Seventh Meeting of the Global CRVS Group
Ottawa, Canada
15 July 2016

Attendance: Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative, CDC, Centre of Excellence for CRVS systems, Global Affairs Canada, OAS, OSCE, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, The Global Fund, UNDESA, Population Division, UNDP, UNECA, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNSD, WBG, WHO

Agenda

1. Opening
2. Presentation on CRVS and SDG indicators (Keiko Osaki-Tomita, UNSD)
3. Terms of reference
4. Group work plan: July 2016 –June 2018
5. Presentation on Centre of Excellence for CRVS systems
6. Others

Summary of the Meeting

The seventh meeting of the Global CRVS Group was held in Ottawa, Canada on 15 July 2016. Twenty-eight participants from eighteen institutions attended the meeting, of which two joined via phone (see list of participants in annex). The meeting was chaired by Dr. Samuel Mills, World Bank Group.

Presentation on CRVS and SDG Indicators

- The Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) has elaborated a global indicator framework, which currently has 230 indicators. It was approved by the Statistical Commission in March 2016. The baseline year for monitoring us 2010. The report on "Progress towards the SDGs" (E/2016/75) is available online: http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2016/secretary-general-sdg-report-2016--EN.pdf
- The document on "CRVS and the SDGs," produced by SPC, outlines the links between SDG targets, the role of CRVS, and data needed http://www.getinthepicture.org/sites/default/files/resources/CRVS_and_the_SDGs_2016.pdf
- A concern was raised regarding the disparity between girls and boys, that data is disaggregated by only age (not by age and sex). The general principle stated in the preamble of the SDG indicator framework is that, wherever possible, disaggregate data by age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status, to "leave no one behind." It was agreed that This needs to be made clear to countries
- Technically, countries are not obliged to measure every indicator and can skip some. Countries can also craft their own at the regional level and add any data topic of interest for the specific region
- How can civil registration data instead of survey data (DHS) be used to measure the performance of civil registration? Because of the way Target 16.9 is written, only surveys can be used. However, surveys may not capture everything, so there was a request IAEG-SDGs to choose simple indicators, along with preferred primary and secondary sources of data, description of survey, and description of variables. UNSD is in the process of determining which organization will be the responsible custodian for each indicator. As part of the SDG data collection, metadata , such as sources,

definitions, and concepts will be collected. Refer to UNSD's website for the Global SDG Indicators Database: http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/

- In much of the Pacific, a proxy (e.g. children starting school) is likely to be used for measuring the number of children who have formal birth registration, together with DHS data when available. Birth registration for under 5 year old is retrospective, so it does not help to measure under 1 birth registration which is necessary to measure and monitor progress on a continuous basis,.

Terms of Reference

Background
It was decided that the Terms of Reference (TOR) will mention SDGs but will not include a detailed list of indicators.

Objectives
The Group agreed on adding an overall objective, as follows:

To strengthen national CRVS and related systems through coordination and collaboration on global and regional initiatives and exchange of information.

Specific objectives were revised to include the following:
(a) Take stock of progress made on the improvement of the CRVS systems in the context of SDGs
(b) Contribute to the implementation of the Global CRVS Investment Plan
(c) Explore and leverage opportunities to accelerate the improvement of CRVS systems
(d) Promote the importance of CRVS in the global development agenda
(e) Support coordinated country-level engagement by our respective institutions that is consistent with the global CRVS agenda

Membership
The previous membership comprised 22 international and regional inter-governmental organizations (including UN agencies and multilateral development banks). It was agreed to expand the membership. Additional members can be co-opted if they have a clear mandate to support CRVS systems at the global or regional levels.

Roles and responsibilities
The Group agreed to make no changes to this section.

Meetings
It was agreed to have meetings (face-to-face or teleconferences) once a quarter. An annual meeting will take place in New York, close to the dates of the United Nations Statistical Commission (usually early March); and in the subsequent quarters, meetings will be scheduled to take advantage of major global/regional meetings on CRVS or will be by teleconference on the first Wednesday in the respective quarter.

Work Plan: July 2016 –June 2018
- The Group agreed on a list of tasks to undertake in the following two years, based on the revised objectives of the Group. To see the complete list, please refer to the Group Work Plan

- UNSD will publish on the Group's website a table showing SDG targets that are relevant to CRVS and a milestones timeline.
- The Group suggested organizing the activities into two categories:
  1. Explicit Group-initiated endeavors
  2. Activities that members are carrying out as part of their usual mandates. If desired, members can invite other members of the Group to collaborate in these activities by informing the Secretariat, and the Secretariat will send out a communication/email to the Group.

- Additionally, the following items were discussed:The TOR and minutes from the Group meetings will continue to be posted on the Group website
- The Centre of Excellence for CRVS systems is creating a website; suggestions were made that this website be interactive and refers to existing/other relevant websites to reduce duplication of work
- Currently, some members are reporting on the work on this Group to the governing bodies of their respective organizations; UNSD will look into the appropriate modality for reporting to the Statistical Commission

Finally, it was agreed that at the next meeting, members will discuss updates on the agreed work plan. It was agreed that the next meeting will be on 5 October 2016 (at the UNICEF office in New York).
The meeting was adjourned.

Global Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Group Meeting
Participant List
International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Headquarters
150 Kent Street, 8th floor, Pearson Boardroom, Ottawa, Canada
July 15, 2016

	Name	Institution	Location	Email Address
1	Andrew Dawe	Global Affairs Canada	Ottawa, Canada	Andrew.Dawe@international.gc.ca
2	Claire Le Barbenchon	Centre of Excellence for CRVS systems	Ottawa, Canada	cle-barbenchon@idrc.ca
3	Doris Ma Fat	WHO	Geneva, Switzerland	mafatd@who.int
4	Erin Nichols	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Maryland, USA	igd1@cdc.gov; EKNichols@cdc.gov
5	Estifanos Shargie	The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria	Geneva, Switzerland	Estifanos.Shargie@TheGlobalFund.org
6	James L. Neumann	World Bank Group	Washington DC, USA	jneumann@worldbank.org
7	Irina Dincu	Centre of Excellence for CRVS systems	Ottawa, Canada	idincu@civilregistration.org
8	Karen Carter (by web)	Secretariat of the Pacific Community	Noumea, New Caledonia	karenc@spc.int
9	Keiko Osaki-Tomita	United Nations Statistics Division	New York, USA	osaki@un.org
10	Kristin Farr	Centre of Excellence for CRVS systems	Ottawa, Canada	kfarr@idrc.ca
11	Maletela Tuoane-Nkhasi	World Bank Group	Washington DC, USA	mtuoanenkhasi@worldbank.org
12	Malgorzata CWIEK	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	mcwiek@uneca.org
13	Maria-Isabel Cobos Hernandez	United Nations Statistics Division	New York, USA	cobos@un.org

	Name	Institution	Location	Email Address
14	Nadya Kassam	UNICEF	New York, USA	nkassam@unicef.org
15	Niall McCann	UNDP	New York, USA	niall.mccann@undp.org
16	Nicholas Oakeshott	UNHCR	Bangkok, Thailand	oakeshot@unhcr.org
17	Patrick Gerland	UNDESA, Population Division	New York, USA	gerland@un.org
18	Philip Setel	Vital Strategies/ Bloomberg Philanthropies Data for Health Initiative	New York, USA	PSetel@vitalstrategies.org
19	Raj Mitra (**by web**)	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	RMitra@uneca.org
20	Rebeca Omaña Peñaloza	Organization of American States (OAS)	Washington D.C,USA	romana@oas.org
21	Samuel Mills	World Bank Group	Washington DC, USA	smills@worldbank.org
22	Sam Notzon	National Center for Health Statistics Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Maryland, USA	fcn2@cdc.gov
23	Shaila Rodrigues	Global Affairs Canada	Ottawa, Canada	Shaila.Rodrigues@international.gc.ca
24	Srdjan Mrkic	United Nations Statistics Division	New York, USA	mrkic@un.org
25	Sue Szabo	Centre of Excellence for CRVS systems	Ottawa, Canada	sszabo@idrc.ca
26	Tapiwa Jhamba	UNFPA	New York, USA	jhamba@unfpa.org
27	Yacob Zewoldi	African Development Bank	New Jersey, USA	yzewoldi@gmail.com

	Name	Institution	Location	Email Address
28	Zoran Đoković	OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights	Warsaw, Poland	zoran.dokovic@odihr.pl