Kiribati is currently undertaking a comprehensive assessment of their CRVS system.
This assessment will form the basis of the national CRVS improvement plan to be completed early in 2015.
The assessment has engaged a broad group of stakeholders including government departments, community representatives, church groups, and the media.
This has complimented an ongoing program to strengthen civil registration, particularly through improved training and support for outer island offices from UNICEF which has seen birth registration increase from 68% to 82% in one year.

What was done

- The current assessment process germinated from a workshop initiated by the national committee in collaboration with development partners held in early 2014.
- The workshop engaged a broad group of stakeholders who mapped current reporting processes to identify how the system works, key issues associated with the system, and any efforts that were duplicated.
- This workshop was followed by a series of technical meetings to complete the components of the WHO Comprehensive Assessment Tool.
- As participants worked their way through each question of the assessment tool, the discussion generated was captured and used to flesh out the issues.
- Mapping and discussion showed the importance of involving island councils and community leaders to improve CRVS.

Example of scenario mapping

Key Stakeholders

- Ministry of Health (Medical Records, HIS office, HIV/AIDS program, doctors, Outer island Medical assistants, Clinic managers, Clinic nurses, Maternity ward etc)
- National Civil Registry Office
- Island Council clerks and assistant clerks
- Police
- Ministry of Justice & Attorney Generals Office
- National Statistics Office
- Church Representatives
- Community organisations.

Next Steps

A second national workshop is planned for early 2015. Results of the assessment will be presented to the broader stakeholder group for prioritization and preparation of a national plan.

Community leaders and churches are essential in any process to improve CRVS in Kiribati.

Mapping real scenarios has helped all stakeholders reach a common understanding of the system and issues.

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