



LINKING CIVIL REGISTRATION WITH HEALTH SECTOR

TANZANIA CASE STUDY



BACKGROUND

The Office of Administrator General (RITA) is a semi-autonomous Agency under the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs

Mandated to Register Vital Events, Administration of Deceased Estates, Incorporation of Trustees, acting as The Public Trustee as well as dealing with Insolvency issues/Matters



The Agency derives its mandate from:

The Executive Agency Agencies Act CAP 245

The Births and Deaths Registration Act CAP 108

The Law of -Marriage Act CAP 29

Other related statutes, eg, the law of the Child Act CAP 13

The Administrator General Powers and Functions CAP 27



Core Functions

Registration and issuance of all Births & Deaths, Marriages, Divorce and Adoption certificates

Administration of Deceased estates

Incorporation of Trustees and Act as Public Trustee

Insolvency Issues/matters



WHY LINK HEALTH SYSTEM WITH CIVIL REGISTRATION SYSTEM



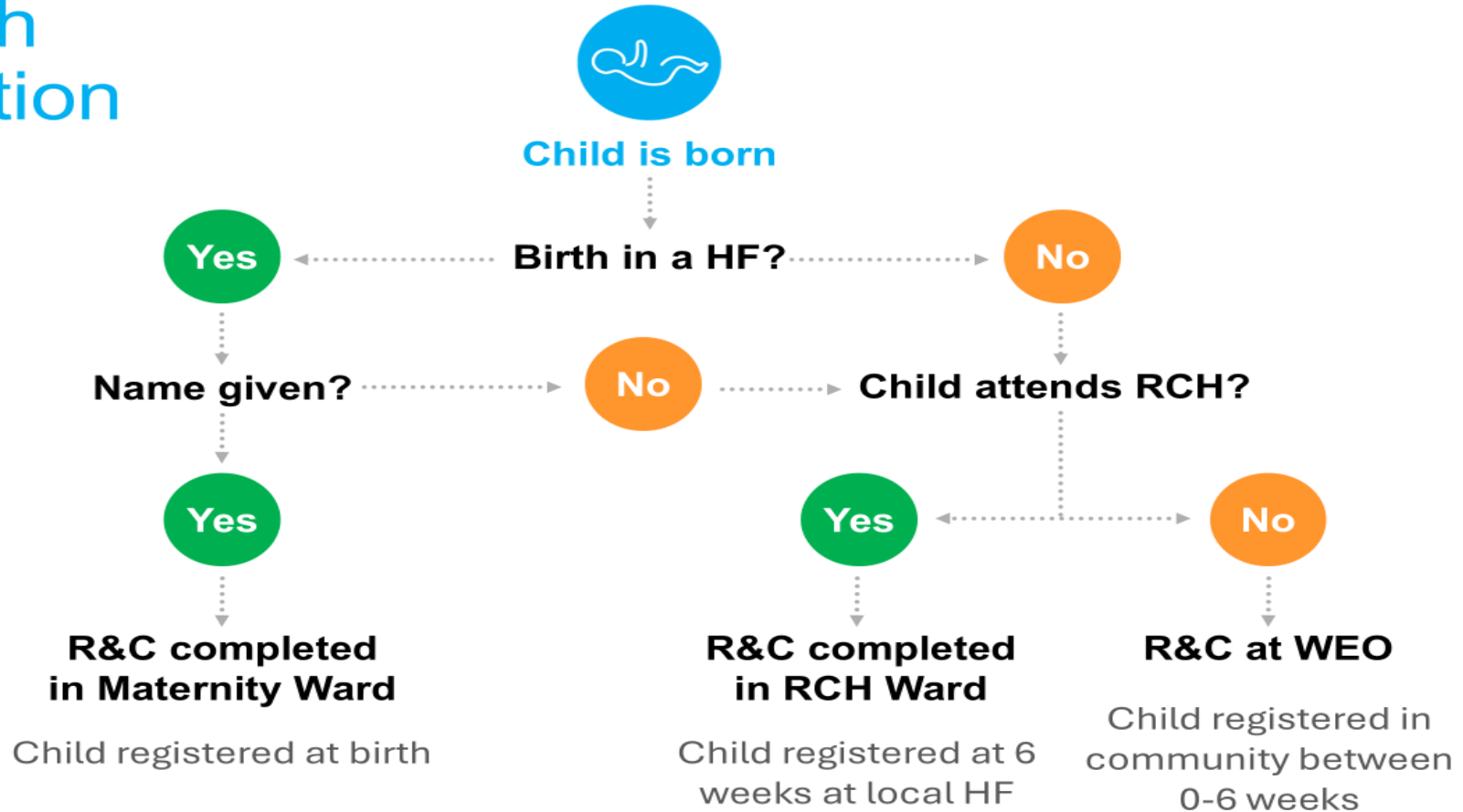
- Health facilities play a crucial role in the registration of births and deaths, as health workers collect core information needed to register vital events. In Tanzania, they are used as registration centers.
- This is possible because health workers are often the first point of contact for families, and health facilities have a high degree of coverage in all parts of a country (including very remote areas). Hence, we have managed to introduce 7,236 registration centers across the country.
- Health sectors usually have well-established electronic reporting structures that, when linked with the CR system, can be used to get timely information. With some additional information, this can be used for the issuance of birth and death certificates. This has been achieved in Tanzania by linking the GoT-HoMIS to the CR system.



BIRTH REGISTRATION IN TANZANIA



New Birth Registration Process

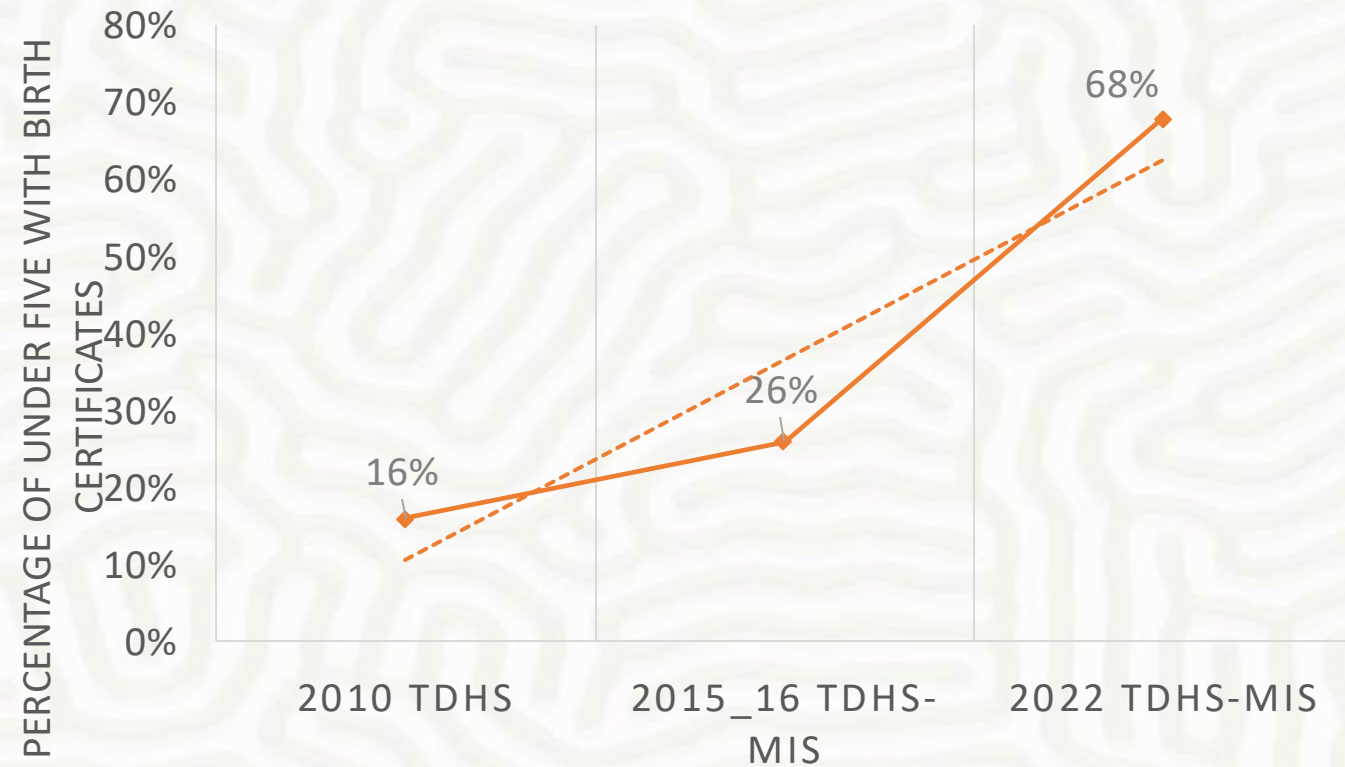




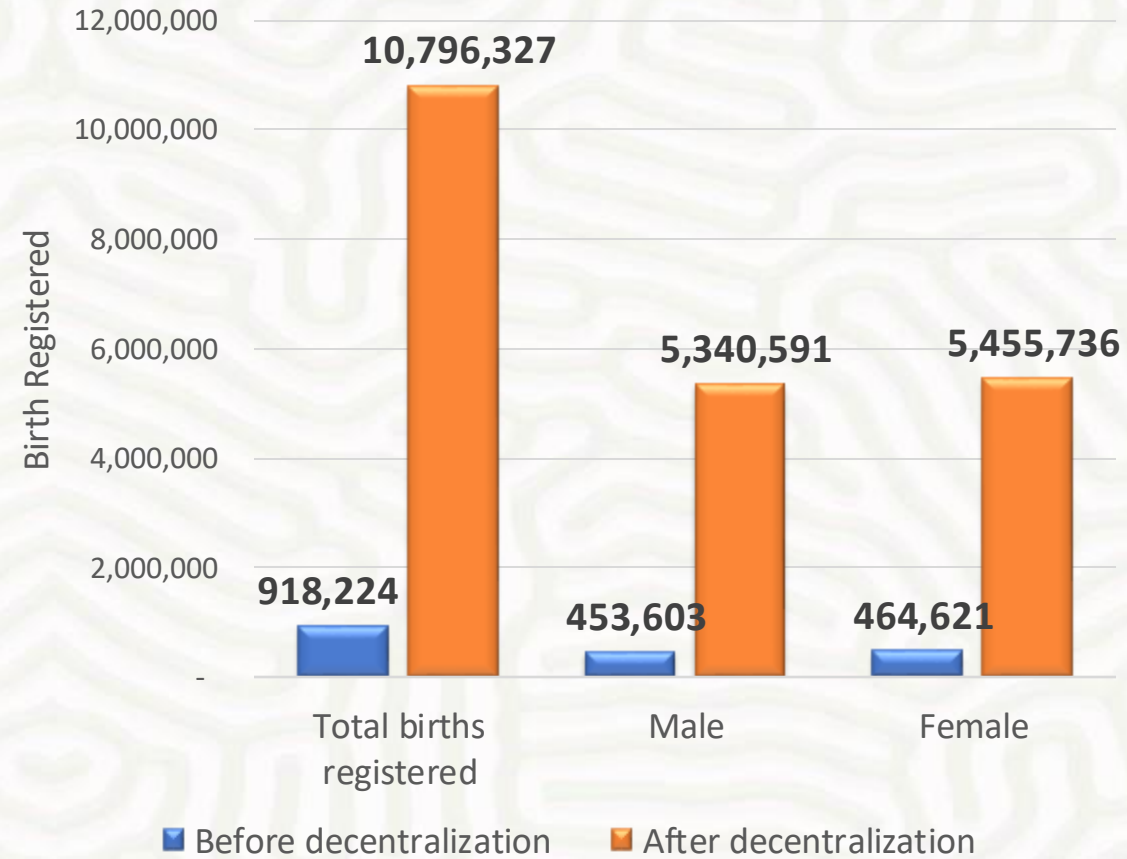
STATUS OF UNDER FIVE BIRTH REGISTRATION



Trends of the Under-five Birth Registration after Decentralization

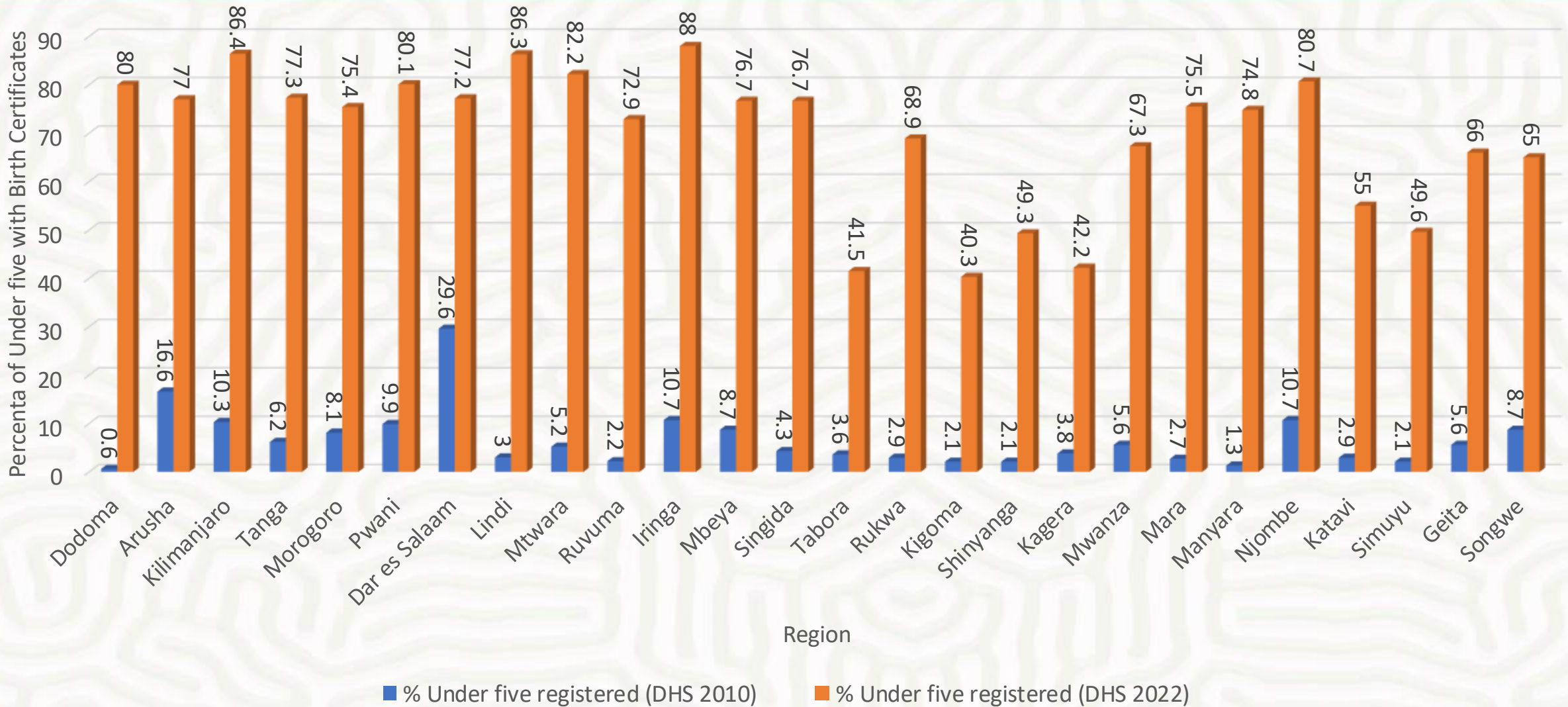


Births Registered Before and After Decentralization



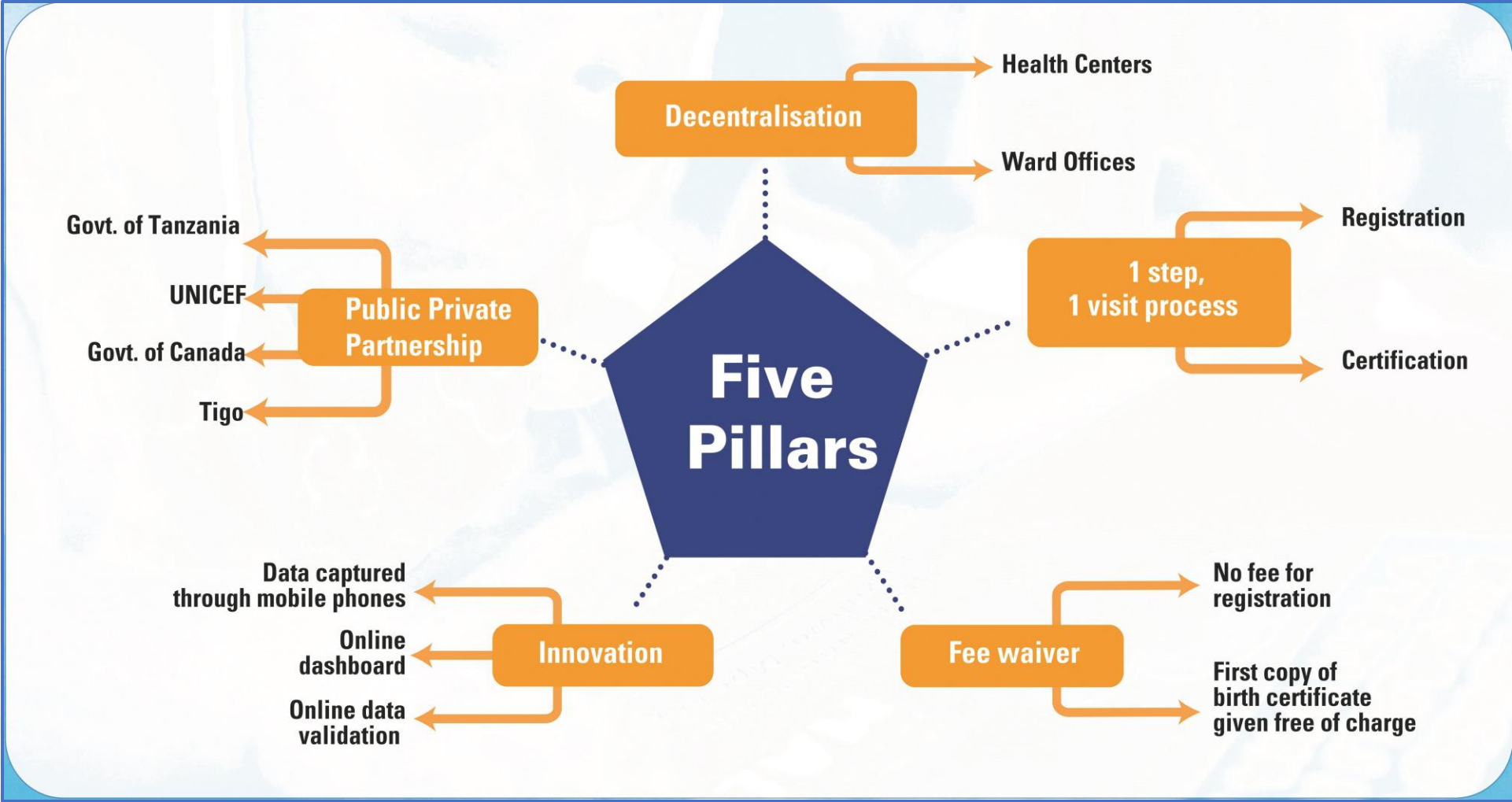


STATUS OF UNDER FIVE BIRTH REGISTRATION BY REGION





MAJOR POLICIES FOR CR IMPROVEMENT



Registration points increased to 11,193 from 108 (3,957 wards, 7,236 H.F)

Registration officers increased to 21,831 from 108

Average distance reduced to 5-6 km from 80 to 140 km

Fee waiver:

Due to one-stop process made it possible to parents /guardians engage other dev. Activities



INCENTIVE FOR REGISTRATION IN TANZANIA



- **Accessibility:**- Decentralizing birth registration to health facilities and Ward Offices makes it easier for families to access services, especially in rural areas.
- **Affordability:**- Waiver of registration fees and providing first copy of birth certificate free removes financial barriers especially for low-income families.
- **Streamlined Processes**-implementing a "one-stop, one-visit" approach for birth registration, immunization services simplifies the process for families.
- **Awareness Campaigns:**- educating parents about the benefits of birth registration, such as access to healthcare, education, employment increase awareness and demand for registration.
- **Conditional Incentives:**- Linking birth registration to other social programs, such as cash transfers or social security, can create a strong incentive for families to register their children. (TASAF)
- **Community Involvement:**- involving community leaders and local organizations in promoting birth registration build trust and increase awareness among families. (using of Chief, traditional leaders)



FACTORS THAT ENABLED THE LINK BETWEEN HEALTH SYSTEM WITH CRS



- 1. Political Will-** Under the leadership of Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, a directive has been issued to ensure that all Tanzanians are uniquely identified. Civil registration plays a crucial role in this initiative, and strong collaboration with the health sector and PO-RALG has been encouraged.
- 2. System integrations-** Following the issued directive, all government systems are required to integrate; therefore, hence the integration with the health system
- 3. The Law-** The Registration of Births and Deaths Act, Cap 108, mandates health workers to serve as registration officers.
- 4. Strong collaboration-** There is strong collaboration between our Agency and Presidents Office Regional Administration and Local Government- this facilitates close monitoring and supervision in health facilities.
- 5. Trainings** –Health personnel training on registration procedures and best practices (do's and don'ts)