Implementing Inequality Assessments of Death Registrations in CRVS Systems

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What does it mean in the context of CRVS?

- Giving EVERYONE a legal identity
- Counting EVERYONE: inclusive and disaggregated statistics
Factors affecting civil registration include:
- Gender
- Education level
- Place of birth (hospital/community)
- Income
- Ethnicity
- Religion
- Geographic location

Hard-to-reach and marginalized populations include:
- People living in rural, remote, isolated or border areas
- Minorities
- Indigenous people
- Migrants
- Non-citizens
- Asylum seekers
- Refugee
- Stateless people
- People without documentation
- People with disabilities

Who might be left out?
Vulnerabilities and marginalization intersect and can be compounded to intensify exclusion.

- Not mutually exclusive
- Can magnify risks for women and girls
Building on the agreements from 2014 to achieve our shared vision:

“...by 2024, all people in Asia and the Pacific will benefit from universal and responsive CRVS systems that facilitate the realization of their rights and support good governance, health and development”
REGIONAL ACTION FRAMEWORK (RAF)

Implementation Steps
- Coordination mechanism
- Comprehensive assessment
- National targets set
- Monitoring and reporting plan
- Inequality assessment
- National strategy developed
- Focal point assigned
- Reporting to ESCAP

Goals
- 1A: Civil Registration
- 1B: Legal Documents
- 1C: 1D: 1E
- 2A: Legal Documents
- 2B: Legal Documents
- 3A: Vital Statistics
- 3B: Vital Statistics
- 3C: Vital Statistics
- 3D: Vital Statistics
- 3E: Vital Statistics
- 3F: Vital Statistics
- 3G: Vital Statistics
- 3H: Vital Statistics

Targets
Regional Action Framework and Midterm Review

“Assess inequalities related to CRVS experienced by subgroups of the population, including among hard-to-reach and marginalized populations and particular geographic areas and administrative subdivisions, and, where appropriate, set national targets to address those inequalities”

- No clear standards or guidance as to what is meant
- Few countries implementing (as reported in midterm review)
Implementation Steps: Midterm review
Inequality assessments

- As shown, few countries have conducted inequality assessments
- Difficult to measure not only completeness but also coverage (WHO is being left out) – harder for deaths than for births
- Assessments of inequalities experienced by subgroups of the population are needed to make sure every one gets in the picture
- Universal means 100%, not 99%
- Impact of exclusion can increase as coverage and completeness increase
COVID19

- Spotlight on mortality statistics
- Inequality in impact of pandemic
  - Sex
  - Income
  - Ethnicity
- Overlaps with inequality in death registration
ESCAP support: 2021

- Series of Expert Group Meetings and webinars held in 2021 to provide guidance for countries on inequality assessments
  - Qualitative assessments and the Bali Process toolkit [https://tinyurl.com/2ymdjyp9](https://tinyurl.com/2ymdjyp9)
  - Quantitative assessments using secondary data sources and indirect demographic methods [https://tinyurl.com/ehss9kmz](https://tinyurl.com/ehss9kmz)
  - Information note on inequality assessments in the region [https://tinyurl.com/d6spkntn](https://tinyurl.com/d6spkntn)
Current project: 2022/3

- Facilitate the implementation of CRVS inequality assessments using secondary data sources
- Refine further guidance which can be used in other countries in the region and globally
- Build capacity to allow countries to undertake inequality assessments in the future
- Currently five countries, but looking to expand another two
- Project website: https://tinyurl.com/ft7htas5
Current project: national components

- 5 countries expressed interest in 2021: Fiji, Samoa, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Lao PDR
- Inception workshops conducted in Fiji (Jan ‘22), Pakistan (Feb ‘22) and Lao PDR (Mar ‘22), planned for Bangladesh (Sept ‘22)
- First national capacity building workshops on IA conducted in Fiji and Pakistan (March ‘22); Lao PDR (Aug ‘22); Bangladesh (planned Sept 22); and Samoa (TBC)
- Second national CB workshop planned for Fiji in Sept 22
Current project: regional components

- Regional workshop conducted on Estimating Completeness of Civil Registration of Births and Deaths (Apr ’22)
- Regional workshop on demographic evaluation of age and sex data (May ‘22)
- Regional workshop on inequality assessments of CRVS systems (August ‘22)
- Regional guidelines for estimating completeness of vital events (released March ’22)
What we’ve learnt so far

- It’s not easy!
  - Training well received
  - Difficulties in coordination on many different levels
- Context is everything
- Compromises are needed
- Capacity in many countries is very limited
- As expected, more difficult to estimate deaths than births and cause of death particularly frustrated
- Need the national champions – but also need to institutionalize
- Need to support the jump into use
- Countries learn a lot from one another
Thank you!

For more information, please visit:

https://getinthepicture.org/
CRVS Insight
https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-insight-newsletter