

Afghanistan Central Civil Registration Authority (ACCRA)

- Lead agency in all CRVS related issues.
- Independent authority

Cross border collaboration

- Close collaboration with NADRA to register half a million Afghans for issuance of Pakistan ID Cards.
- Work with Saudi Arabia to change identities of around 8700 thousand afghans who were holding Pakistani Passport.
- Work with Iranian counterparts in exchange of identity related services.

Additional Collaborations

- MOUs with Australian, Americans, Finish, Canadian, Swedish authorities in exchange of identity verification services.
- Assisting IOM project in verifying CRVS documents for the British Government.
- Assisting local embassies in verification of identity related documents.

How did we do it?

- Much of the collaboration has arisen from mutual needs of the partnering countries.
- MOUs to bypass lengthy legal hurdles.
- Simplifying procedures to share data and provide services.
- Regular meetings with international community representatives assessing needs/progress, challenges and solutions.

Challenges

- Legal roadblocks to data sharing.
- Structural and administrative differences of CRVS authorities in the countries.
- Political issues overshadowing CRVS cooperation.
- Lack of IT platform in transfer of data.

Recommendations

- Identifying the right focal agency in South Asian countries for purposes of data sharing, as the main interface for all CRVS services.
- Identifying legal obstacles and providing legal solutions for the respective governments.
- Drafting of a comprehensive data sharing protocol to be signed and sanctioned by political leaders of south Asian countries.