

# Enhancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Through CRVS Systems: A Case Study of Lao PDR

**Session VIII: Legal identity for all, to achieve gender equality – Interregional dialogue**

**United Nations Global Forum on Gender Statistics  
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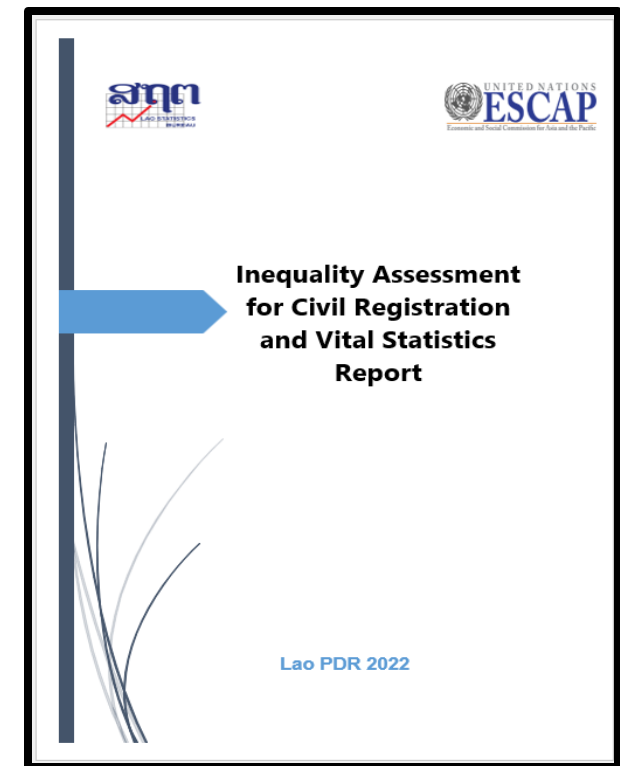
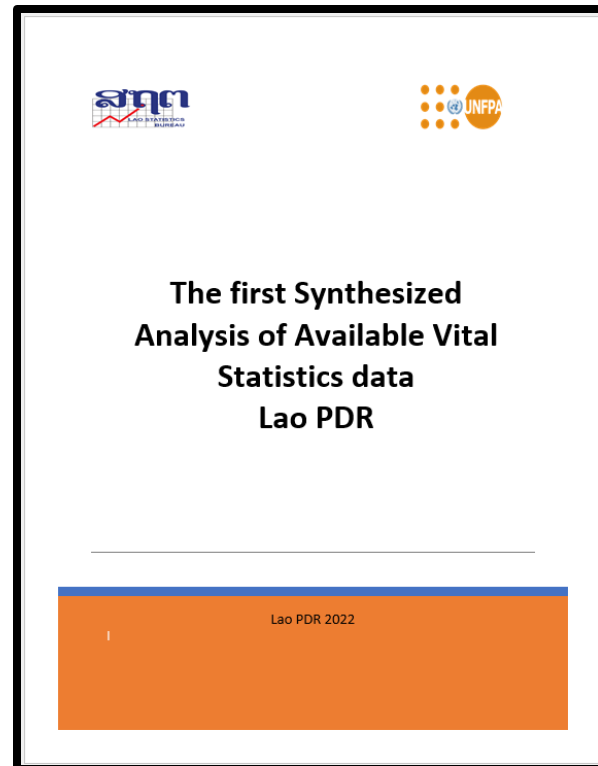
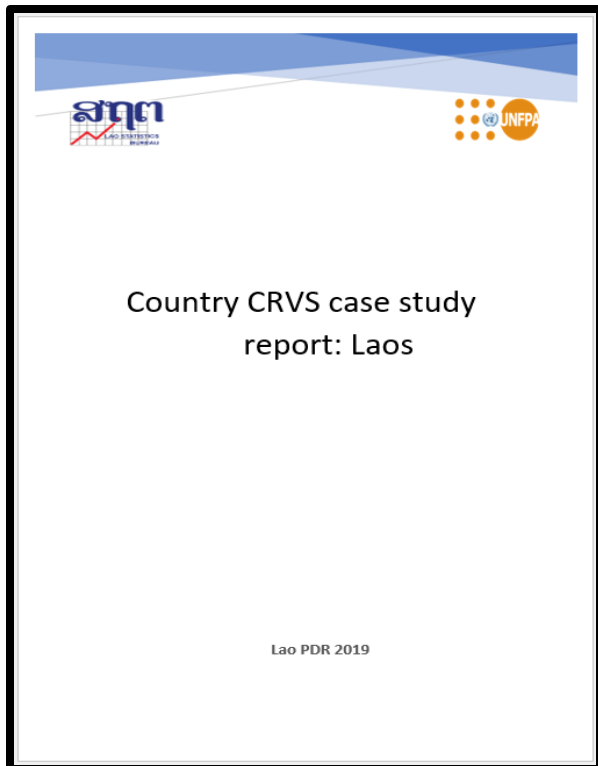
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# LSB initiatives to connect vital events/statistics and gender equality

ConVERGE (2018-2023): Connecting Vital Events Registration and Gender Equality in collaboration with UNFPA,

Inequality Assessment for CRVS Systems in Laos, in collaboration with ESCAP, 2022



# Key results from ConVERGE initiatives

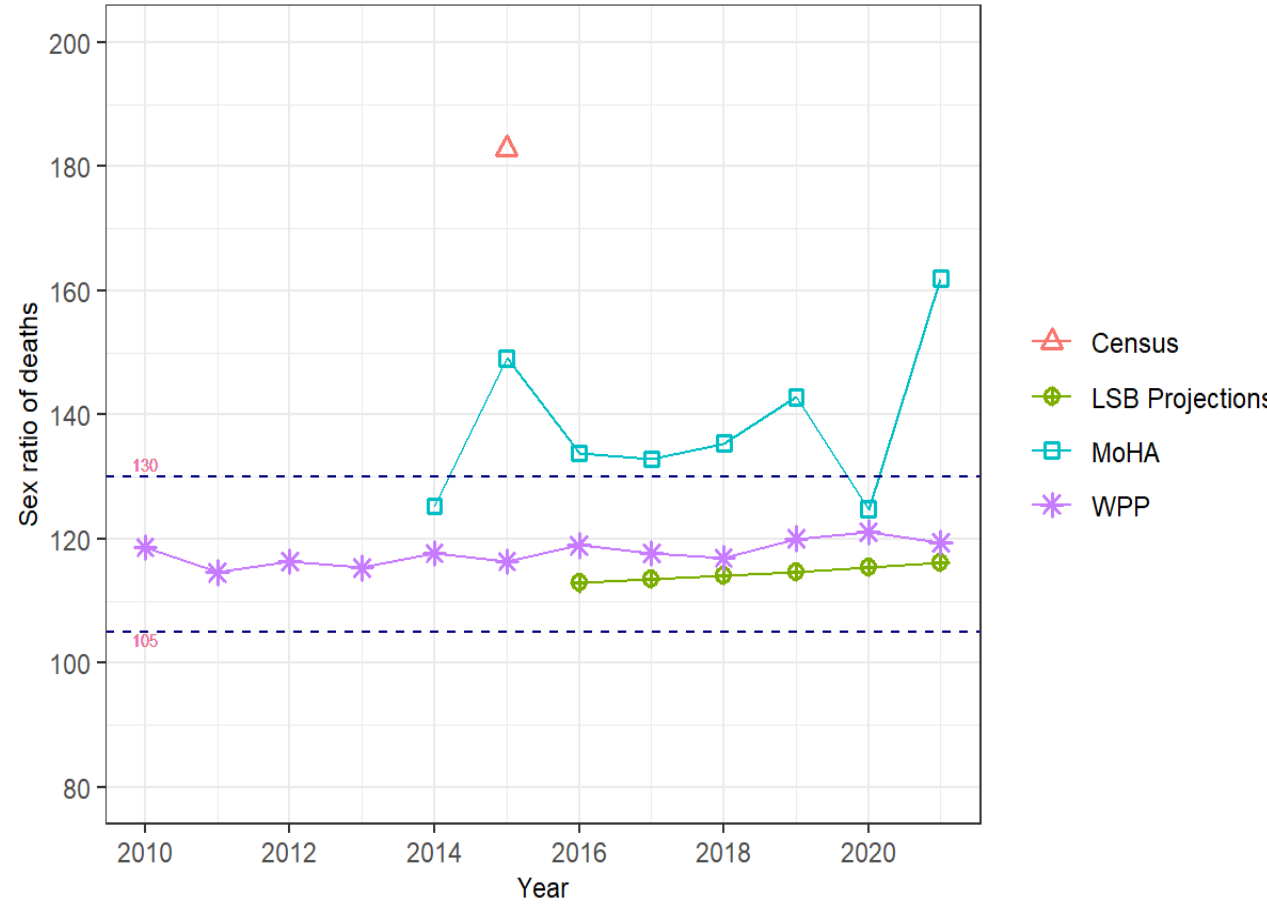
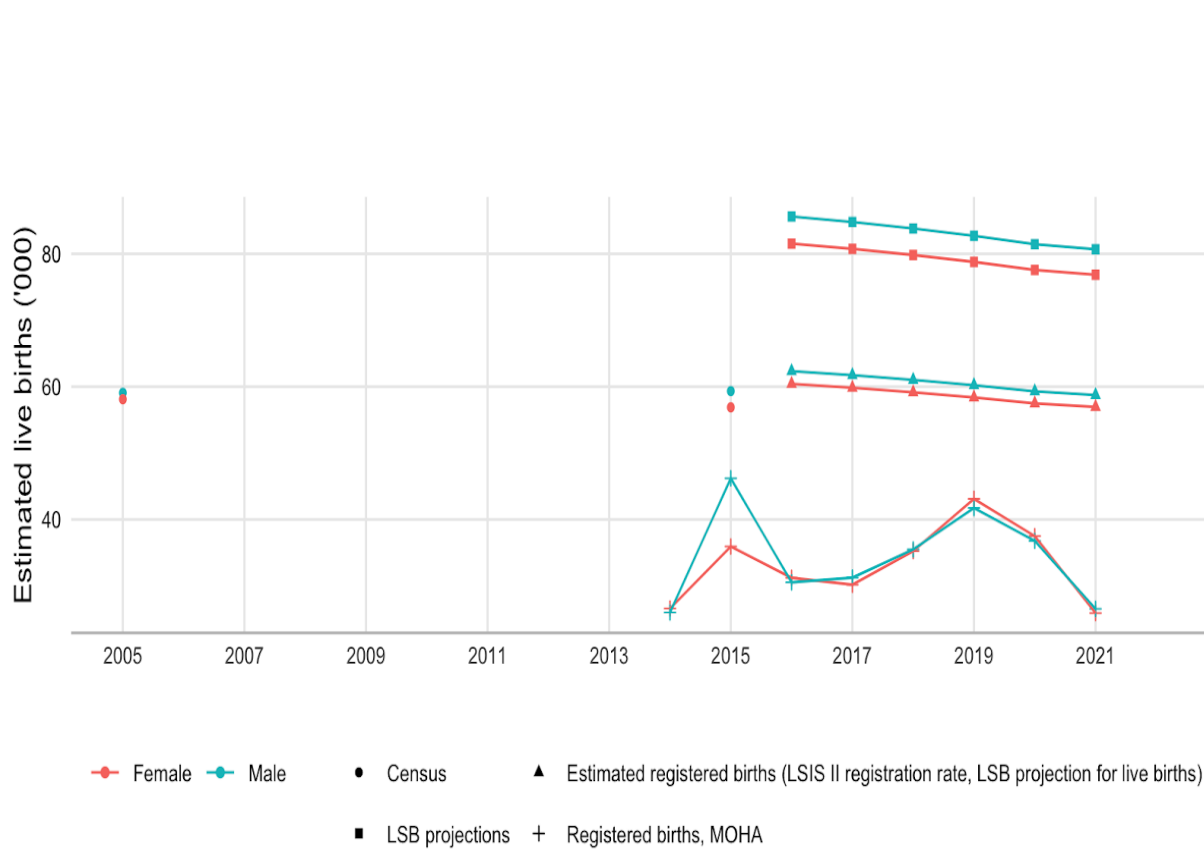


Connecting Vital Events Registration and Gender Equality

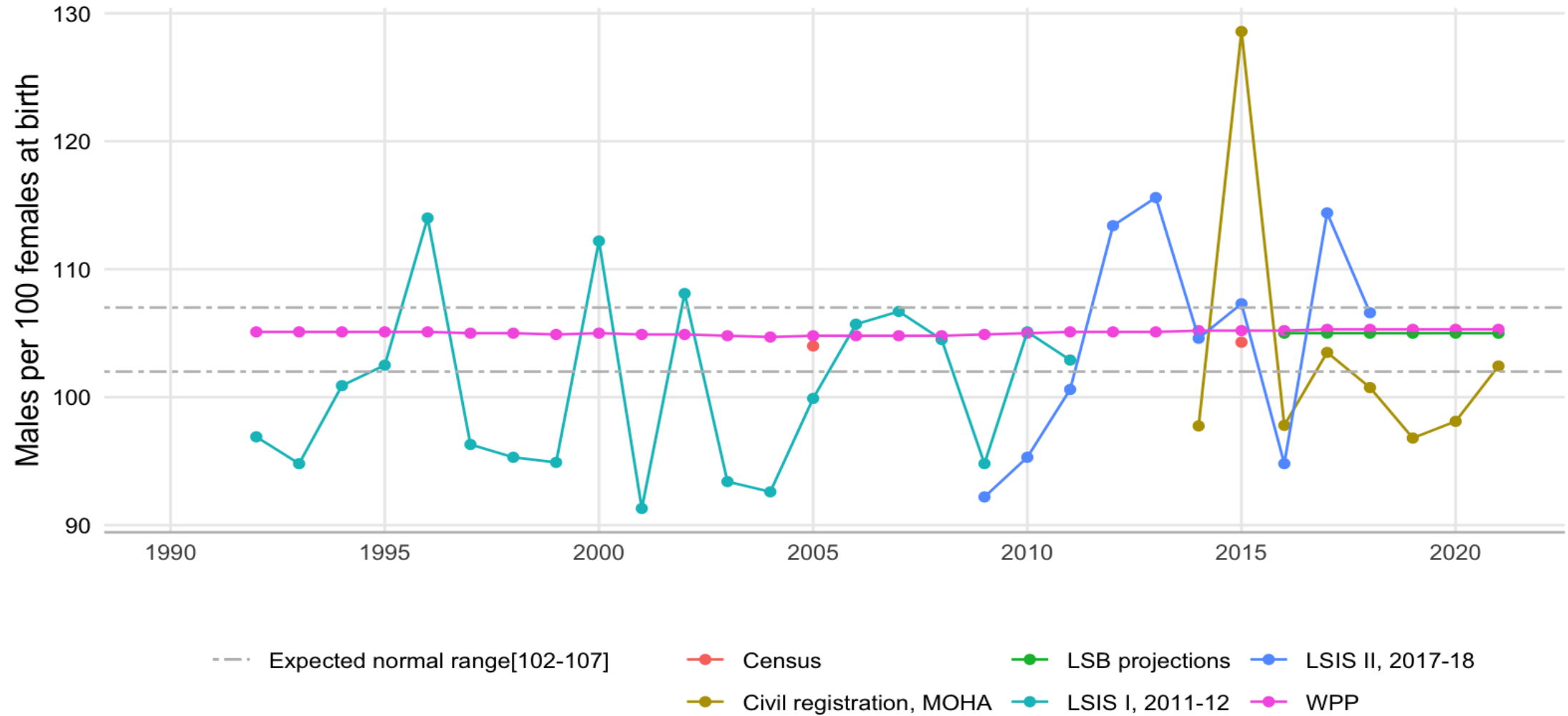
## Life Course Approach to CRVS

Birth Registration	Marriage Registration	Divorce Registration	Death Registration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Foundational to legal identity</li><li>Protection against Child Marriage</li><li>Facilitates access to universal education</li><li>Underpins accurate fertility statistics</li><li>Supports monitoring of gender-based sex selection</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Contributes to prevention of child marriage</li><li>Secures inheritance + property rights</li><li>Facilitates paternity recognition</li><li>Secures rights enshrined in Marriage Law + Family Code</li><li>Protects rights of women within family/household</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Underpins right to remarry</li><li>Facilitates asset + property rights</li><li>Fundamental for accurate nuptiality statistics</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Supports widowhood rights</li><li>Ensures orderly property + inheritance transfers</li><li>Underpins accurate mortality statistics + causes of death</li></ul>

# Results -1: Absolute live births by sex and Sex ratio

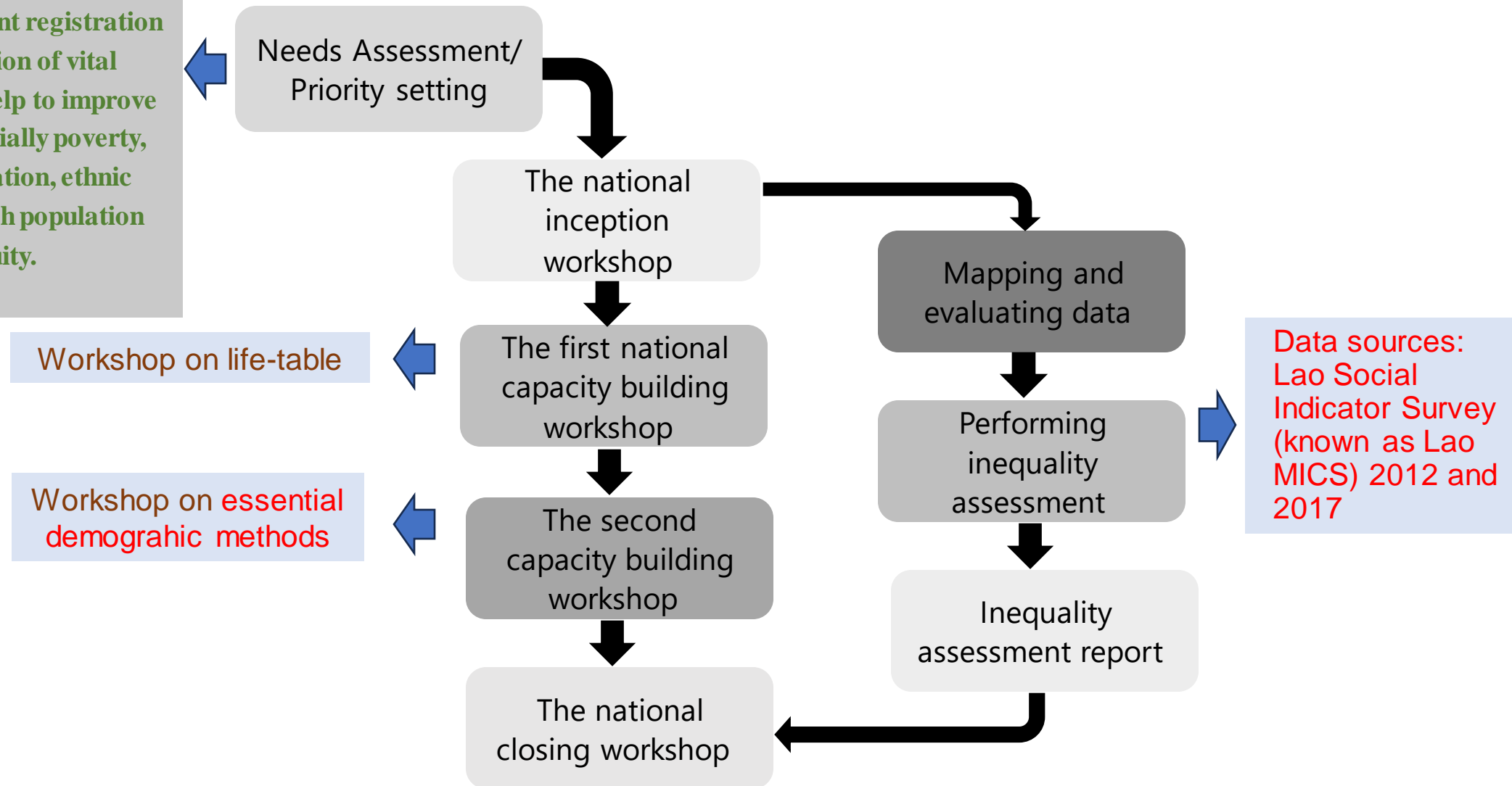


# Results -2: Estimated sex ratio at birth by data source



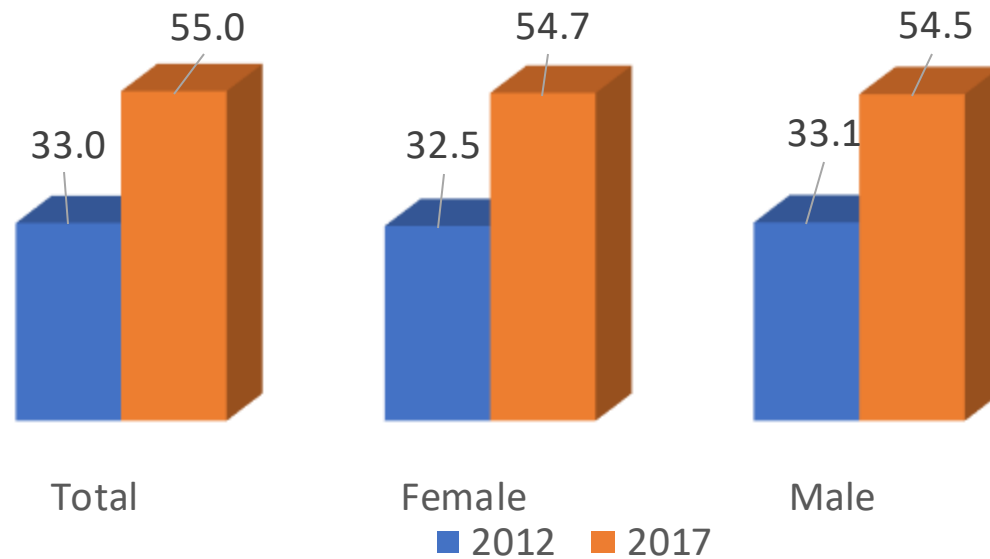
# Key results of inequality assessment in Lao PDR

Identify population groups at risk of not being included in the CRVS system in Lao PDR to improve completeness and coverage of vital event registration and to allow production of vital statistics. Moreover, it help to improve gender inequality especially poverty, rural areas, less education, ethnic group and so on to reach population registered equity.



# Results -1: Birth registration completeness among children under 5 by sex

$$= \frac{\text{Number of children aged 0–59 months who have birth registration}}{\text{Total number of children aged 0–59 months in the survey}} \times 100$$



Source of data: LAOSIS I and II.

## Key findings:

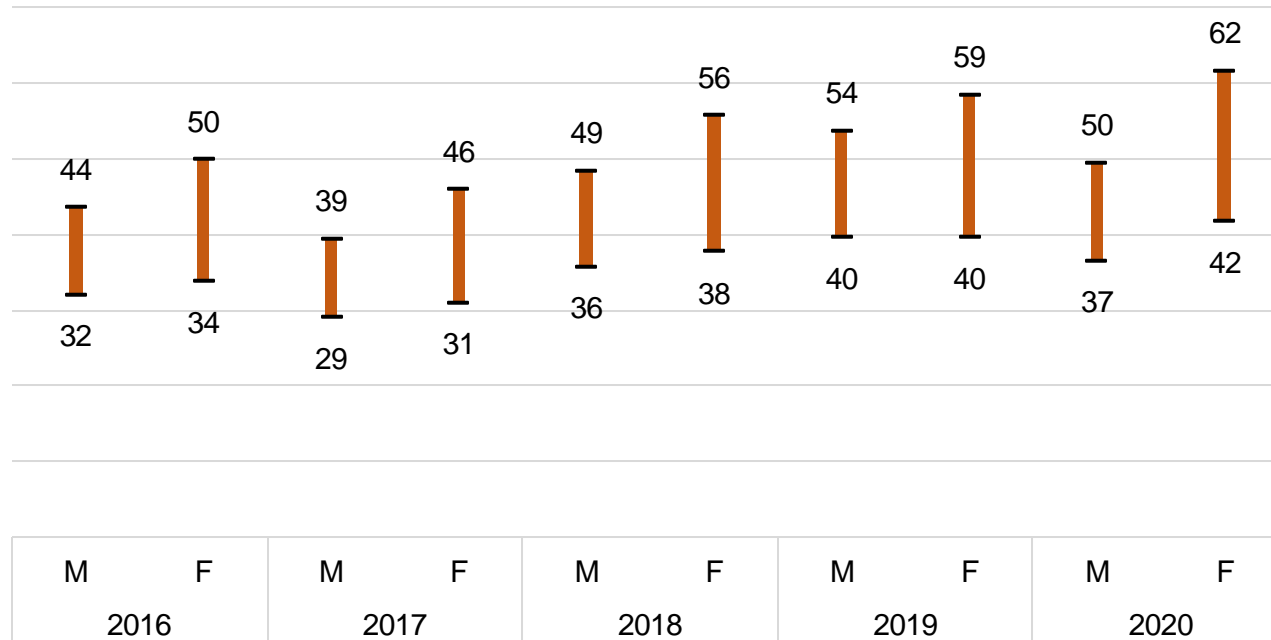
- 1) There is no significant difference in birth registration completeness between male and female births.
- 2) Multi-level logistic regression analysis highlights the strong significance of **the mother's education level** in influencing the likelihood of birth registration.
  - Mothers who completed at least primary education were significantly more likely to register their babies.
  - Births of mothers who attained secondary school or higher education exhibited four times higher odds of being registered.



# Results -2:

## % death registration completeness for males and females

$$= \frac{\text{The number of deaths registered with civil authorities in a given year}}{\text{Total number of deaths in the same year}} \times 100$$



Finding: Unlike birth registration, there is a noticeable variation in death registration completeness between male and female deaths, consistently favoring the registration of male deaths across all years studied.

# Lessons learnt from a gender perspective

- Our findings show that the birth registration of Lao boys and girls is almost equal. However, the results highlight the significant impact of women's education on the birth registration of their children.
- Our findings reveal a contrasting situation when investigating death registration, with female deaths being less likely to be registered compared to male deaths. The under-registration of female deaths carries significant implications for gender equality. This matter does not only limit access to social benefits for the deceased or their family, but also impedes the government's ability to identify preventable causes of deaths and formulate effective programs/measures to reduce the deaths.
- A critical data gap exists: information on key vital events should be disaggregated across all relevant disaggregation and made accessible to relevant line ministries for further analyses to ensure leaving no one behind.
- The Inequality Assessment (IA) and ConVERGE initiative provide crucial evidence concerning gender-related aspects within CRVS systems.
- All of the questions on the census, survey, and other questionnaires are written with consideration for gender. They are important data for in-depth analysis on gender.
- The village chief or another influential member of the community should be informed of the importance of population registration because it will aid in incorporating their language and ethnicity. If a boy or girl's birth is registered, their human rights equity, such as education, immunization, nutrition, and health, will be guaranteed.

# Way forward 2023-2025

2023

- MOHA is developing the Civil Management Information System (CMIS) and CMIS set up at all provinces;
- Establish a mobile registration unit to provide services to people in the remote areas and outreach.
- Pilot data sharing with MOHA and relevant organizations
- Data analyses on Social Indicator Survey 2023 (LSIS).

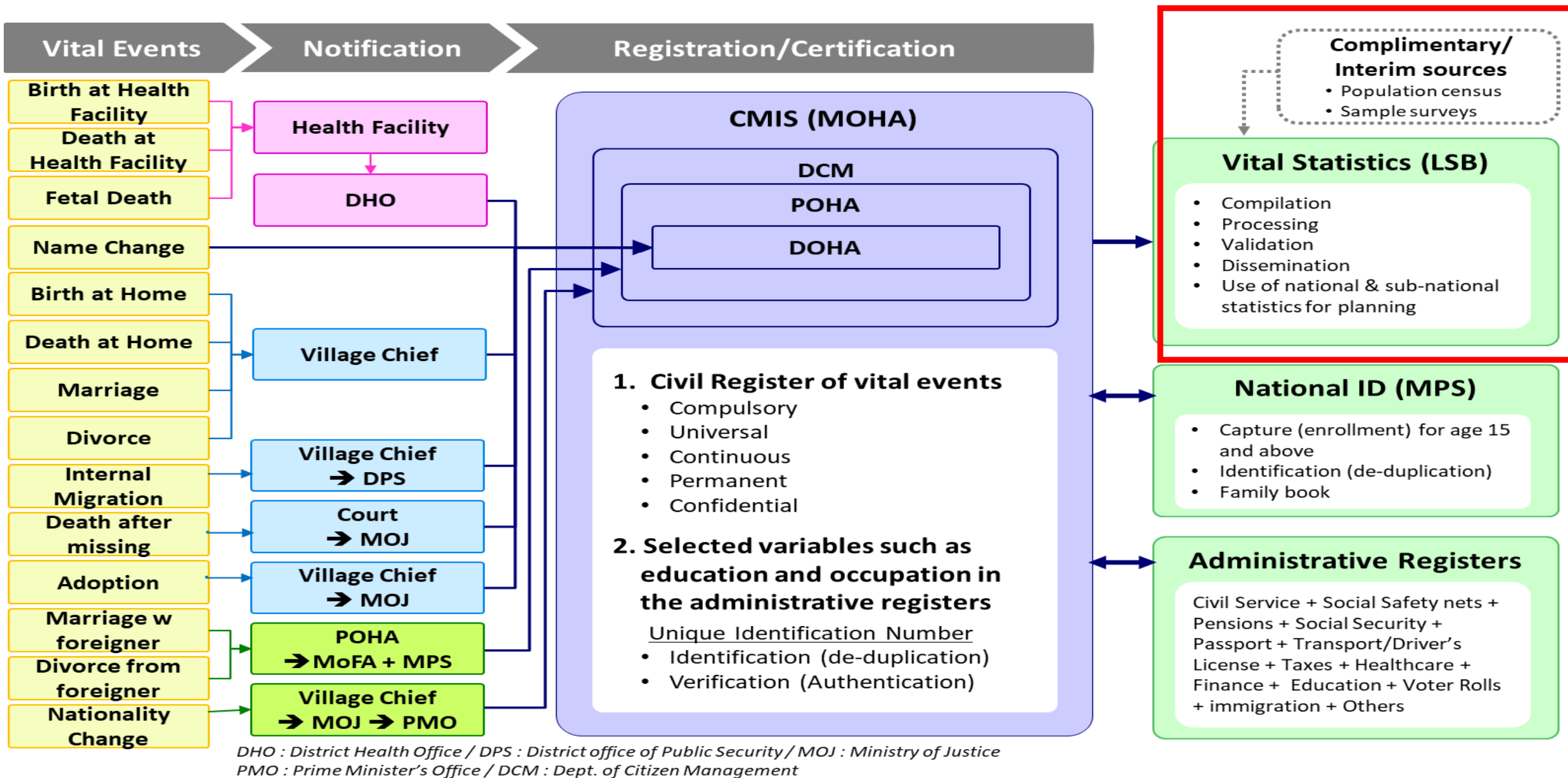
2024

- Data sharing with MOHA and relevant organizations;
- The mobile registration unit provide to service for people in the remote areas and outreach.
- Annual report of vital statistics from CRVS systems;
- Conduct inequality assessment of the CRVS system.

2025

- Conduct Population and Housing Census 2025;
- Annually report of vital statistics;
- Update Strategy of National Statistical System;
- Update Strategy of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics.

# E-CRVS Establishment in Lao PDR –Vital Statistics



**Thank you**