

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in the Pacific Islands: Standards, best practice, and lessons learnt.

22-25 February 2016, Noumea, New Caledonia
Supported by the Brisbane Accord Group and the United Nations Statistics Division

Venue: SPC Conference Centre, Anse Vata, Noumea – NEW CALEDONIA

Intended Participants – Member Pacific Countries and Territories of SPC.

Civil Registrars
National Statistics Officers
Health Information Officers/ Managers

Objectives

1. To share experiences in improving CRVS across the Pacific from the last 4 years of the Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan in order to:
 - a. build support for CRVS across the region,
 - b. encourage countries to ensure CRVS is linked to national plans, and
 - c. share actions and strategies that may be useful for other countries in reaching their CRVS improvement targets.
2. To share national CRVS commitments to improving CRVS, and encourage countries that have not done so to set targets in line with the Regional Action Framework,
3. To introduce the new UN guidelines for CRVS, along with other tools and standards to assist countries to improve their systems
4. To move forward regional actions to support CRVS such as a regional IT approaches, and legislation best practice guidelines.



PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Day 1. Monday, 22 February 2016		
Chair: Karen Carter –Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Specialist, SPC – BAG coordinator. Rapporteur – ABS		
8:00–9:00	Registration of participants	
WELCOME		
9:00–9:45	1. Welcome and introduction Introductory remarks from Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) on behalf of SPC and BAG partners Introduction of participants and administrative matters	Deputy DG - SPC
FRAMEWORKS for CRVS		
9:45 – 10:30	2. Regional initiatives for strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistics. (45 mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BAG, The Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan and overview of current activities. (12 mins) • Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific: Goals, targets and implementation steps of the Regional Action Framework. (12 mins) Questions	SPC ESCAP
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 – 11:25	3. The UN Principles and Recommendations - Guiding principles of vital statistics system. (incl. questions)	UNSD
THE PURPOSE OF CRVS - LEGAL AND STATISTICAL ROLES		
11:25 – 12:00	4. CRVS and human rights. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRVS and human rights including Child rights, social inclusion and reporting of violence Questions	UNICEF
12:00 – 12:35	5. Civil registration for vital statistics and health data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of CRVS for Vital Statistics (including health monitoring) including the new SDGs, national reporting and planning, country experiences with data and data for small island states (12 mins) • UN Principles and Guidelines – CRVS for Statistics (10 mins) Questions	PSSC Chair UNSD
12:35– 13:35	Lunch	
13:35 – 14:20	6. The role of CRVS as a foundation for national Identification	



	Systems, e-government and data sharing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance, ID and CRVS – Presentation by World Bank (10 mins) • Challenges and lessons learnt – the PNG Country experience with ID (10 mins each) • The potential for population registers in the Pacific (8 mins) Questions	ESCAP or WB PNG PSSC or SDD
HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES		
14:20– 15:00	7. Progress over 4 years of the PVSAP (Presentation plus open discussion)	SPC (with BAG partners)
CORE TOPICS FOR CRVS		
15:00 – 15:20	8. Core Topics for capture in CRVS systems	UNSD
15:20 – 15:50	Coffee Break	
CRVS SYSTEMS AND STRUCTURES		
15:50 – 16:50	9. National CRVS systems – components, challenges and structures Country examples (8 mins each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuvalu • Niue • New Zealand • French Polynesia • Guam • RMI Questions	Country Reps
16:50 – 17:10	Wrap up and close for Day 1 – Rapporteur and Chair.	
Evening	Welcome cocktail event	



Day 2. Tuesday, 23 February 2016		
Chair: Jeff Montgomery, Registrar General of New Zealand, and Coordinator of the Pacific Civil Registrars Network (PCRN)		
Rapporteur – ESCAP		
8:00 – 8:30	Registration of participants	
8:30 – 8:50	Welcome to day 2 & Brief summary of PCRN and current workplans	Chair
CRVS SYSTEMS AND STRUCTURES - continued		
8:50 – 9:45	10. Organisational Structures: roles and responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National and local-level designation of responsibilities and organizational structures of a civil registration system. (15 mins) The Kiribati CRVS system (remote registration) – lessons from the field (10 mins) System Mapping – Identifying duplication and defining roles in the national CRVS improvement plan – Palau (10 mins) Questions	UNSD Kiribati SPC with Palau
9:45 – 10:10	11. The role of health institutions - Linkages between HIS and CRVS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy Islands, and the role of HIS systems in Birth, death and cause of death capture - WHO (15 mins) Questions	WHO (with UNSD)
10:10 – 10:40	Coffee Break	
10:40 – 11:20	12. Legislation best practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country presentation on legislation review and issues – Vanuatu (10 mins) Regional Best Practice Guidelines for CRVS (20 mins) Questions	Vanuatu SPC
12:20 – 13:20	Lunch	
13:20 – 14:50	13. Registration Processes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil registration process: place, time, cost, late registration (20 mins) Conducting Catch up Campaigns (balancing evidence and access) – Country TBD (10 mins) Archiving and legal preservation – Tonga Civil Registry Office (10 mins) Panel discussion (45 mins) 	UNSD UNICEF with Vanuatu Tonga Chair + UNICEF, SPC, NZ, Tonga, Vanuatu, UNSD



POLITICAL SUPPORT, NATIONAL PLANNING AND COORDINATION		
14:50 – 15:20	14. Political Commitment for CRVS and links to National Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing political commitment to CRVS through national assessment and planning - Fiji (12 mins) • Regional experiences from assessments and plans (10 mins) 	Fiji BAG/ SPC
15:20 – 15:50	Coffee Break	
15:50 – 16:40	15. Using the Regional Action Framework to develop political commitment and drive momentum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RAF, reporting processes and progress (15 mins) • Country experience in setting and approving national targets - FSM (12 mins) • An overview of country baselines (12 mins) Questions and Next Steps	ESCAP FSM SPC
16:40 – 17:00	Wrap up and close for Day 2 – Rapporteur and Chair.	



Day 3. Wednesday, 24 February 2016 Chair: Shivnay Naidu, Health Information Manager for Fiji, and Chair of the Pacific Health Information Network (PHIN) (To be confirmed) Rapporteur – WHO		
8:00 – 8:30	Registration of participants	
8:30 – 8:50	Welcome for Day 3 – Chair & Brief summary of PHIN and current workplans	Chair
8:50 – 9:50	16. Coordination and national CRVS plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Importance of the CRVS committee and steps to a national plan (10 mins) National experiences - CRVS committees and national plans (10 mins each). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australia - National coordination Cook Islands - Importance of the committee and updated Samoa– National committee and planning Presentation of a national plan - Tokelau Questions	SPC/ ESCAP ABS Cook Islands Samoa Tokelau
9:50 – 10:20	17. Looking beyond health, statistics, and civil registration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging with other sectors (such as education, town and community) and linkages with the electoral roll - Country (10 mins) Data sharing – agreements, protection and considerations (15 mins) Questions	Country TBD PCRN and county TBD
IMPROVING COVERAGE, DATA SHARING AND OUTREACH		
10:20 – 10:50	Coffee Break	
10:50 – 11:30	18. IT as a tool to support CRVS – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The regional IT for CRVS guidelines (15 mins) Country lessons learnt from an IT rollout/ planning (10 mins) Discussion	SPC Solomons Islands
11:30 – 12:10	19. “World Café” exercise (part 1) Groups will discuss and share lessons learnt and key experiences on the following suggested topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community outreach activities Defining roles and responsibilities across departments The role of schools in CRVS Developing registration processes and documentation Late registration issues and challenges Data sharing - issues and considerations. 	Facilitated by BAG partners.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential for common IT solutions for CRVS Participants will rotate through 3 groups for 30 mins each.	
12:10 – 13:10	Lunch	
13:10 – 15:00	19. “World Cafe” exercise (part 2) Second and third discussion groups Feedback	Facilitated by BAG partners.
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee Break	
CAUSES OF DEATH		
15:30 – 16:50	20. CRVS and causes of death <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of cause of death data, Certification and coding processes and issues, and data required (15 mins) Improving certification from doctors – Country example (10 mins) Understanding influences on doctors when certifying (8 mins) Coding processes in Fiji (10 mins) Regional coding support – (15 mins) Verbal autopsy – applications and considerations for the Pacific – (8 mins) Questions	SPC with WHO Samoa SPC and WHO Fiji Ministry of Health ABS/QUT SPC and WHO
16:50 – 17:10	Wrap up and close for Day 3 – Rapporteur and Chair.	



Day 4. Thursday, 25 February 2016		
Chair: TBA - Pacific Statistics Steering Committee (PSSC)		
Rapporteur – ESCAP & UNFPA		
8:00 – 8:30	Registration of participants	
8:30 – 8:50	Welcome for Day 4 & Brief summary of PSSC and current workplans	Chair
DATA AVAILABILITY AND USE		
8:50 – 10:30	21. National and Regional Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data availability, regional trends in mortality and fertility, and the data analysis and Report writing course outcomes - SPC (15 mins) Data analysis at a national level- Country presentations of key vital statistics findings and outcomes (8 mins each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CNMI Nauru New Caledonia Am. Samoa NCD analysis and monitoring (8 mins) Maternal and Child Health Fiji maternal health project (8 mins) Data matching in Tonga – (8 mins) (TBC) 	SPC CNMI Nauru New Caledonia SPC/ WHO FNU Tonga
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 – 11:20	22. International collection of vital statistics Purpose of data collection by the UN, availability of vital statistics as per each country’s submission of data to UNSD. Questions	UNSD (with BAG Partners)
11:20 - 11:45	23. Making CRVS data more usable	UNICEF? Country? SPC? PCRN?
11:45 – 12:20	24. What we want to know – future research priorities Discussion panel – setting an operational research agenda for the Pacific	ESCAP/ SPC / Other BAG partners
12:20 – 13:30	Lunch	
ONGOING QUALITY ASSESSMENT AND SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT		
13:30– 14:05	25. Quality assessment and assurance in the civil registration and vital statistics system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on the UN standards (10 mins) The Comprehensive CRVS assessment – lessons, experiences and application (10 mins) 	UNSD SPC and WHO



	Questions	
NEXT STEPS and MOVING FORWARD		
14:05 – 15:30	26. Planning, Targets and Future Investment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Global Picture and Investment in CRVS (8 mins) • Developing a costed national CRVS investment strategy from the national CRVS plan (15 mins) • Small group discussion– (30 mins) <i>How have you or are you formalizing your committee, National CRVS improvement plan and RAF Targets</i> 	ESCAP Solomon Islands with UNICEF Facilitated by BAG partners
15:30– 15:50	Coffee Break	
15:50 – 16:40	27. Country feedback Open session for discussion/ feedback and clarification	
16:40 – 17:10	28. Wrap-up /Closing. Summary of the workshop’s proceedings: achievements, challenges and lessons learnt in the Pacific (20 mins). Closing from Chair (10 mins).	SPC with organising partners Chair
	Evaluation of the workshop	

