

Nepal's Presentation on Implementation of the Regional Action Framework on CRVS

Respected chair,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of Government of Nepal, we would like to thank the organizers for providing this opportunity.

A. Implementation Steps

1. National Steering Committee on CRVS headed by secretary of MoFALD is in place. Similarly, a technical committee is also functional.
2. Comprehensive Assessment on CRVS completed and National Strategic Plan prepared with active participation of stakeholders. This includes wider aspect of strengthening institutions and expanding level of coordination among government entities and stakeholders.
3. Basic target setting process has been started through national survey.
4. Targeted programs are implemented through local bodies to empower marginalised communities.
5. Local bodies coordinate all the units of line ministries at the local level through council meeting and popular monitoring tools like public audit, public hearing and social audit. This makes implementation transparent, much inclusive and comprehensive.
6. Direct grants are allocated by the government in annual basis and local bodies also generate revenue on their own. These ensure

funding.

7. MoFALD, MoHP and CBS are working closely to set the standards of reporting and generating vital statistics.

8. Recently, we have established a separate department of vital registration which is further mandated to administer the social cash transfer with universal coverage. Through this department, we are going to change working modalities on CRVS at local bodies reviewing past one size fits all model towards asymmetric model. We hope this proposed change will include all the stakeholders and make them accountable.

B. Implementation Strategies

1. National Steering Committee on CRVS coordinates at policy level and directs for the implementation. Nepal is also in the process of formulating a new Civil Registration Act.
2. Nepal intends to implement CRVS strategic plan by bringing the activities of all government agencies and stakeholders within the council of local bodies, where local bodies monitor the activities implemented by other agencies and their own.
3. Nepal has initiated national level representative sample survey to establish a baseline for 2015 and set the yearly target to achieve the universal registration for all by 2024. In this regard, we want to highlight that Nepal has achieved the goal of education for all at primary education and received UN Award on achieving the MDG 5 (improved maternity health).

Although, we have not made birth certificates mandatory, every parents are demanded to submit the certificate so that they can bring it later, and other services like scholarships and child grant require birth certificate as mandatory. Sometimes some interest groups misinterpret practice and achievement.

4. Standard format of reporting of vital registration is being developed so that the reporting from local registrar's office can produce vital statistics at an official statistics.
5. 38000 Ward Citizen Forum comprising of 25-35 members in each and 4000 Citizen Awareness centers are empowered for their active participation in the local bodies council process to prepare yearly and periodic plan. They are encouraged to campaign for 100 percent vital event registration especially birth registration.
6. Female Community Health Volunteers are piloted as the notifier of birth and death registration in ten districts to enhance the local level coordination between local registrar's offices and health facilities. Further we are also piloting the cause of death reporting according to ICD (International Statistical Classification of Diseases) in three districts.
7. Besides these capacity building and awareness tools including the media cooperation, Government of Nepal has also piloted software based vital event registration. Now, the government is preparing infrastructure for online registration. We are preparing online registration through 1000 service centers, hoping to start at 130 municipalities by the end of FY 2014/15.
8. A standard format of medical certification of birth and death is implemented.

C. Recommendations as our opinion

1. We have to promote local governments for both the developmental activities as well as governance improvement.
2. The automated process using computer software not only improves the quality of service delivery, but also helps to develop reliable vital statistics.

3. Government ownership is a must for the success. In this context, development partners can cooperate financially and technically as per the Development Assistance Policy 2014 of Nepal.
4. Development partners can be a part of wider framework of Local Governance and Capacity Development Programme, by which we can be able to run 1000 service centers for CRVS and support institutional strengthening at local level.

Thank you.