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Strengthening CRVS and national ID

January 29, 2016 to October 27, 2017 Completion Report for the World Bank Group Action Plan for Addressing Data Gaps in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, 2016–2030

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World Bank Group Action Plan for Addressing Data Gaps in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, 2016–2030

Strengthening CRVS and national ID (P159141) January 29, 2016 to October 27, 2017 Completion Report

I Background

Civil registration is defined by the United Nations as the “*universal, continuous, permanent and compulsory recording of vital events provided through decree or regulation in accordance with the legal requirements of each country.*” It is the act of recording and documenting vital events in a person’s life (including birth, death, marriage, divorce, and adoption) and is a fundamental function of governments. Vital statistics *constitute the collection of statistics on vital events in the lifetime of a person, as well as the description of relevant characteristics related to the events themselves and to the person or persons concerned.*

Birth registration establishes an individual’s legal identity at birth and having this along with name, nationality, proof of age, and the related are all-important human rights. Marriage and divorce registration is a largely unrecognized part of Civil Registration Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems. Having good marriage and divorce registration is frequently required to obtain documents that can contribute to women’s ability to inherit property, and register their children in some countries, among other benefits. Registering girls at birth and recording their marriages provides a legal backing against early and forced marriage.

The availability of reliable, up-to-date, continuous vital statistics depends on the level of development of the civil registration in the country. Having an effective CRVS system is critical for accurately planning and monitoring programs in several sectors in each country. It is central to improving health at the population level, including universal health coverage. It informs a country’s policies and plans for education, water and sanitation, social protection, food security, labor and employment, as well as the provision of health services.

Robust CRVS systems linked to identity management (IDM) systems and tailored to local contexts form the foundation of all sectors and pillars of the economy and contribute to the sustainable development goals (SDGs) to end poverty, and ensure prosperity for all. Well-functioning CRVS systems are also required to monitor progress towards achievements of the SDGs. With 12 of the 17 SDGs requiring CRVS data for measuring their indicators (specifically, CRVS data is required for measuring 67 of the 232 SDG indicators), investments in CRVS are an important step in achieving all SDGs. The importance of improving CRVS and IDM systems is recognized in the following SDG targets and indicator:

- Target 5.3: Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
- Target 16.9: By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration.
- Target 17.18: By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries including for least-developed countries and Small Island Developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely, and reliable data disaggregated by income gender, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location, and other characteristics relevant in each national context.

- Indicator 17.19.2b: Proportion of countries that have achieved 100 percent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration.

Yet, currently, over 110 low- and middle-income countries have deficient CRVS systems.

In response, the World Bank Group (WBG), together with WHO and several agencies and countries, published the *Global Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Scaling Up Investment Plan 2015–2024* in May 2014.¹ Subsequently, the WBG Data Council endorsed the 2016–2030 civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) Action Plan as part of the Strategic Actions Program for Addressing Development Data Gaps in December 2015. It was presented on February 2, 2016 at a Technical Briefing to the WBG Board of Executive Directors. The 2016–2030 WBG CRVS Action Plan has a goal of achieving universal civil registration of births, deaths, and other vital events—including reporting cause of death and providing access to legal proof of registration—for all individuals by 2030. It outlines a costed three-pronged approach for improving CRVS systems in low- and middle-income countries, particularly in IDA countries: (i) strengthening national institutions, (ii) establishing and updating international standards and tools, and (iii) building the evidence base with implementation research. It was selected in fiscal year 2015 as one of the WBG Model Engagements projects. Additionally, the IDA18 Results Measurement System (from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020) will track development results in countries supported by IDA operations across different sectors including the indicator: *number of lending operations with civil registration and vital statistics*.

CRVS requires a multisectoral approach and is an integral part of the activities of the Identification for Development (ID4D) initiative to support low- and middle-income countries in improving CRVS and IDM systems.

The WBG has been working closely with development partners to provide the requisite support through **three interlinked initiatives**:

- i. **Strategic Actions Program for Addressing Development Data Gaps:** As noted above, CRVS is one of the priority areas of the program.
- ii. **Identification for Development (ID4D) initiative:** Recognizing the transformational potential of modern, 21st-century identification systems, the WBG launched the cross-sectoral ID4D initiative in 2014. The goal is “making everyone count” by “supporting progress toward identification systems using 21st-century solutions that enable access to services and rights for all.” The program aims to bring global knowledge and expertise across multiple sectors and countries to tackle this fundamental challenge. The ID4D initiative is supported by the senior leadership and brings together various Global Practices and other groups (Transport and ICT; Governance; Health, Nutrition, and Population; Social Protection and Labor; Finance and Markets; Gender; Development Economics Data Group; and Legal Thematic Practice Group), creating a holistic view of the issues and an integrated approach to solutions at the operational level.

¹ Global CRVS Scaling Up Investment Plan 2015–2024.
<http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/health/publication/global-civil-registration-vital-statistics-scaling-up-investment>.

- iii. **Global Financing Facility (GFF):** The GFF for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health in support of Every Woman Every Child was launched at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Ethiopia in July 2015, to contribute to global efforts to end preventable maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent deaths. GFF will finance the strengthening of CRVS systems in selected countries. Additionally, a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for CRVS Systems has been established by Canada as part of its contribution to the GFF.

The WBG senior management places high priority on the Strategic Actions Program for Data Gaps and the ID4D. In January 2016, when it issued a moratorium on mobilizing external resources during the IDA18 Replenishment (calendar year 2016), it included these two programs among the six “A” list initiatives slated for coordinated outreach strategies for fundraising.

The WBG 2016–2030 CRVS Action Plan is to be translated into successive two-to-three-year implementation plans through 2030, using a multisectoral approach. The first in the series of Advisory Services and Analytics (ASA) was the CRVS Program (P151343) for the period from July 2014 to June 2016, which was successfully completed, meeting the overall objective of: “*to develop a Global Scaling Up Investment Program for strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (including improved birth and death registration coverage, and vital statistics for continuous monitoring of development programs) in low- and middle-income countries.*” The completion report noted that the objective of developing the 2016-2030 CRVS Action Plan was achieved and a number of analytics products were developed and disseminated. The follow-on ASA, Strengthening CRVS and National ID (P159141) was initiated on January 29, 2016 and closed in October 2017 ahead of the scheduled closing date of January 15, 2018 given the timely delivery of activities. A third ASA Global CRVS Advisory Services Analytics (ID: P165691) was approved on October 12, 2017 with a closing date of September 30, 2019.

II Strengthening CRVS and National ID (P159141) - Development Objective and Proposed Activities

Strengthening CRVS and National ID (P159141) is one of the associated activities of the programmatic ASA supporting universal health coverage (P157694). The development objective of the program is to provide support to client countries in their efforts to achieve Universal Health Coverage through programmatic knowledge services in a strategic collaboration with Korea. Strengthening CRVS and National ID (P159141) was to support the implementation of the WBG 2016–2030 CRVS Action Plan in strengthening CRVS, national IDM systems, and health information systems in low and middle income countries.

The specific activities that were proposed to be undertaken include the following:

- Develop CRVS and national IDM systems strategic plan or investment case (if none exists);
- Develop case studies on CRVS, national IDM systems, or health management information systems;
- Develop or update guidelines/standards for CRVS legal frameworks and digital birth registration
- Develop a global CRVS eLearning course
- Share lessons learned and exchange knowledge across countries and within the WBG at a variety of national and international knowledge and learning events

III Activities Undertaken

Below is a summary of activities² undertaken in collaboration with development partners that contributed to the implementation of the three-pronged approach of the WBG 2016–2030 CRVS Action Plan noted above through lending operations, ASA, and knowledge and learning events.

Lending operations

CRVS systems of IDA and blend countries are being strengthened through lending operations or technical assistance projects. **Table 1** presents the lending operations with CRVS since January 2016.

Table 1. Lending operations with CRVS since January 2016

Country	Project	Board approval date	IDA (Million USD)	Grant (GFF) (Million USD)	Total (US\$) (Million USD)
Democratic Republic of Congo	AF-DRC Human Development Systems Strengthening (P156421)	29-Mar-2016	10	10	20
Cameroon	Health System Performance Project (P156679)	03-May-2016	2	2	4
Kenya	Transforming Health Systems for Universal Care (P152394)	15-Jun-2016	1.2	0	1.2
Uganda	Uganda Reproductive, Maternal, and Child Health Services Improvement Project (P155186)	28-Jul-2016	5	5	10
Nepal	Strengthening Systems for Social Protection and Civil Registration Project (P154548)	02-Dec-2016	37	0	37
Ethiopia	Ethiopia Health MDGs P4R Additional Financing (P160108)	09-May-2017	10	5	15
Liberia	Liberia Health Systems Strengthening Project Additional Financing (P162477)	23-Feb-2017	0	1	0
Total			65.2	23	87.2

Advisory Services and Analytics

² Please note that activities undertaken in 2015 are also listed to allow full capture CRVS activities since the Global CRVS Scaling Up Investment Plan 2015–2024 was developed.

A number of ASAs have been undertaken in collaboration with client countries and external partners. Moreover, the WBG chaired the Global CRVS Group (comprised of a number of international organizations with the UN Statistics Division as the secretariat).

Some specific activities that have been undertaken include:

- The Global CRVS Group (which comprises organizations that support CRVS systems at the global, regional, or national levels) and the WBG's Open Learning Campus (OLC), in partnership with the Korea Ministry of Strategy and Finance, launched the **first-ever 21st century state-of-the-art comprehensive CRVS eLearning course on May 23, 2017** at a high-level event in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The development of this course demonstrates the commitment of development partners and Governments to work closely together in achieving the SDG Target 16.9, “*By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration.*” It aims to train policy makers, public and civil servants, university students, researchers, development practitioners, and civil society organizations by providing practical tools and approaches to building and maintaining state-of-the-art CRVS systems that are linked to IDM systems and tailored to local contexts, which eventually contribute to alleviating poverty and promoting shared prosperity. The 13 modules of this comprehensive eLearning course are: Module 1. Importance of CRVS Systems; Module 2. Overview of CRVS Systems; Module 3. Institutional Arrangements of CRVS Systems; Module 4. Legal Frameworks of CRVS Systems; Module 5. Birth Registration and Adoption; Module 6. Death Registration; Module 7. Marriage and Divorce Registration; Module 8. Analysis and Use of Vital Statistics; Module 9. Presentation and Dissemination of Vital Statistics; Module 10. CRVS Digitization; Module 11. CRVS Assessment and Strategic Planning; Module 12. Identity Management Systems; and Module 13. Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons, Stateless Persons and CRVS Systems. The Centre of Excellence for CRVS systems, together with the WBG, co-hosted an expert group workshop in Ottawa, Canada during July 11–14, 2016 to review the draft modules of the course. About 50 international experts provide technical inputs. The technical contents were subsequently packaged into eLearning modules for multimedia production. The new e-Learning course is being delivered in two formats: self-paced and virtually-facilitated. The self-paced format, which was opened for enrollment on May 23, 2017, is offered for busy professionals who are able to take the course at their own pace and finish at any time. It can be accessed at the following link: <https://olc.worldbank.org/content/civil-registration-and-vital-statistics-systems-self-paced>. Learners receive a Basic Level Certificate after successfully completing the Core Modules 1-3 and can subsequently enroll in the Facilitated format to receive an Advanced Level Certificate. As of October 31, 2017, of the 566 learners who have registered for the course, 212 have received the Basic Level certificate. The facilitated course can be accessed at: <https://olc.worldbank.org/content/civil-registration-and-vital-statistics-systems-facilitated>. 120 learners enrolled in the first virtually facilitated course which was offered from September 11, 2017 to October 20, 2017. The next facilitated course will be offered from February 5, 2018 to March 16, 2018. At the Asia and Pacific Regional Steering Group Meeting on October 18 2017, awards were given to the Philippines and Myanmar for having the most number of people in the Asia and Pacific region who have completed the self-paced and facilitated course respectively.
- **Lao PDR** – From May 2015 to August 2017, the WBG undertook 9 missions to provide **technical assistance to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA)** in: a) finalizing the CRVS

strategic plan (the Lao PDR 2016-2025 CRVS strategic plan was endorsed by the Prime Minister on May 10, 2017) – the WBG collaborated with the Ewha Womans University; b) reviewing the 2009 Family Registration law and provided inputs into the amendment of the law which will be submitted to the ordinary session of the National Assembly, VIII Legislature in April 2018 – the WBG collaborated with the Korea Legislation Research Institute, Korea University and Hanyang University; c) providing input into the design of a Civil Management Information System (CMIS) design and developing detailed technical specifications for required hardware and software and cost breakdown – the WBG collaborated with the Korea National IT Industry Promotion Agency; and d) revising standard operating procedures (SOPs) for notification, registration, and certification of births, deaths, marriages, and divorces. During March 28-April 1, 2016, MOHA, with support from the WBG-Korea team, organized the first-ever national stakeholder consultative workshop on CRVS for national and provincial officials from 8 line ministries along with development partners (DPs). The goal of the workshop was to provide inputs into the development of the CRVS strategy and the review of the 2009 Family Registration Law as well as to share international experiences. The WBG 2017-2021 Country Partnership Framework (CPF) which was approved by the WBG Executive Board included a joint CRVS and Statistics project

- **Feasibility Study on the CMIS in the Lao PDR.** To-Be Model and Implementation Roadmap. October 24, 2017. Korea National IT Industry Promotion Agency (NIPA) and the WBG
- **A Comparative Analysis of Laws on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems:** Estonia, Ethiopia, Vietnam, And South Korea. September 2017. Korea Legislation Research Institute and World Bank Group
- **Philippines – A case study on Success in Improving Birth Registration.** August 2017. Philippine Statistics Authority and World Bank Group
- Lao People’s Democratic Republic **Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Strategy 2016–2025.** May 2017
- Mills, Samuel Lantei; Abouzahr, Carla; Kim, Jane Hak; Rassekh, Bahie M.; Sarpong, Deborah. 2017. **Civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) for monitoring the Sustainable development goals (SDGS).** Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/979321495190619598/Civil-registration-and-vital-statistics-CRVS-for-monitoring-the-Sustainable-development-goals-SDGS>
- **Blogpost:** How a new eLearning course will help improve countries’ civil registration and vital statistics systems? By: Samuel Mills (World Bank Group and Global CRVS Group) and Sheila Jagannathan (World Bank Group and Open Learning Campus) <https://blogs.worldbank.org/health/how-new-elearning-course-will-help-improve-countries-civil-registration-and-vital-statistics-systems>
- Provided inputs into “*The Way Forward for IDA18: The IDA18 Results Measurement System*” approach paper regarding IDA18 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020) which places emphasis on strengthening the data collection and statistical capacity of IDA countries and has introduced a new indicator: *Number of lending operations with CRVS* with a target of 20 from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020.
- In preparation for the First United Nations World Data Forum held in Cape Town in January 2017, support was provided to **Slovenia** and **Mauritius** to develop two working papers: *Advantages, process, and lessons learned in Slovenia in transitioning from a conventional population and housing census to a register-based census* and *The 10 milestones in practice*

that have allowed Mauritius to continuously report cause-of-death statistics to the WHO since 1957.

- **The Republic of Korea** – In collaboration with Korean institutions (Ewha Womans University, and Korea Institute of Public Administration as part of joint consultation with the Knowledge Sharing Program) and Ministry of Strategy and Finance, a case study was finalized in November 2016: “*Korea: An Integrated System of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics.*” <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/702081495191844901/Korea-an-integrated-system-of-civil-registration-and-vital-statistics>
- **Kenya** – Assisted Kenya Civil Registration Service to a) prepare a **situational analysis report on the implementation of the maternal and child health strategy to boost birth registration** which was finalized in December 2016, as part of analytic work on the linkage between birth registration and immunization; and b) prepare a training plan for health personnel, chiefs and subchiefs which was implemented in Uasin Gishu and Kitui counties in February-March 2017.
- Developed and implementing a plan (with support from Gavi) for **improving birth registration coverage using the immunization processes in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Liberia** (DPT1 coverage is much higher than birth registration in these countries). Ethiopia - a study is being carried out from March 2017 to March 2018 in selected kebeles to a) assess the effect of utilizing existing community health structures and immunization processes for improving birth registration and b) examine the processes of notification and registration of births through the use of health extension workers, women development armies and civil status officers; and Liberia – A birth registration training manual was developed and training of health personnel and registrars was carried out from January to March 2017 in all counties except for the capital city.
- **Botswana** – In collaboration with the Botswana Department of Civil and National Registration (Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs) and the University of Botswana, two case studies were finalized in September 2015: *Integration of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics and Identity Management Systems: Botswana Success Story* <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/963541495179518711/Botswana-Integration-of-civil-registration-and-vital-statistics-and-identity-management-systems-Botswana-success-story>; and “*Identity Management Systems Analysis: Botswana Country Report*” <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/713741495180560798/Botswana-Identity-management-systems-analysis-Botswana-country-report>.
- **Estonia** – In collaboration with the Estonia Ministry of Interior (Police and Border Guard Board and Population Department) and the University of Tartu, a case study was finalized in November 2015: *A Successfully Integrated Population Registration and Identity Management System: Delivering Public Services Effectively* <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/873061495178335850/Estonia-A-successfully-integrated-population-registration-and-identity-management-system-delivering-public-services-effectively>.
- **Liberia** – In collaboration with the Liberia Ministry of Health and other agencies, a CRVS investment case was finalized in December 2015 *Improving Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Liberia Investment Case (2016–2020)*.

- Input has been provided to the expert group on the **Technical Strategy for Improving Mortality Statistics in Africa 2015–2020** (led by WHO, Africa Symposium on Statistical Development, and UNECA).
- Contributions were made to the publication *Data for Development: A Needs Assessment for SDG Monitoring and Statistical Capacity Development*, April 17, 2015.
- A paper titled *The Role and Importance of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems* (June 2015) was prepared for the Summit on Measurement and Accountability for Health Results in the Post-2015 Development Era (WBG, WHO, Global Affairs Canada, UNESCAP, UNSD, Gov Botswana, USAID, UNECA).
- Peer review comments were made to the CRVS Digitization Guidebook <http://www.crvs-dgb.org/en/>. It was launched at the Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) in Gabon, November 2015.
- The 2016–2030 WBG CRVS Action Plan was developed.
- Contributions were made to the development of the *Business Plan for the Global Financing Facility in Support of Every Women Every Child*, May 2015.
- Contributions were made to the development of the proposal and Frequently Asked Questions sections in view of establishing the CRVS Center of Excellence.

Knowledge and Learning Events

A variety of knowledge and learning events have provided the opportunity for sharing lessons learned across countries and within the WBG.

- At the Asia and Pacific Regional Steering Group Meeting, October 18-20, 2017, the WBG made a presentation on the eLearning course and provided awards to the Philippines and Myanmar for having the most number of people in the Asia and Pacific region who have completed the self-paced and facilitated course respectively.
- Philippines - 26 statisticians of the Philippines Statistics Authority were trained on the production of vital statistics using data from civil registration system during October 9-12, 2017 and certificates were issued to participants.
- Pacific islands - At the Disaster Preparation and Response Workshop for Pacific Civil Registrars, held in Suva, Fiji during October 2-4, 2017, a presentation was made on the CRVS eLearning course as well as civil registration for internally displaced persons.
- Myanmar - During August 15-23, 2017, support was provided to the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) staff in reviewing the process for the analysis of civil registration data in the production of vital statistics, contributed to the preparation of the 2014-2015 Vital Statistics report, and provided basic training to all members of the Vital Statistics Section. During October 23-November 1, 2017, comprehensive face-to-face training on vital statistics was delivered to 24 statisticians. Also, assistance was provided to the CSO in preparing a long-term vital statistics capacity building plan in line with the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics, and in finalizing the first ever Vital Statistics report based on data from 2014.
- Participated and presented at the United Nations Technical Seminar on Legal Framework for CRVS and Identity Management Systems, Manila, the Philippines, July 17-19, 2017
- WBG co-organized with Ewha Womans University, Korea Development Institute School of Public Policy and Management, Korea Ministry of Strategy and Finance, Knowledge Sharing Program, and Korea EximBank, a Global Forum on Strengthening CRVS and National Identity Management Systems, May 22-26, 2017, Seoul, Korea. Part I: The High-level Launch of the

State-of-the-art CRVS eLearning Course, Part II: Knowledge Sharing Forum. Over 25 countries were represented. On a scale of 1-5, 84% participants rated the event as “5”, and 12 percent rated as “4”, and 4 percent as “3”.

- Organized a session during the HD/HNP Learning week on CRVS: Approaches for incorporating in lending operations & overview of 21st Century course on May 9 2017.
- Participated in and presented at the Digital Health Conference and 5th Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN) General Meeting 2017: Achieving the SDG’s with ICT, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, March 6 -10, 2017.
- Organized a session on *innovations in linking CRVS and identity management systems for monitoring SDGs and national development plans* at the First United Nations World Data Forum <http://undataforum.org/> Cape Town, January 15-18 2017. The session showcased experiences from Slovenia, Mauritius, Korea, Philippines, and South Africa.
- Participated in Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance (CHAMPS) Global Partners Board meeting, Johannesburg, December 8-9, 2016.
- Participated in technical meeting “Better Data for Women and Children: Strengthening CRVS across the Continuum of Care”, UNICEF, New York, October 4-6, 2016, co-hosted by UNICEF, WHO, Center for Disease Control, and the World Bank Group
- Together with the Scientific Panel on Innovations for Strengthening CRVS Systems of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and Population Association of America, co-sponsored Expert Group Meeting on the theme “Towards the Next Generation of Record-linkage Studies to Advance Data Quality Assessment of Civil Registration Systems in Low- and Middle-income Countries,” World Bank, Washington, DC, April 4-5 2016.
- In collaboration with MOHA, organized and sponsored “Lao PDR CRVS Stakeholder Consultative Workshop,” in Vientiane March 28–April 1, 2016, for about 150 officials of the provincial and central secretariat to the Civil Management Coordinating Committee (CMCC) and DPs.
- Participated in the Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (APAI-CRVS) “Workshop on Sharing of Country Experiences on CRVS Assessment and Plans,” February 11–13, 2016, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, organized by UNECA.
- Global Forum on “Strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) and National Identity Management Systems (IDMS),” held in Seoul December 7–10, 2015, was jointly organized by the Ministry of Strategy and Finance (MoSF), Ewha Womans University (EWU), Korea Institute of Public Administration (KIPA), KDI School of Public Policy and Management, Knowledge Sharing Program (KSP), and Korea Eximbank, in collaboration with the WBG. A total of 102 participants were in attendance, including government officials from Costa Rica, Estonia, Indonesia, Korea, Laos, Liberia, Myanmar, Peru, the Philippines, and Vietnam.
- Participated in the First “International Identity Management Conference,” held September 23–25, 2014 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, organized by GoK, AfDB, ADB, and IDB.
- Organized the event “Making Everyone Count: Unique Identification for Shared Prosperity” at the October 2014 WBG–IMF Annual Meetings.
- Organized a panel session on “Moving Forward: Civil Registration and Identification Systems as Smart Investments” at the November 2014 first Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific.
- Delivered a presentation on “Financing Civil Registration & Vital Statistics, Africa Region” at the February 2015, 3rd Conference of African Ministers responsible for Civil Registration.

- Organized a CRVS session at the “Measurement and Accountability for Results in Health Summit,” June 9–11, 2015, World Bank Headquarters, Washington, DC.
- Expert group meeting on “Strategy for Improving Mortality Statistics in Africa,” Addis Ababa, August 10–14, 2015, organized by WHO, UNECA and ASSD.
- Expert group meeting on “Strategy for Improving Mortality Statistics in Africa,” Cairo September 28–Oct 1, 2015, organized by WHO, UNECA and ASSD.
- GFF Workshop, November 15–18, 2015 Kenya, with participants from Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Uganda, along with DPs, donors, members of the private sector, and CSOs.
- GFF retreat for WBG staff, Washington, October 22–23, 2015.
- 2015–16 Global Ideas Institute (GII) seminar on “Birth Registration in the Developing World,” University of Toronto, November 26, 2015.
- “Conference on Measurement and Accountability for Universal Health Coverage in the Asia-Pacific” and “Invest in Unique ID Schemes and Link CRVS and UHC,” a Focus on Capacity Building, held in Bali, Indonesia, October 26–30, 2015, jointly organized by the Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN), WHO, UNICEF, ADB, and other DPs.
- Blog post, “Civil Registration and Vital Statistics: Key to Better Data on Maternal Mortality,” November 12, 2015.
- Blog post, “Improving the Measurement of Maternal Mortality by Strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems,” May 6, 2014.
- Contributed to the launch of the “Health Data Collaborative: Strengthening National Capacity to Monitor the Health-Related SDGs,” March 9, 2016, New York.

IV Key Annual Performance Indicators

The key performance indicators to be reported annually to track implementation progress (levels attained depend on the financial resources mobilized) are shown in **Table 2**.

Table 2. Key Performance Indicators 2014–2016

Annual key performance indicator	June 2014	June 2016	October 2017
Number of approved lending operations with CRVS	2	6	9
Number of international standards and tools developed or updated for which the WBG provided inputs	0	2	4
Number of analytic products delivered	1	10	19
Number of knowledge and learning events organized	1	8	19

Table 3. Global CRVS Investment Plan and SDG Targets

These are outcomes of collective efforts by countries and development partners and are not necessarily only attributable to WBG support.

Targets	2016	2020	2025	2030
SDG 16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age	71%			100%
SDG 17.19.2 Proportion of countries that have achieved 100 percent				100%

Targets	2016	2020	2025	2030
birth registration.				
Births in a given year are registered		80%	90%	100%
Children whose births are registered have been issued certificates		70%	85%	90%
Deaths in a given year are reported, registered, and certified with key characteristics		60%	70%	80%
SDG 17.19.2 Proportion of countries that have achieved 80 percent death registration.				80%
Maternal and newborn deaths are reported, registered, and investigated		80%	90%	100%
Deaths in children under five are reported and disaggregated by age and sex		60%	70%	80%
Causes of death in hospitals are reliably determined and officially certified		80%	90%	100%
Countries have community assessments of probable cause of death determined by verbal autopsies using international standards		50%	65%	80%

V Lessons Learned

- *A multidisciplinary team with inputs from relevant organizations is necessary in developing a comprehensive CRVS eLearning course.*

The WBG led the development and launch of the comprehensive state-of-the-art CRVS eLearning course with inputs from several international experts and agencies. The development of the course exemplifies a veritable global collaborative effort among organizations and international experts. For each of the 13 modules, the World Bank Team worked closely with the agencies and experts with specific knowledge and expertise on different CRVS topics to develop the modules. Additionally, the WBG and the Centre of Excellence for CRVS Systems cohosted an international expert group workshop with about 50 international experts in Ottawa, Canada in July 2016 to review the draft course modules. The consultative workshop also helped to clarify some aspects of CRVS where previously there was no consensus among experts, for instance, the approach to determining the causes of deaths that occur at home. Further, excellent partnership with the WBG Open Learning Campus, which has a wealth of experience in developing eLearning courses, has contributed to delivering a state-of-the art product that is freely accessible to all learners.

- *Developing a CRVS investment case is critical to prioritizing and sequencing activities for CRVS lending operations.*

Most countries have developed multisectoral five-year CRVS plans based on comprehensive CRVS assessments. However, the estimated costs of the strategic plans for some countries is over US\$100m. Given that external funding available for supporting CRVS typically amounts to far less, it is imperative to develop an investment case to prioritize the activities that the lending operation could finance.

- *A single functioning national coordinating mechanism with a proactive anchor ministry/agency ensures smooth implementation of CRVS.*

Fragmentation and duplication of CRVS activities remains a challenge in countries with a CRVS committee that functions less well. In one country which has a newly formed ministry that was charged with coordinating, efforts were made to support the anchor ministry to improve its coordination activities.

- *Taking a multisectoral approach to CRVS systems contributes to long-term improvements.*

One of the key advantages of the WBG is the breadth of expertise across sectors and regions, which is key in CRVS strengthening. Previously, some WBG staff tended to approach CRVS solely from their respective sectors, which was counterproductive. With the launch of the ID4D initiative, regular communication among WBG Global Practices/Cross Cutting Solution Areas has improved and contributed to better coordination among WBG staff.

- *Coordination among development partners is key to success.*

The WBG worked closely with several DPs in 2014 to draft the Global CRVS Investment Case. Since then, coordination among DPs has improved tremendously. Most of the ASAs, as well as the Knowledge and Learning Events noted above, were carried out in conjunction with DPs. The WBG could not have accomplished this alone.

- *External financing is necessary in the short and medium terms with a view to strengthening national CRVS institutions.*

The Global CRVS Investment Case estimated a financing gap of US\$199 million per year over 10 years for 73 low- and middle-income countries. Most countries have developed costed CRVS plans but have difficulty mobilizing external resources to supplement domestic financing. There is therefore a need to step up the mobilization of additional external resources with the proviso that governments will increase domestic financing for CRVS over time or use existing resources more efficiently.

VII Collaboration with Korean Entities

A focus of the Korea-WBG Partnership Facility (KWPF) is knowledge sharing between the WBG, Korea, and developing countries and where possible, collaboration with Korean entities.

As part of the implementation of the activities noted above, the WBG team established a close working relationship with experts from Korean institutions (Ewha Womans University, Korea Legislation Research Institute, Korea National IT Industry Promotion Agency, and Korea Statistics Promotion Institute). Additionally, the High-level Launch of the State-of-the-art CRVS eLearning Course and the Knowledge Sharing Forum held in Seoul, Korea during May 22-26, 2017, was jointly co-organized by Ewha Womans University, Korea Development Institute School of Public Policy and Management, Korea Ministry of Strategy and Finance, Knowledge Sharing Program, Korea EximBank, and the WBG.