



# *Every* child's right to be registered at birth

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# Outline of presentation

## **Introduction**

**1. Current situation**

**2. Why is Birth Registration important?**

**3. Opportunities**

**Conclusion**



# Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

## Article 7

1. The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a **name**, the right to acquire a **nationality** and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents.
2. **States Parties shall ensure the implementation of these rights** in accordance with their national law and their obligations under the relevant international instruments in this field, *in particular where the child would otherwise be stateless.*



# Current situation

**51 million** children born in 2007 not registered

Children living in **rural** areas are often less likely to be registered than children in **urban** areas.

**1/4** developing countries with available data have a BR rate **below 50%**

**Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia:** nearly **2/3** children not registered in 2007

Children from the **poorest households** are twice as likely to be unregistered as children from the richest households



# Why is Birth Registration so important?

Children's "passport to protection"

- Birth registration establishes **formal proof** of a child's *name*, *existence* and *age*.
- This proof can help **protect** the child against:

Early marriage

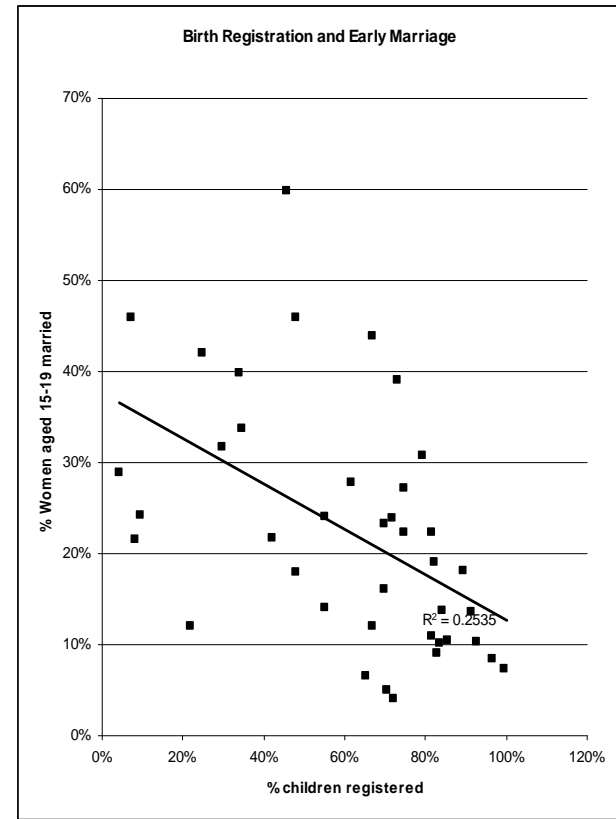
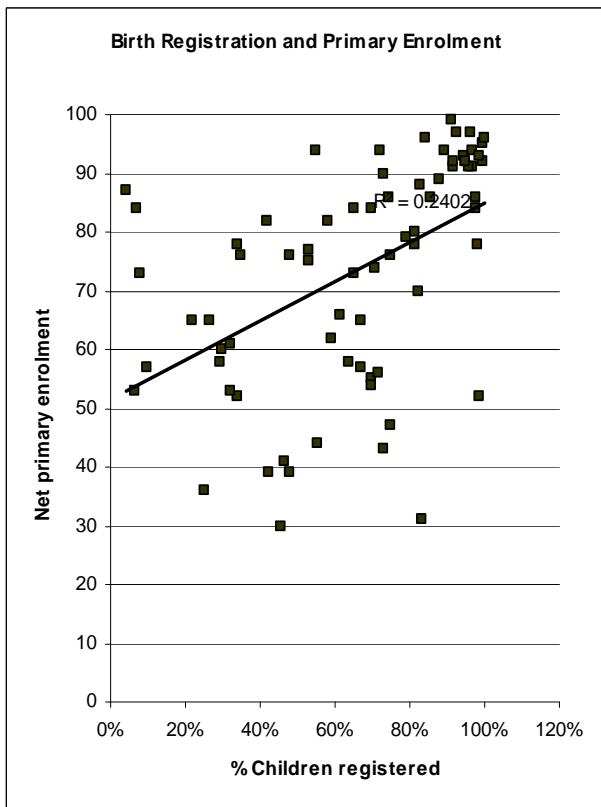
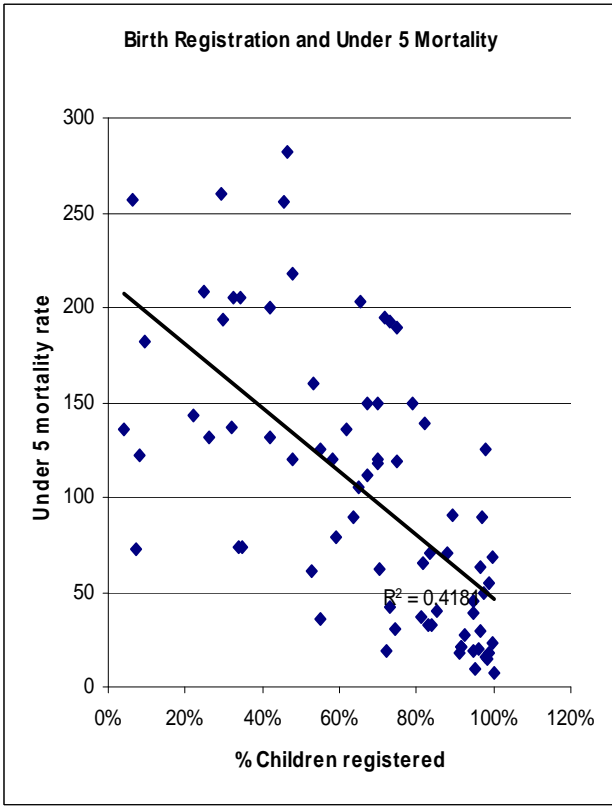
Under-recruitment to armed forces

Child labour

Trafficking

Being tried and sentenced as adults

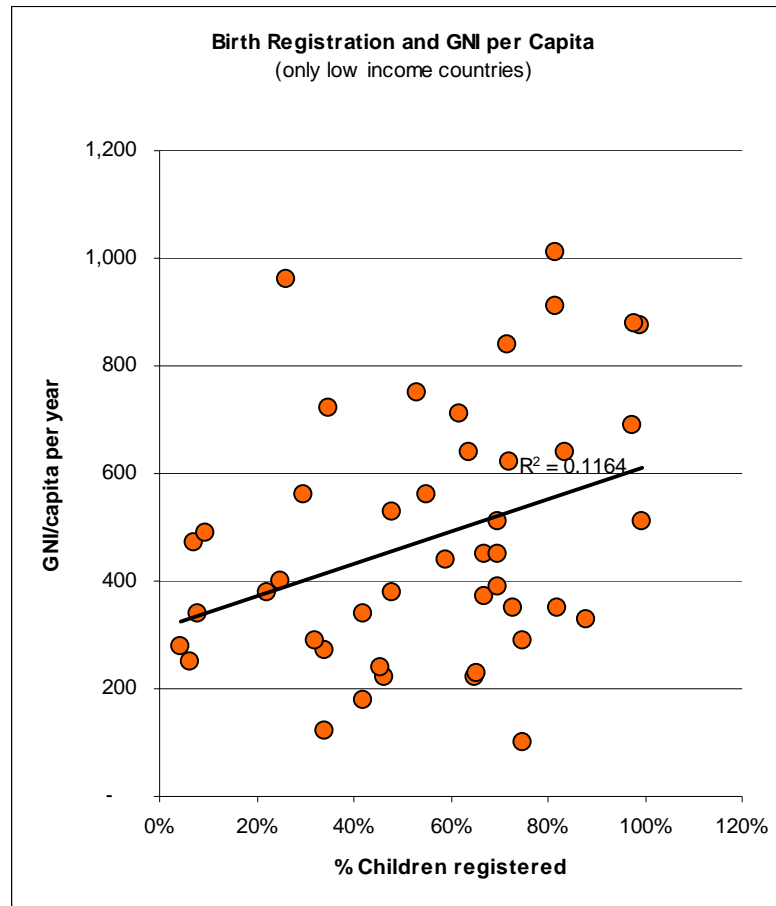
Statelessness





# Opportunities for birth registration

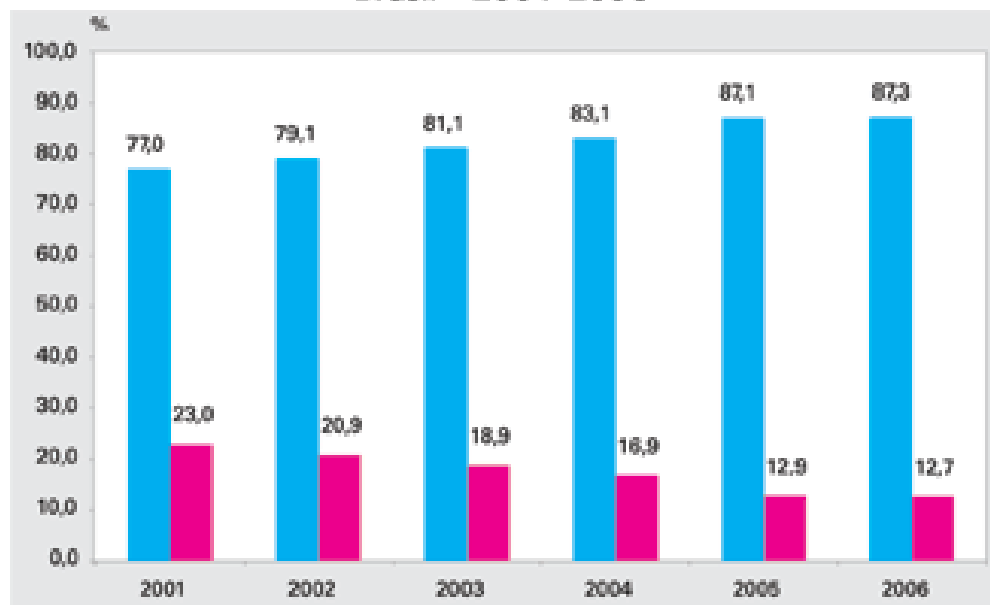
No correlation between income and registration levels





	<b>Children registered at birth</b>	<b>1-year old children vaccinated against BCG</b>
West and Central Africa	<b>41%</b>	<b>73%</b>
East and Southern Africa	<b>36%</b>	<b>83%</b>

Estimativas de cobertura e de sub-registro de nascimento  
Brasil - 2001-2006



 Cobertura  Sub-registro

Fonte: IBGE





# Innovative technology

- Poor state of manual records
- Digitization of mobile technology

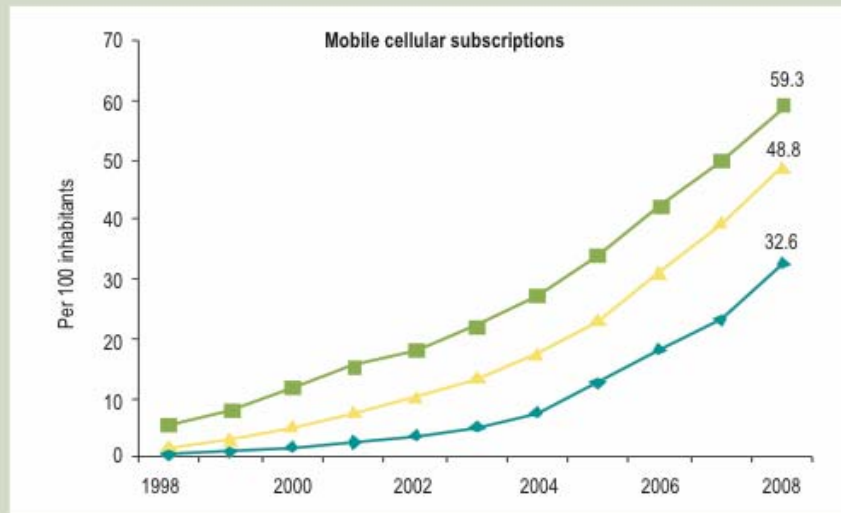


Chart 1.5

Legend:  
■ World  
▲ Developing countries  
◆ Africa

Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database.

Mobile cellular penetration, 1998-2008





# Political commitment

- *Latin America and Caribbean*

Paraguay 2007, Panama, 2011

- *African Union initiative*

*Ethiopia 2010, South Africa 2012*



# UNICEF & UNHCR joining hands

- Projects targeting indigenous and afro-descendant population groups in Latin America
- Cote d'Ivoire: National Programme of Civil Registry Modernization
- UN Rule of Law Unit



# Civil Registration for increased protection and equity

- Increased equity
- Prevention of Statelessness

