

PROPOSAL TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TRADE AND
DEVELOPMENT - CANADA

Scaling up Birth Registration in Tanzania 2015-2019



UNICEF Tanzania

Organization Name and Contact Information

Organization name	United Nations Children's Fund—UNICEF, Tanzania
Initiative title	Scaling Up Birth Registration in Tanzania
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Funding requested	10 million Cdn
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*If funds become available sooner, UNICEF would be ready to start implementation of the programme by September 2014.

Initiative Summary

Duration of the initiative: 5 years

Contributing to Greater Access to Public Social Services in Tanzania, the '**Scaling Up Birth Registration in Tanzania**' initiative will significantly increase the percentage of boys and girls aged under 5 who have been registered and issued with birth certificates, through scaling up a sustainable new birth registration system.

Specifically, through this initiative, UNICEF will support the Government of Tanzania to implement the new system in 10 regions in Tanzania, which will ensure a minimum of 90% of new borns (0-1 years) and 70% of 1-5 year olds are registered and have birth certificates.

To ensure sustainability, the initiative will embed the new system in legislation and the institutional framework, and build the capacity of RITA at national level, and the relevant local government officers at regional and local level to manage, monitor and effectively scale up the system not only to the ten regions, but also nationwide.

By the end of the initiative, strengthened government management and oversight systems for birth registration will be established, and during the lifetime of the initiative, 3.5 million children will have been registered and provided with certificates while under the age of 5.

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1. Rationale for the Initiative

A birth certificate is one of the most important documents a child will ever own. Children will only exist in the eyes of their national government, and enjoy their fundamental rights, when they are officially registered with a birth certificate.

At national level, birth registration statistics as part of vital statistics are fundamental to inform immediate, medium-term and long –term planning for children’s access to basic services. They generate information about the size, gender and age of the child population, which help governments to plan effectively for education and health, among other services. Data provided through birth registration is also important for monitoring progress towards key development indicators, such as the Millennium Development Goals.

Nothing would seem simpler than recording the name, sex, parentage and time and place of a child’s birth. But the evidence in Tanzania tells another story. The country has the second lowest rate of birth registration in the East and Southern African region. The 2010 Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey showed that only 16 per cent of children in Tanzania mainland under the age of five were registered with civil authorities, and of these less than half have a birth certificate. Registration of urban births is almost four times higher (42%) than rural (8%). There is also a wide disparity in birth registration rates across regions ranging from 59 per cent in Dar es Salaam to 2.9 per cent in Tabora and 2.5 per cent in Shinyanga.

Unregistered children overwhelmingly come from the poorest households, which are 13 times less likely to register their children’s births than wealthy households. These same children are at heightened risk of abuse and exploitation, including child labour and early marriage, and of coming into conflict with the law, when they are often treated as adults and detained for long periods in prison. Proof of age is an essential component to protecting vulnerable children from these violations of their rights.

Birth Registration process in Tanzania

In Tanzania, birth registration is compulsory in accordance with the Births and Deaths Registration Act of 2002. The Law of the Child Act (2009) also recognizes the child’s right to identity and statehood from the onset of a child’s birth and stresses the right to registration upon birth. The overall responsibility for the oversight and coordination of the birth registration and certification process is mandated to the Registrar General under the Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA).

Currently, birth registration in Tanzania is a three - step process: notification which is then followed by registration and finally certification. Notification generally happens at the birth event itself or at the first contact with a health facility in the first 90 days, at which point the birth details are entered into an official log book. This log book is then share with the district registrar at which point parents can register the birth with the District Registrar under the District Administrative Office. They pay a processing fee of TSH 3,500 (around 2.40 Cdn). To obtain a birth certificate, the parents then have to come back to the District Administrative Office after some time has passed to pick up the certificate. Sometimes additional trips to the district are required because the processes were not completed on time.. Where registration has not taken place within 90 days an application may be made for late registration to the District Administrative Secretary. This application has a longer verification process and attracts a higher processing fee and some documentation and a proof of birth will have to be obtained from the local government leadership. At present mother and child health services are used for the registration of a child’s birth either when the child is born in a health facility or through post-natal contacts within 90 days. But the certification still has to be done by either RITA or through the office of the District Administrative Secretary (DAS), which is often a long distance from the family home.

Why is Birth Registration low in Tanzania?

The reasons for low rates of birth registration are varied and complex:

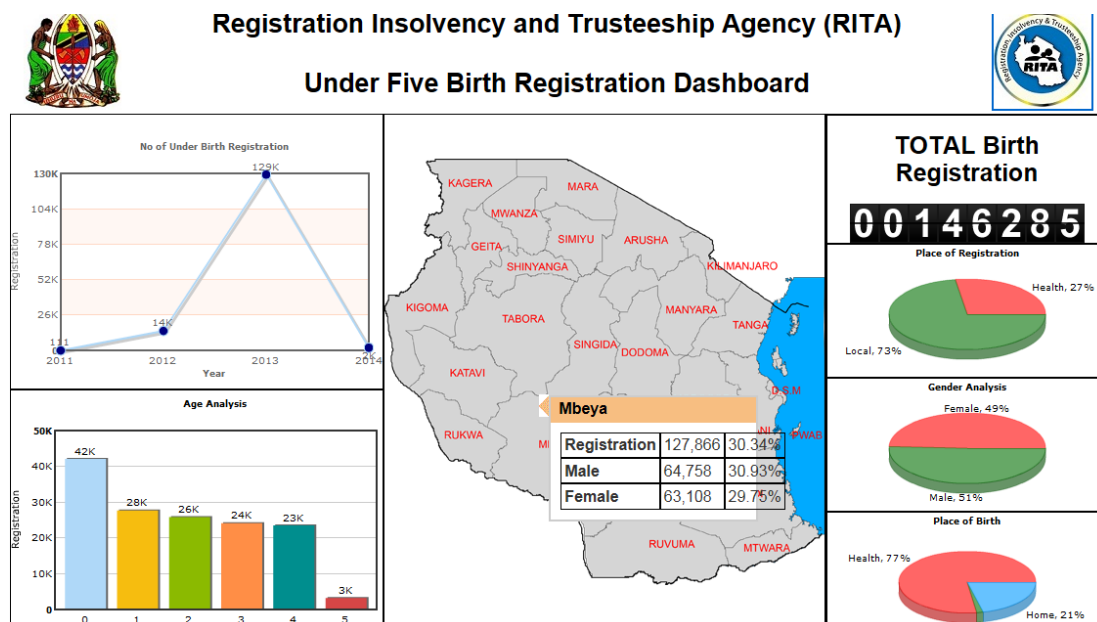
Health facilities should be the primary registration points for registration of new-borns. However, in Tanzania approximately 50% of children are born at home. Under the current system, parents have to travel to district headquarters twice – first to register their children and then to collect the certificate 90 days later. For most parents, the costs of travelling the often very long distances to town, in addition to the cost of the birth certificate, makes registering their children prohibitively expensive. Further, as children do not, in practice, need a birth certificate to access services such as health and education, parents do not see the value in registering their children.

A new approach to birth registration in Tanzania

The Government of Tanzania is committed to addressing the low birth registration and certification rates of children in Tanzania. In 2011, with the support of UNICEF, RITA developed a five year Under-Five Birth Registration Strategy (U5BRS, 2011-2015) which provides for a new approach to the birth registration system in order increase registration and certification.

To make access much easier for parents and reduce the huge backlog, instead of relying on one Registrar in each district, Registration Agents are trained at ward level not only in local government administrative offices, but also in hospitals and health clinics, allowing children to be registered at birth or at the same time as immunization. The process has also been simplified – in one step parents are able to register their child and receive a birth certificate immediately. In addition, obtaining a birth certificate for under-5s was made free of charge.

With UNICEF support and in partnership with TIGO, RITA has also developed innovative technology which quickly uploads records of all birth registrations to a centralized system through SMSs sent on mobile phones.



The system does not require internet connectivity and the application is not dependent on a particular hand set or operating environment – it is designed to work on all models of mobile phones and operating systems. This ground-breaking system allows for real time monitoring of birth registrations at national, regional and local levels. Rates of registration can be extracted by region, district and ward, all the way down to the registration centres themselves, and can extract data by age and sex.

The new approach was piloted in April 2012 in one district of Dar Es Salaam - Temeke. The demand for birth certificates in the pilot area far exceeded expectations, paving the way for a major scale up of the birth registration campaign in 2013. With funding from DFATD-Canada, the system was scaled up to Mbeya Region in July 2013. Between July 2013 and February 2014, as can be seen above, the new system reached 127,866 children (representing an increase from 8.9% to approximately 30.34% of the under-5 population registered), putting the programme on track for reaching the target of an increase of 46% in under-5s with birth certificates. The programme is starting the roll out of the simplified system in Mwanza Region in April 2014.

This proposal, developed in full consultation with RITA (the main partner for the implementation of this initiative) foresees the scaling up of the model of birth registration, successfully implemented in Temeke District and Mbeya Region. The proposal also integrates lessons learned to date. In particular, while the launch of the birth registration system created a huge surge in demand, we witnessed a drop off in demand in the months following the launch. The initiative builds in sustained follow up, support, monitoring and community engagement in the regions following the initial launch, in addition to increased temporary human resources to meet the initial demand. Interfaces are also introduced with health and social protection programmes to catch those not registered at birth.

A Memorandum of Agreement setting out the respective responsibilities for the new birth registration system will soon be signed between the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs (under which RITA sits), the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and Prime Minister's Office- Regional and Local Administration. In addition to the U5BR Strategy, the MOU provides the basis for scaling up the system in advance of the enactment of a new law on birth and death registration.

Relevance of the proposal

Over the last few years, the issue of birth registration has moved higher up the national development agenda and attracted considerable interest from both political and technical circles. In September 2010, the UN Secretary-General launched a USD 40 billion "Every Woman Every Child" plan to scale up women's and children's health services in developing countries. An "Accountability Commission" was appointed to help guide the plan's implementation whereby one of the top priorities is birth registration. Tanzanian President H.E Jakaya Kikwete was appointed as one of the co-chairs together with the Canadian Prime Minister H.E. Steven Harper. This provides a very conducive political environment for moving forward the birth registration agenda in Tanzania.

At the technical level, a regional workshop on accountability for women and children's health, which took place in Dar es Salaam in February 2012, concluded with a firm commitment from participating countries, including Tanzania, on strengthening national Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS). Within this commitment, improving birth registration systems was one of the top priorities. This commitment was reiterated by the Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs in October 2013 while attending a meeting on the Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics. In addition, birth registration of under-fives has been included as one of the indicators for the General Budget Support (GBS) discussions between the Government and budget support donors. There is therefore significant momentum to advance birth registration in Tanzania at this time and the national counterpart, RITA, is committed to capitalize on this with the right support from its partners.

The proposed initiative is also reflected in the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP, 2011-2015) in Tanzania, which contributes to the national development strategy (MKUKUTA II) goal of 'providing adequate social protection and rights of the vulnerable and needy groups with basic needs, services and protection'.

2. Scaling Up Birth Registration in Tanzania – Initiative Approach

The initiative focuses on providing birth certificates to under-five children in 10 regions. By the end of 2019, 90% of new-borns will be registered and be provided with certificates, while mechanisms for capturing children not registered at birth will ensure that 70% of all children under the age of 5 have certificates. During the lifetime of the initiative, 3.5 million children will have been registered and received certificates while under the age of 5.

The assumptions and targets underlying this expected outcome are as follows:

- Scale up will reach two regions per year;
- Local government authorities, including health facilities, will fully assume responsibility for implementing the birth registration system, in accordance with the forthcoming Birth and Death Registration Act; and
- Significant percentage of the backlog of non-registered under-5s will be met during the launch period in each region and through linkages with health and social protection services which reach the majority of children in every region.

Priority regions will be selected on the basis of:

- low birth certification rates;
- possibility of pairing regions for the scale up to ensure cost effectiveness; and
- Possibility of linking birth registration with other sectoral interventions, including with activities related to maternal and child health.

3. Logic Model

Please see Annex 1

Narrative of the logic model

The Scaling up Birth Registration in Tanzania Initiative aims to increase the accessibility and efficiency of birth registration services while ensuring the new system can be effectively scaled-up and sustained at the national level.

To achieve this, it will be essential for the Tanzanian government to 1) create robust government management and oversight systems for birth registration and 2) to strengthen the supply and demand factors contributing to increased under-five birth certification rates on the mainland.

To realize the first intermediate outcome on creating an enabling environment for birth registration, the initiative will establish the necessary legislative and regulatory framework to support the new birth registration system by clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of each government body involved. The initiative will also promote greater coordination between such bodies; strengthen the capacity of RITA, the lead implementing agency, to better manage the new system at a larger scale (nationally); and enhance the monitoring, evaluation and reporting tools and processes necessary for RITA, primarily through the groundbreaking Under Five Birth Registration Dashboard, to build a strong, evidence-based case for ongoing support and scale-up of the new birth registration system. These interventions will position the Government of Tanzania, and especially RITA, for national scale up of the new birth registration system.

Overall strategic leadership and oversight will be provided by the **Inter-Sectoral Technical Committee** of the Under-5 Birth Registration Initiative. UNICEF will support RITA with technical assistance in the management of the project and upstream policy engagement and advocacy leading to change of relevant legislation and policies on birth registration. Being a trusted partner, UNICEF has been asked by RITA to act as Secretariat to the Inter-Sectoral Technical Committee, which comprises the key players to be involved in the strategy, notably the Prime Minister's Office for Regional Administration and Local Government, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the National Bureau of Statistics, and the National Identification Agency. The initiative will ensure that the birth registration system is an integral part of the ongoing CRVS reform in the country through engaging with the multi-sectoral coordination on CRVS.

To realize the second intermediate outcome, in ten regions, the main emphasis is on putting in place a simplified and decentralized birth registration system to allow all new-borns to be registered and to receive their certificates free of cost. This will be achieved through a partnership between health facilities, Ward Executive Offices, and the regional and district registration officers. The existing service infrastructure included only 133 registration offices on the mainland (one registration office per district, covering an average of over 6,000 km² of service area per district office). This initiative will provide registration services in about 80 registration points per district, reducing the maximum distance to registration points from 45 km to 5 km. The very nature of civil registration requires that mechanisms put in place for the new birth registration system are embedded in the already existing government service delivery infrastructure (especially health and local government). The system will therefore be sustained beyond the timeframe of this initiative.

This initiative covers various supply-side interventions designed to strengthen the capacity of local governments to carry out registration activities more efficiently and effectively and to scale-up birth registration services in the regions. Such interventions include maximizing mobile uploading of registration data from registration centers utilizing the innovative technology designed as part of the initial scale up, ensuring optimum procurement processes to efficiently deliver and track registration

supplies and equipment throughout regions; and implementing rigorous monitoring, evaluation and reporting measures to ensure regions regularly communicate progress or challenges with registration while receiving the requisite feedback from RITA to continuously improve.

To complement the registration of new-borns, and to address the significant backlog of unregistered children under 5, transitional mechanisms will be put in place. This includes expanded birth registration task teams at regional and district level to provide technical support and to monitor the implementation carried out by the registration agents. It includes motivating the registration agents while addressing the significant backlog but awarding best performing agents. It also includes linking the birth registration initiative to existing government services in the regions, such as the cash transfer programme (where applicable) and to the immunization programme.

The second component also encompasses key demand-side interventions aimed at increasing overall demand for birth certification in the target regions. While birth registration is compulsory, the logistical and financial obstacles to registering births are insurmountable for most. In addition, lack of birth certificates is not perceived as a constraint to accessing basic social services. For these reasons, activities are included that are designed to increase awareness of the value of birth registration among Regional and District authorities, as well as community and religious leaders. In addition, the initiative also includes various targeted promotion mechanisms to increase public awareness of the value and importance of obtaining a birth certificate. Such mechanisms will be applied prior to, during and after implementation of the new system in each region.

4. Partnerships for the Implementation of the Initiative

The Scaling up of Birth Registration Initiative is based on a strategic partnership between UNICEF and other key actors, each offering unique value towards the achievement of increased birth registration in Tanzania.

RITA, the lead government agency in Tanzania responsible for civil registration, will be the main implementing partner. In each region, RITA will coordinate the scale up, conduct awareness-raising campaigns, ensure quality and timely delivery of training on the new birth registration system, and conduct monitoring and evaluation. It is important to note that the sub-national registration infrastructure has moved from RITA to Local Government Authorities (LGA) under the **Prime Minister's Office for Regional Administration and Local Government**. The collaboration between RITA and PMO-RALG will be governed by the soon to be signed MOU and the forthcoming legal framework. UNICEF will work very closely with PMO-RALG and the LGAs for the scale up in each region.

VSO, an international NGO working in Tanzania for over 50 years, provides technical assistance through qualified volunteers to strengthen capacity in local organizations. For the Under-5 Birth Registration Initiative, a Project Manager has currently been assigned to RITA, providing invaluable technical assistance for project planning, implementation and oversight. In addition to continuing this technical support for programme management, UNICEF will partner VSO to augment its technical support to RITA through the provision of an additional volunteer at RITA headquarters. At the regional level, UNICEF will partner with VSO to bolster the regional birth registration task teams, through the provision of international professional volunteers at regional level and national volunteers at district level.

UNICEF and RITA will continue its highly successful partnership with **TIGO**, which has committed to provide the necessary mobile network access, mobile phones and SMS services in five of the ten regions to enable local registration agents to upload registration information to the RITA central registration database (Under-5 Birth Registration Dashboard) in real time, as well as zero profit text messaging in the other five regions. In addition, UNICEF will explore partnerships with other mobile service providers to cover other regions.

5. Performance Measurement Framework

Please see Annex 2

6. Responding to Risks

1. Risk (Definition)	2. Risk Response	3. Initiative LM Outcome Statement	4. Residual Risk (1 to 4, representing very low, low, high, and very high)
Development Risks			
DR1—There is a risk that approval of the new law is delayed, impacting the implementation of the new birth registration system in the short term and the long term.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An MOU between the three key ministries (Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Prime Minister's Office – Regional and Local Administration) will be signed as an interim measure before implementation. 2. UNICEF will work closely with RITA to draft the law and its regulations in consultation with key stakeholders to ensure the new birth registration system is well reflected in the new law. . 3. UNICEF will work closely with RITA to advocate with the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, the Attorney General's Office and influential Parliamentary Committees to ensure the 	Strengthened government management and oversight systems for birth registration	Impact (2), likelihood (2)

	expedited adoption of the new law and its regulations.		
DR2— There is a risk that poor network availability in parts of targeted regions will slow down, or prevent, the uploading of registration information through mobile phones.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regions will be selected with good mobile coverage. 2. Agreements will be secured with network providers to allow full geographical coverage. 3. Additional support is included in the project to allow for registration forms to be collected and scanned on a regular, scheduled basis to ensure data on birth registration is captured. 	Increased under-five birth certification in mainland Tanzania.	Impact (2), likelihood (3)
DR3—There is a risk that high-demand following the launch of the rollouts will overwhelm health facilities, affecting their ability to effectively carry out core health services.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Temporary teams will support health facilities to manage the clearing of backlog of registrations. 2. After the initial launch, health facilities will be encouraged to develop specific weekly schedules for carrying out birth registrations (i.e. registration 	Increased under-five birth certification in mainland Tanzania.	Impact (3), likelihood (2)

	days).		
DR4— There is a risk that the cost of supplies may increase, impacting the procurement of supplies within the existing budget.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A cost-analysis for bulk ordering will be undertaken before implementation. 2. Fixed price contracts will be used. 	Increased under-five birth certification in mainland Tanzania.	Impact (2), likelihood (3)
DR5— There is a risk limited or inconsistent messaging on birth registration following the roll out will lead to a significant drop in demand for birth registration in those regions.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There will be increased focus on sustained follow up post roll out in the target regions, including through the temporary retention of a regional task team. 2. Standard documentation with key information for local administrators and community leaders will be distributed to ensure consistent communication of the birth registration issues 3. Adequate quantity of posters and communication materials will be distributed throughout regions, posters will be displayed in a way that cannot be easily removed 	Increased under-five birth certification in mainland Tanzania.	Impact (3), likelihood (3)

	<p>and District Community Development Officers will have the responsibility for monitoring and replacing posters and other communication materials.</p> <p>4. To ensure the targets are being reached with the right messages, the awareness raising activities will be assessed on an ongoing basis.</p>		
Overall initiative risk level			Overall Residual Risk Rating
<p>The overall risk level of the U5BRI initiative is rated as low (2). Political will for the implementation of the initiative is strong and the model that will be scaled up has been successfully tried and tested, with lessons learned incorporated into this proposal. A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed before the project begins, diminishing obstacles for health and local government staff to implement the new birth registration system in the target regions. There is also promising progress on the development of a new law on birth and death registration and the political will to ensure its speedy passage through Parliament.</p>			2

7. Initiative Plan

See Annex 3

Management of the Plan

Two UNICEF personnel (one international and one national) will be dedicated to the implementation and monitoring of this initiative, with oversight from the Chief of Section, who will also lead engagement with national partners. Weekly project meetings will be convened between UNICEF and RITA in order to closely monitor the implementation of activities, plan for the scale up in each region, trouble shoot and monitor impact. These have already proven to be an effective tool during the implementation of the current DFATD funded scale up of the birth registration system. UNICEF will undertake regular monitoring visits to the target regions. The initiative also foresees the development and implementation of a robust M&E system with RITA, which will track both the implementation and impact of the initiative. Quarterly meetings will be held with key government partners (Inter Sectoral Technical Committee) in order to plan for scale up and address obstacles to implementation.

UNICEF Tanzania operates under the strict internal financial, procurement and human resources procedures applicable to every UNICEF office. In addition, strict internal rules and external rules govern transfers of funding to government and non partners and monitoring of the utilisation of those funds.

8. Sustainability of Results

The initiative focuses on ensuring sustainability of the new birth registration system, ensuring sustainability of demand for the service and laying the ground for scaling up nationwide by strengthening the capacity of Government partners.

The birth registration system and its scale up is Government owned and Government led, with RITA at the helm. The initiative will focus on assisting RITA to strengthen its capacity to manage the scale up of the system nationwide. In addition, RITA has already secured temporary secondment of personnel from other government agencies to support the role out and will advocate for permanent dedicated posts to be created for birth registration.

The enactment of the new Birth and Death Registration Act will embed the new system into law, clearly defining responsibilities of government agencies and creating legal obligations for local government authorities to ensure the registration and certification of children. The capacity building component will ensure that registration agents have the skills and knowledge to implement their mandate. Integrating the registration role in the job description of key health and local government authority workers will ensure that individuals carry out their roles and responsibilities. While initial demand will increase significantly at registration centers following the launch in each region, long term increase in workloads will be minimal - civil registration is a low volume service; in Tanzania 2.3 million vital events (births and deaths) occur yearly. For an estimated 12,000 planned registration points/agents this implies an average daily workload of less than one vital event to be registered per workday, if all births and deaths are registered - this is a workload that can be easily sustained in the ten regions following the end of this initiative.

While it is envisaged that the day to day functioning of the birth registration system will be absorbed into the national and local government budgets, it must be recognized that expanded human resources are temporarily required at national and regional level to scale up the registration of new births and to address the huge backlog. Investment in ICT, supplies and training is also required. While there are positive indications that the Government of Tanzania will partially fund the scale up, there will be a reliance on development partner funds to achieve nationwide coverage. Coordination and advocacy efforts will be undertaken amongst development partners to secure this funding.

The initiative by its nature extends service delivery to citizens that previously could not afford to avail of the service and targets the most marginalized children through creating linkages with the social protection system. No bias with regards to gender is foreseen.

The Dashboard will be made available not only to RITA coordinators and Local Government Authorities, but also to registration centers and agencies to facilitate monitoring of results, targeted follow up and utilization of data for planning purposes.

9. Coordination and linkages with other initiatives

There is growing interest in birth (and death) registration, and in the technology platform utilised for this initiative, from a range of development partners (e.g. WHO, World Bank, PATH, Plan International, and Children's Investment Fund Foundation) with different priorities and different target groups. To ensure maximum impact for birth registration of their potential investment, efforts must be coordinated. UNICEF will work with RITA to convene development partners on a regular basis, in advance of and during the implementation of this initiative, to capitalise on investment in this sector, coordinate engagement, ensure a shared vision and common approach to scaling up birth registration and to monitor impact.

Birth registration does not and should not sit in isolation from the civil registration system. Interest and engagement at the national and regional level is growing in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRSV). Following a commitment under the Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (APAI-CRVS), the Tanzania Government, led by RITA, is about to embark on a comprehensive CRVS assessment. UNICEF sits on the newly created Inter-Ministerial Committee on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (IMC-CRVS) along with RITA, National Identification Agency, National Electoral Commission, National Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, WHO and UNFPA. The IMC-CRVS will oversee the assessment and the implementation of its recommendations. UNICEF will continue to promote coordination with the Tanzanian National Identification Agency and National Electoral Commission in order to strengthen harmonization of Tanzania's birth registration system with other key personal identification systems, and to capitalise on the investment in voter registration and provision of national IDs. These two processes may in particular help to address the backlog of unregistered older children (16 and above) and adults.

10. Key issues

Environment

The U5BRI Initiative aims to use existing physical infrastructure (local government offices, and health facility buildings) and there are no plans to build new physical structures under the project. . Monitoring and evaluation activities in the regions will require transportation to registration facilities, as will the delivery of supplies from RITA headquarters to the regions and from the regions to districts. However, the improved tracking of supplies, particularly birth registration forms, under Activity 1213.4 of the Logic Model is expected to reduce unnecessary travel and thus associated CO2 emissions. Overall, the initiative is environmentally neutral.

Gender Equality

Globally birth registration is largely a gender-neutral activity and there is limited evidence to suggest parents favour the registration of boys over girls or vice-versa. Tanzania is no exception to this norm according to the latest Demographic and Health Survey. The percentage of children who are registered and have a birth certificate is 7.7% for both girls and boys. The percentage of children that are registered but do not have a birth certificate is 8.9% for boys versus 8.2% for girls (difference within margin of sampling error).

The Dashboard allows continuous monitoring of the rates of birth registration as the system is scaled up and is able to disaggregate registrations by sex of the child. Data from Mbeya shows a 51% male to 49% female split in the rate of birth registration. This does not demonstrate a significant gender inequality amongst beneficiaries, but the Dashboard will allow gender equality to be monitored throughout the life time of the initiative and disparities will be quickly identified and addressed.

The public awareness activities and the public engagement through local leaders and front line workers will communicate the importance of registering both girls and boys.

Governance

Birth registration and legal identity have been included as a proposed goal under good governance for the Post-2015 Development Agenda by the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons. A fully functioning civil registration system is essential for a normal functioning of society and for law and order. Only when all citizens have a legal identity can there be a legal relationship between state and citizens.

Further, registration immediately after birth is a human right for children enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Article 7).

The development of a legal framework (see Immediate Outcome 1110 under the Logic Model) will strengthen and clarify accountabilities for the implementation of the birth registration system. The new law will also define the manner in which materials, information and financial flows shall be managed and accounted for, and how accountabilities for skill transfer including training, capacity development and supervision shall be carried out and managed. Through regular meetings of the Inter-Sectoral Technical Committee on Birth Registration (see Activity 1113.1 under the Logic Model), RITA and partner ministries will monitor and review the scaling up the initiative. Collectively, the new law and the Inter-Sectoral Technical Committee will strengthen governance of, and create an enabling environment for, the new birth registration system.

11. Budget

A. Budget by Expense

Summary of Eligible Budget Categories		DFATD	UNICEF	Other Organizations (Tigo)	Total
			In-Kind	In-Kind	
1.1	UNICEF Staff costs	\$1,788,800	\$385,000	\$0	\$2,173,800
	<i>International Programme Manager</i>	\$1,276,680	\$0	\$0	\$1,276,680
	<i>National Programme Officer</i>	\$512,120	\$0	\$0	\$512,120
	<i>Technical support for knowledge management, M&E and oversight</i>	\$0	\$385,000	\$0	\$385,000
1.2	Subcontractors	\$562,000	\$0	\$0	\$562,000
	<i>Technical consultants (international and national)</i>	\$140,000	\$0	\$0	\$140,000
	<i>Local Subcontractors (for national and regional task teams)</i>	\$422,000	\$0	\$0	\$422,000
Sub-Total - Remuneration/Fees		\$2,350,800	\$385,000	\$0	\$2,735,800
1.6	Reimbursable Costs	\$6,849,200	\$0	\$144392.5	\$6,993,592.5
1.6.1	<i>Travel Costs</i>	<i>\$1,631,500</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$1,631,500</i>
1.6.3	<i>Training Costs</i>	<i>\$451,000</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$451,000</i>

1.6.4	Other Training Costs	\$1,068,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,068,000
1.6.6	Goods, Assets and Supplies	\$660,000	\$0	\$87,255	\$747,255
1.6.7	Project Administration Costs Directly Related to the Project	\$337,300	\$0	\$0	\$337,300
1.6.8	Other Direct Costs identified under the Project (list here): 01 - Promotional materials \$567,600 02-Multimedia communication \$ 749,100 03-Internet & Email connection for birth registration uploading \$ 3,300 04-SMS charges for birth registration \$ 46,200 05-Software License Fees \$ 144,100 06-Printing & Photocopying (inc birth certificates)\$ 1,008,000 07-LAN installation fees \$ 171,600	\$2,701,400	\$0	\$57137.50	\$2,758,537.50
Sub-Total - Direct Project Costs Eligible for the Application of the Overhead Rate		\$9,200,000	\$385,000	\$144,393	\$9,729,393
1.7	Allowance for Indirect/Overhead Costs	\$800,000	\$0	\$0	\$800,000
TOTAL CONTRIBUTION TO INITIATIVE		\$10,000,000	\$385,000	\$144,393	\$10,529,393
TOTAL INITIATIVE VALUE		\$10,529,393			

Cost Sharing

What percentage of the total budget will your organization contribute? 4 %

Will this contribution be in cash? ~~YES~~/NO

Will this contribution be in-kind? YES/~~NO~~

B. Budget by Activity

ACTIVITY	\$Cdn
1111.1 Finalize the Birth and Death Registration law.	13,640
1111.2 Advocate for the enactment of the Birth and Death Registration Law.	0
1112.1 Develop the regulations and guidelines to operationalize the new birth registration system as per the Birth and Death Registration Law, including transitional provisions to address the backlog.	37,860
1113.1 Coordinate an inter-ministerial committee on civil registration and vital statistics.	17,875
1113.2 Convene regular meetings of the Inter-Sectoral Technical Committee to monitor and review the scaling up of the birth registration system.	25,000
1113.3 Develop and disseminate working protocols between RITA, PMO-RALG and MoHSW in order to clarify roles and responsibilities and engagement between the two ministries and RITA.	14,500
1121.1 Advocate for the appointment of an adequate number of dedicated staff for implementation of the birth registration system and advocate for the establishment of a training department within RITA.	0
1121.2 Integrate the new national legislative framework into the national standard training manual on birth registration.	3,000
1121.3 Train a core team of 60 national facilitators.	216,000
1121.4 Develop a Central Helpline Service in RITA headquarters to provide ongoing support for Registration Assistants.	0
1131.1 Develop the monitoring and evaluation framework for birth registration.	0
1131.2 Facilitate regular communication between RITA and the Regional Coordinators to monitor progress of implementation.	0
1131.3 Organize annual meetings between RITA and the Regional Coordinators to share lessons learnt.	55,000
1131.4 Support RITA to carry out monitoring visits at Regional and District levels.	250,000

1131.5 Support the Birth Registration Dashboard to monitor progress by management.	0
1131.6 Conduct a mid-term and final evaluation of the U5BRI program.	145,500
1131.7 Conduct a mid-programme and end of programme conference on results, challenges and lessons learnt.	25,000
1131.8 On the basis of evaluation findings, advocate for adequate resource allocation for national scale up of birth registration.	0
1211.1 Translate and disseminate regulatory framework and guide to relevant local government officers.	13,200
1211.2 Train district registrars and District Community Development Officers to train local government registration agents (health workers and Ward Executive Officers).	236,000
1211.3 District trainers conduct ward level training for health and Ward Executive Officers registration agents.	878,000
1212.1 Enter into partnership agreements with key mobile service providers operating in the 10 regions.	0
1212.2 Acquire connectivity to Virtual Private Networks in 10 regions as needed.	3,437.5
1212.3 Install all required ICT equipment at regional and district council offices in 10 regions.	188,020
1212.4 Facilitate uploading of registration in areas of non-connectivity by task team.	13,000
1213.1 Procure required registration materials prior to rollouts in 10 regions (include birth registration forms, ICT equipment, promotional materials, stationeries, etc.)	187,8000
1213.2 Distribute all required registration materials to 10 regions prior to rollouts.	49,566
1213.4 Implement a new supply tracking system in 10 regions.	0
1214.1 Create M&E Frameworks for each region including access for the program regions and districts to the real-time Birth Registration Dashboard.	90,000
1214.2 Carry out monitoring across districts immediately following each regional rollout.	94,000
1214.3 Provide registration Monitoring and Reporting templates to regional and local authorities.	0
1214.4 Organise post-rollout follow-up meetings with Regional and District Authorities.	282,000
1221.1 Recruit temporary regional and district task teams to support the regional and district registrars to provide oversight and technical support for implementation of birth registration.	632,000
1222.1 Sensitize health workers responsible for immunization on referral of infants for birth registration to the registration agents at health facilities.	50,000
1222.2 Incorporate recording of birth registration number in the Health Mother and Baby book.	0
1222.3 Link birth registration to the roll out of the cash transfer programme (Tanzania Social Action Fund) in the selected regions.	15,000
1223.1 Organize an annual award for the best performing registration agents.	16,500
1231.1 Hold briefing meetings to familiarise regional and district authorities with the birth registration system and their roles prior to the scale-up in each region.	157,000
1231.2 Capacitate community leaders, religious leaders and school teachers to advocate for birth registration, including reminding them of their legal requirement to notify birth events if not registered.	83,000

1231.3 Provide information packages and guidelines on how to increase awareness of birth registration to district authorities, community and religious leaders, and to teachers.	18,560
1232.1 Conduct public awareness campaign prior to and during rollout: radio announcements, roadshows, distribution of printed materials and community meetings.	1,120,000
1232.2 Conduct public awareness campaigns post-rollout in 10 regions.	642,000
TOTAL	7,262,658.5

C. Summary Budget

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	Total
Overall initiative budget	\$2,343,729	\$1,943,729	\$1,980,645	\$1,980,645	\$2,280,645	\$10,529,393
DFATD's contribution	\$2,200,000 (94%)	\$1,800,000 (93%)	\$1,900,000 (96%)	\$1,900,000 (96%)	\$2,200,000 (97%)	\$10,000,000 (95%)
Applicant's contribution (in kind)	\$77,000 (3%)	\$77,000 (4%)	\$77,000 (4%)	\$77,000 (4%)	\$77,000 (3%)	\$385,000 (4%)
Other contributions (in kind)	\$66,729 (3%)	\$66,729 (4%)	\$3645 (0%)	\$3645 (0%)	\$3645 (0%)	\$144,393 (1%)

12. UNICEF's Ability to Deliver Results for Children

Working since 1945 and with a presence in more than 190 countries, UNICEF is the leading global organisation for the promotion and protection of children's rights. Birth registration is a key focus of UNICEF's strategic plan. UNICEF has supported the development of standards and guidelines on birth registration and launched in 2013 a new report on the status of birth registration globally (Every Child's Birth Right: Inequities and trends in birth registration) as well as on best programming practices ([A Passport to Protection: A guide to birth registration programming](#)). In the latter publication, Tanzania was identified as an example of good practice in birth registration.

In Tanzania, over 100 staff based in Dar Es Salaam, Iringa and Zanzibar engage in national, sub national and community level advocacy and programming to achieve results for children. The staff is comprised of experienced programme managers and technical experts in, amongst others, legal reform, child protection, health, social protection and monitoring and evaluation, as well as birth registration, supported by a finance, procurement and operations team. Results based management is central to our programming. The human rights based approach to programming and gender mainstreaming are applied in the development of and reporting on our programmes both internally and under the United National Development Assistance Plan in Tanzania.

Relevant country experience

Globally UNICEF has a very wide experience in successful implementation of large donor funded birth registration programmes, which the Tanzania Country Office is able to draw on. Examples of this experience which are relevant to the scale up in Tanzania are provided below.

In Tanzania, UNICEF is uniquely placed to support the scale up birth registration, having partnered with the Government since 2010 to develop and implement the new birth registration system. Through this engagement, UNICEF has developed expertise in this sector and strong linkages with RITA, MoCLA, PMO-RALG and MoHSW, as well as effective partnerships with TIGO and VSO. UNICEF is currently effectively managing and implementing a DFTAD-Canada grant to scale up the system to five regions.

Examples of Current or Past Initiatives

Support for Birth Registration in Tanzania USD 1,300,770	United Republic of Tanzania
Geographic scope: The initiative covers five regions – Mbeya, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Geita and Simiyu.	
UNICEF Tanzania Birgithe Lund-Henriksen, Chief, Child Protection +255 22 219 6699	
Start date (month / year): June/2012	Completion date (month / year): June/2015
Name of partners (i.e. consortium partners) if any: Registration Insolvency Trusteeship Agency (RITA) and Voluntary Services Overseas	
<p>Narrative description of initiative:</p> <p>The initiative seeks to scale up a new birth registration, which was successfully piloted in one district of Dar Es Salaam, to five regions, achieving an increase of 46% of under-5s with birth certificates from the baseline.</p> <p>The initiative is directly relevant to the proposal, representing the first stage in the scale up of the new birth registration system. The lessons learned from the scale up in Mbeya (the first target region) has directly shaped this proposal.</p>	
Environmental sustainability, if applicable: N/A	
<p>Gender equality, if applicable:</p> <p>The Dashboard allows continuous monitoring of the rates of birth registration and is able to disaggregate registrations by sex of the child. Data from Mbeya shows a 51% male to 49% female split in the rate of birth registration, demonstrating the absence of gender inequality amongst beneficiaries. The Dashboard will allow gender equality to be monitored throughout the life time of the initiative.</p>	
<p>Governance and human rights, if applicable:</p> <p>The establishment of an effective birth registration system directly implements a key child's rights enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child the right of children to be registered immediately after birth. The initiative directly contributes to strengthening public sector capacity to promote and ensure this right, through its support to RITA and local government institutions.</p>	
Risks	

Support for Birth Registration in Tanzania USD 1,300,770	United Republic of Tanzania
<p>A key risk for the implementation of this initiative is that non legally mandated bodies (PMO-RALG and Ministry of Health and Social Welfare) would not cooperate with the scale up of the initiative. UNICEF supported RITA to engage in high level advocacy to secure the national support of these Ministries and to secure support of the regional and district authorities in the target regions. In advance of a law being drafted, UNICEF also supported RITA to develop a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and Prime Minister's Office – Local and Regional Administration, to explicitly set out the roles and responsibilities of the Ministries. This MoU will be signed before the scale up to the second region – Mwanza.</p>	
<p>Local capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RITA <p>UNICEF provides technical and programme management support to RITA, both directly through UNICEF staff and through the placement of a VSO volunteer at RITA headquarters.</p>	
<p>Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By June 2015, under-five birth certification increased by 46 percent in Mwanza, Geita, Shinyanga, Simiyu and Mbeya regions • Strengthened data management, monitoring, evaluation, and oversight systems for birth registration <p>The real time Dashboard shows that between July 2013 and February 2014 the new system reached 90,354 children (representing an increase from 8.9% to approximately 30.34% of the under-5 population registered – a total of 127,866), putting the programme on track for reaching the target of an increase of 46% in under-5s with birth certificates.</p>	
<p>Lessons learned and course corrections adopted, regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been recognised from the experience in Mbeya that a longer lead in time to prepare the regional authorities and the provision of on site and remote support following the implementation of the initial scale up is required • A larger temporary team is required to support the scale up of the initiatives at national and regional level to support the local government authority and registration agents to implement their new responsibilities. This is partially addressed in the current initiative, but is able to be fully addressed in this proposal. • The success of this initiative to date has generated interest amongst other development partners. It is essential that support and investment is coordinated and capitalised upon. During this initiative, UNICEF will support RITA to convene key development partners to coordinate this potential support. • The experience in Mbeya demonstrated that although there is a huge surge in demand following the launch of the initiative at regional level, this demand drops significantly in the following months. This has led to increased support provided for registration facilities during the initial stage of the roll out and sustained follow up, support, communication initiatives and engagement to ensure effective implementation of the system and continued demand for the service. 	
<p>Funding Agency:</p> <p>DFATD-Canada</p>	

Initiative name and approximate value: Right to identity: Using mobile technologies to improve delivery of, and access to, birth registration services for all children (US\$ 4,721,674)	Country: Uganda
Geographic scope/initiative location within country: Country-wide	
Name of recipient: UNICEF Uganda Pasti, Silvia / Ms. Tel. #: (+256) 4 1717 1600 Email: spasti@unicef.org Chief, Child Protection Child Protection Kampala, UGANDA	
Start date (month / year): September 2010	Completion date (month / year): On-going
Name of partners (i.e. consortium partners) if any: Uganda Registration Services Bureau and Uganda Telecom	
Narrative description of initiative: <p>With support from UNICEF, the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) is developing a Birth Death Registration policy to create an enabling environment; is implementing a Mobile Vital Records System that was developed through a public-private partnership, to improve timely delivery of BDR services in hospitals and local governments; and has worked with the Ministry of Health to integrate birth registration into health outreach programs known as Family Health Days (FHDs). Faith Based Organizations mobilize their congregations to access outreach services including birth registration, and also provide spaces where the services are delivered. Mobile Vital Records System is intended to provide all children in Uganda irrespective of the geographical location of their place of birth, with an opportunity to access birth registration services.</p> <p>The initiative is relevant in Tanzania, especially the use of innovative technologies, the creation of health facility based system to reach parents and children and the engagement with faith based organisations. It must also be noted that UNICEF Tanzania and RITA drew on the Ugandan model to inform the development of the system in Tanzania.</p>	
Environmental sustainability, if applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
Gender equality, if applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mobile Vital Records system allows for real time data on registration disaggregated by sex. The Registration rates for female/male children are not found to differ significantly 49%v51%. 	
Governance and human rights, if applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The establishment of an effective birth registration system directly implements a key 	

Support for Birth Registration in Tanzania USD 1,300,770	United Republic of Tanzania
<p>child's rights enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child the right of children to be registered immediately after birth. The initiative directly contributes to strengthening public sector capacity to promote and ensure this right, through its support to the Uganda Registration Services Bureau and the health sector.</p>	
Risks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mobile Vital Records System depended on a mobile network that was weak in some areas hampering the achievement of comprehensive coverage. Where the network problems occurred, it was arranged that a paper registration system would be used and a system was set up to transfer these records to the sub county where birth records could then be digitalized and printed. 	
Local capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2013, URSB trained 312 hospital staff from 80 hospitals and 557 staff from an additional 11 district local governments to properly fill the birth registration forms as well as use Mobile VRS to register births and print birth certificates. In addition, each of all the 80 hospitals and 11 district local governments were provided with office equipment and materials to operationalize the system. This brings the total number of hospitals and district local governments that are using Mobile VRS to register births and print birth certificates to 135 hospitals and 36 out of 112 districts respectively. 	
Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80% of under-5s registered by the end of 2014 <p>Since September 2011, when the first baby was registered using Mobile VRS in Mulago national referral hospital, a total of 1,486,344 persons have been registered in the system in 135 hospitals and 33 out of 112 local governments, of which 602,925 are children under 5 years.</p> <p>This has contributed to an estimated 11.13% national increase in birth registration for under 5s from an estimated 37.4% in 2012 to approximately 48.53% in 2013. An estimated 65% of birth certificates have been printed for registered children from Mobile VRS.</p>	
Lessons learned and course corrections adopted, regarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor internet connection and intermittent power made the use of a computer based system unreliable and unworkable. Offline computer software and especially the introduction of a mobile phone based system provided a cheap and generally reliable solution. The introduction of Mobile VRS has led to an increase in demand for birth registration services, likely due, at least in part, to the timeliness and reliability of the system. The development and use of open-source, multifunctional applications has been highly attractive to a range of different potential users and has increased the opportunities to leverage resources. Integration of birth registration into health outreach programmes (Family Health Days) has contributed to tackling the backlog 	
Funding Agency: US\$ 4,721,674 UNICEF—regular resources and Other Resources (European Commission, Korea, Japan, Denmark).	

Initiative name and approximate value: Integrating services to scale up birth registration in Nigeria (Total budget for the initiative USD 9,508,735; received USD 1,633,041)	Country: Nigeria
Geographic scope/initiative location within country: Country-wide	
UNICEF Nigeria Noriko Izumi, Chief, Child Protection, UNICEF Nigeria	
Start date (month / year): 2011	Completion date (month / year): On-going
Name of partners (i.e. consortium partners) if any: National Population Commission	
Narrative description of initiative: <p>While in Nigeria there are legal provisions that mandate the National Population Commission (NPopC) to register all births free of charge and NPopC operate in all 36 states, only 41.5% of children under five years of age have their births registered (MICS 2011).</p> <p>To reach unregistered children, a community based strategy which used Maternal Newborn and Child Health weeks (which attempt to reach all children under 5 with oral polio vaccinations and other high impact health interventions) was implemented with UNICEF support. Local NPopC registrars coordinate with health providers to ensure the registration services are available on immunization days at the health centres.</p> <p>In January 2011, UNICEF supported the implementation of a decentralized monitoring system using a mobile-phone based platform called RapidSMS. The system was designed to identify real time birth registration disparities amongst the seven data processing centres operating country wide and facilitate prompt interventions by the NPopC managers at state and federal levels. Every two weeks, registrars report the number of birth registration cases using SMS to a central database. Raw data is posted on a website (www.br.rapidsmsnigeria.org), which is also accessible to the general public.</p> <p>In addition to learning from the implementation of the mobile-phone based platform, the creation of effective linkages with health initiatives that are able to rapidly access large numbers of children, including hard-to-reach children, are highly relevant to the Tanzania scale up.</p>	
Environmental sustainability, if applicable: N/A	
Gender equality, if applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rapid SMS website shows disaggregation by sex, age and State that allows gender equality for registration to be closely monitored • Registration rates for female/male children do not differ significantly in the States 	

Initiative name and approximate value: Integrating services to scale up birth registration in Nigeria (Total budget for the initiative USD 9,508,735; received USD 1,633,041)	Country: Nigeria
Governance and human rights, if applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of an effective birth registration system directly implements a key child's rights enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child the right of children to be registered immediately after birth • RapidSMS has greatly enhanced accountability of registrars as their registration numbers are available in the public domain. 	
Risks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registrars giving erroneous information intentionally or unintentionally was mitigated through the implementation of regular audits by appointed federal and state level monitors 	
Local capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registrars and managers from LGAs, States and Federal headquarters trained 	
Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid SMS system operational in all States and Local Government Authorities and birth registrations increased to 65% for children under 1. • By October 2012, all of the 3148 NPopC registrars from 774 LGAs had been trained on the use of RapidSMS and had started posting information regularly • Children registered by their first birthday increased from 10% in 2009 to over 40% in 2012 • The monthly rate of registration (all age groups) increased from 13,956 in January 2013 to 90,914 in July 2013 	
Lessons learned and course corrections adopted, regarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to successful engagement in linking birth registration with vaccination drives, collaboration with the health sector was expanded to the Midwives Service Scheme and the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition programme which provided access to registration to marginalised children • In October 2012, the NPopC and the National Primary health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) state level representatives conducted two joint regional workshops to further address the issues around supply chain management. These joint workshops were helpful for NPopC management in recognizing critical gaps in their practice of planning/managing supplies (i.e. birth certificates, registration paper), compared to NPHCDA (which carry out the projection-based quarterly plan/supply of vaccines for the same target population - children under one year of age). A joint workshop in 2013 focused on adopting the health sector's supply chain management for ensuring timely and adequate birth registration supplies. • The Nigeria experience has shown that determining the right entry point for decentralised monitoring and close follow up is very crucial. In Nigeria, the determinant analysis was introduced around the time when the NPopC team was reviewing the RapidSMS data from the first-phase of its implementation and thus the interest level and buy-in from key partners was high. Thus, strategic engagement of the senior management of the NPopC at the very early stage of RapidSMS reporting 	

Initiative name and approximate value: Integrating services to scale up birth registration in Nigeria (Total budget for the initiative USD 9,508,735; received USD 1,633,041)	Country: Nigeria
<p>pilot was a critical factor in securing active participation and involvement of registrars and managers from LGAs, States and Federal headquarters in applying the determinant analysis and follow up activities including development of decentralized monitoring framework and action plans.</p>	
<p>Funding Agency: UNICEF Regular Resource, Government contribution, European Union</p>	

Independent Evaluations

See Annex 4a Cameroon and 4b Mozambique