AGED POPULATION GROWTH IN LATIN AMERICA
Still the window of opportunity

HEALTH CONDITION OF OLDER PERSONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Our information about Seniors Health in the Region is limited, even so SABE gave us some data:

- 50% did not have the financial means to meet their daily needs
- Less than 50% describe their health as good
- Basic functional capacity has been affected in 20%
- 75% have limited physical activity on a regular basis
- 61% have risk factors for malnutrition

Source: PAHO SABE Study, 2002
PERSISTENT BARRIERS AND GROWING NEEDS

- Only 40% of older people with hypertension received a primary care consultation in the previous year.
- In the 2 years previous, just 27% of women had had a mammogram.
- 69% did not have influenza vaccine and 90% must pay out of pocket for essential medicines (full or partial).
- 60% caregivers say “it’s too much” and over 80% report having trouble covering cost of the care.
- Health systems lack indicators to monitoring and analysis impact of health measures.

Source: PAHO SABE Study, 2002
BUILDING A VISION OF HEALTH OF OLDER PERSON

- Regional Strategy for Implementation for Latin America and the Caribbean (2003)
- II Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Aging in Latin America and the Caribbean (2007)
- Primary Health Care Declaration (2006)
STRATEGIC APPROACH AND PLAN OF ACTION

Health sector’s response to the health needs of older persons

- Guided by the values of the UN Principles for Older Persons
- Country driven needs and appropriate responses
- Calling for a shift by the international community to tackle the new challenges
- Success of the Plan of Action depends on a sound internal strategy
Every country with a policy, a legal framework, and a national plan on aging and health

Countries with a legal and regulatory framework based on human rights protecting older persons who use long-term care services

Every country will have at least one partnership for executing its national plan on health and aging
STRATEGIC AREA 2
Adapt health systems to the population aging challenges and the health needs of older persons

- Every country with a strategy in place to promote healthy behaviors and environments
- At least 75% of programs for the prevention and management of chronic diseases in the countries will meet specific evidence-based requirements for older persons
- At least 75% of the countries of the Region will have a strategy to optimize services for older adults in primary health care (PHC)
STRATEGIC AREA 3
Training of the human resources necessary for meeting the health needs of older persons

- Every country will have provided at least one training program for health workers on topics related to aging and the health of older persons.
- At least 75% of the countries of the Region will have a training program in health geared to older persons and their caregivers.
STRATEGIC AREA 4

Strengthen the capacity to generate the necessary information for executing and evaluating activities to improve the health of the elderly population

- At least 75% of countries will use a system surveillance and evaluation of the health of older persons.
- 75% of the countries will have conducted at least one national research study on the health and well-being of older persons.
IN THE NEXT 40 YEARS, THE DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION WILL OFFER A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY.

BUT ONLY THROUGH ADEQUATE SOCIAL AND HEALTH INVESTMENT WILL IT BE POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LONGEVITY RESULTING IN A LOWER ECONOMIC BURDEN.