



United Nations Economic Commission
for Africa

Progress made in the implementation of the APAI-CRVS

*Lessons learned from local initiatives supporting
sustainable CRVS systems in Africa*

7th African Population Conference
Johannesburg, South Africa

Gloria W. Mathenge , UNECA
on behalf of the regional core group

Outline

1. CRVS in the context of the African and global transformative agenda
2. History and Background: The journey 2010 to 2015
 1. Where we are: Achievements; Lessons learned, Challenges
 2. Where we are going: Priorities for the future:

CRVS-a big player for Africa's development

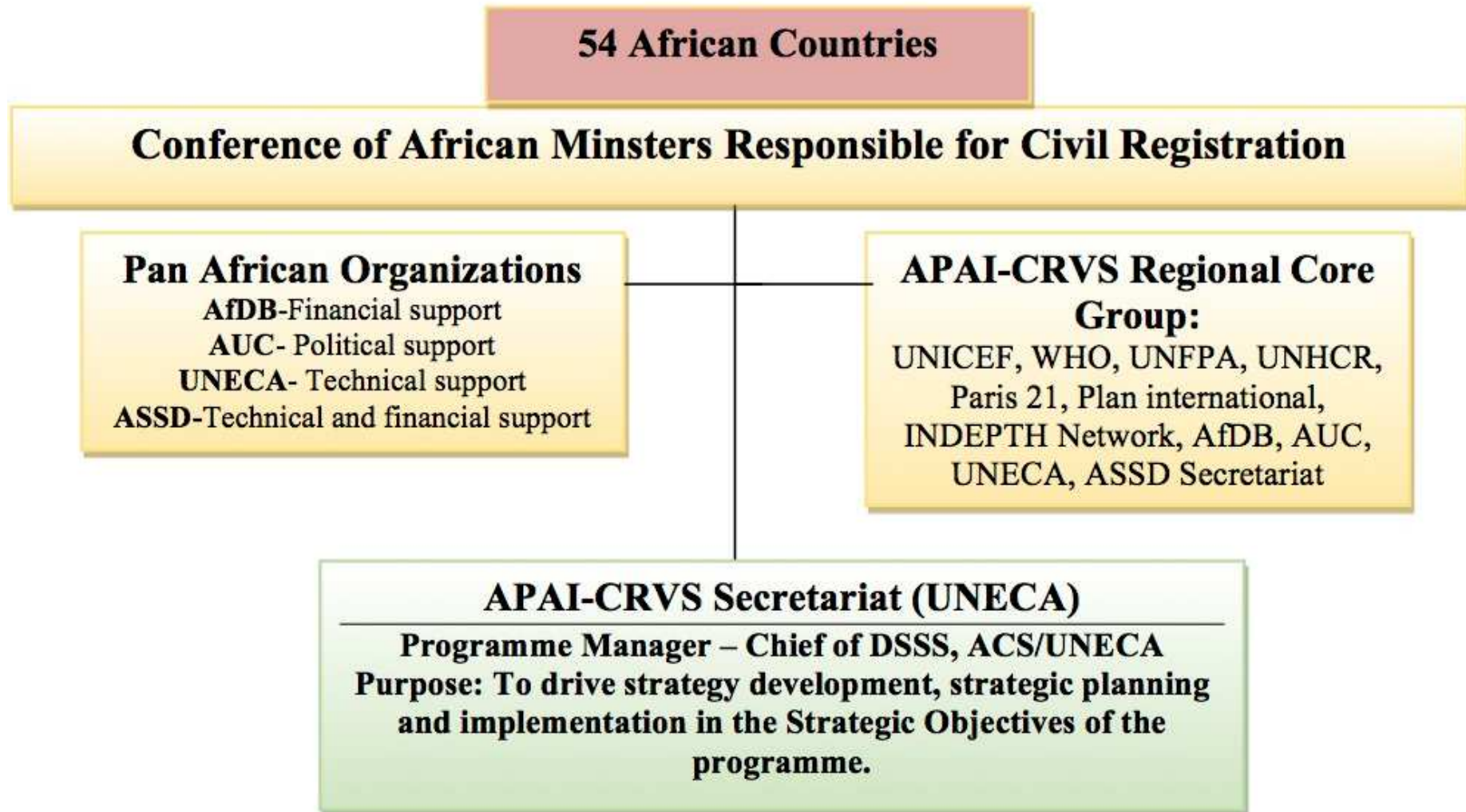
- CRVS systems link and directly/ indirectly respond to:
 - 22 of 34 (70%) goals of the African integration agenda
 - 14 of 17 (82%) of the goals of the sustainable development agenda
- Dimensions:
 - Realisation of human and civil rights
 - Documents for identification and proof of identity
 - Vital statistics for a population base denominator, inclusive service delivery and good governance

Table 2: Mapping CRVS to Vision 2063, SDGs, SHaSA

Themes	Integration area	SHaSA statistical dimensions	SDG Goal	Linkages to CRVS	
Political integration and regional governance	Institutional organisation (arrangements)	Leadership, Democracy and Governance (expanded)	Goal 16	Civil registration records Vital statistics from civil registration	
	Political governance	Peace and Security	Goal 16	Civil registration records Civil registration documents for proof of identity (certificate of birth and death)	
		Human rights (new)	Goals 10 & 16	Civil registration records Civil registration documents for proof of identity (certificate of birth, death, marriage and divorce)	
Economic integration	Financing	Finance for Development (new)	Goal 10		
	Statistics	Statistics capacity development	Goal 17	Civil registration and vital statistics system development	
	Trade, monetary and finance integration	Foreign trade		Goal 8	Civil registration records for population base denominator
		Balance of payment		Goal 17	
		Currency (Monetary Policy)			
		Price Indices		Goal 12	
		Public Finance (Fiscal Policy)		Goal 12	
National Accounts		Goal 12			

Themes	Integration area	SHaSA statistical dimensions	SDG Goal	Linkages to CRVS
	Knowledge and Innovation (new)	Research, Development and Innovation (new) Science and Technology	Goal 14	
Social and cultural integration	Education	Education and literacy	Goal 4	Civil registration records : identification of children of school going age and administration of education programmes at sub-national level
	Health	Health & Nutrition (expanded)	Goal 3	Vital statistics from civil registration including cause of death statistics
	National and trans-national population dynamics (rephrased)	Demography Migration	All goals	Civil registration records Vital statistics from civil registration
	Gender and vulnerable groups	Gender	Goals 15 Goal 16	Civil registration records Civil registration documents for proof of identity (birth, death, marriage and divorce certificates)
	Employment and unemployment	Vulnerable groups (e.g. youth, elderly, disabled) - (new) Employment and decent work (split)	Goal 16 Goals 8 & 10	Civil registration records Civil registration documents for proof of age and identity (Birth certificate) Cause of death records
	Standard of living, quality of life & service delivery	Poverty, Inequality and Hunger (expanded) Basic quality services (new) Human Settlements	Goal 1 Goals 6 & 7 Goal 11	Civil registration records Vital statistics from civil

The CRVS programme in Africa-- Organisation and Management structure



Bottlenecks of the past-Challenges that the programme responds to

- Project-based ad-hoc efforts (pilots, models) driven independent of national plans and programmes
- Uncoordinated efforts/support by donors - A focus on fragmented components of the system
- Initiatives did not address systemic issues – legal, organization, management, capacity development
- Uncoordinated and fragmented regional efforts

Bottlenecks of the past-Challenges that the programme responds to

- Lack of commitment at political and policy level
- Insufficient efforts to create demand and improve service delivery
- Multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approaches in the management of CRVS system
- CR based on colonial laws not in sync with local cultural and religious practices

APAI-CRVS Guiding principles

1. Promoting country ownership and leadership;
2. Promoting coordination between Civil Registration Offices, National Statistics Offices, Health Ministry and other stakeholders at country levels;
3. Promoting phased-based, holistic and integrated approach;
4. Establishing strong partnerships and coordination at regional and country levels;
5. Building capacities of national CRVS institutions;
6. Promoting innovations and knowledge sharing

APAI-CRVS –The priority areas (2010-2015)

Key recommendations of Ministerial conference and EGM

<p>Expert Group Meeting in Tanzania, June 2009</p>	<p>Request ECA, AfDB and AUC to take leadership of the CRVS agenda, beginning by developing a regional medium term plan (MTP) that would guide improvement efforts</p>
<p>1st Conference of African Ministers responsible for Civil Registration Ethiopia, August 2010</p>	<p>Commit to improve CRVS in our countries and support regional effort; In this regard, we endorse the regional Medium Term plan (2010-2015)</p> <p>Request ECA to conduct an assessment on the status of CRVS systems in Africa</p> <p>Request AUC to institutionalize the conference Ministers responsible for Civil Registration as a permanent forum</p> <p>Request that the ASSD focus on CRVS over the next five symposia</p>

APAI-CRVS –The priority areas (2010-2015)

Key recommendations of Ministerial conference and EGM

<p>2nd conference of African ministers responsible for civil registration</p> <p>Durban South Africa September , 2012</p>	<p>Every country to undertake comprehensive assessment and to develop a national plan of action. UNECA, AfDB, AUC s to support countries in this endeavor</p>
<p>3rd conference of African ministers responsible for civil registration</p> <p>Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire Feb,2015</p>	<p>Commit to urgently develop real time death registration and cause of death information systems.</p> <p>Recommended that 2015-2025 becomes the decade of CRVS</p> <p>Urged all countries that have not completed assessments to take urgent steps to do so</p>

Achievements of the programme (2010-2015)

1. Establishment of a CRVS secretariat at UNECA-2010
2. Conceptualization of the regional initiative into a programmatic framework (**APAI-CRVS**)
3. Regional Core Group established and fully functional
4. Institutionalization of the Ministers Conference as a permanent forum under AUC –three conferences held
5. African Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) focus on CRVS –five symposia held (2007-2015)
6. Training of a **pool of African Experts** on CRVS
7. Countries undertaking comprehensive assessments

Achievements: Country CRVS Assessments

Already conducted an assessment

Kenya, Mozambique, Burkina Faso, Botswana, Zambia, Liberia, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Namibia, Burundi, South Africa, Zambia, Nigeria, Swaziland, Ghana, Uganda, Angola, Lesotho, Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco, Djibouti, Libya, Sudan, Somalia (25)

Preparing / in the process of assessment

Senegal, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Cameroon, Cote D'Ivoire, Zimbabwe, Gabon, Rwanda, Benin (10)

Documents developed

1. Civil registration operational manual
2. Operational manual for the production of vital statistics
3. Guidelines and tools for comprehensive assessment assessment of CRVS systems
4. Facilitators handbook for guiding CRVS assessments
5. Guideline for strategic planning in CRVS
6. Vital statistics reporting template (under development in collaboration with statistics Norway)
7. CRVS digitization guidebook

Based on UNSD – principles and recommendations.

Lessons learned

1. Functional systems require establishing strong partnerships and mechanisms of collaboration:
 - Collaboration between ministries of government
 - Collaboration of all development partners
2. Country ownership and leadership is key:
 - Having a comprehensive national plan that is based on an assessment of the system on place
3. Routine training and capacity building of CRVS functionaries is highly required

Challenges: Regional and country level

- Human and financial resources to run the programme
- Competition for resources with systems on national identification
- A few countries have already developed plans – but some elements missing (Zambia, Burkina Faso, Malawi)
- Lack of coordination among donors and UN partners in countries
- Lack of coordination among relevant departments and ministries
- Funding of national CRVS plans

Priorities for the future (2015-2020)



Where are we now?

How do we get there?

STRATEGY

What needs to Change?

Where are we going?

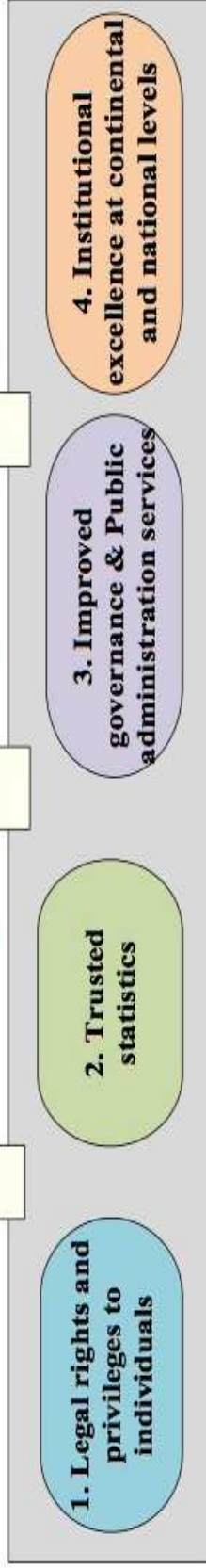
Every one visible in Africa !!

Social impact

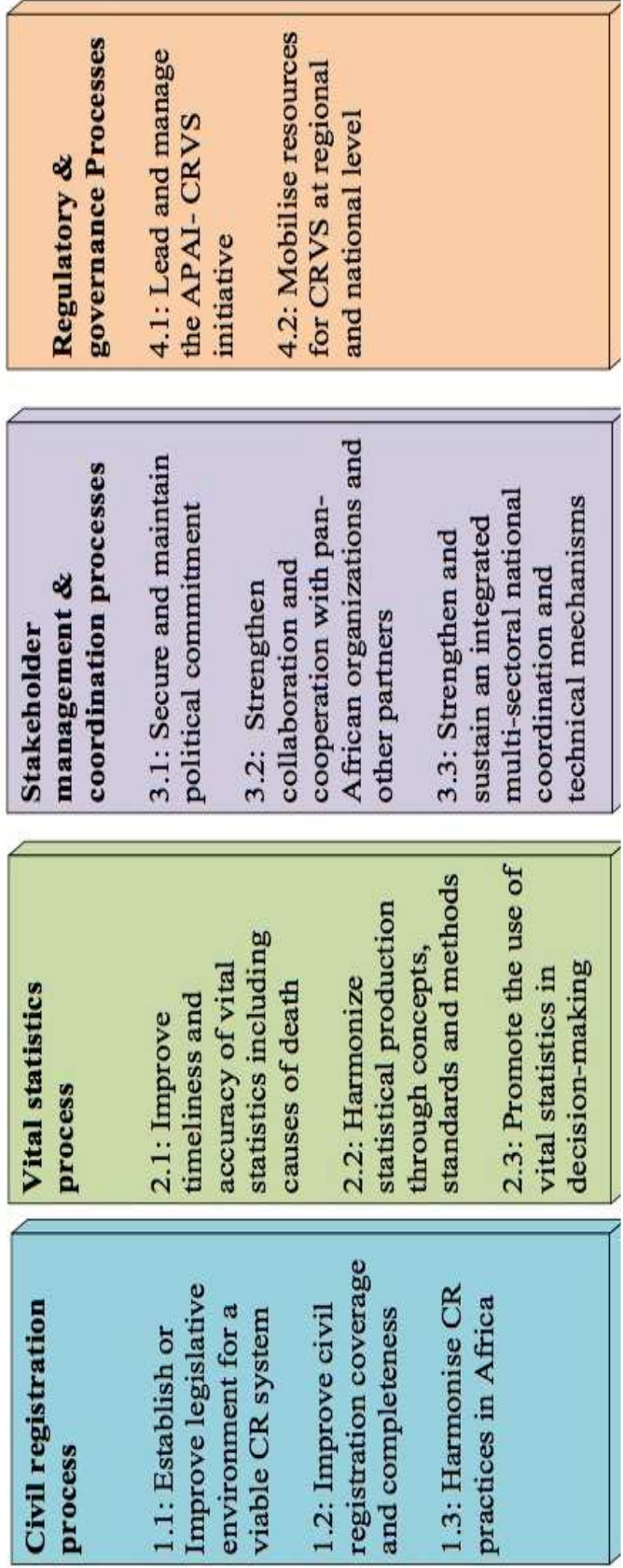
To register the occurrence and characteristics of all vital events in Africa for improved service delivery and informed evidence-based planning and decisions through an efficient and complete civil registration and vital statistics system

Evidence-based development and transformation of society

Strategic outcomes



Strategic objectives



Focus on mortality statistics and cause of death statistics

Ministerial Statement: 3rd Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration , Republic of Cote d'Ivoire Feb 2015

- ‘...Recognizing that the Ebola epidemic has shown that the need for death registration and real time cause-of-death information is no longer optional but critical;
-Call upon WHO, in collaboration with Pan African Organizations and other partners, to intensify their efforts in developing real time death registration and causes of death information systems at country level‘

Three elements to better design

Death registered by age, sex and location

Hospital deaths with causes of death:
notified to CRVS system coded for
national and statistical use

Community death with causes of death:
based on CR systems

Census and Surveys



Building Blocks: How to get there

1. Expertise and Capacity:

- Build country expertise
- House regional expertise
- Develop institutional capacity and collaboration

2. Scaled and Integrated Technical Projects

- Projects for death registration
- Projects for causes of death in hospitals
- Projects for causes of death in communities.

Better mortality data for health African lives

4. Knowledge Development and Sharing

- South-south cooperation
- Partnerships – academic, institutional
- WHO Observatories
- Training and support

3. Norms, Standards, Guidance

- Applied guidance relevant to country implementation
- Building integrated and representative systems

- Thank you