



Regional Training Workshop on Transition to Register-based Approaches for Population and Housing Censuses

Ankara, Türkiye
12-15 June 2023

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems: the foundation of population registers

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Outline

- Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS)
- Population Register
- Statistical Population Register (SPR)
- Distinction of Population Register and SPR
- Relation of CRVS and Population Register
- ESCAP initiatives to improve CRVS systems in the region

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics system

- Civil registration is defined as 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.
- Civil registration is a government service with legal, statistical and identity management functions.

Population register

- According to the United Nations, a population register refers to “*an individualised data system, that is, a mechanism of continuous recording, and/or of coordinated linkage, of selected information pertaining to each member of the resident population of a country in such a way to provide the possibility of determining up-to-date information concerning the size and characteristics of that population at selected time intervals*”.
- The primary function of the population register is for the administrative purposes of government, however, in some countries, it is also used for statistical purposes, such as building the “Statistical Population Register (SPR)” due to the evolving and increasing data demands coupled with continuous technological developments.

Statistical Population Register (SPR)

- The statistical population register is a systematized and indexed collection of individual records for every resident (including nationals and foreign citizens) of the country.
 - Different from the registration of individuals for administrative purposes
 - Connected on a regular basis and under the provisions of the law with relevant administrative registers to be updated regularly
 - Legal framework for establishing, maintaining and exploiting MUST ensure SPR is solely used for statistical purposes
 - Usually generated by NSO from the administrative population register but in the lack of a centralized population register, it can be constructed by integrating several population registers

Distinction of “Population Register” and “Statistical Population Register (SPR)”

Population Register

- Main purpose is keeping track of individuals for government administrative purposes
- May be called administrative population register
- Developed and maintained by some relevant authority; in this case, the statistical view should be taken into account when authority proceeds to make changes in the administrative register

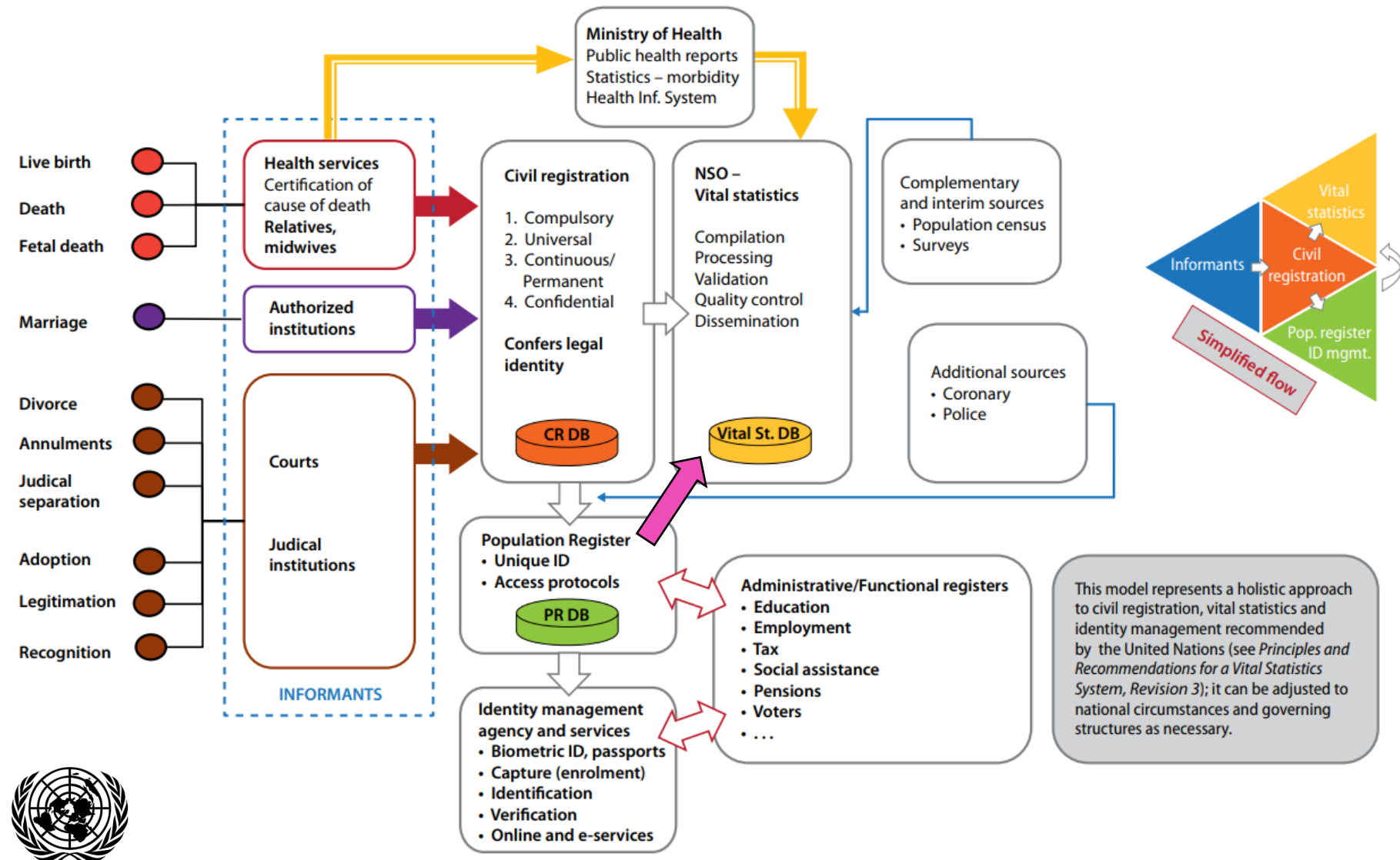
Statistical Population Register (SPR)

- Purpose is to provide statistical information on the population
- May be derived from the administrative register
- Mainly developed and maintained by the NSO

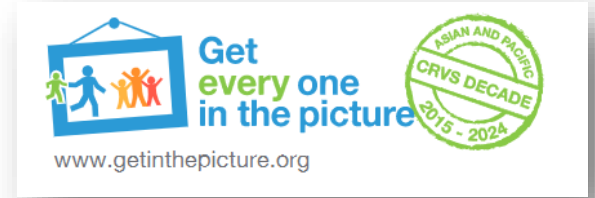
Relation of CRVS and population register

- While a civil register on its own is not a population register, it is a fundamental requirement for a functioning population register.
- Information submitted through civil registration is crucial for keeping the population register up to date.
- At a minimum, every birth and death must be registered, and the records be reflected in the population register.
- Completeness of registration is key.

Civil registration, vital statistics and identity management systems



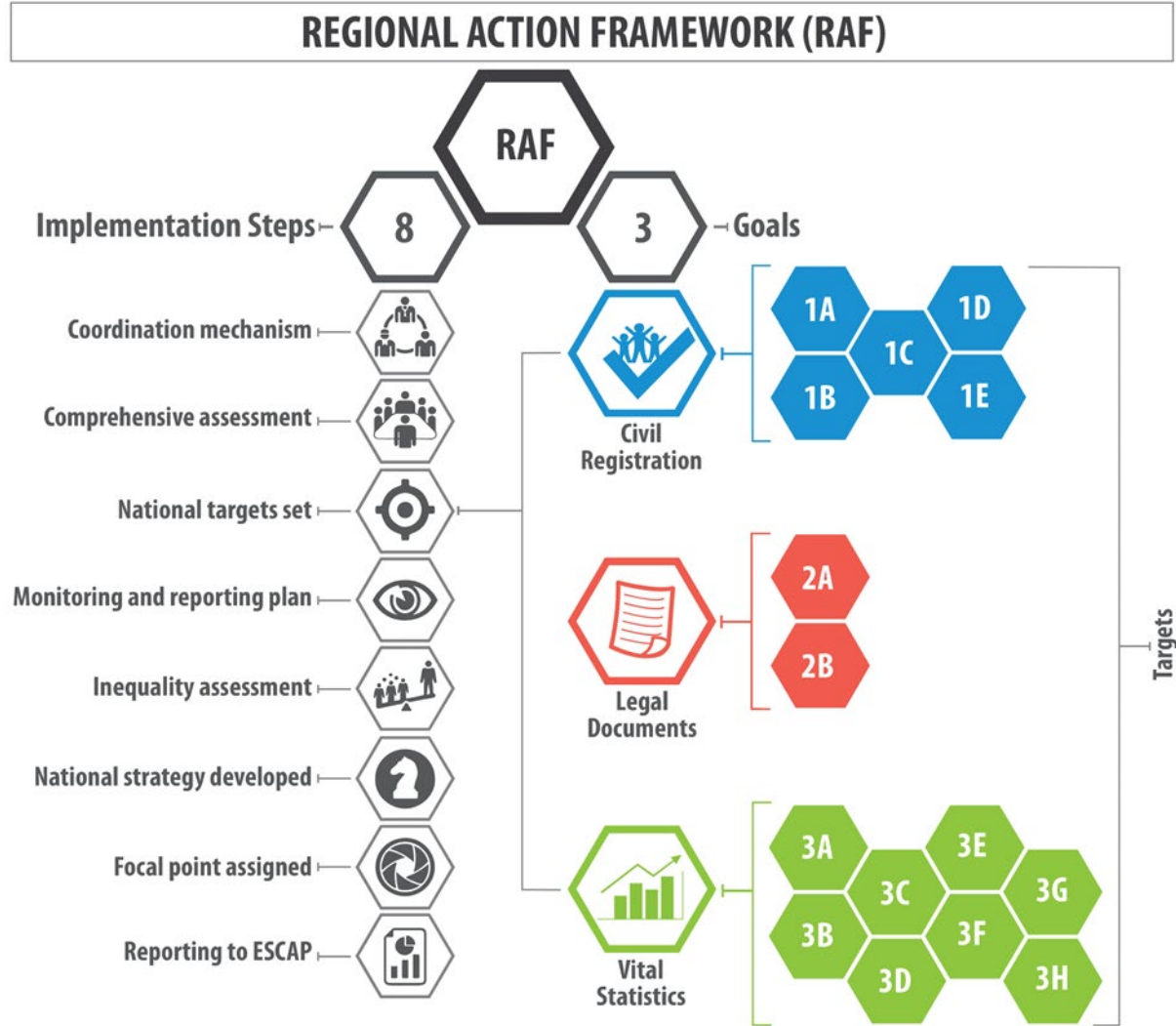
Get everyone in the picture: Initiative to improve CRVS systems in the region



- **Shared vision:** *“By 2024, all people in Asia and the Pacific will benefit from universal and responsive CRVS systems that facilitate the realization of their rights and support good governance, health and development.”*
- **Ministerial declaration 2021:** Building a More Resilient Future with Inclusive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics.
- **The Regional Action Framework on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific** facilitates collaborative action at the local, provincial, national and international levels by enabling multiple stakeholders to align and prioritize their efforts under agreed upon goals and targets.

The Regional Action Framework on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific

- **Goal 1:** Universal registration of births, deaths & other vital events
- **Goal 2:** 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
- **Goal 3:** Accurate, complete and timely vital statistics (including on causes of death) are produced based on registration records and are disseminated



Business Process Improvement

- Establish a detailed understanding of how the current CRVS system and its business processes perform.
- Identify any gaps between the current performance of the system and the desired performance targets.
- Develop redesign ideas to improve the CRVS system based on the identified performance issue.

Requires a core team of CRVS stakeholders from relevant ministries/departments/agencies/NSO

Niue, Samoa, Turkmenistan, Vanuatu

Inequality assessments


- Provide technical support and capacity strengthening to facilitate the implementation of CRVS inequality assessments using secondary data sources.
- Refine further guidance which can be used in other countries in the region and globally.
- Build capacity for demographic analysis to allow countries to undertake inequality assessments in the future.

Bangladesh, Fiji, Lao PDR, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa

Who might be left out:
Factors affecting civil registration
such as gender, education level, place of birth (hospital, community), income, ethnicity, religion, geographic location, etc.

Hard-to-reach and marginalized groups
such as people living in rural, remote, isolated or border areas, minorities, indigenous people, migrants, non-citizens, asylum seekers, refugees, stateless people, people without documentation, people with disabilities, etc.

ESCAP relevant resources




Get every one in the picture

www.getinthepicture.org



Stats Café sessions



Asia-Pacific Stats Café Series: Producing Population Statistics from Population Registers

27 October 2020 | Virtual meeting, Bangkok, Thailand

Asia-Pacific Stats Café Series: Harnessing Civil Registration Records for Vital Statistics

24 May 2021 | Open meeting

Virtual meeting, Bangkok, Thailand

ADD TO CALENDAR | DOWNLOAD ICS

HARNESSING CIVIL REGISTRATION RECORDS FOR VITAL STATISTICS

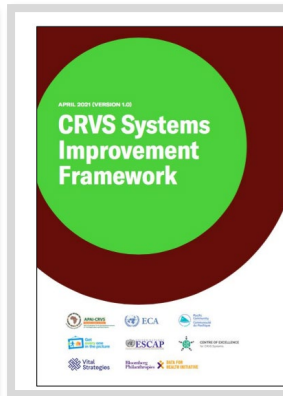
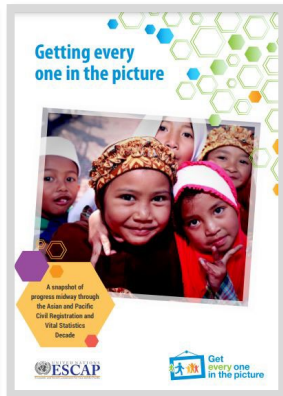
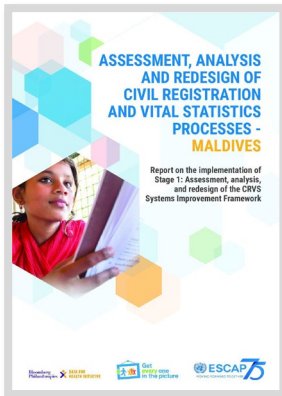
24 May 2021, 10:00-14:00 (GMT+7)

The Asia-Pacific Stats Café on "Harnessing Civil Registration Records for Vital Statistics" was held on Monday, 24 May 2021 from 13:00-14:00 hours (GMT +7).

- Attendance summary
- Event



Knowledge products →



Takeaways

- Main purpose of the population register is to keep track of individuals for government administrative purposes, while SPR is primarily built to provide statistical information.
- A population register may serve as the basis for building an SPR.
- A civil registration on its own is not a population register, but it is crucial for keeping the population register up to date. Completeness of registration is important.
- There is a strong commitment by countries in Asia and the Pacific to improve CRVS systems (see [Get everyone in the picture](#) ” and [Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics](#)).
- There are several initiatives, knowledge products, and technical support available to assist countries in this area.

