



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

**UNLIA implementation in pilot countries
at**

UNSC52 Side event: "UN Legal Identity Agenda: Implementation during the pandemic"

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**9:00 – 10:45 am
Friday, February 26, 2021
Virtual Meeting**

Principles of Implementation

- Promoting country-led initiatives on a holistic and integrated legal identity.
- Coordinating country implementation efforts in Africa
- Standardizing approaches across countries
- Advocating for civil registration as the foundation for legal identity
- Aligning UN LIA with ongoing activities like APAI-CRVS, ID4Africa, ID4D etc

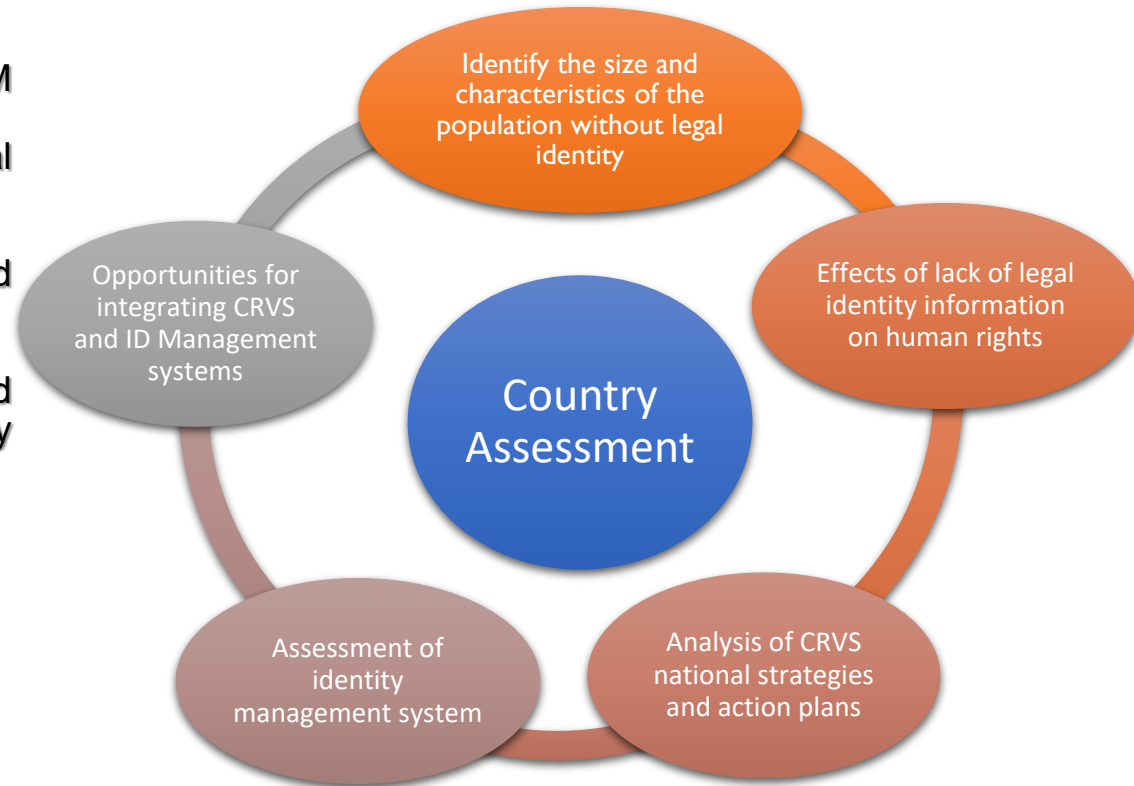
Selection of Pilot Countries

- 13 African countries identified for piloting legal identity agenda (UN LIA) led by UN implementing agencies in supporting with their government counterparts.
- Selection based on an agreed upon criteria;
 - Under 5 birth registration coverage;
 - Status of country's CRVS and ID management assessment;
 - Existence of CRVS and ID management Improvement Plan;
 - Existing national coordination mechanisms for CRVS and ID management;
 - Existing opportunities for integration of CRVS and ID management systems;
 - World Bank engagement at country level (ID4D and GFF) and status of the policy and legal framework.
 - Sub-regional representation and inclusion of Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone countries
- The countries include: Cameroon; Cote d'Ivoire; Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); Ethiopia; Guinea; Kenya; Liberia; Mozambique; Niger; Nigeria; Senegal; Sierra Leone and Zambia.

Rapid Assessments

The data collection activities included;

- Desk review CR, VS and IDM documents
- Individual and institutional consultative meetings
 - United Nations Entities
 - Government Ministries and Departments
 - Development Partners
 - Private Companies engaged in the work on identity registrations
- High-level Government Engagement:
 - Ministers
 - Deputy Ministers
 - Directors
 - Permanent Secretaries
- National Stakeholders' Workshop
- All stakeholders listed above



Main Conclusions from Assessments

- **Interoperability through Digitization:** Civil registration and identity management is converging towards the holistic approach by introducing interoperability between CRVS and identity systems. Digitization of paper-based records and advances in technology will greatly facilitate the integrated approach.
- **Demand Creation:** The use of legal identities as required by various regulations and laws need to be obligatory and the use of alternative identities need to be minimized.
- **Coordination:** Because of the fragmented nature of CR, VS and ID systems, there is need for strong coordination mechanisms at ministerial, management and technical levels.
- **Integration through Population Registers** will form the basis for deriving functional registers such as voter register, social security register, bank account, tax register, driver license register, and other official documents.
- **Collaboration** with key stakeholders like the Ministry of Health to ensure registration of events as they occur.
- **Lessons from COVID-19**
 - **Essential Service:** CRVS is an essential service and service provision even during prolonged lockdown because of their intrinsic value for upholding human rights, administrative uses and production of vital statistics.
 - **Develop** a robust, disaster management/ business continuity plans to guide response during such times.

Country-Level Implementation

Country	Implementation Activities
Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revision of the legal frameworks (Huduma Bill)• Digitalization of Civil Registration Services• Interoperability of systems (NIIMS)• Demand Creation• Strengthened coordination and collaboration between the UNCT and the Government
Liberia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish functional and integrated civil registration, vital statistics and identity management system• Review of existing legal and policy frameworks of legal identity and civil registration• Demand creation in the communities• Decentralization
Mozambique	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen coordination mechanisms for the government MDA.• Establishing interoperable systems

Country-Level Implementation

Country	Implementation Activities
Zambia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessing completeness assessment of birth, death and marriage registrations• Support review of existing legislation and policy• Advocate for data and privacy issues in implementation of INRIS
Sierra Leone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthening government-led coordination• Increased public awareness on fundamental rights• Registration of refugees, returnees, stateless, and displaced populations
DRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the consultative process of the Family Code to be endorsed by the National Parliament• Establish national coordination mechanism on civil registration and legal identity• Develop comprehensive law on data protection

Way Forward

- Building systems that produce data that enables communication between governments and members of the public
- Increase investments in online-based platforms for registration.
- Resource Mobilization to adequately cover the interventions on legal identity
- Extend technical assistance and advisory services to countries that need to build integrated and interoperable legal identity systems



THANK YOU!

Ideas
to
Action