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Get
every one
in the picture

First Line of Defense: Perspective of Children and Youth in Asia Pacific on CRVS

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 DATA FOR
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Born and Known

- ◆ **Birth Registration** is a foundation for all the **rights and well-being of children**.
- ◆ UNICEF Data: Globally, the births of 166 million children under the age of 5 have never been recorded. About 1 out of 3 of these children (64 million) live in Asia and the Pacific
- ◆ Significant progress to strengthen CRVS however still much to be done to ensure a universal and responsive CRVS.
- ◆ Children and Youth are among the most vulnerable sectors in ensuring everyone is in the picture.
- ◆ The voices of children and youth on CRVS should be considered in the policy designing and decision making on CRVS.

A child and youth co-led consultations

- ◆ The design of the consultations followed methods and principles of research, primarily qualitative that employed both offline and online instruments (FGD, interviews and survey)
- ◆ Aimed to capture the range of and the salient among the expressed views in response to open-ended and pointed questions on birth, marriage and death registration
- ◆ Ethical, meaningful, participatory approach in country level children and youth consultations and regional forum
- ◆ **561 Participants:** 355 Children (aged 6-17); 206 Youth (18-24) from different sub-sectors of children and youth
- ◆ **11 Countries:** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Thailand
- ◆ Child safeguarding protocol are required to ensure all respondents participate a child-friendly, age appropriate and safe consultations

Getting Children and Youth in the Picture

- Over 80% of the children and youth had direct or indirect experience on registration and shared the impact it had over their or other's lives.
- Registration is important for children and youth – shared both favourable experiences and challenges on CRVS
- Government and Parents are key players in successful registration
- Institutional barriers stem, from CRVS-related agencies' policies and practices.
- Lack of registration is an intergenerational concern
- To address the barriers, children and youth call all CRVS stakeholders to include them in the decision making process to ensure CRVS is accessible to all, leaving no one behind.

Conclusions:

- ◆ Children and Youth highlighted the important role of the government in streamlining registration process while strengthening capabilities, reaching rural locations and digital infrastructure.
- ◆ NGOs are seen to help communities as intermediates in birth registration.
- ◆ For children and youth, to guarantee that all births, marriages and deaths are recorded, and to reduce the consequences of non-registration, stakeholders might consider their recommendations.
- ◆ Civil Registration is the first line of defense to protect every child and youth and to access the basic services and fulfilment of their human rights.
- ◆ Children and youth joint statement was presented during the 2nd Ministerial Conference on CRVS in November 2021