

POOLING TOGETHER for Gender Statistics

*Financing the Numbers
that make Women and Girls Count*

Gender in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

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Did you know?

- About 230 million, or 35% of children under the age of 5 do not have registered births. Most of these children are in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Globally, two-thirds (38 million) of 56 million annual deaths are still not registered.
- More than 100 developing countries still do not have functioning systems that can support complete registration of births, marriages, divorce and death.



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Civil registration is a foundational system

- that can provide sex disaggregated data of the whole population based on recording and registration of vital events at the time of occurrence and at the earliest stage in life.
- provides governments with means of assessing progress towards achieving:
 - Gender equality
 - Agenda 2030
 - Africa's Agenda 2063 – Africa, we want.
- Gender equality in policy and strategy formulation, can be confirmed through a universal and continuous legal identity of the population provided through CRVS system from birth to death.



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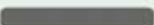


Gender Equality: Monitoring the SDGs

Of the 54 explicitly gender-related indicators, 34 benefit from CRVS data

Gender-related SDG indicators that need CRVS



 Don't need CRVS
 Need CRVS

Note: This tabulation includes 54 gender-related indicators identified by UN Women. Indicators requiring CRVS identified by Open Data Watch.



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Birth registration and Gender

With a birth certificate it is easier to access crucial services.

Crucial for women who are already disadvantaged:

- single mothers
- Widows
- Migrants
- Refugees
- minority ethnic or religious groups, who may already find it difficult to exercise their rights or access services.



Death registration and Gender

- Death registration - used to improve health policies that impact women.
- When deaths are not registered it can be more difficult for families to inherit, or for the surviving spouse to legally remarry.



Marriage- divorce registration and Gender

- Contributes to a woman's ability to inherit property and other assets.
- Divorce certificates facilitate access to a pension, alimony, child support, and a fair share of the assets acquired in marriage.
- Marriage registration can help prevent child marriage by proving the age of the child upon marriage.



CRVS opens doors for women and girls

Exclusion of Women and girls from population data makes them 'invisible,' and the lack of legal identity exacerbates their vulnerability to poverty, abuse, and exploitation.



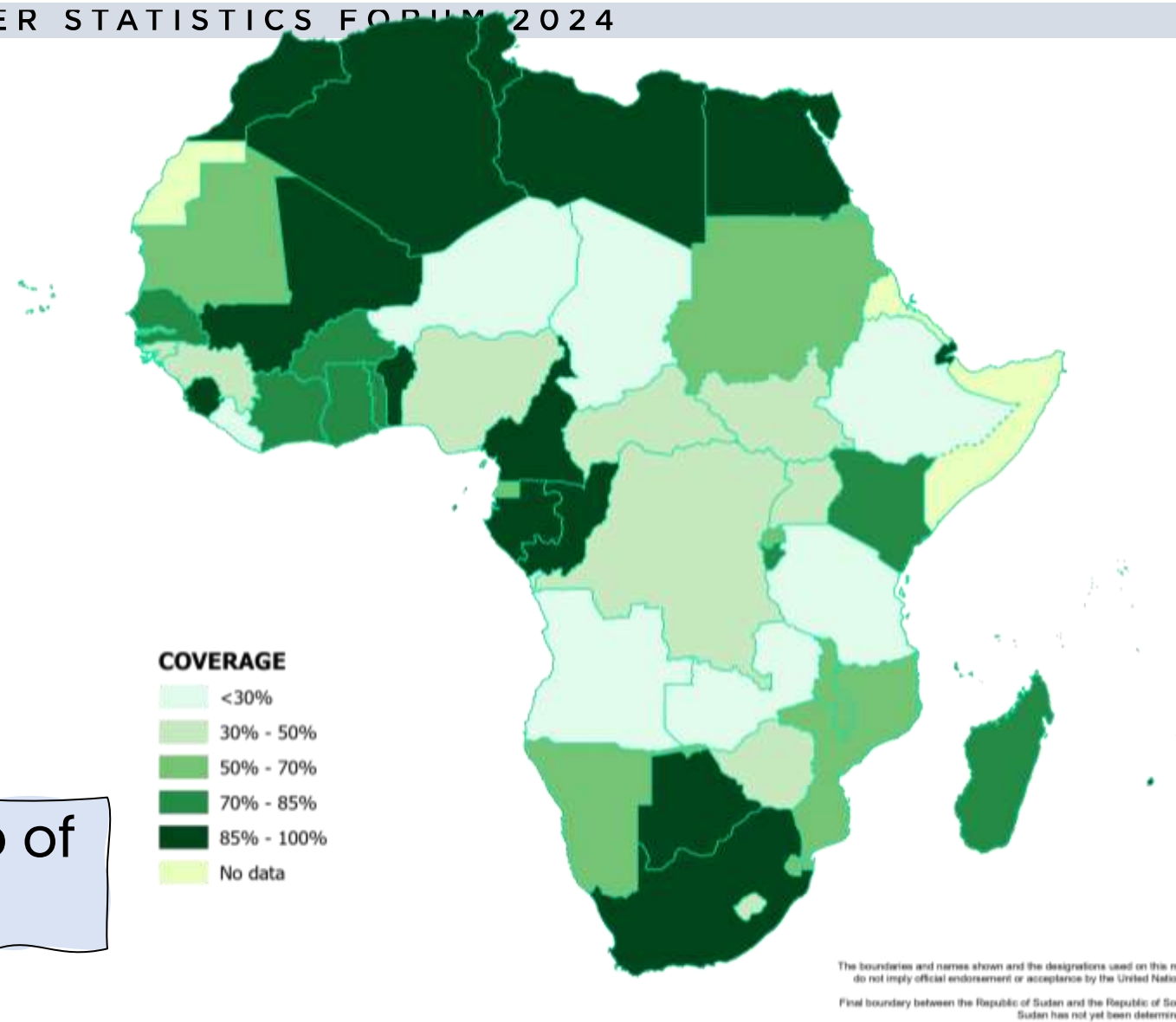
Barriers still exist

- In many countries women face inequalities and gendered barriers to registration.
- Not only does this keep women and girls locked out of rights and services, it also limits the overall accuracy of CRVS data.



BIRTH CERTIFICATE OWNERSHIP (Foundational Identity)

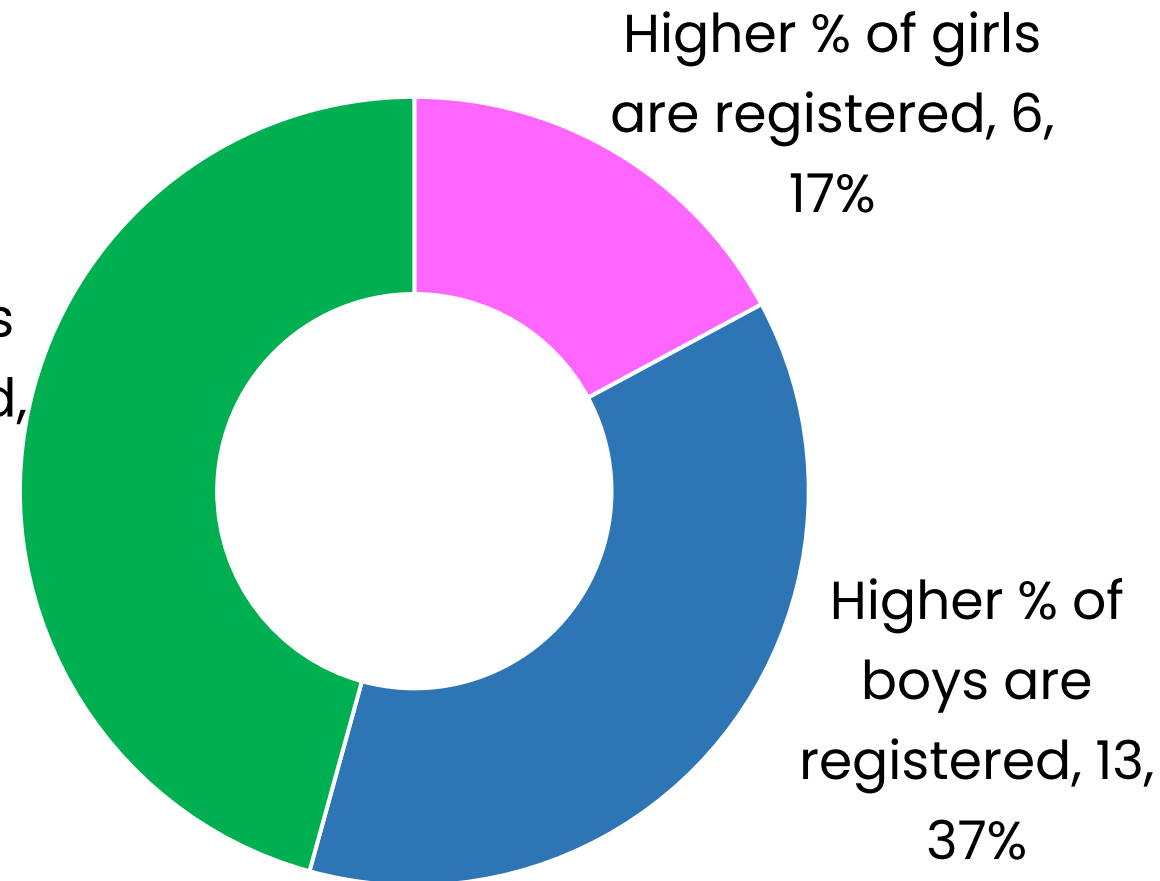
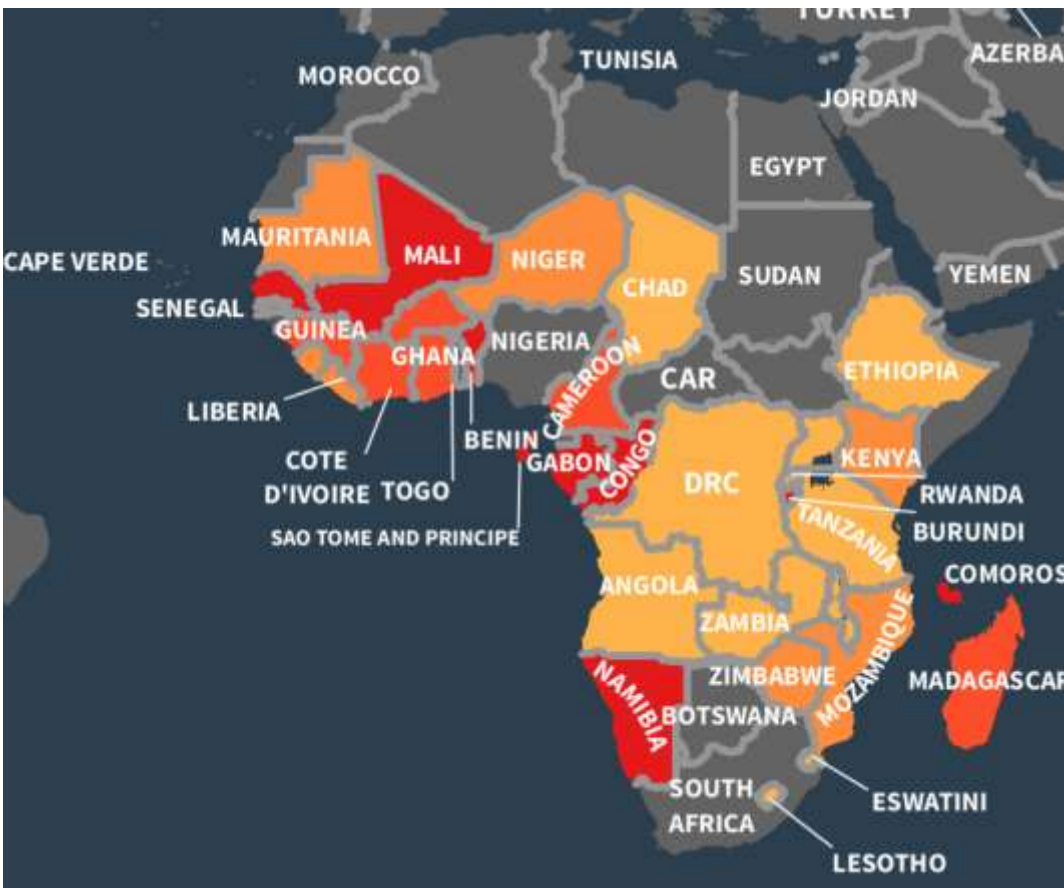
There is a variation in ownership of birth certificates across Africa



Cabo Verde	Comoros	Mauritius	Sao Tome and Principe	Seychelles

Birth registration in Africa

Birth registration in 35 African countries by sex



Gender issue: there was gender bias in birth Registration in more than half of the countries (54%)

Source: Demographic and Health Surveys



What has been done at the regional level?



A decade of
repositioning
CRVS in Africa
2017 – 2026



A robust policy
and advocacy
framework for
development of
CRVS systems
has been set
up.

A regional core
group of
partners have
continually
provided
technical
assistance.

Guidelines
manuals and
technical
resources.



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Conferences of Ministers & Other Regional Effort

1. COM5 recommendations: roll-out and use of the CRVS improvement framework
 - Critical aspect being the business process improvement.
 - Review of the CRVS business processes with the gender lens.
2. ECA Gender Tool for Assessment of CRVS Systems
3. Regional Gender Consultative Workshop – Kigali Meeting that produced an issues paper on Gender and CRVS.
4. Gender Statistics Conference Resolutions – *“Accelerating progress towards Africa’s Agenda 2063 and the SDGs using gender statistics”*.



Conclusion

Investing in better CRVS systems is one of the keys to move closer to achieving gender equality.

Prioritizing increased investment in gender sensitive CRVS systems and ensure production and use of gender-sensitive vital statistics.

Expand awareness and eliminate barriers for women and girls.

Improving CRVS systems requires collaboration and partnerships.



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Thank you!

Questions and comments:
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Ideas
to
Action