

# Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) System in Namibia

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# I. BACKGROUND: Namibian CRVS system – NPRS (National Population Registration System)

- Dates back to 1900, however, before 1990, civil registration was not mandatory in practice (only registration of white population & black population in urban areas was practically compulsory).
- CR was made available to whole population after 1990.
- Ministry of Home Affairs & Immigration (MHAII) rolled out a large mobile registration program to register all vital events, specifically births and deaths in different parts of the country.

# I. BACKGROUND: Namibian CRVS system – NPRS (National Population Registration System)

- First time registration of a vital event is free, duplicates attract a minimal fee.
- 2011: MHAJ introduced an integrated web-based NPRS with birth, marriage and death components.
- Objective of integrated and interoperable NPRS – to consolidate all civil events under one demographic profile
- 2013: System improved to enable digitization of all civil processes and records.

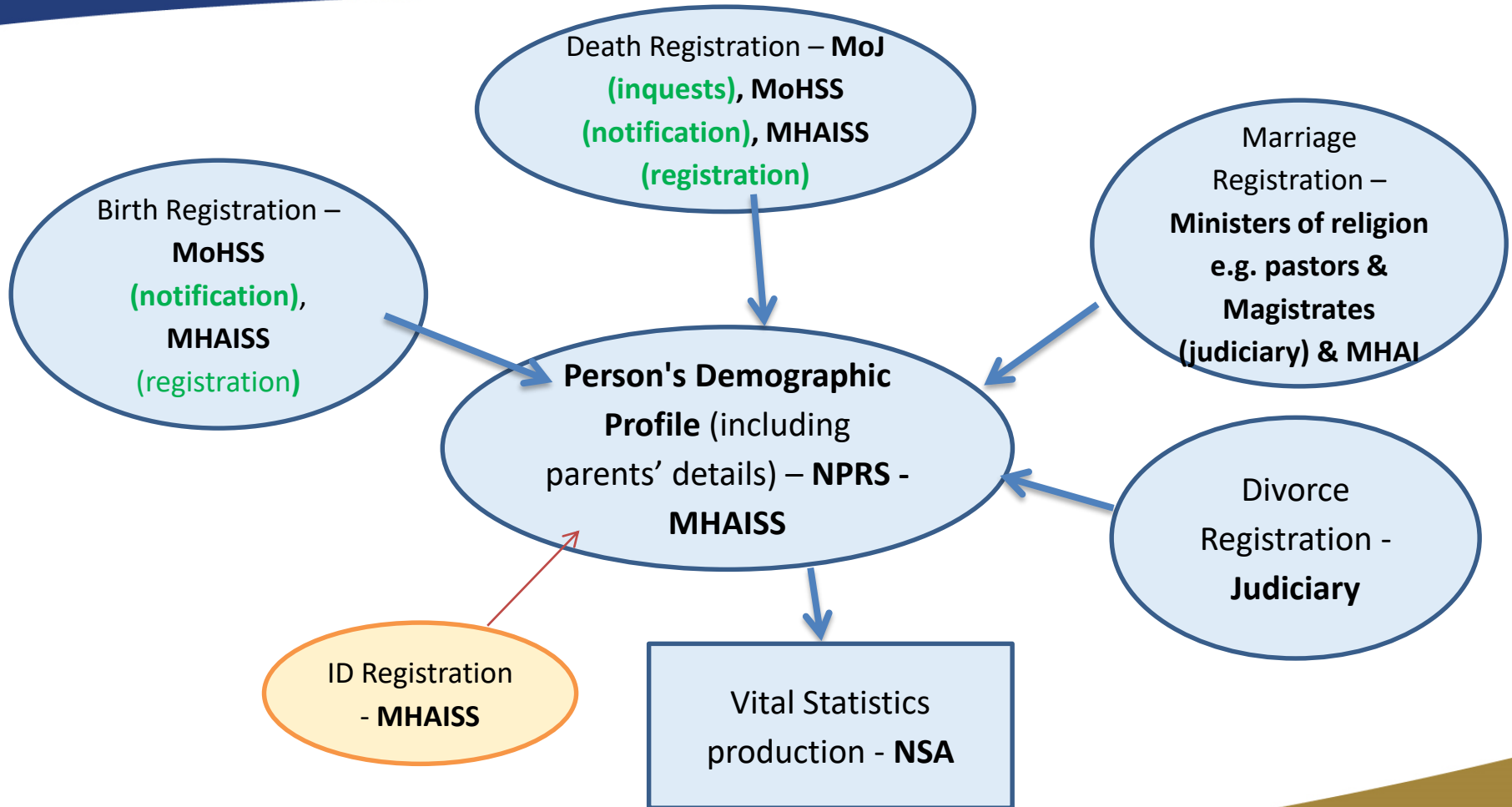
# I. **BACKGROUND:** Namibian CRVS system – NPRS (National Population Registration System)

- 2017: Introduction of **e-birth notification** to improve timely birth registration and,
- 2018: Introduction of **e-death notification** to improve timely death registration
- E-notifications system is linked to the NPRS.
- NPRS encompasses both CR and Identity Management
- System is solely owned by Government

## II. LEGISLATIVE PROVISION: CRVS system

- **Legislative provision:**
  - Constitution, adopted in 1990, (right from birth to a name, right to nationality)
  - **Births, Marriages and Deaths Registration Act, 1963** mandates the Ministry to register vital events (births, deaths & marriages)
  - **Identification Act, 1996** mandates Minister responsible for Home Affairs to keep and maintain a Population Register (Population Register is hosted in the NPRS)
  - **Statistics Act, 2011** mandates NSA to produce official statistics (*including Vital Statistics*)

# III. Main stakeholders of CRVS system



# IV. Uses of NPRS in Namibia

- **The Government is one of the main users for:**
  - National ID data
  - Births
  - Marriages
  - Deaths
  - Etc
- **Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) is the other user for the Production of Vital Statistics**
  - Birth Registrations in Namibia: 87.8% of births registered
  - IDs: 82.9% Namibna IDs & 0.8% South West African IDs



# IV. Uses NPRS for social protection

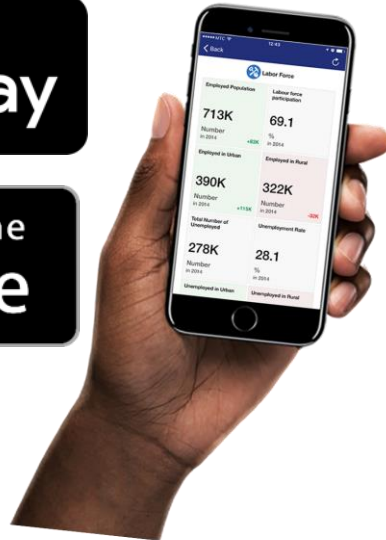
- Constitution (Article 4) lays down requirements for Namibian citizenship.
- Qualifying citizens and permanent residents are eligible to receive social grants (for persons that are aged, disabled, orphans and vulnerable children)
- Birth registration and identity management are key in providing proof of legal identity and citizenship.
- NPRS is therefore pivotal - enabling access to social grants:
  - Registration of births, marriages and deaths ensures that the right people benefit as required e.g. inheritance, social grants etc.

# V. How Namibia used NPRS during COVID19

- Birth & death registrations not affected by lockdown as they were considered essential services.
- Covid19 Emergency Income Grant (EIG):
  - required proof of Namibian citizenship (i.e. national ID credentials)
  - all applicants for the grant were verified against the NPRS.
- Ministry used NPRS to validate identity;
- Ministry of Finance approved Emergency Income Grant (EIG) applications for all affected populations during COVID19.

# Thank You

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