National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA)

Uganda’s Foundational Identity Framework

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Foundational ID Framework

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Country Profile:

- Population: 34.6 million (UBOS Census of 2014 for the last Population and Housing Census)
- Annual number of births: 900,000
- Deaths: 76 deaths per 1,000
- 57% of children are born within health facilities (UDHS 2011)
- Only 30% of children are registered at birth

Statistics for National ID:

- Population: registered as of April 2016 is 16.6 million
- Total ID Cards Printed so far is 16,149,431
- National Identity Cards Issued = 14.6 million (91% of Registered persons)
Aim

Aim is to highlight the key areas that support Uganda's foundational identity systems and processes.
Uganda’s Identity Systems

**Law Applicable**

- The 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda
- The Registration of Persons’ Act 2015
Background of Registrations

A. Segmented Registrations

- Prior to 2013, Registration of Persons in Uganda was done in a fragmented way.

- Different Government Institutions carried our register citizens and maintain own databases for their own purposes.

- These segmented registrations of persons led to wastage of budget resources.
B. Combining Efforts

In 2013, a team consisting of multiple agencies that are charged with registration of persons was setup in a project which saw the establishment and setup of the National Identification Register from a mass enrolment of citizens.

**objectives of the combining efforts:-**

- Rationalisation of the use of human, Financial and Infrastructural and other resources used in the registration of persons
- Minimize duplicity of efforts toward registration of persons
- Ensure Centralised data collection, access and management
- Harmonise the different registration processes

**Achievement from the combined effort**

A mass Registration of citizens aged 16+ was conducted by the multi-sectoral team for the purpose of national identification.

16 million citizens were registered in 6 month to form part of the National Identification Register was created.
A Single Registration Authority

On 26th March 2015 the Registration of Persons Act 2015 was passed into law. The act aimed at:

• removing duplication from the processes and laws relating to registration of persons;
• harmonising and consolidating the laws on registration of persons;
• establishing a central registration body for the registration of all persons in Uganda;
• establishing a national identification register of all person in Uganda; and
• providing for access and use of the information contained in the national identification register.
The law Established the National Registration and Identification Authority and tasked the authority to:

- to create, manage, maintain and operate the National Identification Register
- to register citizens and non-citizens of Uganda who are lawfully resident in Uganda
- to register all births and deaths and adoption orders in the country and issue appropriate certificates
- to assign a unique National/Alien Identification Number to every person registered in the register;
- to issue National/Alien identification cards and aliens identification cards;
- to verify and authenticate information relating to the registration and identification of persons;
CR and Identification under one Roof

The Government of Uganda appreciated the fact that civil registration is the breeder to the Civil identification Register. It is therefore a critical component in strengthening the credibility of the already established Uganda National Identification Register.

**The choice to link:**

- Legal identity begins at birth, with biographic information collected through the civil registration system thus information is maintained up to a time when a child is of age to acquire a national ID.
- Birth and Death information collected through civil registration is crucial for maintaining the credibility of National Identification Register.

**Recommendation:-**

"Civil registration and national ID should therefore be implemented as subsystems under a single roof"
Foundational and Functional Identity Systems – the interconnection

**Foundational**

- Civil Registration (Birth & Death Regn)
- Identification Register
  - Entry Point – Birth Register and/or Identity Enrolment

**National Identification Register**
  - Record of Unique Population Identities

**Functional**

- National Elections
  - Combat rigging – voter credentials linked to National Identification Register
- Social Security
  - Provide social benefits - Social registry linked to NIR
- Driving Permit
  - Drivers Licenses linked to NIR
- National Security Systems
  - Criminal Registry linked to NIR
- Immigration and Boarder Control
  - Track boarder crossings and link passport issues to NID
the end.