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# Progress in implementing the Regional Action Framework: One year after the Ministerial Conference

Highlights of the “Report of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific” and deliberations at the 72nd session of the ESCAP Commission



# Purpose




Shared understanding of major achievements and gaps across Asia and the Pacific in implementing the Regional Action Framework, as well as recommendations on priority areas for collective action to maintain momentum and accelerate progress.



# Country Commitments

 Ministerial Declaration & vision for CRVS

 Regional Action Framework:

- Three goals & 15 targets
- Recommended implementation steps
- Action areas

 CRVS Decade 2015-2024

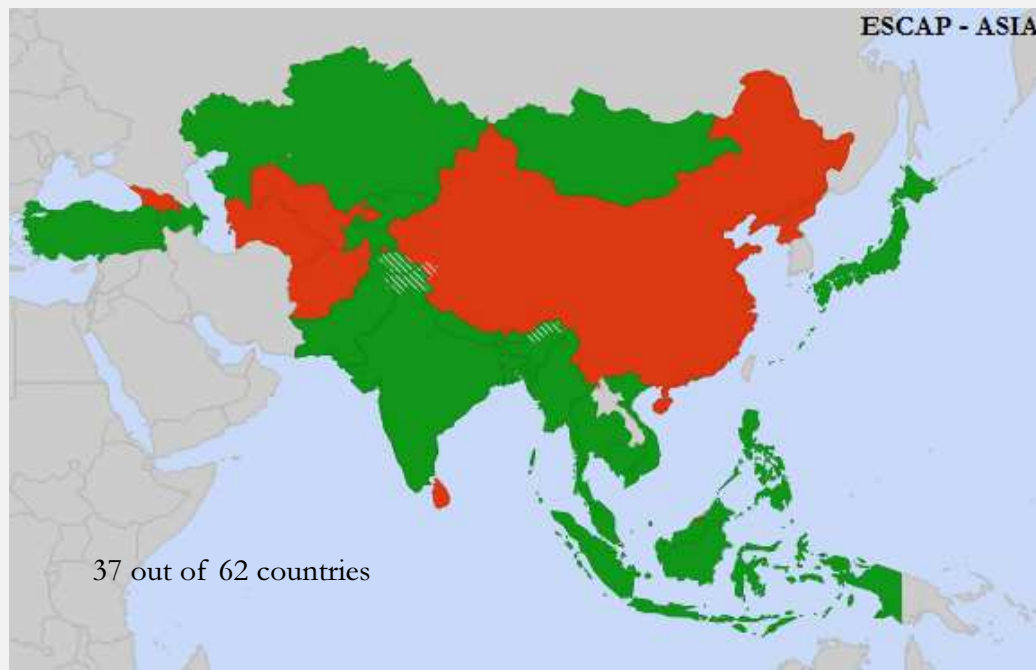
# CRVS decade & future efforts

## Reporting and regional reviews

Key dates for reporting and reviewing progress on implementing the Regional Action Framework

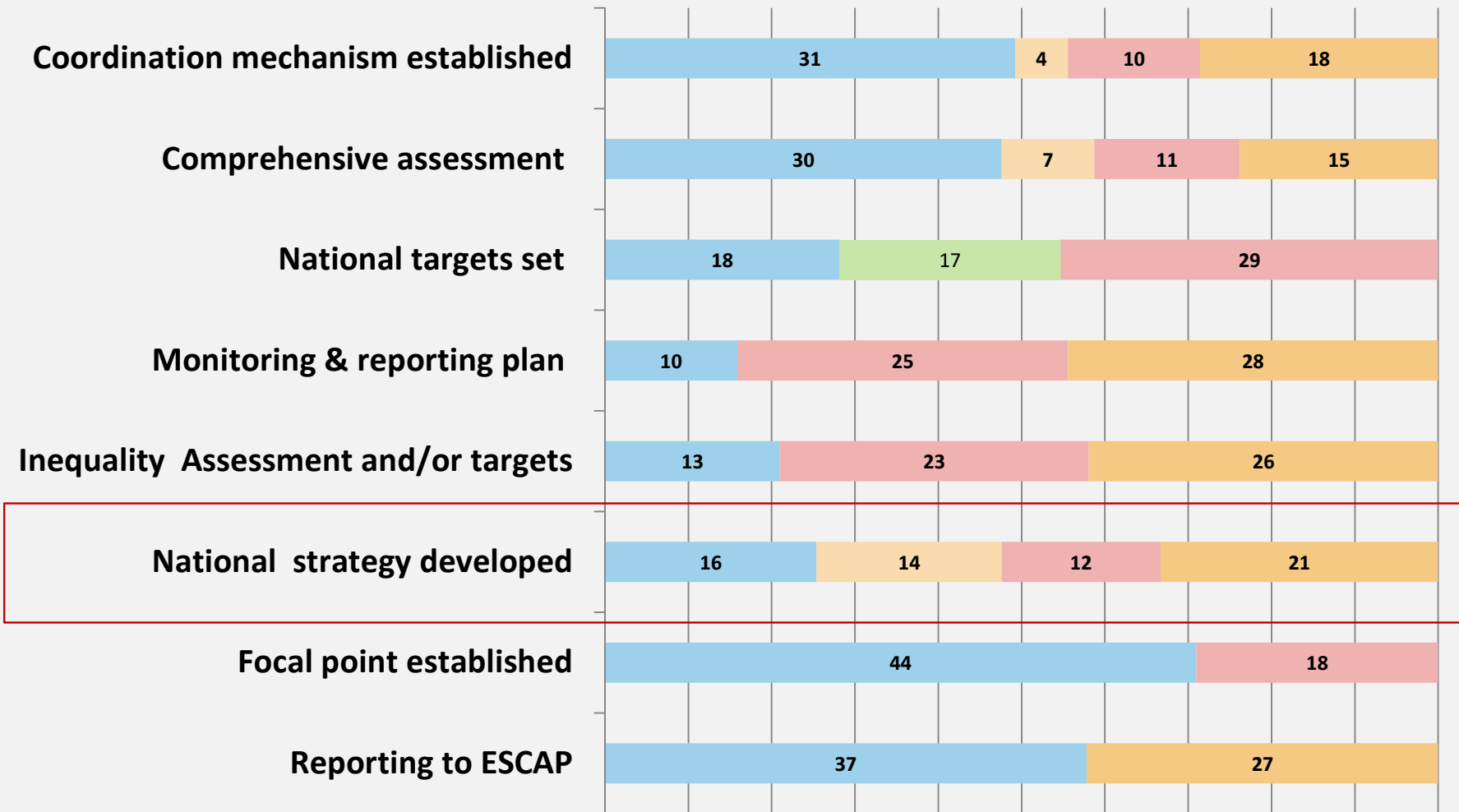
| Year | Activity  |
|------|---|
| 2015 | Members and associate members submit baseline report to the secretariat |
| 2016 | Regional baseline analysis  |
| 2019 | Members and associate members submit midterm report to the secretariat  |
| 2020 | Midterm regional review conducted                   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

Mixed results for completing first milestone:  
only (as many as) 37 member States  
submitted baseline reports



# Varying progress in implementation steps

- Yes, completed
- Some targets set
- No information currently available
- Plans to complete
- Not completed/done



# Implementations steps – Challenges (1)

## Monitoring and reporting plan(step D)


- Only 10 out 62 countries

## Inequality assessment and target setting(step E)

- Only 13 out 62 countries have done one of following actions

| Implementation step E)  | countries |
|---|-----------|
| Has your government set specific targets to address inequalities experienced by any hard-to-reach and marginalized population groups?   | 5         |
| Has any research or evaluations been conducted or is planned to identify the particular challenges faced in ensuring that subgroups /hard-to-reach marginalized populations identified above can access civil registration? | 6         |
| Has your government set specific targets to address inequalities experienced by particular geographic areas/ administrative subdivisions such as states/ provinces/ islands?  | 8         |
| Has any research or evaluations been conducted to identify the particular challenges faced by people from these geographic areas/ administrative subdivisions when accessing civil registration?                            | 3         |

## Implementations steps – Challenges (2)

 “Assess inequalities related to CRVS experienced by subgroups of the population...”

- Of the 35 countries reporting, only five indicated that they are conducting research to identify the particular challenges in accessing civil registration by subgroups
- Four countries have set national targets for subgroups



# Achieving 2024 Vision: Ambitions & challenges (1)



## Ambitions:


- Of the 35 reporting countries, 19 have set targets at or close to 100 per cent for birth registration of children within a year of birth (target 1.A)
- Thirteen of the 28 countries reporting on the target on birth registration for the total population (target 1.C) have set a target to achieve 100 per cent coverage by 2024




## Challenges:

- Determining and coding deaths in compliance with the International Classification of Diseases is an area in need of improvement across the region, even in comparatively well-functioning CRVS systems.
- Identifying and reaching out to marginalized groups.

## Achieving 2024 Vision: Ambitions & challenges (2)

 The targets regarding registration of births of children within a year (target 1.A) and under 5 years of age (target 1.B) are closely linked to Sustainable Development Goal 16.9

 12 countries have more than 98 per cent coverage, some of which are making substantial efforts to ensure registration of the remaining few.

# Achieving 2024 Vision: Ambitions & challenges (3)

## Vital stats

- Half of the reporting countries stated that they had already achieved the three targets regarding the dissemination of vital statistics
- Twelve out of 28 countries reported that they were already publishing accurate, complete and timely vital statistics reports based on registration records
- 3.G (Cause of Death) 12 countries have achieved this, generally survey based

# 72<sup>nd</sup> Commission Session



Took note of the report which contained requests by RSG to:

- Urge governments to reaffirm their commitment to the improvement of CRVS and implementation of the Regional Action Framework
- Encourage countries to increasingly share experiences and good practice
- Acknowledge the extensive support given by development partners and encourage further investments from donors and national Governments



Very few countries made statements relating to CRVS

- This may be because the delegations might not sufficiently briefed, hence the need for awareness-raising within the national context

# Where do we go from here?



## National reports

- Despite the on-going momentum, one third of the member countries haven't submitted baseline reports. Are we satisfied with this?




## Implementation steps - notably

- Step D, monitoring and reporting
- Step E, inequality assessment and targets, supported by poor data disaggregation on inequalities
- Other implementation steps?



## Ultimately, three goals & 15 targets?

# But more generally...

 Prioritizing: Reaching out to the rest of the countries (having not submitted baseline reports) or focusing on supporting those that have initiated implementation?

 -- In case of latter:

- In what action areas is the implementation of the Regional Action Framework adequate and where strengthened efforts are required?
- What should be done to address issues around inequality assessments and outreach to marginalized groups (i.e. reporting, awareness)?

# RAF action areas...

- Political commitment: ??
- Public engagement, participation & generating demand: ??
- Coordination: ??
- Policies, legislation and implementation of regulations: ??
- Infrastructure & resources: ??
- Operational procedures, practices & innovations: ??
- Production, dissemination & use of vital statistics: ??





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