



# South Africa's Progress in Civil Registration

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# Overview



Role players in the Statistical Environment

The South African CRVS system

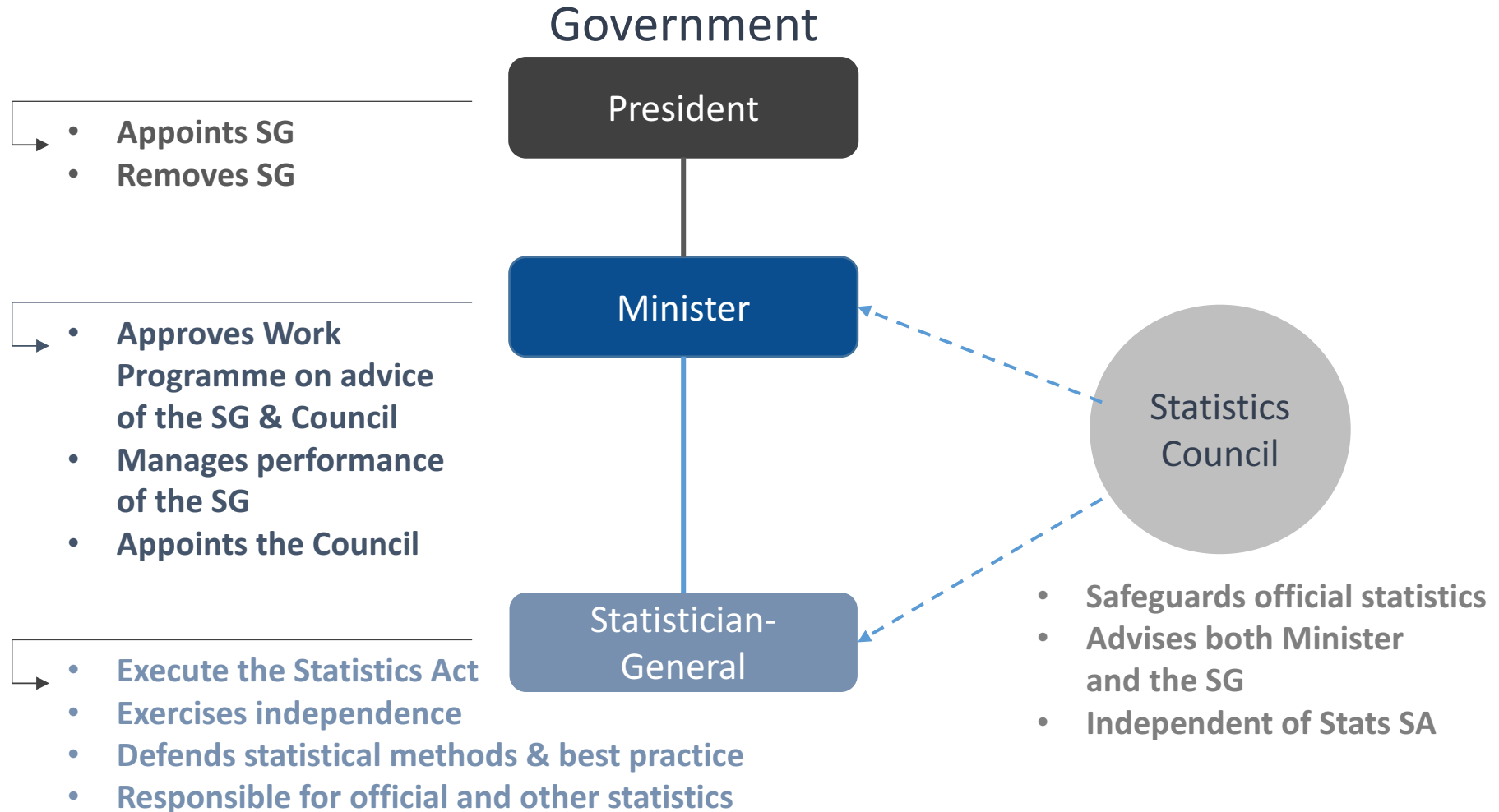
Notification, registration and issuance of birth certificates

Improvements in CRVS in SA

Identity Life cycle

# Role players in the Statistical Environment

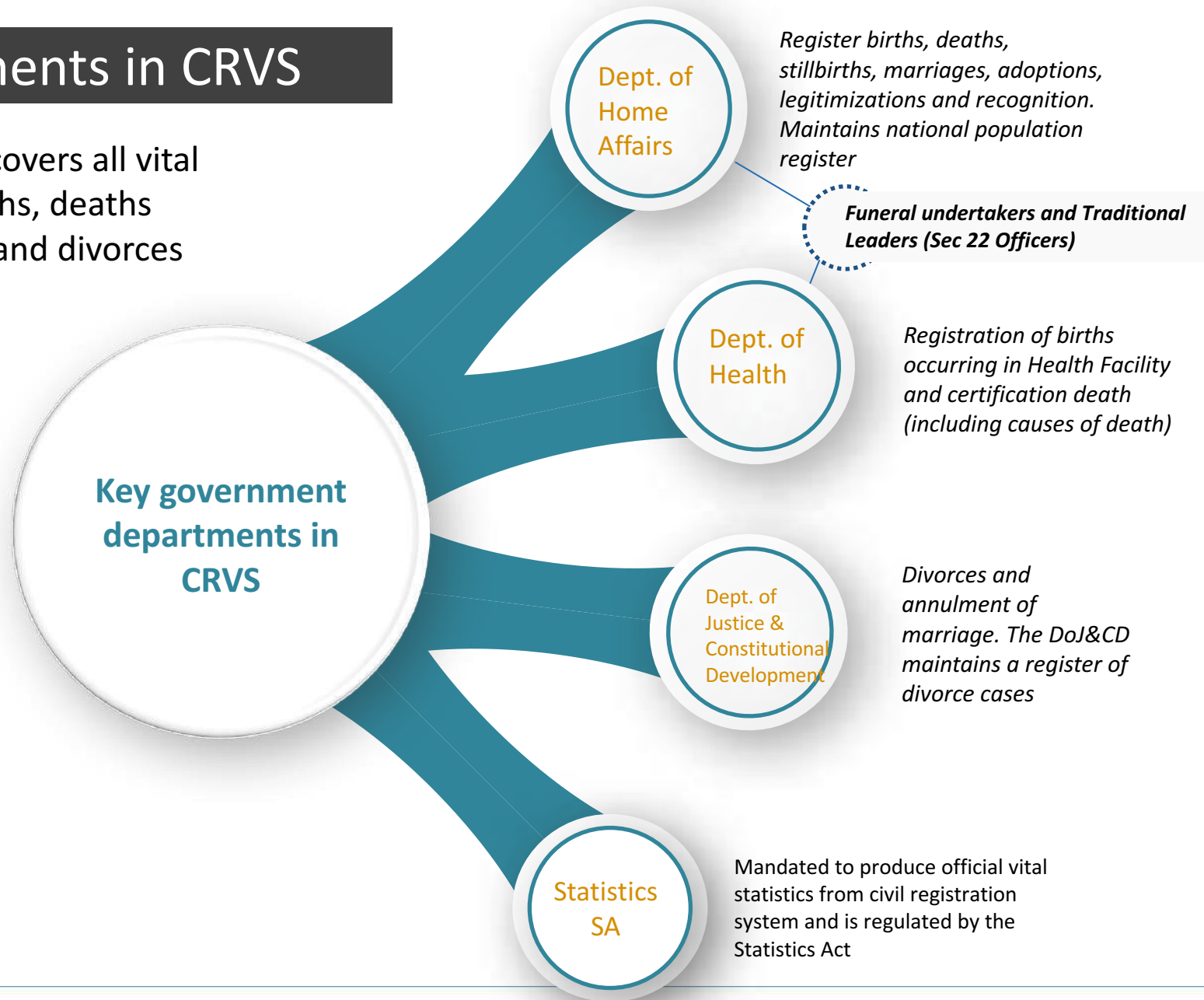
*Besides the use of Statistics a well functioning CR system has wide ranging benefits*



# Key government departments in CRVS

South Africa's civil registration system covers all vital events; vital statistics produced for births, deaths (including causes of death), marriages and divorces

System is well coordinated and largely manual (paper based)



# Key Beneficiaries of SA's CR system

*Besides the use of Statistics a well functioning CR system has wide ranging benefits*

1

Department of Basic  
Education

**Birth certificate** for  
admission in school  
**Identity document**  
for Matric students  
to sit for final exams

2

Department of Social  
Development

Provision of comprehensive  
social services which  
protect the poor and  
vulnerable

*Birth certificate for access to child  
grants  
Identity documents for access to old  
age grants and disability grants  
Death certificate (e.g. for foster  
care grant)*

3

Independent Electoral  
Commission

**Biometric system** for  
voter identification

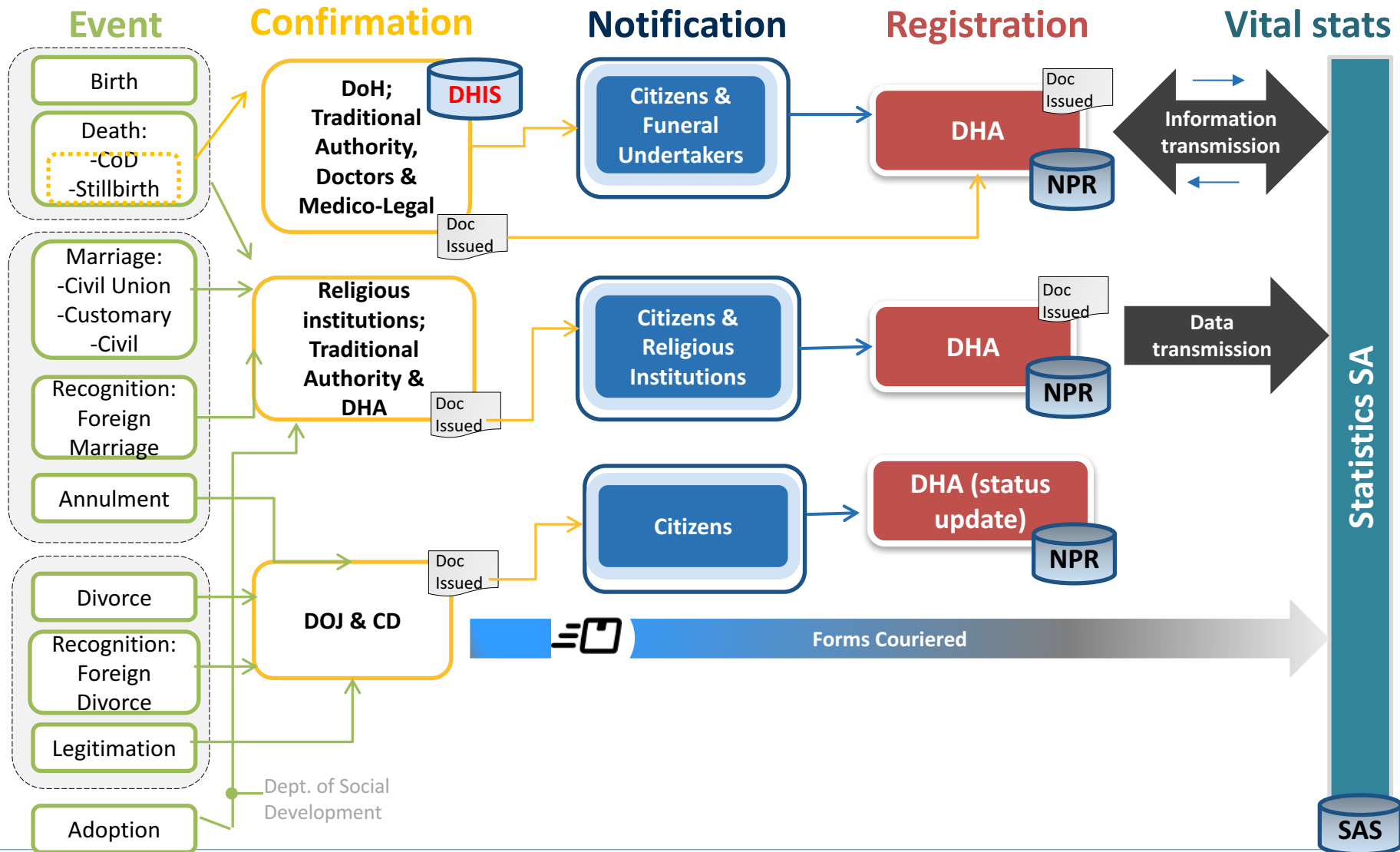
4

Banking systems

**Biometric system** for  
identification and verification  
of individuals

# High level overview South African Civil Registration system

# SA: CRVS

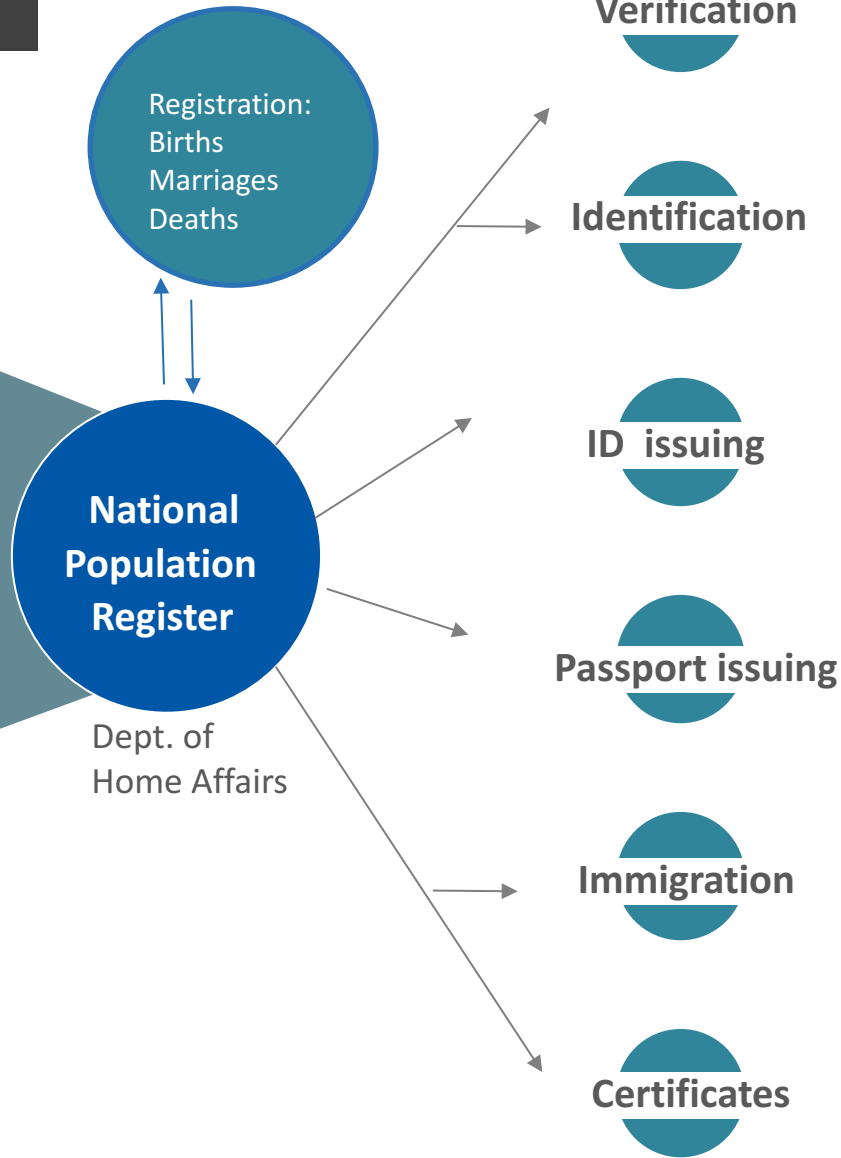


The Nation Population Register play a crucial role the functioning of the CRVS



# NPR Repository

- Identity Number
- Name and Surname
- Residential Status
- Marital Status
- Birth Information
- Citizenship
- Death Information
- Passport Information
- Control Flags
- Immigration Information
- Fingerprint Information
- Archive Information



## Moving to NIS

The National Identity System (NIS) will replace the current national population register and will draw data, in real time, from the civic registration and immigration systems. Given the rapid advance of the fourth industrial revolution the National Identity System must be digital, integrated and operate in the cyber environment using e-identity. The system will be a critical enabler of access to efficient services and inclusive economic growth\*

**Dept of Home Affairs, White Paper 2019**

The South Africa I know, the home I understand

Registration of vital events requires a number of role-players

# Status of SA Civil Registration(Key Indicators)

Besides the use of Statistics a well functioning CR system has wide ranging benefits

01



## BIRTHS

**88,6% Completeness**

**78% Within 30 days**

02



## DEATHS

**96% Completeness (Adult)**

77.5% within 72 Hours  
13.2% unspecified CoD

**47% Drs trained in certification (2014)**

03



## MARRIAGES

*Challenge of Estimating denominator*

**Delayed submission of marriage registers**

04



## DIVORCES

- × *Not prioritised (Ownership)*
- × *Lack of awareness for downstream processes*

Concerted efforts to improve the quality of data (e.g. training in cause-of-death certification & key stakeholder collaboration)

SA has benefited from a number of initiatives aimed at improving CRVS

# Improvements in registration of vital events

*A number of initiatives combined have resulted in greater registration of vital events*



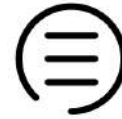
Comprehensive CRVS legislation, consistently amended



Demand of registration documents to access social services



Mobilisation by DHA... of the nation to adhere to civil registration laws through national campaigns and outreach programmes



Institutionalisation of key role players, Traditional Authorities ( Completion of DHA 1680)

Funeral Undertakers (Section 22 officers )

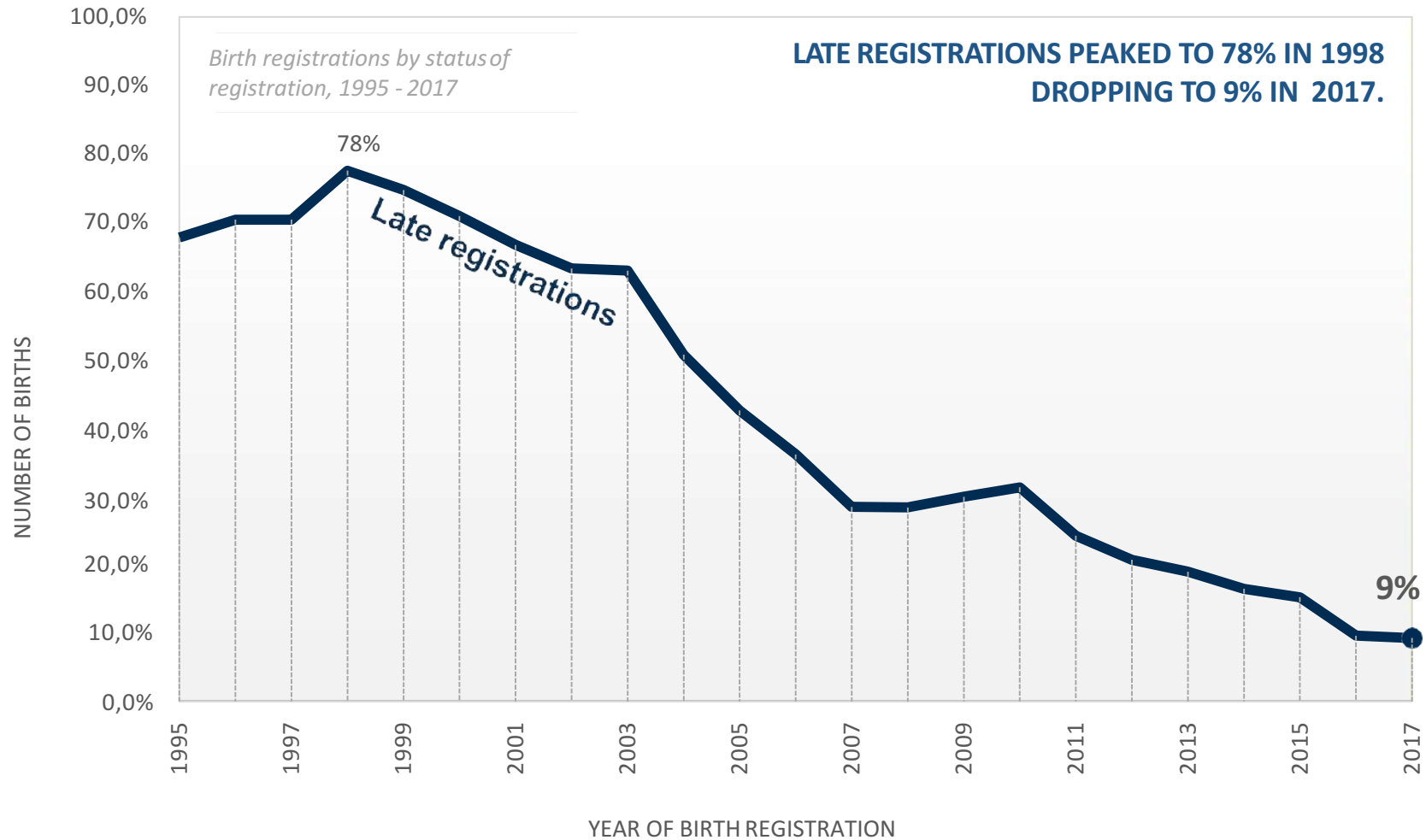


Clear roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders  
Legislated instruments(forms) and well documented processes



Increase in civil registration service delivery points (e.g. hospitals, mobile units, Thusong centres)  
Improved turnaround times for births and deaths registrations.

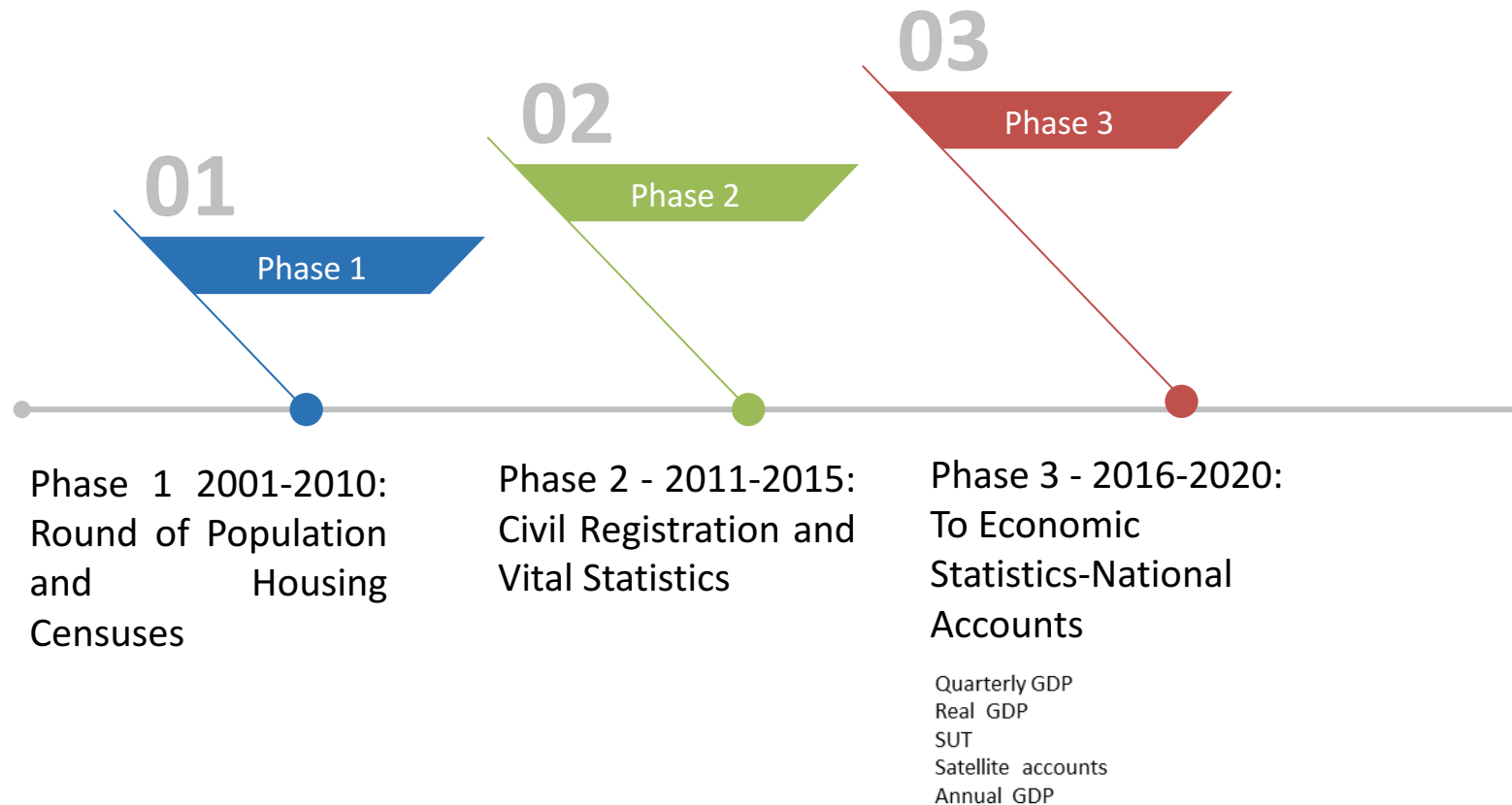
# Examples of Dramatic Improvement in Birth Registrations



Source Recorded Live Births, 2017

# Improvements in CRVS was a *Key Phase of the African Symposia on Statistical Development*

\*Country-led initiative that gave rise to discuss technical matters of statistical development  
Platform for Harmonisation, Cooperation and Coordination within Africa



# Ndzi hela kwala!