



Leaving no one behind:

The need to link CRVS and identity management systems

**Too many people
worldwide cannot prove their
legal identity.**

**Exclusion can lead to poverty,
statelessness, exploitation, and abuse.**

It's something we must change.

The change we want to see

**From birth to death: Legal identity that relies
on up-to-date civil registration records.**



Legal identity is a right. Governments must invest in and maintain digitized civil registration systems as the source of legal identity. This means:

- Legal identity characteristics are registered once;
- ID documents are issued based on current information; and
- Verified legal identity data is consistent across government systems.

Why change is important



**No one left behind: A strong CRVS system is the foundation
for reliable identity management.**

Registering and updating the entire population's vital events from birth to death is the only way to capture up-to-date identity characteristics at any point in time. Proof of legal identity helps people access services and exercise their rights and responsibilities.



Good governance: Linking CRVS and ID systems helps governments meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Governments need disaggregated vital statistics to plan and deliver services, and to track progress on 12 of the 17 SDGs. This includes SDG 16.9 “legal identity for all, including birth registration.”

Benefits

- Provides everyone with legal identity from birth.
- Helps people realize their rights to vote, to marry, and to have a family.
- Gives governments timely and accurate population data to plan and deliver services.
- Helps people access education, healthcare, social protection, and financial and other services.
- Improves monitoring of progress and tracking against SDGs.

How countries can create positive change



Political commitment

Government stakeholders must commit to ensure that all vital events for the entire population – from birth to death – are registered accurately and in a timely manner. This includes investing adequate financial and human resources into strengthening CRVS and ID management systems.



Data sharing laws

A legal framework that enables data sharing while protecting the privacy of individuals is crucial to ensuring that accurate and up-to-date identity data is shared between government agencies.



Digitization

Digitizing CRVS and identity management systems can make processing identity information more efficient. This makes it easier for other government systems to access accurate and up-to-date identification credentials. In turn, this facilitates the delivery of services.