

# The Road to Controlling Population Growth

# Main Thrust of Population Policy 1960s and 1970s

- Strong emphasis on controlling population growth.
- Population growth over 1.5 per cent per year.

# Main Thrust of Population Policy 1980s

- Major change in focus of population policy.
- Population policy as an aspect of development policy.
- Need for integration of population matters into development policy and planning

# Main Thrust of Population Policy 1990s

- Less emphasis on population growth and family planning.
- More emphasis on reproductive health and the need to integrate family planning, maternal & child health and HIV/AIDS and other STIs into contraceptive programme

# Main Thrust of Population Policy 1990s

- Emphasis on underserved and vulnerable groups such as adolescents and persons with disabilities.
- Emphasis on population ageing and growth of the elderly population.

# Main Thrust in Population Policy 2000s

- Emergence of International Migration as an issue of major importance.
- Population growth not seen as a major problem for the future.
- Total population of Jamaica not likely to exceed 4 million.

# National Family Planning Board (NFPB)

# Organizational Structure

- National Family Planning Board - under the Ministry of Health responsible for delivering family planning services.
- Initial mandate – implement policies that enable control of population growth.

# Campaign Programme

- Campaign to encourage family size
- From the 1980s, encouraged family size of 2 children per family.
- “Two is Better than Too Many”

Emphasis no longer on  
controlling population  
growth but on Reproductive  
Health & Rights

# Reproductive Health & Rights

- Reproductive Health includes:
  - Family planning counseling
  - Counseling, information and education
  - Education and services for prenatal care
  - Safe delivery and post-natal care especially breast-feeding, infant and women's health

# Reproductive Health & Rights

- Prevention and appropriate treatment of infertility
- Prevention of abortion and management of the consequences of abortion
- Treatment of reproductive tract infection
- Sexually transmitted diseases and other reproductive health conditions
- IEC on human sexuality, reproductive health and responsible parenthood.

# Reproductive Health & Rights

Emphasis being placed on the following sub-groups:

- Women
- Adolescents/Youth
- Men
- Persons with Disabilities

# Campaign Programme

- “Two is better than too many” re-branded in 2008.
- “Plan for two it’s the smart thing to do”.

# Strategic Framework 2006-2010

- Expand access to existing and under-used family planning action
- Improve access to reproductive health information to adolescent and youth
- Expand access to reproductive health to man
- Develop a performance sector that is result oriented
- Improve access to information on NFPB's goals, services and achievement

# Organizational Structure

- Reproductive Health Survey conducted every 5 years to help us to assess the impact of NFPB policies on fertility and Family Planning.
- FAMPLAN – NGO that works with NFPB in support of family planning and reproductive health programmes.

# Challenges

- Constraints are the lack of human and financial resources to develop the necessary strategies to reach persons especially in the urban ghettos and rural squatter communities, rural farming areas.
- Special needs for programmes to involve males in the reproductive life of their partners, domestic violence emanating from the refusal of males to cooperate with contraceptive use and family life in general.

# Challenges

- Organizational mechanisms are not performance driven.
- The NFPB's image has lost visibility.
- Financing mechanism does not allow for predictable government subvention to support programme activities.

# Challenges

- Financial model that is able to accurately predict cost recovery is not maintained.
- Adequate funding for research is not secured.
- Technology for timely data processing and dissemination to support sound decision-making is inadequate.

- [www.jnfpb.org](http://www.jnfpb.org)
- [www.pioj.gov.jm](http://www.pioj.gov.jm)
- [www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org) Population Datasheet

# Implications for development in the region

- Ageing population
- Impact on the structure of the population
- Demographic bonus/ Demographic window
- Impact on migration
- Increased life expectancy
- Improvement in health and health care systems.
- Social Security

THANK  
YOU