

**UNICEF Pacific**  
**Ensuring every child counts**  
**Civil Registration and Vital Statistics**



# Civil Registration & Vital Statistics....

*“...the continuous, permanent, compulsory and universal recording of the occurrence and characteristics of vital events pertaining to the population, as provided through decree or regulation in accordance with the legal requirements in each country.”*

# Vital events includes birth, death, marriage, divorce and adoption

UNSD, 2013. *Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, revision 3.*



**CRVS is important as a  
human right and for  
societies for planning and  
development**



**Civil registration**



**Legal documents**



**Vital statistics**

# Why invest in CRVS?

## 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



*Sustainable  
Development Goals:  
By 2030, provide legal  
identity for all,  
including birth  
registration*



THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE  
AIMS TO ENDORSE THREE GOALS:



Universal civil registration



All individuals are provided with  
**legal documents** to claim  
identity and ensuing rights



Accurate, complete and  
timely **vital statistics**

# Regional Action Framework on civil registration and vital statistics in the Asia and Pacific Region

CRVS Decade 2014 - 2024

# **BIRTH REGISTRATION IS THE FIRST RIGHT IN LIFE AND THE KEY TO LEGAL IDENTITY**

**135**  
**MILLION**

children under the age of five in Asia and the Pacific have not had their births registered [source: UNICEF]

## **UNDERSTANDING WHY AND WHERE PEOPLE ARE DYING HELPS FIGHT DISEASE AND INFANT AND MATERNAL MORTALITY**

**9 OUT OF 10**

people in Asia and the Pacific live in countries with unreliable death statistics [source: WHO]



**IT'S TIME TO GET EVERY ONE IN THE PICTURE**

## STEPS TO IMPROVE CRVS SYSTEMS

4

Implement the national  
strategy and monitor  
progress

3

Develop a multi-sectoral  
national strategy

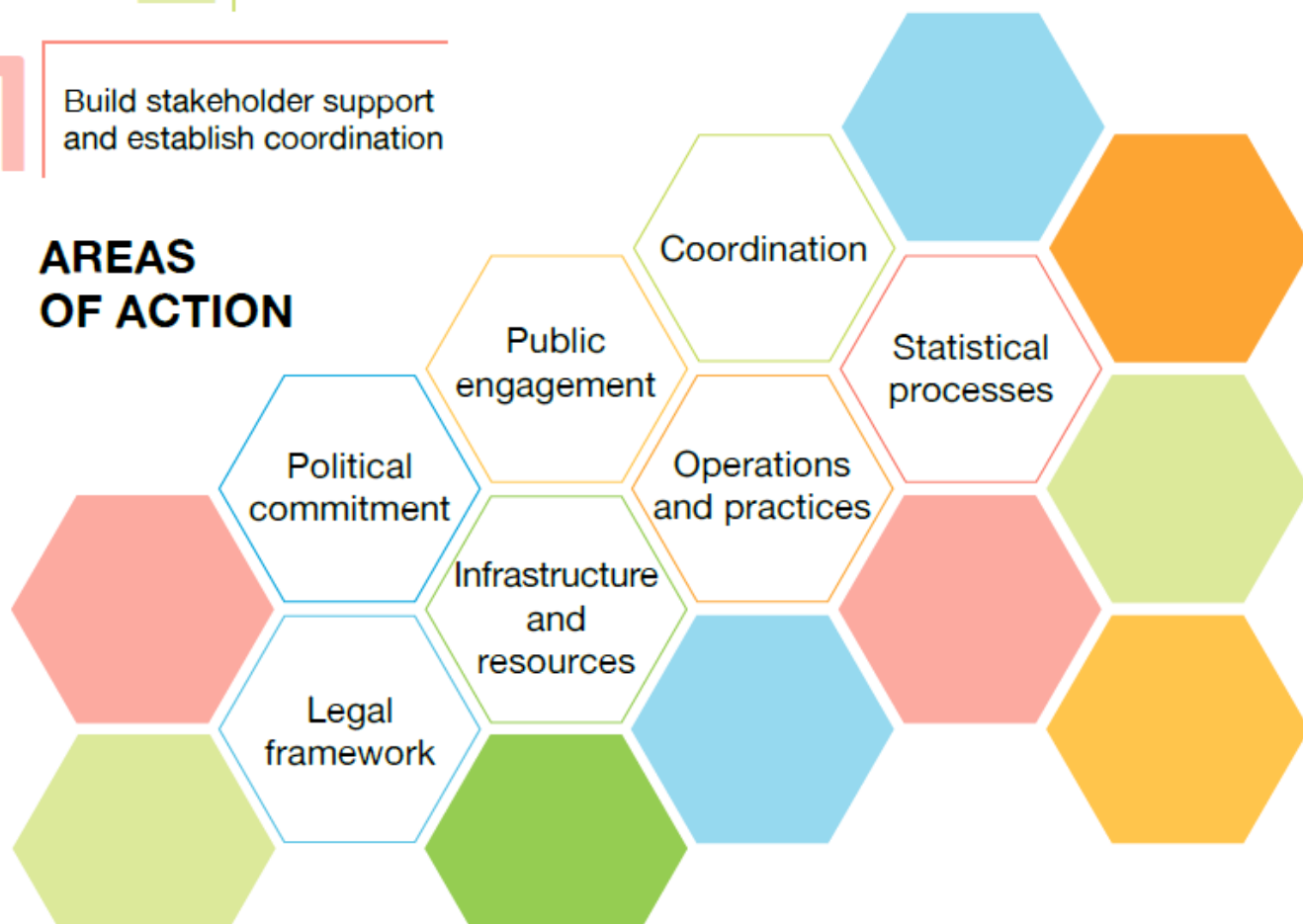
2

Assess the  
CRVS system

1

Build stakeholder support  
and establish coordination

## AREAS OF ACTION





# Civil Registration & e-Governance



# Getting CRVS online

- The collection of information on births and deaths, generally facilitated by some computerisation of records to manage the data and associated processes.
- In the Pacific Islands, these systems range from simple Excel spreadsheets updated by a single operator, to large commercial software platforms operating over multiple sites.
- Primary IT infrastructure on CRVS usually be a civil registry database, and should include IT systems that support data sharing with health, HIS and medical certification records, and data management and analysis systems at the national statistics office.
- Basis for data records in e-Governance system.

# Summary of IT systems for CRVS in PICs

COUNTRY/ STATE	Group	Health Information System	Health – Vital Statistics Collections	Civil Registry Office	National Statistics Office
Fiji	3	PATIS (MS SQL platform/ Access front end)	PATIS (MS SQL platform/ Access front end)	SQL database (custom built)	Access database (custom built)
Tonga	3	Tongan Health Information System - PATIS variation	Tongan Health Information System - PATIS variation	Self built Access database	No collation of vital statistics data from routine administrative data.
Samoa	3	PATIS (currently under review – proposed upgrade)	PATIS (currently under review – proposed upgrade)	KE Vitalware	KE Vitalware (the civil registry office sits under the NSO)
Solomon Islands	4	DHIS2 (Open source software)	Excel spreadsheets (MCH program had SQL- custom built database for births, and infant and child deaths)	Promadis	No collation of vital statistics data from routine administrative data.
Vanuatu	4	Community health reporting – SQL database (custom built)	Hospital medical records- Excel spreadsheet (by year) - Introducing DHIS 2	Self built SQL database	No collation of vital statistics data from routine administrative data.
PNG	4	Major hospitals - Pagemaker database (custom built) Other centres – paper based National HIS (from monthly reports) FoxPro database (custom built)	Not collated separately	SQL database (custom built)	No collation of vital statistics data from routine administrative data.
Kiribati	4	Access database (custom built – limited functionality)	Birth registry (locked spreadsheet) Death register (Excel spreadsheet) HIS death register - Access Database (custom Built)	Access Database (custom built) (currently being upgraded)	No collation of vital statistics data from routine administrative data.
American Samoa	NA	?	Excel	STEVE	None
French Polynesia	NA	?	?	?	?
Wallis and Futuna	NA	?	?	?	?

# Summary of IT systems for CRVS in PICs

COUNTRY/ STATE	Group	Health Information System	Health – Vital Statistics Collections	Civil Registry Office	National Statistics Office
Nauru	1	Access database (custom built)	Excel spreadsheet(s) – separate for births and deaths. Promadis	Promadis/ local databases	Promadis
Niue	1	MedTech	None	Excel spreadsheet and custom built access database	Excel spreadsheets
Cook Islands	1	MedTech	MedTech (custom built add-on)	SQL database (custom built)	SQL database (custom built)
Tokelau	1	No overall HIS. Separate records by program.	Paper records - compiled in excel when requested (medical referrals routinely collated in Excel to track finances)	Access database (custom built)	Nil
Tuvalu	1	No overall HIS. Separate records by program.	Access database - new database for each year (custom built)	Excel spreadsheets (by island and year)	Extracted from health as Excel spreadsheet when needed
Palau	2	SQL database (custom built)	SQL database (custom built) and Excel spreadsheet (by year)	SQL database (custom built)	NA
Marshalls	2	Commercial SQL database (currently under review)	Excel – just purchased a custom built HIS Access DB – not built yet	Excel	No collation of vital statistics data from routine administrative data.
CNMI	2	Access – (built under licence)	Excel is used in medical records (plus paper ) STEVE used at civil registry	STEVE (the Civil registry office is under health)	Nil
FSM National	2	FSM HIS - Access DB – custom built.	Excel spreadsheets	NA – no civil registration function at national level	Currently designing a new web-based platform (SQL)
Kosrae	2	<i>Local install of National FSM HIS - Access DB – locked down (std reports only)</i>	<i>Excel spreadsheets</i>	<i>Excel</i>	<i>Limited Access database – lookup purposes only. To install new national system when built</i>
Yap	2	<i>Local install of National FSM HIS - Access DB – locked down (std reports only)</i>	<i>Excel spreadsheets, Birth Database – Access database (custom built)/ Deaths database (custom built)</i>	<i>Paper index cards</i>	<i>No collation of vital statistics data from routine administrative data.</i>
Pohnpei	2	<i>Local install of National FSM HIS - Access DB – locked down (std reports only)</i>	<i>Excel spreadsheets</i>	<i>Excel</i>	<i>No collation of vital statistics data from routine administrative data.</i>
Chuuk	2	<i>Local install of National FSM HIS - Access DB – locked down (std reports only)</i>	<i>Excel spreadsheets</i>	<i>Paper only</i>	<i>No collation of vital statistics data from routine administrative data.</i>
Guam	2	?	STEVE	NA ( the Civil registry office is under health)	?

# Person-based register



- Any CRVS system and related business processes must be reactive to the legislated events – births, deaths, marriages, adoptions and have facilities to match individuals across events where possible.
- This means being able to, for example –
  - Match a persons birth to a death
  - Match a mothers name to all births, identifying all of their children
  - Match a groom to his birth and death possibly, and all his other marriages





*We need accurate information in order to put in place the right policy to deal with issues. Birth registration will provide that kind of information.*

*Anote Tong, President of Kiribati*



# *Thank you*

