Stats Cafe: Launch of the Questionnaire for the 2025 Review of the Asia and Pacific CRVS Decade (2015-2024)

Concept Note

13 June 2024 (10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Bangkok time, UTC+7)

Venue: MS Teams

Background

Governments across Asia and the Pacific region convened in Bangkok, Thailand, in November 2014 for the first Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) in Asia and the Pacific[1]. Following the Conference, Ministers from the region unanimously proclaimed the Asian and Pacific CRVS Decade (2015-2024)[2]. The CRVS Decade has become an embodiment of governments' commitments towards universal civil registration, good governance, and the realization of individuals' rights to be recognized everywhere as a person before the law. Ministers at the 2014 Ministerial Conference also endorsed the Regional Action Framework (RAF) on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific[3] to guide countries towards achieving the shared vision.

Since the inauguration of the Asian and Pacific CRVS Decade (2015-2024), countries in the region have made significant progress in implementing the RAF and improving their national CRVS systems. Findings from the 2019 midterm review of the CRVS Decade noted that countries in the region are on the right path to achieving the three goals and 15 targets under the RAF but more efforts are needed to accelerate progress to fully realize the shared vision under the CRVS Decade by 2024.

Ministers reviewed the findings from the midterm review at the Second Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific[4] in 2021 and adopted the Second Ministerial Declaration[5] calling for accelerated actions in the second half of the Decade. Following the Second Ministerial Conference, members and associate members of ESCAP adopted Resolution 78/4[6] in 2022, endorsing the Ministerial Declaration, and requesting for a 2025 review of the CRVS Decade and implementation of the RAF.

Members of the Regional Steering Group (RSG) for CRVS in Asia and the Pacific discussed the future of the Decade in more detail at their 2023 meeting and recommended an extension to the CRVS Decade to align with the 2030 Agenda as well as an increased focus on "inclusivity" and "resilience" in CRVS to realize the shared vision of universal and responsive CRVS. ESCAP has integrated these decisions into the 2025 review of the CRVS Decade and implementation of the RAF which will be launched at this Stats Café.

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[1] First Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific
[2] Ministerial Declaration to "Get every one in the picture" in Asia and the Pacific
[3] Regional Action Framework on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific
[4] Second Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific
[5] Ministerial Declaration on Building a More Resilient Future with Inclusive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
[6] Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Resolution 78/4

Objectives

The objectives of this Stats Café are as follows:

1. Launch the questionnaire for the 2025 review of the CRVS Decade and implementation of the RAF;
2. Highlight the rationale for the 2025 review of the CRVS Decade and implementation of the RAF;
3. Outline the importance of previous reviews for identifying areas of support for countries;
4. Present the timeline, process and support for completing the 2025 review questionnaire.

Programme

Moderator: Ms. Tanja Sejersen, Statistician and CRVS Lead, Statistics Division, ESCAP

Opening remarks		
Ms. Treta Sharma, Administrator-General, Ministry of Justice, Fiji		**5 min** 10:00 - 10:05
Speakers		
Philip Setel, Vice President, Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, Vital Strategies	Importance of reviews for identifying areas of support for countries and monitoring and evaluation of progress	**15 min** 10:05 - 10:20
Mr. Sovannaroth Tey, Associate Statistician, Statistics Division, ESCAP	Rationale, timeline, process and support for completing the 2025 review questionnaire	**15 min** 10:20 - 10:35
Q&A		20 min 10:35 - 10:55
Closing remarks		
Ms. Tanja Sejersen, Statistician and CRVS Lead, Statistics Division, ESCAP		**5 min** 10:55 - 11:00

Virtual meeting through Microsoft Teams at the link below:

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For information, please contact Mr. Sovannaroth Tey, at sovannaroth.tey@un.org.

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