committees on CRVS, one at the Ministers level and the other at technical level.
 - ▶ The Decree is currently in the final review by the Ministry of Justice, and it is expected to be approved in early 2023.
 - ▶ Decree defines the roles and responsibilities of the ministries and faith-based organizations in the country, aiming to move the CRVS work forward and have the stakeholders accountable.



Means and facilities available for registration in Timor-Leste

- ▶ Timor-Leste has already established since 2005 the Registry Offices in 13 municipalities, including RAEOA except Atauro.
- ▶ Sufficient human resources.
- ▶ Digitized registration system, called DMIS (Demography Management Information System).
- ▶ International partners, such as UNICEF and the Child Fund
- ▶ Established a note of inter-ministerial understanding and religious organizations, civil society and international organizations in 2007 and renewed in 2011.



Birth, death and marriage registration began in 2004, but unfortunately they were only carried out in the registry book, with the production of certificates in a manual system called Merge.

The data from 2014 for birth certificates, and death and marriage certificates they only reflect these two final years, 2021 and 2022.

In 2022, managed to register births with a total of 158,685 peoples, including children aged 0-5 years old: 17,776, age 6-11: 10,643 and 12-16 years olds: 7,912 childrens.



This scope covers all birth registration activities from 2014 to 2021

- Serious support from UNICEF and the Child Fund, which helped us a lot in all aspects.
- The high number in 2021-2022 was largely due to an extensive mobile birth registration campaign, which is an outreach activity to register children on-site in remote areas, funded by a donor and implemented in partnership of the DGSRN, UNICEF and Child Fund.
- UNICEF is promoting the support of equipment for all Municipal Registry Offices with the aim of facilitating more efficient and effective services.
- Technical support from UN agencies and UNESCAP

The data registration from 2004-2020:

1. Birth Registration = 643.246 peoples including, children (49,5%)
2. Death Registration = 3.036 peoples
3. Marriage Transcription = 620

Registration for death and marriage, from 2004 to 2020 still not in the digitized data all.

The true numbers of all types should be higher than above, because people registered in the years 2004 to 2014 for birth registrations are not seen in this report, as well as people registered for death and marriage, from 2004 to 2020 still not in the digitized data.

CRVS DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ Focal point works together with other related entities to promote the functioning of the CRVS.
- ▶ We always support our focal point to undertake this function with all responsibility and strictness
- ▶ To drive the CRVS agenda further in Timor-Leste, a Roadmap for CRVS in Timor-Leste was drafted in 2022 with support by UNICEF and consultation with line ministries. The Roadmap describes priority areas and detailed steps that the country need to undertake in the next few years onward in order to improve the national CRVS system.
- ▶ Assessment and analysis of DMIS of the Ministry of Justice conducted in 2022 pointed out the importance of interoperability of civil registration data base among line ministries



Purpose of Provisional Registration in Timor-Leste

The national registration network in Timor-Leste that you want to reach are several, but the current priorities are:

1. The national recovery of late registrations of the entire Timorese population caused by a long period of colonial occupation.
2. Registration of children aged 0-5 supported by UNICEF and others.
3. Registering births for people with disabilities, the elderly and generally the most needy.
4. Records of deceased persons, both in former times and currently happening.
5. The registration of marriages in general.



Civil Registration Services

- ▶ Timor-Leste organizes registration activities, in coordination with state entities in the country, supported from international organizations, and using civil society and community authorities to promote registration in general.
 - ▶ The Government established birth registration posts in hospitals and some health centers in 11 municipalities to facilitate timely registration of births carried out in these health facilities.
 - ▶ The Government in partnership with partners conducted a mobile birth registration campaign to facilitate birth registration of children living in remote villages and sub-villages that are far away from municipality capitals where civil registry offices are located.
 - ▶ CRVS staff in Statistics Office based at the Municipality level have a remit to visit at least one village every month to conduct a registration or collect the forms which filled in villages.
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Challenges

1. Difficulties with internet connection, supplies, and equipment to support them. Also one registry office per municipality is not enough to cover all populations in a municipality. It takes several hours to almost a day to travel from remote villages to a capital city where the registry office is located, and many families cannot afford the cost and time it takes to go register the vital events.
2. Some technical issues. In 2022, UNICEF hired a foreign technician and carried out a technical analysis that could help us a lot for the update of the system based on the recommendation given by the referred technician.
3. DGSRN-MJ also has financial difficulties budgeting for the daily activities of registry and notary services, for reasons of lesser priority in government policy at a global level.
4. In terms of death registration including the causes of death, and marriage registration, among other civil registration, the registration coverage is extremely low and the system is not well functioning, due to low political priorities, lack of legal basis, limited fund allocation, limited awareness, and other reasons
5. Lack of funds allocated to support CRVS activities in the Ministry of Justice, which also makes it difficult to progress this program.

Recommendations ...

1. Must make more investments in the CRVS program.
2. Implement the steps identified in the CRVS Roadmap.
3. Encourage more discussions at regional and national level about the CRVS.
4. Always evaluate and address the inequalities of CRVS progress in the Region where we are.
5. Visit whenever possible the places where the networks of birth records, death records and marriage transcripts are established.
6. Coordination mechanism from UNESCAP to CRVS Timor-Leste Steering for CRVS activities related to programs, training, workshop and etc.
7. Political support from the State and government to put the CRVS program in priority.

THANK YOU!

OBRIGADO

Motto:
NO ONE IN BEHIND

