
CRVS Insight

January 2023



Thank you for all your support in 2022 and we wish our readers every happiness and success for 2023!



National CRVS Stakeholders' Conference in Cebu, Philippines

The Philippine National CRVS Stakeholders' Conference for the Development of Strategies in Strengthening the Philippine CRVS System Phase 2 was conducted from **15-17 November 2022**, with 150 participants, consisting of national stakeholders, including the Department of

Health and Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), WHO country office, UNICEF, UNFPA, CDC Foundation, and ESCAP.

The objectives were to present and discuss five action areas for the 2023-2027 strategic plan; boosting CRVS impact through legislation, improving death certification, promoting data use, monitoring CRVS for results, and enhancing digitalization for the civil registration system.



Ongoing work on inequality assessments in Bangladesh and Lao PDR

A multi-stakeholder group of approximately 30 participants from the Cabinet Division, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Health Education and Family Welfare Division, Office of the Registrar General, ESCAP, UNICEF and Vital Strategies convened for the first [capacity building workshop](#) for assessing inequalities in civil registration in Dhaka **19-21 December 2022**. The practical workshop was organized in collaboration between ESCAP and Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and focused on assessing the quality of different administrative data sources for conducting an inequality analysis of birth registration. A second capacity building workshop, inequality assessment report and final workshop will be conducted in 2023.

[A closing workshop for the inequality assessment activities in Lao PDR](#) was held **27-28 December 2022** in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The draft CRVS inequality assessment report was presented to stakeholders for their review.



Exploring the Nexus Between Poverty, Human Rights, and Statelessness in Cambodia

Poverty, human rights, and statelessness interrelate with one another to varying degrees. Underlying the dynamics of this relationship is a functioning CRVS system, particularly birth and marriage registration, and national identification. Governments and development partners in Asia and the Pacific recognize the importance of birth registration in ensuring people's access to basic services and lifting them out of poverty. As a result, they have committed to achieving universal birth registration and realizing all goals by the end of the [Asia-Pacific CRVS Decade 2015-2024](#). It is therefore important to develop a better understanding of this ecosystem to design effective policies for improved service delivery to affected populations.

Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI), with funding support from the Government of Sweden, hosted a workshop on **16th December 2022** to explore the nexus between poverty, human rights, and statelessness in Cambodia. The workshop provided a platform for academia, development partners, and representatives from civil society organizations to share experiences from their work and deepen discussion on the interrelationship, including ways forward for Cambodia. Experts and researchers presented findings from the RWI-supported pilot research at two panels on enabling international frameworks and national policies and regulations. They also shared preliminary findings from their fieldwork to affected communities in six provinces in Cambodia.

The study identifies the challenges that ethnic Vietnamese and Khmer Krom face without legal identification and highlights the need for more support. Panelists and participants emphasized the links between birth registration, social inclusion, and access to public services. They also discussed the process of issuing new permanent residence cards as part of implementing the National Strategic Identification Plan 2015-2026, and the progress made by the Royal Government of Cambodia in developing the draft Law on CRVS and Identification.

Please visit this [link](#) for more information.



Vital Strategies' work in Cambodia

Vital Strategies has provided technical support to review and revise chapters of the draft Prakas (regulation) on Civil Registration (CR) in Cambodia. A workshop held in December, aimed to develop and review the draft Prakas on CR alongside other draft Prakas including ID and Residence Registration. 14 business process maps on a variety of issues (birth and death registration at and outside of health facilities, electronic notification from health facilities to civil service registration offices, subprocesses on birth and death registration, and more) were reviewed and approved by the working team and core team.

A 10-day mortality coding training was also conducted to build capacity for 6 coders and 2 supervisors, which constitutes a cadre of coders at the central level. A Training of Trainers on the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death was also organized as a roll-out for provincial teams for 22 physicians to become master trainers in 12 provinces out of 25 provinces in the country.



UNICEF: Empowering stateless children and youth in Thailand

- *Empowering children and youth affected by migration to become powerful agents of change.*

In August 2022, the UNICEF office in Thailand brought together 19 migrant, stateless and urban refugee children and youth for a workshop on empowerment. The focus of the workshop was for children and youth learn to learn about their rights and explore new ways of participation in their communities. This included a significant focus on the right to a legal identity, More details [here](#).

- *Mobile Civil Registration Units in Schools, A significant step towards ending childhood statelessness in Thailand*

According to a study released in April 2021 titled '[Invisible Lives: 48 Years of the Situation of Stateless Children in Thailand \(1972-2020\)](#)', a major challenge in advancing the status of stateless children in Thailand is local procedures. With the support of UNICEF and the EU, District Offices, schools, related agencies and civil society organizations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work together to accelerate stateless children's progress towards civil registration and attaining legal status. This has involved mobile civil registration volunteers to support children in their local communities. More details [here](#).

RESOURCES

- How Singapore's National Digital Identity and government digital data sharing platform fosters inclusion and resilience. Read more [here](#).
 - [Link](#) for recording of [a webinar on regional cause-of-death training and ICD-11](#), organized on **15 December 2022**, by Statistics for Development Division, The Pacific Community.
 - Handbook on Registers-based Population and Housing Censuses (December 2022), by DESA, United Nations Statistics Division is available [here](#).
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **30 January - 3 February 2023:** [Workshop on data analysis and report writing for civil registration based vital statistics for Pacific countries](#), conducted by ESCAP in Nadi, Fiji.
 - **7-9 February 2023:** South East Asian Civil registrars meeting, Manila, find concept note [here](#)
 - **20-22 March 2023:** Pacific Civil Registrars meeting, find concept note [here](#)
 - **3-4 April 2023:** Asia Pacific CRVS Research Forum, follow the [link](#) for more detail
 - **10-12 May 2023:** Meeting of the Regional Steering Group for CRVS in Asia Pacific (members will be invited shortly)
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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- *ESCAP-SIAP, INTERN - STATISTICS (capacity development in data science), Internship in Tokyo.* Find more details [here](#).
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