



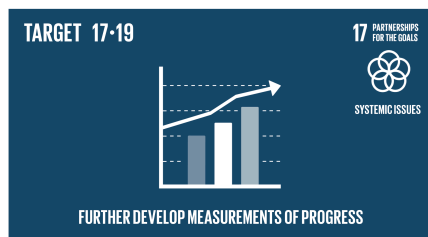
# United Nations Legal Identity Agenda

## *Fulfil the promise to Leave No One Behind*

### Legal identity—from birth—is a fundamental human right.

Hundreds of millions of people worldwide lack proof of legal identity—the vast majority are children who were never registered at birth.

Legal identity for all—starting from birth—is a **game-changer** to close the global identity gap & fulfil the promise to **leave no one behind** and realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



### What you should know about the UN LIA

**WHAT:** The **United Nations Legal Identity Agenda 2020- 2030 (UN LIA)**, backed by the Deputy Secretary-General, was launched as a One UN approach to support Member States building holistic, country-owned, sustainable civil registration, vital statistics and identity management systems.

**HOW:** Its efforts focus on closing the global identity gap—*with a benchmark goal of ‘more than 300 million by 2025’*—and, in turn, providing Member States with the vital statistics and demographic information needed for socio-economic gains, better public administration, planning & monitoring.

Plans to set-up the **UN LIA Multi-Partner Trust Fund** are underway. **The MPTF will:**

- Facilitate a cohesive approach across the UN systems to respond to Member States’ requests for support to strengthen their legal identity policy & programming at all levels.
- Allow major funding & development partners supporting efforts across the UN system to pool resources & maximize investments.

*Stay tuned for more about the launch of the UN Legal Identity Agenda!  
Calls for commitments in support of the UN LIA are open during 2019.*

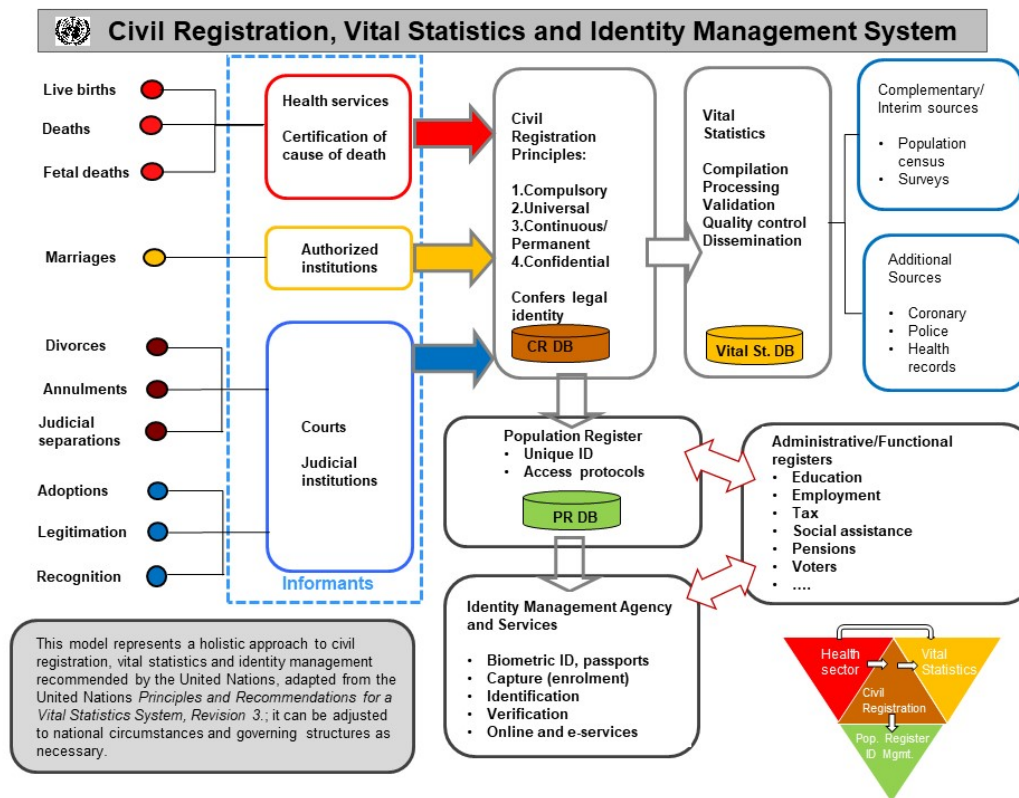
*Together  
we can  
close the  
global  
identity gap  
by over  
300 million  
by 2025.*

### 6 Things You Should Know About Legal Identity

- **Legal Identity is defined as** the basic characteristics of an individual’s identity—e.g. name, sex, place and date of birth conferred via registration & official certification at birth by an authorized civil registration (CR) authority.
- **If a birth can’t be registered**, legal identity can be given by a legally-recognized identification authority linked to a CR system to ensure a holistic approach from birth to death.
- **Legal identity is retired by** the issuance of a death certificate by a CR authority following death registration.
- **For refugees**, Member States are primarily responsible for issuing proof of legal identity; but it can also be provided by an internationally recognized & mandated authority.
- **Proof of legal identity is defined as** a credential—e.g. birth certificate, identity card or digital identity credential—recognized as proof of identity provided by law.
- **Marriage, divorce and adoption** are life events that may require a legal change in components of your identity such as your name and family ties.

## Civil registration is key to unlock legal identity

Civil registration (CR) establishes the existence of a person under the law and is fundamental for granting legal identity, and producing the data needed to plan, monitor & measure country development efforts. Functioning CR systems provide people with legal identity documents—starting with a birth certificate—that prove their legal status and help to safeguard their rights throughout their lives.



## Without legal identity the HUMAN IMPACT is SEVERE.

Without proof of legal identity, individuals may not be able to acquire a nationality & become stateless. Women & children may also be forced to resort to participation in the informal labor market, & risk being subjected to extremely poor working conditions, trafficking, sexual exploitation, lack of access to justice, & more.

- ✓ It's a women's rights issue.
- ✓ It's a children's rights issue.
- ✓ It's a minority rights issue.
- ✓ It's a development issue.
- ✓ It's an equality issue.
- ✓ It's a justice issue.



## UN Legal Identity Expert Group (UN LIEG)

Established in September 2018 at the request of the UN Secretary-General and backed by the UN DSG, the UN LIEG in support of the UN Legal Identity Agenda (2020-2030) aims to:

- take a unified approach to legal identity across the UNDS & strengthen collaboration with the World Bank
- support Member States to accelerate progress to achieve SDG 16.9 & SDG 17.19

And calls for a life-cycle approach to legal identity by establishing universal & inclusive legal identity systems starting from birth.

### UN LIEG Structure (14+ UN Agencies and 2 Regional Economic Commissions):

**Co-Chairs:** UNICEF, UNDP, DESA

**Members include:** DOCO, IOM, ITU, OCHA, OHCHR, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, DESA, UNDP, UN Women, UNODC, UNSD, WFP, WHO. UNECA and UNESCAP are designated representatives of the Regional Economic Commissions.

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