# Innovations in Monitoring Vital Events: A scalable intervention using mobile phone SMS support for vital registration coverage



Gregory S Kabadi<sup>1,2</sup>, Henry Mwanyika<sup>3</sup>, Don de Savigny<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sentinel Panel of Districts, Ifakara Health Institute, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania <sup>2</sup>Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, United Kingdom <sup>3</sup>Health Management Information Systems Unit, PATH, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

<sup>4</sup>Health Systems Research and Dynamical Modeling Unit, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute and University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland

Civil registration systems generate information that is essential for national policies and planning. In developing countries, the CRVS system is often of poor quality and has low coverage. Processing is largely manual and information is available only after details have been keyed into digital databases.

To test an intervention for accelerating vital registration using mobile phone SMS messaging.

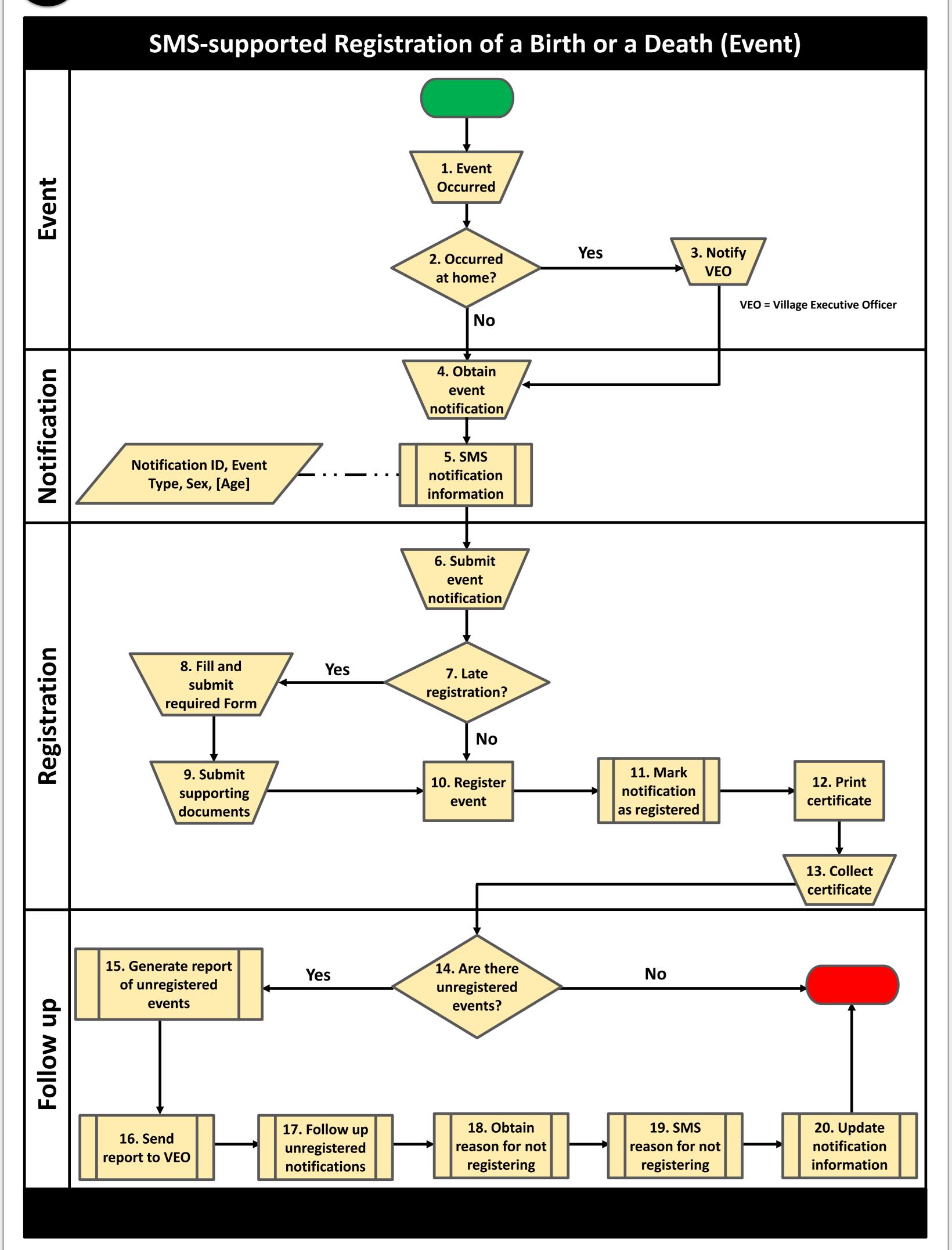
Schweizerisches Tropen- und Public Health-Institut

Institut Tropical et de Santé Publique Suisse

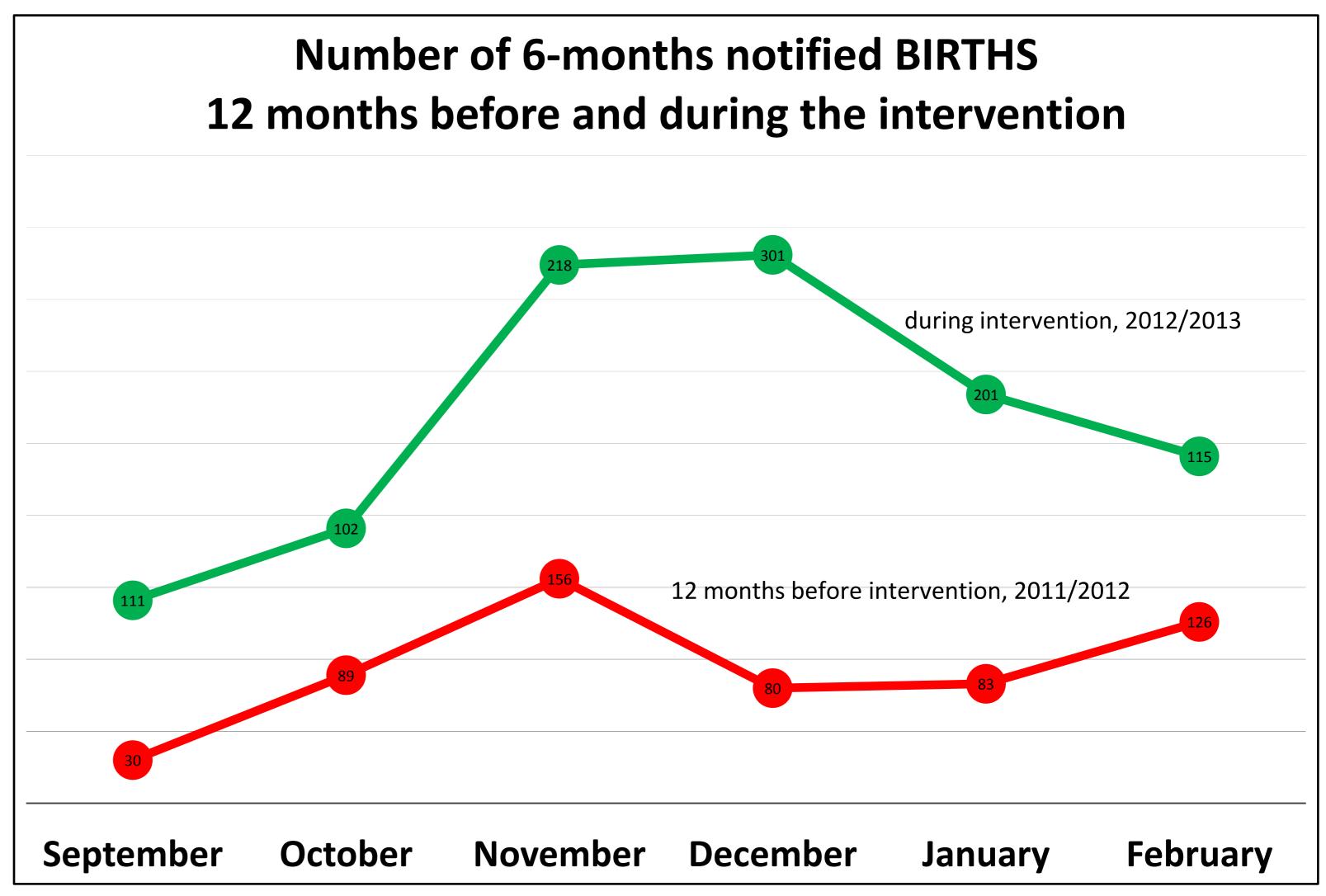
## 3 Design and Study Area

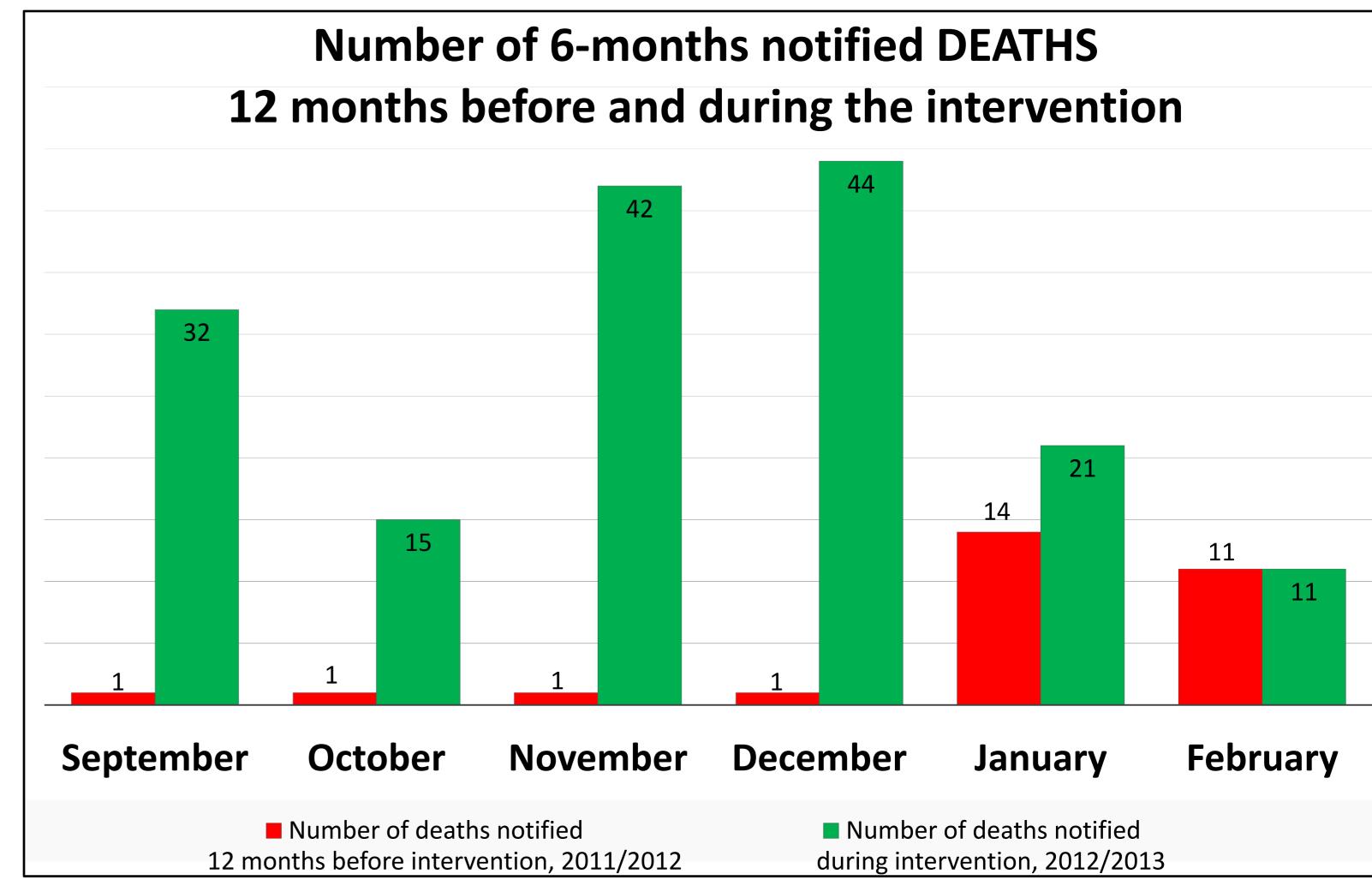
This was a 6-month SMS-based active reporting of prospective births and deaths in a district with a population of 230,000 from Sep 2012 to Mar 2013.

### The Intervention



# 5 Results





### Intervention's Utility and Future Value

- The intervention provides visibility of vital events information in real time and simplifies and strengthens the process
- This intervention has shown encouraging signs of a scalable innovation to accelerate and increase coverage of civil registration and vital statistics in developing countries