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CRVS best-practice and advocacy

Strengthening CRVS systems through effective legislation

August 2018





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Interactive and practical resources designed to influence and align CRVS processes with established international or best-practice standards. These resources, which are used extensively in the Initiative's training courses, aim to change practice and ensure countries benefit from such changes by developing critical CRVS capacity among technical officers and ministries.

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Contents

Abbreviations	iii
Key terms	iii
Key points	iv
Strengthening CRVS systems through effective legislation	1
The importance of legal and regulatory frameworks for civil registration	1
International legal mandate for CRVS improvement	4
Challenges for CRVS legislation	5
Outdated legislation.....	5
Fragmented and inconsistent legislation	5
Unclear roles and responsibilities.....	5
Lack of clear definitions.....	5
Poor data confidentiality and security	5
Insufficient attention to at-risk groups.....	6
Unenforced legislation	6
Conducting a legal review	6
Step 1. Establish an advisory group or legal review committee	7
Step 2. Review key documents and concepts	7
Step 3. Collate and review all existing relevant laws and policies	8
Step 4. Complete the matrix of best practices	8
Step 5. Draft and revise a final report	8
Summary	9
Related resources and products	10
University of Melbourne, D4H Initiative, CRVS Knowledge Gateway: Library	10
University of Melbourne, D4H Initiative, CRVS Knowledge Gateway: Learning Centre.....	10
Further reading	10



Abbreviations

D4H	Data for Health
COD	cause of death
CRVS	civil registration and vital statistics
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade standard
SOP	operating procedure
UN	United Nations

Key terms

Constitution:	is the highest-ranking law in a country and it defines the governing principles of the government.
Legislation:	refers to specific laws (sometimes called Statutes or Acts) that regulate the behaviour of people, government institutions, or other organisations. Legislation usually includes only laws that have been passed by a national assembly or parliament, signed by the head of state.
Regulation:	(sometimes known as decrees, directives or orders) provide additional details to the legislation.
Standard operating procedures:	provide detailed guidelines on implementing and policing the laws and regulations.



Key points

- A well-designed registration law gives clear guidelines around how the civil registration system will work.
- CRVS systems need to be based on strong domestic law to ensure their significance, permanence, continuity, universality and compulsory nature.
- The generation of vital statistics needs to be supported by robust law to ensure transparent and accountable data disaggregation practices and usage, as well as data security and privacy.
- Domestic legislation for optimal CRVS system functioning and performance, grounded in international law, is important – as is the implementation and enforcement of CRVS-related laws by countries at both the national and subnational level.
- Law relating to CRVS is cross-cutting and reaches into family, immigration, health, forensic medical, criminal, privacy, information technology, intellectual property, human rights, and administrative law.
- Worldwide, much of the existing domestic law on CRVS is outdated, fragmented and inconsistent.
- Legal reviews should be done within the context of broader assessment processes for CRVS, including business process mapping.
- Conducting a legal review is the first step to improve CRVS legislation.
- Legal reviews can identify significant legal obstacles, as well as provide opportunities for implementing amendments to the law based on best practice internationally and relevant CRVS stakeholder experience (including community experiences).
- The Vital Strategies and the Global Health Advocacy Incubator’s *Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Legal and Regulatory Review: Tool and Methodology*, developed as part of the Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative, is an excellent resource for countries conducting a legal review.

Strengthening CRVS systems through effective legislation

This paper explains how domestic and international legal frameworks can contribute to the completeness of birth and death registration, and improve the accuracy of information held in national and subnational civil records. This paper also highlights some of the common issues with existing civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) laws in many countries, and the importance for governments and CRVS stakeholders to conduct a comprehensive legal review. General recommendations on the steps and strategies countries should use for conducting a legal review on existing CRVS-related laws are provided.

- **The importance of legal and regulatory frameworks for civil registration**
- **Understanding the international legal mandate for CRVS improvement**
- **Key challenges facing CRVS legislation**
- **Steps in conducting a legal review**

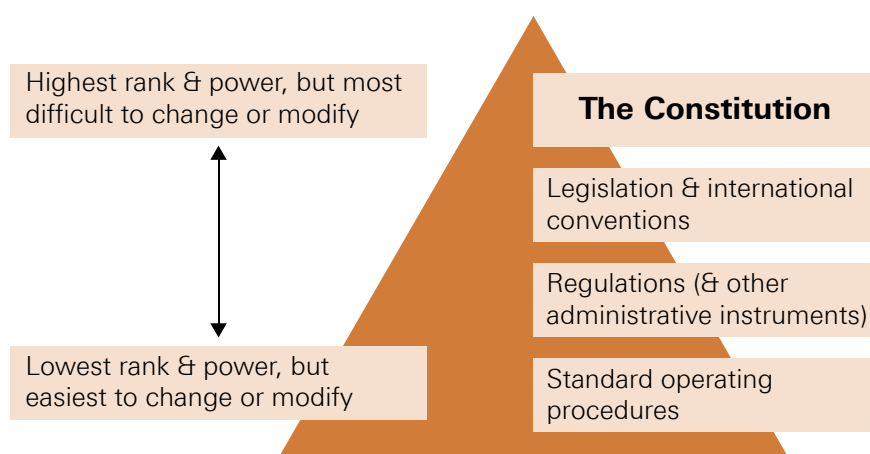
Well-designed legislation gives clear guidelines and rules for the registration of vital events and creation of vital statistics

The importance of legal and regulatory frameworks for civil registration

A good legal and regulatory framework is essential for the effective management, operation and maintenance of a civil registration system. Well-designed registration law gives clear guidelines around how the civil registration system will work. It provides the rules needed to register the vital events records that affect the civil status of individuals, defines the roles of civil registration in the production of vital statistics and its relationships with other institutions that rely on such data, and defines the services it should provide.

Laws are a system of rules that a country or community recognises as regulating the actions of its members. Laws may be enforced by the imposition of penalties. These rules are designed to be compulsory, but not all are of equal rank. Countries have different legal traditions but generally each country designates what rules have the highest rank or power by establishing a hierarchy of laws. The hierarchical nature of the law is shown in the figure below.

Figure 1 The hierarchical nature of the law



Source: Adapted from the CRVS Knowledge Gateway, Learning Centre: Topic 2 'Legal and regulatory frameworks', available at <https://crvsgateway.info/>



Civil registration has two basic functions and both should be reflected in the law

Legislation grounded in international law that establishes the best practice for optimal functioning of a country’s CRVS system, and implementation and enforcement of that legislation, is key.¹ A strong legal and **regulatory** environment is essential for countries to effectively manage, operate and maintain their CRVS system. The CRVS system needs to be based on domestic law to ensure its significance, permanence, continuity, universality, and compulsory nature. The generation of vital statistics also needs to be underpinned by law to ensure transparent and accountable data disaggregation practices and use, as well as data security and privacy.

Civil registration has two basic functions; a legal function that registers vital events and provides identity documents, and a statistical function that generates national and subnational vital statistics data (**Box 1; Figure 2**). These two functions should be viewed of equal importance by countries and their development partners. However, it is often the case that the statistical function is not properly defined in law, resulting in confusion concerning who is responsible for generating the vital statistics from the registration records. To ensure all vital events are captured, registration of the vital event’s occurrence (i.e. the birth, death, adoption, marriage or divorce) should ideally be made compulsory under the law. Penalties should also be in place for non-compliance (for example, a fee for late registration).

Legislation helps to ensure the completeness of registration and to improve the accuracy of information held in the civil record, which is used to generate vital statistics.² Vital statistics are a highly valuable resource for countries in implementing or evaluating social and economic development programs. The dynamic nature of data from continuous and compulsory civil registration arises from the data’s collection at the time of the event rather than being derived afterwards – as is the case with other data sources (such as household surveys and censuses). Population data generated by CRVS systems is also crucial to assist countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 2030 Agenda and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.^{3,4}

Box 1: CRVS snapshot

Civil registration is the process through which major vital events that occur in a population, including births, deaths, marriages, divorces and adoptions, are officially recorded. Civil registration is the continuous, permanent, compulsory and universal recording of the occurrence and characteristics of vital events in a population, in accordance with the law.⁵ CRVS systems generate vital statistics using the information contained in individual civil registration records and such statistics include:

- numbers and rates of births
- key characteristics of births, such as births by sex, location, and maternal age
- numbers and rates of deaths
- key characteristics of deaths, such as deaths by age, sex, location and cause of death (COD).

Civil registration systems also create legal documentation that can be used by people to prove their identity, civil status and family relationships. Civil registration agencies can issue legal identity documents, such as a birth certificate, that contain certified information about vital events.

1 Brolan CE, Gouda HN. Public health emergencies, civil registration and vital statistics, and international law: Understanding the intersections. *Medical Law Review* 2017; 25(2): 314-339.

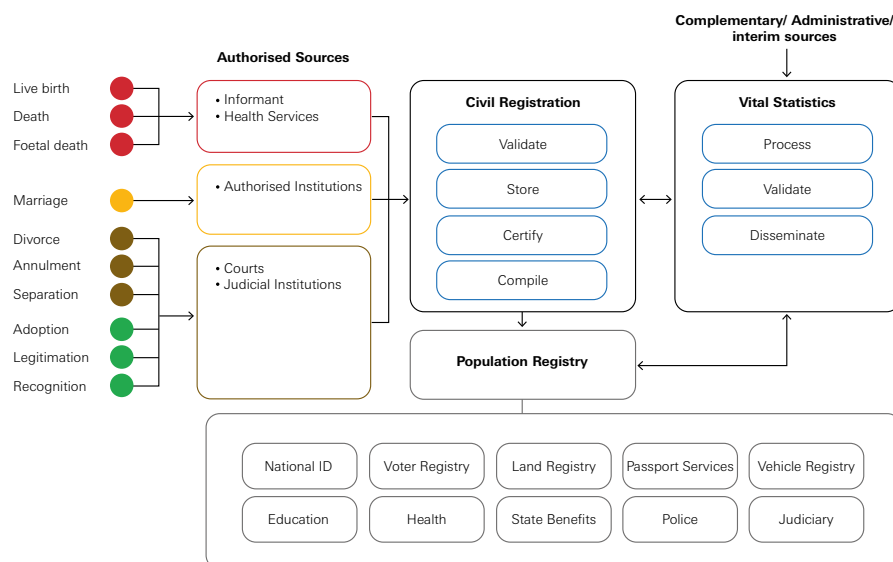
2 University of Melbourne. *The importance of routinely measuring birth and death registration completeness*. CRVS summaries. Melbourne, Australia: Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Improvement, Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative; 2017.

3 UN General Assembly. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A/RES/70/1.

4 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

5 United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (Statistical Division). *Principles and recommendations for a vital statistics system, revision 3*. New York, USA: UNSD; 2014.

Figure 2 Elements of a CRVS system



Source: Adapted from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (Statistical Division). *Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 3*. New York, USA: UNSD; 2014.

Obligatory registration, deadlines and penalties for non-compliance cannot be enforced without political will, community support, human and financial resources and strong law. Legislation is also needed to safeguard the identification and other personal information of individuals by ensuring data in the CRVS system remains confidential and secure, is protected in law against its misuse, and has clear provisions for data sharing, such as from the civil registration office to the population register.

In short, well-designed civil registration law should clearly guide how the civil registration system should work through:

CRVS law should provide guidelines on how to register vital events, define the role of stakeholders in the system, and outline the services it provides

- specifying guidelines for registering vital events that affect the civil status of individuals,
- defining its role in the production of vital statistics and its relations with other institutions that rely on such data, and
- outlining the services it should provide.

Additionally, the objective of any CRVS-related law should be to ensure the CRVS system is:

- **Continuous.** The civil registration system continuously adds new records and makes amendments to existing records as events occur.
- **Permanent.** Records are preserved for future uses.
- **Compulsory.** Registration of vital events is mandatory, i.e. not optional.
- **Universal.** Registration should cover the entire country or territory. If all types of vital events cannot be recorded, then priority should be given to births and deaths.
- **Confidential.** Those who provide information must be assured that it will only be used for the purposes prescribed by law and/or in aggregate form so that individuals are not identifiable.

International legal mandate for CRVS improvement

By introducing strong and consistent law for optimal CRVS system functioning, many countries will be honouring their long-standing commitments under a number of international United Nations (UN) treaties and documents in terms of protecting and promoting human rights (**Box 2**). These mainly relate to protecting and promoting the right of all individuals to be registered, the right to be given an identity from birth to death, the right of a child to a nationality, the right of a child to know the names of their parents and the right to non-discrimination by reason of birth.

Another important way countries can improve women and girls' rights through optimal CRVS systems functioning is, among other measures, by implementing compulsory registration of marriage.⁶ Registration of marriages in an official state registry office should be compulsory to help track and stop the incidence of underage or forced marriage, as well as child trafficking.

Box 2: Important provisions in key international law documents relating to civil registration

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)

- Article 24(1): Every child shall have, without any discrimination as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, national or social origin, property or birth, the right to such measures of protection as are required by his status as a minor, on the part of his family, society and the State.
- Article 24(2): Every child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have a name.

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)

- Article 7(1): The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents.
- Article 7(2): States Parties shall ensure the implementation of these rights in accordance with their national law and their obligations under the relevant international instruments in this field, in particular where the child would otherwise be stateless.
- Article 8(1): States Parties undertake to respect the right of the child to preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations as recognised by law without unlawful interference.
- Article 8(1): Where a child is illegally deprived of some or all of the elements of his or her identity, States Parties shall provide appropriate assistance and protection, with a view to re-establishing speedily his or her identity.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), see Article 15.

Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961), see Articles 1 – 4.

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965), see Article 5.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979), see Article 9.

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (1990), see Article 29.

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (2000), see Article 3 and 6.

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography (2000), see Article 8.

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006), see Article 18.

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), see Article 6.

⁶ Plan International. *Counting the invisible: using data to transform the lives of girls and women by 2030*.



Challenges for CRVS legislation

CRVS law should be kept up-to-date to ensure it remains relevant

Outdated legislation

In many countries, the laws that govern registration practices have often been in place for several years without revision or amendment. Outdated law on CRVS might have also been developed well before the introduction, and growing use by government agencies, of digital and other communication technologies. As countries implement technical interventions for CRVS systems strengthening, such as introducing mobile phone apps and tablets for collecting and analysing verbal autopsy (VA) data, legislation needs to be updated to ensure the data can be stored, transferred, and used, or the completeness and quality of data is likely to decline.

Fragmented and inconsistent legislation

Inconsistent rules for CRVS system governance and operation are often scattered among different domestic statutes and acts, with no clear comprehension or connection among the different provisions. Traditionally, law in relation to CRVS is not found in one consolidated statute. Rather it is an amalgamation of law that is cross-cutting, and requires different legal expertise. For instance, laws in relation to CRVS touch on family, immigration, health, forensic medical, criminal, privacy, information technology, intellectual property, human rights, and administrative law.

Unclear roles and responsibilities of CRVS stakeholders is a common problem in CRVS laws

Unclear roles and responsibilities

In many countries, there are different, often conflicting, legal frameworks governing each of the agencies involved in CRVS, such as the health system, civil registry, and national statistics office. Roles and responsibilities around obligations to notify or share data between departments, and for the analysis and reporting of data, are often unclear.

Legislation can help by establishing the authority and duties of the office of the registrar-general and other agencies and departments in the civil registration system. It can also ensure there are standard processes to follow around the entire country, such as what forms people need to complete and what types of evidence are required for registration.

Lack of clear definitions

Not only are existing laws on CRVS often fragmented among different statutes and acts, but the available law usually does not provide clear definitions of important CRVS concepts and terms. For example, early neonatal deaths (deaths occurring within the first week of life) are sometimes classified as stillbirths to avoid having to register both a birth and a death within a few days of each other. This distorts the resulting statistics and prevents public-health authorities from identifying and addressing important issues in perinatal health. It is important that civil registration laws include clear definitions of terms such as 'fetal death', 'stillbirth', and 'live birth' and that these are in line with international standards.

Poor data confidentiality and security

It is important that there are robust laws governing data security, which comprehensively address issues around data confidentiality, data collection, safe storage and disposal, and the release and use of individual data. As increasing numbers of people move across

Data security relates to individual and aggregated data, including its intended use and availability

borders, countries should also develop domestic law on CRVS-related data collection and disaggregation, and how or if this data is shared among countries. Regional agreements on sharing CRVS-related data that are transparent and consistent with international law (particularly international human rights and humanitarian law), will also be increasingly important.⁷

The nature and range of information collected under civil registration may raise concerns about the potential for abuse if strong privacy protections are not included as part of the legal and regulatory environment. Where there is a perception that data confidentiality measures are inadequate and personal data are not kept private, then trust in the civil registration system will be lost and people may be reluctant to register. This is especially important for marginalised or stigmatised sectors of the populations.

Insufficient attention to at-risk groups

Civil registration law can leave out certain population groups altogether; in this regard, refugees and displaced persons are particularly vulnerable, as well as women and girls, ethnic and religious minorities, Indigenous persons, and persons with disabilities. For example, it can be unclear if the domestic law refers to all national citizens, or to citizens living in the country, or to all residents. As a result, children born to at-risk groups such as refugees or displaced persons, may become stateless as they cannot prove their origins without a legal identity and are further unable to access education, health, housing and other key services throughout the life course. This is in breach of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (see **Box 2**).⁸ It is usually the poorest, isolated and most vulnerable sectors within a population that are simply not counted. By their exclusion from weak and incomplete CRVS systems, these people who are invisible not only to countries, but to the world.⁹

Unenforced legislation

The need for civil registration systems to register all vital events and ensure both the quality and completeness of information means that birth and death registration should be compulsory, and linked to some form of penalty for those who do not comply. When the civil registration law is weak, there is little incentive for enforcement. When there is little to no enforcement of the law relating to CRVS systems, the number of registered vital events greatly reduces, and individuals and entire communities can remain invisible and excluded from a country's health and social policy and planning efforts.

Conducting a legal review

As part of broader assessment processes on CRVS, which may include business process mapping,¹⁰ or conducting an assessment of system performance,¹¹ it is recommended that countries complete a formal legal review of the existing laws on CRVS. Any initiative to introduce or modify existing CRVS laws will require careful preparation, and must be based on a systematic legal review that can identify significant legal obstacles, and opportunities for implementing interventions based on international best practice.

⁷ The use of CRVS data collected and shared between Bali Process States is one such example, see: <http://www.baliprocess.net/>

⁸ Todres J. Birth registration: an essential first step toward ensuring the rights of all children. *Human Rights Brief* 2003: 10; 32.

⁹ Setel PW, Macfarlane SB, Szreter S et al, on behalf of the Monitoring of Vital Events (MoVE) Writing Group. A scandal of invisibility: making everyone count by counting everyone. *The Lancet* 2007: 370; 1569-1577.



The Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative (D4H), funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), is working with sixteen countries and two cities to increase the registration of births and deaths, improve the quality of cause of death (COD) information at hospitals, apply verbal autopsy to better understand probable COD in communities, and to produce high quality data analysis skills for vital statistics, and policy and program analysis.

Vital Strategies and the Global Health Advocacy Incubator, as part of D4H, have developed a *Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Legal and Regulatory Review: Tool and Methodology* to help improve stakeholder’s understanding of their CRVS system’s design, strengths, and weaknesses.¹² This legal review tool was developed to identify possible improvements to CRVS systems that can be made under existing regulatory authority, to help countries reform laws and regulations to achieve best practices and align domestic law with international standards.

General recommendations on the steps and strategies countries should use for conducting a legal review on existing CRVS-related laws are provided as follows, and are based on the content of the *Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Legal and Regulatory Review: Tool and Methodology*.

Step 1. Establish an advisory group or legal review committee

Establish a group or committee with responsibility for conducting the review

The national CRVS committee overseeing CRVS system strengthening should appoint a subcommittee to undertake the legal review. For legal review to be most effective, it must be intersectoral and involve high-level officials from the relevant government agencies who should further endorse the review process. Participating agencies might include the justice department, civil registrar, national statistics agency, ministry of health, home affairs, social welfare, ministry of education, immigration, and departments concerned with personal identification and voter registration.

Given the number of stakeholders involved in most national CRVS systems (refer to **Figure 2**), the specific designation of responsibilities for tasks, duties, and cooperation arrangements should be discussed early in the process, and clearly set out in law to avoid unnecessary duplication. Involving representatives of civil society will bring important user perspectives into the discussions, for example in relation to the ease, acceptability, inclusiveness and ‘user-friendliness’ of the registration process.

The function of the group or committee is to prepare the work plan and time schedule for the legal review, keep the various agencies informed and ensure their ongoing support, and to delegate roles and responsibilities for the review among team members.

Step 2. Review key documents and concepts

Committee members should be familiar with key documents and concepts related to CRVS

Those appointed to the legal review committee and tasked with doing the legal review should familiarise themselves with key documents and concepts relevant to CRVS legislation, as well as the overarching international standards. These include, for example:

- Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division (1998). Handbook on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems Preparation of a Legal Framework, Series F, No 71. New York: United Nations.¹³

¹² Vital Strategies and the Global Health Advocacy Incubator. *Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Legal and Regulatory Review: Tool and Methodology*.

¹³ Available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesF/SeriesF_71E.pdf

- Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division (2014). United Nations, Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Series M No. 19/Rev.3. New York: United Nations.¹⁴
- Pacific Community (2016). Legislation for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in the Pacific: Best Practice Guidelines and Examples. Noumea: Secretariat of the Pacific Community.¹⁵
- Department of Health and Human Services (2011). Model State Vital Statistics Act and Model State Vital Statistics, 2011 Revisions. United States: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States.¹⁶

Step 3. Collate and review all existing relevant laws and policies

Members of the committee should obtain all laws and regulations as well as standard operating procedures (SOPs), manuals, forms and other relevant documents currently available for registering births and deaths, including any documents that refer to the compilation and dissemination of vital statistics, disposal of dead bodies, certification of births and deaths and reporting of these from health institutions. In most countries, this will be a time-consuming task,¹⁷ and it is recommended that specialist local legal experts support committee members to complete this task.

Step 4. Complete the matrix of best practices

It is recommended that a standardised matrix is used to record results of the law review

After the relevant laws, regulations, and other documents have been collected, they will be used to complete the matrix of best practices set out in *Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Legal and Regulatory Review: Tool and Methodology*. The matrix will assist the legal review committee or subcommittee in comparing national laws against international best practice in CRVS systems by:

1. Identifying and describing any legislation on the topic and providing cross-references to relevant provisions.
2. Identifying and describing any other relevant laws (including decrees, orders, SOPs) and providing cross-references to relevant provisions.
3. Evaluating whether the legislation and surrounding laws align with the best practices or whether gaps remain.

Step 5. Draft and revise a final report

Based on the needs of the government and stakeholders, a report of the findings of the review should be prepared. The report should describe the CRVS system and highlight major differences between the CRVS system and international standards. The report should explain any legal (or inter-related) obstacles to aligning the system with international standards and identify potential opportunities and recommendations for improving the CRVS system from a legal perspective. The report should clearly explain which government agency, if any, has existing authority to make the suggested improvements. If the improvement can only be made through legislative amendment, the report should note that as well.

¹⁴ Available at <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/standmeth/principles/M19Rev3en.pdf>

¹⁵ Available at <http://www.pacific-crvs.org/docs?view=download&format=raw&fileId=115>

¹⁶ Available at <http://www.fgs.org/rpac/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/Model-State-Vital-Statistics-Act-2011.pdf>

¹⁷ To facilitate this task, Vital Strategies has partnered with the Global Health Advocacy Incubator to develop an online, autodidactic tool for entering and analysing data on CRVS laws.



See **Box 3** for outcomes of a legal review that occurred in the Solomon Islands, a D4H country.

Box 3: Outcomes of a review of CRVS-related legislation in the Solomon Islands

The Solomon Islands national CRVS inter-agency committee, in conjunction with the Civil Registry Office, held a national stakeholder meeting in June 2017 as part of an ongoing review of CRVS legislation. The Government of the Solomon Islands previously acknowledged that to meet the 2030 UNESCAP targets, a major revision to the 30-year-old legislation on CRVS was needed. As a first step towards updating the legal framework, the meeting focused on addressing key structural and design issues in relation to the national civil registration system. The committee and stakeholders attending the meeting found ways to improve the capturing and collation of vital events and their records by agreeing to update reporting pathways, timeframes and delegations. As a next step, “these proposed changes will now be the basis for further consultation by the national committee and will form the basis of a white paper to government in order to issue a formal drafting notice”.¹⁸

Summary

Making the functioning and performance of a country’s CRVS system subject to the law and establishing procedural rules and regulations is essential for the efficient management, operation and maintenance of CRVS systems. Legislation helps to ensure the completeness of registration and to improve the accuracy of information held in the civil record. Obligatory registration, deadlines and penalties for non-compliance cannot be enforced without relevant laws in place. Laws are also needed to safeguard the personal information of individuals by ensuring that it remains confidential and secure, and protecting against its misuse. Anchoring civil registration in a law helps to ensure the continuity, consistency, correctness and comprehensiveness of CRVS systems.

Countries that have not adopted strong civil registration law, or that have outdated and/or fragmented law and weak overarching regulatory environments, should urgently consider remedying this situation. The review of a country’s CRVS law(s) and overarching regulatory environment is the first step to strengthen the legal framework underpinning the CRVS system, and should be prioritised. This paper has suggested some general steps countries can take when performing a legal review, as outlined in the Vital Strategies and the Global Health Advocacy Incubator’s *Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Legal and Regulatory Review: Tool and Methodology*.

The UN recommends that all people residing in a country, including refugees, be given the right to register vital events, irrespective of whether they are citizens or not. The registration process should not discriminate against any child, and the right to be registered should be completely separate from the establishment of paternity, marital status of parents, nationality or origin status. Linking registration to incentives as well as penalties is likely to achieve even better outcomes, as the existence of a law in itself will not guarantee full compliance and penalties may be difficult to administer. While there is a range of incentives that can be used to encourage people to register, the existence of a law will make it more likely that local authorities will be persuaded to collaborate in enforcing and promoting registration in the populations they administer.

¹⁸ Solomon Islands National Stakeholder Meeting on Legislative Review. Available at <http://www.getinthepicture.org/news/solomon-islands-national-stakeholder-meeting-legislative-review>

Related resources and products

University of Melbourne, D4H Initiative, CRVS Knowledge Gateway: Library
<https://crvsgateway.info/library>

Action guide on process mapping for CRVS system-strengthening. CRVS action guides.

Improving registration: Best practice guidelines. CRVS summaries.

Understanding CRVS systems: The importance of process mapping. CRVS development series.

University of Melbourne, D4H Initiative, CRVS Knowledge Gateway: Learning Centre
<https://crvsgateway.info/learningcentre>

Topic 2: CRVS stakeholders, structures and coordination – Legal and regulatory frameworks.

Topic 3: CRVS processes.

Topic 6: CRVS tools – CRVS system assessment tools; Legal review tools.

Further reading

Department of Social Statistics, Statistics Norway, and the Albanian Ministry of Local Government and Decentralisation. *Selected documents on the modernisation of the civil registration system in Albania*. Oslo, Norway: Statistics Norway; 2004. Available at http://www.ssb.no/a/english/publikasjoner/pdf/doc_200402_en/doc_200402_en.pdf (accessed 27 December 2017).

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The program partners on this initiative include: The University of Melbourne, Australia; CDC Foundation, USA; Vital Strategies, USA; Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA; World Health Organization, Switzerland.

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics partners:



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