



Get
every one
in the picture



**CIVIL
REGISTRATION
AND VITAL
STATISTICS
DECADE IN ASIA
AND THE PACIFIC**

*The situation at the
beginning of the
CRVS Decade*



**For more information, please visit
www.getinthepicture.org**

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



In 2015, Heads of State and Government agreed on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with 17 SDGs and 169 associated targets. Of these, 10 goals and more than one-third of the targets require data from CRVS systems, primarily in the form of population data.

Well-functioning national CRVS systems are critical to monitor country progress towards the SDGs and a key strategy to ensuring no one is left behind. In addition, target 16.9 highlights the need for universal birth registration.



Why is CRVS so important?



Civil registration provides the basis for **individual legal identity**



Vital statistics allows for **effective planning**, such as schools, roads, hospitals



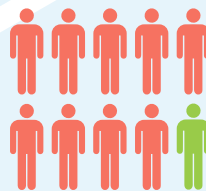
Understanding why and where people are dying helps **fight disease and infant & maternal mortality**.

**...Yet still in
Asia and
the Pacific:**



135
MILLION
CHILDREN
UNDER FIVE
A R E
NOT
REGISTERED

[source: UNICEF]



9 of **10**
PEOPLE
IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
LIVE
IN COUNTRIES WITH
UNRELIABLE
DEATH
STATISTICS

[source: WHO]

When Kyaw turned five, his mother took him to enroll in primary school

Like other parents, she was beyond excited and could not wait to see her son in a school uniform. But to her horror, **her son was denied enrolment. He didn't have a birth certificate.**

Children without birth certificates are far more vulnerable than those with them. Without a birth certificate, it is often difficult to go to school or travel around the country and it increases the risk of statelessness and trafficking.

“I thought my son will be allowed to enroll in the school, even without a birth certificate,” she said. “I felt so sad and hopeless when my son was not accepted at school.”

Kyaw's mother was desperate to find a solution and started saving money so she could apply for a birth certificate. Late registrations are often a costly and cumbersome affair. With perseverance, Kyaw's mother managed to obtain the various documents needed and within two months, an official birth certificate for Kyaw was ready.

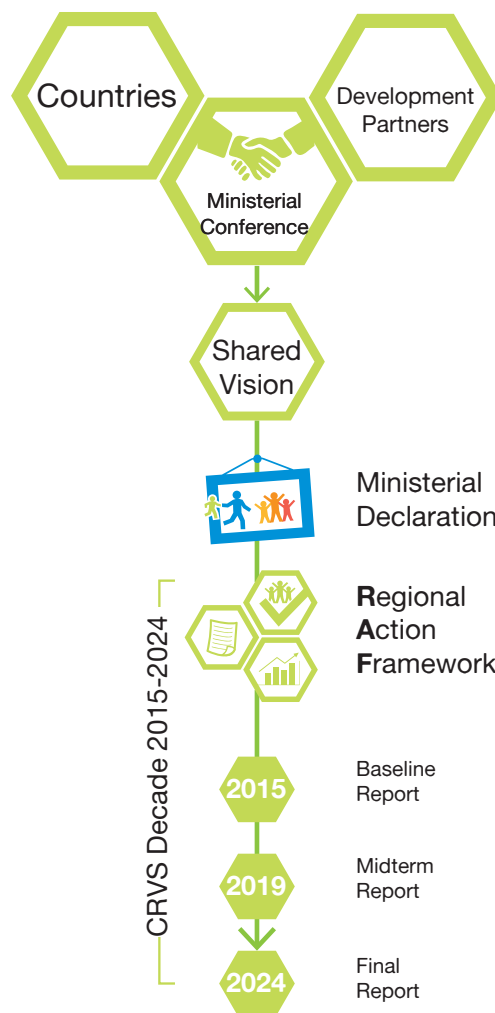
When school enrolment began again this past June, Kyaw was ready. He and his mother walked confidently into the school office to register Kyaw as a grade 1 student, and at this very moment, Kyaw is receiving the education he came so close to missing out on.



The Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

adopted the **Ministerial Declaration to ‘Get Every One in the Picture’** and proclaimed the **‘Asian and Pacific CRVS Decade’** for 2015-2024.

The Ministerial Declaration outlines the commitment of governments to achieve the 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.



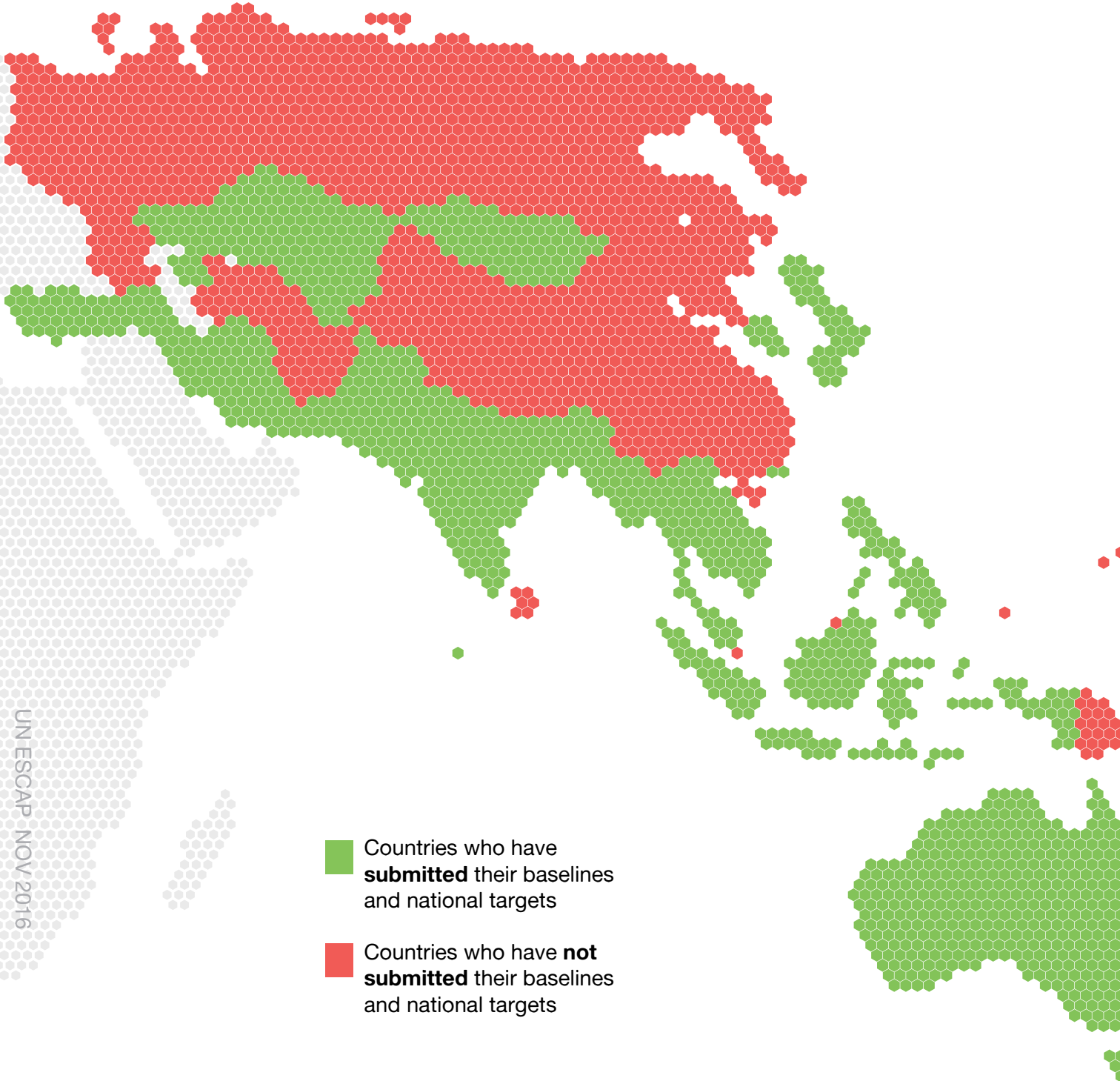
The Regional Action Framework

is a catalyst for Governments and development partners to focus and accelerate their efforts to realize the shared vision.



The Regional Action Framework is composed of three overarching goals as well as 15 nationally set targets and 8 implementation steps, which countries should complete to support CRVS system improvement.

The Regional Action Framework reflects the urgent need to improve CRVS systems in the Asia and the Pacific





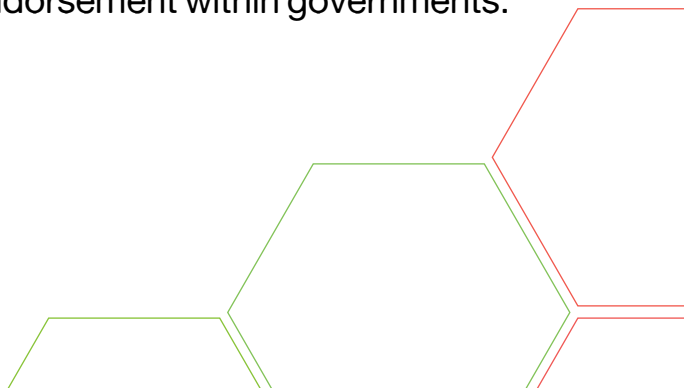
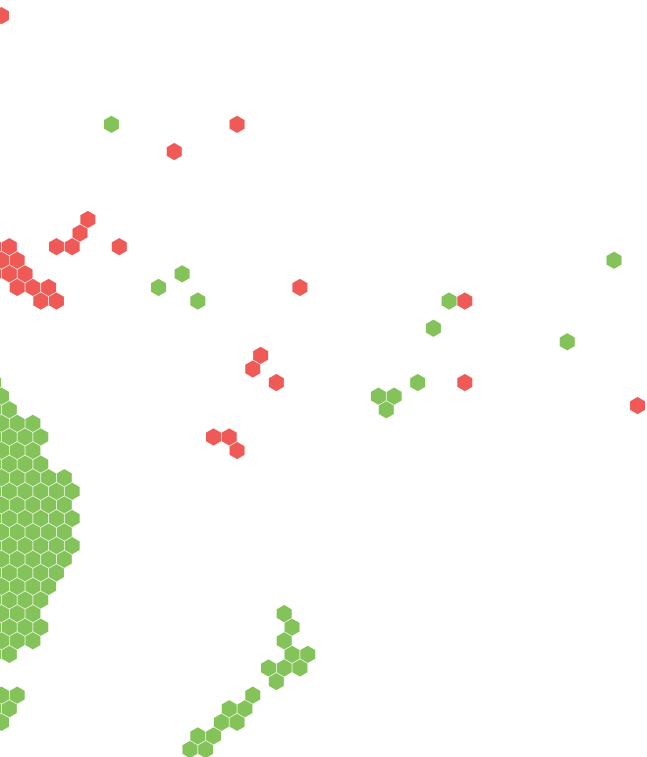
UN ESCAP NOV 2016

-  Countries who have **submitted** their baselines and national targets
-  Countries who have **not submitted** their baselines and national targets

The current situation of CRVS in Asia and the Pacific

In 2015/2016, 37 countries in Asia and the Pacific submitted their baselines for the CRVS Decade. The baseline reports analyzed the status of countries' CRVS systems against the 15 targets under the Regional Action Framework.

Countries also reported on their 15 national targets for the CRVS Decade and highlighted which of these they have already achieved and which would demand substantial work, support, and resources to be achieved. Setting the national targets was often a cumbersome process demanding high-level endorsement within governments.





Civil Registration

Goal 1: Universal civil registration of births, deaths and other vital events

1A

1B

1C

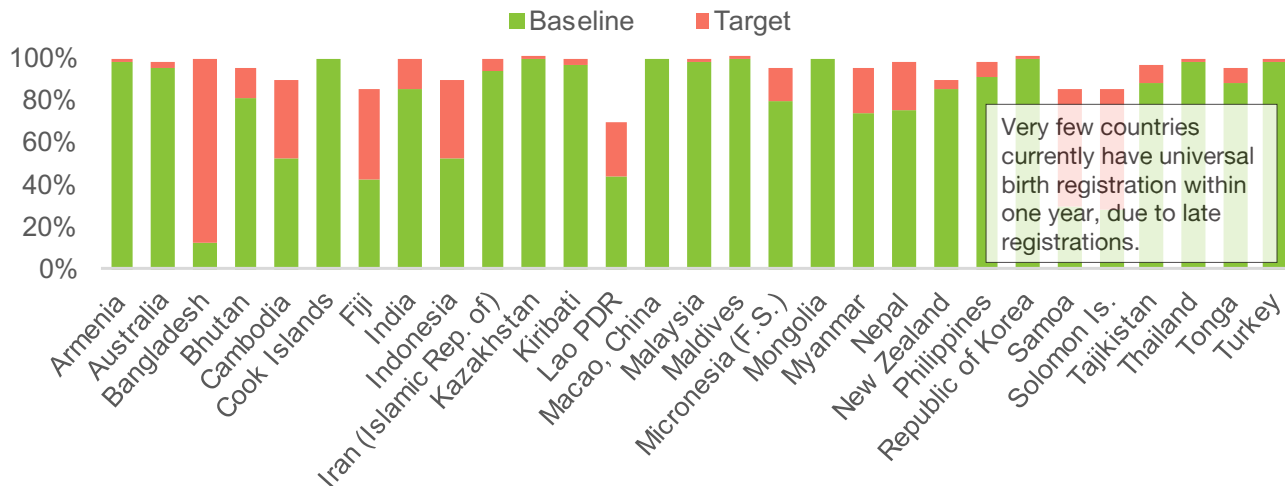
Are births registered in Asia and the Pacific?

Yes, most births are registered, but there are still millions of children and adults who have not had their birth registered. Most countries have set ambitious targets for improving birth registration with 17 countries in the region aiming to have more than 98 per cent of their population registered before the end of the decade.

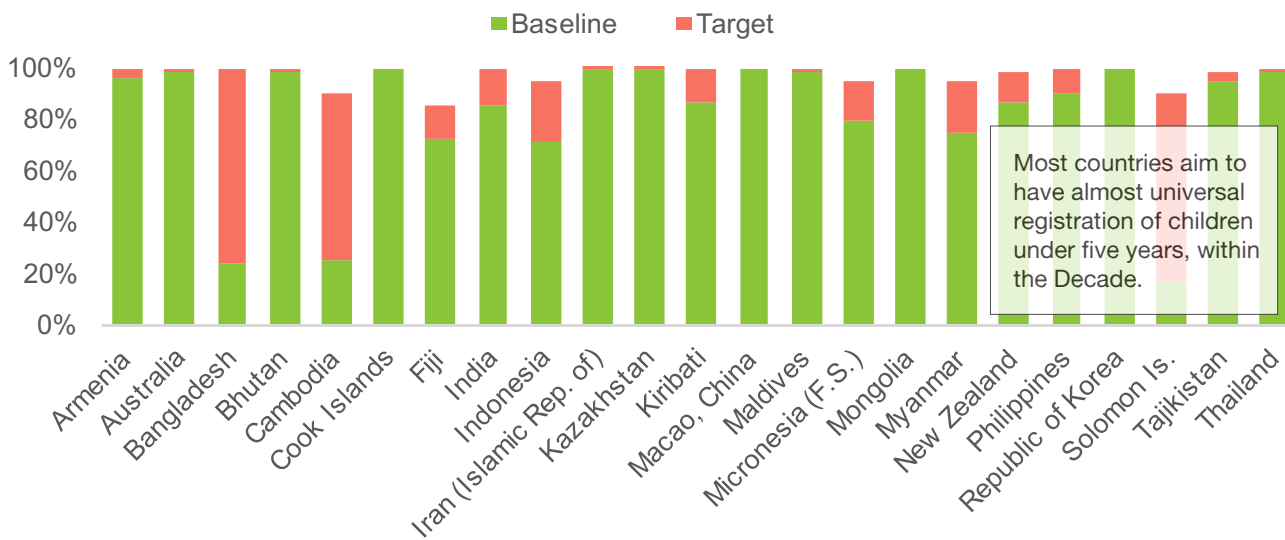
The first three targets of the Regional Action Framework highlight the completeness of birth registration within one year after the birth (1A), for children under 5 (1B), and for the entire population (1C).

Completeness of birth registration for the entire population was difficult for many countries to assess; emphasizing the barriers in measuring and attaining the Sustainable Development Goal on legal identity for all.

Target 1A: Percentage of births that are registered within one year



Target 1B: Percentage of children under 5 years that have had their births registered



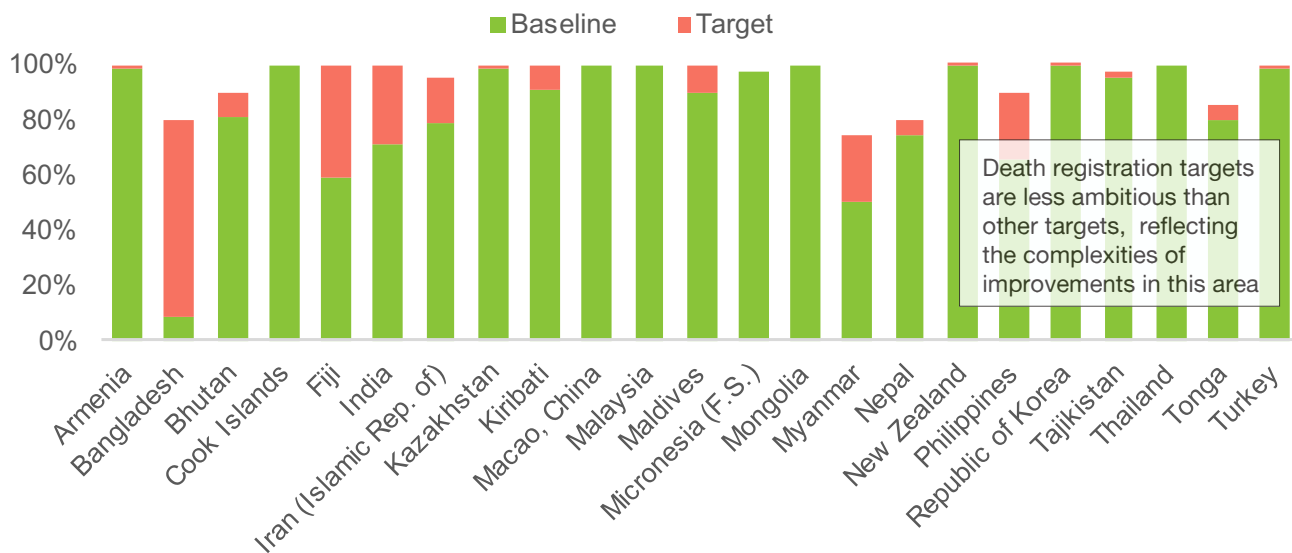


Death registration is particularly challenging and many countries will not be able to achieve universal death registration within the decade

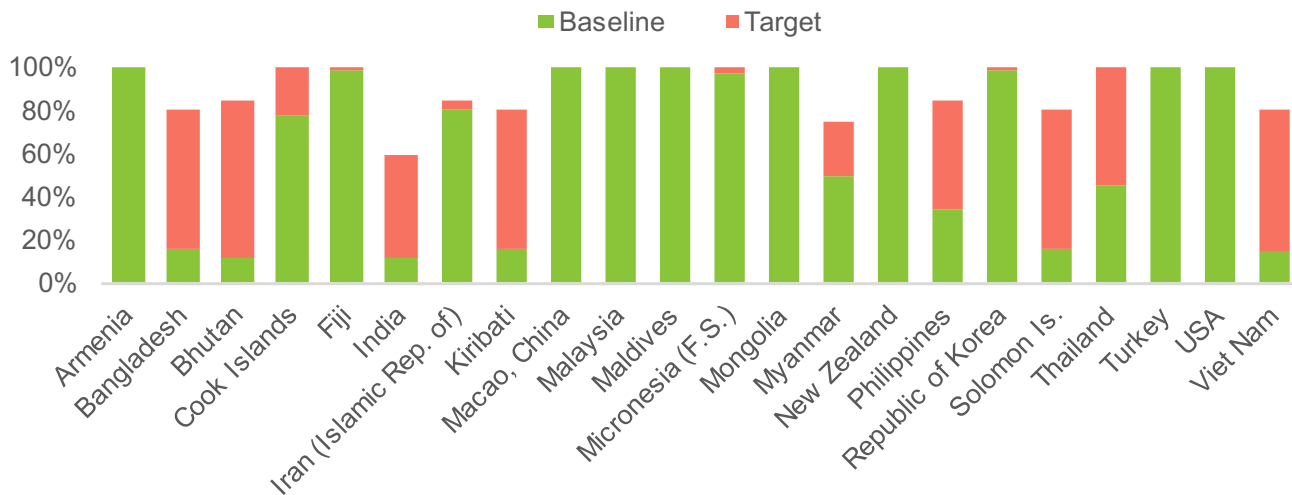
Targets 1D and 1E focus on the completeness of death registration, one of the most challenging areas of civil registration. Only 11 of the 37 reporting countries have set targets of 100% completeness for death registration (1D) and cause of death certification (1E).

Improvements on the certification of cause of death is needed in many countries in the region. Several baseline reports highlighted that causes of death are not currently routinely recorded.

Target 1D: Percentage of all deaths that are registered



Target 1E: Percentage of deaths recorded by the health sector with medically certified cause of death





Legal Documents

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 ensuring rights

2A

2B

Do individuals receive legal documentation when they register?

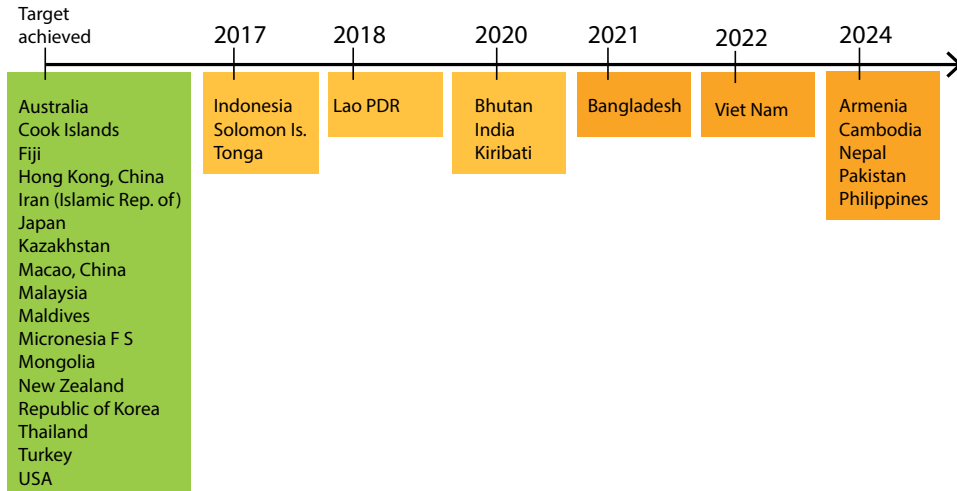
Yes, many countries automatically produce certificates when births and deaths are registered. This said, 30 percent of reporting countries require improvements to ensure that legal documentation is readily accessible to all individuals. Legal documentation is strongly linked with a broad range of rights.



Goal 3:

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

Target 3A: By which year countries aim to produce disaggregated statistics on births



3A

Annual production of vital statistics on births

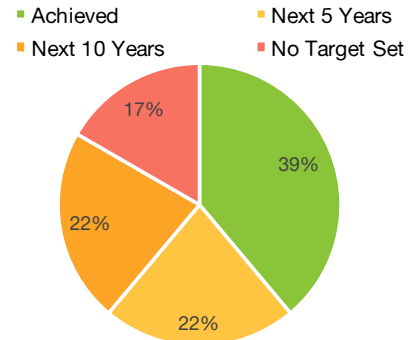
Half of the reporting countries need improvements to produce annual disaggregated statistics on births based on registration records and administrative data.

Statistics on deaths and causes of death have severe shortcomings in the region

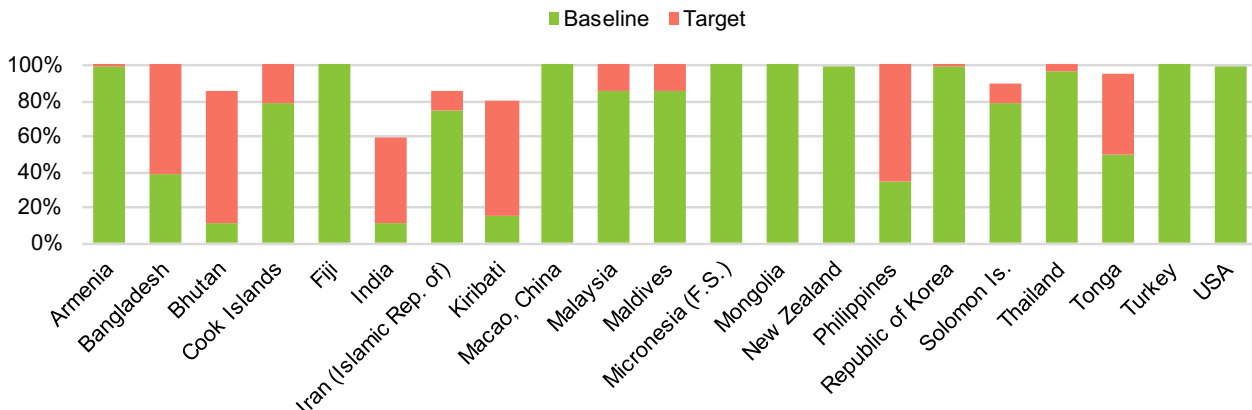
This information is essential for designing, implementing and monitoring health policy.

Six in ten countries do not publish disaggregated statistics on deaths and only ten countries report that all deaths are coded using the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), while most of the reporting countries are not currently able to ensure all deaths are registered and achieve complete coding of causes of deaths.

Target 3B: Publication of disaggregated death statistics



Target 3C: Percentage of deaths within health facilities assigned an underlying cause of death code as defined by ICD





Are vital statistics on births, deaths, and causes of deaths timely and accessible?

The region shows wide variation: some countries are already disseminating timely and accessible statistics on births, deaths, and causes of deaths, while others aim to do this by the end of the decade.

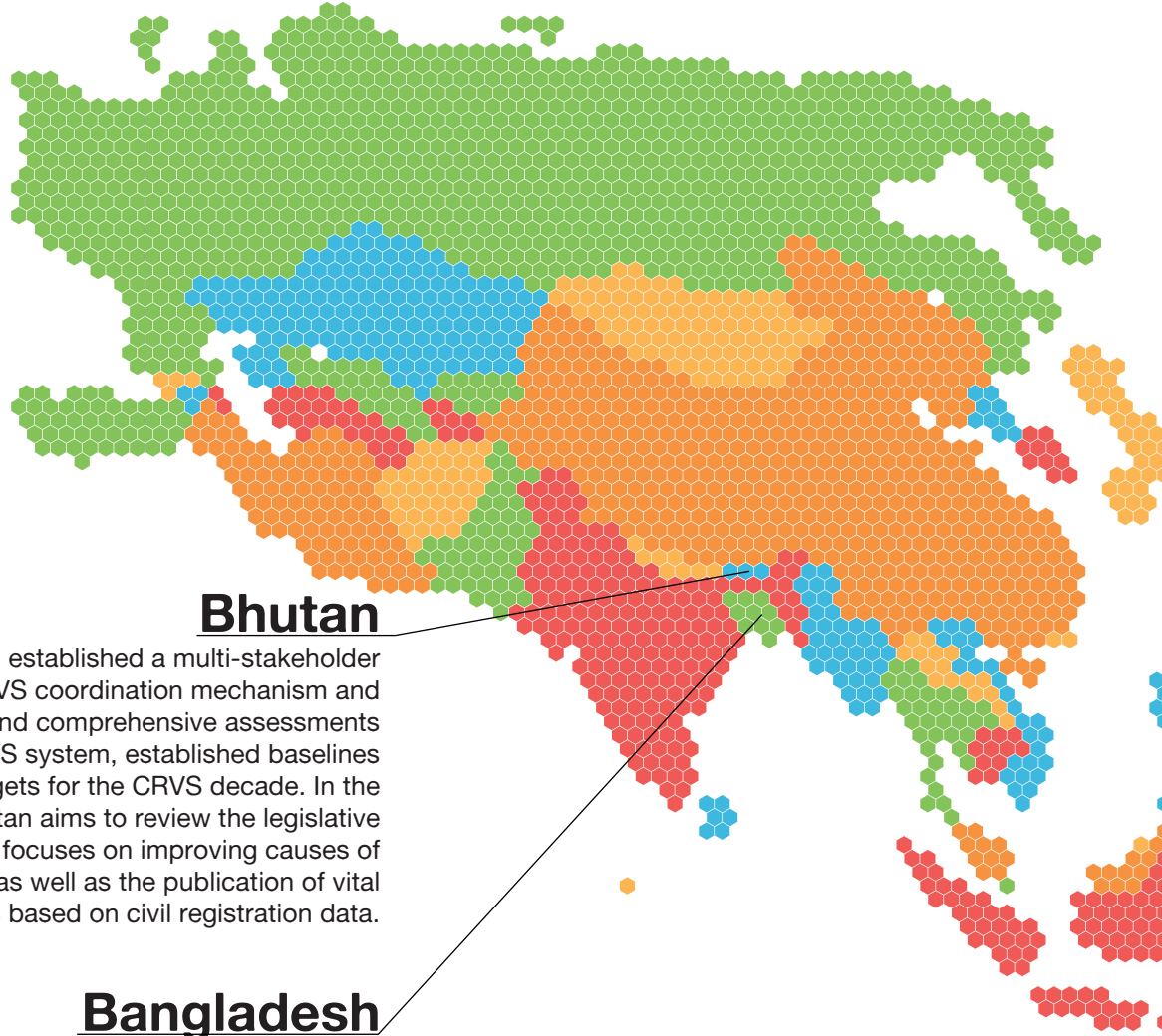
The use of registration records as the main source for statistics on the causes of death (3G) is a challenge

for several countries, that primarily rely on household surveys, resulting in less timely data and difficulties in analyzing patterns for subgroups or specific geographical areas.

16 out of 28 countries do not currently publish accurate, complete and timely vital statistics reports based on registration records (3H).

Target 3F: Publication of vital statistics on births and deaths, within one calendar years



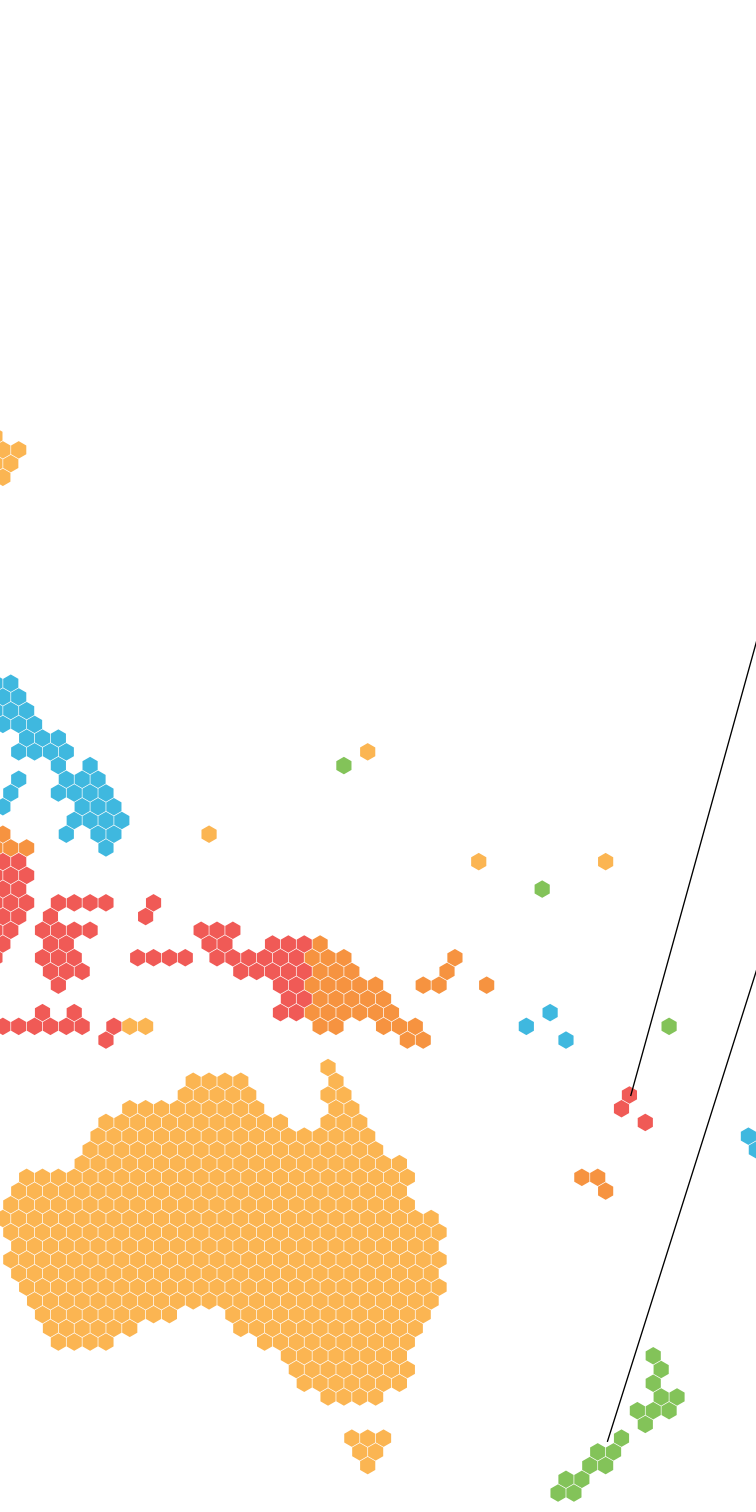


Bhutan

During 2016, Bhutan established a multi-stakeholder national CRVS coordination mechanism and conducted rapid and comprehensive assessments of the country's CRVS system, established baselines and set national targets for the CRVS decade. In the coming years, Bhutan aims to review the legislative framework and focuses on improving causes of death information as well as the publication of vital statistics reports based on civil registration data.

Bangladesh

Since CRVS is fundamental to many government agencies responsible for service delivery, the government of Bangladesh has developed a model for national coordination to develop a comprehensive, responsive and universal civil registry. To achieve this, the Birth and Death Registration Act, the National ID Act and the Statistics Act have all been recently revised with further revisions planned. The National Health Policy and other policies are also being aligned with this.

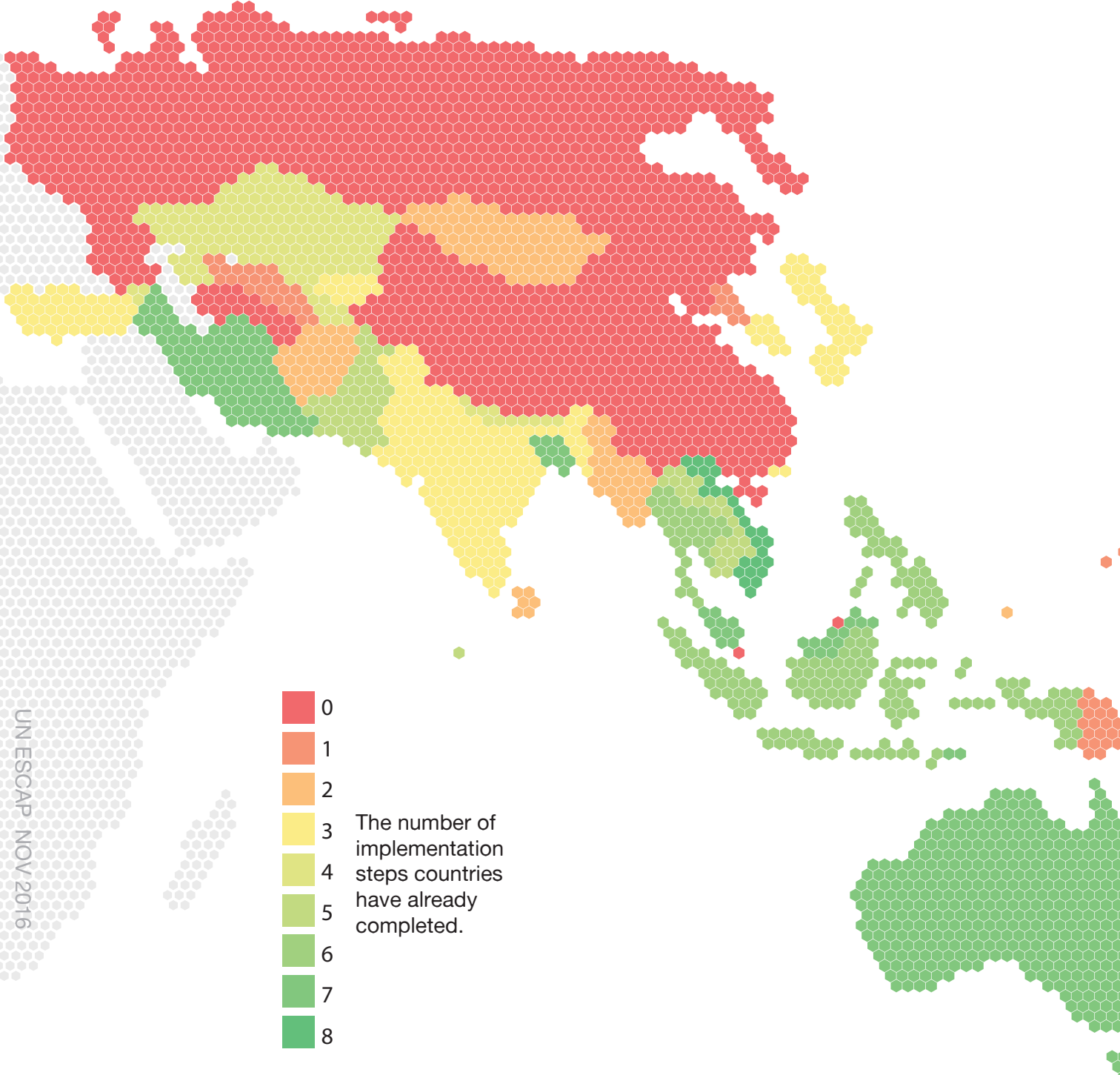


Vanuatu

The development of the Civil Registry's Information Management System by the Department of Civil Status in Vanuatu received international recognition for promoting national ownership. A key component of this system is decentralization which helps to reach out to families in some of the hardest to reach islands.

New Zealand

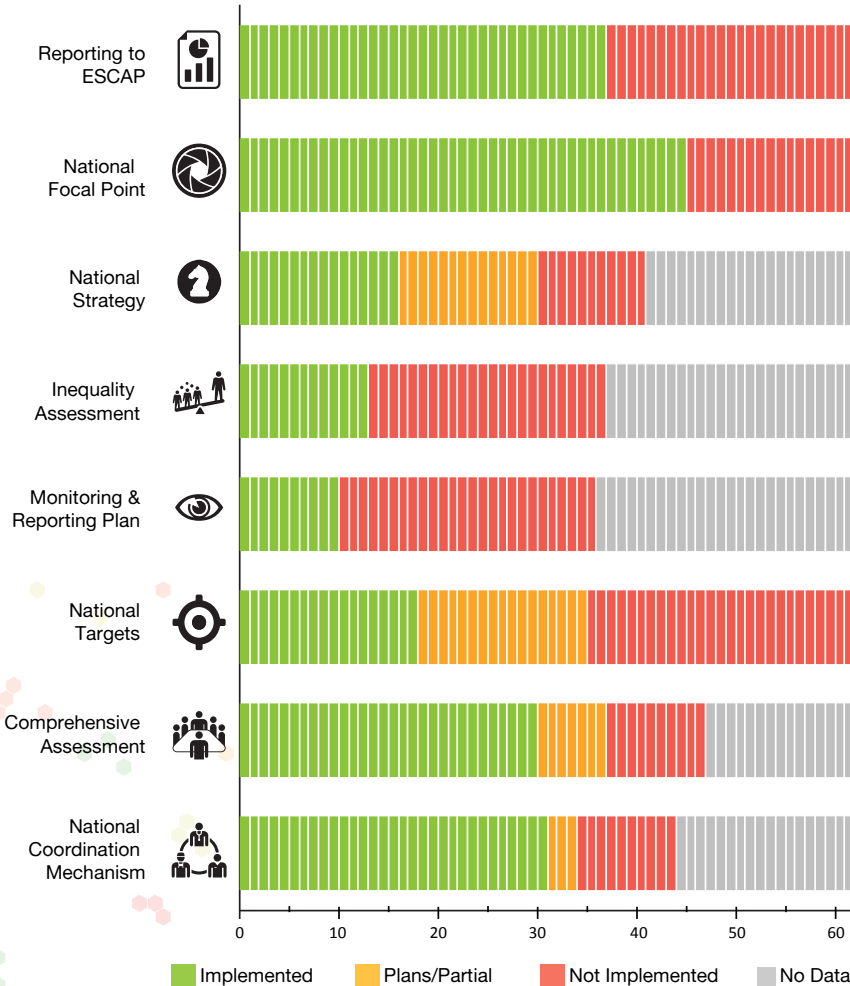
SmartStart is a new online tool giving easy access to services and support during pregnancy and baby's first year. At the same time as registering their babies, parents can get a tax number for the child, receive entitlements and apply for extra financial assistance. Future releases will link to early childhood education and issuing of passports.



The number of implementation steps countries have already completed.

Countries are taking steps to improve CRVS systems

The Regional Action Framework outlines a set of implementation steps that countries should undertake in a logical sequence to improve the CRVS system. 45 countries have assigned national CRVS focal points, while only 10 have completed a monitoring and evaluation plan for their CRVS improvement over the decade.



◀ **Number of countries having completed the various implementation steps**



Development partners are also committed

A wide network of partners in Asia and the Pacific are engaged in improving CRVS systems across the region. These development partners work together to support countries in their implementation of the Regional Action Framework throughout the Asian and Pacific CRVS Decade (2015-2024).

In addition to the regional partnership of organizations working on CRVS, several sub-regional initiatives align partners' activities within a subset of the countries in Asia and Pacific.

The high-level political commitment to improve CRVS as shown in the Ministerial Declaration and the SDG target on legal identity for all, highlight the desire to improve CRVS in Asia Pacific and globally.

There are many challenges still to overcome, but countries and development partners in Asia and the Pacific are working together to Get Every One in the Picture.

**The
Time
is
Now!**





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