



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



UN Legal Identity Agenda

The United Nations Legal Identity Agenda

Predrag Savić

UN Statistics Division

Webinar Series on the Global Initiative on Unique Identifiers for Businesses

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Outline

- Rationale
- Background
- UNLIA Recommended Approach
- UNLIA Task Force





Rationale:

- Everyone has the right to be recognized as a person before the law, as enshrined in Article 6 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and several international human rights instruments.
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development established **SDG Target 16.9 – legal identity for all.**

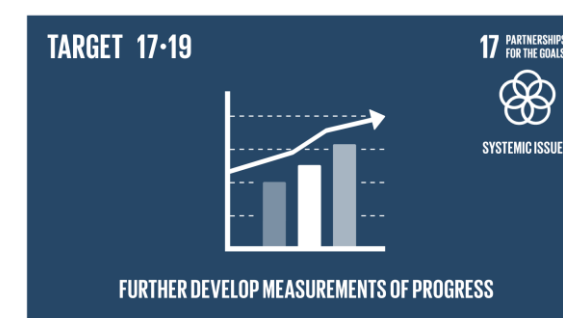


Rationale:

- Those without legal identity face multifaceted challenges, which can include:
 - i) lack of access to public services
 - ii) inability to exercise political rights such as the right to vote;
 - iii) risk of exploitation from criminal enterprises,
 - iv) vulnerability, as either refugees or stateless persons

Rationale:

- Legal identity is widely acknowledged to be catalytic for achieving at least ten of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Data generated from civil registration and population registers support the measurement of at least 60 SDG indicators.



Rationale:

- Civil registration establishes the existence of a person under the law and is fundamental to granting legal identity. It is recognized as the ultimate source for production of comprehensive, regular, reliable, vital statistics.
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development established indicator 17.19.2 – proportion of countries that have achieved 100 % birth registration and 80 % death registration.

Background:

Prior to 2018, UN bodies were supporting legal identity in siloes.

At the request of the UN Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General's office convened United Nations entities to:

- promote a holistic, birth-to-death model of legal identity;
- take a common, ONE UN approach to legal identity across the UN,
- strengthen collaboration with the World Bank;
- help Member States accelerate progress in achieving SDGs 16.9, 17.19.

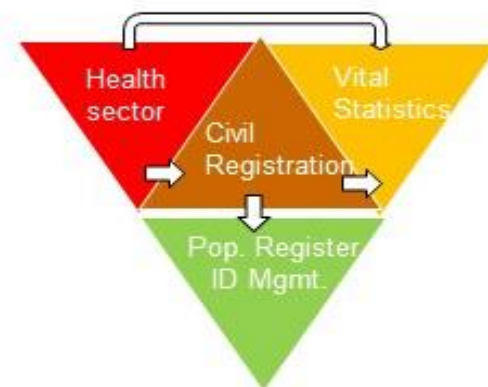
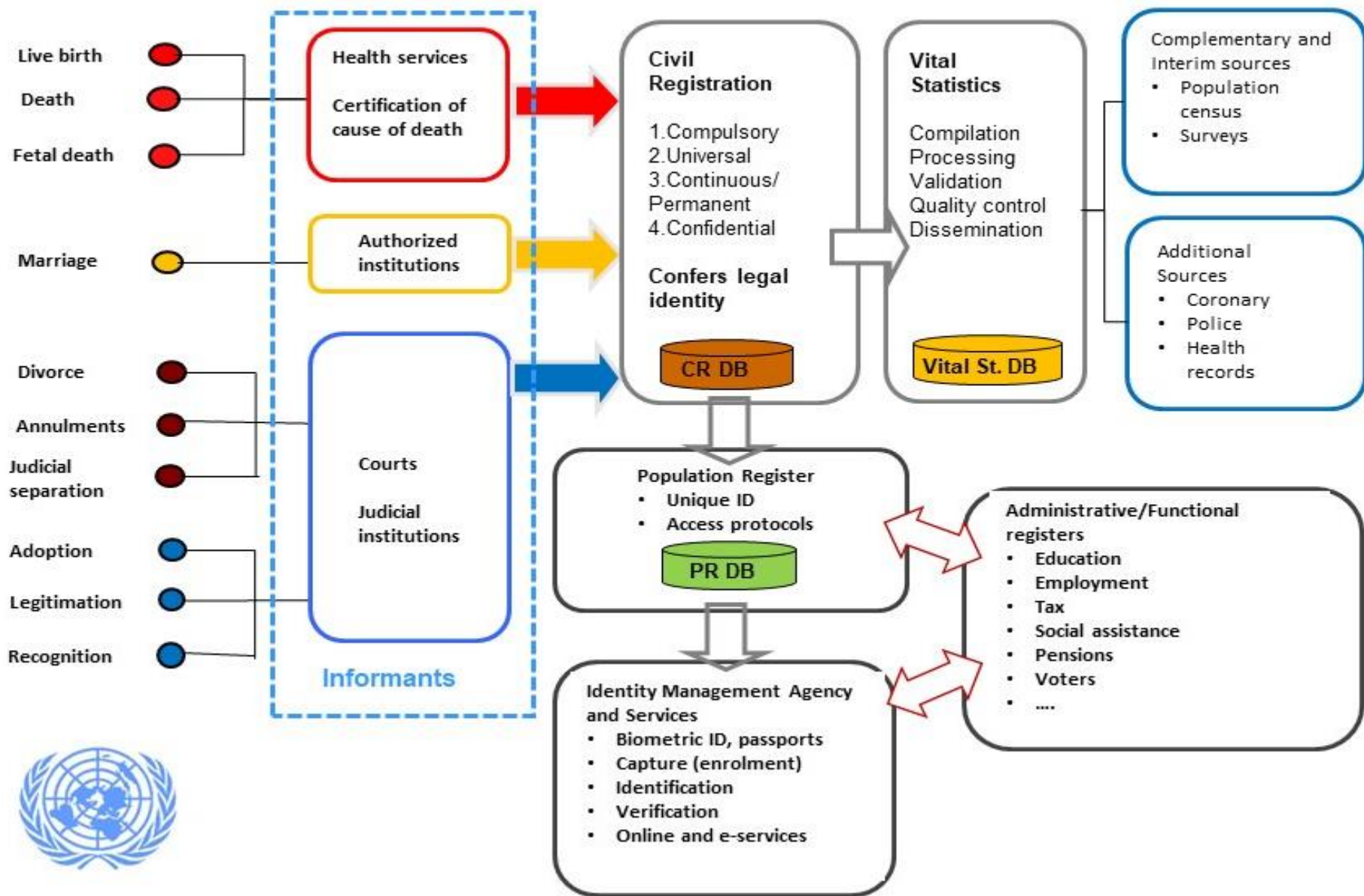
Statistical Commission 2020 endorsed UNLIA



UN Legal Identity Agenda

- The United Nations Legal Identity Agenda refers to the **holistic** approach to civil registration of all vital events, production of vital statistics, the establishment and maintenance of population registers and identity management apparatus from birth to death, with **full interoperability** between these functions in a simultaneous manner, according to international standards and recommendations and in compliance with human rights of all people concerned, including the right to privacy.

Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identity Management System



Simplified flow

This model represents a holistic approach to civil registration, vital statistics and identity management recommended by the United Nations, adapted from the United Nations *Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 3.*; it can be adjusted to national circumstances and governing structures as necessary.



UNLIA Task Force

- To operationalize the approach, an inter-agency coordination mechanism was established: the UN Legal Identity Agenda Task Force (UNLIA TF).
- Task Force consists of 13+ UN agencies, under the chairmanship of UNDP, UNICEF and DESA, working together in assisting Member States in achieving SDG target 16.9 – legal identity for all.

UNLIA Task Force

- i) Oversees the implementation of the UNLIA at the regional and national level.
 - UNLIA Task Force meets bimonthly.
 - The group defines the Annual Work Plan every year and member agencies implement the AWP collaboratively.

- ii) Develops and maintains normative work related to UNLIA (with UNSD as the leading focal point).
 - Handbooks, Guidelines, Principles and Recommendations

- iii) Engages in fund raising, advocacy and communication

- iv) Briefs DSG and other senior UN principals as required on latest developments in the implementation. (Our common Agenda)

Thank you!



UN Legal Identity Agenda

unstats.un.org/legal-identity-agenda