



Country Experience: Ghana



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Outline

- Introduction
- **Overview Enhancing Death Registration System For Emergency Response**
- Institutional Strategies
- Way forward
- Conclusion



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History of death Registration in Ghana

- Death registration is part of the civil registration and vital statistics system in Ghana
- Vital Registration started as far back in 1888 (only Death Registration)
- Birth Registration started in 1912
- In 1965 registration of vital events became compulsory (Act 301 of 1965)
- Births and Deaths Registry established in 1965
- Act 301 of 1965 specifies that all deaths that occur in the country need to be registered.

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- Overview On How Covid-19 Is Impacting Registration Of Deaths
 - Covid-19 pandemic is spreading at a speed of light around the world
 - Part of the business process of registering births and deaths in Ghana is manual, it relies on face-to-face interactions and is largely paper based
 - CRVS Offices are still operational, throughout the partial lock- down period and restriction on movement, protocols such as washing of hand, frequent use of hand sanitizers, social distancing and the use of PPEs were observed
 - Medical Certificate of Cause of Deaths not stating clearing Covid-19 as the underlying cause of death
 - Data on all registered deaths from January 2020 to June 2020 in the process of capturing for trend analysis
 - E-notification of community deaths has been introduced, Health workers in the selected pilot regions have been trained on the electronic version of the notification system.

Trends in registration of births and Deaths, 2015 - 2019

Year	Births			Deaths		
	Expected	Registered	% Coverage	Expected	Registered	% Coverage
2015	841,301	491,268	58	278,992	53,018	19
2016	851,630	532,440	63	285,967	51,805	18
2017	861,447	551,933	64	293,116	48,648	17
2018	870,734	610,657	70	300,444	48,428	16
2019	879,483	707,064	80.40	307,955	51,054	16.6

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• Efforts Towards Addressing The Data Gaps

Identify different stakeholders and the type of data available for each stakeholder

Mortality Mapping Exercise

- Government Hospitals(emergency units)
- Public Cemetery
- Private Cemetery
- Public Mortuary
- Private Mortuary
- Private Funeral Home
- Public Health and Environmental Unit
- Faith Base Organizations(Christian and Islamic)

Police Engagement Process

- Homicide unit
- MTTD UNIT
- CID

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• Efforts Towards Addressing The Missing Gaps

- Data sharing between health system and civil registration system in the form of notification
- Engagement of the Police Service to track community events
- The registration of Births and Deaths Law is in the process of amendment.
- Use of community based volunteers to complete notification forms(manual)

• Way Forward

- Continuous supply of PPE's to field operatives(as when available)
- Upgrading back-end ICT systems(business processes)
- Develop and deploy an online service portal
- Implement an electronic notification system(especially for community events)
- Collaboration with Local Government to compile and create Cemetery Registers at the District Level



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Thank You