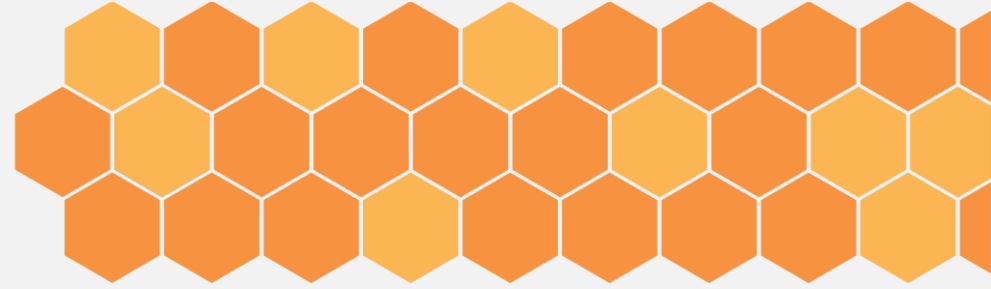




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# Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific

*Civil Society Engagement in Asia-Pacific*

*David Rausis*

*Associate Statistician*

*United Nations ESCAP*

<https://www.getinthepicture.org/>

# What is CRVS?



**Birth**



**Adoption**



**Marriage**



**Divorce**



**Death**



**Cause of death**

- Record of vital events
- Continuous
- Permanent
- Compulsory
- Universal

# Why is CRVS important?

- ✧ Legal identity
- ✧ Legal recognition
- ✧ Relationship to State
- ✧ Documentary evidence
  - ✧ Recourse, participation, employment, property ownership
- ✧ Vital Statistics
  - ✧ Public health, planning, development



# 2014 Ministerial Conference on CRVS

 **Birth Certificate**

<sup>1</sup> Name: **ASIAN AND PACIFIC CRVS DECADE, 2015-2024**

<sup>2</sup> Birth Date: Month **November** Day **28** Year **2014** <sup>3</sup> Sex: **Every one**

<sup>5</sup> Place of Birth: **UN Conference Centre, Bangkok, Thailand**

<sup>4</sup> Full Name of Parent(s): **Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific** <sup>5</sup> Nationality of Parent(s): **Asian and Pacific**

<sup>6</sup> Signatures of Parents/Notifiers/Attendants/Registrars:

*(The bottom section contains numerous handwritten signatures and names, including: Nepal, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Timor-Leste, and various international organizations like UNICEF, ESCAP, and WHO.)*

## A Shared Vision

*“By 2024, all people in Asia and the Pacific benefit from universal and responsive CRVS systems that facilitate the realization of their rights and support good governance, health and development”*

# 2014 Ministerial Conference on CRVS

To realize this shared vision, Asia-Pacific governments:

- ◆ Adopted the **Ministerial Declaration** to “Get every one in the picture”
- ◆ Proclaimed the Asian and Pacific **CRVS Decade**, 2015-2024
- ◆ Developed the **Regional Action Framework**
  - 3 goals
  - 15 nationally set targets
  - 8 implementation steps



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# Civil Society Forum

August 2014

- ✧ Review the Ministerial Conference's preparatory process
- ✧ Identify CSO methods on engagement
- ✧ Consolidated civil society statement
- ✧ Joint action agreement

*“Civil society and non-governmental organizations play a critical role in raising awareness of the importance of civil registration amongst populations, advocating for efficient CRVS systems to decision-makers, increasing the responsiveness and accountability of responsible stakeholders, and in ensuring universal and timely civil registration”.*

- ESCAP background document to the Civil Society Forum

# Regional Action Framework:

## *Goals*



### **Goal 1**

**Universal civil registration** of births, deaths and other vital events



### **Goal 2**

All individuals are provided with **legal documentation** of civil registration of births, deaths and other vital events, as necessary, to claim identity, civil status and ensuing rights



### **Goal 3**

Accurate, complete and timely **vital statistics** (including causes of death) are produced based on registration records and are disseminated

# Regional Action Framework:

## *Targets*

- ✧ 1A: By 2024, at least ... per cent of **births in the territory and jurisdiction** in the given year are registered.
- ✧ 1B: By 2024, at least ... per cent of **children under 5 years old in the territory and jurisdiction** have had their birth registered.
- ✧ 1C: By 2024, at least ... per cent of **all individuals in the territory and jurisdiction** have had their birth registered.
- ✧ 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.



# Regional Action Framework:

## *Implementation Steps*



- ✧ Establish national **CRVS coordination mechanism**
- ✧ Conduct a comprehensive assessment
- ✧ Set the national target value for each target
- ✧ Assess inequalities related to CRVS experienced by subgroups of the population, and, where appropriate, set national targets to address those inequalities
- ✧ Develop a comprehensive multi-sectoral **national CRVS strategy**
- ✧ Develop and implement a plan for monitoring achievement of the national targets
- ✧ Assign a national focal point within the Government
- ✧ Report relevant information to the ESCAP secretariat

# Regional Action Framework:

## *Regional Support*



### Regional Steering Group

#### Countries and development partners

-  Oversight and guidance for RAF
-  Taskforces to provide support

### CRVS Partnership

#### NGOs, Govt. Agencies, UN Agencies, Academics

-  Discuss and coordinate activities to avoid replication
-  Standardized messages to support advocacy and communication

# Regional CRVS Partnership

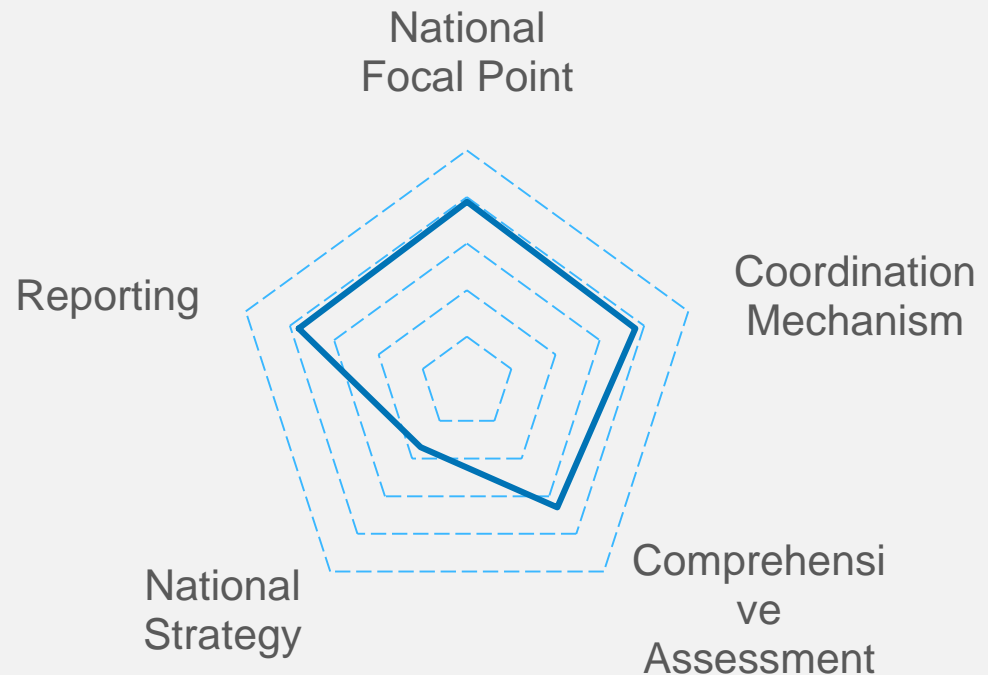
Website: [www.getinthepicture.org](http://www.getinthepicture.org)

*CRVS Insight*



# Status of Implementation Steps

- 38 of 58 countries have established **national coordination mechanisms**, many of these since 2014
- 17 of 58 countries have developed **national CRVS strategies** and many others in process



# Progress in the Asia-Pacific:

## *Political Commitment and Coordination*

### **Achievements**

- ✧ Strong country initiatives and partnership support
- ✧ Political support
- ✧ Establishment of national targets, strategies and embedding CRVS improvements in national development plans

### **Challenges**

- ✧ Despite progress, coordination can still be improved



Interior/Home Affairs



Justice



Health



Planning & NSOs



Development partners

# Progress in the Asia-Pacific:

## *Registration Completeness*

### **Achievements**

- ✧ Improved registration legislation and procedures for access
- ✧ Registration campaigns and mobile registration increasing outreach
- ✧ Leading to notable improvements in registration especially in South Asia and the Pacific

### **Challenges**

- ✧ Completeness and inequality assessments
- ✧ Awareness and user engagement

# Progress in the Asia-Pacific:

## *Vital Statistics*

### **Achievements**

- ✘ Notable progress in production and dissemination of vital statistics based on registration records
- ✘ Increased capacity for cause of death certification
- ✘ Growing partner support for this area of CRVS

### **Challenges**

- ✘ Despite improvements, still huge gaps in cause of death certification and coding (ICD-10, VA)
- ✘ Data sharing and awareness of the potential for using civil registration data for vital statistics production
- ✘ Institutionalization of vital statistics production

# Looking ahead

Year	Activity
2015	Members and associate members submit baseline report to the secretariat
2016	Regional baseline analysis
2019	Members and associate members submit midterm report to the secretariat
2020	Midterm regional review conducted
2024	Members and associate members submit final report to the secretariat
2025	Final regional review conducted



# 2020 Ministerial Conference on CRVS

- ✧ Celebrate the midterm of the Asia and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (2015-2024)
- ✧ Review progress
- ✧ Consider direction and focus of efforts towards 2024.





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**Thank you!**

**For more information,  
please visit:**

**[www.getinthepicture.org](http://www.getinthepicture.org)**