

SIDE EVENT

Building a More Resilient Future with Inclusive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics -strengthening linkages with the Health Sector

Focal point for the side event

Dr. Muhammad Asif

Chief Health

National CRVS Focal Person (Pakistan)

Email: drmasif@msn.com Phone: +923215353304



Lead Organizer:

Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Pakistan

UNESCAP

Seventy eighth

Session

Co-organizers/partners

Embassy of Pakistan in Bangkok, ESCAP (Statistics Division), UNICEF, UNFPA REGISTER

AND JOIN THE MEETING

Click HERE

Click HERE

Meeting Platform: MS Team

Date and Time

Date: 23-05-22 | 13:30 – 14:30 (Bangkok Time)

Format of the side event:

Hybrid (in-person and virtual)

Speakers:

Dr. Muhammad Asif

Chief Health / National CRVS Focal Person, Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Pakistan

Mr. Osama Bilal

Director CRMS, National Database and Registration Authority Pakistan

Mr. Martin W. Bratschi

Technical Director, CRVS Public Health Programs, Vital Strategies

Mr. Mugaddar Shah

Programme Analyst, UNFPA, Pakistan Office

Ms. Tanja Sejersen

Statistician, UNESCAP

Representatives from Viet Nam and Cambodia (T.B.C)

VIDEO MESSAGES

Department of State USA UNICEF Pakistan



Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

SIDE EVENT

Building a More Resilient Future with Inclusive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics -strengthening linkages with the Health Sector

The Planning Commission is the apex body charged with leading and revamping the inter-institutional collaboration and systems to improve CRVS in Pakistan. In this context of adjusting to new realities and challenges in participatory and collaborative paradigm, the National Planning Commission has been designated the role of facilitator, stewardship, as well as an integrator to promote and coordinate policy formulation, reform and innovation in partnership with relevant ministries, divisions, departments and other organizations.

The reform mechanism for CRVS envisages mainstreaming of the health sector in civil registration of births, deaths and cause of deaths. It will be achieved conforming to existing law, rules and regulations and remaining within the mandates already defined and in vogue. The role of union councils/corresponding units under local government setups will be strengthened for civil registration of marriages, divorces, separation, and adoption, and this will be adequately topped up with necessary human and material resources.

Data and flow of information will be linked and streamlined at three tiers of governance— district (district administration), province (local government department), and national (Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives). There will be a parallel flow of data to the corresponding tiers of NADRA and bureau of statistics under provincial/area planning and development departments and Pakistan Bureau of Statistics under Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives.

Health departments (district health system, including outreach workers, provincial and area health departments and Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination) will maintain their databases of vital events (births, deaths, and cause of deaths) notification data. Notifications of such vital events will be complemented by other sectors like education.

Universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems have a critical role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Civil registration systems and identity management is important to

build resilience and facilitate access to essential services in Response to and recovery from disasters, the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises and in this regard. Increased engagement of the health sector in registration processes has an important role to play in ensuring more births and deaths are registered.

Increased awareness of governments in Asia and the Pacific of the merits of closer collaboration between the health sector and CRVS and showcasing the progress in this area from Pakistan.

To address the problem of low civil registration rates and poor quality reporting of causes of death, over the last several decades many countries have engaged the health sector to play a more proactive role in civil registration.

Many countries now require the health sector to declare or notify vital events directly to the registrar or require the health sector to facilitate the submission of the declaration from the family to the civil registrar. This shifting of some or all of the reporting responsibility away from the individual and onto the health sector recognizes that civil registration is a fundamental human right and the data produced is a public good and, therefore, governments have a compulsory duty to actively ensure the registration of all vital events in their territory. Pakistan has pioneered this paradigm shift by making the state (Health Sector) responsible for real-time online notification of births and deaths and their registration as a matter of system passively.

