

# TANZANIA EXPERIENCE ON THE IMPACT OF COVID 19 ON CRVS SYSTEM



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Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency



# INTRODUCTION

- In Tanzania like most African Countries it was hit by the Corona Virus Pandemic in Mid March. The country devised several mechanisms to ensure minimal spread. The country had put in place a High Level Coordination Committee under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister.
- Among the measures taken included closure of schools from University level to Kindergarten, restriction on social gathering, mandatory quarantine of 14 days for those coming from outside of United Republic of Tanzania.
- In Tanzania Health Services is among the essential services and hence even during the pandemic they continue to provide services while taking precautions. RITA uses Health Facilities as registration centers and in some areas for notification purposes.
- Services including Civil registration were being provided during the pandemic while observing the Health guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health which included observing social distance, washing hands, wearing protective gears such as mask and gloves.



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# MEASURES TAKEN IN ADDRESSING COVID 19 AT WORK PLACE WHILE ENSURING CONTINUITY OF CRVS

- Sensitize employees with knowledge on COVID-19 and how to protect oneself and clients from the pandemic;
- Providing masks and sanitizers to employees;
- Ensuring all people who come for the service wear masks and wash their hands;
- Restrict the number of customers to be served per day to allow for safety measures to be observed;
- Ensure social distance is observed during the provision of services.
- Reduce the number of employees in a particular room to ensure social distance among them.



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# CONTINUITY OF CRVS DURING THE PANDEMIC

- In Tanzania Birth Registration has been decentralized in 16 out of 26 regions where a child is issued a certificate at the Health Facility for hospital births and deaths; and for community at Ward Level.
- During the Pandemic Registration and Certification was still continuing as it is attached to the health facilities.
- In the other 10 Regions where decentralization has not been effected Registers for notifying a birth or death are provided for at Health Facilities. Parents will later bring forth the notification for certification at the District level. There are about 139 Districts in Tanzania.
- Marriages in Tanzania can take a form of civil, customary or religious. During pandemic they were not restricted to be conducted as long as they take the precautions as stipulated by the Ministry of Health.
- Hence during the pandemic registration of all the events was and still on going.

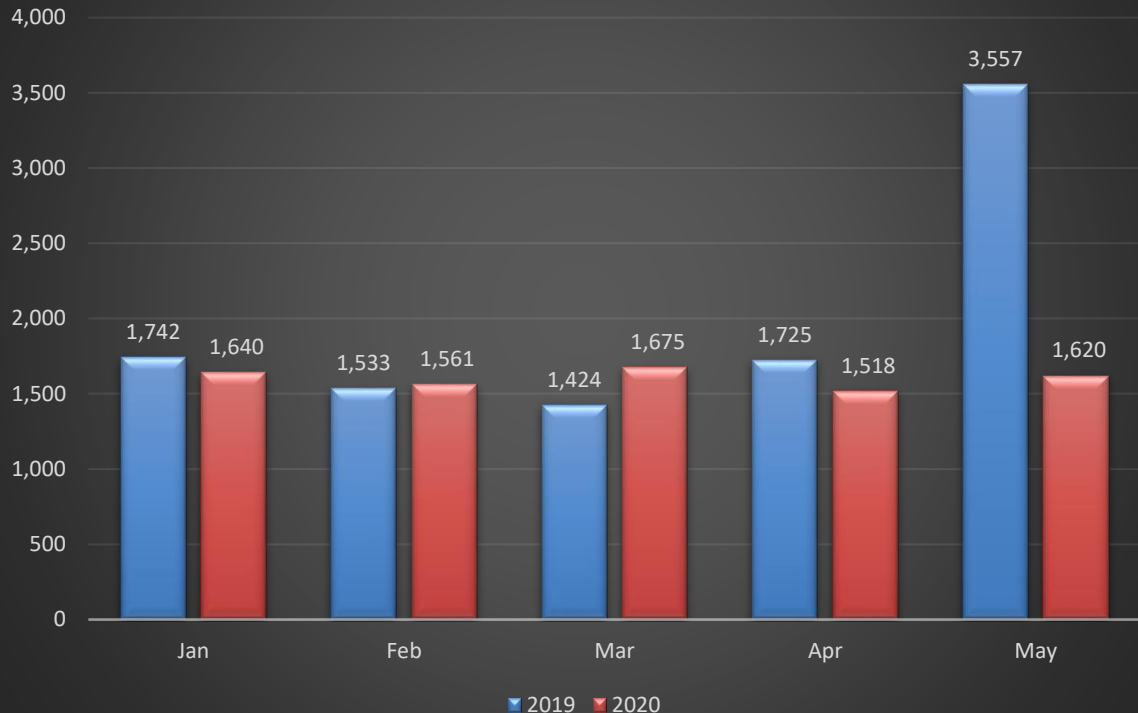


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## Monthly comparison of number of registered deaths, Jan to May 2019 and 2020



- There was almost stable monthly registration pace from Jan to April for both years of 2019 and 2020
- Average month registration slightly dropped from **1,996** in 2019 to **1,603** in 2020
- Sharp rise in May 2019 resulted from decentralized death registration in Njombe region

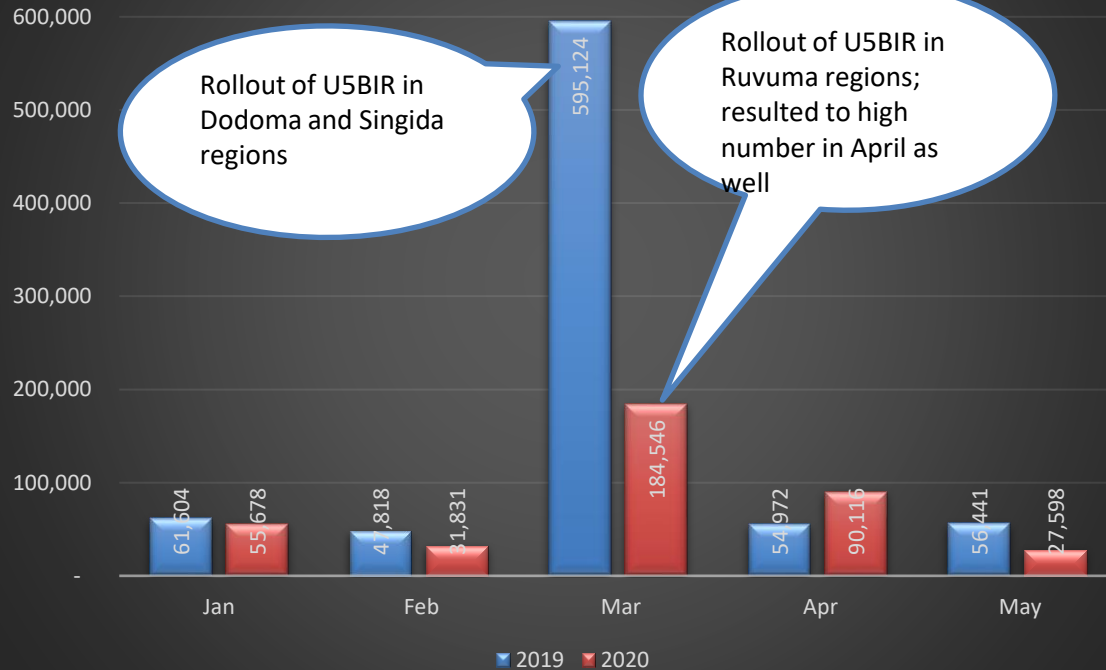


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## Monthly comparison of number of registered Births, Jan to May, 2019 & 2020



- Observed sharp decline of registration in month of May; from **56,441** births in 2019 to **27,598** births in 2020
- Birth registration was not affected much in the months of Jan to April



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# ICT AND CRVS

- Tanzania has a robust digital system that has linked 140 districts with computers and generates computer printed certificates . Through the use of technology it allows sharing of data with other other systems like those of Identity.
- In areas were Hand filled certificates are issued through a decentralized mode mobile phones are used to upload data to RITA server hence ensure timely capturing of data.
- Introduction of Online Registration System in order to minimize physical contact with applicants and allow applicants to be registered and receive certificates from a different District from the one they are born i.e choice of pick up point.



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# USE OF CIVIL REGISTRATION DATA FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES

- The Registers used for registration of birth and deaths has the UN recommended field. For example;
- - It has a field on date of occurrence and date of registration; which will provide for the timeliness of the event;
- - Place of occurrence and place of registration; example death if it has occurred in one place and registered in another it will be easy to establish the place the event has occurred;
- -Age of the mother to assist in calculating the fertility pattern or teenage pregnancy when death has occurred of a mother to establish if she was of age of giving birth;
- - Gender ;to know about the sex of the child and surviving rate and other factors.
- Hence Civil Registration data is used for statistical purposes and it does assist statistics and Tanzania uses the data.



# CONCLUSION

- Therefore linking CRVS with other systems like those of health have proven to work well in ensuring continuity of services even during the pandemic. Since essential services will still go on even during such times following guidelines provided have ensured continuity of services;

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*Thank you*