



Integration of Services with the National Identification System, Uganda's case

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☐ **Introduction**

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Introduction.

Uganda Country Profile



Country Profile:

- **Population: 37.9 million** (UBOS Census of 2014 for the last Population and Housing Census)
- **Annual Birth Rate: 1,514,000**
- **Infant mortality: 17 deaths per 1,000 Birth**
- **57% of children are born within health facilities** (Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2011)
- **Only 30% of children are registered at birth**

NPHS 2014

Statistics for National ID:

- **Population: registered as of April 2017 is 16.8 million**
- **Mass registration started April 2014 and ended August 2014**
- **Registration continues at Districts with approximately 7,500 fresh enrolments per month.**
- **National Identity Cards Issued = 14.8 million (88% of Registered persons)**

Establishment of the Registration Authority



Prior to 2014, a number of Government institutions in Uganda were registering citizens for their respective needs. e.g Revenue Authority for Tax purposes, Ministry of Works for Driving Permits, Immigration for passports etc. these duplicated efforts led to; (1) Loss of revenue. (2) A silo of inconsistent systems.

There was a need for creation of a centralized / single registration authority and this led to; The Registration of Persons Act, 2015 that established the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA).

Among other things, NIRA was to:

- Register all persons in Uganda (citizens and non-citizens).
- Register birth, death and adoptions in Uganda.
- Establish, manage, maintain and operate a national identification register of all person in Uganda.
- Provide access and use of the information contained in the national identification register.

Status of the National Identification (NID) system



Supporting Legal and Institutional Framework

Current Registration Districts:

117 Districts have been gazette as registration Areas.

Current Notification Areas for Birth and Death:

- All Government, Missionary and Industrial Hospitals,
- 1,350 Sub counties, Town Councils and Divisions
- All Municipalities
- The 5 Div.s of the City of Kampala
- 218 Health center IVs

“ The State shall register **every** birth, marriage and death occurring in Uganda”

Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, Article 18

Relevant laws

- Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995, Article 18
- Children Act
- Local Governments Act, 1997, Part 2, Clause 14
- Registration of Persons’ Act, 2015

Registration of Persons Act (ROPA) Provisions and the relevant regulations are in place and provide for:-

- Compulsory Birth and Death registration,
- Punishment for late Birth and Death registration
- Provision of NIN at birth,
- Health Facilities and Local Councils as notifiers,

Civil and Identification Registers statistics:-

- ❖ Sixteen point eight (16.8) million adults registered and fourteen point eight (14.8) million ID Cards issued out.
- ❖ Ten (10) million children (5 to 16) scheduled to be registered from May to July 2017.
- ❖ It is planned that Six hundred thousand (600,000) Foreigners shall be registered and issued smart Alien ID Cards from July 2017.
- ❖ 38,969 Birth certificates issued from January 2016 to-date.
- ❖ 3,954 Death certificates issued to-date January 2016 to-date

Integration with other Government and Private Institutions

The National Identification Number (NIN) is the primary identifier of persons in Uganda.

Government Institutions (Ministries, Departments and Agencies) do and will continue to Interface with the National ID System for purposes of identifying persons using the NIN.

The technology solution (software and hardware) to facilitate this interface has been implemented and it is planned that the roll-out phase commences July 2017.

Integration with other Government and Private Institutions

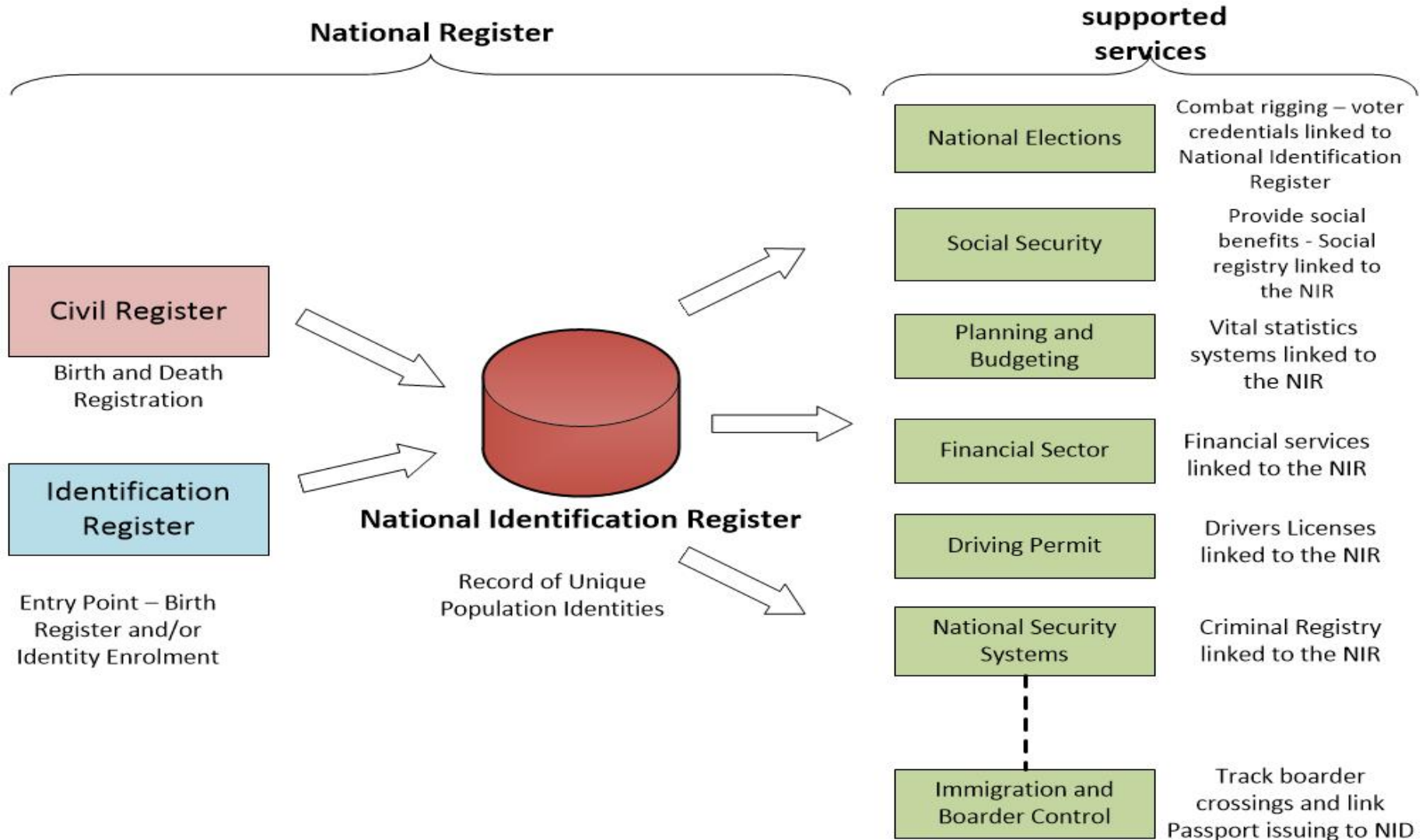
A number of institutions have taken steps toward updating their Information systems in terms of data-sets and technical readiness to Interface with the NID system. These include:-

- i. **Ministry of Lands:-** Land Registration in Uganda requires identification of land owners using NINs.(This will reduce one piece of land being registered in several names).
- ii. **Ministry of Public Service:-** All public servants on Government Payroll are now identified by the NIN.(This has eliminated ghost employees).
- iii. **Ministry of Labor and Gender:-** The NIN in the Social Protection Registry will be used to identify target beneficiaries.(This will help in avoiding multiple grants to same persons).

- iv. Ministry of Health:-** All patients in the Health Management Information System will be identified by the NIN.(This will eliminate multiple issuance of same medications to same patients at different service points without tracking).
- v. Ministry of Education:-**The use of the NIN as a primary identifier for pupils will facilitate tracking of pupils, this will inform Government of new school enrolments, transfers and drop outs and will greatly facilitate planning.
- vi. National Social Security Fund:-** The NIN will facilitate tracking of workers right from the employment payroll right through the social security / benefits fund.(This will help to identify persons that qualify to get their benefit and reduce fraud).

Integration (continued)

INTEGRATION OF SERVICES WITH THE NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM – THE INTERCONNECTION



Pathway to Digital Identity - Uganda's Case



Priorities of the Registration Authority:-

| # | Priority | Status |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Building a secure Civil and Identity register on which public services and administration can sustainably depend. | 50% done. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 50% of Population registered- Students 5 to 16 years to be registered in May 2017 |
| 2 | Ensure compliance with International Identity and travel document standards. | ICAO standards are Inbuilt in issued identification documents. |
| 3 | Implement and put in place cybersecurity initiatives and controls to protect the trusted identities in cyber space as well as Introduction and Promotion of electronic Identity services. | National Cyber Security Framework in place, development of supporting laws in progress. |
| 4 | Generate awareness and confidence of citizens about confidentiality of their data - Law on data protection and Privacy by end of 2017. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Bill before Parliament of Uganda.- Awareness campaigns stepped-up |
| 5 | Upgrade the 2D-Barcode Identification documents to electronic IDs to facilitate and guarantee proof of identity through more convenient and secure online authentication. | Scheduled for 2017 – 2018. |
| 6 | Facilitate and promote e-government services through integration of systems with the national ID system. | Data sharing interface planned to go-live by July 2017. |

Challenges:-

i. Data Protection and Privacy

Lack of a Data Protection and Privacy Law, A bill has however been tabled before Parliament and hopefully by end of 2017 this should have been passed into Law.

ii. Cultural roadblocks

Culture or Norms is one of the major issues affecting a dynamic Identification register as they influence Birth and Death registrations in Uganda.

iii. Need to have all civil registrations under one roof

Birth, death, adoption and Identification are under NIRA . However marriages and divorces are under another institution.

iv. Infrastructural limitations

Lack of adequate support infrastructure (supplies and services such as electricity, internet, logistics, security etc.) in terms of registration systems and connectivity to the lowest levels / registration areas.

v. Funding

Lack of adequate funding to cover grass root areas introduces a need to collaborate with other institutions which have presence in those areas, this introduces supervisory complications and affects efficiency.

In conclusion, despite the stated challenges, the Future of the National Identification and Registration Authority is bright due to the following reasons:-

- i. Strong stakeholder (government and non government) support.
- ii. A capable Board overseeing and guiding activities of the Authority.
- iii. Competent Technical and Operational staff.
- iv. A steady improvement in technical and operational infrastructure.
- v. Public trust and confidence in the Authority and the registration services.
- vi. A bright future of the identification and registration of persons in Uganda.

The End

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