Brunei Darussalam

The 11th ASEAN & Japan High Level officials Meeting on Caring Societies: “Active Aging” (Social Involvement and Contribution of Elderly)

3rd – 5th December 2013, Japan
Brunei Darussalam Demographic Profile

- Total Population in 2012: 399,800
  - Male: 206,700
  - Female: 193,100
- Age between 15-59: 276,000 (69%)
- Age 60 and over: 24,200 (6.1%)
- Life Expectancy:
  - Male: 76.6 yrs
  - Female: 79.8 yrs
- Healthy Life Expectancy at 60 years old: 16.2 years.


3. **Old Age Pension and Disabled Act 1954**.
   - A non-contributory assistance of BND250/USD201 to all citizens and residents upon reaching 60 years old regardless of the economic status and gender.

4. Draft of the formulation of a Disability Order.

   - BD became signatory to the convention in Dec 2007.

- **Objectives:**
  - To ensure the elderly will continuously live an active and meaningful life.
  - As of the "Support Centre" for the community and individuals to provide in the community development.
  - As a symbol of our appreciation for the elderly.
  - Reducing the "Empty Nest Syndrome" (loneliness and boredom) when the care giver go out to work.
  - As a focal point for senior citizen interact with their peers and do not worrying.
  - As a place for younger generations to learn and acquire gainful knowledge and wisdom from older generation.
7. Celebrates the International’s Day for Older Persons since 1999.

- Several activities and programs were organized such as forum, seminars, workshop and sports for elderly.
- On 7th November 2013, a workshop was held as to hear the voice of older persons under POA.

Objectives:
- Improve quality of life of the elderly.
- Maintaining the family values.
- Raise public awareness on volunteer work.
- Raise awareness of the responsibility to protect and care for the elderly.
- Improve the quality of life of the older person's physically, emotionally and socially as well as provide assistance in the activities of daily living.
9. Active participation of NGOs in caring for the elderly

- Establishment of Majlis Kesejahteraan Masyarakat (Brunei Council on Social Welfare).
- Fund raising for vulnerable elderly.
- Home Visit
MEASURES TO PROMOTE ELDERLY CARE

1. In 2012, His Majesty has declare 1\textsuperscript{st} Sunday of the month of May as the National Family Day.
2. Maintain the extended-family system.
3. Introduce civic subject in schools (Malay Islamic Monarchy).
4. Provide free medical treatment and care for the elderly.
5. Provide special fare for public transport.
6. Provide old age pension and monthly financial assistance allowance.
7. Provide disability allowances.
8. Setting up of the activity centre.
9. Provide special lane and queue for senior citizens such as in the hospitals, to make and renew passport and renew road tax at the Department of Land Transport.
10. Encourage NGO’s to participation.
CHALLENGES

1. To maintain the extended family system.
2. To ensure the sustainability of the financial resources especially for the delivery of old age pensions scheme and social assistance.
3. To encourage the people practicing a healthy life style in order to achieve active ageing.
5. Promoting committed volunteer workers especially for the care of lonely and frail.
6. Addressing the issue of “empty-nest syndrome” among the elderly as more children are going to work.
7. Achieving all the plans and activity in the POA on Elderly.
8. Providing sustainable care for the elderly especially to those who are vulnerable.
10. Limited Healthcare resources.
11. Multi-sectorial intervention on achieving Healthy Ageing.
Way Forward

1. Support systems for those elderly who need long-term care.
2. Setting up laws for elderly.
3. Capacity-building programs for NGOs and volunteers on social work.
4. Conduct research/studies on elderly.
Regular Home Visits  Activity Center  Free Legal Advice & Advisory
Thank You