

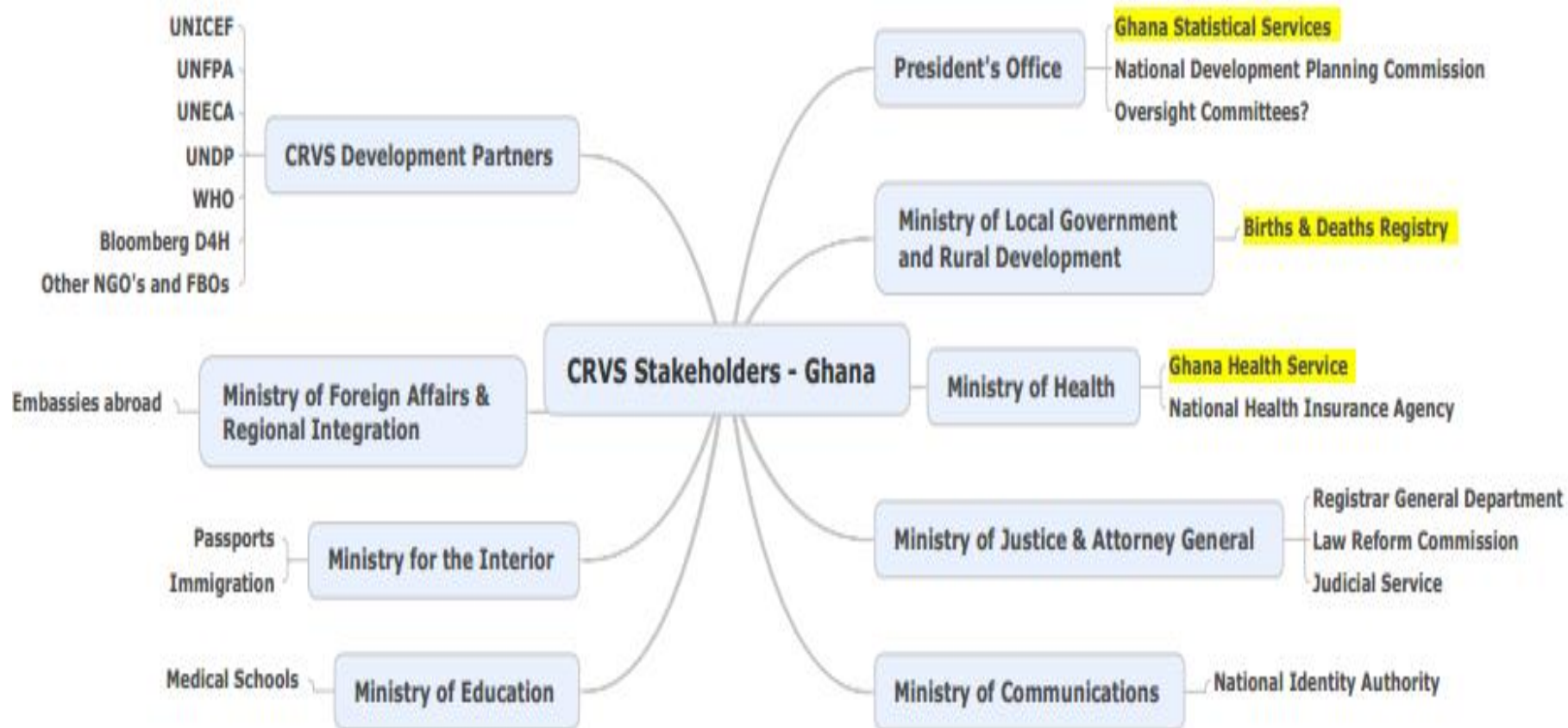


Automated Verbal Autopsy in Ghana: The Role of Community Health Workers and Other Cadres

Francis Yeji (Country Coordinator, D4H Initiative)



CRVS Landscape in Ghana



CRVS Challenges in Ghana

- **Incomplete information**

- Birth registration (~55%), Death registration (~27%)
- COD (~7% - majority, facility-based deaths)

- **Limited access to registration points**

- ~420 registration offices (1 / 67,000 population)

- **Family-led notification**

- No obligation on GHS to notify births or deaths

CRVS Strengths in Ghana

- **Renewed focus on CRVS system strengthening leading to:**
 - Comprehensive assessment (2015)
- **Well-functioning inter-agency coordinating mechanism**
- **Strong human capacity at many key stakeholders**
- **Newly drafted CR law, addressing many key issues**
- **Team of DHIS2 developers**

Data for Health (D4H) Country Strategy

- Use business process mapping to improve system design
 - ✓ Completeness
 - Health facility events
 - Community events
- Extend CR service point coverage and IT digitization strategy
 - ✓ Completeness
 - Health facility events
 - Community events
- Support national rollout of DHIS2 mortality module
 - ✓ Completeness
 - Health facility deaths
 - ✓ Quality
 - COD

D4H Country Strategy

- Use ANACONDA to regularly assess quality of mortality data

✓ Quality
- COD

- Implement community-based automated verbal autopsy

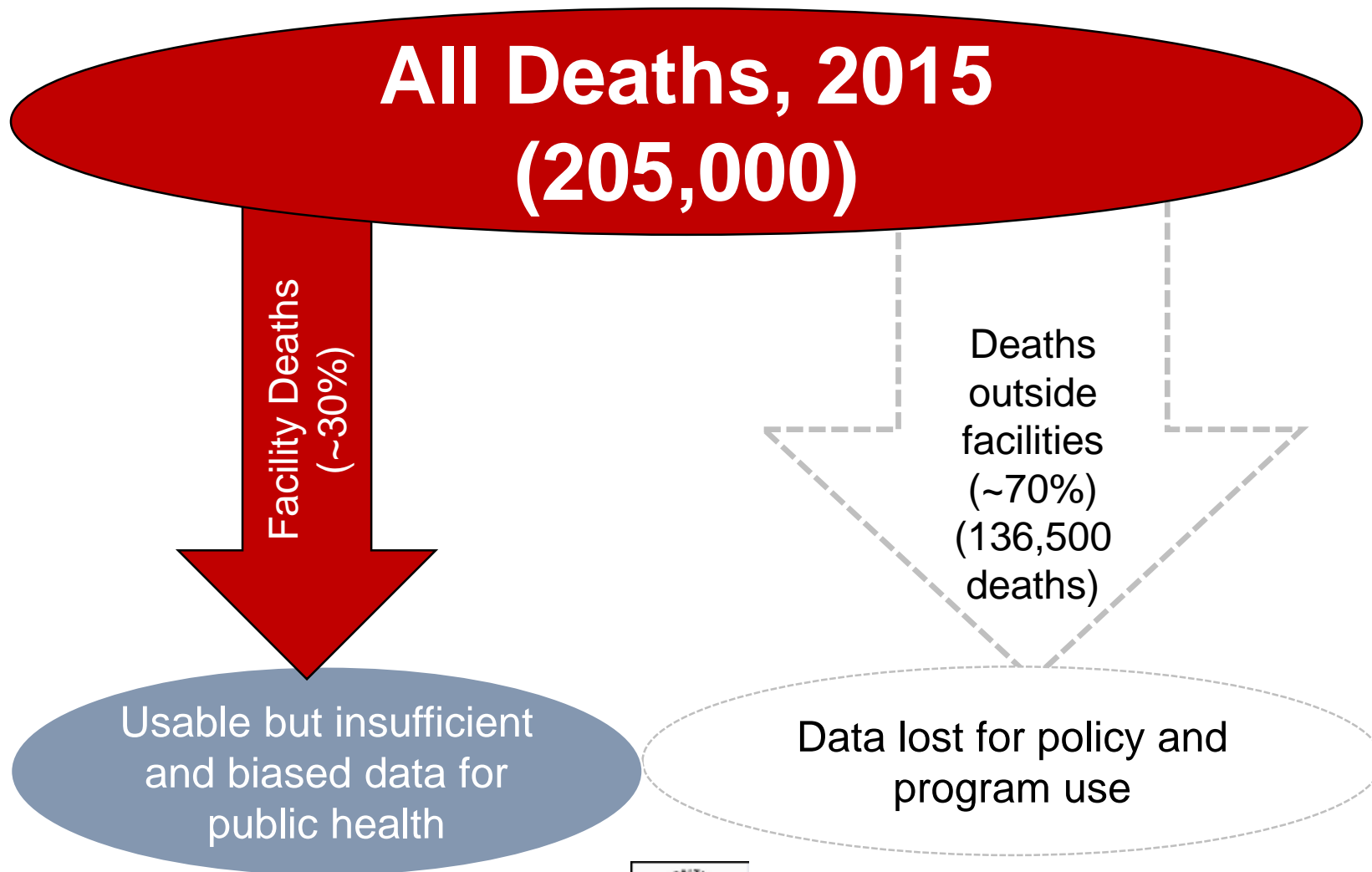
✓ Completeness
- Community deaths

✓ Quality
- COD

- Training course on CRVS data analysis and use (DI component)

✓ Dissemination
- Vital statistics

Death Registration, Certification, and COD in Ghana



Objectives of Community Based VA

- Test an active system of death notification
- Increase the level of death registration
- Improve availability of data on COD
- Generate evidence about the effectiveness and feasibility of a model for community-based death notification and automated VA in Ghana's CRVS

Key Stakeholders

GHS

- National
- Regional
- District
- Sub-district
- Community

GSS

- National
- Regional

BDR

- National
- Regional
- District
- Community

LOCAL COMMUNITY
(Chiefs, Religious leaders, Volunteers etc.)

Community VA Process Mapping

Ghana CRVS for Death in the Community with VA

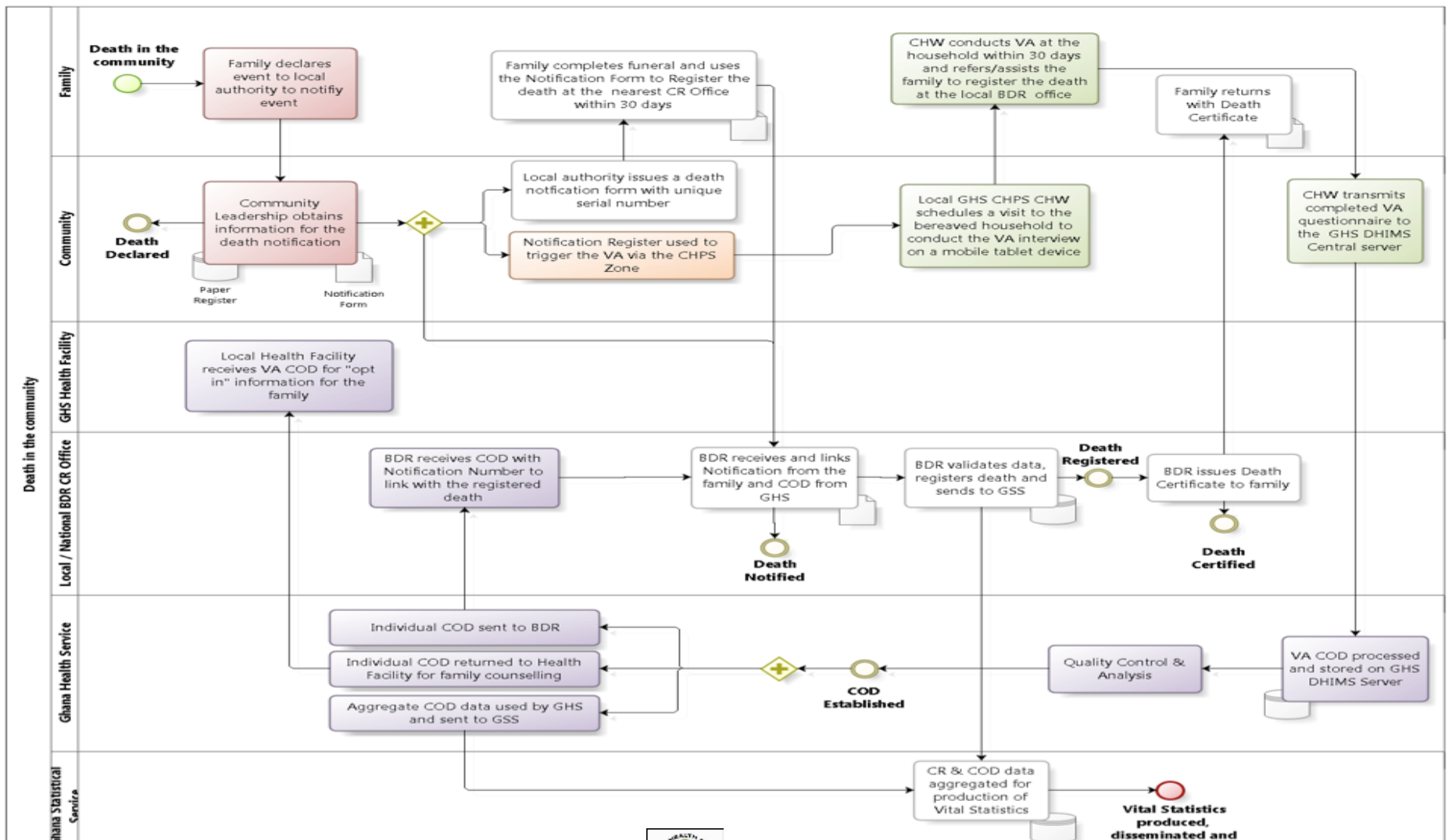
Notification of the event

Trigger the VA

VA data collection and transmission

VA analysis and dissemination of COD

Activities related with registration and certification



Site Selection for VA Pilot



Criteria:

- High crude death rate
- Strong CHPS implementation
- Lack of access to health facilities
- Near but not in HDSS catchment area
- Strong local support for the intervention
- Functional BDR office and volunteers

Death Notification Form: A Giant Step

FORM NUMBER



BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRY

DEATH NOTIFICATION FORM

A. DETAILS ABOUT DECEASED AND EVENT

0.	District / Sub-District /Community	
1.	SERIAL NUMBER	
2.	FULL NAME OF DECEASED	
3.	AGE OF DECEASED	
4.	SEX OF DECEASED	
5.	DATE OF DEATH (DAY/MONTH/YEAR)	
6.	PLACE OF DEATH (State House Address or Name of Facility)	
7.	USUAL ADDRESS OF RESIDENCE	

B. DETAILS ABOUT INFORMANT

1.	FULL NAME OF INFORMANT	
2.	ADDRES	
3.	TELEPHONE NUMBER	
4.	DATE OF REPORTING	

Note: This is not a burial permit or a death certificate.

DECLARATION

I do hereby declare that I have been notified of the death of and permission is hereby granted for the burial of the deceased after the registration of the death with the Births and Deaths Registry.

Name:

Title:

Signature.....

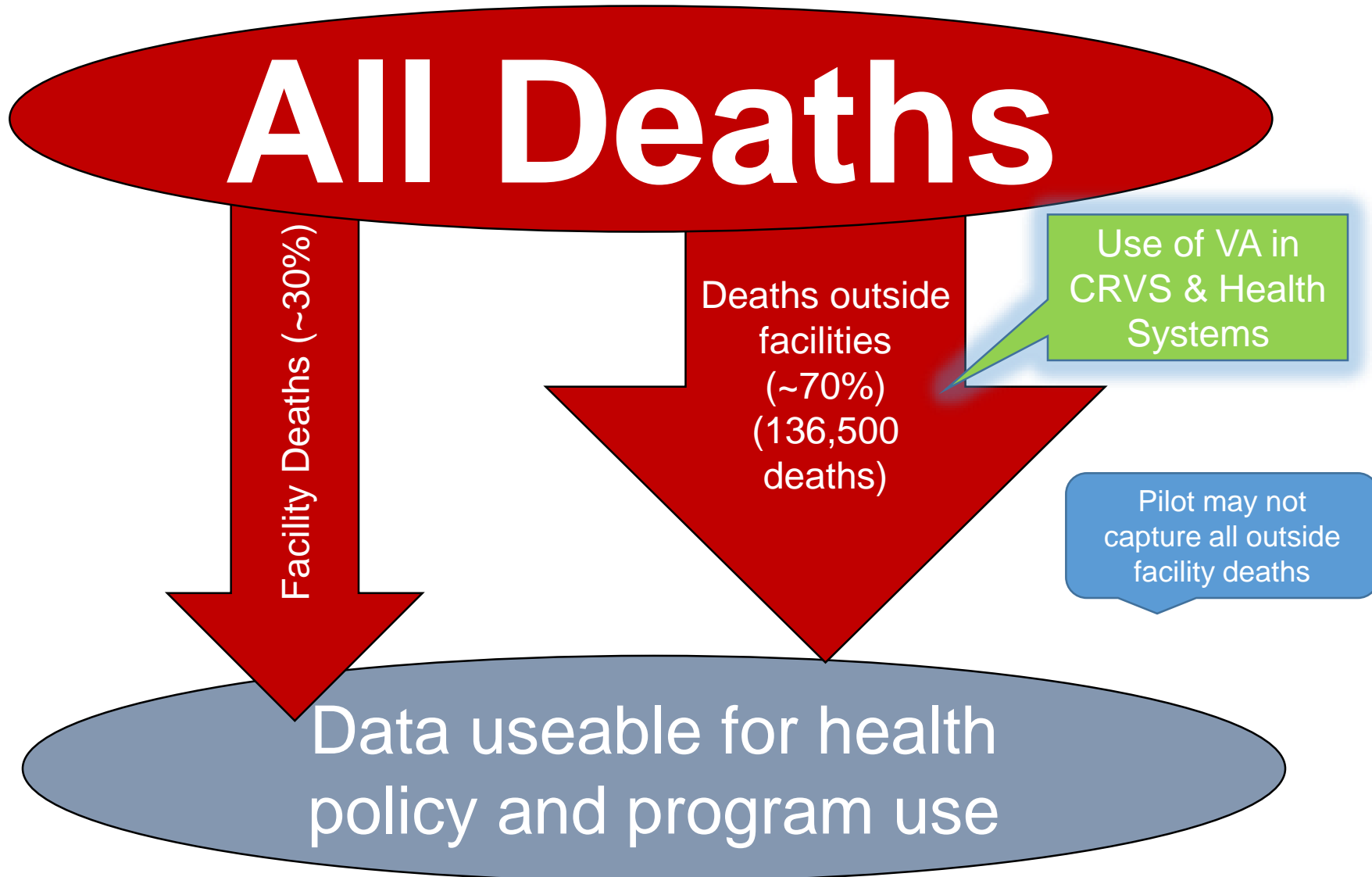
Date (DAY/MONTH/YEAR)/...../.....

Stamp

Frontline Workers

- **Community Health Volunteer**
 - Link between community, CHW, and BDR
 - Fills death notification form (***Not registration***)
 - copy to BDR for death registration
 - copy to CHPS CHW for VA interview
- **Community Health Worker (CHW)**
 - Conducts VA interview
- **Births and Deaths Registration (BDR) Office**
 - Register and issue death certificate

Expected Impact of VA in Ghana



Timelines

ACTIVITY	2016								2017				
	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
Stakeholder Consultations													
Advocacy and Community Sensitization													
Train community informants													
Train Interviewers, Supervisors and data managers													
Train physicians in CoD Certification/coding													
Field test tools and model													
Data collection													
Physician coding of VA, coding and run algorithm for probable COD													
Evaluate field test results													
Presentation of results and decision on pilot													

THANK YOU!



QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS?