



# Asia-Pacific CRVS Research Forum

3–4 April 2023 | Bangkok, Thailand



## **Speaker Bio: Mr. Ariel Odtojan, World Vision East Asia**

Mr. Odtojan serves as the Regional Advocacy and Campaigns Manager for World Vision East Asia. He is a political scientist with a background in Public Management and Development. He is passionate about advocating for children's rights, creating platforms for their meaningful participation, and providing venues to help them achieve their full potential. He is particularly interested in influencing policy changes that promote children's well-being.

With a strong commitment to promoting universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems, Mr. Odtojan has engaged in lobbying efforts aimed at enacting legislation that would mandate universal birth registration in the Philippines.

In 2021, World Vision East Asia, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Child Rights Coalition (CRC) Asia, conducted a comprehensive consultation process with children and youth across 11 countries, garnering insights from over 500 respondents. The outcomes of these consultations were used to craft a joint statement that articulated the perspectives and aspirations of children and youth concerning CRVS systems, which was presented during the 2nd Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific in November 2021.

Mr. Odtojan will be discussing the outcomes of these consultations, as well as provide updates on the meaningful contributions of children and youth towards shaping and realizing an inclusive, responsive, and equitable CRVS system.