



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.

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**

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



Why is Birth Registration so important?

Children’s “passport to protection”

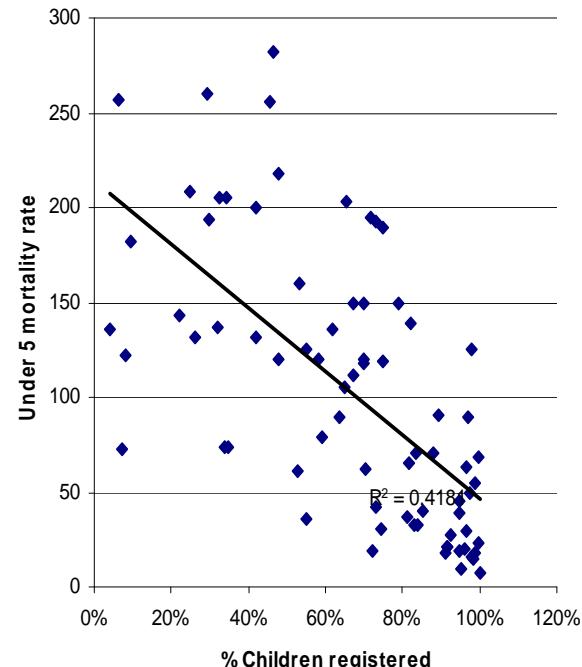
- Birth registration establishes **formal proof** of a child’s ***name, existence*** and ***age***.
- This proof can help **protect** the child against:



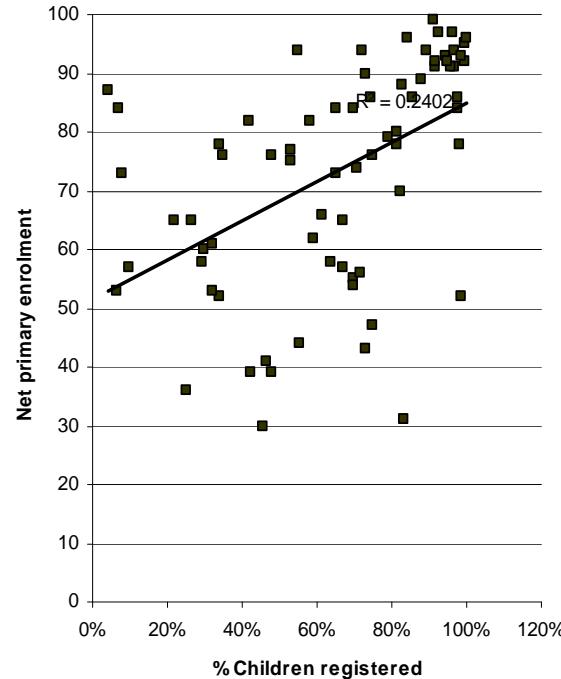
- Early marriage
- Under-recruitment to armed forces
- Child labour
- Trafficking
- Being tried and sentenced as adults
- Statelessness



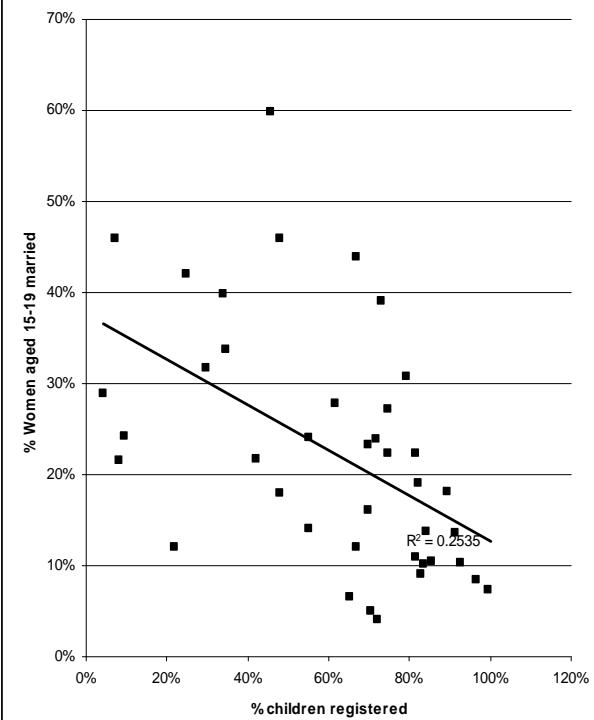
Birth Registration and Under 5 Mortality



Birth Registration and Primary Enrolment



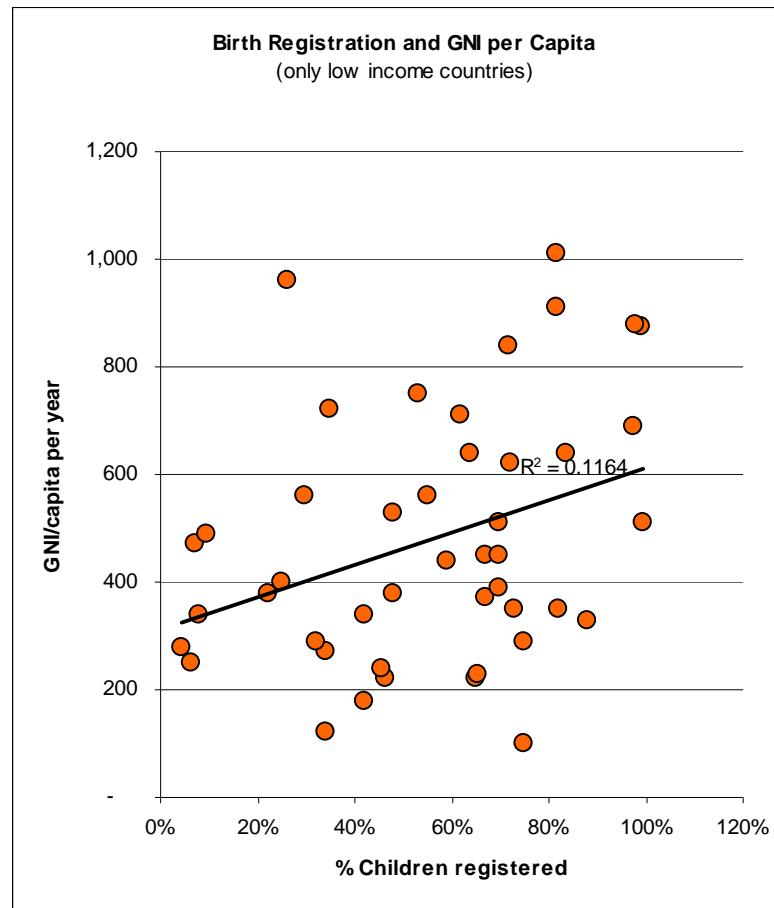
Birth Registration and Early Marriage





Opportunities for birth registration

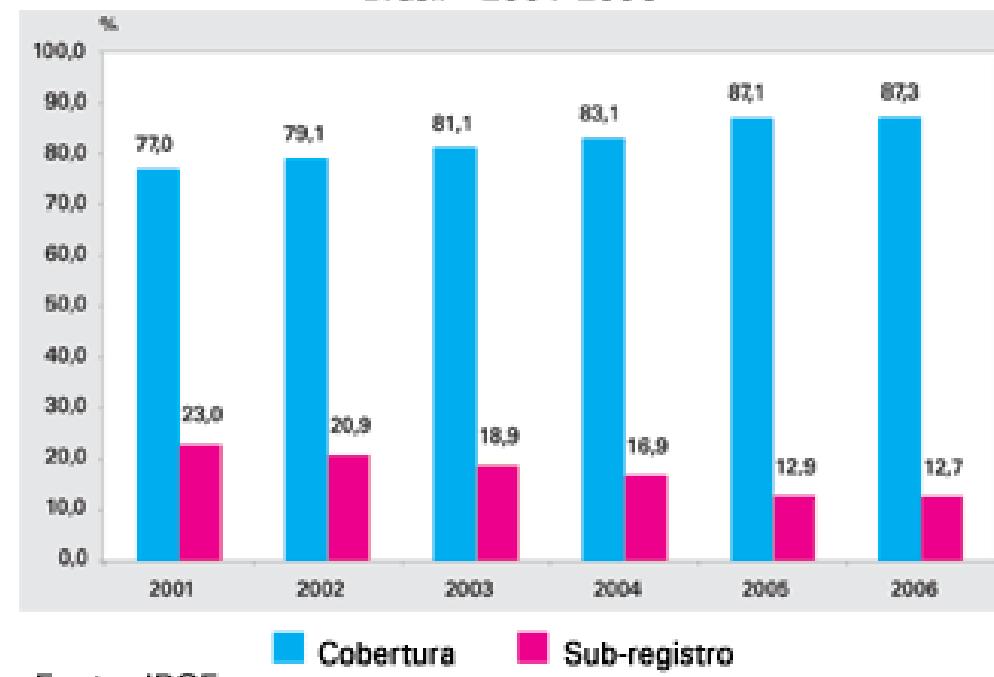
No correlation between income and registration levels





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

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





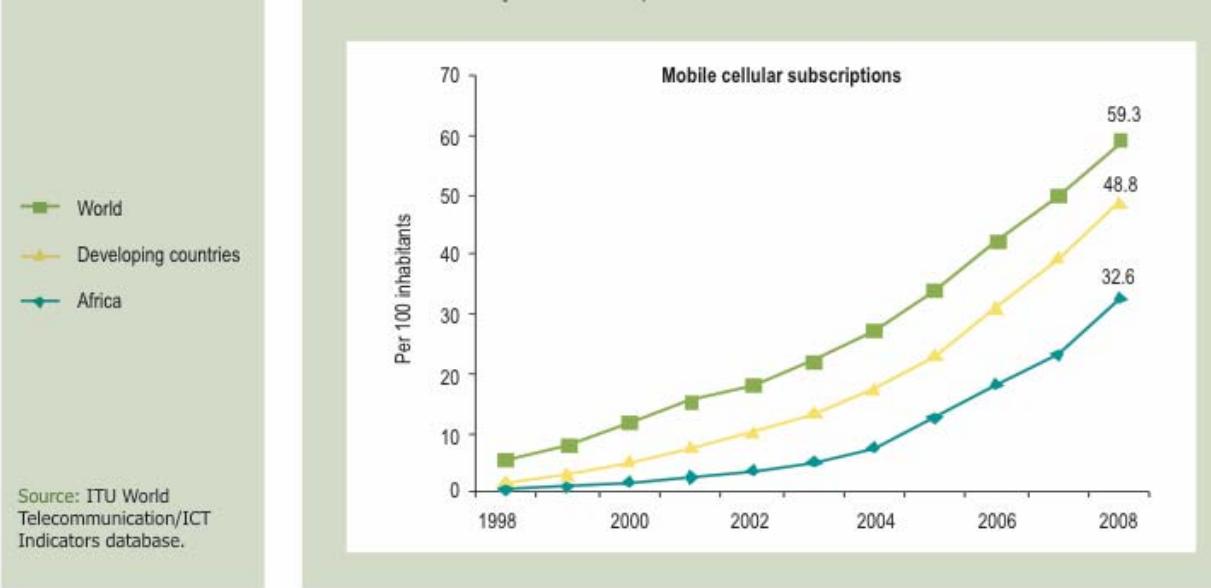
Innovative technology

- Poor state of manual records
- Digitization of mobile technology



Chart 1.5

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

