



## **Pathways to Legal Identity**

### **CONCEPT NOTE**

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 08:30-10:00**

As the role of identity expands to enable broader service delivery and daily actions, a visible shift in the perceived value of identity schemes at national levels, in favor of those that privilege service delivery (so called service oriented or functional identity) as opposed to legal identity, has emerged. This is happening at the same time the SDG agenda is fueling an ongoing dialogue around the definition of legal identity, which remains unsatisfactory to many stakeholders, and is leading to proliferation in identity notions.

This session will re-examine the definition of legal identity, which authority or authorities are mandated to establish and issue legal identity, and why it remains an open challenge, while underlining where and why this definition matters. It will also examine the range of privileges that are accessible exclusively through legal identity and the role relying parties expect legal identity to play in a complex and digitally evolving world.

The session, which will feature a panel of development, legal and CR experts, will approach this question pragmatically by exploring the different pathways and the legal frameworks by which individuals can acquire legal identity (birth registration, introducer system, naturalization, citizenship by investment, etc.) as well as the limitations and vulnerabilities of each pathway. The session will then attempt to identify the relationships between the different notions of identity and highlight how synergies among them can be realized and how their linkage can contribute to reinforcing robustness against vulnerabilities of stand-alone ID systems. This will necessarily touch on the value and the mechanisms of linking CR and ID, the two pillars within the identity ecosystem that are currently experiencing strong developments.