Philippines: Completing the Questionnaire for the 2025 Review of Progress in Implementing the Regional Action Framework on CRVS

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Overview of questionnaire completion process

- Timeline for completing the questionnaire
  - The completed questionnaire can be made available in two months
  - Includes the preparation of data and consultation with stakeholders
  - Time allotment for the review and approval

- Steps required to complete the questionnaire
  - Distribution of questionnaire to agencies concerned
  - Preparation and review of data requirements
  - Completion and review of questionnaire for completeness and accuracy
  - Consultation with stakeholders
  - Finalization of the questionnaire
  - Approval for official endorsement

Overview of questionnaire completion process

- Approval process and expected timeframe
  - Before the questionnaire was presented to the stakeholders, this was pre-filled by the PSA to facilitate faster collections of inputs
  - The questionnaire was presented to stakeholders; they were requested to provide their comments and inputs within a month
  - Due to varying schedules of the stakeholders and the time to prepare data requirements, finalizing the questionnaire may take up to two months

Identifying and communicating with stakeholders

- Process used to identify stakeholders for providing the necessary information
  - The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) involved the Inter-agency Committee on CRVS (IACCRVS)
  - The PSA led the completion of the questionnaire
- Communication methods/tools used to approach the stakeholders and receive their inputs
  - The questionnaire was presented during one of the regular meetings of the IACCRVS
  - Additional input was gathered via email, and the questionnaire was distributed using Google Docs

Processing/validating data and filling out the questionnaire

- Key steps and units involved in processing data and validating the information before completing the questionnaire
  - Processing birth and death data
    - collection of data from the database to include late registrations and delayed record submissions
    - data cleaning to eliminate duplicate records
    - Preparation of data for generation of necessary figures were done by the PSA and presented to the IACCRVS

Processing/validating data and filling out the questionnaire

- Data that were difficult to obtain
  - Birth registration data - because the data is substantial and includes a significant number of duplicate entries which complicates the validation process; the data provided is not available for public release
  - Birth registration data of under-5 as well as adult birth registration in the CRVS database are not yet validated, hence data from the census was provided
  - Death registration data - validation of underlying cause of death for late registered deaths (beyond the cut-off period for inclusion in the official release) was not done in previous years, hence, data used was based on the official release

Challenges encountered and solutions

- Challenges encountered
  - Birth and Death data
    - The processing of delayed registrations beyond the cut off period for inclusion in the statistical reports only began with starting with 2015 data
    - Previous submissions for the questionnaire were based on official releases, with a defined cutoff period for including data in the reports
    - Data on birth registration of all individuals and those under-5 (Table 1, Line Nos. 6 and 7) are not yet available using CRVS data

Challenges encountered and solutions

- Challenges encountered
  - Causes of death data
    - Concept or definition of Ill-defined causes varies, i.e. WHO list in ICD-10 manual vs. ICD-10 R-codes only vs. list in ANACONDA software
    - Does standards defined by ICD mean should not have ill-defined codes? This was interpreted as being coded in accordance with ICD-10 rules
    - Different concepts were observed in different years of submissions
  - Others
    - Interpretation of concepts based on own understanding
    - Timeframe to complete the questionnaire
    - Providing references, supporting documents

Challenges encountered and solutions

- Resolving the challenges encountered
  - Processing of additional data to meet requirements
  - Providing notes and comments in the questionnaire
  - Assigned a team to do brainstorming and provide the necessary documents
  - Solicited input from the IACCRVS

- Advice/suggestion to avoid/resolve similar challenges
  - Create a team and hold a workshop to pre-fill the questionnaire
  - Convene the different stakeholders involved and hold a workshop to review the prefilled questionnaire and provide additional information

Feedback on completing the questionnaire

- The additional information provided on various concepts, such as standard assessments, VNR (Voluntary National Reviews), and ill-defined codes, enhanced the clarity of the definitions and made the questions more understandable
- The skip instructions have been clarified, making them easier to understand
- Support needed to complete the questionnaire
  - Briefing on the completion of the questionnaire
  - Engaging the stakeholders and partners by presenting the questionnaire through a forum and conducting a workshop to facilitate faster completion of the questionnaire and quicker collection of crucial inputs

Thank You

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