



CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems perform hundreds of activities everyday, to continuously register vital events and to produce vital statistics for a country.



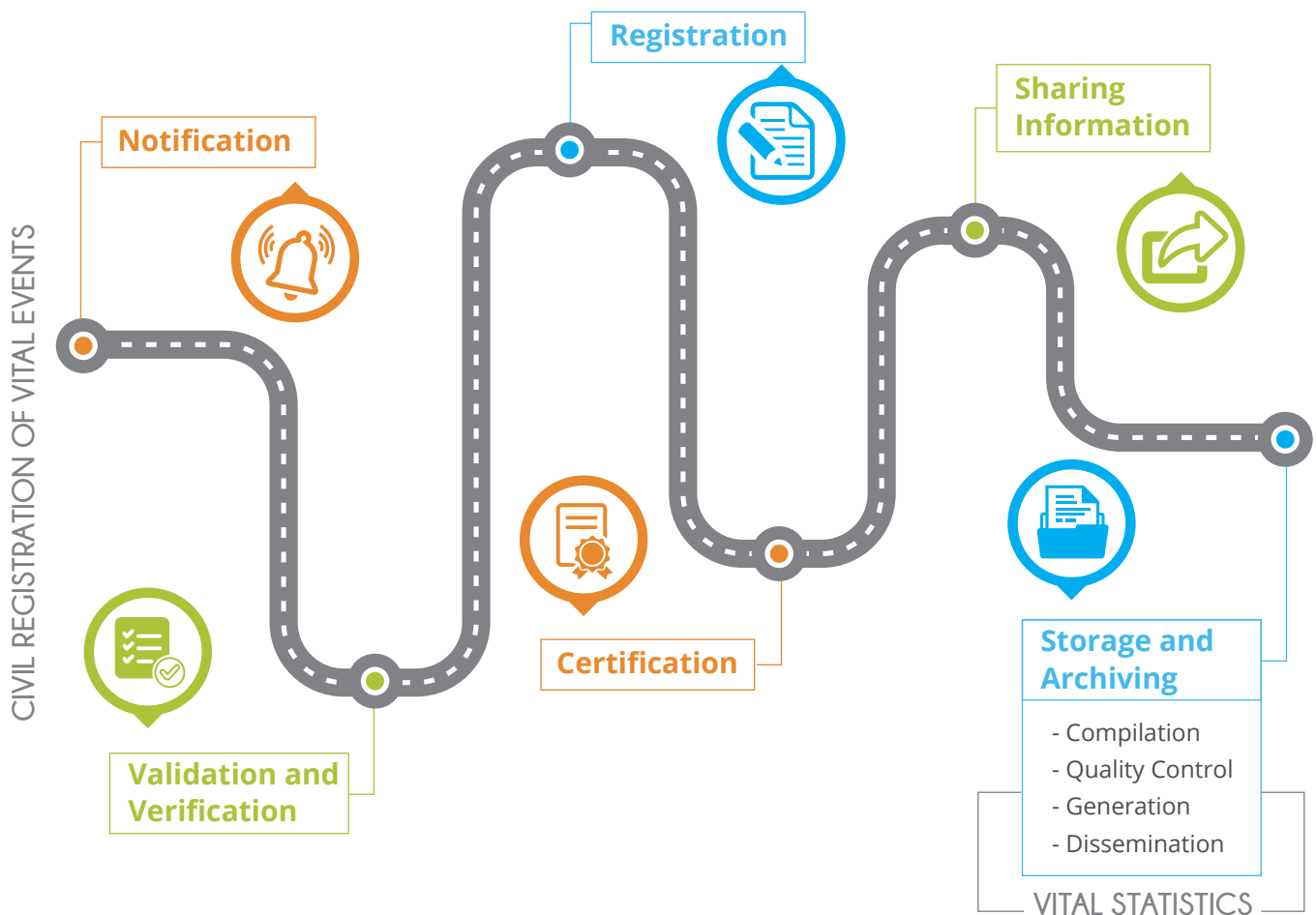
WHAT IS CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS (CRVS)?

Civil registration is the official recording of people's life events, including birth, death, marriage, adoption and divorce. Once the life event has been recorded, it allows the issuance of a legal document, such as birth certificate, to prove that the event has taken place. These records and documents can have profound implications on the lives of individuals, since it is the basic for them to establish their legal identity, civil status and family relationships.

When all life events are being registered, civil registration is also the best source of vital statistics that reveal the demographic situation of the population and key health indicators related to mortality and cause of death. Some of the benefits of civil registration as the primary source of vital statistics, compared with surveys and censuses, include continuity, completeness, accuracy, and the ability to be disaggregated in a variety of ways that are critical for development, including by age, sex and administrative divisions or local areas.

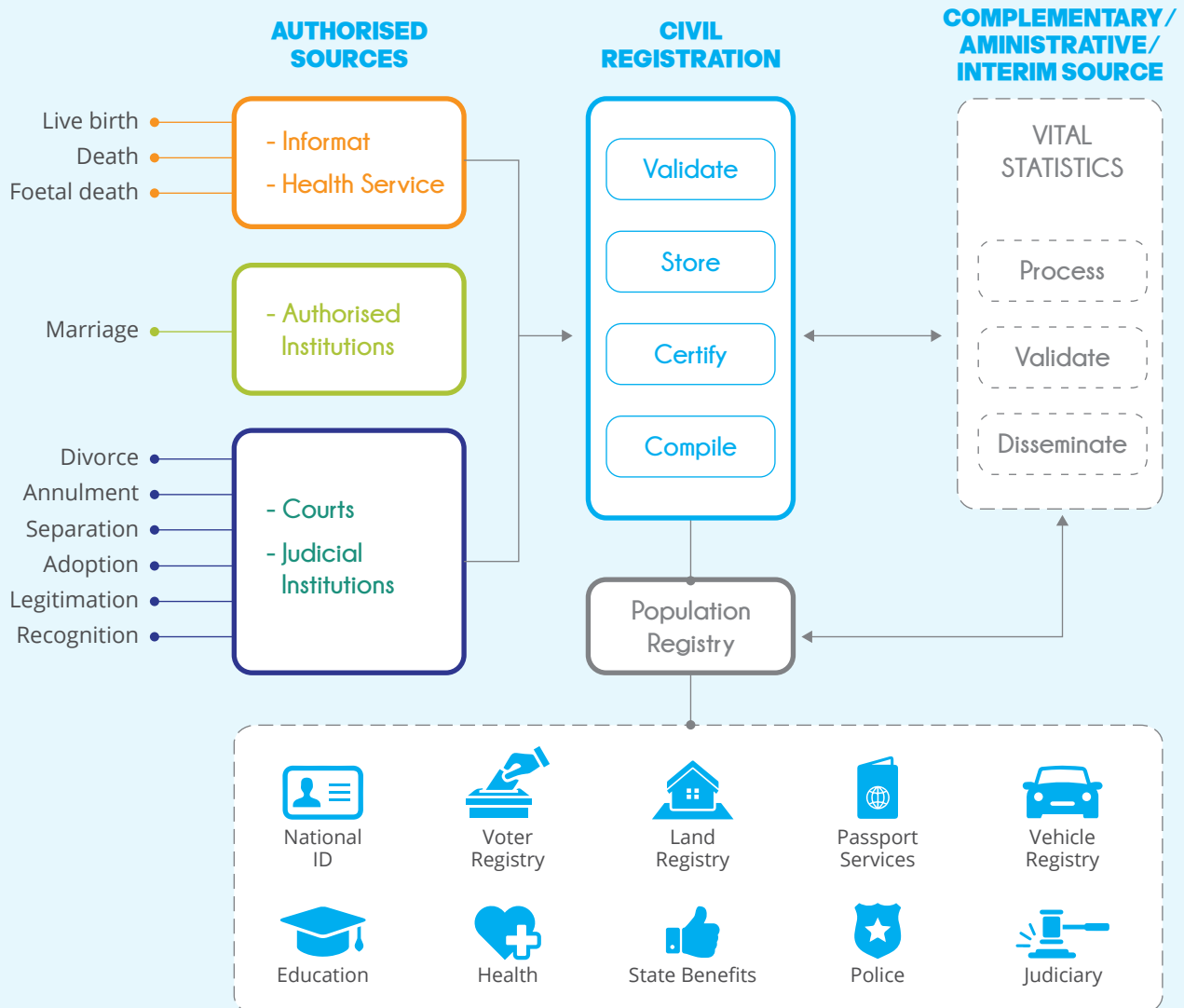


TEN CRVS MILESTONES FRAMEWORK

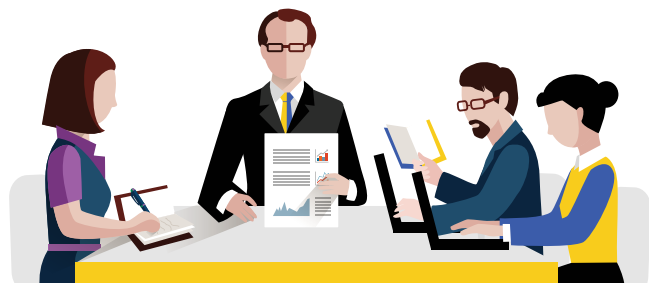




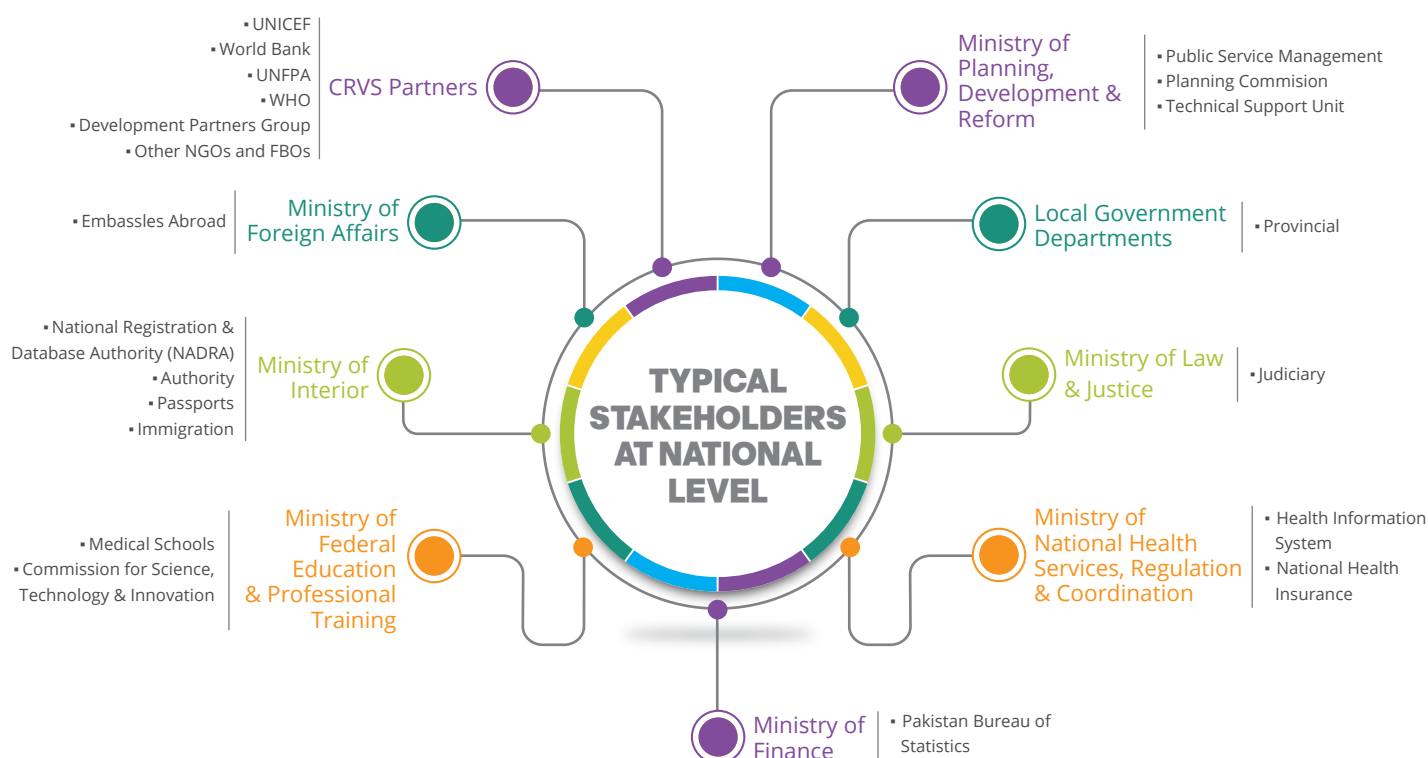
CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS PROCESS FLOW



Occurrence of vital events must be notified by authorized sources and then validated before being registered in a civil registration office. The office of the civil registrar maintains the records and registers that contain information about vital events, and issues legal certificates on demand to entitled claimants. People to support claims of nationality, identity, civil status and family relationships can use this legal documentation. Information collected through the civil registration system is raw material that needs to be compiled, managed and analyzed to produce information that can be shared with, and communicated to, different technical and non-technical audiences.



CRVS STAKEHOLDERS AT NATIONAL LEVEL*



The Public: Individuals and families should notify relevant authorities when a vital event has occurred in order to initiate the process of civil registration.

Civil Registrar: Typically in the Ministry of Interior, and part of the local government, the civil registrar is responsible for officially registering vital events, safely archiving permanent records and maintaining public awareness of the need to register vital events.

National Database & Registration Authority (NADRA): NADRA's aim is to capture accurate information regarding vital statistics from general public through its units spread all over the country. During the process data quality and timely maintenance of NADRA database is ensured which will be helpful in day to day different tasks on individual as well as country level.

Ministry of Health: Many births and deaths occur in health facilities and health workers may be involved before, during, or after the vital event has taken place. The health sector therefore plays a crucial role in notifying relevant authorities that a vital event has occurred. Importantly, health workers are responsible for determining the medical causes of death and classifying

those according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD).

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS): As the central authority for official statistics within a country, the PBS is responsible for ensuring that the CRVS system is designed, developed and maintained in such a way to allow for the efficient and effective production of reliable statistics according to international standards and recommendations. The improvement of CRVS systems should feature in the National Strategy for Statistics Development, if one exists.

Ministry of Law & Justice: Parliaments or other institutions that administer the laws of a country have an important function in maintaining the legal framework related to CRVS, ensuring that it is responsive and meets relevant international standards and recommendations.

Development Partners: Civil society, non-government organizations, international organizations and the private sector support government efforts to achieve universal and responsive CRVS systems through advocacy, innovation, investment, capacity building and technical assistance

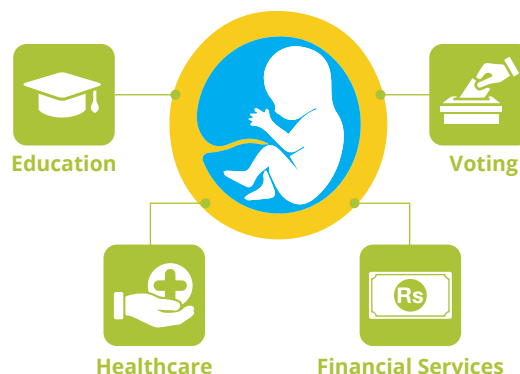
BENEFITS OF VITAL EVENTS REGISTRATION



Birth Registration or birth certificate is a source of vital information and provides legal proof of the identity of an individual. It can be used for the following purposes:

- Proves the facts of his/her birth as regards to parentage, which allows them to trace ancestry.
- Establishes identity and claim inheritance and rights due to legal dependency.
- The date of birth shown in the birth certificate establishes his/her age and rights to privileges accruing by virtue of meeting the required age qualifications such as the privilege to enter school, to vote, to enter the civil service, to contract marriage, to qualify for professional licenses, to drive motor vehicles, to carry firearms, to claim pension benefits and so on.
- Parents can claim different facilities provided by law upon presentation of birth certificates of their children.
- Place of birth, on the other hand, establishes one's citizenship for obtaining passport, provide basis for immigration and naturalization claims, allows one to obtain exemptions from alien restrictions or, if an alien, allows him to obtain exemptions from tax or military service in the country.

BIRTH REGISTRATION AND LEGAL IDENTITY CAN HELP WITH...



Info on whether women are dying disproportionately of certain diseases

Accurate maternal mortality rates

Death Registration or death certificate ideally be a prerequisite for burial. Apart from this, following are the uses of death certificate:

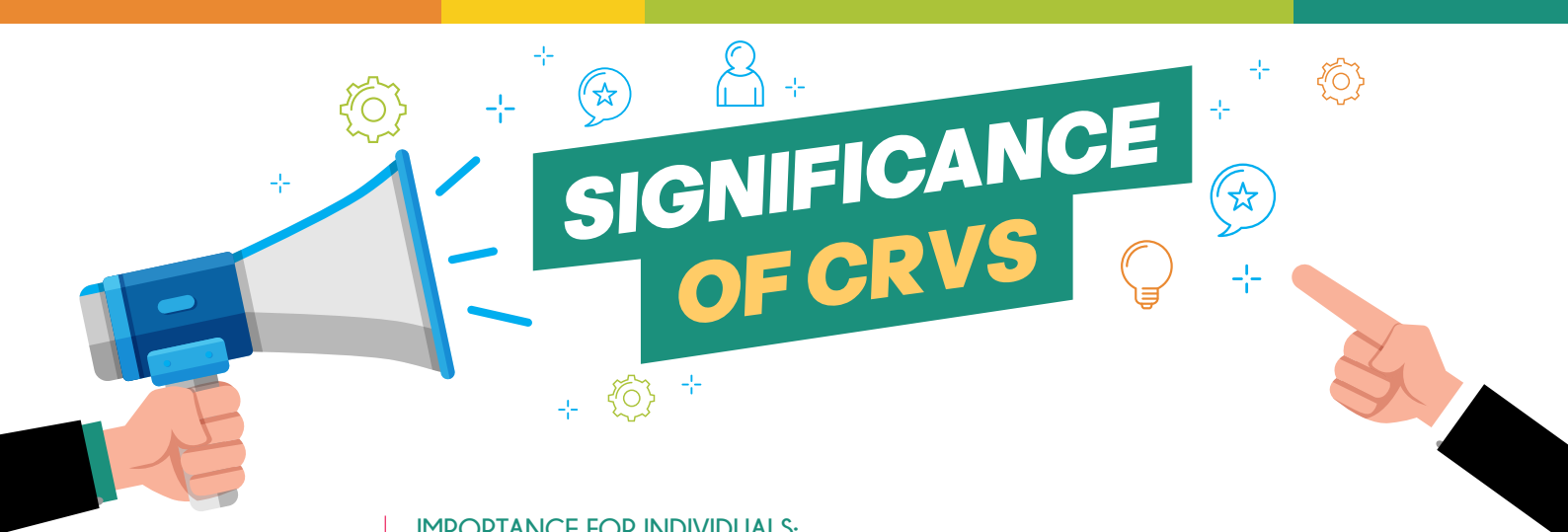
- It provides legal evidence in claims of inheritance, pensions, insurance benefits and settlement of a deceased person's estate.
- It exempts the heirs from specific types of taxes at a certain date and establishes a widowed person's right to a second or subsequent marriage.
- Also, death certificates provide the indicators of existing infectious diseases and epidemics that need immediate control measures. They serve as the basis for designing programs that promote public safety and strategies that help the prevention and eradication of certain types of diseases.
- In addition, they serve administrative purposes, specifically in the clearing of files like disease-case registers, social security, military services files, electoral rolls and tax registers.

Marriage Registration Certificate is an important document to prove marriage record between two persons (husband and wife). Other benefits are as follows:

- It is the identity of relationship between two persons (Bride & Groom).
- It provides legal evidence of marital relationship in claim of inheritance, pensions, insurance benefits.
- It is compulsory document for birth registration of child.
- It is required for the process of immigration and visa.

Divorce Registration Certificate is also an important document to prove the state of the relationship between two persons. Apart from that following are the uses:

- Divorce registration certificate is used for fair division of assets between the two persons.
- To receive the maintenance rights i.e. alimony, child custody, child support etc. divorce registration certificate is required.



SIGNIFICANCE OF CRVS

IMPORTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS:

- Provides the documentary evidence and permanent record for people to establish their legal identity, and proves civil status and family relationships.
- Facilitates access to essential services such as healthcare, education and social protection.
- Enables political participation, property ownership, recourse to justice, formal employment, inheritance, and the use of banking and financial services.
- Reduces the risk of statelessness, child marriage and human trafficking.

IMPORTANCE FOR SOCIETY:

- Provides information for better social, economic, infrastructure and health policy decisions and targeted interventions.
- Enables modern public administration, national population databases and efficient resource allocation.
- Allows the monitoring of levels and trends in population dynamics, fertility, mortality and causes of death, Improve maternal health.
- Supports disaster risk reduction and assists with post disaster recovery.

IMPORTANCE FOR MINISTRY OF HEALTH:

- CRVS systems acts independently to improve health: it is a stand-alone health intervention, much like an immunization campaign or increasing service coverage.
- Well-functioning CRVS systems generate crucial information for public health policy, and ensure access to services through provision of legal identity to individuals and families.
- Greater investment in CRVS systems should be seen as a driver of human development, not only a result of it.

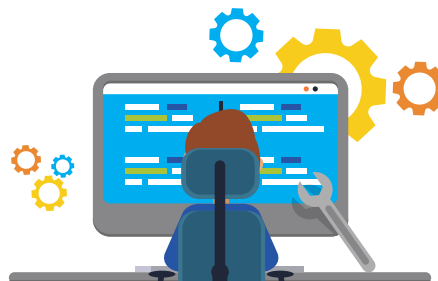
IMPORTANCE FOR PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:

- Fertility statistics are the primary determinant of population size and age structure.
- They are a key component of population growth projections, which are used for future planning of infrastructure, goods and services.
- Timely vital statistics help countries monitor important indicators such as teenage fertility rates and the effectiveness of development programs.
- Summary mortality measures disaggregated by sex, socioeconomic characteristics and/or geography provide evidence of differentials in population health and thus can inform targeted interventions.

IMPORTANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- 15 of the SDG goals and 24 of the SDG targets require CRVS data for measuring their indicators, in particular numerators (births, deaths) and denominators (total population, live births, total deaths).
- 14 SDG indicators specify cause-specific mortality.
- The SDGs require timely and continuing data series to enable comparisons over time at national and subnational administrative level.

PRE-REQUISITES OF AN EFFICIENT CRVS SYSTEM



Political Commitment:

High-level physical & financial political commitment with the representation of all levels of government/stakeholders.



Public Engagement and Participation:

Organization of national campaigns or drivers to advocate and outreach initiatives, specifically directed to hard-to-reach and marginalized population groups, to minimize the barriers to registration.



Inter-sectoral Coordination:

Establishment of a representative and functioning multi-sectoral mechanism responsible for CRVS coordination, overseeing the implementation of a comprehensive multi-sectoral national CRVS strategy and liaising with development partners.



Policies, legislation and implementation of regulations:

Development of policies, legislation and regulations to ensure free of charge or minimal fee registration of vital events, to protect integrity of civil registration records and prevent fraudulent registration of vital events.



Infrastructure and resources:

Allocation of adequate national resources, in terms of Finances, infrastructure, staffing and their capacity building, and equipment, for the implementation of national comprehensive CRVS strategies.



Operational procedures, practices and innovations:

Adoption of registration tools and procedures to align with international standards for legal and statistical purposes. Also thorough technical analysis and risk assessment to establish how digital technologies can best be used to support CRVS processes in a scalable and sustainable way.



Data quality, production, dissemination and use of vital statistics:

Capacity building of statisticians in the production, dissemination and analysis of vital statistics. Also promoting the use of vital statistics to support decisions in areas of social, economic and health policy, and monitoring progress towards national and internationally agreed development goals.

- Orientation Seminar on National/International CRVS Best Practices.
- Establishment of Provincial Steering Committees.
 - Provincial Steering Committee Meetings.
 - Provincial Awareness & Advocacy Seminars
- Fourth National Steering Committee Meeting.

- Third National Steering Committee Meeting.
- National Progress Review Meeting on CRVS.

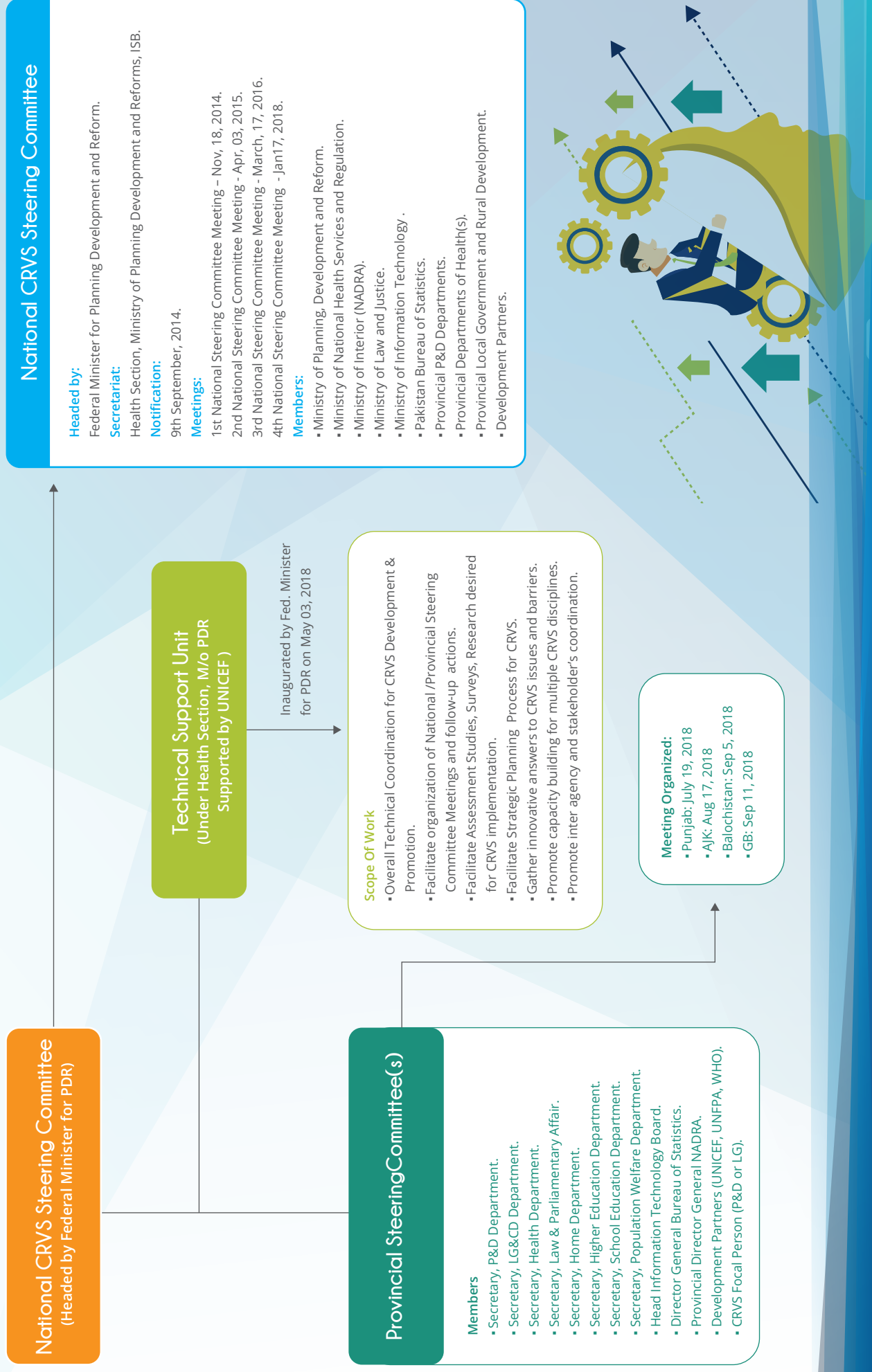
- CRVS Rapid Assessment.
- CRVS Comprehensive Assessment.
- National CRVS Stakeholders Planning Meeting.
 - Establishment of a National Coordination Mechanism & Notification of Steering and Coordination Committee for CRVS.
- First National Steering Committee Meeting.

- Establishment of Technical Support Unit for CRVS & Its Inauguration By Federal Minister of PD&R.

- Second National Steering Committee Meeting.

- Provincial Symposiums on CRVS.
- International CRVS Summit.
- Sensitization, awareness and demand generation among political leaders, planners, policy makers, managers and general public for CRVS promotion.
- Formulation of 5 years National Framework (2019-2023).
- In-depth Review & Needs Assessments (national and provincial) of current CRVS status, practices, barriers and opportunities and Provincial Consultations.
- Deliberations by Technical Sub-Groups on the six thematic areas for development of national CRVS strategy.
- Assessment and civil registration of vulnerable groups and piloting of Toolkit (RSO Bali Process).
- Strengthening Collaboration with M/o NHSRC, Provincial and Area Departments of Health and WHO technical support for death and cause of death registration.

INSTITUTIONAL SETUP FOR CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS (CRVS)



TECHNICAL SUPPORT UNIT - CRVS

Ministry of Planning Development & Reform,
Government of Pakistan.
PPMI Complex, Sector H-8/1, Street # 1, Islamabad
Ph: +92-51-8732314 Email: ta.crvs@pc.gov.pk
Website: www.pc.gov.pk/web/crvs

Focal Person CRVS/Sr. Chief Health-II,
Planning & Development Department,
Civil Secretariat, Lahore
Ph: 042-99059108

