
CRVS Insight

June 2023



Countries gather in Ankara, Türkiye, to investigate ways of increasing the use of administrative data in censuses

The Regional Training Workshop on Transition to Register-based Approaches for Population and Housing Censuses took place from 12 to 15 June 2023 in Ankara, Türkiye,

Over 30 participants from 12 countries attended the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to strengthen participants' capacity on how to better use administrative data to support the census. Participants learned about the concept and features of register-based approaches for censuses and discussed the requirements, challenges, opportunities, and processes involved. The workshop also provided the opportunity to share knowledge and experience, as well as to learn from success stories. The participants also had a half-day study tour to the Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT), which is one of the pioneers in conducting register-based censuses in the Asia and Pacific region.

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) organized this workshop in partnership with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). The workshop was hosted by the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative.

More information on the workshop can be found [here](#).



Civil registration professionals convened in Dhaka, Bangladesh, to share experiences on CRVS improvement in South Asia

The third Civil Registration Professionals of South Asia (CR8) meeting was jointly organized by ESCAP and the UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia, and hosted by the Office of the Registrar General, Local Government Division, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, from 6 to 8 June 2023 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The meeting was supported financially by Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative. It brought together more than 100 civil registration professionals from South Asia to discuss priority areas of common concern. Key themes for the meeting were resilience to future shocks and climate change, assessing and addressing inequalities in CRVS, and links between the CRVS system, identity management, and service delivery.

The meeting was convened to review progress against the Asian and Pacific CRVS Decade (2015-2024) and to take stock of efforts to strengthen CRVS systems in South Asia, highlight the successes, good practices and lessons learned, and identify promising and effective initiatives and investments that need to be prioritized and/or resourced to scale-up initiatives in the region. It also provided an opportunity to review the impact of COVID-19 on the Regional Action Framework targets and identify areas for accelerated action.

Resources for the fourth CR8 meeting, including a background paper on CRVS system linkages for service delivery, can be found [here](#).



Supporting evidence to inform policy outcomes in Fiji: First consultative meeting

The consultative meeting was held online on 21 June 2023. It presented an opportunity for relevant stakeholders to share experiences with the evidence to action cycle and offer opinions on how it can be improved in Fiji. The objective of the project is to ensure that data and evidence are used effectively and disseminated in a way that is conducive to policy use. Representatives from the national statistics office, national focal points for CRVS, Ministries of Health and Justice and other key producers and users of CRVS data gathered to discuss needs, gaps and priorities in this context. The consultation was hosted by the Fiji Bureau of Statistics, organized by ESCAP, and supported by the Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative. Going forward, stakeholders are expected to identify priority policy areas, and to develop and disseminate knowledge materials to facilitate policy discussions. More information on the consultation can be found [here](#).



First national capacity building and consultation workshop in Turkmenistan for CRVS system Business Process Improvement

The national workshop for Turkmenistan CRVS System Business Process Improvement took place in Ashgabat from 6-8 June 2023. The workshop was organized by ESCAP and UNFPA Turkmenistan and received financial support from Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative. The objective of the three-day workshop was to consult with relevant national CRVS stakeholders to conduct an assessment, analysis and redesign of civil registration business processes and to strengthen the capacity of national CRVS stakeholders to analyze CRVS business processes as part of continued CRVS system strengthening. The workshop included presentations by ESCAP staff and group exercises. The findings of this assessment will be compiled in a final report which is due to be presented to high-level policy makers in August. More information available [here](#).



USAPI CRVS technical working group meeting

The [Pacific Island Health Officers Association \(PIHOA\)](#) organized a U.S.- Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPI) Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Technical Working Group meeting on 14-16 June in Honolulu, Hawaii. The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Establish a USAPI CRVS Technical Working Group
- Review existing CRVS resources and strategies
- Understand CRVS systems in all the USAPIs
- Identify gaps in USAPI CRVS systems
- Discuss plans for action steps and strategies moving forward

The workshop included epidemiologists, vital statistic registrars, and health information specialists from the U.S.- Affiliated Pacific Islands as well as partners from the [Pacific Community \(SPC\)](#) and the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials \(ASTHO\)](#). Participants worked on mapping USAPI CRVS systems with gap analysis and discussed local and regional priorities to inform strategic improvement plans and monitoring. More information can be found [here](#).



National workshop for Nauru CRVS system Business Process Improvement

The Nauru Business Process Improvement analysis and redesign workshop took place on 25 May 2023. It was organized and coordinated by ESCAP and UNDP, with financial support from the Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative. During the workshop, the core team of national CRVS stakeholders focused on analyzing CRVS process descriptions, identifying key performances issues and redesign ideas for overcoming existing bottlenecks. The assessment focused on the processes of birth and death registration, including those events occurring overseas, as well as marriage and divorce registration. A presentation on the Digital Readiness Assessment was also delivered by UNDP. The workshop included 20 participants from Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM), the Nauru Bureau of Statistics, the Department of Justice and Border Control, among others. More information on the workshop can be found [here](#).



Kick-off meeting for the measuring adult mortality community of practice

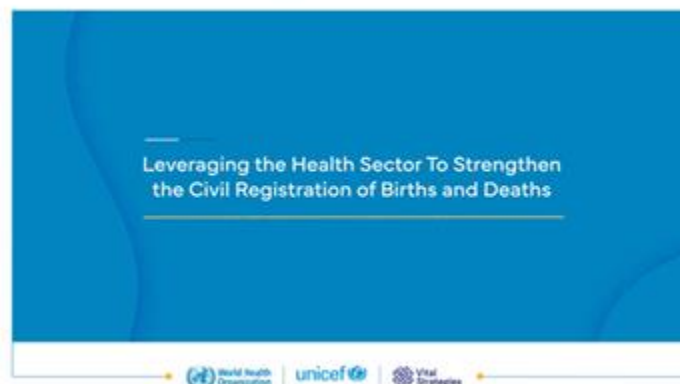
The kickoff meeting of the Measuring Adult Mortality Community of Practice (MAM-CoP) was held virtually on 17 and 18 May 2023, to accommodate different time zones. The objective of the meeting was to signify the start of the MAM-CoP, that brings together experts, researchers, and practitioners from different fields to share knowledge and best practices, collaborate on

research and interventions, and ultimately contribute to reducing adult mortality rates and to agree upon the path forward and ways of working. The meeting brought together 96 participants from academia, National Statistics Offices, health ministries, civil society organizations, among others. It was jointly organized by ESCAP, UNSD and New York Abu Dhabi University and supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative.



Draft law on CRVSID in Cambodia approved by Prime Minister

The Council of Ministers of Cambodia approved [a draft law on civil registry documents, statistics, and identification](#) on May 19. The law concerns key life events, including birth, death, and marriage registration, among others. According to a press release issued by the Council, the regulatory framework governing civil registration, statistics and identification does not fully reflect contemporary societal development in Cambodia. The new bill seeks to set forth precise rules and procedures in these areas to better safeguard associated rights and promote the quality of public services. The law also aims to serve as a foundation for managing statistics, civil registration, censuses, and development planning, as well as to ensure a legal identify for everyone.



Just launched: E-learning course on building strong connections between the health sector and the civil registration system

UNICEF, WHO and Vital Strategies have launched a new e-learning course on building stronger connections between the health sector and the civil registration system. This 5-hour course aims to enable birth and death registration by capitalizing on the health sector's reach and service delivery. It is targeted at two audiences: 1) mid-level managers and policymakers and 2) on-the-ground technical staff. The course seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- Leverage existing material and experiences,
- Provide a good understanding of the registration process and the different scenarios,
- Enhance and upskill competencies related to birth and death registration.

The course is available in English and French. Enroll at this [link](#).

RESOURCES

- Action Plan for Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics: 2023-2026. Available [here](#).
 - Addressing the Scandal of Invisibility in Asia and the Pacific. Available [here](#).
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **6 July 2023:** [Journey Towards ICD-11 in the Pacific Webinar #3: ICD applications, introduction to WHO-FIC, and in-depth ICD-11 transition discussion \(registration required\)](#).
 - **11-12 July 2023:** [Supporting evidence to inform policy outcomes in Bangladesh: First consultative meeting](#).
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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Pacific Community, Technical Expert (Interoperability and data sharing between Civil Registration, Health, Information, Statistics and associated systems). More details [here](#).
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