

**Bloomberg
Philanthropies**



**DATA FOR
HEALTH INITIATIVE**

Ghana CRVS Digitisation Project

Long-Term Vision for CRVS Digitisation

Long-Term Vision for CRVS Digitisation

The CRVS Strategic Plan sets out objectives for strengthening the CRVS system in Ghana. A number of these objectives refer directly to the use of ICT and others imply that automated processes and digitisation is required. The following list represents a vision of the future ICT systems to support CRVS in Ghana, as derived from these strategic objectives. This vision will be used as stakeholder expectations during the CRVS Digitisation Project and specifically for developing future system requirements.

1. Harmonisation

- Common ICT platform for the registration of all vital events (birth, death, marriage, divorce), including early and late registration processes. Note that annulment and separation etc are also important vital events, however, they are not considered for the first phase of CRVS digitization.
- Regulatory compliance and reduction of regional variations through standardisation of automated process and rules.
- Enforcement of standard operating procedures and guidelines through standardised electronic processes.

2. Operational efficiency

- Reduction in the overall time taken to conduct the civil registration process and create vital statistics.
- Optimize and build capacity in human resources required to achieve efficiency.
- Improved efficiency of mobile registration units to increase their coverage and impact.
- Efficient use of existing resources, including several cadres of volunteers working in the community and through coordination across agencies.
- Collaboration between stakeholders such as health, telecoms, and Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs).
- Consistent communication and informant referrals between government agencies e.g. NIA and BDR.

3. Interoperability

- Health information systems used as a source of civil registration notifications for birth and death.
- Civil Registry System to provide source data for the National Identification System.
- Unique identifier generated within the National Identification System for data integrity between vital events in the Civil Registry System related to the same person.
- Civil Registry System to provide a continuous and consistent source of administrative data for the creation of vital statistics tabulations and reports.
- Comparison and alignment of the vital statistics produced by GSS, GHS, BDR, RGD, Judiciary Services and NIA.
- Birth certificate as the only accepted proof of birth used for registration of National ID.

4. Data Quality

- Electronic capture of vital events data immediately or shortly after the vital event occurs.
- System validation of vital events data entry.

- Data quality monitoring tool in the Civil Registry System so that data quality issues can be addressed early.
- Early warning system for data quality issues.
- Cross-check of entered and produced data with other government systems.

5. Coverage

- Extend the reach of Service Delivery Points through mobile technology and mobile registration points.
- Multiple sources of vital event notification at institutional and non-institutional sites (online, health, mobile).
- Civil Registration System supports active registration, bringing registration to citizens.
- Joint active registration between government agencies e.g. NIA and BDR during registration drives.

6. Automation / digitisation

- Reduced requirement for a continuous supply of stationery and forms.
- Reduced physical storage requirements in the system.
- Reduced need to transport data physically between locations.
- Reduced burden on human resources through automated processes, making them available for value-added activities.
- Specific tools for capturing accurate cause of death inside and outside the health facility.
- Permanent digitized archive of all vital event records (including existing paper-based records).
- Representation and utilization of VS source data, tables and outputs in electronic formats.
- Automated dissemination of VS reports to consumers.

7. Reliability and maintenance

- Civil Registration System are easily maintained by available capacity.
- Common application maintenance and support across Civil Registration actors.
- Continuity of service and disaster recovery.

8. Security

- Systems and user authentication to ensure data is only received from authentic sources.
- User role-based access and auditing to avoid misuse and fraud.
- Civil Registration System promotes process transparency to avoid internal and external fraud.
- Security and confidentiality of personal data is ensured.
- Failsafe procedures to guarantee data integrity.
- Registration with the data protection agency so that the project is mindful of the data protection law.

9. Monitoring

- Monitoring system to provide alerts on security threats and fraudulent entries.
- Performance management dashboard to show measures of coverage, data quality and user satisfaction (including public, staff....) for follow-up and action.
- Systems monitoring to ensure prompt response to technical failures.

10. Sustainability

- Facilitated collection of existing and new service revenues.
- Minimized internal cost of services due to human and physical resources.
- Flexible to work within the infrastructure and connectivity context of rural Ghana.
- Reduced reliance on volunteers for sustainable service.
- Flexible to include new or modified functionalities.
- Avoid proprietary arrangements that will not allow government to change the system if needed at an affordable cost.

11. User centric

- User centric systems promote usability and accessibility.
- Informative user feedback and awareness through mobile services.

12. Accessibility of data

- Vital statistics should be open and accessible to all authorised users