Universal and responsive national civil registration and vital statistics system provide timely, complete and continuous vital statistics which is critical to emerging that no one is left behind and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and targets relating to health, education justice and gender equality including explicit targets on birth registration (goal 16.9) and Statistical capacity (goal 17.8 and 17.9).

The Asia and Pacific Vital Registration Community Supported the strengthening of national systems including the production and dissemination of reliable vital statistics. These efforts focused on building co-ordination by bringing together various stakeholders to enhance user engagement through better understanding of the data processes and quality issues and the significant potential benefits for improved service delivery.

The Regional Action Framework on CRVS in Asia and Pacific and the broader strengthening of national civil registration and vital statistics system demonstrated the effectiveness of regional co-ordination for national action. A target of 38 Asia Pacific countries has submitted national targets and baseline reports as a part of requirement of the Regional Action Framework. Bangladesh is one of those countries.

The Regional Steering Group on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific has provided a number of recommendations to further enhance the CRVS activities in the ESCAP member countries and to review the midterm progress of the CRVS decade (2015-24) in 2020.

Action Taken by Bangladesh in Strengthening CRVS

Following the Ministerial Conference of CRVS in September 2014 Bangladesh has prepared the national targets to be achieved by 2024.

A high level Steering Committee on CRVS was formed under the chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary and involved 10 organization in strengthening CRVS in Bangladesh namely – (i) Local government Division (ii) Election Commission (iii) Statistics and Informatics Division/Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (iv) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (v) Ministry of Education (vi) Cabinet Division (vii) ICT Division (viii) Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (ix) Law and Justice Division (x) Access to Information, PMO and identified there role in CRVS system. So far, three meeting of the Steering Committee was held. The Steering committee has formed an Implementation Committee headed by Secretary (Reform and Coordination) of the Cabinet Division. The members were taken from the Secretaries of the concerned Ministries/Division and Agency head related to CRVS.

A number of workshop’s seminars were held under the auspices of the Implementation Committee to enhance Co-ordination, Implementation of ICD-10 in death recording etc.

The Concerned Ministries/Division and agencies are now working in light of their respective roles designated by the Steering Committee of the CRVS.