

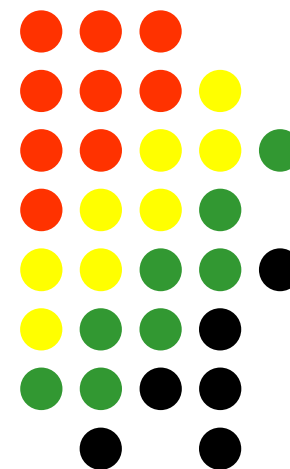
The Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing

Relevance to Dominica

Hon. Herbert Sabaroche

Minister of Health and Social Security

Ministry of Health & Social Security, Commonwealth of Dominica



DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC

BRITISH VIRGIN IS. *North Atlantic Ocean*
Charlotte Amalie
PUERTO RICO
U.S. VIRGIN IS. Anguilla (U.K.)
St. Martin (France/Neth.)

St. Eustatius (Neth.) ANTIGUA &
ST. CROIX BARBUDA
BASSETERRE

ST. KITTS & NEVIS ST. JOHN'S

Plymouth Guadeloupe (France)
Montserrat (U.K.)
Pointe-à-Pitre
LEEWARD IS. Basse-terre

Caribbean Sea

ROSEAU DOMINICA

Montagne Pelée Martinique
Fort-de-France (France)

ST. LUCIA CASTRIES

KINGSTOWN BRIDGETOWN
ST. VINCENT &
THE GRENADINES BARBADOS

WINDWARD IS. Grenadines

ST. GEORGE'S GRENADA

Tobago

PORT-OF-SPAIN TRINIDAD
& TOBAGO

San Fernando
Trinidad

Gulf of
Venezuela

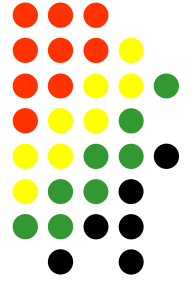
Gulf of
Paria

Aruba
NETHERLANDS
ANTILLES

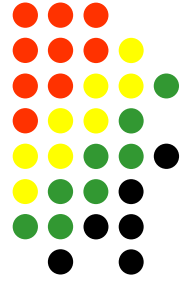
Willemstad Bonaire

Curaçao

Demographic Data



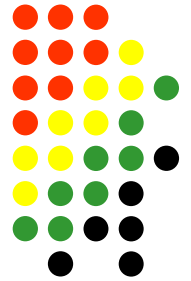
- Population 71,727
- 12.3% age >60 years (2000)
 - 87.3% increase over 1960 census figures



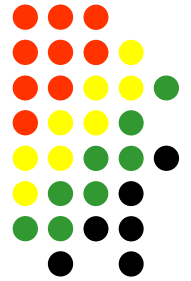
Why Rapid Transistion?

- Migration
 - Caribbean islands, North America, Europe
 - Decline in economy
 - Returning immigrants
- Declining fertility rates
 - Fertility rate approx. 2 per woman
- Increasing life expectancy
 - Men 71.6 years, women 76.0 years (WHO, 2001)

Elizabeth “Ma Pampo” Israel

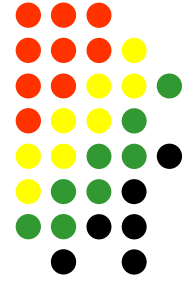


1875- 2003



Challenges

- Expenditure
 - 23.3% of government expenditure on drugs in 2002/2003 on diabetes and hypertension
- Utilization of facilities
 - Just over 50% of primary health care visits in 2000 were for diabetes and hypertension. Of these visits
 - 55% hypertension >60 years
 - 50% diabetic visits >60 years
 - Of visits by persons >60 years
 - 75% of diabetic visits – women
 - 80% of hypertension visits - women



Challenges

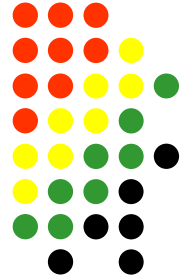
- Lifestyle issues - mortality >60 years
 - Heart disease
 - Cancer
 - Diabetes



Ma Darroux

Ma Darroux attributes her long life to healthy food; Lots of cane juice , honey, Arrowroot, fish, river crabs, Prawns and Crayfish. She is cared for by her children, who Speak of her with love and pride

Response



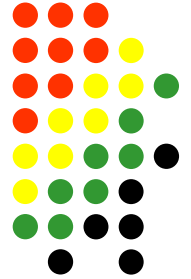
- Persons aged 60 years and over are priority group in current Ministry of Health 5 year strategic plan
 - Active ageing
 - Free basic health care including medication
 - Free home care delivery to housebound persons and persons in home for the aged
 - Free specialist care in mental health and ophthalmology (community and hospital care)

Response



- Caribbean Charter on Health and Aging
 - Forum on Health and Aging, May 1998
 - Charter approved, February 1999
- Caribbean Health and Ageing Minimum Dataset (CHAMDS) meeting in Jamaica, November 2000

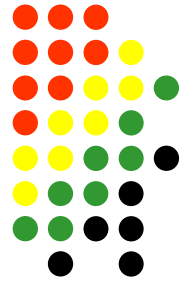




Response

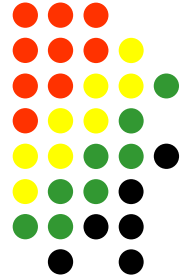
- October 1999 National Policy on Ageing adopted by Dominica Cabinet
- CHAMDS used to develop draft Dominica Dataset on Ageing in June this year
- Participation in Panama Expert Meeting April, 2003 to review regional strategy for Implementation of the IPAAM

Regional Strategy



- Note demographic projections - the absolute numbers as well as the proportion of older persons will continue to increase in the Region especially after 2010
- Endorse the recommendations for Regional Priority Areas and strategies from the Panama Experts Meeting.

Regional Strategy



- Work closely with NGO sector
 - National Council
 - International – HelpAge International
- Dominica willing to continue to support regional efforts to develop strategies for implementation of IPAAM

Thank You
Muchas Gracias

