

Session 3.3: Ms. Lumana Upreti

- ◆ Legal Expert
- ◆ Himal Innovative Development and Research
- ◆ Nepal
- ◆ Abstract
- ◆ Paper





**Get
every one
in the picture**

Practices and Legal and Practical Barriers to Birth Registration in Nepal

Lumana Upreti

Himal Innovative Development and Research, Nepal

Asia-Pacific CRVS Research Forum

3–4 April 2023 | Bangkok, Thailand



**Bloomberg
Philanthropies**

 **DATA FOR
HEALTH INITIATIVE**

Acknowledgements

- ◆ This paper is crucial for comprehending Nepal's practical impediments to childbirth registration.
- ◆ It gives an objective assessment of the underlying legal, practical, and social barriers to registering a birth in Nepal, as well as pragmatic recommendations.
- ◆ We are thankful to Ms. Indu Tuladhar to lead this research and bringing about such insightful findings.

Introduction

- ◆ In the CRVS system, birth registration is paramount as it is the foremost document that aids in securing subsequent vital events registration like marriage and migration.
- ◆ The birth registration rate in Nepal has significantly increased from 35 percent in 2006 to 77 percent in 2019 for children below five years.
- ◆ By 2030, the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16.9 aspires to guarantee legal identification to all. 15th periodic place of Nepal Government
- ◆ However, achieving 100% birth registration still faces several challenges.
- ◆ The following the specific objectives:
 - ✓ To identify cultural, political, geographical, and perceptual barriers that prevent one from accessing and receiving birth registration.
 - ✓ To provide a list of practical solutions and recommendations for legal reforms, capacity enhancement, incentive and motivational schemes, and other programs at the local level.

Methodology: Mixed method approach

Desk Review

Focus Group Discussion- 16
FGD with 130 participants

Consultation- 1 with 30
participants

In Person Survey- 395
parents/adult members



Findings

- ◆ About 30 percent of the participating parents/ guardians registered childbirth within 35 days
- ◆ Birth of boy child registered more (12%) as compared to that of girls (4%).
- ◆ Barriers to Birth Registration
 - ✓ Lack of Citizenship of Parents Prevents a Child's Birth Registration
 - ✓ Children born out of Early and Child Marriage
 - ✓ Problems of requiring evidence of parent's whereabouts
 - ✓ Single mother's child prevented from birth registration
 - ✓ Limitations on the correction of personal details
 - ✓ Family members not cooperating with the women and child
 - ✓ Distant registrar office and no time availability

Conclusion

- Even with constitutional and legal mandate for birth registration, children are denied access to this right due to procedural impediments in online and offline registration.
- Practical and legal barriers are intertwined with each other. Without addressing legal barriers practical barriers will not be resolved.

