

#### **The United Nations Legal Identity Agenda** *Fulfil the promise to Leave No One Behind*



ID4Africa | 18 June 2019 | Johannesburg, South Africa

## **The Right to Legal Identity**





- Universal Declaration on Human Rights, Article 6
- Convention on the Rights of the Child, Articles 7 & 8

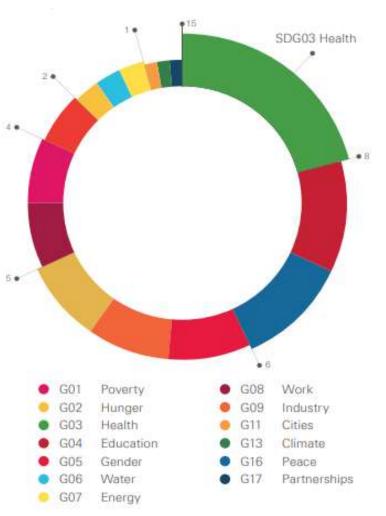


- **SDG Target 16.9** legal identity for all, including birth registration.
- SDG Indicator 17.19.2

#### The Critical Role of Civil Registration

- Universal & inclusive fundamental means of granting legal identity to all.
- Ultimate source of comprehensive, regular & reliable vital statistics.
- CRVS data is the preferred source for measuring over 65 SDG indicators.

Image from Bloomberg Data4 Health based on report from World Bank Group (2017) Civil Registration and Vital Statistics for Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



#### Legal identity for all

#### starting from birth

is a game-changer to achieve the SDGs.

# Defining Legal Identity

## **Defining legal identity**

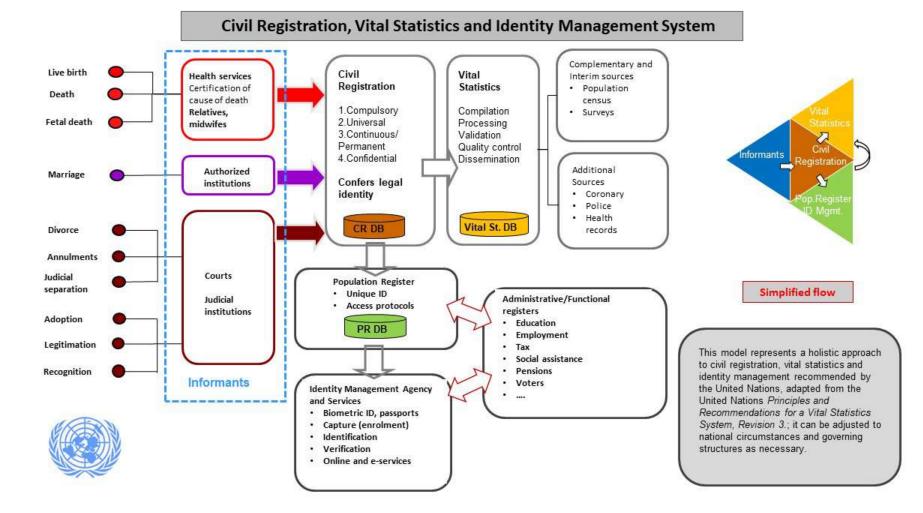


PEACE, JUSTIC AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

**Legal identity** is the basic characteristics of an individual's identity.

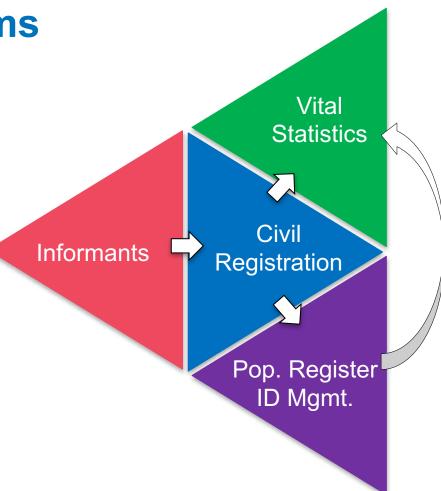
**Civil registration** is the continuous, permanent, compulsory & universal recording of vital events for a country's population.

**Proof of legal identity** is a credential recognized as proof of legal identity under national law.



### Holistic CR/VS/ID systems

- Life-cycle approach to identity
- Supports interoperability of identity systems for the production of vital statistics
- Sustainable solution to provide legal identity & country-owned demographic data
- Reduces dependence on sector-specific monitoring systems



## Delivering as ine UN

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#### Background

Established at the request of the UN Secretary-General and backed by the DSG, the LIEG in support of the UN Legal Identity Agenda aims to:

- take a unified approach to legal identity across the UNDS & strengthen collaboration with the Word Bank
- support Member States accelerate progress to achieve SDG 16.9 & SDG 17.19

# UN Legal Identity Expert Group

**Structure (14+ UN Agencies and 2 Regional Economic Commissions):** 

Co-Chairs: UNICEF, UNDP, DESA

Members:

- UN Agencies: DESA, DOCO, IOM, ITU, OCHA, OHCHR, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP, UN Women, UNODC, UNSD, WFP & WHO.
- Regional Economic Commissions: UNECA and UNESCAP
- UN Global Pulse

#### WORKPLAN

- Pillar 1: A Coordinated Approach for Implementation
- Pillar 2: Evidence for Action
- Pillar 3: One Voice
- Pillar 4: Financing the Implementation of Legal Identity for All



## United Nations Legal Identity Agenda



#### **Objectives**

- Promotes a coherent approach to legal identity across the UN system & with the World Bank Group
- Builds on existing global, regional & country efforts
- One UN Voice for joint strategic advocacy & communications
- Enables joint UN support to countries for implementation

Benchmark Goal: Close the global identity gap by over 300 million by 2025.



- The UN Legal Identity Agenda will bring together existing efforts at the global, regional and country-levels.
- In line with the UN reform and at the request of Member States through the Executive Committee.
- The coordinated UN response will be led by the Regional Coordinators.
- The structure of the mechanism is being established, & engagement in Africa will be led by UN ECA
  - in close collaboration with the AU, and
  - with light support from UN HQ via the future Multi-Partner Trust Fund.

## Pilot Phase 1: Focus on Africa

### **Pilot Phase 1: Focus on Africa**



### Project development and implementation

- Potential pilot countries are being considered for a joint UN-World Bank effort on legal identity initiatives
- Leverage additional support to scale-up the UNCT life-cycle model to accelerate progress towards ensuring legal identity for all.

## Thank you!