Maximizing completeness of data and instilling trust in birth registration in Afghanistan: Findings from three provinces

Action area B. Assuring quality and instilling trust in statistics (SB3)

**Data completeness and uses**

Presenter:

**Mohammad Khalid Ikram**

Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan
Problem

• Low coverage of birth registration 42%, Demographic and Health Survey Afghanistan (DHS 2015)
Objective

• To identify enablers and barriers to birth registration
Methodology

• Qualitative study design (Focus Group Discussions and In-depth Interviews)
Findings

• High level of knowledge about importance of birth registration (planning and setting strategies)
• Low awareness of health staff on birth registration policies (legislation and policy guidance)
• Poor health system responsiveness and management (workload)
• Poor parents awareness and participation in birth registration
• Distance and transportation cost
Birth Registration in 2019

- **BOYS**: 264,756
- **GIRLS**: 225,597
- **TOTAL**: 490,353

Leaving no one and nowhere behind
Conclusion

• Complete and quality birth registration data are vital for planning purpose in Afghanistan.

• The existing policy documents, both national and international, pave the way to execute legitimate birth registration in Afghanistan.
Recommendations

• Implement current statistics law
• Make available of birth registration standard operating procedure and guidelines
• Add birth registration to monitoring system
• Raise public awareness about the importance of birth notification
• Ensure adequate resource allocation
Thanks