FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, FEDERAL AFFAIRS & RECONCILIATION

CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN

2024-2029

NOVEMBER 2023

unicef

United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MOIFAR) of the Federal Government of Somalia recognizes invaluable contributions from various stakeholders towards the preparation of this plan. The formulation of this plan involved participation of various stakeholders at different levels including sectoral ministries such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Religious Affairs and National Statistics Bureau, National Identification and Registration Authority, Immigration and Citizenship Directorate.

We wish to acknowledge the high level of contribution and valuable inputs of all stakeholders including partner institutions and district civil registration offices representatives from the Federal Member States and Benadir Regional Administration. We extend a special thank you to the leadership of the partner institutions for allowing their senior staff to participate in the exercise for an extended period of time, whenever their expertise was required. Additionally, we appreciate the dedication, hard work, and commitment of the CRVS Department staff for their contributions to the field data collection and preparation of the report.

Appreciation is further extended to our Cooperating Partners namely: UNICEF and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) for their technical and financial support throughout the process of developing this five-year National Strategic Plan aimed at Improving Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Somalia.

We would also like to recognize the efforts of the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Task Team members and Technical Working Group members composed of the Civil Registration Officers from Benadir Regional Administration, Federal Member State, and technical teams from the stakeholder institutions for their invaluable contribution to the comprehensive assessment process and development of this plan. Likewise, would like to thank the Steering Committee, with the leadership of H.E. Mr. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi, for their guidance, encouragement, and commitment to ensuring the implementation of the CRVS in Somalia.

Our profound gratitude goes especially to Senior Consultants Mr. Ali Mohamed Osman and Mr. Mohamud Mohamed Haji, for their relentless dedication and invaluable expertise for successfully leading the development of this comprehensive and effective strategic plan for the improvement of CRVS system in Somalia.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

APAI-CRVS	Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
AWP	Annual Work Plan
AU	African Union
AfDB	African Development Bank
BRA	Benadir Regional Administration
CA	Comprehensive Assessment
COIA	Commission of Information Accountability for Women's and Children's Health
CR	Civil Registration
CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
DHS	Demographic and Health Surveys
eCRVS	Electronic Computer Technologies for CRVS
FGS	Federal Government of Somalia
FMS	Federal Member State
HMIS	Health Management Information Systems
ICD	International Classification of Diseases
ID	Identification Document
ICT	Information and Communications Technologies
IND	Immigration and Naturalization Directorate
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
MOIFAR	Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation
MOIFAD	Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Democratization
MOILGR	Ministry of Interior, Local Governments and Reconciliation
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys
MOIFAD	Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Democratization
MOH	Ministry of Health
MCH	Maternal and Child Healthcare
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NCC	National Consultative Council
PESTEL	Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal, & Environment
PESS	Population Estimation Survey Somalia
RCRC	Red Cross and Red Crescent movements
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
SNBS	Somalia National Bureau of Statistics
SP	Strategic Plan
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
TWG	Technical Working Group
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UN	United Nations
UIN	Unique Identification Number
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
VS	Vital Statistics
WHO	World Health Organization

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Somalia Administrative Map 13
Figure 2: Strategic Planning Process 14
Figure 3: Birth registration business process map in health facility- As-is or current process 21
Figure 4: Death registration process in health facilities — As-is or current process 22
Figure 5: Death registration process in community — As-is or current process 23
Figure 6: CRVS System Improvement Strategy Map 45

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: CRVS Stakeholders 15
Table 2: Weaknesses, matched strengths, and recommendations 23
Table 3: Strategic Objectives and Strategic Outputs 40
Table 4: Strategic risks, impact and management 41
Table 5: Summary of cost of implementing strategic objectives 44

LIST OF ANNEX

Annex 1: Detailed Implementation and Budget Plan 50
Annex 2: Logical Framework 52

PREFACE

Civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) is the system that records and produces data on births, deaths, and causes of death, as well as other vital events such as marriages and divorces. CRVS is essential for providing legal identity and rights to individuals, as well as for informing policies and programs for social and economic development. However, the CRVS system in Somalia faces many challenges, such as low coverage, poor quality, and limited use of data.

Somalia has one of the lowest birth and death registration rates in the world. One of the challenges of CRVS in Somalia is the poor infrastructure, capacity, and resources of the system. The CRVS system is not well-developed, with outdated legal and institutional frameworks, inadequate technologies, and insufficient human and financial resources. Our weak system is mainly attributed to a multitude of challenges mainly arising from more than two decades of internal conflicts which affected both the supply side— availability, accessibility, and delivery of services—and the demand side—circumstances under which proof of registration is necessary.

Moreover, CRVS system in Somalia has faced security and political instability, as well as humanitarian and environmental crises, which have hampered its functioning and sustainability.

In response to the call by the second conference of African ministers responsible for civil registration in September 2022 that all countries, Somalia conducted a comprehensive assessment from May to October 2023. The comprehensive assessment findings identified the constraints and bottlenecks in providing quality civil registration services and producing timely and accurate statistics from civil registration records. The findings served as a basis for developing a full-fledged Five-Year National CRVS Strategic Plan, which is in line with the Africa's Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (APAI-CRVS), to revamp and improve the civil registration processes and practices in order to improve the registration of all vital events across all regions and levels of administration in the country.

The following are a summary of recommendations from the comprehensive assessment that were proposed for improving the CRVS system in Somalia:

- Strengthening the legal and institutional frameworks of the CRVS system, by updating and harmonizing the laws and regulations, defining and clarifying the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders, and establishing a national coordination mechanism for CRVS.

- Adopting digital technologies for the CRVS system, by developing and implementing a unified and interoperable platform for the registration and certification of vital events, using mobile devices and biometric identification, and enhancing the security and privacy of the data.

- Improving the quality and use of the CRVS data, by standardizing and validating the data collection and processing methods, conducting regular audits and assessments of the data quality, and disseminating and analyzing the data for policy and program purposes.

- Increasing the coverage and completeness of the registration of vital events, by expanding and decentralizing the registration services, training and motivating the registration staff, raising public awareness and demand for registration, and providing incentives and waivers for registration fees.

By implementing the Strategic Plan, we hope to improve the CRVS system in Somalia, and contribute to the realization of our vision and mission. Our vision is “to have a universal and complete registration of vital events in Somalia”, and our mission is “to provide legal identity and rights to individuals, and reliable and timely data for social and economic development”.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the unwavering dedication and commitment demonstrated by the CRVS team members throughout the exercise. Their hard work and efforts have been instrumental in the successful completion of this strategic plan.

We would also like to extend a special appreciation to the leadership of our partner institutions for their invaluable support. Their willingness to release their senior staff members to participate in the exercise for an extended period of time, whenever their inputs were required, has been crucial to the development of this strategic plan.

Furthermore, we would like to acknowledge and thank UNICEF and UNECA for their significant contributions, both financial and technical. Without their support and expertise, this strategic plan would not have been possible.

Once again, we express our deepest appreciation to all those involved in this endeavor. Their contributions have played a vital role in shaping the future of our organization and ensuring the success of our goals.

_____

H.E. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi
Minister of Interior, Federal Affairs & Reconciliation
Federal Government of Somalia

Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1
CHAPTER 1: STRATEGIC OVERVIEW 3
1.5. Problem Statement 9
CHAPTER 2: KEY STRATEGIC ISSUES 13
2.1 Purpose of the strategic plan 13
2.2. Scope of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics systems in Somalia 13
2.5. Situation Analysis 16
CHAPTER 3. STRATEGIC DIRECTION 30
3.1. Strategic Shift 30
3.2 Vision 30
3.2. Mission 30
3.4. Core values 31
3.5. Strategic outcomes 32
3.6. Strategic Objectives 34
3.7. Strategic Intent 38
3.8. Critical Success Factors 39
3.9. Strategic Risks 41
3.10. Resource considerations for improvement of CRVS 42
CHAPTER 4. STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION AND ACTION PLAN 43
4.1. Purpose of the Strategy Implementation Plan 43
4.2. Five-Year Improvement Plan 43
4.3. Strategy Map 45
4.7. Conclusion 47

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The establishment of a well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics system is of utmost importance for the people, communities, and government of Somalia. This system not only provides legal documentation for individuals but also supports administrative applications such as public health programs and voter registration.

Individual identity records and documents generated from the civil registration system help to fulfil the first fundamental human right that every individual is entitled to upon birth, that is, the right to a name and an identity, from which other human and civil rights are found. The recognition of the existence of persons by their governments and the ability of individuals to transact with each other and with the State through legal identity documents are fundamental attributes of good governance, realized only by States in which complete civil registration systems exist.

Moreover, it serves as a foundation for operational programs like medical research, maternal and childcare programs, and historical demography to examine population size, growth, distribution. and characteristics related to fertility, mortality and migration. By implementing a robust vital events registration system, Somalia can align with its national development plan and ensure that its citizens have access to essential services and resources.

Therefore, it is imperative to prioritize the establishment of a reliable civil registration and vital statistics system in Somalia to promote accountability, transparency, and good governance.

The weak civil registration system in Somalia, like many other African nations, has resulted in lack of official records for births, deaths, marriages, and divorces. This inadequacy in legal recognition and reliable vital statistics poses obstacles to policy making, implementation, and development plan monitoring.

Furthermore, the absence of information on causes of death makes it difficult to identify major health concerns in the population. As a result, people are unable to exercise their rights, plans and policies do not reflect the actual situation on the ground, and opportunities for good governance and basic service provision are missed due to inadequate integration with other government systems and processes.

The development of the strategic plan is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) and other key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Religious Affairs, and National Bureau of Statistics. The plan outlines the strategic and operational aspects of the civil registration and vital statistics system, including the important roles these entities play in its successful implementation.

The value chain illustrates how they work together to achieve strategic goals and highlights the importance of collaboration and integration among stakeholders. This will be achieved through the implementation of 13 strategic objectives, which are broken down into several initiatives.

The strategic plan further highlights the importance of capacity building, data quality, and stakeholder engagement in achieving the objectives. It recognizes the need for investment in technology and infrastructure to support the integration of CRVS systems. The plan also emphasizes the importance of ensuring that CRVS systems are inclusive and accessible to all, including vulnerable and marginalized populations.

This value chain helps stakeholders to understand their roles, the importance of cooperation, and the potential benefits of collaboration. By implementing this plan, Somalia will improve its CRVS systems, resulting in significant benefits for individuals, communities, and the country.

Overall, the strategic plan represents a significant step towards improving CRVS systems in Somalia. It provides a clear roadmap for integrating existing systems and improving data quality, which will have far-reaching benefits for individuals, communities, and the country.

CHAPTER 1: STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

This section on the strategic overview offers a concise introduction and background context on the geography, demographic features, political and administrative systems, as well as past events related to civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) in Somalia.

1.1. Geography

omalia is a country located in the Horn of Africa, with an estimated surface area of 637,657 sq. km. and it has the longest coastline in Africa, stretching over 3,333 km along the Gulf of Aden to the north and the Indian Ocean to the east and south. It borders Djibouti along the north-west, Ethiopia to the west and Kenya to the south-west. Somalia has a tropical hot climate, with little seasonal variations and daily temperatures that vary from 30°C to 40°C. The country experiences low annual rainfall and four seasons: Gu' and Deyr are the rainy seasons and Haga and Jilal are the dry seasons. Over the years, however, changing, unpredictable climate patterns have resulted in recurrent floods and drought experienced across the country.

1.2. Demography

Somalia lacks a reliable population data. The first population and housing census for Somalia was conducted in 1975 which published limited results. This was followed by another population census that was conducted from 1985 to 1986 whose results were not released officially as they were thought to contain significant biases, especially over-counting.

There was no census carried out since then due to the ongoing conflict in the country until UNFPA, together with the Ministries of Planning, undertook nationwide Population Estimation Survey of Somalia (PESS) for the 18 pre-war regions of Somalia in 2014.

The survey estimated the Somali population at 12.3 million, with 51 percent of the population living in urban areas, 23 percent living in rural areas and 26 percent in nomadic areas.

Furthermore, according to United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, the country had an estimated population of 17.1 million inhabitants in 2021 , with almost half of the population living in urban area. Urban Growth Rate (2015-2020) was 4.23%.

Though some progress has been observed over the past few years, Somalia still remains one of the riskiest countries for women to give birth and children to be born in. Neonatal mortality and still birth rates of 38.5 per 1000 live births and 35.5 per 1000 total births, respectively, make it the highest under-5 mortality rate in WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region .

The Under-five mortality rate in Somalia is 111.8 deaths per 1,000 live births . Somalia ranks 6th globally, with one of the highest maternal mortality rates (MMR) of 692 per 100,000 live births in the world .

1.3. Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Somalia

The Civil Registration and Vital statistics (CRVS) system in Somalia has a complex history due to decades of conflict and political instability. Somalia is a nation that has endured far too much suffering as a result of internal conflicts and continuous tribal disputes. Prior to the civil war in 1991, the country had a functioning CRVS system that was established during the colonial era. However, the system was not comprehensive and did not cover the entire population.

During the civil war, there was total disruption to government services including the CRVS system which collapsed, thus all archives and public offices were destroyed, leaving the country with no traces of registers, copies, or original documents. Two and a half decades of conflict, concentrated mainly in southern Somalia, have destroyed much of the country's governance capacity and economic infrastructure, including the institutions mandated to provide civil registration or identification.

Notwithstanding, in 2013 efforts were made by the National Statistics Department at the Ministry of Planning to collect and analyse data on population demographics with the support of international partners. in some territories in the country make to reach all communities, and there is a lack of awareness among some populations about the importance of registering vital events. To date, Somalia lacks complete and full coverage of civil registration though in recent years, efforts have been made to rebuild the CRVS system in Somalia.

There has been a renewed commitment by the government over the past few years to expedite the establishment of CRVS system in Somalia. The Department of Civil Registration under the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) is mandated to take the lead in the establishment and implementation of the CRVS system in Somalia. In December 2022, the National Consultative Council (NCC), a high-level platform for executive leaders at FGS and FMS levels in Somalia who negotiate and agree on contentious political issues. Made a significant stride in Somalia's federal system of governance by agreeing on the distribution of powers. The allocation of powers was categorized into federal exclusive, state exclusive, concurrent/shared, and local government exclusive powers.

This agreement marks a significant milestone in Somalia's federalism journey and is expected to enhance cooperation between the federal and state governments. It also provides a clear framework for the distribution of powers and responsibilities, which will help to avoid conflicts and promote accountability.

Therefore, regarding the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics system, the allocation of powers agreement assigned all aspects related to the establishment of laws and policies exclusively to the Federal Government. By assigning the creation of laws and policies related to Civil Registration and Vital Statistics to the Federal Government, the government aims to ensure consistency and uniformity in the registration process across the country. This will also enable the Federal Government to establish a comprehensive legal framework that addresses all aspects of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, including birth registration, death registration, marriage registration, and divorce registration.

On the other hand, local governments have been given the responsibility of implementing the policies and laws related to Civil Registration and Vital Statistics. This includes establishing registration centres, training registration officers, and ensuring that all eligible individuals are registered. By giving this responsibility to local governments, the Government hopes to ensure that registration services are easily accessible to all citizens. The Department of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics developed the national CRVS policy which has been approved by the Council of Ministers on 5th August 2021. The policy provides a framework for legal identity from birth to death, with registration and certificate issuance administered by local governments.

With these steps, and with the support of its local, regional and international partners, CRVS system in Somalia will steady advance towards meeting the following continental standard as stated in the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs' Handbook on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems, "CRVS involves the entire administrative, legal and institutional framework, including the personnel, registration network, various procedures, processes of record-keeping and retrieval, issuing of certificates, preparation of outputs, transfer of data, provision of services to other agencies and all other activities pertaining to civil registration in the country.

Therefore, the civil registration system encompasses both the registration method and all institutional, technical, and legal settings associated with it".

1.4. Continental and International CRVS initiatives

There is a growing recognition, especially in Africa, of the significance of effective civil registration and vital statistics systems as a means of providing legal documentation to individuals and generating vital statistics for public use and policymaking. Previously, there was limited focus from the global community on developing and enhancing civil registration systems in developing nations.

A key milestone for CRVS was the creation of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration in August 2010. The Conference is a regular forum that convenes every two years, under the guidance of the African Union Commission, to oversee and support the regional effort on CRVS. The African Leaders in their summit in Kigali, Rwanda, in July 2016 proclaimed 2017-2026 as the Decade for repositioning Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) in Africa's development agenda at all levels and called on governments to take appropriate action11. This is the strongest endorsement that system development is a high priority issue for African countries.

A crucial component of this is the Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (APAI-CRVS), which was approved by the second conference of the ministers in Durban, South Africa, from 6 to 7 September 2012. The APAI-CRVS is spearheaded by the African CRVS Core Group, which consists of the pan- African Organizations, the secretariat of the African Symposium on Statistical Development, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Plan International, INDEPTH Network and PARIS21."

The resolution from Second Meeting of Ministers in Charge of Civil Registration, Durban 2012 was to: "Continue our efforts to develop appropriate policies and strategies to reform and improve our CRVS systems, and to mainstream them in national development plans and programmes, taking into consideration the

specific circumstances of our countries. In this regard, we commit to urgently develop costed national plans of action on CRVS that reflect individual country priorities based on comprehensive assessments to be undertaken with the support of the Secretariat and partner organizations."

The UN Secretary-General initiated the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health in 2010 to speed up the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs 4 and 5). This required monitoring the actions and commitments that were made. The Secretary-General also appointed a Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health (COIA) to ensure that the financial and health outcomes of the Global Strategy were met.

The Commission produced a report, Keeping Promises, Measuring Results10, that offered 10 realistic yet bold suggestions to improve the health of women and children and reach the targets of the Global Strategy. The first of these 10 suggestions under the title - better information for better results – says "By 2015, all countries have made significant progress in setting up a system for recording births, deaths and causes of death, and have effective health information systems that integrate data from facilities, administrative sources and surveys".

The Secretary General' High Level Panel of Eminent Persons for the Post 2015 Agenda set the goals of:

- legal identity as the first target in its goal to "Ensure Good Governance and Effective Institutions." The target called for "free and universal legal identity, such as birth registrations."
- "no person – regardless of ethnic, gender, geography, disability, race or other status – is denied universal human rights and basic economic opportunities."
- Article 7 of UNCRC that Somalia endorsed states "The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality".

The UN General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, Final Report, July 2014 sets the following targets:

- 16.9 "by 2030 provide legal identity for all including birth registration".
- 17.18 "by 2020 enhance capacity building support to developing countries, including for LDCs (Least Developed Countries) and SIDS (Small Island Developing States), to significantly increase the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts."

1.5. Problem Statement

The civil registration system in Somalia is one of the least developed public services and like in most countries in Africa falls far short of the minimum standard set by the United Nations for the system to be considered reasonably complete. The weak system is attributed to a multitude of challenges mainly arising from more than two decades of internal conflict which affected both the supply side— availability, accessibility, and delivery of services—and the demand side—circumstances under which proof of registration is necessary.

The Civil Registration and Vital statistics (CRVS) system in Somalia has a complex history due to decades of conflict and political instability. Somalia is a nation that has endured far too much suffering as a result of internal conflicts and continuous tribal disputes. Insecure conditions and natural calamities in some parts of the country and a lack of effective coordination between stakeholders also pose challenges. Additionally, armed conflict and conflict-related migration create specific difficulties for maintaining a universal civil registration and vital statistics system in some countries in the region.

Prior to the civil war in 1991, the country had a functioning CRVS system that was established during the colonial era. However, the system was not comprehensive and did not cover the entire population. During the civil war, there was total disruption to government services including the CRVS system which collapsed, thus all archives and public offices were destroyed, leaving the country with no traces of registers, copies, or original documents. Two and a half decades of conflict, concentrated mainly in southern Somalia, have destroyed much of the country's governance capacity and economic infrastructure, including the institutions mandated to provide civil registration or identification.

Somalia's civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) system is one of the weakest in the world and needs significant enhancement with strong political support. The demand for birth certificates currently in Somalia is based only to obtain passport, driver's license, education and for opening bank accounts with local banks but not necessarily to ensure the child's rights to a name, nationality, family ties and other benefits as per global standards.

For over 30 years, the Somali people have been deprived of their rights to legal recognition and access to accurate vital statistics, which are crucial for informing policies and monitoring development plans. As the establishment of the CRVS system is currently underway, there's still lack of understanding and practice of birth registration is largely due to limited public awareness of its importance as a child's right and the benefits it provides. Another reason is the lack of necessary legal instruments that make birth, death and cause-of-death notification from all health facilities (public, private and NGOs) mandatory.

According to the Somali Health and Demographic Survey 2020, the percentage of children under 2 years of age who had been registered was 3.8 from a survey made on 6,935 children. Out of this, 0.2% have been issued a birth certificate. For children aged 2-4 years, 3.3% had been registered from a survey made on 12,929 children, of whom 0.4% had been issued birth certificate.

Also, without accurate data on causes of death, it is difficult to determine which diseases are having the greatest impact on the population. As a result, this lack of information has hindered efforts to improve the overall well-being of the citizens through development and transformation initiatives.

The comprehensive assessment of the CRVS system which was conducted from May - October 2023 has revealed the following status of the civil registration:

a. There is an old law that dates back during the United Nations' trusteeship under the Italian Administration: Law No. 22.
b. There are only 24 districts registration offices in the entire country and even within those only about 25% of the local population have access.
c. There are no standard processes for registration of vital events across the country, including births, deaths, marriages, and divorces.
d. There is a lack of awareness among the public on the importance and benefits of registration of vital events.
e. There is lack of demand for civil registration from the public.

benefits it provides. Another reason is the lack of necessary legal instruments that make birth, death and cause-of-death notification from all health facilities (public, private and NGOs) mandatory.

According to the Somali Health and Demographic Survey 2020, the percentage of children under 2 years of age who had been registered was 3.8 from a survey made on 6,935 children. Out of this, 0.2% have been issued a birth certificate. For children aged 2-4 years, 3.3% had been registered from a survey made on 12,929 children, of whom 0.4% had been issued birth certificate.

Also, without accurate data on causes of death, it is difficult to determine which diseases are having the greatest impact on the population. As a result, this lack of information has hindered efforts to improve the overall well-being of the citizens through development and transformation initiatives.

The comprehensive assessment of the CRVS system which was conducted from May - October 2023 has revealed the following status of the civil registration:

a. There is an old law that dates back during the United Nations' trusteeship under the Italian Administration: Law No. 22.
b. There are only 24 districts registration offices in the entire country and even within those only about 25% of the local population have access.
c. There are no standard processes for registration of vital events across the country, including births, deaths, marriages, and divorces.
d. There is a lack of awareness among the public on the importance and benefits of registration of vital events.
e. There is lack of demand for civil registration from the public.

These facts indicate that the Somali people have been without the proper documentation needed to exercise their rights for over 30 years. As a result, policies and plans are not informed by accurate data, leading to missed opportunities for good governance and basic service provision. It is crucial to make strategic shift to improve the registration of vital events for the benefit of the citizens.

1.6. Guiding principles for improvement of CRVS system

The CRVS improvement process is to be guided by a set of considerations. The goal of these principles is to establish a functional CRVS system in the nation. While taking into account the country contexts, this strategic plan is based on the following guiding principles in accordance with the APAI-CRVS concept document that was approved by the Second Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration:

The strategic plan is in line with the Africa Programme concept document endorsed by the second session of the Conference of African Ministers (Economic Commission for Africa, 2012).

The plan, while keeping in view country contexts, is anchored to the identified guiding principles, with additional points that need consideration to bring about a viable civil registration and vital statistics system in member States, namely:

(a) Promoting country ownership and leadership.
(b) Promoting systematic and coordinated approaches and multi-disciplinary dimensions at the regional and country levels.

(c) Implementing phased, holistic and integrated approaches.
(d) Strengthening and building the capacities of national and regional CRVS key stakeholders and institutions.
(e) Promoting partnership at the country and regional levels and with development partners.
(f) Embracing innovation, new technology, research, and knowledge-sharing.

CHAPTER 2: KEY STRATEGIC ISSUES

2.1 Purpose of the strategic plan

The focus of the strategic plan is to define the road map to drive sound reform in the next five years of Somalia's civil registration and vital statistics system, spanning from 2024 to 2029. The strategic plan will therefore include an examination of the following questions:

(a) Where are we now with respect to the ongoing civil registration and vital statistics improvement initiative?
(b) Where do we want to be by 2029?
(c) How are we getting there?

It serves as a tool to identify areas of improvement in the current CRVS systems and facilitate their transformation into a well-functioning system. Strategic planning allows key stakeholders to concentrate their efforts and resources towards common objectives, while also enabling them to evaluate and adapt their approaches in response to changing circumstances.

2.2. Scope of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics systems in Somalia

The ultimate objective of Somalia's CRVS system is to record all vital events in accordance with United Nations guidelines. However, in line with the African Ministers responsible for CRVS and international recommendations, the improvement process for CRVS in Somalia will prioritize recording births, marriages, divorces, and deaths - which are considered high priority events. This aligns with the approach taken by other countries who enhance their registration systems by focusing on internationally recommended top priorities.

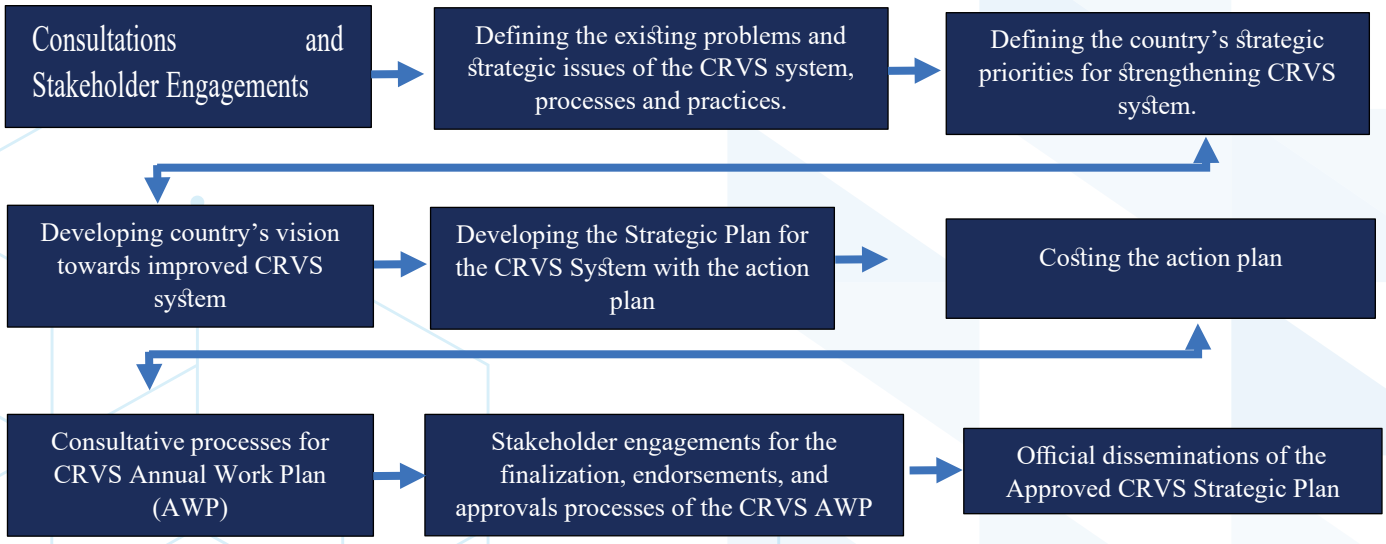
2.3. The strategic planning process

The Strategic Planning process for Somalia's Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) started with in-depth analysis and assessments that focused on (a) the current status and the existing practices of the CRVS system in Somalia, (b) where do the country want to be, (c) how should we achieve the desired change in the CRVS system, and (d) what mechanisms and approaches do we need to put in place for ensuring the desired change occurs.

Through the in-depth analysis and the assessments that were concluded, the findings outlined the key strategic issues that need to be addressed to transform Somalia's CRVS system and processes and improve the system from dysfunctional to well-functional.

The improvement plan for Somalia's CRVS system and processes went through various stages that was in line with the Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement (APAI) of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) strategic planning process.

Figure 2: Strategic Planning Process



2.4. Stakeholders and their responsibilities

The success of the CRVS system is dependent on collective actions by all stakeholders whose key roles and responsibilities involved in the implementation of this CRVS Strategic plan. The responsibility of each stakeholder is based on its importance and influence and is categorized in the table below:

Table 1: CRVS Stakeholders

Institution	Responsibility
Ministry of Health	The health sector is an active player in CRVS through its role in the notification of births and deaths, events that increasingly occur within health institutions or under the care of health personnel. The Ministry, as the leading Health institution, has a critical role to: • Liaise with health institutions and community health workers to notify births and deaths for registration. • Ensure the use of standard definitions for key vital events. • Provide statistical information on key health variables to the civil registry and national statistics office. • Ensure medical certification of causes of death in accordance with international standards. • Collect, analyze, and disseminate health-related data for health purposes. • Provide training to frontline health workers and develop SOPs for notification process in health facilities
Ministry of Justice	Liaise with the courts on registering and certifying marriages and divorces.
Ministry of Religious Affairs and Endowments	Liaise with religious centers on registering and certifying marriages and divorces.
Somali National Bureau of Statistics	**1.** Co-produce the annual vital statistics report. **2.** Undertake data quality assurance activities. **3.** Estimate and monitor registration completeness.

2.5. Situation Analysis

The purpose of the situational analysis is to examine the internal and external factors that may affect the performance and strategic choices of the key CRVS stakeholders. The analysis aims to identify the main strategic issues that emerged from the comprehensive assessment of the CRVS system's internal environment (strengths and weaknesses) and external environment (opportunities and threats) and make recommendations on areas of interventions for the improvement of the system.

2.6. External Environment Scanning

Analyzing the external environment provides an understanding of the broader context in which the system operates. This analysis is typically conducted using PESTEL, which stands for the Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Environmental and Legal forces. PESTEL helps identify opportunities and threats. Opportunities may arise from external environmental factors, while threats may stem from aspects such as natural disasters, unreliable power supply, cyber-attacks, and other factors.

2.7. Internal Environment Scanning

The scanning of the internal environment of the system involved assessing the current CRVS system to identify its strengths and weaknesses, with the goal of highlighting areas for improvement. This internal assessment includes a SWOT analysis to assess internal factors that could impact the system's performance.

The strengths of the CRVS system may encompass a skilled and dedicated workforce, efficient processes, advanced technology, strong leadership, and effective communication channels. On the other hand, weaknesses may involve outdated technology, limited resources, inadequate training, poor data management, and bureaucratic processes. By conducting an internal assessment, the CRVS system can identify areas that need improvement and leverage its strengths.

This can enable the system to better adapt to external influences, minimize risks, and ultimately enhance its overall performance. Table 2 outlines the weaknesses/gaps, matched strengths, and recommendations related to factors analyzed.

2.8. SWOT Analysis

The SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threats) analysis assesses the CRVS internal environment to identify areas of strength and areas needing improvement, as well as examines potential opportunities and threats in the external environment (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal, and Environmental).

By conducting a SWOT analysis, the CRVS system can identify key areas for improvement and develop strategic initiatives to capitalize on strengths, address weaknesses, take advantage of opportunities, and mitigate threats. This will ultimately lead to a more robust and effective CRVS system that can better serve its purpose of recording vital events and producing accurate statistics for decision-making.

2.9. Summary of weaknesses, matched strengths and recommendations

The comprehensive assessment of the CRVS system identified some serious weaknesses. Recommendations were made on how to resolve these weaknesses and bring about major improvements in the systems. These are depicted in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Weaknesses, matched strengths, and recommendations

Factors analyzed	Weaknesses / gaps	Matched strengths	Recommendations/strategy
Legal and policy framework	• There is an old, outdated law which is not compatible to the current situation.	• There is a draft comprehensive law which is due for enactment.	**1.** To finalize the draft version of the law **2.** To enact the draft version of the law **3.** Adopt a strategy for periodically review
Management and organization	**A.** Fragmented civil registration and bureaucratic arrangements at all levels: • Lack of standard structures in the civil registration centres. **1.** There is no inter agency coordination structure. **2.** There is no central database system. **3.** There is no standardized birth certificate. **4.** There is no harmonized fee for registration. **5.** No uniform personal information **6.** Limited number of registration centres across the country **7.** Lack of sufficient budget allocations to CRVS system at Federal and FMS levels. **8.** Limited funds from development to support the CRVS system **9.** Lack of collaboration between the different institutions of the private/public health facilities and CRVS Centre.	**10.** Strong commitments at all levels to harmonize the CRVS system across the country. **11.** Existence of approved national CRVS policy **12.** There is a draft SOPs to harmonize the registration processes. **13.** Existence of stakeholder coordination mechanisms at Federal level (Steering Committee). **14.** Existence of coordination forums between Federal and FMSs **15.** Existence of civil registrars in some districts. **16.** Staff salaries, office space and utilities are covered through ministry's government budget. **17.** There are engagements with UN and International organization to support the operationalization of CRVS programmes **18.** Health facilities have database systems to record birth and death events.	• To expedite the development of eCRVS (digital) system. • To finalize and approve the existing draft SOPs by the Steering Committee. • To increase the civil registration centres in the country to expand the civil registration services to citizens. • Establish government window for the CRVS system. • Develop resources mobilization strategy for CRVS System • Increase engagements with development and humanitarian partners. • Increase partnerships with health facilities, MCH, and hospitals.

Capacity building	• Limited institutional capacity building to strengthen the capacity of the CRVS department including lack of permanent office base.	• There is approved CRVS structure. • The CRVS department has permanent and temporary civil servants and advisors as fulltime/part-time staff. • There is CRVS annual approved work plan.	• To strengthen the capacity of CRVS staff and enhance their skills and competence. • To establish a permanent and fully equipped and furnished office base for the CRVS department. • Develop office regulations, policies, and procedures. • To improve internal coordination mechanisms.
Resources / Infrastructures	**A.** Incomplete office infrastructures for the District Registry Offices in most local governments.	• Registration offices exist within the local government compounds. • The local governments law No 116 mandates the civil registration services to local governments.	• To provide dedicated office infrastructures support to the District Registry Offices. • Enhance and strengthen the capacities of the district registry office staff to deliver registration services to citizens.
Advocacy, Communication, and demand creation.	**B.** Lack of public awareness about the importance and benefits of registering vital events.	**1.** Existence of health facilities where birth or death occur. **2.** Existence of Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs), **3.** Existence of immunization programmes through home visits **4.** CRVS Annual plan priorities and strategies to increase awareness raising.	**5.** Develop and implement public awareness strategies/programmes about registering vital events nationwide.
Forms and Materials	**C.** Registers are not standardized and are not in line with international standards.	**6.** Registers and forms are available	**7.** Forms and registers should be revised and aligned with international recommendations to the possible extent, with possibility of applying new technology

ICT and Database management	**1.** CRVS does not use digital system for civil registration and vital statistics	• Existence of Health Management Information System (HMIS) and other tools at the health facilities in Somalia which will be feasible to easily adopt eCRVS system.	• Establish and decentralize the eCRVS system nationwide and integrate it with other existing health information management systems.
Storage and archiving	**2.** There are no standards of materials for storing and archiving of CR books that are not protected from damage and loss of civil registers.	• Registration centres use registration books and some districts use computer database system to keep records	Improve storage, restore all CR documents, and develop digital backup data centre for all CR documents

2.10. Business process analysis

The following section evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of the current Somalia CRVS system, drawing from a rapid mapping exercise conducted during the initial Somalia CRVS Improvement Programme Mission and Orientation Workshop.

This mission brought together key institutions from the Federal Government and was held in Nairobi from November 29 to December 3, 2021, with support from ECA and UNICEF. The assessment aims to identify areas of success and improvement, informing the development of a strategic plan to enhance the efficiency, coverage, completeness, and quality of CRVS outputs, ultimately leading to more effective outcomes.

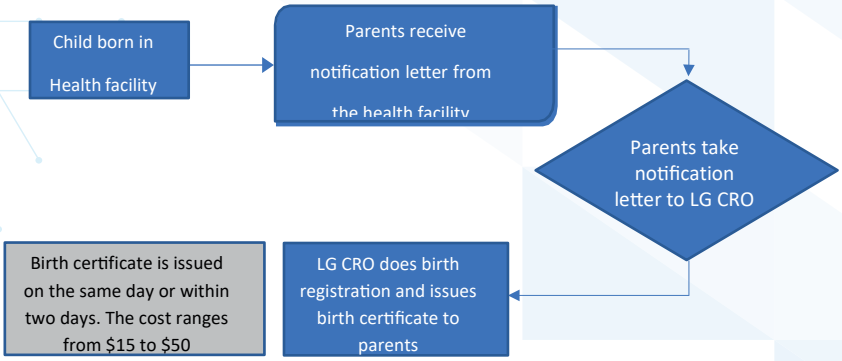
A. The current or as-Is business process

Birth registration process map in health facilities —As-is or current process

Health Facilities: Skilled Birth Attendant (SBA)

1. Birth notification from Nurse or midwives, sometimes doctors, is issued to the parents and recorded in the registers.
2. Parents take notification letter to Local Government Civil Registration Office (LG CRO).
3. LG CRO registers the birth and issues birth certificate with a cost ranging between $15 and $50.

Figure 3: Birth registration business process map in health facility- As-is or current process



Birth registration process map in home delivery (Traditional BAs/SBA —As-is or current process

1. Mothers/child receive vaccination and clinical vaccination card is filled. The process involves lady health workers.
2. The key stakeholders involved in birth registration are: local government and MoH.
3. The Ministry of Education (MoE) is also involved in the process as it is mandatory for children enrolled in schools to present legal identity documents to be registered in the MoE information management system/database—the process needs more investigation to establish the role of education actors/schools.

Bottlenecks in the process:

- Limited awareness among the public on the importance of birth registration.
- Health facilities register birth occurrence in their manual registers or databases but have no linkages with the Registrar-General and authorities that issue birth certificates (LGs).
- Lack of clear and standardized procedures for notification and registration of birth events in both the community and health facilities.
- Inconsistent and non-identical certificates issued by local authorities in different states.
- Lack of understanding among the officials of the Civil Registration and differences between notification and registration of vital events (birth and death).
- Non-existent and incomplete legal framework, poor demand creation coupled with weaknesses in services and unnecessary barriers on the supply side.
- Politicizing the registration of births as several politicians equate birth registration with granting legal residence rights to the vast internally displaced peoples in specific areas.
- Most local governments view the issuance of birth certificates as a vital income source.

2.11. Overview of Death Registration

The comprehensive assessment findings indicate that death registration is not widespread in Somalia, with no official standard forms for certifying deaths outside health facilities and inconsistent methods for issuing death notifications.

Home deaths are often buried without official documentation, while medical practitioners may occasionally provide a medical report for deaths within health facilities, subject to family request. The majority of deaths are categorized as "Ill-defined and unknown causes of mortality," with limited use of international standard forms for medical certification of cause of death. Verbal autopsy is commonly used to determine cause of death in cases not certified by a physician.

Furthermore, there is no systematic recording of causes of death for official records in health facilities, with different regulations, tools, and practices used. Monthly mortality reports are produced by some health facilities funded by humanitarian agencies, but there is no reliable data on causes of death.

The government does not have a consistent method for recording causes of death in health facilities, with ICD10 practices and. Doctors do not certify cause of death due to lack of training and inclusion in the medical curriculum.

Figure 4: Death registration process in health facilities — As-is or current process

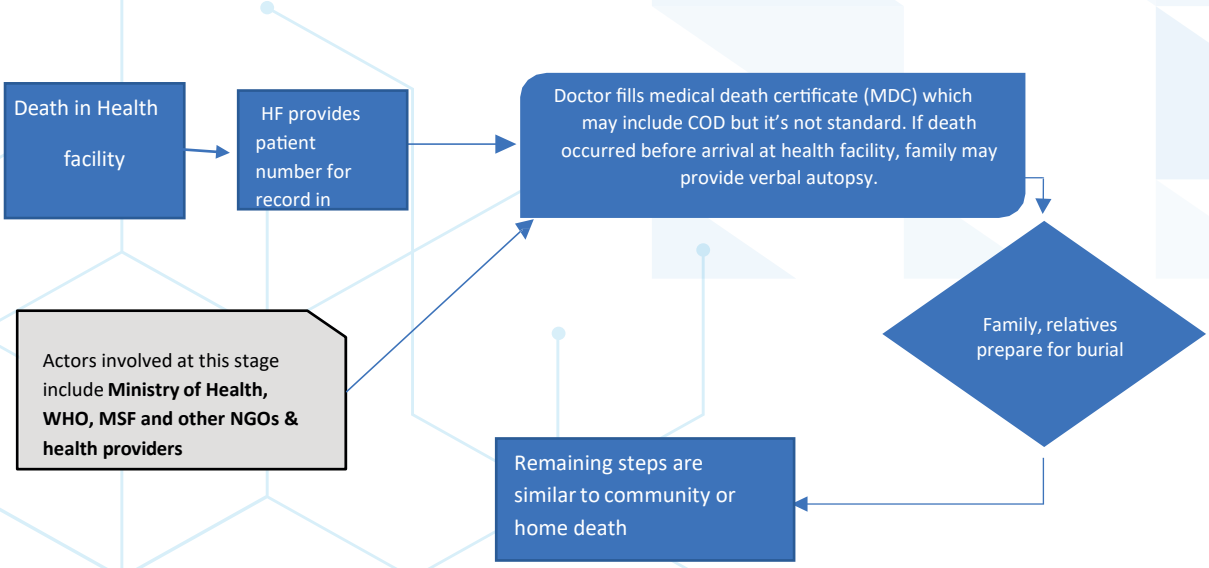
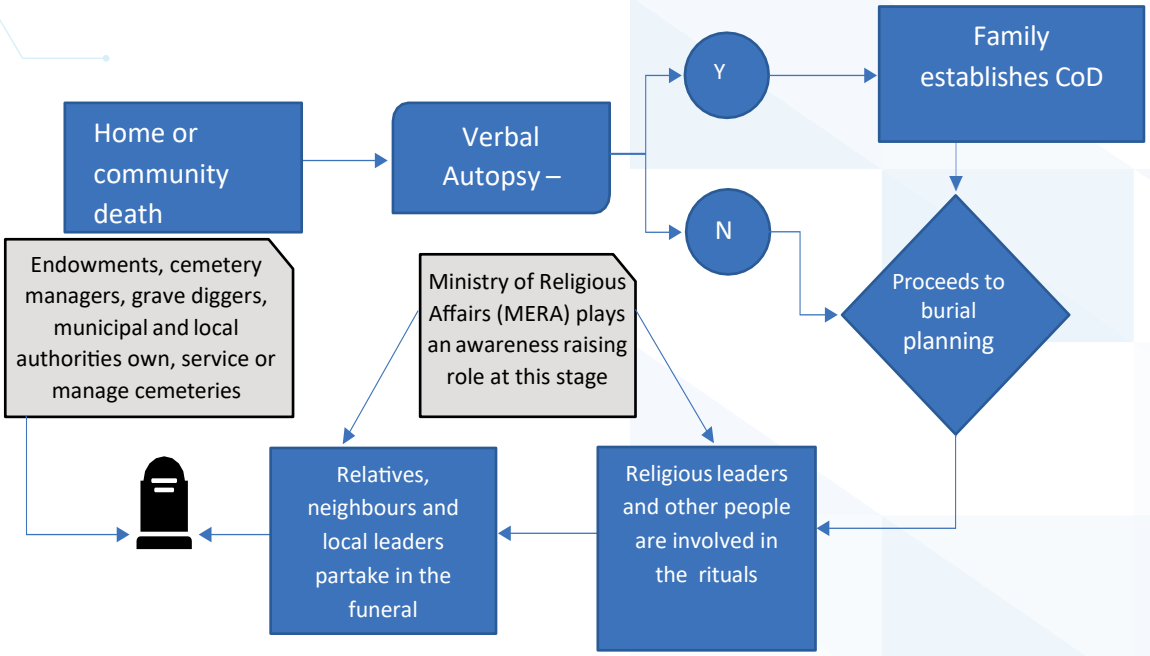


Figure 5: Death registration process in community — As-is or current process



Bottleneck in the process:

- Low levels of awareness among the public about the value of death certificates.
- Not having appropriate data collection tools and transfer procedures, specifically at community and private health facilities.
- Limited capacity of health workers to register deaths and establish CoD;
- Different entities involved in recording deaths and issuing death certificates (e.g., the police, health facilities, and local governments).
- Lack of consistent and standardized procedures for notification and registration of deaths in both the community and health facilities.
- Non-existent and incomplete legal framework, poor demand creation, lack of enforcement (as a pre-condition for burials), and lack of awareness and knowledge among the public about where and who registers and issues death certificates.

2.12. Vital statistics generation process—Current Process

- No vital statistics are currently generated in Somalia, and the SNBS carried out its first health survey in 2020. The CRVS policy prioritizes the generation of vital statistics. However, the country still lacks any action plans or a strategic plan to guide the production and dissemination of vital statistics.

Bottlenecks in the process:

o Limited awareness among government leaders about the significance of generating quality vital statistics and the importance of completeness, reliability, and timely vital statistics for health planning and monitoring of SDGs;

o Lack of and incomplete legal framework and reliable data storage and information sharing mechanisms; and capacity to compile, classify and tabulate vital events data;

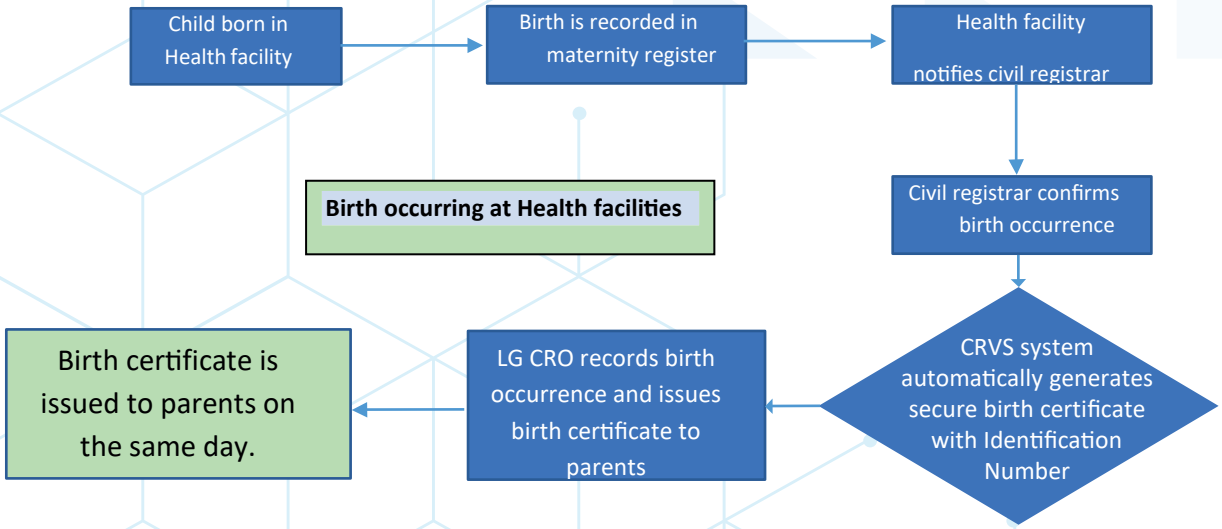
o Lack of systematic flow of information and date processes and procedures, and commitments or requirements for timely production and reporting of vital statistics.

B) the desired/to be business process

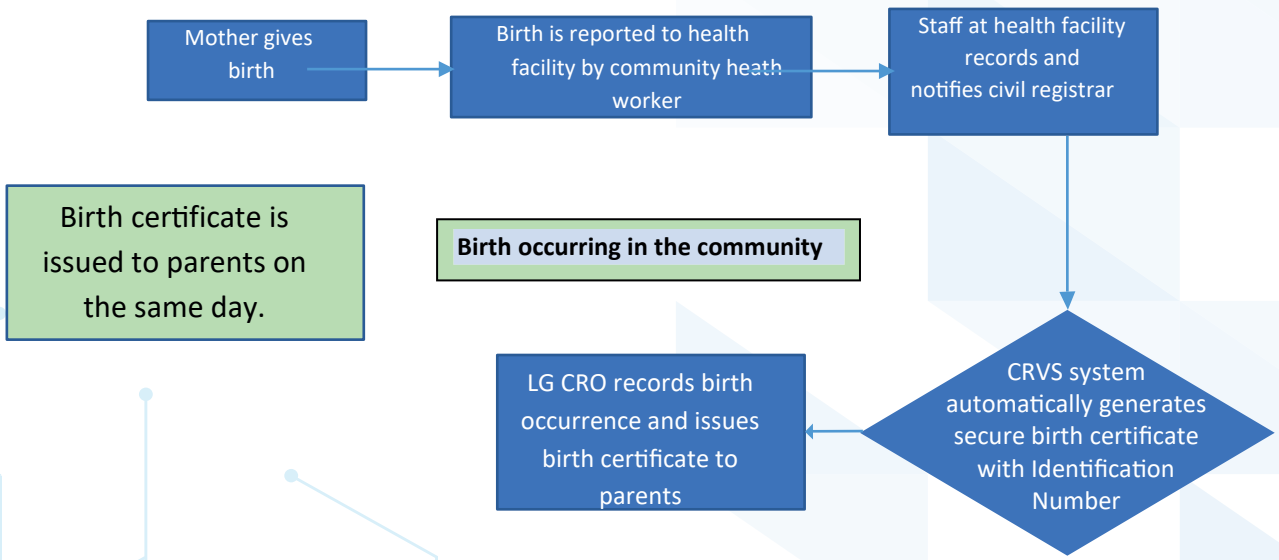
a) The desired business process for birth registration

Birth occurring at Health facilities	
1	Mother gives birth
2	Authorized staff at health facility records the event in the maternity register
3	Authorized staff at health facility notifies health facilities civil registrar through National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system
4	Health facility Civil Registrar confirms birth occurrence and the National centralized and Integrated CRVS system automatically generates Identification Number
5	National centralized and integrated CRVS system automatically generates secure birth certificate with Identification Number in an electronic system. Electronic system stores and archives birth certificate which can be issued at the district CRO
6	District Civil Registrar records birth occurrence and issues birth certificate
7	CRD will have access to National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system

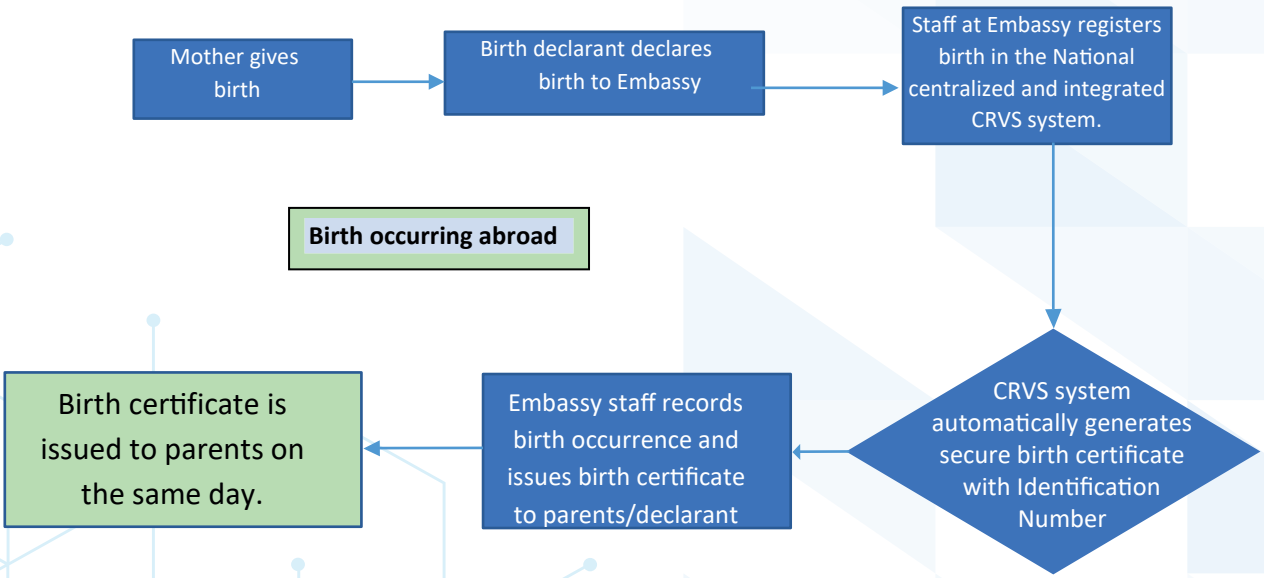
Figure 6: Desired or To-Be business process map for birth registration occurring at Health facilities



Birth occurring in the Community	
1	Mother gives birth
2	Authorized staff at health facility records the event in the maternity register
3	Authorized staff at health facility notifies health facilities civil registrar through National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system
4	Health facility Civil Registrar confirms birth occurrence and the National centralized and Integrated CRVS system automatically generates Identification Number
5	National centralized and integrated CRVS system automatically generates secure birth certificate with Identification Number in an electronic system. Electronic system stores and archives birth certificate which can be issued at the district CRO
6	District Civil Registrar records birth occurrence and issues birth certificate
7	CRD will have access to National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system



Birth occurring abroad	
1	Mother gives birth
2	Authorized staff at health facility records the event in the maternity register
3	Authorized staff at health facility notifies health facilities civil registrar through National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system
4	Health facility Civil Registrar confirms birth occurrence and the National centralized and Integrated CRVS system automatically generates Identification Number
5	National centralized and integrated CRVS system automatically generates secure birth certificate with Identification Number in an electronic system. Electronic system stores and archives birth certificate which can be issued at the district CRO
6	District Civil Registrar records birth occurrence and issues birth certificate
7	CRD will have access to National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system



b) The desired business process for death registration

Death occurring at health facilities	
1	Death occurs
2	Health facility records the death and cause of death in relevant hospital registers
3	Authorized staff at health facility notifies health facility's civil registrar through National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system
4	Health facility Civil registrar validates death notification in National centralized and integrated CRVS system
5	Health facility Civil registrar issues death certificate to death declarant
6	National centralized and integrated CRVS system automatically generates secure death certificate with the deceased person's ID No. in an electronic system. The system stores and archives death certificate which can be issued at the DCRO
7	CRD will have access to National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system

Death occurring in the community	
1	Death occurs
2	Relatives or local leaders issue death notification to declarant
3	Authorized CHW notifies health facility Civil Registrar and conducts verbal autopsy
4	Authorized staff at health facility notifies Health Facility Civil Registrar through National centralized and integrated CRVS system
5	Health facility Civil registrar validates death notification in National centralized and integrated CRVS system
6	National centralized and integrated CRVS system automatically generates secure death certificate with the deceased person's ID No. in an electronic system. The system stores and archives death certificate which can be issued at the DCRO
7	District Civil Registrar records the death in the district CR registry
8	CRD will have access to National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system

Death occurring abroad	
1	Death occurs
2	Authorized staff at Embassy/Consulate registers death and cause of death through National centralized and integrated CRVS system
3	National centralized and integrated CRVS system automatically generates Death Certificate and stores the copy of the death certificate in an electronic system
4	The Ambassador/Consular issues certificate to the death declarant
5	The Ambassador/Consular records birth in the paper-based system
6	CRD will have access to National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system

c) The desired business process for marriage registration

Marriage occurring within the country	
1	Death occurs
2	District Civil Registrar records marriage in National centralized and integrated CRVS system
3	The National centralized and integrated CRVS system automatically generates secure marriage certificate with ID Numbers of the couple and stores marriage data in the Electronic System
4	District Civil Registrar issues marriage certificate to married couple
5	District CRO records marriage in the paper-based system
6	CRD will have access to National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system

Marriage occurring abroad	
1	Ambassador/Consular records marriage in National centralized and integrated CRVS system
2	The National centralized and integrated CRVS system automatically generates secure marriage certificate and stores marriage data in Electronic System
3	Ambassador/Consular issues marriage certificate to married couple
4	CRD will have access to National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system

d) Desired business process model for divorce

Occurrence of divorce	
1	The district court decides divorce and issues divorce judgment
2	The Court notifies the District CRO on the divorce through the National Centralized and Integrated CRVS System
3	The DCRO validates divorce notification through National centralized and integrated CRVS system
4	The National centralized and integrated CRVS system automatically generates secure divorce certificate in the electronic system
5	District civil registrar issues divorce certificate
6	The Civil Registrar records divorce in the paper based system
7	CRD will have access to National Centralized and Integrated CRVS system

CHAPTER 3. STRATEGIC DIRECTION

3.1. Strategic Shift

The strategic direction is determined by the vision, mission and values for the desired CRVS system in Somalia. Defining the vision, mission, and values statements as essential elements for strategic planning establishes a clear linage between the current business process – As-it-is and the desired CRVS system – as-it-should-be with processes and mechanisms for an improved viable CRVS system.

3.2 Vision

The vision statement presents the main goal of Somalia's CRVS system, by taking recognizing the current state of the CRVS system and an indication of the direction where the system should be in the future. The vision statement addresses the complete dysfunctional CRVS system and guides all actions and activities of the CRVS functions of the key stakeholders:

To have a universal and complete registration of vital events in Somalia

This vision responds to strategic question, **"where do we want to be in 2029?"** This vision will be achieved through the establishment of a decentralized digital, well-functional, and well-coordinated CRVS System in Somalia.

3.3. Mission

The mission statement defines the reason why the establishment of Somalia's CRVS system is critical and it provides the 'how' to achieve the CRVS vision.

To provide legal identity and rights to individuals, and reliable and timely data for social and economic development

3.4. Core values

i. **National ownership and leadership:** This is to ensure the government's role in setting the vision and direction for the system, as well as coordinating and collaborating with international partners and donors. This ensures that the system is sustainable in the long term, with adequate resources and funding for its continued operation and improvement.

ii. **Equity and inclusivity:** The CRVS system in Somalia emphasizes the importance of including all individuals and will ensure that everyone has equal access to registration services and that their rights are protected.

iii. **Collaboration:** The CRVS system should foster collaboration and partnerships between government agencies, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders and they all have to work together to improve its effectiveness and reach.

iv. **Efficiency:** The CRVS system will be designed and implemented in a way that maximizes its effectiveness and minimizes any bureaucratic barriers. This includes using technology and streamlined processes to ensure timely and accurate registration and recording of vital events.

v. **Transparency and accountability:** The CRVS system should be transparent in its processes and procedures, ensuring that individuals understand how their personal information is being used and protected. The CRVS system should also be accountable to the government and the public for its operations and performance. This will include regular reporting and monitoring of the system's effectiveness to ensure that the system is free from corruption and misuse of resources.

vi. **Confidentiality:** The privacy and confidentiality of individuals' personal information should be respected and protected in the CRVS system. This includes safeguarding against unauthorized access and use of personal data.

vii. **Excellence and Innovation:** The CRVS system should embrace innovation and technology to improve its efficiency, accuracy, and accessibility.

3.5. Strategic outcomes

There are three major strategic outcomes that were identified during the consultation and brainstorming sessions among stakeholders for the improvement of CRVS system in Somalia and achieve the desired vision and mission.

Strategic outcome 1: Legal rights and privileges to all individuals

Goal statement 1.1. To have the legal framework that aligns with international practices.

- By 2029, Somalia will establish an inclusive and rights-based Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) system that safeguards the legal rights of its citizens by ensuring universal registration of vital events, promoting data privacy, and strengthening access to legal identity, thus enabling good governance, evidence-based decision-making, and the protection of individual rights.

- By 2029, Somalia will have established a robust legal framework and accessible legal services that ensure the protection of every individual's right and promote equal access to justice, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, social status, or economic background.

Goal statement 1.2. To increase the coverage of registrations of births, marriage, divorce and death registrations, including raise awareness of the population:

- Births: 95% birth notifications in all health facilities and 45% registration including delayed registration
- Death: 95% death notification in all health facilities and 45% registration in urban areas
- Marriage: 40% registration in urban areas
- Divorce: 25% registration in urban areas

Strategic outcome 2: Good governance and improved public services

Goal statement 2.1. To have in place an integrated and modern CRVS system that enhances good governance and accountability for better service delivery:

- By 2029, Somalia will have a well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) system that supports good governance and sustainable development.

- By 2029, Somalia's governance and administrative systems will be robust, transparent, and accountable, fostering public trust, civic participation, and the efficient delivery of services, in alignment with international best practices and standards.

Strategic outcome 3: Reliable and Harmonized Statistical information

Goal statement 3.1. Existence of operational integrated and modern CRVS system in all districts of the country that produces reliable statistics to enhance good governance and accountability for better service delivery:

- By 2029, vital statistics, including causes of death, are reliable and of high quality and available for use in evidence-based decisions and planning.

- By 2029, Somalia will establish a robust CRVS system that fosters good governance, upholds citizens' rights, and serves as a trusted source of evidence for informed decision-making. This system will ensure the accurate and timely registration of vital events, promote universal legal identity, and contribute to the nation's development and well-being.

3.6. Strategic Objectives

Table 1: Strategic Objectives and Strategic Outputs

Strategic Outcome 1: Legal rights and privileges to all individuals	
Strategic Objectives	**Strategic Outputs/activities**
1.1. To improve the legal and regulatory framework that are aligned with international practices.	• Develop, finalize and adopt detailed regulations for the implementation of the civil registration and vital statistics law • Enact and enforce civil registration & vital statistics law and regulations
1.2. To roll out nationwide coverage of civil registration and vital statistics services delivery to all by expanding CR service-points and outreach	• Roll out the setup of eCRVS system that is interoperable with other systems across all target districts and other systems • Enhance the capacity of the CR offices, hospitals, health centers, and community-based workers for the operationalization of the civil registration system to register vital events in the most effective and efficient manner; • Raise awareness and increase coverage of births, marriage, divorce and death registrations • Improve accessibility, affordability, and timeliness of services • Improve recording, storage, retrieval and archiving • Establish demand creation programmes for vital events registration using innovative approaches, such as mobile

Strategic Outcome 2: Good governance and improved public services	
Strategic Objectives	**Strategic Outputs**
To improve coordination among multi-sectoral stakeholders.	• Secure and strengthen political commitment • Institutionalize partnerships between line Ministries responsible for civil registration activities • Establish awareness, communication and demand creation programmes for CRVS • Streamline integration and collaboration with national, regional and international stakeholders
To build sustainable institutionalized CRVS system that has the capacity to deliver nationwide services to all.	• Establish and maintain interface mechanisms within the civil registration system for improved coordination of the CRVS system. • Strengthen political and technical partnerships for the CRVS • Increase the workforce for the new and existing CROs and develop Institutional Strengthening Plans (ISPs) on CRVS's sustainable capacity development for medium- and long-term services delivery. • Establish adequate physical infrastructure that involves construction of new office spaces or rehabilitation of the existing CR offices at all levels with the provision of office furniture and interoperable ICT equipment, including support to MoH to improve efficiency, collaboration and data harmonization.

Strategic Outcome 3: Reliable and Harmonized Statistical information	
1.1. To enhance the production and the dissemination of reliable and harmonized vital statistics	• Strengthen data collection and management system by using standardized robust data collection tools and procedures to ensure accurate and reliable vital statistics. • Provide mandatory provisions for death registration with cause of death certification by physician according to ICD-11 code • Develop unified training packages for MCOD for all Health professionals dealing with death verifications. • Engage with MoH and medical institutions to incorporate training on International medical certification of causes of death as part of medical and health science curriculum.

Enablers: Learning and growth	
Strategic Objectives	**Strategic Outputs/Activities**
Information Capital	• Establish and enhance interoperable ICT infrastructure and systems • Develop linkages with other information systems • Automation of CRVS processes • Establish a knowledge management system for CRVS • Standardize dissemination tools and platforms • Build integrated CRVS reporting system • Use mobile technology to reach remote areas
Human Capital	• Mainstream CRVS training in education and training institutions • Establish and sustain a civil education programme • Build a pool of experts in CRVS • Establish a sustainable and integrated training programme for CRVS
Organizational Capital	• Establish sustained CRVS capacity building programme • Organizational structure reforms • Establish a conducive physical environment • Create a service-oriented culture

3.7. Strategic Intent

The overarching strategic intent of Somalia's CRVS Strategic Plan (2024/2025 – 2027/2028) is to overcome the system's current weaknesses and create a functional, modernized civil registration system that offers users better services for registering occurrences of vital events and issues certificates quickly and affordably.

This strategic plan aims "To safeguard the rights of all persons by providing a modernized and a well-functioning CRVS system that is responsive to the needs of the all persons through quality, relevant, and timely registration of vital events and inform evidence-based decisions". Eventually, that leads to the attainment of the vision, "A modernized CRVS system that enables a lifetime holistic identification of individuals management.".

The mission envisages that by establishing a permanent, continuous, compulsory and nationwide civil registration and vital statistics system, the five identified strategic outcomes – (1) Modernization of Somalia's CRVS system, (2) Legal Identity Documents for all, (3) Inclusive Good Governance, Transparency and Accountability, (4) Reliable Civil Registration Records, and (5) South-South Cooperation for learning and growth – would be achieved by 2028.

3.8. Critical Success Factors

Recommendations on key actions needed for a well-functioning CRVS system are as summarized here:

Political commitment: Strong political will and commitment are essential for the success of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems. Governments must prioritize the development and implementation of CRVS systems to ensure accurate and timely data collection.

Legal and policy framework: A supportive legal and policy framework is crucial for the functioning of CRVS systems. This includes laws and regulations that mandate the registration of vital events, protect the privacy and confidentiality of personal data, and ensure the rights of individuals to be registered.

Infrastructure and resources: Adequate infrastructure, including technology, human resources, and financial resources, is necessary for the effective functioning of CRVS systems. This includes the availability of registration centers, trained staff, and reliable data management systems.

Stakeholder engagement: Collaboration and coordination among various stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organizations, and international partners, are critical for the success of CRVS systems. Engaging with communities and raising awareness about the importance of registration is also essential.

Capacity building: Continuous training and capacity building for staff involved in CRVS systems are essential to ensure the accuracy and completeness of vital event registration.

Monitoring and evaluation: Regular monitoring and evaluation of CRVS systems are necessary to identify gaps and challenges and to make necessary improvements. This includes the use of data

quality assessments, performance indicators, and feedback mechanisms from users.

Innovation and technology: Leveraging innovative technologies, such as mobile registration units and digital registration systems, can improve the efficiency and coverage of CRVS systems.

Data use and dissemination: Ensuring that the collected data is used for evidence-based decision-making and disseminated to relevant stakeholders is crucial for the impact of CRVS systems on public health and development initiatives.

Inclusivity and equity: CRVS systems should be designed and implemented in a way that ensures inclusivity and equity, reaching all segments of the population, including marginalized communities and IDP's.

Data protection and privacy: Safeguards should be in place to protect the privacy and confidentiality of personal data collected through CRVS systems, in accordance with international data protection standards.

Public awareness and education: Raising public awareness about the importance of vital event registration and educating individuals about their rights and responsibilities in the registration process can help increase registration rates.

Integration with other systems: Integration of CRVS systems with other relevant systems, such as health information systems and social protection programs, can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of data collection and use.

Disaster response and emergency preparedness: CRVS systems should have mechanisms in place to ensure the timely registration of vital events during emergencies and disasters, to support response efforts and ensure the protection of individuals' rights.

International cooperation and support: International cooperation and support, including technical assistance and funding from development partners, can help strengthen CRVS systems.

3.9. Strategic Risks

Strategies are built on assumptions and are susceptible to uncertainty. Strategic risks can arise from both external and internal factors, causing disruptions and hindering the organization's ability to achieve its goals. To mitigate these risks, it is crucial to identify them and increase the organization's understanding of them. Regular monitoring and evaluation of performance are key in managing strategic risks and ensuring alignment with the overall strategy.

Strategic risk	Impact of risk on outcome	Risk management strategy
Inadequate legal and policy framework	Without clear legal and policy frameworks in place, CRVS systems may face challenges in its implementation and in coordinating with other relevant systems.	Inadequate legal and policy framework
Lack of coordination between Donor partners with different mandates	May result in duplication of efforts or creating gaps due to competing priorities and therefore impacts negatively on the outcomes	Establish a donor coordination mechanism through partnership forum which also include the Steering Committee.
Weak political will and commitment	Without strong support from government and other stakeholders, CRVS systems may struggle to receive the necessary resources and attention to effectively function	Advocacy within the government and stakeholders to prioritize the development and implementation of CRVS systems.
Insufficient funding and resources	Limited financial resources and inadequate infrastructure can hinder the development and maintenance of CRVS systems, leading to incomplete or inaccurate data.	Develop resource mobilization plan and build relationships with potential donors.
Natural disasters and emergencies	CRVS systems may face disruptions during natural disasters or emergencies, impacting the timely registration of vital events and the ability to support response efforts.	Inadequate legal and policy framework
Inadequate coordination and collaboration among stakeholders	Poor coordination and collaboration among different government agencies, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders can lead to duplication of efforts and inefficient use of resources within CRVS systems.	Foster formal partnerships between different stakeholders with clear roles and responsibilities.
Frequent changes in leadership and high turnover rates among CRVS staff in government institutions.	May reduce the high momentum for CRVS reform journey.	Enhance the competence of the existing workforce and build a solid team of experts.

3.10. Resource considerations for improvement of CRVS

Key resource considerations for improvement of the CRVS include:

a. Funding environment and requirements to realize the strategic objectives: Adequate funding is necessary to support the development, implementation, and maintenance of CRVS systems. This includes funding for infrastructure, technology solutions, training programs, and ongoing operational costs. While the governments may allocate funds from their national budgets, external funding from international organizations or donors, to secure the necessary resources.

b. Human resource environment and requirements to realize the strategic objectives: The human resource environment for CRVS systems requires a skilled and dedicated workforce with expertise in various areas. This includes professionals trained in data collection, registration, data management, analysis, and policy development. Adequate staffing levels are necessary to ensure the efficient functioning of CRVS systems, as well as ongoing training and capacity building programs to enhance the skills and knowledge of the workforce.

c. Physical environment and requirements to realize the strategic objectives: The physical environment for CRVS systems includes the infrastructure needed to support data collection, storage, and analysis. This may involve the establishment of registration offices, data centers, and secure storage facilities. Additionally, reliable communication networks and transportation systems are required to facilitate the timely collection and dissemination of vital statistics data.

d. Technology environment and requirements to realize the strategic objectives: The technology environment for CRVS systems includes the hardware, software, and communication networks necessary to support data collection, storage, and analysis. This involves computer systems, mobile devices, databases, software applications, and secure communication networks. The technology requirements also include ensuring data security and privacy protection measures are in place to safeguard sensitive personal information. Continuous investment in technology infrastructure and regular updates are necessary to keep up with evolving technological advancements and maintain the effectiveness of CRVS systems.

CHAPTER 4. STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION AND ACTION PLAN

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

4.1. Purpose of the Strategy Implementation Plan

The implementation plan for Somalia's CRVS Strategic Plan (2024/2025 - 2028/2029) is crucial for translating the strategic goals and objectives into actionable steps. By adopting a balanced scorecard approach, key stakeholders can clarify their vision, mission, and strategy as outlined in the strategy map.

By providing a clear guide for stakeholders, the implementation plan helps them understand their roles and responsibilities, track progress, and make any necessary adjustments to achieve the desired outcomes. Additionally, it ensures that actions taken align with the overall strategic direction and promotes a culture of continuous improvement by encouraging learning, innovation, and the sharing of best practices.

To implement the CRVS Strategic Plan, the department of CRVS will conduct planning sessions with all stakeholders at the federal, state, and district levels. The stakeholders include representatives from health, civil registration, statistics, planning, and justice sectors, as well as civil society, development partners, and other relevant actors. The purpose of these sessions is to develop and adopt an Annual Work Plan (AWP) for each year of the strategic plan.

4.2. Five-Year Improvement Plan

The most critical aspect of the formulation of Somalia's CRVS Strategic Planning process is the processes of identifying strategic interventions in responding to strategic issues and weaknesses of the Somalia's CRVS system. These strategic interventions were considered to respond to strategic issues in Legal and policy framework, Management and organization, Human Resources, ICT management, monitoring & evaluation, birth & cause of death registration processes and practices, CoD Operation - Processes and Practices, Advocacy, Infrastructure, Database, vital statistics, and demand of CRVS services.

The details of each of these strategic interventions in activities by responding to strategic issues will be set out separately in the Annual Work Plan but not in this document.

As per the resources allocated to CRVS through government's national window and budget support from the humanitarian and development actors, Annual Work Plans (AWPs), with more details on activities, targets, timetables and budgets will be prepared every year by the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MOIFAR) of the Federal Government of Somalia in close collaboration with the CRVS Technical Working Group (TWG) and approved by the CRVS Steering Committee. The costing of the activities outlined in the AWP will be categorized into phases with scale up approach.

All strategic objectives and the associated outputs were taken into account and costed. It is projected that the cost for implementing this plan over the five years period is about **US $ 22,435,000 (Twenty-two Million, four hundred and thirty dollars ONLY).** Summary of the cost of implementing the CRVS improvement plan is given in Table 7.

Table 7: Summary of cost of implementing strategic objectives

Strategic Outcome	Costs In USD						
	Strategic Objectives	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	Total
1. Legal rights and privileges to all individuals		**3,250,000**	**1,820,000**	**1,280,000**	**1,300,000**	**1,880,000**	**9,530,000**
1.1.	To improve the legal and regulatory framework that are aligned with international practices.	750,000	120,000	80000	100,000	590,000	1,640,000
1.2.	To roll out nationwide coverage of civil registration and vital statistics services delivery to all by expanding CR service-points and outreach	2,500,000	1,700,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,290,000	7,890,000
2. Good governance and improved public services		**1,450,000**	**1,350,000**	**595,000**	**940,000**	**1,050,000**	**5,385,000**
2.1.	To improve coordination among multi-sectoral stakeholders.	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	250,000	1,650,000
2.2.	To build sustainable institutionalized CRVS system that has the capacity to deliver nationwide services to all	550,000	450,000	75,000	50,000	350,000	1,475,000
2.3.	To promote collaborative approach in civil registration and vital statistics services between federal, state, and district administrations	550,000	550,000	170,000	540,000	450,000	2,260,000
3. Reliable and Harmonized Statistical information		**650,000**	**320,000**	**380,000**	**320,000**	**320,000**	**$1,990,000**
3.1.	To enhance the production and the dissemination of reliable and harmonized vital statistics	650,000	320,000	380,000	320,000	320,000	1,990,000
4. Enablers: Learning and growth		**1,420,000**	**1,080,000**	**1,230,000**	**1,050,000**	**750,000**	**5,530,000**
4.1.Information Capital		120,000	230,000	80,000	100,000	200,000	730,000
4.2.Human Capital		800,000	550,000	850,000	550,000	350,000	3,100,000
4.3.Organizational Capital		500,000	300,000	300,000	400,000	200,000	1,700,000
Grand Total		**6,770,000**	**4,570,000**	**3,485,000**	**3,610,000**	**4,000,000**	**22,435,000**

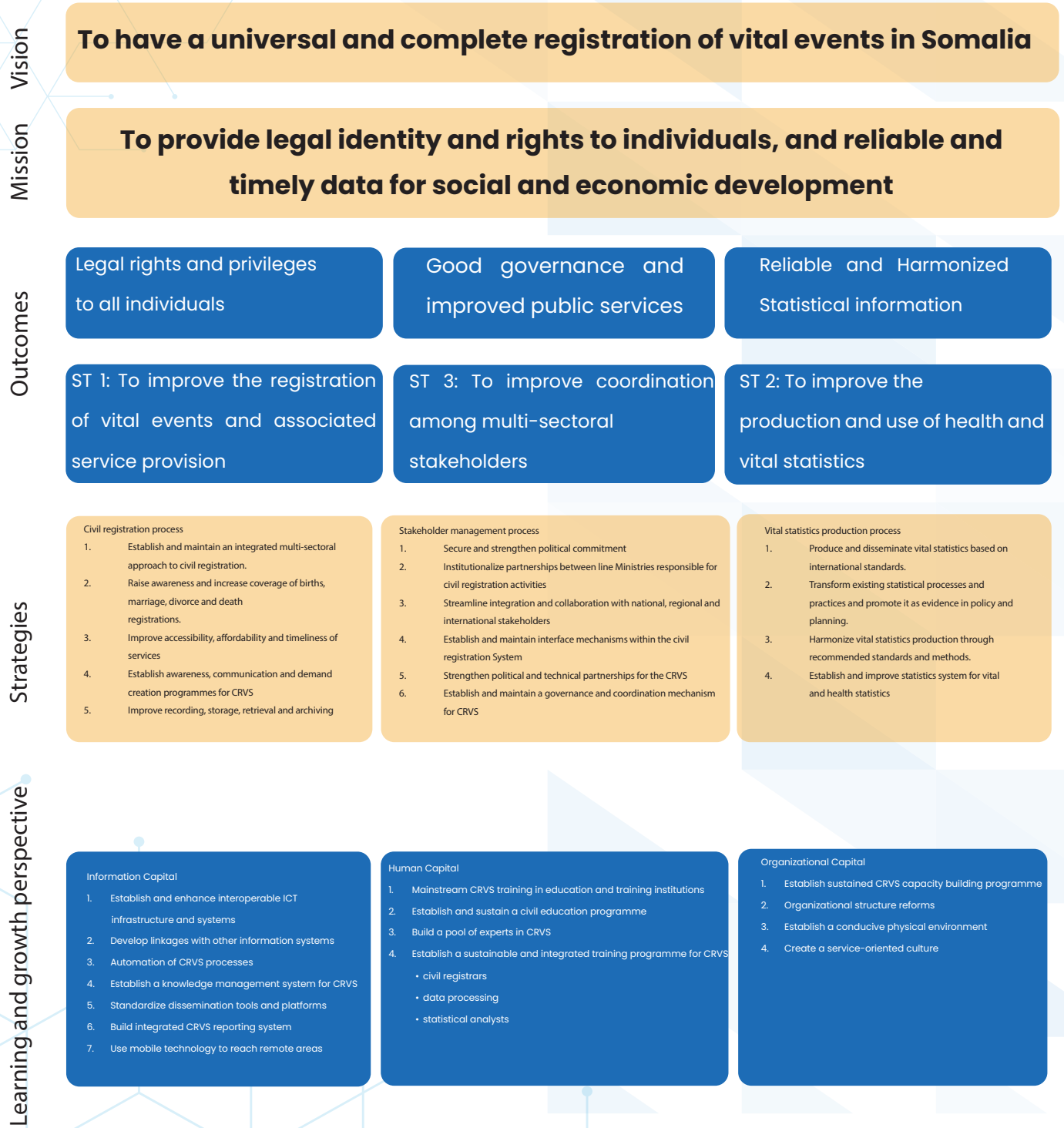
4.3. Strategy Map

The figure below outlines our strategy map which is a dynamic visual tool that describes and communicates our strategic plan. The diagram presents what needs to be done in order to effectively execute the identified strategies.

It also facilitates a balanced approach to our strategy formulation process by ensuring that the strategic objectives cover all strategic aspects within the CRVS system and gives an overview of how MOIFAR, MoH, districts and other key stakeholders, including humanitarian and development partners, collectively aim to achieve the desired vision, "To have a universal and complete registration of vital events in Somalia."

The diagram presents the chain of causes and effects that would lead to the desired strategic outcomes, which in turn would bring the fulfillment of the desired vision and mission. In this strategy map, the three strategic outcomes and their corresponding strategic objectives are coded with same color to show their linkages. The enablers and their strategic objectives are common to each of the strategic outcomes.

Figure 6: CRVS System Improvement Strategy Map



4.4. Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

The improvement plan for Somalia's CRVS System will be measured through monitoring and evaluation plan that provides the opportunity to measure the progress of the strategy implementation, achieved objectives and provide means to periodically assess the critical stages of the strategy implementation and the link between key stakeholders, and users.

4.5. Monitoring and reporting

The Department of the CRVS System under the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs ad Reconciliation (MOIFAR) of the Federal Government of Somalia will develop a result framework that contain the list of indicators to continuously be monitored to measure the accomplishment of all outputs to identify CRVS system improvements and, if necessary, implement modifications. Under each output, there are indicators that are either qualitative or quantitative and sources of information on the indicator are also identified.

An integral part of measuring the progress and performance of the CRVS system is the monitoring of the day-to-day activities of the all actors involved in the implementation of the CRVS Strategic Plan which involve frequent filed visits to the service points, regional offices, and to the center - department of the CRVS of the ministry. The reporting of the CRVS progress will be guided by the monitoring mechanisms that were put in place to routinely identify where and what need to be changed in order to make the information being collected is meaningful. The information gathered from all locations with the results of the review of the system will be analyzed and presented to the relevant stakeholders.

4.6. Evaluation

The Department of the CRVS System under MOIFAR of the Federal Government of Somalia intends to develop an evaluation plan that will utilize the findings of the comprehensive assessment as a baseline and conduct two times evaluation eservices, at the middle and end of the implementation phase of the Strategic Plan.

4.7. Conclusion

- The Somalia's overall strategic intent of this Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Strategic Plan (2024 – 2029) is to contribute to the significant change of the current weak civil registration and vital statistics system process and establish a viable system where users are provided a one-stop service for registering occurrence of their vital events and providing certificates at less cost and within the shortest possible time.

- This strategic plan aims to achieve its mission "To provide legal identity and rights to individuals, and reliable and timely data for social and economic development by 2029 through a well-functioning CRVS system that will eventually lead to the attainment of the vision "To have a universal and complete registration of vital events in Somalia".
- The political buy-in from National Consultative Council (NCC) agreement offers a great opportunity to translate their vision into a Strategic Plan that establishes a coordinated, complete, timely and inclusive CRVS system that continuously records all vital events occurring in the country, provides legal identity and produces reliable vital statistics in realization of Somalia's CRVS vision.

- The records of vital events for individuals have numerous administrative and governmental uses. This information is crucial for national identification and the electoral systems. In terms of the electoral system, it ensures precise and current lists of eligible voters at different levels, including district and village levels.

- Death records serve as legal proof that can be used to support claims related to inheritance, property, insurance benefits, and the ability of a spouse to remarry. Likewise, marriage and divorce certificates are essential records that protect the rights of the family by determining their share of the inheritance, maintenance support and the right to marry again. Additionally, Information on the cause of death is crucial in informing policy decisions and conducting medical research on the primary causes of mortality within the country.

- The data collected from vital events registration is crucial in social development planning, which involves a wide range of areas including the implementation of public health programs, improvement of maternal and child wellbeing, enhancement of education, and fostering economic growth.

- In conclusion, it is of utmost importance to actively engage with stakeholders and development partners. Given that establishing a functional civil registration system is a lengthy process, it is recommended that this document be treated as a dynamic plan that is regularly updated to incorporate any adjustments that may be necessary during the implementation phases.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Detailed Implementation and Budget Plan

Strategic Goals	Costs in Million (USD)									
	Strategic Objectives	Activities	Responsible party	Partners	2024/ 2025	2025/ 2026	2026/ 2027	2027/ 2028	2028/ 2029	Total
Strategic Outcome 1. Legal rights and privileges to all individuals					**3.250**	**1.820**	**1.280**	**1.300**	**1.880**	**9.530**
By 2029, Somalia envisions to we want to achieve to establish a robust legal framework and accessible legal services and the increase of registration coverage for · Births: 95% birth notifications in all health facilities and 45% registration in urban areas · Death: 95% death notification in all health facilities and 45% registration in urban areas · Marriage: 40% registration in urban areas · Divorce: 25% registration in urban areas	To improve the legal and regulatory framework that are aligned with international practices.	Develop, finalize and adopt detailed regulations for the implementation of the civil registration and vital statistics law	MOIFAR		0.45	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.3	0.85
		Enact and enforce civil registration & vital statistics law and regulations	MOIFAR		0.30	0.1	0.03	0.07	0.29	0.79
	To roll out nationwide coverage of civil registration and vital statistics services delivery to all by expanding CR service-points and outreach	Roll out the setup of eCRVS system that is interoperable with other systems across all target districts and other systems	MOIFAR/FMS/BRA/ LGs		0.70	0.18	0.3	0.36	0.35	1.89
		Raise awareness and increase coverage of births, marriage, divorce and death registrations: · Conduct workshops, seminars, and community meetings · Utilize media channels such as television, radio, and social media · Engage influential community leaders, religious figures, and local celebrities · Conduct outreach to remote areas, IDP camps · Build partnenershipr with NGOs and civil society organizations	MOIFAR/FMS/BRA/ LGs		0.5	0.15	0.36	0.3	0.24	1.55
		Improve accessibility, affordability, and timeliness of services	MOIFAR/FMS/BRA/ LGs		0.3	0.10	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.81
		Improve recording, storage, retrieval and archiving	MOIFAR/FMS/BRA/ LGs		0.35	0.95	0.11	0.11	0.1	1.62
		Establish demand creation programmes for vital events registration using innovative approaches, such as mobile technology and social media, to increase the reach and effectiveness of CRVS service delivery.	MOIFAR/FMS/BRA/ LGs		0.35	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.2	1.00
		Enhance the capacity of the CR offices, hospitals, health centers, and community-based workers for the operationalization of the civil registration system to register vital events in the most effective and efficient manner;	MOIFAR/FMS/BRA/ LGs		0.3	0.17	0.15	0.15	0.25	1.02

2. Good governance and improved public services			**1.450**	**1.350**	**0.595**	**0.940**	**1.050**	**5.385**
By 2029, Somalia will have a well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) system that supports good governance and sustainable development.	To improve coordination among multi-sectoral stakeholders.	Secure and strengthen political commitment	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.1	0.01	0.6
		Institutionalize partnerships between line Ministries responsible for civil registration activities	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.1	0.1	0.55
		Establish awareness, communication and demand creation programmes for CRVS services	0.1	0.1	0.15	0.1	0.1	0.7
		Streamline integration and collaboration with national, regional and international stakeholders	0.05	0.05	0.1	0.05	0.04	
	To build sustainable institutionalized CRVS system that has the capacity to deliver nationwide services to all	Establish and maintain interface mechanisms within the civil registration system for improved coordination of the CRVS system.	0.05	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.1	0.29
		Build political and technical partnerships for the CRVS	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.21
		Increase the workforce for the new and existing CROs and develop Institutional Strengthening Plans (ISPs) on CRVS's sustainable capacity development for medium- and long-term services delivery.	0.15	0.23	0.03	0.02	0.1	0.44
		Establish adequate physical infrastructure that involves construction of new office spaces or rehabilitation of the existing CR offices at all levels with the provision of office furniture and interoperable ICT equipment, including support to MoH to improve efficiency, collaboration and data harmonization.	0.3	0.15	0.01	0.01	0.1	0.85
	To promote collaborative approach in civil registration and vital statistics services between federal, state, and district administrations	Enhance the engagement of the coordination forums by regularly updating them on the progress and new developments of the CRVS system.	0.3	0.3	0.05	0.29	0.15	0.82
		Strengthen the collaboration between the CRVS Department and key stakeholders with establishment of clear roles and responsibilities.	0.15	0.15	0.05	0.15	0.15	0.47
		Design database system that facilitates data sharing between different agencies and departments, leading to better coordination and collaboration in the implementation of CRVS activities.	0.1	0.1	0.07	0.1	0.15	0.46
3. Reliable and Harmonized Statistical information			**0.650**	**0.320**	**0.380**	**0.320**	**0.320**	**1.990**
By 2029, Somalia's vital statistical information that include causes of death are reliable and available for evidence-based decisions.	To enhance the production and the dissemination of reliable and harmonized vital statistics	Strengthen data collection and management system by using standardized robust data collection tools and procedures to ensure accurate and reliable vital statistics.	0.20	0.05	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.42
		Provide mandatory provisions for death registration with cause of death certification by physician according to ICD-11 code	0.10	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.27
		Develop unified training packages for MCOD for all Health professionals dealing with death verifications.	0.10	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.31
		Engage with MoH and medical institutions to incorporate training on International medical certification of causes of death as part of medical and health science curriculum.	0.25	0.18	0.20	0.18	0.18	0.99
4. Enablers: Learning and growth			**1.420**	**1.080**	**1.230**	**1.050**	**0.750**	**5.530**
4.1. Information Capital		Establish and enhance interoperable ICT infrastructure and systems	0.02	0.35	0.25	0.15	0.13	0.9
		Develop linkages with other information systems	0.02	0.25	0.25	0.14	0.11	0.77
		Automation of CRVS processes	0.02	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.42
		Establish a knowledge management system for CRVS	0.01	0.05	0.15	0.15	0.05	0.41
		Standardize dissemination tools and platforms	0.02	0.01	0.1	0.1	0.03	0.26
		Build integrated CRVS reporting system	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.02	0.09
		Use mobile technology to reach remote areas	0.02	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.24
4.2. Human Capital		Mainstream CRVS training in education and training institutions	0.10	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.42
		Establish and sustain a civil education programme	0.30	0.02	0.06	0.06	0.02	0.46
		Build a pool of experts in CRVS	0.20	0.01	0.05	0.05	0.01	0.32
		Establish a sustainable and integrated training programme for CRVS: 1. civil registrars 2. data processing 3. statistical analyst	0.20	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.32
4.3. Organizational Capital		Establish sustained CRVS capacity building programme	0.15	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.29
		Organizational structure reforms	0.10	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.18

Annex 1: Logical Framework

Strategic Outcome	Strategic Objective	Output	Indicator	Baseline	Target by 2028/2029	Source
Strategic Outcome 1: Legal rights and privileges to all individuals						
	To improve the legal and regulatory framework that are aligned with international practices.	Detailed regulations for the implementation of the civil registration and vital statistics law is adopted.	Number of CR instruments, regulations, and directives developed, approved, enacted, and disseminated;	• Law No. 22 UN Trusteeship • family law No. 23 of 1975	• Births: 95% birth notifications in all health facilities and 45% registration in urban areas • Death: 95% death notification in all health facilities and 45% registration in urban areas • Marriage: 40% registration in urban areas • Divorce: 25% registration in urban areas	- CR records - CR database - Parliament sessions briefing reports
		Civil registration & vital statistics law and regulations are enacted and enforced.	# of advocacy meetings organized to seek buy-in from the legislators and stakeholders for the enactment and enforcement of CR law and regulations.	0		
	To roll out nationwide coverage of civil registration and vital statistics services delivery to all by expanding CR service-points and outreach	eCRVS system that is interoperable with other systems across all target districts and other systems has been established.	Number of civil registration offices established/supported with the improvement plans with eCRVS system.	24 CR offices	92 CR offices	
		Improve recording, storage, retrieval and archiving				
		The awareness raising coverage on births, marriage, divorce and death registrations for the public increased.	Number of districts reached with awareness raising events and outreach campaigns conducted.	0	92 CR offices	
		Establish demand creation programmes for vital events registration using innovative approaches, such as mobile technology and social media, to	Number CRVS related innovation initiatives implemented	0	92 CR offices expansion	
2. Good governance and improved public services						
	To improve coordination among multi-sectoral stakeholders.	The CRVS coordination mechanism is strengthened.	Number of coordination mechanisms and structures at all levels strengthened.	1 Steering committee 1 TWG	• By 2029, Somalia will have 92 civil registration offices with well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) system that supports good governance and sustainable development.	Coordination meeting reports
		District-level and state-level coordination mechanisms established.	# of coordination meetings or forums organized between districts and state authorities for effective and efficient CRVS services delivery to all individuals.	0		Coordination meeting reports
	To build sustainable institutionalized CRVS system that has the capacity to deliver nationwide services to all	. Interlinkages between CRVS and other relevant institutions and ministries established.	# of institutions and ministries created working relationships at all levels.	0		Progress reports Inclusive engagement forums/meeting reports
	To promote collaborative approach in civil registration and vital statistics services between federal, state, and district administrations	CRVS system institutionalized to deliver nationwide CR services for all	Number of health facilities and courts adopted the use of the new digitalized CRVS system.	0		CRVS progress reports
			Number of district registrars, health facility, and court professionals trained on the use of the digitalized CRVS system to issue notifications	0		Training reports
			Number of life events counted and recorded.	0		Vital statistics reports CR records
			% Of CRVS services delivery increased.	10%		CRVS annual reports

3. Reliable and Harmonized Statistical information						
	To enhance the production and the dissemination of reliable and harmonized vital statistics	CR offices and health facilities adopted interoperable data collection and management system for accurate and reliable vital statistics.	# of health facilities received system upgrade software and hardware support.	0%	By 2029, Somalia's vital statistical information that include causes of death are reliable and available for evidence-based decisions.	CR records
		Health facilities institutionalized the use of ICD10 & the international form of death certificate as mandatory provisions for death registration with cause of death certification by physician	# of medical staff trained on the use of ICD10 & the international form of death certification.	0%		• MoH • Medical facilities
			Number of health facilities adopted standardization and institutionalization of certifications of the causes of death.	0		
		Unified training packages is developed for MCOD for all Health professionals dealing with death verifications.	Number of health facilities trained their medical staff on the medical certifications of the causes of death.	0		Training reports
		Vital statistics are produced and disseminated using civil registration records namely births, deaths, and civil activities like marriages and divorces.	# of reports and other publications produced and disseminated.	0		Annual reports Vital statistics publications
		Inclusive engagements are convened with various stakeholders to roll out the teachings of International medical certification of causes of death as part of medical and health science curriculum.	% of universities and institutes committed to include Medical certification of COD as their professional development courses	0		Meeting minutes Forums reports Workshop reports

References

"World Population Prospects 2022". UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division.

UNHABITAT Urban Population (2018)

FGS MoH, every newborn action plan, page 4

UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation 2020

Somalia Health Demographic Survey report, 2020

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, FEDERAL AFFAIRS AND RECONCILIATION

AGAASINKA DAD-DHIGIDDA

CIVIL REGISTRATION DIRECTORATE