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**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**  
Committee on Statistics

**Seventh session**

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Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda\*

**Soliciting whole-of-government support for official statistics in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: monitoring progress in response to the Get Every One in the Picture initiative on civil registration and vital statistics**

**Report on progress towards the achievement of the goals of the Asia and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (2015–2024)\*\***

*Summary*

The present report presents preliminary results of the midterm review of the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, endorsed at the first Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific in 2014. The Regional Action Framework serves as a catalyst for Governments and development partners to focus and accelerate their efforts during the Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015–2024.

The report provides an overview of progress against the 3 goals, 15 targets and 8 implementation steps of the Regional Action Framework. It highlights areas of success during the first half of the Decade and looks at areas requiring sustained efforts to achieve the shared vision of all people in Asia and the Pacific benefiting from universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems by 2024, facilitating the realization of their rights and supporting good governance, health and development.

The report will be followed by a more detailed analysis of the midterm review, to be released during the fourth quarter of 2020 and used as a basis for discussion at the Second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific in 2021.

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\* ESCAP/CST/2020/L.1.

\*\* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

## I. Background

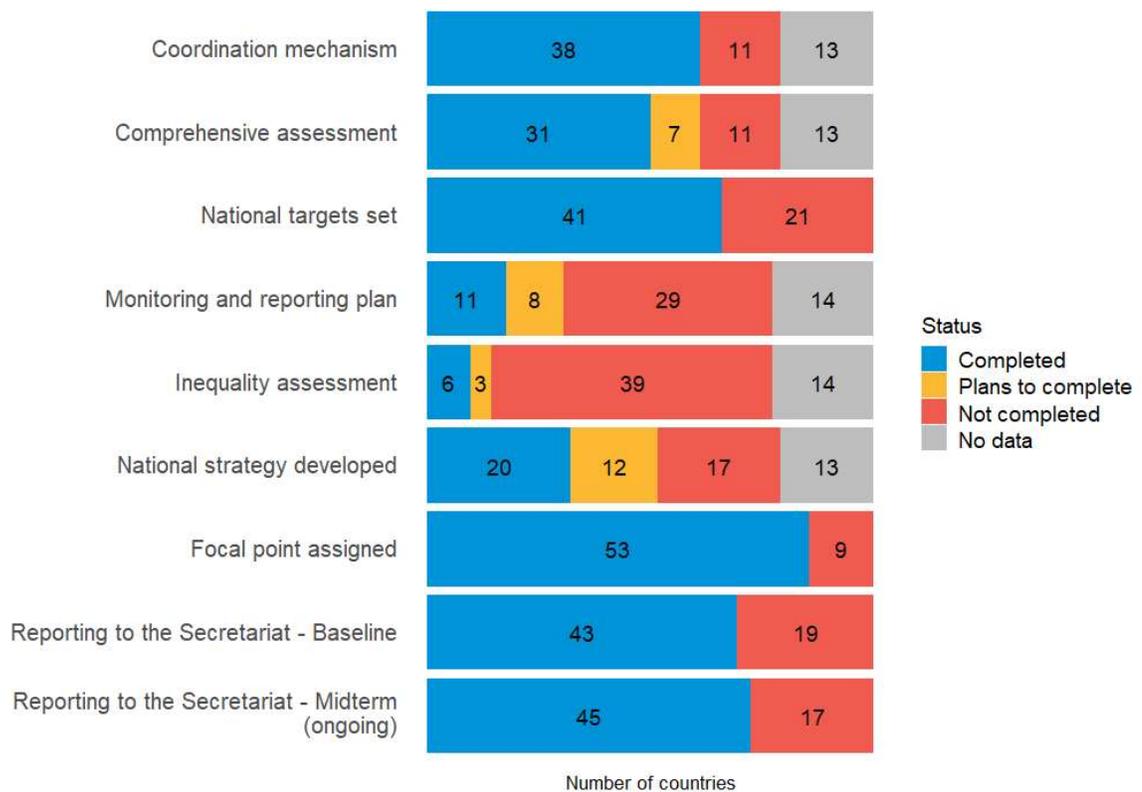
1. The Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015-2024, was proclaimed in 2014 at the first Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific. Through the declaration of the Decade, governments marked 2015-2024 as a timeframe for realizing their shared vision that all people in Asia and the Pacific will benefit from universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems facilitating the realization of their rights and supporting good governance, health and development.
2. During the Ministerial Conference, governments also committed to focusing their efforts on improving national civil registration and vital statistics systems by endorsing the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific. The Regional Action Framework facilitates collaborative action at local, provincial, national and international levels by enabling stakeholders to align and prioritize efforts, as well as by monitoring progress toward achieving the shared vision. The Regional Action Framework contains three goals, 15 nationally-set targets and eight implementation steps for countries to follow while improving their civil registration and vital statistics systems.
3. Acting on their commitments made at the Ministerial Conference in 2014, governments started implementing the Regional Action Framework. One of the first steps was for member States and associate members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) to set their own targets for 2024 and report them to ESCAP, which 45 of them did.
4. Most member States and associate members of ESCAP established ambitious targets for improvements throughout the Decade. By themselves or with support from development partners and donors, they have since then worked towards strengthening different aspects of their civil registration and vital statistics systems, from improving birth registration processes to ensuring causes of death are assigned in compliance with international guidelines and standards.
5. Asia and the Pacific has reached the midpoint of the Decade, and as agreed in the Regional Action Framework, this is the moment to look at the progress made since the beginning of the Decade and identify remaining challenges to overcome to achieve the shared vision of universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems. For this purpose, a questionnaire was prepared by the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific and sent to all member States and associate members. As of early July 2020, 45 of them responded to the midterm questionnaire. In their responses, they described their progress towards the targets of the Regional Action Framework and the implementation steps they conducted. The self-reported responses were then reviewed by the secretariat and other development partners and cross-validated with other sources of information. Additional exchanges between the secretariat and the countries took place before the finalization of the responses.
6. Responses to the midterm questionnaire were used to develop the present interim report. This report provides an overview of the current state of civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific and an initial analysis of progress made in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework. Additional member States and associate members can still

respond to the midterm questionnaire to ensure their information is included in the final report. Midterm questionnaires will also be welcome after the launch of the final report to facilitate evaluation of progress.

## II. Collaborate, assess, organize and monitor

7. The ambitious shared vision that, by 2024, all people in Asia and the Pacific will benefit from universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems that facilitate the realization of their rights and support good governance, health and development can only be realized through a coordinated and multisectoral effort at local, national and regional levels. The achievement of this vision requires proactive measures. The Regional Action Framework therefore requires member States and associate members to undertake a set of eight implementation steps to facilitate its application (see Figure I).

Figure I  
Status of implementation steps



8. These implementation steps follow a logical sequence for countries to identify areas where improvement is needed, set their objectives, monitor progress and report to the secretariat. However, these implementation steps are not only relevant to the implementation of the Regional Action Framework, but more generally paramount to the organization of civil registration and vital statistics systems in countries. They support the coordination, assessment, organization and monitoring of civil registration and vital statistics systems. They also aim to ensure inclusive and sustainable processes and outcomes.

## Coordination

### *National coordination mechanism*

9. Civil registration and vital statistics is a cross-cutting issue by nature, involving a wide variety of ministries and agencies at the national, provincial, and municipal levels. This diversity of institutions requires a clear division of responsibilities and effective coordination to ensure a cohesive system. The establishment of a national coordination mechanism will help share information more effectively and facilitate the implementation of improvement activities benefiting the entire system. It is essential for a successful national assessment and the subsequent development of a national comprehensive multisectoral strategy. It is therefore often the priority of countries trying to improve their system.<sup>1</sup> Moreover some countries with well-functioning systems, still have working groups to ensure ongoing discussion on data discrepancies, changing policies etc. This can be part of on-going quality control.

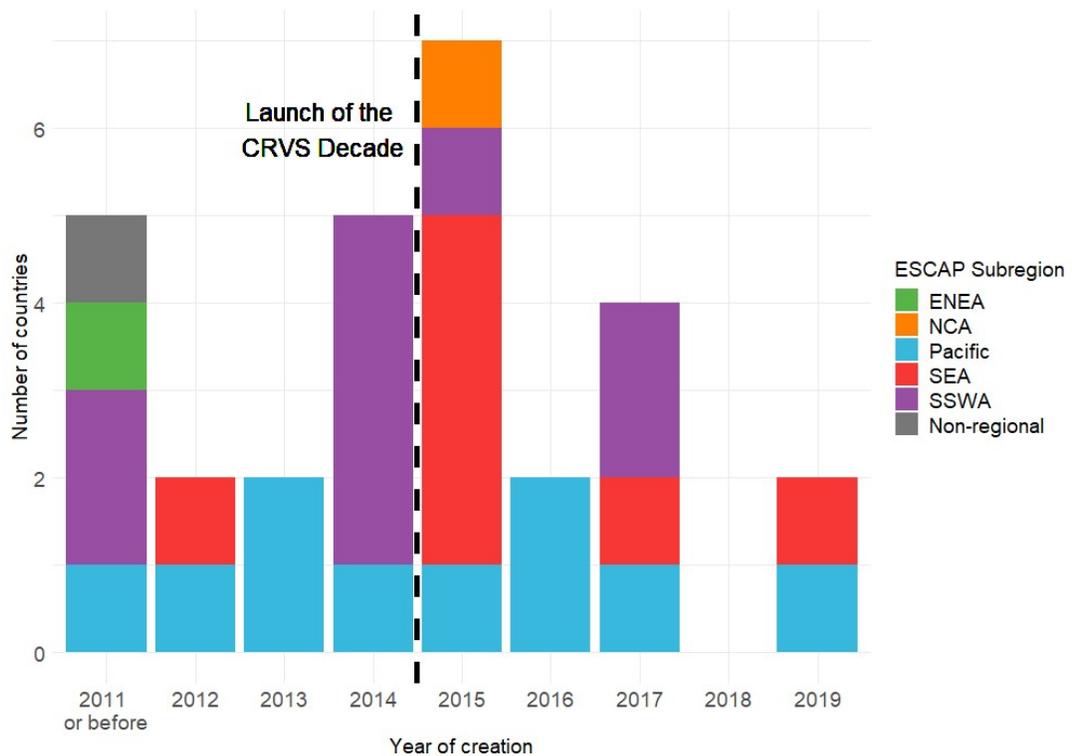
10. The existence of a national coordination mechanism to coordinate the entire system facilitates the provision of technical assistance by national stakeholders or development partners. It can guide them towards areas needing the most support following the existing national multisectoral strategy and secure the participation of all relevant stakeholders while ensuring activities do not overlap.

11. Thirty-eight countries in the region reported having established a national coordination mechanism, showing its importance for the functioning of civil registration and vital statistics systems. More importantly, 15 countries have established a coordination mechanism since the beginning of the Decade, and as recently as 2019 for Indonesia and Nauru. However, the Decade is the culmination of an earlier impetus for improving civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific which started with the organization of the High-Level Meeting co-organized by ESCAP and the World Health Organization in 2012. At that point, the support of development partners was focused on the establishment of coordination mechanisms and comprehensive assessments. As a result, at least nine countries established their coordination mechanism between 2012 and 2014. The improvement of national coordination is therefore one of the main successes of the regional initiative.

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<sup>1</sup> Please consult the information note on national multi-sectoral civil registration and vital statistics coordination mechanisms for more information:  
<https://getinthepicture.org/resource/information-note-national-multi-sectoral-crvs-coordination-mechanisms>

Figure II  
**Establishment of national coordination mechanisms<sup>2,3</sup>**



12. Nonetheless, civil registration and vital statistics systems can function without such a mechanism. Some countries, mostly in East and North-East Asia and North and Central Asia, explained that their systems are well-functioning and there is therefore no need to establish a coordination mechanism. These countries are close to universal civil registration of vital events and are already using registration records for vital statistics.

13. There are usually three main stakeholders involved in civil registration and vital statistics, namely the Civil Registration Office or the Ministry under which it is operating, the Ministry of Health and the National Statistical Office. This is reflected in the membership of national coordination mechanisms, which usually includes these three stakeholders. However, depending on the country and the roles of its different agencies, the membership is extended to the Ministry of Planning or Cabinet Secretariat, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Education and other governmental or international agencies. Due to their central role in civil registration and vital statistics systems, Civil Registration Offices or the Ministries under which they are operating chair or co-chair most national coordination mechanisms. Notable exceptions are Bangladesh (Cabinet Secretariat); Bhutan (Ministry of Health); Hong Kong, China (Census and

<sup>2</sup> By subregion: East and North East Asia (ENEA), North and Central Asia (NCA), the Pacific, South-East Asia (SEA) and South and South-West Asia (SSWA). For more information on the subregional groupings, please consult the Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2020, Annex 4: [www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/publications/ESCAP\\_Asia\\_and\\_the\\_Pacific\\_SDG\\_Progress\\_Report\\_2020.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/publications/ESCAP_Asia_and_the_Pacific_SDG_Progress_Report_2020.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Nine more countries have reported the establishment of a coordination mechanism, but with no establishment date. They are not represented on this graph.

Statistics Department); Indonesia (Ministry of National Development Planning); Pakistan (Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives) and Turkey (Turkish Statistical Institute).

#### *National Civil Registration and Vital Statistics focal point*

14. The Regional Action Framework bolsters coordination beyond the national level. The nomination of a national civil registration and vital statistics focal point creates a link between national civil registration and vital statistics systems and development partners, facilitating the coordination and reporting at regional level.

15. Fifty-three countries have nominated a national focal point (see Annex I). They usually work in civil registration or statistics. Furthermore, except for Bangladesh, Cambodia and the United States of America, all national focal points are members of the national coordination mechanism, if one exists. National focal points have been key for development partners to engage in countries and they benefited from multiple activities to support their work, such as selected training activities and a series of workshops to complete the midterm questionnaire.

### **Assessment**

#### *Comprehensive assessment*

16. Due to the complexity of civil registration and vital statistics systems and their large number of stakeholders, obtaining a clear and comprehensive understanding of the situation and gaps to be addressed is imperative for the development of a strategy to improve the overall system. A standards-based comprehensive assessment enables the identification of these gaps and issues. It usually covers the legal framework of the system, the completeness and coverage of civil registration, the registration practices, the causes of death coding practices and the quality of data produced. It is therefore a crucial step in the development of a strategy and should involve all relevant stakeholders through the national coordination mechanism. All except eight countries in Asia and the Pacific reported having used their coordination mechanisms for conducting the comprehensive assessment.

17. As shown in Annex I, 31 countries reported having conducted at least one comprehensive assessment, while 18 confirmed not having conducted any. Although most countries completed this implementation step before the Decade, nine did so since 2015. Seven more countries plan to do one before the end of the Decade. In addition, other countries plan to conduct a second assessment in the coming years, which only Fiji has done so far. Many of the countries which have not conducted any comprehensive assessment already have high civil registration completeness and use registration records for vital statistics. Development partners have actively assisted in the completion of comprehensive assessments, supporting 28 of them.

#### *Inequality assessment*

18. While the region is seeing a rising number of births and deaths registered year after year, as shown in the next section of the report, most countries have yet to reach universal civil registration. One obstacle is the lack of information about the experience of the most marginalized and hard to reach members of society vis-à-vis civil registration and vital statistics. Assessing inequalities related to civil registration and vital statistics experienced by subgroups of the population, including among people living in rural, remote,

isolated or border areas, minorities, indigenous people, migrants, non-citizens, asylum-seekers, refugees, stateless people, and people without documentation, is therefore a key step to understand barriers to registration and develop a plan to overcome them.

19. Several countries are targeting specific subgroups of populations either as part of their comprehensive strategies or with a specific strategy. For example, Kiribati is conducting a mobile birth registration campaign targeting outer islands as well as improving the technical infrastructure and training the civil servants responsible for civil registration. Indonesia has set a specific target for birth certificate ownership of children from the poorest 40 per cent of households. It has also approved a regulation that stipulates special procedures to assist subgroups of population experiencing difficulties in accessing identity cards and civil registration documents, which includes populations affected by social conflict and natural hazards, populations living in remote areas or along international borders, and abandoned children. Australia has an active data improvement strategy for the registration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, focusing on the consistency and quality of indigenous identification across jurisdictions and the sharing of strategies relating to remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community engagement. To overcome significant gaps in civil registration completeness of various subgroups of its population, Thailand reformed its Civil Registration Act in 2008 to ensure non-discriminatory access to birth registration of all children born in Thailand, regardless of the nationality or legal status of their parents.

20. Nonetheless there is still a lack of information on inequalities experienced by subgroups of populations in the region. Few countries have conducted an inequality assessment, despite being an essential step in the implementation of the Regional Action Framework. Moreover, as shown in the following section, many countries are close to – but not fully achieving – universal civil registration. Through an inequality assessment, these countries would be able to ensure they are truly getting every one in the picture and achieve universal civil registration.

## **Organization**

### *Comprehensive multisectoral national strategy*

21. Civil registration and vital statistics systems involve multiple stakeholders with sometimes different objectives. A comprehensive multisectoral national civil registration and vital statistics strategy with an articulated plan of work with clear delineation of responsibilities and backed by a detailed budget with adequate resources is paramount to address the gaps identified by the comprehensive assessment. Through a common strategy, improvements to the civil registration and vital statistics system are done collaboratively, ultimately benefiting all stakeholders.<sup>4</sup>

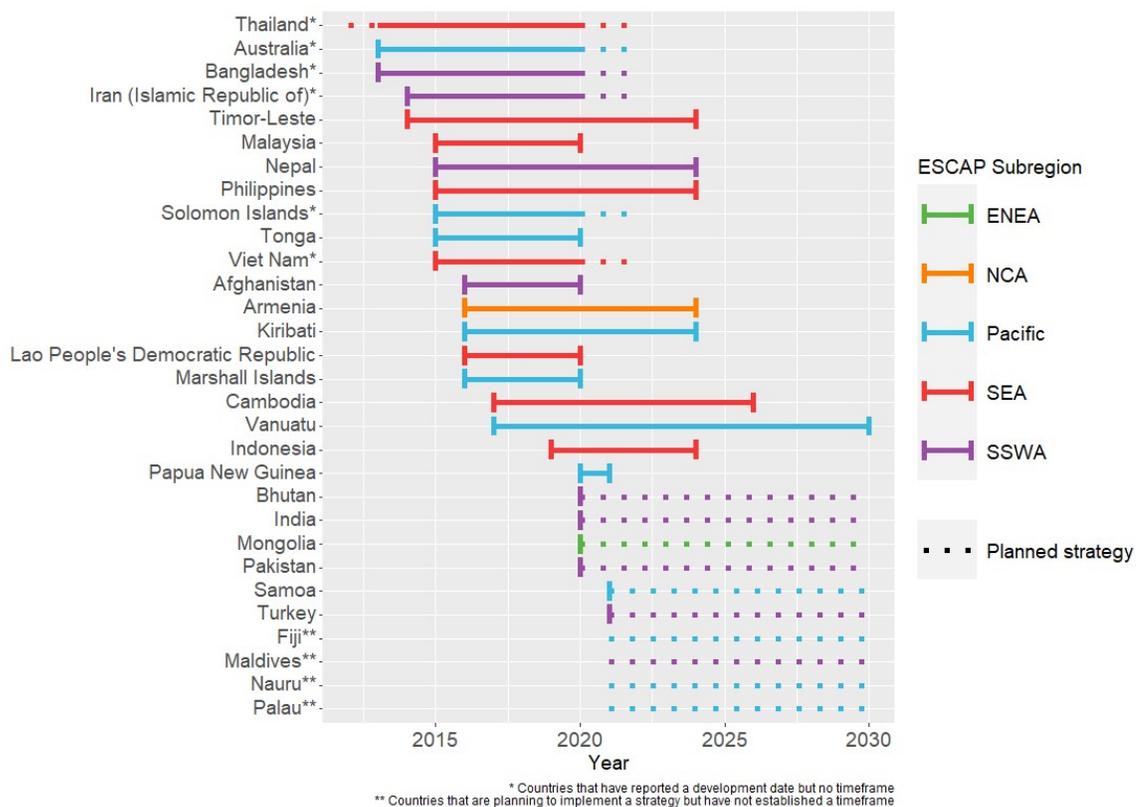
22. A key principle of the Regional Action Framework is that countries should take the lead, including in developing and implementing a comprehensive multisectoral national strategy. Nevertheless, a strategy allows development partners to identify support activities relevant to the country. A

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<sup>4</sup> Please consult the information note on comprehensive multisectoral national civil registration and vital statistics strategy for more information:  
<https://getinthepicture.org/resource/information-note-comprehensive-multi-sectoral-national-crvs-strategies>

strategy also needs to reflect the principle of a stepwise approach, focusing on feasible and sustainable improvements.

Figure III  
**Timeframe of comprehensive multisectoral national strategies<sup>5</sup>**



23. Asia and the Pacific has seen a spike in the development of multisectoral strategies, with 19 countries reporting having developed one since 2013, including 15 since the beginning of the Decade (see Figure III). The duration of these strategies varies from one country to another, with six aligned with the Decade, finishing in 2024.

24. The Civil Registration Offices or the Ministries under which they operate, took the leadership for coordinating and overseeing the implementation of the strategy in most countries. This responsibility is often aligned with chairing the coordination mechanism. In 17 countries, the other stakeholders were involved in the development of the strategy through the national coordination mechanism.

25. There are no standard templates for these strategies, although the action areas of the Regional Action Framework provide a basis for governments to focus and organize efforts towards developing and implementing comprehensive multisectoral national strategies. Nevertheless, they all cover similar areas of interventions, such as improving operational procedures and practices of civil registration offices, strengthening the knowledge or number of staff and raising awareness of the importance of civil registration. Most also allocate adequate government funding for the maintenance of civil registration

<sup>5</sup> Countries having reported a plan to develop a strategy at the beginning of the Decade and that have not answered the midterm questionnaire were not included in this graph, considering the uncertainty of the timeline.

and vital statistics systems. In the spirit of the Regional Action Framework, 16 of these strategies include specific and measurable targets for the civil registration and vital statistics systems, 12 of which, such as Cambodia and Papua New Guinea, use targets of the Regional Action Framework.

26. Development partners have also played a key role in assisting countries with designing the strategies, supporting 15 countries. With 12 additional countries planning to develop a comprehensive multisectoral strategy before the end of the Decade as well as six countries with strategies terminating before the end of the Decade (see Figure III), the collaboration between governments and development partners on the development of comprehensive multisectoral strategies will need to continue in the second half of the Decade.

#### *National target values for 2024*

27. Associated with each of the three goals of the Decade, is a series of specific targets that countries are expected to set and achieve by 2024. The targets are designed to enable monitoring and evaluation in ways that are objective, efficient, technically sound and time bound during the Decade. National targets should depend on the national situation, ambition and capacity, as well as the resources dedicated to improving civil registration and vital statistics systems. Ideally, they should reflect the consensus in the country with regards to its objectives for 2024 and be approved by all national stakeholders. National coordination mechanisms have therefore an important role to play in setting the targets.

28. Forty countries set their targets at the beginning of the Decade and reported them to the secretariat with their baseline report. However, due to the lack of data and the difficulties to measure some of the targets, a few countries set their targets without providing a baseline. The relevance of the targets depends on the national situation, thus 25 countries set a national value for some targets only.

29. As part of the midterm report, countries were asked to monitor progress towards their targets and invited to adapt them in response to the reported information. However, Northern Mariana Islands is the only country that had not set a target at the beginning of the Decade and has done so since then, reflecting the complexity of the process and the need for strong political momentum.

## **Monitoring**

### *Plan for monitoring and reporting on achievement of the targets*

30. Achieving a well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics system requires ongoing monitoring of the system. This information is needed for national leaders and those responsible for improving civil registration and vital statistics systems to monitor progress and inform decisions. Eleven countries reported having such monitoring and reporting plans, while eight are considering developing one.

### *Reporting progress to ESCAP secretariat or subregional body*

31. To monitor the implementation of the Regional Action Framework, ESCAP member States and associate members, have agreed to provide reports on progress towards achieving each of the 15 targets at the beginning, midpoint, and end of the Decade. In addition to informing on national progress,

these reports enhanced knowledge-sharing, regional cooperation and learning, and the identification of opportunities for collaboration.

32. As of early July 2020, 45 countries responded to the midterm questionnaire on the implementation of the Regional Action Framework which serves as the template for the midterm report. The response rate is particularly high in South and South-West Asia, where all ten countries responded to the midterm questionnaire, showing the importance given to the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics systems in the subregion. Countries can still submit their midterm report so that their information is included in final regional progress report, to be launched in the fourth quarter of 2020.

### III. Universal civil registration (Goal 1)

33. Goal 1 of the Regional Action Framework includes five targets on universal civil registration of births and deaths and the recording of causes of death, highlighting the necessity of registering all vital events occurring in the territory and jurisdiction of the country or area, including among hard-to-reach and marginalized populations.

**Target 1A:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of births in the territory and jurisdiction in the given year are registered.

**Target 1B:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of children under five years old in the territory and jurisdiction have had their birth registered.

**Target 1C:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all individuals in the territory and jurisdiction have had their birth registered.

**Target 1D:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all deaths that take place in the territory and jurisdiction in the given year are registered.

**Target 1E:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all deaths recorded by the health sector in the territory and jurisdiction in the given year have a medically certified cause of death recorded using the international form of the death certificate.

34. Universal civil registration is part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions includes target 16.9 on the provision of a legal identity for all, including birth registration. This reflects the importance of civil registration for legal identity, and ultimately the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all level. The proof of legal identity provided by the birth registration and the subsequent issuance of an official birth certificate allow individuals to access services and exercise their rights. Similarly, death registration is a key part of legal identity and necessary to retire it. Sustainable Development Goal indicator 17.19.2 includes a provision to achieve 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration by 2030. It highlights the importance of registration and the use of the data as an indicator of statistical capacity and for measuring progress on sustainable development. Through their progress towards Goal 1 of the Regional Action Framework countries are thus also contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

35. Death registration is also fundamental in measuring and mitigating critical health challenges, as shown by its importance in calculating excess mortality to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, every death should

be accompanied by a medically certified cause of death. This information is paramount to produce statistics on mortality and cause of death. It is also valuable for the family of the deceased and can inform them on potential hereditary health conditions.

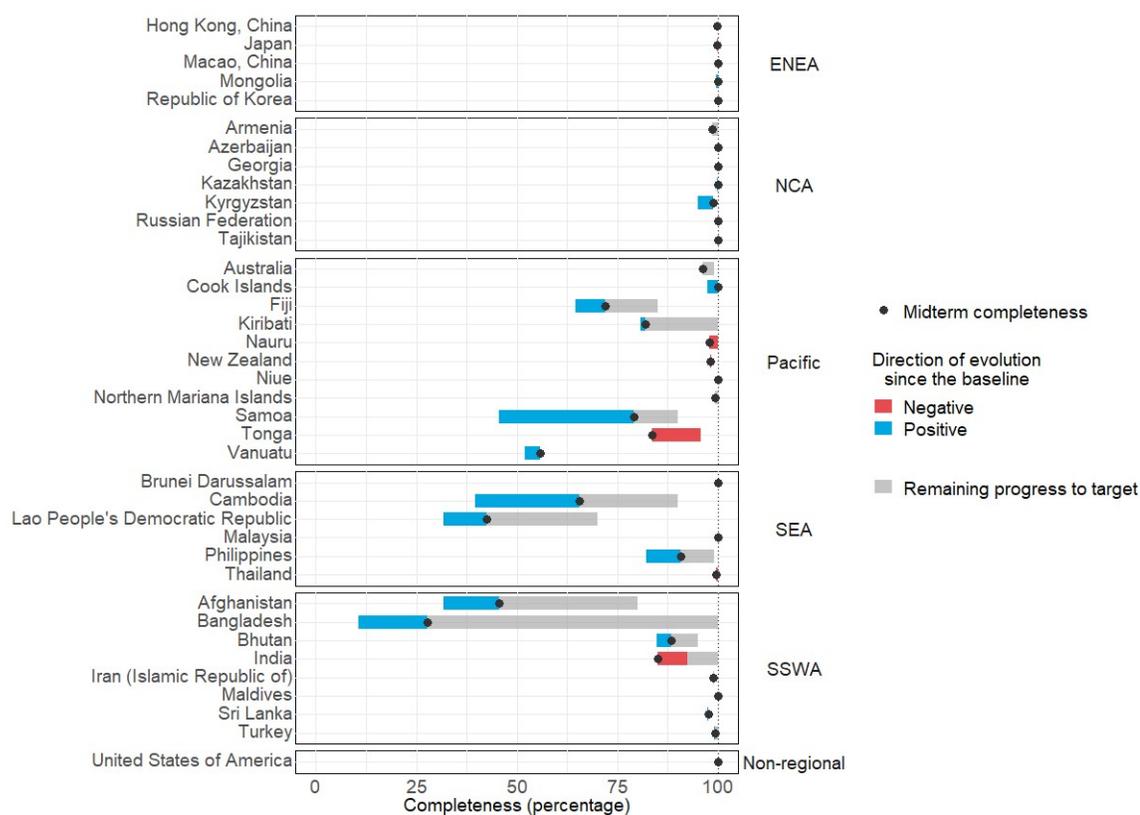
### **Birth registration**

#### **1A. Birth registration within a year**

36. Target 1A stresses the need for registering births soon after their occurrence to ensure access to services and facilitate the exercise of rights. It also reduces the risk of misreporting and allows for timely vital statistics on births and infant mortality. Hence, 43 countries in the region reported having a legally specified time period during which registration is free to encourage early registration of births. For most of them, this period is between two weeks to three months from the date of birth, to give parents time to gather the required documents. After this time period, many countries ask for additional documents or a late registration fee.

37. Target 1A is measured by comparing births which occurred during a certain year and were registered within one year of occurrence to the estimated number of births during the same year. Usually, the best source for the estimated number of births is the most recent population census or the population projections based on that census. A word of caution should nevertheless be mentioned about this method. Although it is a good and simple estimate of completeness of civil registration, it depends enormously on the quality of the estimated number of births. With the rapid changes in fertility experienced by some countries in the region, estimating the number of births based on previous trends in fertility, might not accurately reflect the reality, impacting the calculation of the completeness rate. The completeness figures provided here should therefore be taken as a general indicator of the situation rather than a precise representation of reality.

Figure IV  
**Birth registration completeness: progress towards target 1A**



38. The situation at the beginning of the Decade varied greatly from one subregion to the other. While countries from East and North-East Asia and North and Central Asia had already high birth registration completeness, many countries from the other subregions were lagging behind. Nevertheless, these countries set ambitious targets for 2024, requiring them to make fast progress.

39. Most countries have progressed towards their target and universal registration of births. While there remain large differences in the region, the gap between countries is closing. Indeed, countries which had low birth registration completeness have made impressive progress since the beginning of the Decade. Countries such as Cambodia or Samoa, which, in 2014, registered less than half of their births within one year, have managed to drastically increase their birth registration completeness.

40. Many countries were already close to universal registration at the beginning of the Decade and display no major changes. This measure has uncertainty, however, and there can nonetheless remain gaps, especially in more hard-to-reach or marginalized population groups. As shown for target 1B on birth registration of children under five years old, some of these countries seem to register slightly less than 100 per cent of their births. To ensure genuinely universal registration, countries might want to conduct a more detailed analysis of birth registration with a focus on hard-to-reach and marginalized population. As mentioned before, this implementation step of the Regional Action Framework has indeed been undertaken by only a few countries so far (see Figure I).

## **1B. Birth registration of children under five years old**

41. Various factors such as the lack of parental awareness, difficulties in accessing registration points or overly complex requirements or procedures can prevent the registration of a child soon after the birth. Target 1B on birth registration of children under five years old reflects the importance of alleviating this issue by processing late registration relatively early in the life of a child.

42. Like target 1B, target 16.9 of the Sustainable Development Goals on the provision of legal identity to all is monitored by the percentage of children under age 5 whose births have been registered. It is estimated in most countries using information collected through sample surveys. However, a few countries are using civil registration or population registers to measure it. Target 1B is monitored using the data from the global Sustainable Development Goals database on indicator 16.9.1 when available. Data submitted with the midterm questionnaire was used for countries without any recent data for sustainable development goal indicator 16.9.1.

43. Looking at Annex II, only eight countries seem to have truly achieved registration of all children under five despite the legislation mandating it to be done within a few weeks or months. The survey results, which might date back to a few years before the midterm figures, indicate some births are falling through the cracks of civil registration. The use of a survey to monitor registration gives countries more details to see if they are actually at universal coverage. Indeed, seven countries which reported registering all their births within one year of occurrence still seem to have unregistered children under five years old.

## **1C. Population registered**

44. Target 1C covers the registration rate of the entire population, reflecting the accumulated efforts to register births and the potential backlog of individuals who need to possess legal documentation. Countries have ambitious targets for 2024. 15 countries are aiming to have their entire population registered by 2024, while 17 have targets ranging from 60 per cent to 99.5 per cent.

45. A well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics system is not sufficient to measure target 1C since migration also needs to be considered. Therefore, calculating target 1C requires a country to have a population register including information on birth registration or to conduct a census or survey with a question on birth registration not only for children, but for all members of the household. For this reason, estimating target 1C is extremely challenging. Currently only the Philippines has a census question on birth registration for all household members. According to their 2015 census, 95 per cent of their population had its birth registered. Eleven other countries with population registers or identity management systems<sup>6</sup> linked to their civil registration and vital statistics systems were able to submit figures for this target. With the exception of Papua New Guinea at 15 per cent and Malaysia

<sup>6</sup> While there is no internationally agreed definition of identity management, the term most commonly refers to the issuance of a proof or legal tender of identity to each individual and the maintenance of systems for managing information and documents associated with such identity. Handbook on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics systems: Management, Operation and Maintenance, Revision 1, United Nations, New York, 2018, para. 80, available at: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/Standards-and-Methods/files/Handbooks/crvs/crvs-mgt-E.pdf>

at 93 per cent, all of them reported having more than 99 per cent of their population which had its birth registered (see Annex II).

## **Death registration**

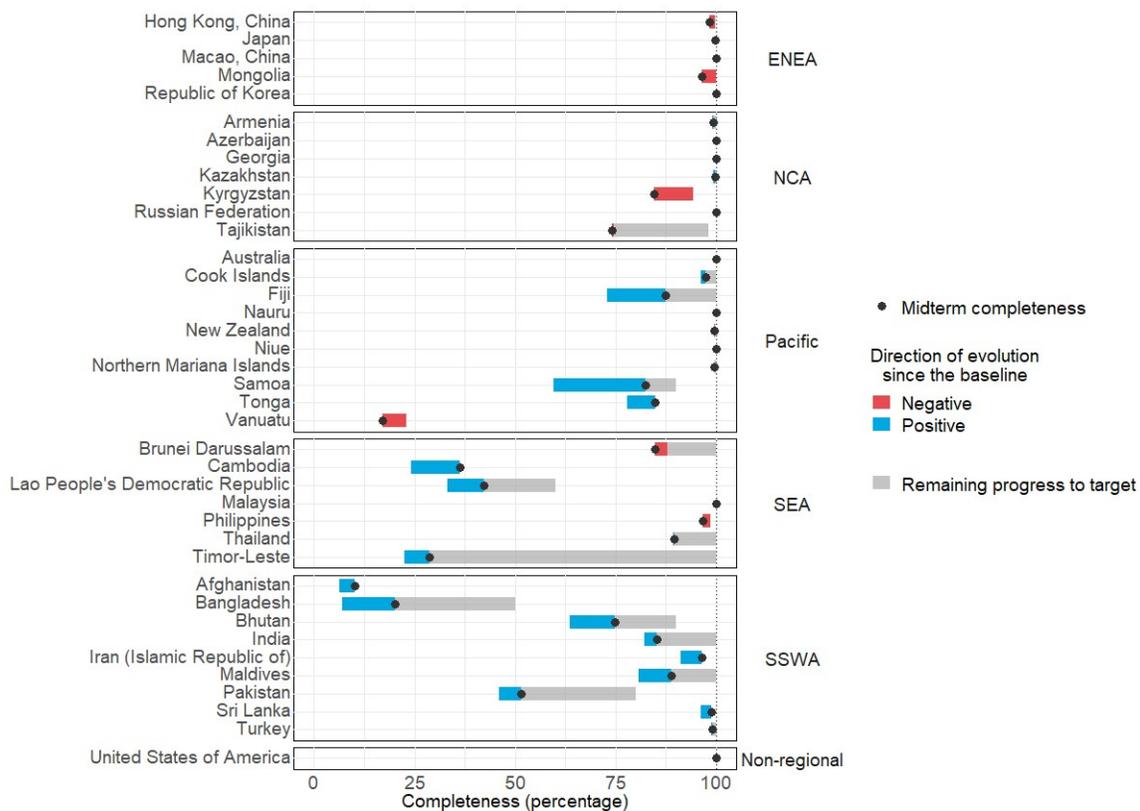
### **1D. Death registration within a year**

46. Timely registration of deaths is necessary for reasons of public health and because the burial or cremation permit should be issued by the civil registrar only after the death has been registered. Similar to the registration of births, 42 countries in the region reported having an initial period during which registration is free. However, the period given for registering deaths is usually much shorter, with 22 having a limit of 7 days or less. For all these countries except the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Pakistan the registration is free within the legally specified time period. After this period, about half of the countries charge a fee for late registration.

47. Target 1D is measured like target 1A on birth registration, by comparing deaths which occurred during a certain year and were registered within one year of occurrence to the estimated number of deaths during the same year. Similar to the completeness rates for birth registration shown for target 1A, the ones provided for target 1D should also be taken as a general indicator of the situation rather than an exact representation of reality.

48. The completeness of death registration in Asia and the Pacific is at a lower level than for birth registration. One of the main reasons explaining it is the limited incentives to register deaths. The gap between best and least performing countries is also larger than for birth registration. 11 countries reported registering all deaths within a year, 3 countries less than for birth registration.

**Figure VI**  
**Death registration completeness: progress towards target 1D**



49. With a few exceptions, most countries progressed towards their target. However, the rate of progress might not be sufficient for countries to reach their target by the end of the Decade. Similar to birth registration, countries which reported death registration completeness close to 100 per cent might want to conduct a more detailed analysis of death registration with a focus on hard-to-reach and marginalized populations to ensure they have truly reached universal death registration.

**Cause of death**

**1E. Deaths recorded by the health sector having a medically certified cause of death recorded using the international form of the death certificate**

50. Assigning causes of death goes beyond the realm of the civil registration authority. It is also the responsibility of the health sector. For this reason, target 1E focuses on the deaths recorded by the health sector rather than the deaths registered by the civil registration authority. Efficient collaboration between the two authorities is crucial to ensure the medically certified cause of death is part of the information recorded by the civil registrar. It requires the medical practitioner attending the death to complete the international form of the medical certificate of cause of death and this information to be sent to the civil registrar, which will ensure the form is combined with other information needed for statistical purposes. The cause of death is then coded to a statistical category according to the World Health Organization International Classification of Diseases. The agency responsible for coding depends on the country.

51. Many deaths in Asia and the Pacific are not necessarily taking place in a health facility or with the attention of a medical practitioner and are not recorded by the health sector. Target 1E represents the proportion of deaths recorded by the health sector, not all deaths, which are accompanied by a medically certified cause of death using the international form of the medical certificate of cause of death. The use of the international form of the medical certificate of cause of death is widespread in the region, with only six countries reporting not using the international form (Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nauru, Northern Mariana Islands, Pakistan and Timor-Leste). Nevertheless, three of these countries still reported data on the number of deaths with medically certified cause of death and they are included in the below analysis.

52. Looking at Annex II, 22 countries reported recording causes of death for all their deaths taking place in health facilities or with the attention of a medical practitioner. Seven of these countries reported recording a cause of death for all deaths. As for the other countries, four have figures between 80 per cent and nearly 100 per cent while nine have figures below 80 per cent. Out of the 31 countries which have a target for 2024, 15 already achieved it. Twelve of them had their target set at 100 per cent, while three had their target set below 100 per cent.

#### **IV. Provision of legal documentation (Goal 2)**

53. Goal 2 of the Regional Action Framework focuses on the provision of legal documentation of civil registration of births, deaths and other vital events for all individuals to claim identity, civil status and ensue rights. It highlights the role of civil registration and vital statistics systems in providing these documents for legal and administrative purposes. Legal documentation should be accessible at no or low fees and delivered soon after the civil registration of a vital event. Legal documentation is strongly linked with a broad range of rights and activities, in particular legal identity.

54. The United Nations operational definition of legal identity describes proof of legal identity “a credential, such as birth certificate, identity card or digital identity credential that is recognized as proof of legal identity under national law and in accordance with emerging international norms and principles”.<sup>7</sup>

55. There are two targets under Goal 2, one for the issuance of birth certificates and the other one for the issuance of death certificates. Both targets are calculated by comparing the number of vital events for which a certificate was issued to the number of vital events registered. In addition, only vital events registered within one year of occurrence are included in these targets. Obtaining 100 per cent for these targets thus does not mean all births or deaths are accompanied with a certificate, but only the ones who were registered within one year.

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<sup>7</sup> For more information on the definition of legal identity by the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda, please consult: <https://unstats.un.org/legal-identity-agenda/>

**Target 2A:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all births registered in the territory and jurisdiction are accompanied with the issuance of an official birth certificate that includes, as a minimum, the individual's name, sex, date and place of birth, and name of parent(s) where known.

**Target 2B:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all deaths registered in the territory and jurisdiction in the given year are accompanied with the issuance of an official death certificate which includes, as a minimum, the deceased's name, date of death, sex, and age.

## **2A. Registered births accompanied with the issuance of a birth certificate**

56. A birth certificate gives access to a range of rights and services. For example, 41 countries in Asia and the Pacific reported using the information from the birth certificate as the primary source for issuing national identification documents, while 37 countries require a birth certificate for enrolling in primary school. Moreover, 23 countries said a birth certificate is required for receiving childbirth allowance. These examples show the importance of a birth certificate for individuals throughout their lifetime. Although requiring birth certificates for the provision of services has a positive effect on registration completeness, it is important to emphasize that access to education and the right to health are human rights, which should not be restricted due to a lack of documentation.

57. Out of the 34 countries with a target for 2024, 23 aim to issue a birth certificate for all registered births. The others have targets ranging from 70 to 99.9 per cent. Nevertheless, most countries reporting data for this target are issuing birth certificates for all registered births.

## **2B. Registered deaths accompanied with the issuance of a birth certificate**

58. A death certificate gives a final and permanent confirmation of the fact of death. It is used as primary evidence by courts in ruling inheritance or other related claims in all countries which reported to the midterm questionnaire. In addition, 23 countries reported requiring a death certificate to issue burial permits and 24 countries said they were providing funeral assistance to at least part of their population after the submission of a death certificate.

59. Thirty-three countries have a target for 2024 on the issuance of certificates for registered deaths. The lowest target is at 50 per cent and 26 are at 100 per cent. Of the 35 countries which reported data, only five are issuing certificates for less than 100 per cent of registered deaths, the lowest one being Northern Mariana Islands at 89 per cent. In total, 21 countries have reached their target while three have not. The remaining nine countries with a target were unable to provide any data.

## **V. Vital statistics based on registration records (Goal 3)**

60. Goal 3 of the Regional Action Framework focuses on the production and dissemination of accurate, complete and timely vital statistics (including on causes of death) based on registration records. It underlines the benefits of linking civil registration to the production and quality assurance of vital statistics. A universal and well-maintained civil registration system is

recognized by the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System<sup>8</sup> as the best source of information on vital events.

61. Using registration records for the production of vital statistics also benefits civil registration. Through the validation and analysis of the data statisticians can provide precious feedback to civil registrars and help them discover system-wide issues to be corrected. In the end, this will not just improve the data, but also the civil registration process and lead to better governance.

62. Statistics disaggregated by causes of death and other demographic characteristics are crucial to design, implement and monitor public health policies as well as detect emerging health crises such as COVID-19. They are highly relevant for monitoring the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with 67 indicators benefiting from civil registration and vital statistics data.<sup>9</sup> For this reason, Goal 3 includes five targets on the production and dissemination of vital statistics from civil registration and three on the coding of causes of death, which is necessary for using the information available on a medical certificate of cause of death for statistics.

**Target 3A:** By .... (year), annual nationally representative statistics on births – disaggregated by age of mother, sex of child, geographic area and administrative subdivision – are produced from registration records or other valid administrative data sources.

**Target 3B:** By ... (year), annual nationally representative statistics on deaths – disaggregated by age, sex, cause of death defined by International Classification of Diseases (latest version as appropriate), geographic area and administrative subdivision – are produced from registration records or other valid administrative data sources.

**Target 3C:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of deaths occurring in health facilities or with the attention of a medical practitioner have an underlying cause of death code derived from the medical certificate according to the standards defined by International Classification of Diseases (latest version as appropriate).

**Target 3D:** By 2024, the proportion of deaths coded to ill-defined codes will have been reduced by ... per cent compared with the baseline year.

**Target 3E:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of deaths taking place outside of a health facility and without the attention of a medical practitioner have their underlying cause of death code determined through verbal autopsy in line with international standards.

**Target 3F:** By .... (year), key summary tabulations of vital statistics on births and deaths, using registration records as the primary source, are made available in the public domain in electronic format annually, and within one calendar year.

<sup>8</sup> United Nations. (2014). *Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System*. Revision 3. Available at: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/standmeth/principles/M19Rev3en.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> Mills, Samuel Lantei; Abouzahr, Carla; Kim, Jane Hak; M. Rassekh, Bahie; Sarpong, Deborah. (2017). *Civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) for monitoring the Sustainable development goals (SDGS)* (English). Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/979321495190619598/Civil-registration-and-vital-statistics-CRVS-for-monitoring-the-Sustainable-development-goals-SDGS>

**Target 3G:** By ... (year), key summary tabulations of vital statistics on causes of death, using registration records as the primary source, are made available in the public domain in electronic format annually, and within two calendar years.

**Target 3H:** By ... (year), an accurate, complete and timely vital statistics report for the previous two years, using registration records as the primary source, is made available in the public domain.

#### *Vital statistics*

63. The Regional Action Framework focuses on statistics on births, deaths and cause of death. These targets highlight the importance of not only producing statistics from civil registration, but also disseminating them. Although not included in the Regional Action Framework, statistics on other vital events are important too.

64. With rising civil registration completeness in the region, an increasing number of countries can use registration records for producing vital statistics. Thirty-two countries with high civil registration completeness reported using birth and death registration records for vital statistics, and therefore already achieving targets 3A and 3B. Complying with target 3F, almost all these countries are disseminating their tabulations in the public domain in electronic format within one calendar year, with the exception of Fiji, the Maldives and Vanuatu, which are doing it beyond one calendar year or in the form of vital statistics report published on an ad hoc basis.

65. However, 18 countries have yet to achieve their target of using registration records for vital statistics and disseminate them in the public domain. These countries are all located in South and South-West Asia, South-East Asia, and the Pacific. Fifteen of them aim to do it by the end of the Decade with some having already initiated the work.

66. Due to the time required for assigning the cause of death for the cases requiring the involvement of the coroner as well as because the analysis of cause of death information can be more time consuming than the production of births and deaths statistics, target 3G focuses on the dissemination of statistics on causes of death using registration records as the primary source within two calendar years. Twenty-seven countries reported having achieved this target. In addition, Fiji and Vanuatu are producing statistics on causes of death, but they are disseminating their data in the form of vital statistics report published on an ad hoc basis. Fifteen of the twenty-one remaining countries reported aiming to produce and disseminate statistics on causes of death using registration records by the end of the Decade.

67. Finally, Goal 3 includes target 3H on the publication of a vital statistics report for the previous two years. A vital statistics report is an important step in improving civil registration and vital statistics systems. By providing an analysis of subnational completeness, a report allows civil registration authorities to identify regions requiring improvements. Moreover, vital statistics report provides the user with more explanations than tabulations. Twenty-six countries reported publishing a vital statistics report. Eighteen more countries aim to publish one by the end of the Decade.

*Coding of causes of death*

68. The underlying cause of death is used as the basis for mortality statistics. It is defined as the disease or injury that initiated the train of morbid events leading directly to death or the circumstances of the accident or violence that produced the fatal injury.

69. The information provided on a medical certificate of death cannot be directly used for the purpose of producing vital statistics. The underlying cause of death needs to be coded to a statistical category using the International Classification of Diseases, which almost all countries reported using, although not necessarily in a systematic manner.

70. The International Classification of Diseases includes codes to be used when information is either too limited or not available to accurately classify the cause of death, characterized as “ill-defined codes”. The quality of the information provided on a medical certificate of cause of death is ultimately reflected in the proportion of ill-defined codes, which is what target 3D is measuring. Since the beginning of the Decade many countries managed to lower the proportion of ill-defined codes. However, many others experienced increases in the proportion of ill-defined codes and there are still five countries which reported having more than 20 per cent of deaths coded to ill-defined codes at the time of the midterm questionnaire (see Annex II).

71. The issuance of a medical certificate of cause of death is often difficult or impossible for deaths taking place outside of a health facility or without the attention of a medical practitioner, which represents an important part of deaths in the region. Verbal autopsy can be used to collect information on causes of death for non-facility deaths. It generates useful information at the population level but is less reliable than medical certification for assigning the cause of death of an individual. It is therefore not necessary to use it for all deaths taking place outside of a health facility or without the attention of a medical practitioner. For this reason, target 3E on the determination of death code through verbal autopsy should not translate in applying verbal autopsy to all deaths occurring outside of a health facility or without the attention of a medical practitioner, but rather to a representative sample of this population. Thirteen countries reported using verbal autopsy with the midterm questionnaire. Its use varies depending on the country. Bangladesh, Indonesia, and India have integrated it in their sample registration system. It is also sometimes used in surveys to investigate specific deaths. Fourteen countries had set a target for 2024,<sup>10</sup> and due to the COVID-19 crisis more countries expressed interest in implementing verbal autopsy.

## **VI. Areas requiring sustained efforts to achieve the shared regional vision**

72. As presented in the report, countries have to a large degree taken advantage of the Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade and the momentum created around civil registration and vital statistics to strengthen their civil registration and vital statistics systems. Following recommendations from the Regional Action Framework and with the support of development partners they have implemented key steps to improve their civil registration and vital statistics systems. Most importantly, an increasing number of countries are addressing civil registration and vital statistics issues in a coordinated and multisectoral manner rather than through ad-hoc

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<sup>10</sup> E/ESCAP/72/22: [www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72\\_22E.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72_22E.pdf)

activities. This is testimony to increased national leadership and political commitment facilitating action at local, provincial, national and international levels by enabling multiple stakeholders to align and prioritize their efforts, as well as monitor progress towards achieving shared results.

73. Thanks to these efforts, the region has made tremendous progress with respect to the three goals of the Regional Action Framework. The birth and death registration gaps in the region are rapidly closing, with countries which had low birth and death registration completeness at the beginning of the Decade making rapid progress. Moreover, most countries are delivering legal documentation of civil registration after registrations of births and deaths. Nevertheless, these efforts will need to be maintained or even accelerated if these countries want to reach their targets by 2024, especially for death registration.

74. For all countries, including countries closer to universal registration of births and deaths, the importance of making sure every one is in the picture is thus more important than ever. Universal means universal, not 99 per cent of births or deaths registered. To ensure no one is left behind it is important countries conduct assessments of inequalities related to civil registration and vital statistics experienced by subgroups of the population, including among hard-to-reach and marginalized populations. However, only a few countries have undertaken one so far. This is especially critical as countries are moving towards implementing identity management systems founded on civil registration. The risk of further marginalizing some populations is too high for turning a blind eye to potential existing registration gaps.

75. In addition, the recognition of civil registration as the foundation for legal identity also means collaboration among the relevant stakeholders is bound to increase. The inclusion of agencies responsible for identity management systems in national civil registration and vital statistics coordination mechanisms may need to be prioritized in countries implementing identity management systems. Possible modifications to the comprehensive multisectoral civil registration and vital statistics strategies might also be required.

76. Finally, the use of civil registration records for vital statistics has gained recognition since the inception of the Decade. It is now acknowledged as crucial to monitor the sustainable development goals. Moreover, with the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for accurate, complete, and timely vital statistics has increased. Nonetheless, to this day there are still at least 13 countries in the region not using registration records for producing vital statistics, including on causes of death. Further, even when countries are able to produce vital statistics, and more specifically cause of death statistics, a low proportion of deaths have a medical certificate of causes of deaths and the information provided or the coding practices applied are of poor quality. Nevertheless, the use of verbal autopsy in the region helps alleviate this issue by providing a temporary solution to the lack of information on causes of death. More efforts are therefore needed to improve the recording of causes of death and to harness registration records for statistics if the region wants to provide timely vital statistics and accurate statistics on causes of death by the end of the Decade. Increasing the involvement of the health sector in civil registration and vital statistics systems will be necessary for countries to achieve their targets and monitor future health crises.

# Annex I

## Overview of implementation steps

Country	Coordination mechanism	Comprehensive assessment	National targets set	Reporting plan	Inequality assessment	National strategy	National focal point	Reporting to the Secretariat - Baseline	Reporting to the Secretariat - Midterm
Afghanistan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
American Samoa <sup>a</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		No	Yes	Yes	No
Armenia	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Australia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Azerbaijan	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bangladesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Brunei Darussalam	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cambodia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Plan	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
China <sup>a</sup>			No				No	No	No
Cook Islands	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Democratic People's Republic of Korea <sup>a</sup>			No				Yes	No	No
Fiji	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes
France <sup>a</sup>			No				No	No	No
French Polynesia <sup>a</sup>			No				No	No	No
Georgia	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Guam <sup>a</sup>			No				Yes	No	No
Hong Kong, China	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
India	Yes	Plan	Yes	Plan	No	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Indonesia	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Japan	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kazakhstan	No	Plan	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kiribati	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kyrgyzstan	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Macao, China	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Malaysia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maldives	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Marshall Islands	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Micronesia (Federated States of) <sup>a</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Plan	Yes	Yes	No
Mongolia	No	Plan	Yes	Plan	No	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Myanmar <sup>a</sup>	No	Plan	Yes	No	No	Plan	Yes	Yes	No
Nauru	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nepal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Netherlands <sup>a</sup>			No				No	No	No
New Caledonia <sup>a</sup>			No				No	No	No
New Zealand	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Niue	Yes	Plan	No	Plan	No	No	Yes	No	Yes

Country	Coordination mechanism	Comprehensive assessment	National targets set	Reporting plan	Inequality assessment	National strategy	National focal point	Reporting to the Secretariat - Baseline	Reporting to the Secretariat - Midterm
Northern Mariana Islands	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Pakistan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Plan	Plan	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Palau	Yes	No	No	No	No	Plan	Yes	No	Yes
Papua New Guinea	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Philippines	Yes	Yes	Yes	Plan	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Republic of Korea	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Russian Federation	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Samoa	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Plan	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Singapore <sup>a</sup>			No				No	No	No
Solomon Islands <sup>a</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Sri Lanka			No				Yes	No	Yes
Tajikistan	Yes	Plan	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thailand	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Timor-Leste	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tonga	Yes	Yes	Yes	Plan	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Turkey	Yes	Plan	Yes	Plan	No	Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Turkmenistan <sup>a</sup>			No				No	No	No
Tuvalu <sup>a</sup>			No				Yes	No	No
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland <sup>a</sup>			No				No	No	No
United States of America	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Uzbekistan <sup>a</sup>			No				Yes	No	No
Vanuatu	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Viet Nam <sup>a</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Subtotal: Yes	38	31	41	11	6	20	53	43	45
Subtotal: No	11	11	21	29	39	17	9	19	17
Subtotal: Plans	0	7	0	8	3	12	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>

Source: Midterm questionnaire responses, finalized responses available at: <https://getinthepicture.org/regional-picture/midterm-reporting>

<sup>a</sup> These countries have yet to submit the midterm questionnaire. Apart from “National Focal Point” and “Reporting to the Secretariat”, the information comes from their baseline report, if any.

## Annex II

### Overview of targets

NR: No response; NTS: No target set; TA: Target achieved

**Table 1: Birth registration**

**Target 1A:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of births in the territory and jurisdiction in the given year are registered.

**Target 1B:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of children under five years old in the territory and jurisdiction have had their birth registered.

**Target 1C:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all individuals in the territory and jurisdiction have had their birth registered.

Country	Target 1A			Target 1B		Target 1C	
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Latest data	Target	Latest data	Target
Afghanistan	32% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	46% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	80%	42.3% (2015)	NTS	NR	NTS
American Samoa <sup>b</sup>	91% (2013)	NR	95%	NR	91%	NR	100%
Armenia	99% (2014)	99% (2018)	100%	99.3% (2015)	100%	99% (2018)	100%
Australia	96% (2014)	96% (2017)	99%	100% (2018)	99%	NR	99%
Azerbaijan	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS	93.6% (2006)	NTS	NR	NTS
Bangladesh	11% (2014)	28% (2017)	100%	20.2% (2014)	100%	NR	100%
Bhutan	85% (2017)	88% (2018)	95%	95.6% <sup>c</sup> (2018)	97%	99% (2018)	99%
Brunei Darussalam	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%	100% <sup>c</sup> (2018)	100%	NR	NTS
Cambodia	40% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	66% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	90%	73.3% (2014)	90%	NR	90%
Cook Islands	97% (2014)	100% (2019)	100%	100% <sup>c</sup> (2014)	100%	NR	100%
Fiji	65% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	72% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	85%	100% <sup>c</sup> (2018)	85%	NR	95%
Georgia	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS	99.6% (2015)	NTS	NR	NTS
Hong Kong, China	99% (2014)	99% (2018)	NTS	NR	NTS	NR	NTS
India <sup>d</sup>	92% (2014)	85% (2017)	100%	79.7% (2016)	100%	NR	75%
Indonesia	66% <sup>c</sup> (2015)	113% <sup>c</sup> (2018)	90%	71.9% (2018)	95%	NR	NTS
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	99% (2014)	99% (2019)	99%	98.6% (2010)	100%	NR	100%
Japan	100% (2014)	99% (2017)	NTS	100% (2000)	NTS	100% (2018)	NTS
Kazakhstan	99% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%	99.7% (2015)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Kiribati	81% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	82% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	100%	86% <sup>c</sup> (2018)	100%	NR	100%
Kyrgyzstan	95% (2014)	99% (2018)	NTS	98.9% (2018)	NTS	NR	NTS
Lao People's Democratic Republic	32% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	43% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	70%	73% (2017)	80%	NR	70%
Macao, China	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%	100% <sup>c</sup> (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Malaysia	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	98%	NR	99.5%	93% (2015)	99.5%
Maldives	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%	98.8% (2017)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Marshall Islands	NR	NR	NTS	83.8% (2017)	NTS	NR	NTS
Micronesia (Federated States of) <sup>b</sup>	NR	NR	95%	80% (2011-2015)	95%	NR	90%
Mongolia	99% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%	99.3% (2013)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Myanmar <sup>b</sup>	74% (2013)	NR	95%	NR	95%	NR	NTS
Nauru	100% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	98% <sup>a</sup> (2017)	100%	95.9% (2013)	100%	NR	NTS
Nepal	76% (2015)	NR	99%	56.2% (2016)	90%	NR	80%
New Zealand	98% (2014)	98% (2017)	90%	100% (2014)	99%	NR	99%
Niue	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS	NR	NTS	NR	NTS

Country	Target 1A			Target 1B		Target 1C	
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Latest data	Target	Latest data	Target
Northern Mariana Islands	99% (2014)	99% (2018)	100%	NR	NTS	NR	NTS
Pakistan	NR	25% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	100%	42.2% (2018)	100%	NR	100%
Palau	NR	NR	NTS	NR	NTS	NR	NTS
Papua New Guinea	11% <sup>c</sup> (2015)	57% <sup>c</sup> (2019)	90%	13.4% (2017)	90%	15% (2019)	70%
Philippines	82% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	91% <sup>a</sup> (2017)	99%	91.8% (2017)	99.5%	95% (2015)	99.5%
Republic of Korea	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%	97.2% <sup>c</sup> (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Russian Federation	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS	NR	NTS	NR	NTS
Samoa	46% (2014)	79% (2018)	90%	58.6% (2014)	90%	NR	95%
Solomon Islands <sup>b</sup>	29% (2014)	NR	85%	17% (2014)	90%	NR	60%
Sri Lanka	97% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	98% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	NTS	97.2% (2007)	NTS	NR	NTS
Tajikistan	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	97%	95.8% (2017)	98%	NR	NTS
Thailand	100% (2014)	99% (2018)	100%	99.5% (2016)	100%	NR	100%
Timor-Leste	15% <sup>c</sup> (2014)	271% <sup>c</sup> (2018)	100%	60.4% (2016)	100%	NR	100%
Tonga	96% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	84% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	95%	93.4% (2012)	97%	NR	84%
Turkey	99% (2014)	99% (2018)	100%	98.6% (2013)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
United States of America	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	99%	100% (2018)	99%	NR	99%
Vanuatu	52% (2014)	56% (2018)	NTS	43.4% (2013)	NTS	NR	NTS
Viet Nam <sup>b</sup>	NR	NR	97%	NR	98.5%	NR	75%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>32</b>

Source: Midterm questionnaire responses, finalized responses available at: <https://getinthepicture.org/regional-picture/midterm-reporting>

<sup>a</sup> These countries have not submitted estimates for the number of births for all years. The level of completeness of birth registration was therefore assessed with international estimates for every year, to allow comparison. These measurements are therefore to be interpreted with caution.

<sup>b</sup> Information for these countries comes from the baseline report (E/ESCAP/72/22: [www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72\\_22E.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72_22E.pdf)) since no midterm questionnaire has been submitted yet.

<sup>c</sup> Figures are from administrative source, when the others come from surveys.

<sup>d</sup> Figures for India do not represent the national level of completeness: they refer to the annual average completeness rate of States providing disaggregation of registration data by the duration between occurrence and registration. The number of States providing this data changes each year, completeness rates are thus not comparable across the years.

<sup>e</sup> These figures include births registered through backlog campaigns, inadvertently increasing the completeness estimation. This explains the percentages superior to 100%.

**Table 2: Death registration**

**Target 1D:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all deaths that take place in the territory and jurisdiction in the given year are registered.

**Target 1E:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all deaths recorded by the health sector in the territory and jurisdiction in the given year have a medically certified cause of death recorded using the international form of the death certificate.

Country	Target 1D			Target 1E		
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target
Afghanistan	6% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	10% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	NTS	NR	2.5% (2018)	NTS
American Samoa <sup>b</sup>	100% (2014)	NR	100%	NR	NR	100%
Armenia	99% (2014)	99% (2018)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
Australia	100% (2014)	100% (2017)	NTS	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS
Azerbaijan	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS
Bangladesh	7% (2014)	20% (2017)	50%	2.5% (2017)	19.6% (2018)	80%
Bhutan	64% (2017)	75% (2018)	90%	11.1% (2011)	NR	85%
Brunei Darussalam	88% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	85% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	100%	NR	NR	100%
Cambodia	24% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	36% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	30%	56.2% (2015)	72% (2018)	30%
Cook Islands	96% (2014)	97% (2019)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2019)	100%
Fiji	73% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	88% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	100%	99.3% (2014)	99.9% (2017)	99.9%
Georgia	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS	70.6% (2014)	85.1% (2018)	NTS
Hong Kong China	99% (2014)	98% (2018)	NTS	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS
India <sup>c</sup>	82% (2014)	85% (2017)	100%	32.3% (2014)	48.7% (2017)	60%
Indonesia	NR	NR	NTS	45% (2017)	50% (2018)	NTS
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	91% (2015)	96% (2019)	95%	81.1% (2018)	81.5% (2019)	85%
Japan	99% (2014)	99% (2017)	NTS	100% (2014)	100% (2017)	NTS
Kazakhstan	99% (2014)	99% (2018)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
Kiribati	91% (2010)	NR	NTS	16% (2014)	NR	80%
Kyrgyzstan	94% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	85% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	NTS	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS
Lao People's Democratic Republic	33% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	42% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	60%	NR	NR	85%
Macao, China	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
Malaysia	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
Maldives	81% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	89% <sup>a</sup> (2017)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
Marshall Islands	NR	NR	NTS	NR	NR	NTS
Micronesia (Federated States of) <sup>b</sup>	NR	NR	90%	NR	NR	100%
Mongolia	100% (2014)	96% (2018)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
Myanmar <sup>b</sup>	50% (2013)	NR	75%	NR	NR	75%
Nauru	100% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	100% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	100%	100% (2015)	100% (2017)	100%
Nepal	75% (2015)	NR	80%	45.4% (2014)	NR	NTS
New Zealand	99% (2014)	99% (2018)	99%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	99%
Niue	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS

Country	Target 1D			Target 1E		
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target
Northern Mariana Islands	99% (2014)	99% (2018)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
Pakistan	46% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	52% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	80%	NR	NR	80%
Palau	NR	NR	NTS	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS
Papua New Guinea	<1% (2011)	<3% (2017)	25%	NR	NR	NTS
Philippines	99% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	97% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	90%	100% (2014)	100% (2017)	NTS
Republic of Korea	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%	99.1% (2014)	99.7% (2018)	100%
Russian Federation	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS	NR	NR	100%
Samoa	60% (2014)	82% (2018)	90%	NR	NR	95%
Solomon Islands <sup>b</sup>	NR	NR	60%	16% (2014)	NR	80%
Sri Lanka	96% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	99% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	NTS	NR	NR	NTS
Tajikistan	75% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	74% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	98%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	NTS
Thailand	89% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	90% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
Timor-Leste	22% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	29% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	100%	NR	NR	NTS
Tonga	78% <sup>a</sup> (2014)	85% <sup>a</sup> (2018)	85%	NR	NR	NTS
Turkey	99% (2014)	99% (2018)	100%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
United States of America	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	99%	100% (2014)	100% (2018)	100%
Vanuatu	23% (2014)	17% (2018)	NTS	NR	NR	NTS
Viet Nam <sup>b</sup>	NR	NR	90%	NR	NR	80%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>

Source: Midterm questionnaire responses, finalized responses available at: <https://getinthepicture.org/regional-picture/midterm-reporting>

<sup>a</sup> These countries have not submitted estimates for the number of deaths for all years. The level of completeness of death registration was therefore assessed with international estimates for every year, to allow comparison. These measurements are therefore to be interpreted with caution.

<sup>b</sup> Information for these countries comes from the baseline report (E/ESCAP/72/22: [www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72\\_22E.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72_22E.pdf)) since no midterm questionnaire has been submitted yet.

<sup>c</sup> Figures for India do not represent the national level of completeness: it evaluates for each year the average completeness for States providing disaggregation of registration data by the duration between occurrence and registration. The number of States providing this data changes each year, so completeness rates cannot be compared across years.

**Table 3: Goal 2**

**Target 2A:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all births registered in the territory and jurisdiction are accompanied with the issuance of an official birth certificate that includes, as a minimum, the individual's name, sex, date and place of birth, and name of parent(s) where known.

**Target 2B:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of all deaths registered in the territory and jurisdiction in the given year are accompanied with the issuance of an official death certificate which includes, as a minimum, the deceased's name, date of death, sex, and age.

Country	Target 2A		Target 2B	
	Latest data	Target	Latest data	Target
Afghanistan	NR	85%	NR	NTS
American Samoa <sup>a</sup>	100% (2013)	95%	NR	100%
Armenia	98.7% (2015)	100%	98.9% (2018)	100%
Australia	NR	NTS	NR	NTS
Azerbaijan	100% (2018)	NTS	100% (2018)	NTS
Bangladesh	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Bhutan	NR	NTS	NR	100%
Brunei Darussalam	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Cambodia	100% (2018)	90%	100% (2018)	90%
Cook Islands	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2017)	100%
Fiji	99.8% (2018)	100%	90.8% (2018)	100%
Georgia	100% (2018)	NTS	89.6% (2018)	NTS
Hong Kong, China	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	NTS
India	NR	100%	NR	100%
Indonesia	100% (2014)	100%	100% (2014)	100%
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	100% (2019)	100%	100% (2019)	100%
Japan	100% (2017)	NTS	100% (2017)	NTS
Kazakhstan	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Kiribati	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2010)	100%
Kyrgyzstan	100% (2018)	NTS	100% (2018)	NTS
Lao People's Democratic Republic	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Macao, China	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Malaysia	100% (2015)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Maldives	94.9% (2017)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Marshall Islands	NR	NTS	NR	NTS
Micronesia (Federated States of) <sup>a</sup>	NR	NTS	NR	NTS
Mongolia	100% (2018)	99.9%	100% (2018)	99.9%
Myanmar <sup>a</sup>	NR	95%	NR	75%
Nauru	NR	100%	NR	100%
Nepal	100% (2015)	NTS	100% (2015)	100%
New Zealand	94.3% (2018)	99%	100% (2018)	85%
Niue	100% (2018)	NTS	100% (2018)	NTS
Northern Mariana Islands	95.6% (2018)	NTS	89.1% (2018)	NTS
Pakistan	NR	100%	NR	100%
Palau	100% (2018)	NTS	100% (2018)	NTS
Papua New Guinea	NR	NTS	NR	NTS
Philippines	100% (2018)	99.5%	100% (2018)	90%
Republic of Korea	99.5% (2018)	100%	99.7% (2018)	100%
Russian Federation	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Samoa	100% (2018)	90%	100% (2018)	100%
Solomon Islands <sup>a</sup>	NR	70%	NR	50%
Sri Lanka	100% (2015)	NTS	100% (2014)	NTS
Tajikistan	100% (2018)	98%	100% (2018)	NTS

<i>Country</i>	<i>Target 2A</i>		<i>Target 2B</i>	
	<i>Latest data</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Latest data</i>	<i>Target</i>
Thailand	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
Timor-Leste	NR	100%	NR	100%
Tonga	40% (2018)	95%	NR	80%
Turkey	100% (2018)	100%	100% (2018)	100%
United States of America	100% (2018)	NTS	100% (2018)	NTS
Vanuatu	NR	NTS	NR	NTS
Viet Nam <sup>a</sup>	100% (2014)	100%	100% (2014)	100%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>33</b>

*Source:* Midterm questionnaire responses, finalized responses available at: <https://getinthepicture.org/regional-picture/midterm-reporting>. Latest data only since just a few countries have significant changes over the years.

<sup>a</sup> Information for these countries comes from the Baseline report (E/ESCAP/72/22: [www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72\\_22E.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72_22E.pdf)) since no midterm questionnaire has been submitted yet.

**Table 4: Causes of death registration**

**Target 3D:** By 2024, the proportion of deaths coded to ill-defined codes will have been reduced by ... per cent compared with the baseline year.

**Target 3E:** By 2024, at least ... per cent of deaths taking place outside of a health facility and without the attention of a medical practitioner have their underlying cause of death code determined through verbal autopsy in line with international standards.

Country	Target 3D			Target 3E <sup>a</sup> (Is VA used?)		
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target
Afghanistan	NR	0.4% (2018)	NTS	No	No	
American Samoa <sup>b</sup>	3% (2014)	NR	2%	NR	NR	
Armenia	2.6% (2014)	1.6% (2018)	1%	No	No	No
Australia	0.8% (2011)	1.4% (2018)	NTS	No	No	No
Azerbaijan	3.5% (2013)	2.8% (2018)	NTS	No	No	No
Bangladesh	2.4% (2017)	2.8% (2018)	1.2% <sup>c</sup>	NR	Yes	Yes
Bhutan	NR	NR	NTS	No	No	Yes
Brunei Darussalam	NR	NR	NTS	Yes	Yes	
Cambodia	43.8% (2015)	28% (2018)	30%	No	No	Yes
Cook Islands	NR	NR	1%	No	No	No
Fiji	5.4% (2013)	3.8% (2017)	1%	No	No	No
Georgia	39.3% (2013)	19.4% (2018)	NTS	NR	Yes	
Hong Kong, China	3.4% (2013)	3.8% (2018)	5%	No	No	No
India	3.3% (2013)	4.9% (2017)	7%	NR	Yes	
Indonesia	40% (2017)	35% (2018)	NTS	NR	Yes	
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	23.4% (2013)	16.3% (2019)	15%	Yes	No	Yes
Japan	0.9% (2013)	1.2% (2017)	NTS	NR	No	
Kazakhstan	6.4% (2013)	6.2% (2018)	3%	No	No	No
Kiribati	31.5% (2014)	11.6% (2018)	19% <sup>c</sup>	NR	No	Yes
Kyrgyzstan	NR	NR	NTS	No	No	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	NR	NR	NTS	NR	No	Yes
Macao, China	2% (2013)	2.1% (2018)	1% <sup>c</sup>	No	No	No
Malaysia	1.5% (2013)	1.6% (2018)	NTS	Yes	Yes	
Maldives	10% (2012)	6.2% (2017)	4%	Yes	No	
Marshall Islands	7.6% (2013)	4.7% (2018)	NTS	NR	Yes	
Micronesia (Federated States of) <sup>b</sup>	10% (2014)	NR	NTS	NR	NR	
Mongolia	NR	NR	NTS	NR	Yes	Yes
Myanmar <sup>b</sup>	NR	NR	NTS	NR	NR	
Nauru	40.8% (2015)	21.3% (2017)	NTS	NR	No	
Nepal	NR	NR	NTS	NR	No	
New Zealand	0.5% (2013)	0.7% (2015)	1%	No	No	No
Niue	0% (2013)	0% (2018)	NTS	NR	No	
Northern Mariana Islands	8% (2013)	1.8% (2018)	0%	NR	No	
Pakistan	NR	NR	NTS	NR	Yes	Yes
Palau	NR	NR	NTS	NR	NR	

Country	Target 3D			Target 3E <sup>a</sup> (Is VA used?)		
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target
Papua New Guinea	NR	NR	NTS	NR	Yes	Yes
Philippines	2.7% (2010)	2.7% (2017)	NTS	NR	No	Yes
Republic of Korea	10.6% (2013)	11.3% (2018)	7%	NR	No	
Russian Federation	9.9% (2016)	NR	NTS	No	No	No
Samoa	NR	NR	NTS	NR	NR	
Solomon Islands <sup>b</sup>	NR	NR	0.4% <sup>c</sup>	NR	NR	Yes
Sri Lanka	33% (2013)	32.5% (2014)	NTS	NR	Yes	
Tajikistan	0.3% (2013)	0% (2018)	NTS	No	No	No
Thailand	29.7% (2013)	24.3% (2018)	20%	Yes	Yes	Yes
Timor-Leste	NR	NR	NTS	No	Yes	
Tonga	NR	NR	5%	NR	No	Yes
Turkey	2.9% (2013)	4.3% (2018)	1.5%	No	No	No
United States of America	1.2% (2014)	1.1% (2018)	1.2%	No	No	No
Vanuatu	NR	NR	NTS	NR	No	
Viet Nam <sup>b</sup>	NR	NR	NTS	NR	NR	Yes
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>27</b>
Subtotal: Yes				5	13	14

Source: Midterm questionnaire responses, finalized responses available at: <https://getinthepicture.org/regional-picture/midterm-reporting>

<sup>a</sup> In light of recent countries' experiences, Verbal autopsy is not encouraged to be applied to a large population scale, but rather on a representative sample. To reflect this, Target 3E is not anymore monitored by the coverage percentage of Verbal autopsy, but by the use or not of Verbal autopsy and its different applications.

<sup>b</sup> Information for these countries comes from the baseline report (E/ESCAP/72/22: [www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72\\_22E.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72_22E.pdf)) since no midterm questionnaire has been submitted yet.

<sup>c</sup> These targets have been modified to reflect the current understanding of the target, expressing the percentage of ill-defined codes to achieve.

**Table 5: Vital statistics (1)**

**Target 3A:** By .... (year), annual nationally representative statistics on births – disaggregated by age of mother, sex of child, geographic area and administrative subdivision – are produced from registration records or other valid administrative data sources.

**Target 3B:** By ... (year), annual nationally representative statistics on deaths – disaggregated by age, sex, cause of death defined by International Classification of Diseases (latest version as appropriate), geographic area and administrative subdivision – are produced from registration records or other valid administrative data sources.

Country	Target 3A			Target 3B		
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target
Afghanistan	No	No	NTS	No	No	NTS
American Samoa <sup>a</sup>			2024			2024
Armenia	Yes	Yes	2019	Yes	Yes	2019
Australia	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Azerbaijan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Bangladesh	No	No	2021	No	No	2021
Bhutan	Yes	No	2020	Yes	No	2022
Brunei Darussalam			TA			TA
Cambodia	No	No	2023	No	No	2023
Cook Islands	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Fiji	Yes	Yes	2015	Yes	Yes	2016
Georgia	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Hong Kong, China	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
India		No	2024		No	2024
Indonesia	No		2017	No		NTS
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Yes	Yes	2015	No	Yes	2020
Japan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Kazakhstan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Kiribati	No	No	2020	No	No	2024
Kyrgyzstan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Lao People's Democratic Republic	No	No	2022	No	No	2022
Macao, China	Yes	Yes	TA			TA
Malaysia	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Maldives	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Marshall Islands	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Micronesia (Federated States of) <sup>a</sup>			2016			2016
Mongolia	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Myanmar <sup>a</sup>			NTS			NTS
Nauru	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Nepal	No		2024	No		2024
New Zealand	Yes	Yes	2015	Yes	Yes	2015
Niue	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Northern Mariana Islands	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Pakistan	No	No	2024	No	No	2024
Palau		Yes	TA		Yes	TA

Country	Target 3A			Target 3B		
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target
Papua New Guinea	Yes	Yes	2024	Yes	Yes	2024
Philippines			2015		Yes	2015
Republic of Korea	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Russian Federation	No	Yes	TA	No	Yes	TA
Samoa	No	No	NTS	No	No	NTS
Solomon Islands <sup>a</sup>			2017			2018
Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Tajikistan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Thailand	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Timor-Leste	Yes	No	2022	Yes	Yes	2022
Tonga	Yes	Yes	2017	Yes	Yes	2017
Turkey	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
United States of America	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Vanuatu		Yes	TA		Yes	TA
Viet Nam <sup>a</sup>			2022			2024
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>46</b>
Subtotal: Yes	30	31		28	32	

Source: Midterm questionnaire responses, finalized responses available at: <https://getinthepicture.org/regional-picture/midterm-reporting>

<sup>a</sup> Information for these countries comes from the baseline report (E/ESCAP/72/22: [www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72\\_22E.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72_22E.pdf)) since no midterm questionnaire has been submitted yet.

**Table 6: Vital statistics (2)**

**Target 3F:** By ... (year), key summary tabulations of vital statistics on births and deaths, using registration records as the primary source, are made available in the public domain in electronic format annually, and within one calendar year.

**Target 3G:** By ... (year), key summary tabulations of vital statistics on causes of death, using registration records as the primary source, are made available in the public domain in electronic format annually, and within two calendar years.

**Target 3H:** By ... (year), an accurate, complete and timely vital statistics report for the previous two years, using registration records as the primary source, is made available in the public domain.

Country	Target 3F			Target 3G			Target 3H		
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target
Afghanistan	No	No	NTS	No	No	NTS	No	No	NTS
American Samoa <sup>a</sup>			2024			2024			2024
Armenia	Yes	Yes	2019	Yes	Yes	2019	Yes	Yes	2019
Australia	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Azerbaijan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Bangladesh	No	No	2021	No	No	2021	No	No	2021
Bhutan	Yes		2022	No		2022	No		2024
Brunei Darussalam			TA			TA			TA
Cambodia	No	No	2024	No	No	2023	No	No	2023
Cook Islands	Yes	Yes	2020	Yes	Yes	2020	Yes	Yes	2020
Fiji	No	No	2016	No	No	2017	No	No	2018
Georgia	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Hong Kong, China	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
India	No	No	2024	Yes	Yes	2018	No	No	2024
Indonesia	No		2020	No		2024	No		NTS
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Yes	Yes	2015	No	Yes	2020	Yes	Yes	2015
Japan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Kazakhstan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	No	No	2020
Kiribati	No	No	2024	No	No	2021	No	Yes	2020
Kyrgyzstan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Lao People's Democratic Republic	No	No	2022	No	No	2022	No	No	2022
Macao, China	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Malaysia	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Maldives	Yes	No	2020	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	No	2020
Marshall Islands	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Micronesia (Federated States of) <sup>a</sup>			2017			2017			2024
Mongolia	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Myanmar <sup>a</sup>			NTS			NTS			NTS
Nauru	No	Yes	2019	No	Yes	TA		Yes	TA
Nepal	Yes	Yes	2024	Yes	Yes	2024	No		2024
New Zealand	Yes	Yes	2015	Yes	Yes	2015	Yes	Yes	2015
Niue	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA

Country	Target 3F			Target 3G			Target 3H		
	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target	Baseline	Midterm	Target
Northern Mariana Islands	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Pakistan	No	No	2024	No	No	2024	No	No	2024
Palau		Yes	TA			NTS			NTS
Papua New Guinea	No	No	2024	No	No	2024	No	No	2024
Philippines		Yes	2018		Yes	2017			2019
Republic of Korea	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Russian Federation	Yes	Yes	TA	No	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Samoa	No	No	NTS	No	No	NTS	No	No	NTS
Solomon Islands <sup>a</sup>			2025			2025			2025
Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	TA	No	No	NTS	Yes	Yes	TA
Tajikistan	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Thailand	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Timor-Leste	No	No	2022	No	No	2022	No	No	2022
Tonga		No	2017	No	No	2017		No	2017
Turkey	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
United States of America	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA	Yes	Yes	TA
Vanuatu		No	NTS		No	NTS		No	NTS
Viet Nam <sup>a</sup>			2022			2024			2024
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>44</b>
Subtotal: Yes	27	28		24	28		23	25	

Source: Midterm questionnaire responses, finalized responses available at: <https://getinthepicture.org/regional-picture/midterm-reporting>

<sup>a</sup> Information for these countries comes from the baseline report (E/ESCAP/72/22: [www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72\\_22E.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/E72_22E.pdf)) since no midterm questionnaire has been submitted yet.