



# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REVIEW 2018 - 2019



## *Acknowledgement*

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ART	Aggression Replacement Training
BMI	Body Mass Index
BNTF	Basic Needs Trust Fund
BGA	Bureau of Gender Affairs
BWP	Bi-annual Work Program
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research Development Institute
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CBI	Citizenship by Investment
CBSI	Caribbean Basin Securities Initiative
CBSS	Castle Bruce Secondary School
CCDRMF	Canada Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Fund
CCPAP	Climate Change Policy and Action Plan
CDB	Central Development Bank
CDSMP	Chronic Disease Self-Management
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CERT	Community Emergency Response
CFWs	Contingency Fund Warrants
CFAFT	Caribbean Financial Action Task Force
CJCC	Caribbean Junior Culinary Conference
CMC	Caribbean Media Corporation
CMS	Central Medical Statistics
CoPS	Committee of Permanent Secretaries
COTED	Council for Trade and Economic Development
CRRP	Climate Resilience Recovery Plan
CREAD	Climate Resilience Execution Agency for Dominica
CSEC	Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate
CVQs	Caribbean Vocational Qualifications
CXC	Caribbean Examination Council

DAIC	Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce
DAPD	Dominica Association of Persons with Disability
DCP	Dominica Coconut Products
DEXIA	Dominica Export and Import Agency
DDA	Discover Dominica Authority
DDRC	Dominica's Disaster Resource Centre
DGDC	Dominica Geothermal Development Company
DFID	Department of International Development
DIFA	Dominica Institute for the Arts
DLIS	Dominica Library and Information Services
DMEDIS	Dominica Medical Information System
DOMLEC	Dominica Electrical Services
DOWASCO	Dominica Water and Sewage Company
DVRP	Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project
DYBT	Dominica Youth Business Trust
EaSR	Economic and Social Review
EDA	Enhancing Direct Access
ECD	Early Childhood Education
EDMU	Education Development Management Unit
EPC	Engineering Procurement and Construction
EHD	Environmental Health Department
ESIA	Environment and Social Impact Assessment
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
EPDT	Establishment Personnel and Training Department
FIU	Financial Intelligence Unit
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEW	Global Entrepreneurship Week

GLP	Good Laboratory Practice
GoCD	Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica
GPE	Global Partnership for Education
HFLE	Health and Family Life Education
HODs	Heads of Department
HRP	Housing Recovery Project
HS	Harmonized System
HIU	Health Information Unit
IDA	Invest Dominica Authority
IMF	Internal Monetary Fund
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
INEE	Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies
IOM	International Organization for Immigration
ILO	International Labour Office
ICMTC	International Corrections Management Training Centre
LCCDRDS	Low Carbon Climate Resilient Development Strategy
LEA	Law Enforcement Agencies
LDCs	Less Developed Countries
MoAFF	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Fisheries
MSME's	Medium Small and Micro Enterprises
MOH	Ministry of Health
MIS	Management Information System
NRDS	National Resilience Development Strategy
NOC	National Oceanography Center
NTCE	National Center of Testing and Excellence
NAYS	Newtown Association Yacht
NEP	National Employment Program
NCSC	National Center for State Courts
NDC	National Determined Contributions

NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NDCS	National Day of Community Service
NCA	National Crime Agency
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
OECS	OECS Education Sector Strategy
ODM	Office of Disaster Management
OAS	Organization of America States
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
PSIP	Public Sector Investment Program
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
PAYS	Portsmouth Association of Yacht Securities
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PAP	Public Assistance Programme
PSS	Psychosocial Support
RBEC	Rural Business and Enterprises
RFP	Request for Proposal
RSS	Regional Securities System
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEOP	School Emergency Operations Plan
SITS	Strategic Impactful Transformative and Sustainable
SIDs	Small Island Developing States
TEF	Test d'Evalutation de Francais
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UPR	Universal Period Review
UNFCCC	United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change
WFP	World Food Programme
WNT	Waitukubuli National Trail

## FOREWORD BY THE MINISTER



Hon. Miriam A. Blanchard  
Minister for Planning and  
Economic Development

The Vision to Build the First Climate Resilient Country in the World, boldly and confidently pronounced by Prime Minister Honourable Dr. Roosevelt Skerrit, has been the impetus and stimulant for the many and diverse initiatives undertaken by the Government towards macroeconomic and social resilient development for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

In retrospect, coming from a situation of total devastation of the economy and the adverse impact on the lives of our people, our livelihood, our institutions and businesses, to where we are today, less than two years ago from the passage of this monstrous September 2017 disaster, I unequivocally attest that we have many reasons to be thankful. We also have many reasons to commemorate the achievements under the various sectors and subsectors of the Dominican economy.

The compilation of achievements presented by my Ministry is representative of contributions from line ministries/sectors. It includes data and information on interventions, both capital and recurrent in nature, undertaken by respective departments and consequently, becomes the basis for measuring performance against plan through the use of the Results Monitoring Framework – an appended monitoring tool in the National Resilience Development Strategy (NRDS). The assessment of performance is also conducted against Government's priorities set forth in the Macro-Economic and Fiscal Framework.

The EaSR therefore, presents:

- An opportunity for line ministries to monitor and report on the progress of the implementation of projects/programmes;
- An analysis and transparency on progress towards national priority areas outlined in national development plans, (including the specific resilience interventions carried out that are aligned to the NRDS);
- Contextualization of Government's financial management and budgeting architecture.

The EaSR is also used to guide the development of appropriate and effective policy initiatives and to strengthen coordination between policies; to help foster the acceptance and ownership of policy initiatives through the involvement of all stakeholders; and to promote awareness-raising, support and inclusion among line ministries and departments. This is all done in an effort to create a more cohesive approach to sustained national development and prosperity.

It is therefore with a deep sense of national pride that I present to you the 2018-2019 Edition of the annual Economic and Social Review (EaSR), a document published to coincide with the National Budget presentation.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica has declared its intention to be the first climate resilient Country in the world. Some observers will consider Dominica's vision as overly ambitious. The Government of Dominica believes that in the face of intensifying climate change there is no viable alternative. According to the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment Hurricane Maria September 2017 led by the World Bank with efforts from international agencies and members of the Public Service, loss and damages as a result of Hurricane Maria were equivalent to 226% of GDP. International scientists explain that the scale of this disaster was a direct result of the warming of the Atlantic Ocean. Hurricanes and tropical storms pick up more water than before as they cross the Atlantic, which they drop with devastating consequences when they make landfall.

Dominica has witnessed a dramatic escalation of storm damages in recent years. In 2011, Tropical Storm Ophelia caused substantial havoc and destruction in parts of the island, but nationally, loss and damages were small as a percent of annual gross domestic product. Only four years later in 2015, Tropical Storm Erika caused loss and damages of 90% of GDP. Maria's 226% came just two years after. There is no tolerable premium Dominicans can pay to insure themselves against the rising risk of storms that bring increasing devastation of this magnitude to Dominica and other countries at the same time. The only option is to reduce the impact of a hurricane like Maria to orders of magnitude of 2% from 220% by making the nation climate resilient.

In 2017, Dominica was faced with one of the most unprecedeted natural disasters the world had ever seen. To recover from the effects of the disaster, improve the wellbeing of its population, and to pursue sustainable development, while optimizing the use of its natural resource base are elements of Dominica's pursuit to lead the world into a climate resilience development paradigm. This has led the Government of Dominica to take a two-pronged

approach to development, notably addressing the challenges created by Hurricane Maria, and seizing the opportunity to implement policies that will produce sustainable and resilient development outcomes, and provide optimism to citizens.

The National Resilience Development Strategy (NRDS): Dominica 2030 that resulted from that development vision sets the framework within which this report is grounded. The NRDS as a long-term strategy with a 12 year horizon is an effective mechanism to balance and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and other national priorities. This edition of the EaSR provides a strong and credible basis of the Government's commitment to '*build the first climate resilient country in the world*'. It explains the state's response between July 2018 and June 2019, one year after Hurricane Maria, with a focus on improved planning, delivery and results, outlining how that sustainable-resilience development is operationalized through programmes and projects implemented across several sectors. This higher bar is steeped in renewed values of collaboration, innovation, competitiveness, equality, social justice, and human dignity. These values are reinforced in the Government of Dominica's policies, frameworks, and strategic plans, and the day to day operations of its departments.

This year's report is therefore a commitment to extend these values and practices to the private sector and those in the global community. It seeks to inform the Dominican society and the world by extension, of how as a people, we are moving from a position of recovery and to opportunities that will allow us to creatively enhance social development and economic growth. The Government recognizes that progress towards achieving this ideal sustainable and resilient development is enhanced when diverse groups of people from diverse sectors and actors work together to create solutions.

In a critical period when its citizens and physical resources are vulnerable to risks of climate change and other impacts, the report highlights important

lessons around innovation, infrastructure and peace for charting Dominica and its current and future citizens into a prosperous and flourishing 2020 and beyond. The report will demonstrate that most projects and activities cuts across sectors, are multi-scaled, empowering and participatory, and have direct bearing on the achievement of specific SDG targets. In so doing, this edition of the EaSR, with the aim of providing a comprehensive overview of efforts to recover from the lingered effects of Hurricane Maria, is a subcomponent of a larger overarching plan to achieve the vision of becoming the first climate resilient country in the world.

## Dominica at a Glance

Dominica's population at the end of 2017 was estimated at 67,408 and compares to the 2011 census of 69,394. This means that Dominica has a fairly low population density of 95 per square kilometer, ranking 114 in the world in 2019. As can be seen in Table 1, there was a slight decrease in population which could be attributed to climate change induced migration and natural decreases. Of particular concern is shrinkage in the working age population which has implications for future labour market trends.

**Table 1: End of year population by sex and age group, 2016 and 2017**

AGE GROUP	2016			2017		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Population under 15 years	8358	8140	16498	7893	7687	15580
Working age population (15 - 64)	24350	22279	46629	22995	21040	44035
Population over 65 years	3731	4474	8205	3524	4225	7749
N.S	34	12	46	32	12	44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,473</b>	<b>34,906</b>	<b>71,379</b>	<b>34,444</b>	<b>32,964</b>	<b>67,408</b>

**Table 2: Selected Economic Indicators, end of calendar year 2017 and 2018**

	2017	2018 (Preliminary )	Change
Nominal GDP (EC\$M)	1,341.16	1, 359.84	1.39%
Real GDP (EC\$M)	1,105.70	1,111.61	0.53%
Agriculture Exports Revenue (EC\$M)	15.91	8.97	-43.62%
Construction Imports (EC\$M)	69,130,930	164,130,014	137.42%
Tourism			
- Stay-over Visitors	72,228	62,875	-12.95%
- Excursionists	898	1,139	26.84%
- Cruise Ship Arrivals	157,040	134,469	-14.37%
- Yacht Passenger Arrivals	8,039	6,813	-15.25%
Merchandise Foreign Trade (EC\$M)			
- Imports (c.i.f value)	534.66	816.04	52.63%
- Domestic exports	25.15	16.48	-34.47%
- Merchandise Trade Balance	(502.99)	(784.90)	-56.05%
Inflation Rate (annual average)	0.30%	0.99%	230%

# **CHAPTER 1**

## **MACRO-ECONOMIC STABILITY AND FISCAL MANAGEMENT**

This chapter provides an overview of the macroeconomic policies adopted after the passage of Hurricane Maria. In so doing, it evaluates Dominica's experience from the perspective of resource allocation decisions and investments, revenue and expenditure, and presents some of the domestic macro-economic facts and associated outcomes. As will be seen, economic growth and the benefits of growth materialized, contrary to predicted depressed growth as a result of the unprecedented disaster. Sources of growth are identified.

### **National Economic Performance**

The Dominican economy is recovering strongly following the destruction wrought by hurricane Maria. The most recent estimates suggest that economic activity contracted by 9.5 percent in 2017. Should there be growth in 2018, it is expected to be marginal as the full impact of the hurricane was registered in that year. Projections for 2019 point to a year of very robust activity with growth of 9.6 percent. Construction has been the main sector leading the recovery, with large investments in infrastructure and public services, aimed at building resilience to natural disasters. Strong support also comes from the mining and quarrying, transport, and wholesale and retail sectors. Tourism and agriculture, key for exports and employment, continue to recover but remain significantly below potential. Output is projected to reach pre-hurricane levels by 2020 owing largely to significant foreign investment in new hotels expected to start operations by end of 2019. The Central Statistics Office is currently reviewing its final estimates which may lead to a further review of these numbers. Figure 1 below shows the level of economic activity and the growth path for real GDP for the period 2015 to 2024.

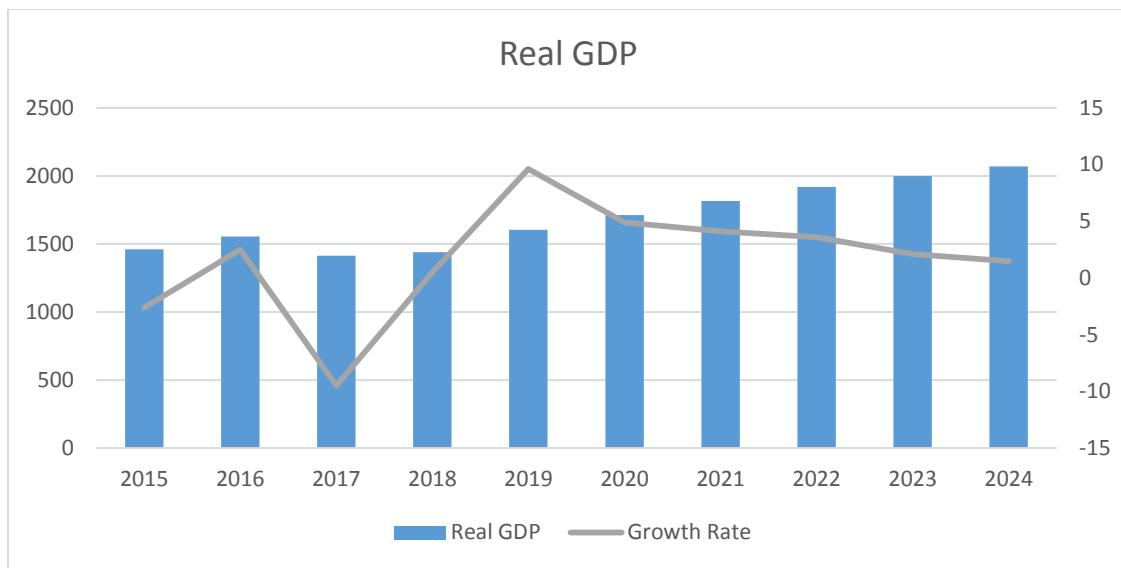


Figure 1: Real GDP, 2015 – 2024

## Central Government Fiscal Operations

### ***Revenue Performance***

Operations of central Government for fiscal year 2018/19 have resulted in an overall deficit of 18.4 percent of GDP representing deterioration in the fiscal position. Large-scale public investment aimed at rehabilitation, reconstruction, and resilience has outpaced revenue and grant inflows. It should be noted, however that tax revenues for the current fiscal year are up by 24.8 percent over the previous fiscal year. Strong performances were noted in the value added tax, both on domestic and import collections as well as import duties and customs service charges.

Corporation income tax collections have performed very well for the year in question which is manifestation of a rebound of business activity. Withholding taxes have also exceeded budget estimates with collections being over by 33 percent. This type of tax revenue performance is in keeping with an expansion in economic activity.

Non-tax revenues did not perform as well, falling to 13.8 percent of GDP, down from 27.3 percent for the previous fiscal year.

Grants have also declined as a percentage of GDP and contributed less to fiscal operations for the year in review. As a percentage of GDP, grants for fiscal year 2018/19 stand at 0.9 percent compared to 4.6 percent in the previous year owing to the administrative challenges associated with accessing these funds.

### ***Expenditure Performance***

Efforts to accelerate the pace of rehabilitation have resulted in significant increases in expenditure. Total expenditure as a percentage of GDP has increased to 61.3 percent compared to 53.6 percent for the previous year. Current primary expenditures of 35.9 percent of GDP (an increase of 7 percent), reflect the increased outlays in areas such as goods and services and transfers and subsidies. Interest payments remain relatively low at an estimated 1.8 percent of GDP.

Capital spending continues to be heavily financed by CBI revenues. Funding from grants and loan sources account for under 3 percent of expenditure. The availability of CBI resources has allowed Government to move swiftly in achieving its objective of bringing post Hurricane Maria relief to citizens in the shortest time possible. For the year in review, capital expenditure is estimated at 23.7 of GDP or \$360.3 million. The previous year showed expenditure of 23.0 percent of GDP or \$328.2 million. Figure 2 shows the fiscal outturns for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 in percent of GDP.

	2017/18	2018/19	Proj. 2019/20
Revenue	55.2	42.1	41.2
Tax Revenue	23.3	28.2	24.2
Non Tax Revenue	27.3	13.8	15.1
Grants	4.6	0.9	1.9
Expenditure	53.6	61.3	49.3
Current Primary Expenditure	28.9	35.9	29.2
Interest Payment	1.8	1.8	1.5
Capital Expenditure	23	23.7	18.5
Overall Balance	1.6	-18.4	-6.2
Primary Balance	3.4	-16.6	-4.7
GDP (millions)	1,427.0	1,523.0	1,659.0

**Figure 2: Revenue and Expenditure Performance**

### **Public Debt**

Notwithstanding the availability of CBI resources, the substantial cost associated with recovery and rehabilitation is likely to result in increase in debt levels in the short and medium term. The overall objective, however, is to achieve a public debt target of 60 percent of GDP as close to the 2030 date. Currently, Dominica debt is estimated at 72.7 percent of its GDP. External debt accounts for 62.8 percent whilst domestic debt accounts for 9.9 percent. Government will also seek to balance its debt between domestic and external sources in an optimal manner.

### **External Sector**

Increased public and private spending and a decline in exports led to a further widening of the external current account in 2018. The deficit is estimated at 43 percent of GDP as imports surged (up 33 percent of GDP), while exports nearly halved, owing to capacity destruction in agriculture and tourism. The external current account deficit is projected to decline to 10 percent of GDP by 2024 as exports recover and imports settle.

### ***Monetary and Financial Sector***

The financial sector remains stable and is recovering gradually from the impact of the hurricane. Bank lending remains soft, owing to insufficient bankable projects, lack of financial statements required for loan qualification for most micro and small entrepreneurs, and lingering difficulties to enforce lending contracts in courts, including lengthy procedures for foreclosures and the seizing of collateral.

### ***Insurance Sector***

The insurance sector, governed by the provisions of the Insurance Act 4 of the 2012 Revised Laws of Dominica, comprises registered insurance companies, insurance brokers, insurance agents, pension fund plans and insurance salespersons. As at June 30, 2018, the participants in the industry included eighteen (18) insurance companies; twenty-one (21) insurance agents; five (5) insurance brokers; one (1) registered pension fund plans.

In 2017, total license fees were \$239,000.00. During the period ending 2019 the licenses fees amounted to \$267,000.00. The increase is partly attributed to an increase in the number of sales representatives and insurance agents.

According to unaudited reports, the insurance sector generated \$39, 539,00 million in premium income during 2017, a decrease of \$7,829,633 million from what was recorded in 2016 (\$47.368,633 million). As expected, Hurricane Maria affected all sectors of business, particularly the insurance sector, given the extent of physical damage to property.

## **Performance of the Public Sector Investment Programme**

In the fiscal year 2018/2019, an original allocation of **\$454,296,947.79** was appropriated to facilitate the implementation of projects and programmes under the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP). Of this sum, \$304.9 million (67.1%) was to be funded from local resources, more specifically the receipts under the Citizenship by Investment Programme; \$23.4 million (5.2%) from loan financing and \$126 million (27.7%) from grant resources.

PSIP funds are, however, distributed according to the Government's priorities at the time. For the year 2018/2019, the Ministry of Public Works and Ports received the largest share of the PSIP in the amount of \$188 million. The largest chunk of the Ministry's budget was chiefly meant to address reconstruction and rehabilitation needs. The Ministry of Housing and Lands received the second largest allocation in the amount of \$85.9 million, driven by estimated expenditure on reconstruction and repair of homes. The Ministries of Environment, Climate Resilience, Disaster Management &Urban Renewal; Agriculture and Fisheries; and Trade, Energy and Employment received approximately \$30 million each.

As seen in Table 2 below, the total capital expenditure for the period July 2018 to May 2019 was **\$299,618,612.62** compared to **\$ 258,212,683.47** for July 2017 to May 2018. In a few cases, capital expenditure per ministry was revised upwards from the original allocation as a result of extra-budgetary requests via Contingency Fund Warrants (CFWs). Some of the extra-budgetary accommodated expansion of the scope of the National Employment Programme and the institutionalizing of the Rapid Response Social Recovery Agency, and other worthy mitigating considerations.

The performance of the 2018/2019 PSIP by ministry is presented in the Table 4.

**Table 3: Approved Budget, Actual Expenditure and Implementation Rate**

Ministry	Expenditure to Date	Approved Estimate	Approved Estimate with CFW	Implementation Rate (% of Approved Estimate + CFW)
	\$	\$	\$	%
Justice, Immigration and National Security	2,500,863.76	5,656,143.00	5,656,143.00	44.22%
Trade, Energy and Employment	35,300,020.68	27,023,526.04	40,484,603.72	87.19%
Finance	631,815.72	2,042,887.00	2,042,887.00	30.93%
Agriculture and Fisheries	8,729,015.30	27,182,798.18	27,182,798.18	32.11%
Education and Human Resource Development	550,172.95	12,806,598.12	13,195,070.47	4.17%
Housing and Lands	106,014,048.56	85,880,430.00	117,592,497.70	90.15%
Ecclesiastical Affairs, Family & Gender Affairs	4,558,311.92	8,900,025.48	8,900,025.48	51.22%
Health and Social Services	7,843,489.82	22,316,279.50	24,002,185.30	32.68%
Environment , Climate Resilience, Disaster Management & Urban Renewal	10,249,603.17	29,976,460.79	29,976,460.79	34.19%
Tourism and Culture	6,050,457.33	9,050,121.00	9,050,121.00	66.85%
Information, Science, Telecommunications and Technology	304,542.66	400,000.00	400,000.00	76.14%
Kalinago Affairs	711,733.55	2,060,000.00	2,060,000.00	34.55%
Youth Affairs, Sports and Constituency Empowerment	8,703,463.91	12,043,821.00	15,013,622.20	57.97%
Commerce, Enterprise and Small Business Development	8,907,427.95	11,400,000.00	11,532,182.02	77.24%
Planning and Economic Development	289,347.81	2,067,434.00	2,067,434.00	14.00%
Establishment, Personnel & Training Department	2,058,451.59	3,952,459.00	3,952,459.00	52.08%
Public Works, Water Resource Management and Ports	165,150,528.00	188,095,464.68	289,806,784.15	56.99%
Foreign and CARICOM Affairs	267,685.89	-	267,708.16	99.99%
Cabinet Office	4,389,668.42	3,442,500.00	7,309,988.92	60.05%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>373,210,648.99</b>	<b>454,296,947.79</b>	<b>610,492,971.09</b>	<b>61.13%</b>

The Ministry of Public Works, Water Resource Management and Ports accounted for the largest share in both periods, with capital expenditure totaling **\$145,268,230.34 or 48.48%** of total expenditure in 2018/2019. The bulk of budgetary allocations of the Ministry of Public Works, Water Resource Management and Ports (**83.97%**) were spent on dredging of rivers, installation of Bailey Bridges Post Hurricane Maria and the Reconstruction of the E.C. Loblack Bridge. Collectively the remaining fifty-two projects, classified as ‘Others’, account for **16.03%** of the total PSIP expenditure for this ministry.

The second largest spender was the Ministry of Housing and Lands with a recorded expenditure figure of **\$68,215,720.82** or **22.77%** of the total expenditure. The four largest projects - Post Hurricane Maria Home Repair & Reconstruction, Sustainable Housing 1, 000 Homes, House Renovation & Sanitation, and Land Settlement & Development accounted for **81.91%** of the capital expenditure. The *Post Hurricane Maria Home Repair & Reconstruction* project had the largest disbursement of **\$23,822,693.34** in the 2018/2019 period. The *Sustainable Housing 1, 000 Homes (GOCD)* and *House Renovation & Sanitation* had disbursements of **\$17,292,018.31** and **\$7,706,444.19**, respectively. The remaining ten projects, classified as ‘Others’, collectively accounted for **18.09%** of the capital expenditure for the Ministry of Housing and Lands.

The Ministry of Trade, Energy and Employment had the third largest capital expenditure for the period July 2018 to May 2019. Other major growth-enhancing projects were the Construction of the Geothermal Domestic Plant and the Multi-Purpose Pack House.

### ***Capital Expenditure***

As Table 5 shows, when compared to the previous fiscal period, capital expenditure grew substantially for the Ministry of Public Works, Water

Resource Management and Ports, and there was a slight decrease in the expenditure of the Ministry of Housing and Lands. In light of the passage of Hurricane Maria and the fact that most of the country's infrastructural works are undertaken by the Ministry of Public Works, Water Resource Management and Ports, and owing to the level of support that it provides to the other ministries, then it is expected that the Ministry's budgetary allocations and consequently total expenditure will surpass that of its counterparts. The almost comparable figure for the Ministry of Housing and Lands reflects the Government's commitment to providing housing, and overall social and infrastructural development for the citizens of the country.

**Table 4: Performance of Ministries with the Largest Spending for the fiscal year July 2018 – May 2019 with Comparative Data for July 2017 – May 2018**

Ministry	July 2018 – May 2019	% of Total	Ministry	July 2017 – May 2018	% of Total
Public Works, Water Resource Management and Ports	145,268,230.34	48.48	Public Works and Ports	82,538,561.93	31.97
Housing and Lands	68,215,720.82	22.77	Housing Lands and Water Resource Management	73,082,237.24	28.30
Trade, Energy and Employment	32,880,431.67	10.97	Trade, Energy and Employment	36,872,481.36	14.28

Table 5 shows that significant resources and efforts were focused on disaster recovery, particularly to dredge rivers, and improve road, health, education and home infrastructure, while providing opportunities for employment and support to the agriculture and manufacturing sectors.

**Table 5: Selected Major Capital Projects (FY) 2018/19 ( $\geq \$1.5$ Million)**

Dredging of Rivers	110,753,393
House Renovation & Sanitation	34,074,554
Post Hurricane Maria Home Repair & Reconstruction	23,895,987
National Employment Programme	23,400,140
Sustainable Housing 1, 000 Homes (GOCD)	19,207,786
National Resettlement Program	13,853,202
Installation of Bailey Bridges Post Hurricane Maria	10,427,382
Cochrane Road Rehabilitation	7,648,475
Windsor Park Sports Stadium - Rehabilitation Works	7,013,655
Land Settlement & Development	6,728,057
Roseau River Walls	6,611,029
Construction of Geothermal Domestic Plant	6,105,077
Reconstruction of E.C Loblack Bridge	5,573,843
Support to the Manufacturing Sector	5,000,000
New National Hospital (CBI-GOCD/PRC)	3,998,288
Calibishie Sea Defense Wall	3,815,149
BNTF VII	3,794,294
Consultancy for International Airport	3,640,809
Small Business Enterprise Development	3,416,143
Enhanced Natural Environment (Post Hurricane Maria Debris Removal)	2,805,343
Urban Renewal (Botanical Gardens Re-development and Green Spaces)	2,626,588
Wotten Waven/Copthall Improvement Project Phase II	2,149,097
Pilot Project Climate Resilience - Disaster Vulnerability (CBI - GOCD/IDA/CIF)	2,116,637
Community Cultural and Heritage Tourism Development	1,925,335
Development of the Banana and Plantain Industries	1,569,562
Roseau Health Center	1,560,364
Multi-purpose Pack House	1,500,000

### ***Implementation efficiency***

When the implementation rate of projects is considered, the Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs (97.7%), Ministry of Trade (83.2%), and the Ministry of Commerce (73.1%) have the highest rate of implementation based on utilization of Approved Estimates plus CFW. The overall implementation rate Approved

Estimates plus CFW is 51.9%, reflecting a slight decrease in last year's performance. A few factors impacted implementation including the fact that grand funding for some of the Ministry's projects were not being captured under the Smart Stream expenditure or some of the grant funds have not yet been received from donors (See Figure 2).

Figure 2 shows that in both periods, local funds were the most dominant source of capital financing. 97.08% of the capital expenditure for 2018/2019 was financed by the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica through the Citizen by Investment programme, while 66.84% of funds were locally funded in July 2017 to May 2018. Collectively grants and loans made up only 2.92% in 2018/2019 while for 2017/2019 capital expenditure was acquired through 33.16% of grants and loans. This shows a significant decrease in the amount of grants and loans used to finance capital projects.

### **Capital Expenditure by Souce of Funds for July 2018 - May 2019 with Comparative Data for July 2017 - May 2018**

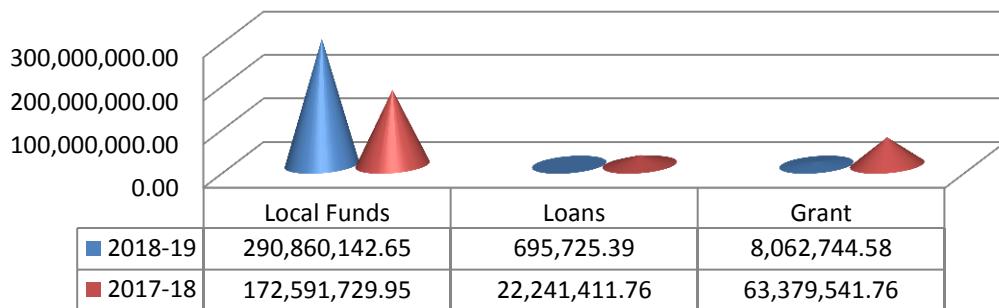


Figure 3: Capital Expenditure

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **REAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS**

Emerging successfully from the experience of Hurricane Maria, Government recognises that a strong and resilient economic sector is critical to the performance and viability of businesses, including public enterprises and investments. Hence, competitiveness and growth are at the heart of the GoCD's current national development management framework. Dominica has recognized that to become competitive, adopting new technologies in the workplace in addition to new skills and industries is critical for producing quality consumer products and services at competitive prices. In recent years, the Government has introduced various innovative growth enhancing policy initiatives in its budget to help improve the business environment and promote investment in critical sectors of the economy to stimulate job-creation opportunities, accelerate poverty reduction and secure prosperity for all Dominicans. This section presents an overview of the real sector in Dominica and the contribution of the initiatives and interventions of programmes and projects that contribute towards the achievement of the desired growth of the economy of Dominica.

#### **Construction**

The construction sector was the most vibrant sector in the economy for the year in review. Dominica recorded exponential growth in the construction sector for the fiscal 2018/2019 year. This growth can be attributed to the rebuilding stage that the country is in since the passage of Hurricane Maria in 2017. Construction sector grew significantly as compared to the previous years. There was also an increase in the contribution of the construction sector to GDP increased for the year in review.

There is tremendous growth in both the Private and public sector construction. A surge in the importation of construction material was evident during that

period. Public sector capital works undertaken by various regional and international Organizations contributed significantly to growth in the sector. Central government construction activity increased during the review period with a focus on disaster recovery, climate resilience building and housing development. Private sector investments were mainly concentrated on hotel development while an expansion was recorded in home construction and renovations.

### ***Public Sector construction***

Public sector construction consists of expenditure by the Government as well as those of Regional and international organizations. There was an increased growth in this sector for the year in review. Construction and rehabilitations of roads, bridges and other works relating to climate resilience and mitigation were the main focus areas. A listing of Public Works Project is provided below in Table 6.

**Table 6: Public Works Projects 2018/2019**

Capital Project	Expenditure
Dredging of Rivers	110,753,393
Installation of Bailey Bridges Post Hurricane Maria	10,427,382
Cochrane Road Rehabilitation	7,648,475
Roseau River Walls	6,611,029
Reconstruction of E.C Loblack Bridge	5,573,843
Calibishie Sea Defense Wall	3,815,149
Wotten Waven/Copthall Improvement Project Phase II	2,149,097
Panel Bridges	208,005
Rehabilitation of Stockfarm Road	34,771
West Bridge River Training Wall and River Dredging	444,937
Cochrane Road Rehabilitation	7,648,475
Loubiere to Bagatelle Road Rehabilitation (RRL)	82,806
Edward Oliver Leblanc Highway Rehabilitation (West Coast)	528,746
Rehabilitation of Charles Avenue Road	1,562,101
Layou Reconstruction and rehabilitation	1,131,961
Ophelia Reconstruction and Rehabilitation	129,435
Carholme Feeder Road Rehabilitation	286,047
Infrastructural Works at Douglas Charles Airport (Phase 2)	638,164
Construction of River Wall at River Estate	16,476
Tropical Storm Erica Interventions – Boetica to Delices	139,775

The Dominica housing Revolution project undertaken by Central government also makes a large contribution to the construction sector. Several Housing Settlements are being developed in Bellevue Chopin, Grand Fond, Castle Bruce, George Town, Cotton Hill, San Sauveur.



**Figure 4: Housing project- Georgetown, Glanvillia, Portsmouth**

The government of Dominica made several interventions in private housing that added to the construction sector. Data reflecting transfers to stakeholders in the construction business gives a reflection of the activities and growth in the construction sector. This is depicted in the table below.

**Table 7: Direct Cash Transfer**

Direct Cash transfers	Contractors	1,501,818.51
Direct Cash transfers	Material Suppliers	10,662,851.34
Vat on Imported Material	Construction Imports	889,683.59
Port Charges	Construction Imports	934,941.576

### **Private Sector Construction**

Construction activity in the private sector focused mainly on the building of Hotels and Resorts. Several new properties are being constructed around the island to include the Cabrits Kempinski Resort and Anichi Resort in the North of the island; Tranquility Beach Resort on the West Coast and Jungle Bay Resort in the South of the Island. Other approved 5-star resort projects include Sanctuary Rainforest Eco Resort & Spa, Bois Cotlette Estates and Secret Bay Residences. The amount and quality of hotel room stock is continually increasing in Dominica given the recent number of new internationally recognized and established hotels brands under construction and that trend is expected to continue.

**Table 8: Ongoing Hotel Construction**

Hotel/ Resort	Location	Status	Number of Rooms	Completion Date
Kempinski Dominica	Cabrits Portsmouth	Ongoing	161	August 2019
Anichi Resort	Picard Portsmouth	Ongoing	201	December 2019
Tranquility Beach Hotel	Grand Savanne Salisbury	Ongoing	44 condos, 3 suites, 73 rooms.	2021
Jungle Bay Resort	Morne Acouma, Soufriere	Phase1 completed	60 villas 120 rooms	January 2020

Moreover, there has been an increase in commercial developments around the island in general. Applications received by the Physical Planning Division in Figure 4 indicate that a plethora of commercial applications have been received and construction activities are taking place around the Island. The high level of commercial applications is directly linked to the impact of Hurricane Maria and is evidence that entrepreneurs are taking advantage of presented business opportunities. Data indicates that half of the stock of commercial buildings was totally damaged and construction works were obligatory to restore business operations.

## Commercial Buildings-Level of Damage

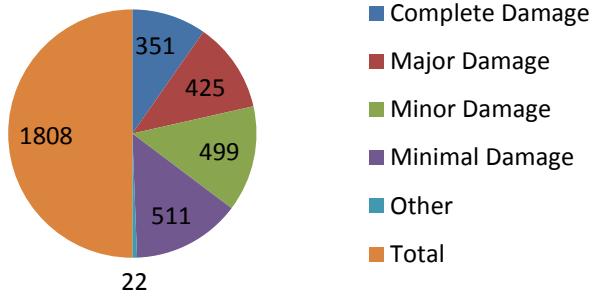
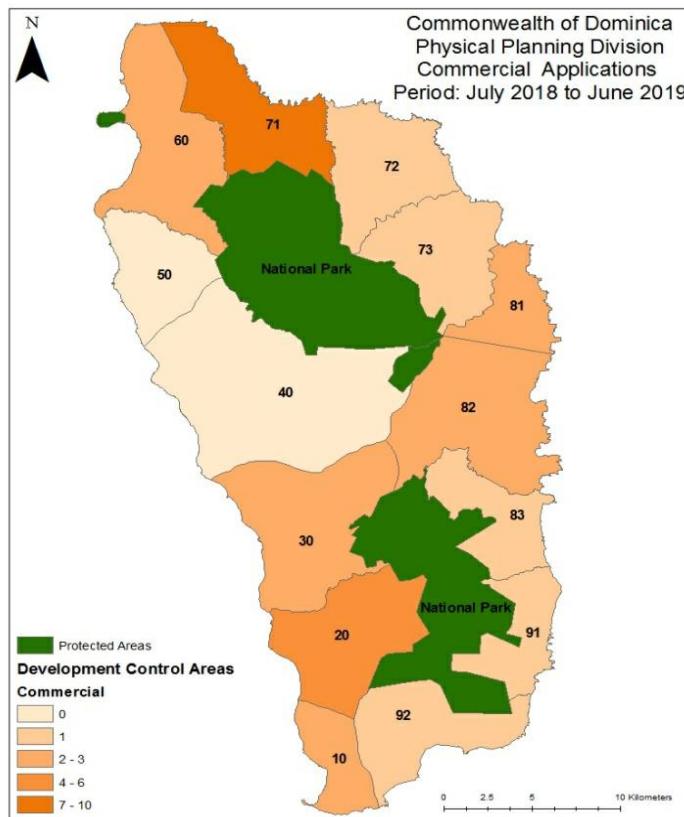


Figure 5: Commercial Building Damage

### ***Imports on construction***

A key indicator of construction activity is the value of imports. Preliminary data suggest that there has been a significant increase in the monitoring of construction materials 2018-2019. This increase in imports reflects the growth in the construction sector. Total imports for the fiscal year 2017/2018 amounted to \$100,525,478.45. In comparison imported, construction material for the year in review (2018/2019) amounted to about \$175 million indicating a 74% increase in the importation of construction material, with major increase in materials such as cement, lumber, tin roofing material and steel. The major increase in the importation of construction material can be attributed to the growth in the construction sector here on the island. There has been an increase in both the private and public sector construction.



**Figure 6: Geographical Distribution of Commercial Application**

## Agriculture

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (MoAFF) has created the enabling environment as well as the necessary coordination mechanism among ministries and the private sector which is aimed at implementing government's policies to achieve a sustainable food and agriculture system. This system will guarantee food and nutrition security, rural livelihood and economic development and growth. The Government of Dominica for the fiscal year 2018/2019 allocated XCD 27,182,798 to the Agricultural Sector. An additional 65 million was budgeted for a five-year World Bank-funded Emergency Agricultural Livelihoods and Climate Resilience Project. This has led to the provision of affordable inputs, quality seeds and planting materials of suitable crop varieties. The augmented involvement of rural youth and women in agriculture, collaborative technical assistance, and the promotion of

investment in small mechanization and advanced technologies have enhanced production and productivity.



Figure 7: Agricultural Plot - Tannia (compliments Lenny Aubrey, Calibishie, Dominica)

Input support amounted to XCD 3,042,659.42. Details of input support are shown in Table 9.

**Table 9: Agriculture Input Support**

Inputs	Unit	Unit Description	Value ( XCD )
Nutrition (Fertilizer)	695.5 tons	27,890 bags of NPK 25KG	XCD 1,927,155
Greenhouse plastic	115 rolls	30 X 60 feet 30 X 100 Feet	XCD 232,845 XCD 69,120
Irrigation lines	116 rolls	Drip irrigation	XCD 111,360
Tension wire for passion fruit	1,400 rolls	Passionfruit wire	XCD 322,000
Chemical for the management of	2,602 litres	Fungicides Oils	XCD 274,979.42

BSD		Insecticide Nematicides	
Sheep/Goat fencing wire	153 rolls	55 (330ft) and 98 (100ft)	XCD 105,200.00
<b>Total value</b>			<b>XCD 3,042,659.42</b>

Provision of water tanks to farmers to allow rain water harvesting, as part building resilience in the Agricultural sector, was also an activity of the sector.

An estimated 3,320.17 acres of agricultural lands was farmed compared to 2,874 .21 acres in 2017/2018, representing a 13% increase in production. Production among 2581 farmers included root crops, vegetables, bananas and plantain with a yield of 54,471,933 lbs. This generated estimated revenue of XCD \$117,570,031.35 XCD for 2018/2019. Table 10 clearly demonstrates production of crops saw an upward trajectory and an expansion in non-traditional cropping areas.

**Table 10: Main crops cultivated for export.**

Crops	Dasheen	Yams	Tania	Pineapple	Passion Fruit	Sweet potato	Bananas Plantain	Ginger	Vegetables	Total
Acreages 2018/2019	694.5	522.18	273.24	38.42	103.31	278.05	463.69 1233.00	135.6	123.42	<b>3,865.41</b>
Acreages 2017/2018	591.2	346.8	210.33	28.10	56.76	251.24	289.45 751.03	118.33	230.07	<b>2,873.31</b>
Percentage (%)	17.5 %	50.6%	29.9 %	36.7%	82%	10.7%	60.2% 64.2%	14.6%	- 46.4%	<b>34.53%</b>



Figure 8: White potato in the North

Government also provides support for planting in the form of provision of seeds or tissue culture. As part of the preparatory process, the Division of Agriculture assist in the germination or importation of quality seeds and planting material which are then distributed to farmers for cultivation. Table 11 provides an expenditure report on seeds and planting material support.

**Table 11: Expenditure report on seeds and planting material support**

Item	Unit	Unit Description	Value ( XCD )
vegetable seeds	972 tins	Tomato, lettuce, cabbage, carrot, Pumpkin, cucumber, pepper	XCD 157,043.00
Banana	30,000	Banana Tissue Culture Plants	XCD 33,210
Avocado	2,130 propagated	1,900 Grafted	XCD 38,340
Cocoa	15,000 Propagated	31,000 Grafted	XCD 180,000
Citrus	15,000 rootstalks sowed	4,000 Grafted	XCD 120,000
Coconuts	1,000	Draft coconuts	XCD 5,000
Irish potato	1,050 bags	Potato seeds for planting	XCD 51,300
<b>Total</b>			<b>XCD 584,893</b>

Special emphasis was also placed on the development of traditional crop such as Cassava, Toloma, Cocoa, Tobacco and Bay Oil. Interventions included:

- The finalization of designs and costing for seven (7) agro-processing facilities valued at \$928,000;
- Constructed of cocoa shade structure at Woodfordhill Agricultural Station measuring 100x100 feet, at a cost \$98,165.00;
- Cocoa sweating and drying facility 65% completion;
- Purchase of an excavator to assist with farm access and feeder roads; and
- The development of the cassava industry in Dominica with FAO support;

### ***Improve product quality and market access across value chains***

The MoAFF fundamental thrust is towards a more productive and sustainable agriculture to meet markets with higher efficiency, transparency and competitiveness. As the rural economy expands and rural-urban networks develop through new investment in modern hotels in the tourism sector, the Ministry embarked on strengthening food systems along the value chain. In light of this, and in partnership with other public sector departments, the Ministry has:

- Constructed banana packing sheds in accordance with Global Gap standards;
- Strengthened farm certification and quality assurance system that will ensure market access, and meet international standards requirements;
- Conducted analytical and chemical testing to meet food safety standards;
- Formed an agro-Tourism Committee to enhance and coordinate of a market led production system to meet high end markets; and
- Conducted training of farmers in good agricultural practices

The Ministry is also focused on sharing knowledge, building capacity and investing in innovative technology to transform the sector towards a more sustainable food and agriculture system. In this regard, training sessions have been conducted in water and soil management, pruning, Disaster Risk Management, pesticide management, vegetable and greenhouse technology,

### ***Live Stock Production***

For the year in review 2018-2019, 16,527 chickens from 39 individual farmers and 347 pigs from 34 farmers were slaughtered for production at the National Abattoir. The value of pork and poultry produce by the abattoir is estimated at \$316,216.39, and was achieved through the furnishing of input and technical support to suppliers/farmers.

### **Fisheries**

The Fisheries Division provides support and guidance to fishers, fish vendors, and other stakeholders, in order to improve the fishing sector in Dominica.

To facilitate the recovery of the sector post Hurricane Maria, the Government of Dominica made available EC\$ 320, 000.00 to selected fisherfolks across the island in order to replace damaged fishing vessels and engines. Ten (10) fiberglass fishing vessel and outboard engines were also delivered to fishermen. The support was necessary to maintain employment in the sector, and increase fish supply to local consumers, guest houses and hotels.

The undertakings had direct outcomes on fish production. Data showed an increase in fish landed in areas where support was given. From July 2018 to June 2019, approximately 1.9 Million pounds of fish landed. This represented a 10% increase compared to the previous year, and the most fish recorded as landing during the same period in the last ten years. The peak period was

during the months of August through November 2018. Roughly 60% of the landed fish came from FADs.



Figure 8: Fish landing site

Efforts were also made to improve the conditions in which the sale of fish took place. Currently, construction of the Fond Cole Fish Depot is ongoing with a proposed completion date of August 2019. In collaboration with Samaritan Purse, the Fisheries Division renovated several fish landing sites across the country, in the

communities of Capuchin, San Sauveur, Anse-de-Mai, Bioche, Dublanc, Salisbury and Mahaut. Equipment such as ice machines, life vest, and coolers were also provided to fishers and fish cooperatives.

The promotion, processing and packaging of fish to make fish a more marketable product, was also a value-added initiative of the Division. Skills training programmes were targeted in Portsmouth and Soufriere and environs. As part of efforts to meet the demand for fish, the Fisheries Division is in the process of redeveloping a hatchery at Belfast. Also in an effort to introduce new options to meet the anticipated demands in the hotel sector, Diamond Back Squid fishing was introduced to Dominica's fishers. Ten fishermen have been trained in this new technique and exposed to the best fishing gears to catch the squids.

The Division is also working with the University of Waterloo to conduct a case study exercise to assess the value and scalability of small-scale fisheries. The study also hopes to determine how small-scale fisheries intersect with community coastal well-being through an examination of the social-ecological relationships and networks that underpin resilience in the fisheries and fisheries-related value chains. The output will be a set of actionable resilience building strategies for the fishing sector.

The National Oceanography Center (NOC) handed over a self-contained kit which monitors the status of PH, temperature, and salinity in the ocean environment and ecology on corals in Dominica maritime boundary. Training sessions were conducted with the staff of the Fisheries sector to ensure that they are well knowledgeable and equipped to undertake monitoring and evaluation, and basic maintenance of the equipment.

Relatedly, the Division is currently performing a Coral Reef Assessment to investigate and assess the status of the marine/benthic habitat around Dominica, and to create maps of change in the marine ecosystem before and after the Hurricane.

## **Trade**

### ***Farmer Training Sensitization***

For the year in review, the Bureau of Standards in collaboration with other implementing partners including the Dominica Export and Import Agency (DEXIA), The Ministry of Agriculture, and the Multi-Purpose Pack-house, conducted ten (10) Training Sessions for farmers engaged in the production of plantain and bananas. .

Several farm training sessions were also conducted throughout the year including sessions on Food Safety Control System/HACCP and Pesticides and Sound Management of Chemicals and Pesticides. For 2018-2019, the Bureau audited 30 farms and assisted a total 20 with upgrading of farm infrastructure and signage towards certification.

### ***Opening of the Chemistry Laboratory at NCTE***

The Chemistry Laboratory at the National Center of Testing Excellence (NTCE), located at the Stock Farm complex inaugurated on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018. The

Chemistry Laboratory offers an extensive range of testing services to suit the needs of private and public agencies. It also provides high quality testing and business-critical services for small businesses, young entrepreneurs and the general public. The laboratory conducts all testing following International Standards (EN, BS, ASTM, ISO, and many other Industry standards) with competent staff, adequate facilities and state of the art equipment. The laboratory also performs analysis under specific regulatory and quality guidelines such as Good Laboratory Practice (GLP).

### ***Public/Private Sector Interventions***

Several Public and Private Sector initiatives were undertaken by the sector during the year in review. One such initiative was the “Giving Trade a Face” initiative. The Division worked closely with Dominica Coconut Products (DCP) to submit a matter to the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) on behalf of DCP Successors Ltd. The matter entitled “Reinstitution of Preferential Tariffs for Soaps” sought to receive a decision from the COTED to create a protective space for the company within CARICOM for the sale and distribution of soaps. The idea was to request that all Member States of CARICOM increase their tariffs (Customs Duties) to 40%; which would allow the company to truly benefit from its investment within the Region. The COTED approved the Ministry’s request without objection.

### ***Consumer Protection Legislation***

For many years, Dominica solved its consumer related problems, claims and concerns through moral persuasion and that in the absence of prerequisite legislation. The 2018/19 financial year has been the most critical to this process since the Ministry of Justice, Immigration and National Security’s Legislative Drafting Unit submitted the Final Draft of the Consumer Protection

Act for necessary action. The desire is to ensure its implementation prior to the end of calendar year 2019.

### ***Economic Enhancement and Support for Local Sectors and Industries***

In December of 2018, the Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Dominica approved Article 164 which is geared at supporting growth and development of the Industries and Sector within the Less Developed Countries (LDCs) of CARICOM by implementing protective customs duties to allow a competitive advantage to the producers within the LDCs. The Article also provides for financial and technical assistance to be made available to producers through the CARICOM Development Fund. The institution of the most updated Harmonized System (HS) governing the importation of goods into Dominica, (the HS2017) was also approved. The HS2017 ensures that a wider range of products are identified and treated upon entry into Dominica. Both initiatives are geared at enhancing Dominica's ability to protect its own home grown producers and to facilitate trade.

### ***Import/Export Displacement Exercise***

The Division of Trade aims to reduce the import bill by examining items that are imported in large quantities, of which Dominica has the capacity to produce the same product or a substitute. An analysis was performed on the feasibility of growing some of the local products or substituting with a similar product as an investment opportunity (see table below). The capacities of local production companies were assessed to determine capacities requiring enhancement.

**Table 12: Local Products vs. Imported products**

Imports Item	Substitute	Imported Cost (XCD)
Vegetable Oil	Coconut Oil	2,399,803.13
Fruit Juices	Local Fruit Juices	2,192,010.95
Herbal Teas	Local Teas	265,127.31
Plantain Chips	Local Plantain Chips	99,691.42

### ***Exports***

#### **Manufacturing Exports**

There is also an increasing trend in the manufacturing and export sector in comparison with previous years. An analysis of export data following the passage of Hurricane Maria revealed that the export dynamics changed in the emergence of certain new products on the market. Two of these products are, crushed stone and pebbles and waste metal. Waste metal amounting to 1.5 Million dollars was exported to the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates, while crushed stones and pebbles have been exported to neighbouring islands. There has also been a surge in the exports of paints and vanish products.

The agro processing sector has also indicated an increase in exports for the year in review. There has been an increase in development and export of sea moss products. Dominica exported EC\$ 465,730.76 worth of this product in 2018. This is being produced primarily by two (2) individual producers which exports to eleven member states. Exports is primarily maintained with trading partners in Antigua, Barbados, Guadeloupe, Saint Martin, Martinique, St, Kitts, Montserrat, Saint Lucia Saint Vincent, Jamaica, and the United States, among others.

**Table 13: Exports of Manufactured Products**

Product	CIF Value
Water thinned Paints	\$980,427.12
Enamels	264,932.66
Cigarettes Containing Tobacco	112,009.20
Pebbles, Gravels, Broken or Crushed Stone	1,036,789.32
Soap	1,577,233.58
Bay Oil Products	167,470.53
Cassava and Cassava products	85,461.66
Mining	3,875,121.43
Other	560,499.45

Fresh Produce Exports	
June 2018-May 2019	
Description	Value
Cucumbers	18,871.05
Aubergines (egg-plants)	28,699.31
Sweet peppers	24,016.95
Pumpkins	94,409.83
Cucumbers and gherkins	37,528.03
Sweet potatoes	340,459.97
Arrowroot	584.08
Dasheens	863,238.70
Tannias	183,768.61
Yams	482,450.58
Bananas, fresh	455,556.87
Plantains, fresh	701,320.01
Bananas and plantains, dried	18,168.20
Pineapples	47,025.52
Mangoes	6,864.65
Oranges	23,863.91
Grapefruit, including pomelos	12,876.15
Other fruits of the genus capsicum or of the genus pimenta	255.79
Limes	2,636.86
Lemons	103.68
Watermelons	8,979.95

<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>
Papaws (papayas)	27,824.91
Passion fruit	39,013.85
Apricote	221.76
Avocado	35,726.57
Christophine (choyote)	27,756.45
Pepper neither crushed nor ground	10,071.17
Pepper crushed or ground	37,350.01
Cinnamon (cinnamomum zeylanicum blume)	2,737.00
Other cinnamon	3,137.85
Cinnamon crushed or ground	17,163.78
Nutmeg	6,445.80
Ginger	385,288.70
Saffron	14,461.85
Tummeric	5,846.40
Cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems).	4,691.25
Breadfruit	49.61
Manioc	4,621.84
Carambolas	529.53
Other fruit and nuts, uncooked or cooked by steaming or boiling in water	1,293.50
Other	29,239.05
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,005,149.58</b>

## **Geothermal Energy**

The Government of Dominica is now considered a trailblazer on the development of geothermal energy. When many Eastern Caribbean countries are beginning their exploration phase of geothermal development, Dominica is on the verge of its construction phase.

Lands for the construction of the 7MW power plant, reinjection lines and auxiliary equipment have been identified and are in the process of being acquired through the Ministry of Housing and Lands. This milestone will

accelerate the thrust towards the construction of the 7MW power plant which will house two 3.5MW units. Additionally, an Owners Engineer Contract was signed in April of 2018, all the technical concepts for the development of the geothermal project have been finalized and the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between DOMLEC and the Dominica Geothermal Development Company (DGDC) has been completed and submitted for approval to the Independent Regulatory Commission (IRC) in March 2019.

The bid document for the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract, has been submitted for the World Bank review and approval. Once approval is secured, the Dominica Geothermal Development Company will invite tenders to bid on the EPC contract. The financing for the project was approved on March 17, 2019 as follows: DFID grant US10 million, CTF grant US10 million, SIDS Dock US\$2 million and US17 million from IDA.

Additionally, the Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) which highlights the impact and benefits of the project on the environment and livelihood of stakeholders was disclosed in October 2018. Several stakeholder consultations were conducted to ensure community participation in the planning process, provide project updates, and explain the grievance redress mechanism, and receive feedback from stakeholders, before the present action of the documentation and for public disclosure.

During the last quarter of 2018, a geotechnical survey was done at the power plant site and other critical areas in the project footprint. A core sample was drilled and extracted for testing to determine the design of the project infrastructure.

The DGDC embarked on an education drive in primary and secondary schools around the island, established social media presence, and develop a website ([www.geodominica.dm](http://www.geodominica.dm)) to ensure the widest possible reach of information about the geothermal project. Thus far a total of 1058 students and 58

teachers participated in the process. National consultations were also held at the Goodwill parish Hall in Roseau, and the Credit Union Hall in Portsmouth

## **Tourism**

Tourism remains is a key economic driver in the economy of Dominica. A clear path of recovery within the tourist industry is evident in visitor arrivals performance for 2018-2019. Almost all visitor categories surpassed 2018 performance by significant percentages, with the expectation of the cruise visitors.

According to DDA's Visitors Statistics Report, a strong performance in Q1 2019 visitor arrivals (163,457), resulted in a significant increase of 427% over Q1 2018 (30,991). Considering the circumstance, this performance reflects a slight decrease of 2.8% over corresponding period in 2017.

Cruise visitors (134,751) which increased by over 700% in 2018 (15,508), fell short of 2017 by 5.2%. Throughout the 2018/2019 cruise season, Dominica received 170 cruise calls carrying 252, 224 passengers as compared to 28 cruise calls and 18,378 passengers in the 2017/18 cruise season. Stayover arrivals increased 87.5% by end of 2018, but an increase of 11.2% has already been observed for 2019 with a record number of 23,444 stay. Yacht arrivals, particularly in Portsmouth, increased by 52% in 2018 and another 4287 arrivals were recorded by Quarter 1 of 2019. Same day/excursionists showed an exponential increase of 356% in 2019 from 2017. These trends suggest a positive outlook for 2019 which could bring visitor arrivals back to, or possibly exceed, pre-Maria levels. See summary table below.

## DOMINICA'S VISITOR ARRIVALS

January - March 2019<sup>P</sup>

Visitor Type	2019	2018	Change 19 v 18	% Change 19 v 18	2017	% Change 19 v 17	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Stay Over <sup>P</sup>	23443	12505	10,938	87.5%	21,084	11.2%	19,806	20,695	20,470	20,334	19,947	18,280	19,669	17,275	20,147
Cruise <sup>P</sup>	134751	15508	119,243	768.9%	142,152	-5.2%	155,191	148,635	165,224	120,318	165,054	194,081	227,292	216,425	160,398
Same Day/Excursionists <sup>P</sup>	975	157	818	521.0%	214	355.6%	216	312	156	344	611	145	175	106	414
Yacht - Portsmouth/North	4287	2821	1,466	52.0%	4,672	-8.2%	4,205	4,105	4,234	3,764	4,340	3,598	3,428	3,250	4,153
Yacht - Roseau/South <sup>P</sup>			0				2,611	3,179	2,671	2,693	2,759	2,121	16	2,362	2,665
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>163456</b>	<b>30,991</b>	<b>132,465</b>	<b>427.4%</b>	<b>168,122</b>	<b>-2.8%</b>	<b>182,029</b>	<b>176,926</b>	<b>192,755</b>	<b>147,453</b>	<b>192,711</b>	<b>218,225</b>	<b>250,580</b>	<b>239,418</b>	<b>187,777</b>

P:Preliminary;

Arrivals by Yacht- Roseau outstanding for June 2016 onwards. Portsmouth outstanding for September.

Figure 9: Dominica Visitors Arrival

Regional performance demonstrates that Dominica recorded the best year end performance among other hurricane impacted islands in 2017. Tracking data shows that Dominica had the lowest year on year decline (-12.9%) in arrivals from source markets.

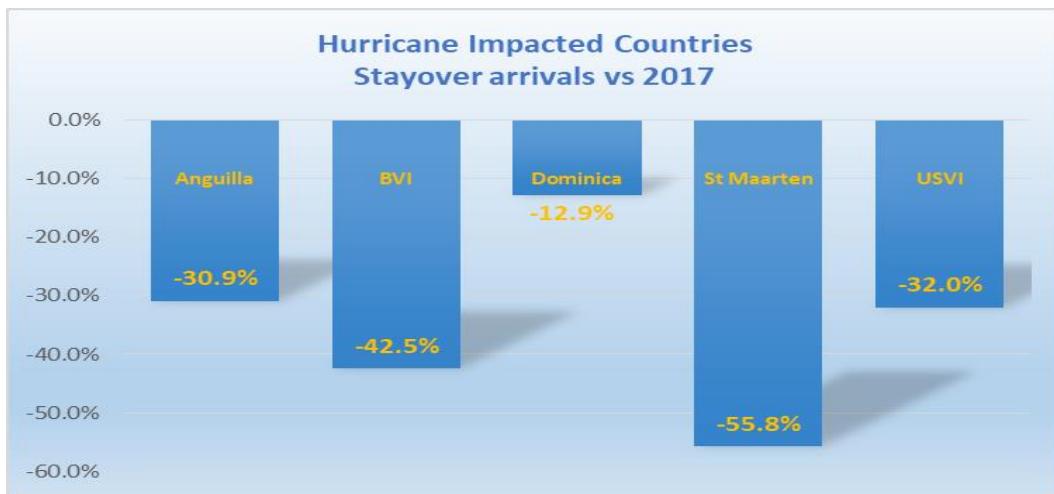


Figure 10: Hurricane Impacted Countries

### ***Community Cultural and Heritage Tourism***

For fiscal year 2018/19 the Tourism Division focused on key programme areas namely, Community Tourism Expansion, Heritage and Cultural Tourism, Tourism Site Enhancement, Marine and Coastal Tourism and its Climate Resilience Projects. These programs were aimed at building resilience in the sector through infrastructural developments, facility upgrades, sustainable preservation of the natural environment, creation of linkages and capacity building initiatives that all contribute to the embellishment of product and service offerings while enhancing the visitors' experience. The table below provides details of the support provided to twelve (12) communities to enhance their product and service offerings, and which resulted in the creation of approximately sixty (60) jobs created within communities.



**Figure 11: Toucarie Jetty**

**Table 14: Tourism Site Improvements Spending.**

Project	Intervention	Investment
Dominica Community Tourism Association Inc. (DCTAI)	Membership administrative support	\$200,000
Indian River Initiatives	Derelict Clean up	\$89,000
Indian River	Exit Trail Rehabilitation & Witch House Reconstruction	106000
Cana Heritage Site, Capuchin	Construction of restaurant/café	\$355,000
Kalinago Territory Project	Completion of local thatch on structures at the KBA; signage; and construction of eight (8) vending kiosks in Salybia	\$250,000
Cold Soufriere, Penville	Reconstruction of a new boardwalk/viewing platform	\$33,000
Castle Bruce Project	Construction of washroom facility at tourist site	\$124,000
Vielle Case and Tan Tan	Trail development	\$98,000
Melville Hall Project	Beautification	22,000

### ***Tourism Sites and Service Delivery Enhancement***

During the financial year, effort was made to enhance visitor experience at the following sites, facilities and trails:

- Emerald Pool Development – construction of a new and larger viewing platform and picnic shelter; lighting and installation of display panels in interpretation rooms
- Trafalgar Falls – construction of a new viewing platform with seating area
- Spanny Falls – construction of a new viewing platform; paved trail and installation of safety railings
- Sari Sari, Victoria Falls and Anba Wavin Siwik in the East - rehabilitation works on trails

A full assessment of an additional eleven (11) sites and attractions was

conducted to inform future upgrades.

In keeping with internationally accepted best practices in developing standards, Discover Dominica Authority (DDA) in conjunction with the Dominica Bureau of Standards established a Tourism and Related Services Technical Committee whose responsibility is to develop and review standards for the Tourism Industry. The committee has completed the review of the Tourism Taxi Service and Craft & Souvenir Vendors.

The Discover Dominica Authority (DDA) hosted a series of training sessions with the view of upgrading tourism service providers in the key components of the tourism product, business development and the delivery of quality customer service. The series of training targeted certified service providers such as Taxi Operators, Tour Guides, Vendors, Hair Braiders, and Park Wardens. Approximately, 150 service providers participated in the 2018 Training Series. These training courses were very timely to prepare for the opening of several new hotels on island.

State agencies have begun activities to support the opening of the major hotels on the island, such as road audit of routes from the Douglas Charles Airport to the Kempinski, and Roseau to Jungle Bay resort, to identify areas of improvement in relation road upgrade, signage, creation of green spaces and removal of derelict vehicles and white goods.

### ***Coastal and Marine Tourism***

During the fiscal year 2018-2019 the Ministry sought to undertake development initiatives across the island which focused to a very large extent on the coastal and marine tourism. The marine space is the linchpin for activities such as scuba diving, snorkeling, whale watching; free diving, water sports and sea bathing whilst also providing a critical medium for other economic activities such as trading and fishing. The burgeoning yachting industry which thrives on adequate berthing and mooring facilities also formed

an integral aspect of the Ministry's effort to diversify and expand the touristic options on the nature isle, particularly as we prepare for the opening of new hotels and resorts. The Jetty at Toucarie was completed at a cost of \$226,000. Both Portsmouth Association of Yacht Securities (PAYS) and the Newtown Association Yacht Securities (NAYS) have been beneficiaries of the Ministry's efforts. The support took the form of funding underwater surveys, washroom upgrades, production of moorings and sourcing yachting equipment such as none inflatable moorings and VHF radios at a cost of \$50,000.

To support the growing sub-sector, the Ministry collaborated with private entities to undertake clean-up projects at Purple Turtle, Toucarie, Scotts Head, Melville Hall and Pottersville during the year. Importantly, small souvenir items such as coasters and key rings were produced from recycled plastic which was collected during the clean-up exercise. Improvements were also made to beaches in the form of construction of picnic benches at Coconut beach, Purple Turtle beach and Mero Beach. A model cabana beach hut was built on Mero beach with a view to replicating identical structures at other beaches in the very near future. Critically this prototype can be safely dismantled and secured during adverse events thereby rendering it resilient.

The Ministry continues to maintain a presence on the beaches in the northeastern belt of the island namely Batibou, Number One, Pte. Baptiste, Hodges and Woodford Hill where security officers patrol these beaches particularly during the cruise season thereby thwarting potential criminal activities.

### ***New Tourist Products***

Discover Dominica Authority also sought to develop other products by undertaking activities in the cruise, cuisine, Voluntourism, dive, health and wellness, and student tourism niche markets. A mystery shoppers' project produced an audit report of fourteen (14) accommodation properties, five (5)

tour companies, and five (5) independent taxi operators. A *Taste of Dominica* cuisine activity, which ran from October 19 –November 30, 2018, showcased the diversity of Dominica's cuisine and offered an array of options from street side food to inspired chef creations, to herbal teas and famous bush rums.

100 yachts were attracted to and participated in Yachties Appreciation week, and a Z Adventures Marathon with 30 runners specializing in luxury running and multisport adventures across the world was held on March 12, 2019.

In the area of health and wellness, collaborative activities included a mini expo, a free webinar and a destination assessment to obtain an understanding of wellness travel opportunities in Dominica from a visitors' perspective.

To promote student tourism, the Discover Dominica Authority (DDA) hosted the University of Toronto, Clemson University, and the University of Central Florida. This meant that for this period, there were 115 visits by students to the island for educational and/or research purposes.

Acorn Consulting Firm was contracted to determine the viability of the Voluntourism niche and to develop a Voluntourism plan that emanated from consultations with tour operators, dive operators, hoteliers, and representatives of tourism-based associations.

### ***Promotion and Marketing***

In-keeping with the marketing strategy to continuously inform the general public and the media of the recovery of the destination, a series of familiarization trips, communication and trade outreach activities were executed during the year to raise awareness of successes and improvements in the sector. This was imperative in order to maintain

visibility of destination as vacation option, improve marketability of hotels, and connect potential visitors to the rebranding of the destination.

The various advertising initiatives and campaigns were implemented across the source markets. The uniqueness and diversity of promotion and marketing efforts is hinged on the recognition that Dominica is sold as a place with all of its products and is competing with the entire world. Government is cognizant that the tourism industry is unlike any other development sector, because in addition, you are selling a place and all the things it has to offer. This means that Dominica is competing with the entire world, and this high level of competition demands a creative and unique approach.

As such, great emphasis was placed on the Re-Discover Dominica Initiative which commenced in July 2018 with a discount campaign to encourage hotel stays. This messaging continued in marketing efforts through the end of 2018 and also included the initiatives with the international press/media and travel trade personnel.

There were twenty -three (23) press trips from across all source markets in 2018. These press trips generated more than 301 print and online articles about the island's recovery, upcoming hotels, 40 years Independence anniversary, Voluntourism, sperm whale watching and island activities were published in the continental source markets. Closer to home in the French West Indies, there were a total of 156 notifications of articles published on Dominica; while in the Caribbean 24 articles were published. These messages were in addition to numerous radio interviews, promotions, press conferences and other media.

In order to increase the presence of Dominica as a destination in the marketplace, DDA signed contract with FCCA for FCCA Marketing Partner package 2019. This arrangement allows for submission of Ads in Travel &

Cruise Magazine, FCCA Foundation Event Program and Travel & Cruise E-mail newsletter. The magazines are circulated to key industry players and decision makers. A cruise promotional video was also produced.

In the UK, advertising was done with The Luxury Report, Escapism magazine, Wanderlust magazine and The Gap Travel Guide to a circulation of well over the hundreds of thousands of print and digital viewers in as well as digital. In France, advertising in a BtoB special leaflet of Le Quotidien de Tourisme (trade press) on how to better sell “SPECIAL SPA & WELLNESS 2019”. The distribution occurred in January 2019 (10,000 copies and 3,000 copies distributed during the ITFM Top Resa 2019 which will give extra visibility. In Germany, an advert/supplement in the top weekly magazine “Stern” with a print run of 550,000 copies, a brand awareness of 96%, reaching 6.8 million readers per issue and a well-to-do, intellectual and open-minded readership.

In France, Air France travel agencies were utilized as a marketing outlet during a two-week period and the destination was featured on their internal portal. In the US, Caradonna Marketing Cooperative & Pleasant Holidays Cooperative-Reengaged tour operators for increased trade and consumer awareness through print, social, email, and digital marketing program. The campaign generated over 1.2 million impressions with viewers being referred to the DDA website. Finally, in the Caribbean, advertising was done with LIAT’s inflight magazine, with CMC broadcasting, the Nation Newspaper in Barbados, with Sports Max; with Caribbean 360 and with Going Places Travel. These advertisements were some combination of print, digital (email blasts or social media) and television.

Trade engagement was also successfully implemented in all source markets through a combination of webinars and trade shows, featuring among other products, Dominica as a diving and bird watching destination.

### **Air Access**

In order to successfully stage the major festivals such as the World Creole Music Festival, Dominica's Mas Domnik Carnival, and Jazz'n Creole, improving air access was demanded. Besides working to restore scheduled service to the destination post Hurricane Maria, attempts were made to increase air access from Point a Pitre on Air Antilles to connect with low cost carrier Norwegian from New York.

### **Manufacturing, Small Business and Enterprise**

The key development focus areas for the Ministry of Commerce, Enterprise and Small Business Development were the Small Business Assistance Programme, development of Rural Business and Enterprises (RBEC), and support to the development of Medium Small and Micro Enterprises (MSME's). Support was extended to entrepreneurs, cooperatives and businesses in the form of direct financing, training and supplies.

In the financial year, a budget of 2.5 million dollars was allocated to the Ministry to assist small businesses on the island. An amount of EC\$2.68 million was disbursed to 245 businesses island-wide in the following sub-sectors:

- ✓ Retail
- ✓ Food Service
- ✓ Arts & Craft
- ✓ Garment Manufacturing
- ✓ Vending
- ✓ Health & Wellness
- ✓ Beauty Salon / Cosmetology
- ✓ Agro-processing / Manufacturing

Of that figure, 56% represented male, and 44% were female recipients. Funding in the amount of EC\$249,000 was also made available in a decentralized form to ninety-seven (97) small businesses within the communities of Woodford Hill and Wesley in an effort to stimulate local economic development.

To build a more resilient nation, the Ministry recognizes the need for clustering and the training of business owners and entrepreneurs that will expedite the building of stronger and more sustainable businesses. One day and two-day trainings were organized and delivered by the Ministry. In the area of RBEC, twenty-seven individuals from the east and south east of Dominica benefited from training before receiving financial support. The assistance through grant provision was meant to facilitate the building and sustaining of livelihoods through rural enterprise development. Training was provided in areas of business management, human resource management, costing and pricing, record keeping, marketing, and business plan preparation.

**Table 15: Direct support to enterprises, 2018/19**

Enterprise	Support	Investment
Bee Masters Enterprise	Construction of concrete Bee House and marketing support	\$1,000.00
MDSC ENTERPRISE of Colihaut	Skills set training in fish pot making, boat building and boat repairs	\$54000.00
South East Women Organic Farming Enterprise	Establishment of two large greenhouses	\$3000.00
Greenrich Enterprise	Rebuilding structure	\$120,000.00
Fishing Enterprise of the Eastern District (FEED)	Boat repair materials and engine	\$33,000.00
St Joseph Multi-Purpose Enterprise	Boat repair materials and engine	\$35,000.00
Tan Tan Village Development Committee	Business and marketing support to all members; Three (3) businesses received raw material support and materials to retrofit structures	\$15,000.00

### ***Strategic Partnerships for Entrepreneurial Support***

Based on a market-driven approach, the Ministry, in partnership with the AID Bank, and through the establishment of a Special Loan facility, aimed to stimulate the growth and expansion of manufacturing businesses, inclusive of agro-processors. The injection of capital enabled the purchase raw materials, machinery and equipment, and facilitated marketing, and research and development. Ten (10) entrepreneurs have benefited from this facility.

The Ministry is also partnering with DYBT in the setting-up of an Entrepreneurial Support Centre – a state of the art hub for training facilities, technology, eLearning tools and business development events based on the needs of entrepreneurs.

The Ministry also collaborated with DYBT, DAIC and Invest Dominica Authority (IDA) to host an “Entrepreneurs/Leaders Exhibition” which took place at Ross University Student Centre in Portsmouth. Over twenty (20) entrepreneurs from various sectors took part in the exhibition which afforded them the opportunity to showcase and sell their products.

### **Telecommunications and ICT Technologies**

Research has shown that for every 10% broadband coverage in a country, an average of 1.38% growth in GDP is obtained. Considering the correlation between high speed broadband infrastructures to GDP growth established by reputed organizations including the World Bank, Internal Monetary Fund (IMF), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and others, Dominica’s global competitiveness hinges on the transformation of the country’s ICT infrastructure, including that of state offices. The country’s global competitiveness is measured through international annual assessments such as the ITU’s ICT Development Index (“IDI”) for which Dominica was

globally ranked at 75 in 2017, down from 68 in 2016. Additionally, the World Bank ‘Group’s “*Doing Business Index*” placed Dominica at 98 globally in 2018.

Dominica’s integration into the world’s digital economy and its path to social and economic growth will in most part be facilitated by technological advances through improved communications and information flows. Development of modern telecommunication capacities and services must therefore be viewed as the engine for growth, development, and diversification of Dominica’s economic base. Consequently, Government’s vision for the telecommunications and ICT sector is twofold. It seeks to connect every household in Dominica to an accessible, affordable and highly resilient high-speed broadband digital infrastructure and to digitally link the country to the global network. This requires the GoCD to adopt the requisite policies to make timely investments in order to expand Dominica’s digital economy, and to add to the economic diversification thrust.

In its quest to restore the country’s telecommunications infrastructure following the devastation of Hurricane Maria, there has been an aggressive move by the Government of Dominica to improve its standing in the world’s digital economy. Consequently, Government awarded a highly competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) to Digicel Dominica Ltd in June 2018. The official signing of the Master Services Agreement with Digicel Dominica took place on January 15, 2019, creating the first and biggest public-private sector partnership for the transformation of the telecommunications sector. The standalone services agreement with Digicel Dominica is intended to provide robust and advanced telecommunication and ICT services in telephony, data, internet and other ICTs for the Government under a fifteen (15) years contract. The contract included investments in underground cable network to provide network security and path redundancy, and transfer of knowledge on national data centers.

Presently, phase 1 of the laying of underground fiber to provide connectivity to over two hundred and fifty (250) public facilities in Roseau and environs, including hospitals, health centers, police stations and educational institutions, started on April 01, 2019 and is expected to be completed by July 31, 2019. Phase 2 of the civil works Project will be from the Coast Guard Base in Fond Cole to Digicel's Landing Station at Canefield.



In preparation for the transformative and technological changes anticipated, Government continued to invest in other public infrastructure during the Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Efforts included the renovation and upgrading of the Grand Fond Smart

Figure 12: Illustration of plans and portion of civil works route

Center which was impacted by Hurricane Maria. This facility, scheduled for completion in the new fiscal year, forms part of a network of satellite rural educational institutions designed to extend both day and night classes from the Dominica State College to rural communities in Grand Fond and environs. These smart centers will contribute to the resilience of the educational system by aiding with access to education through online advanced communication services.

In the area of policy development, the National Broadband Strategy which provides a roadmap for the accessibility and delivery of broadband services to citizens was also completed. The National Cybersecurity Strategy and Gap Analysis which details the major pillars necessary to secure the Government's public network against illegal network access was also finalized. This framework document is a critical element to complement the legal framework for legislative and prosecutorial enforcement of cybercrime activities.

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **SOCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS**

The Government of Dominica is committed to the development of the social sector, evidenced in the significant allocation of resources on education, health and social protection. The social sector is important for Dominica's economy and includes several important sub-sectors such as education, health, social welfare, housing, community development, and poverty alleviation. All of these components, and in particular, the well-designed and universal educational and health policies help to remove discrimination and play a vital contribution to human development, family stability and sustainable development. The Government is cognizant that climate resiliency is not possible in the absence of a strong human and social capital base, and neither is economic advancement progressive, when the poor and vulnerable are left behind. This chapter provides a snapshot of activities and investments in the social sector at the national and community levels that are essential elements to improve the quality of life of citizens and to achieve the desired national outcome of a better and more secure Dominica.

#### **Health**

From the 2018-2019 Annual Budget the Ministry of Health and Social Services received the third highest allocation of funds which allotted to \$71.6 million. In addition, \$22.3 million from the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) was secured for ongoing capital projects. The Strategic Objectives of the Ministry's five-year Climate Resilient Strategic Plan was guided and informed by the Ministry's Vision, "Building a more resilient Health and Social Services system" for which the following programmes/projects were developed:

- Providing an adequate and motivated workforce equipped to provide quality health services

- Strengthening the institutional structure of the health and social services system.
- Maintaining health services that respond to the needs of the population both at primary and secondary care level.
- Improving the health and quality of life of selected vulnerable individuals and groups in the population.
- Managing communicable and non-communicable diseases through early detection and prevention.

The programmes of the Ministry of Health and Social Services focused on the entire population to include children, elderly and the most vulnerable. In keeping with the policies from the National Resilience Development Strategy – Dominica 2030 (NRDS), the Ministry focused on the following areas:

- reviewing of health policies and legislation;
- building upon the SMART Hospital initiative to include more resilient structures;
- encouraging of self-sustainable health facilities;
- the establishment of a social and beneficiary registry;
- the development of a Management Information Systems (MIS) for social programs;
- continued assessments on national disease surveillance system that will gauge the impact of disease incidence and distribution.

These are some of the programmes which were completed during the fiscal year 2018/2019.

- The completion of the School Vision / Body Mass Index (BMI) Assessment Programme. This programme targeted the school children, many of whom received appropriate referrals to the Ophthalmologist as well as assistance with the purchase of eyeglasses, once recommended.

- In keeping with providing an adequate workforce with the Nursing Service in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) completed the Community Health Aide programme in April 2019 with 26 participants graduating after being successful.
- Three Medical Officers completed specialist training in Intensive Care, Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Nephrology respectively.
- The People's Republic of China provided support with specialist health care when the "Ark Peace" Medical ship Mission Harmony took place in 2018.
- Support was also provided when four Medical Specialists were assigned to work in Dominica for a one-year period. These specialist areas included Oncology, Ophthalmologist, Cardiology and Urology. Equipment for provision of Urology services was also donated to the Ministry by the People's Republic of China.
- The Cuban Medical Brigade continued with twenty-five (25) nurses joining the nursing service this period. Specialist's doctors also joined the service in the field of Ear Nose and Throat, Medical Internist and Vascular Surgery.

In the quest to prevent and ***manage communicable and non-communicable diseases*** several programmes were implemented under the Ministry's PAHO BWP (Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Bi-annual Work Programme (BWP)) through the various departments. Contributions amounted to \$136,017.00 with most of the allocated budget spent on improving the health system and services. Some of the specific activities completed under the BWP include:

- Training of all HODs and Health District of MOH in 2-way Communication and provision of handheld ham radios
- Training of twenty-two (22) leaders in Chronic Disease Self-Management (CDSMP) (to include Health, Non-Health Civil Society and Faith-Based Organization

- Complete draft School Nutrition Policy
- Successful observance of Caribbean Wellness Month in September 2018
- Collaboration with Dominica Diabetes Association in launching of the Water Wednesday and Fruit Friday initiative
- Development of Cervical Cancer Guidelines and HPV vaccine schedule implementation
- Collaborated with Cancer Society in a major fundraising annual cancer walk

During the last reporting period, the Dental Unit of the Ministry of Health and Social Services continued to provide excellent **oral health services** to the public, despite the many challenges and constraints encountered.

- Ten thousand, seven hundred and thirty (10,730) clients were seen and treated, which includes three thousand six hundred and twenty (3620) children and seven thousand, one hundred and ten (7110) adults.
- In 2018 seven thousand, one hundred and ten (7110) adults were seen and treated in the various districts.

To strengthen the **National Disease Surveillance System** the following activities were undertaken by the Health Information Unit (HIU) with funding from PAHO:

- Refresher training of health care professionals on routine surveillance protocols related to emerging infectious diseases and endemic diseases;
- Acquisition of applicable software and training of staff in influenza surveillance;
- Formation of a steering committee and appointment of a focal person for tuberculosis surveillance. Presently, the implementation of regional and international standards for the management of TB is in process, and a strategic plan for its management has been developed. Activities such as at-risk population screening and public awareness-raising through radio programs have been executed. Consistent with other OECS countries, new

cases of tuberculosis over the past few years have been very low, averaging only two (2) cases per year.

- Formation of a multi-sectorial and multi-discipline technical working to review and disseminate findings on anti-microbial resistance patterns.
- Steps have also been undertaken to build resilient forms of information systems and storage, including the upgrade of the Dominica Medical Information System (DMedIS) to international standard. The system is currently operational in the Accident and Emergency, Medical Record, and X-ray departments, and the Grand Bay Health Centre.

### ***Development of SMART facilities***

With support from DFID and PAHO, renovation works on the LaPlaine Health Center to remodel into a “SMART facility” was completed and commissioned. Installation of stand-alone solar systems at Fond Cole, Mahaut River, Wesley, Salybia, St. Joseph and Castle Bruce was made possible with funding from “Electricians without Borders”.

### ***Renovation and Construction of Health Facilities***

With funding from the GoCD and support from other humanitarian agencies, including but not limited to Amicares, PAHO, UNDP, People’s Republic of China, CDEMA, UNICEF, Koudmen, and Biomedical International Corp. EC\$1,624,761.70 was spent on repairs to the Princess Margaret Hospital and nineteen (19) health centers across the island. Repairs ranged from the replacement of roofs, internal fixtures and furniture, to repairs to doors and windows, among other things.

An additional, EC \$348,992.75 was awarded for the reconstruction of the Princess Margaret Hospital incinerator and waste disposal site. To date, the structural works have been completed.

The Ministry of Health and Social services is also moving full speed ahead with the construction of the New National Hospital. The first phase of the construction of the New National Hospital, which comprised of the new Accident and Emergency Department, and the Technology Building which houses the Radiology Medical Laboratory Services, Dialysis Unit and administration section is structurally complete and interior works is finished.



Figure 12: New National Hospital - Phase 1

The renovation of the Central Medical Stores (CMS) at a cost of EC \$1.1 million dollars, funded by Americares, is nearing completion, while simultaneous works are ongoing to develop an Inventory Management System (IMS) for installation at the CMS.

## **Education and Human Resource Development**

The Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development remains committed to improving access to quality education through the implementation of programmes at all levels geared towards the realization of its vision that “Every Learner Succeeds”. While the country made considerable progress in many key education indicators over the years, in some areas challenges exists with access, equity, learning outcomes and efficiency.

To address those challenges and to ensure that the sector continues to recover from the impact of Hurricane Maria, the Ministry has focused on providing and improving access, quality and relevance, improved sector management, and rehabilitation of infrastructure, and has also ***promoted and adopted a safe school culture*** through the entrenchment of Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience into all aspects of the education system. This initiative has been supported by UNICEF and IsraAid and achievements include:

1. Adoption and use of the Guidelines for Multi-Disaster Resilient School Building developed with support from UNICEF. The guidelines were developed using international standards and incorporates local knowledge and practices.
2. Dominica is one of six member states implementing the CDEMA Safe School Project which involves development of policy, hazard risk assessment of schools and development of costed action plans based on the assessment recommendations. A consultancy firm has been engaged and is conducting stakeholder consultations for the policy development and training for the assessment of schools.
3. Key messages for multi hazards have been developed.
4. Operationalization and implementation of the School Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP). With support from UNICEF and IsraAid, training for teachers in the different roles and functions articulated in the SEOP are ongoing. This includes sessions on First Aid,

Communication in Emergencies, Response Team and their duties, Search and Rescue and Psychosocial support.

5. A Training of Trainers' workshop was held for at least two teachers from each school on conducting school drills. Educators worked on scenario planning and table-top exercises to support knowledge of school-based drills.
6. Emergency kits were distributed to all 73 primary and secondary schools. Emergency items include fire extinguishers, crow bars, rope, dusk masks, megaphones, safety helmets, caution tape, emergency radio, and safety vests.
7. First Aid kits funded by the Israel Embassy in the Dominican Republic were distributed to all schools and all fourth formers (611) of every secondary school have been trained in First Aid.
8. All schools received grants of approximately EC \$4,032 to address risk within the schools. A wide range of projects included:
  - Strengthening of windows
  - Covering of drains
  - Repairing of fences
  - Erection of safety signs and other signage
  - Installation of security devices
  - Fixing of concrete pavement
  - Creation of safe zones
  - Construction of ramps
  - Establishment of sick bays
  - Improving garbage management systems
  - Design of murals with key messages
  - Parent sensitization



- Installation of intercom/PA system
9. A consultant has been engaged to work on the contingency plan for the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development. A Contingency Planning Workshop was held on 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of June to familiarize sector stakeholders on the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) Minimum Standards to facilitate the planning process.
10. With the support of UNICEF and IsraAid, Curriculum Officers are now working on infusing Disaster Risk Reduction within the relevant curriculum areas.

For the review period 2018-2019, the ***improvements to the quality of education***, covering all education sub-sectors, from early-childhood to higher education, is evidenced in the further development of curriculum and assessments, teacher professional development, and trainings in Leadership and Accountability, teaching of reading, and monitoring and evaluation and reporting.

In the area of ***improvement, rehabilitation and maintenance of existing physical facilities***, a total of forty-five (45) contracts were approved for rehabilitative works, electrical rewiring, power washing, plumbing, reroofing, painting and fencing. In some cases, building extensions were undertaken in order to provide and improve access to ***early childhood education (ECD)***. Some of the rehabilitative works were conducted in partnership with other governments, charities and corporate organisations such as the Chinese Government, Canadian Government, Maria Holder Memorial Trust, Emergency Architects, DIGICEL, CORECA of Guadeloupe, All Hearts and Hands, and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and Basic Needs Trust Fund.

Apart from rehabilitative works, other activities around early childhood education revolved around the supply of learning materials, provision of subventions to ECD centres, training for Roving Care Givers and day care centres, and the mainstreaming of the Roving Care Givers Programme into the Ministry of Education's programme.

Dominica is also ***participating in the Early Learners' Programme*** – a programme focused on reading development, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and managed by the OECS. The project began in 2016 and is being implemented in six member states. For the year in review, achievements include:

- Fifteen (15) primary schools received an Innovation Grant Award of EC \$3,250.00 amounting to a total of EC \$42,250.00 towards developing and enhancing reading at their schools. They all received training in project development and the preparation of grant proposals.
- Thirty-three (33) teachers received training in reading with a focus on lesson planning, use of Home Language, Assessment of Reading and use of the Whole Language Approach.
- Teaching/learning materials were procured and shipped to Dominica from the OECS Education Development Management Unit (EDMU). Expenditure amounted to EC\$76,108.87.

The Ministry of Education organized several ***teacher training programmes and sessions*** to prepare teachers to facilitate change and implement strategies to address the quality of teaching and learning. In preparation for CSEC e-testing, CXC Local Registrar has trained forty -five (45) individuals as potential Chief and Assistant Chief Invigilators, familiarized private students with the new methodology, engage in pre-testing at all centers to try out the system and met with parents of 13 out of 15 secondary schools to provide updates on CXC

and provide readiness tips in preparation for the examinations. In September 2018, nineteen (19) teachers successfully completed and were certified by the National Training Agency of Grenada as Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) Assessors with the ability to develop and conduct assessments for the CVQs. The teachers work in various technical areas, namely agriculture, auto mechanics, clothing, home and resource management, information technology and woods and building technology. Finally, more than 140 primary and secondary school teachers participated in other professional development and capacity building programmes.

Dominica is one of four countries currently **participating in an OECS Education Support Project (OESP)** which is designed to provide support to the implementation of the OECS Education Sector Strategy (OESS) with funding from the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), an international organization that welcomed the Commonwealth of Dominica as a member in 2016. The project focuses on the implementation of the first three of seven key strategic imperatives namely, Curriculum and Assessment, Teacher Professional Development, and Leadership and Accountability. Thus far, achievements include:

- Development of regional learning standards that are aligned with international standards in four core subject areas of Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. These standards have been integrated into the existing curriculum guides.
- Development of an assessment framework which provides an outline of the approaches to assessment in grades one to six and designed to provide a better understanding of effective and consistent assessment practices. The framework is currently being implemented.
- Design of a two-year rolling National Teacher Professional Development Plan. As a result, 100 teachers were provided with in-service training to improve teacher quality through the upgrading of content area and

pedagogy. The training is delivered monthly and based on needs identified through the use of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS).

- Certification of seven (7) educators in the use of CLASS thus strengthening the ability of the system to monitor what is happening within the classrooms in regards to instructional and emotional support and classroom organization.
- Twenty-eight (28) school leaders including twenty-two (22) principals completed a 30-hours certificate course from the University of the West Indies in Education Management and Leadership.
- Eight (8) schools received a Student Achievement Grant valued at EC \$4,500 each to implement a small project that emphasized original approaches to enriching the learning environment.

In recent times, the use of **technology** within the education system is seen as critical to remodel classroom learning and enhance education. During the year in review, the Ministry of Education worked on replacing equipment destroyed by Hurricane Maria and upgrading computer labs to enhance teaching and learning and to meet the standards for online assessment. Thus far, the following have been achieved:

- 60 mini laptops were distributed to 30 primary schools to accommodate unique learning styles
- 49 primary schools were provided with an internet connection
- All secondary schools were provided with laptops
- 100 desktop computers were distributed to secondary schools to facilitate the implementation of Technical Drawing for CXC
- 420 mini laptops in 28 charging trolleys, routers, 85 desktops and 15 projects were received to facilitate online CSEC examinations in June 2019

In addition to the teaching and learning environment, emphasis was also placed on access and equity through the continuation of the ***school safety net*** programmes which includes special needs education, transport services, cash transfers, school grants, uniform and text-books provisions, and school feeding. When combined, \$3,402,486.99 was spent on school safety net programmes.

Despite the substantial investment to enhance ***enrollment and attendance***, by the end of the school year 2017-2019, data showed a slight decrease in both repetition and dropout rates. A School Attendance Counselor was therefore contracted with support from UNICEF to monitor and assess school attendance. A master list of 131 mandatory school age students at 73 schools who were registered but not attending, was compiled. The assessment revealed that of the 102 cases that have been resolved, 55 of those students had migrated, transferred to another school on island or returned to school after the list was submitted. Through the efforts of the Attendance Counselor, another forty-eight (48) students were returned to school, and 13 were enrolled in various skills-based programme.

Through the ***Student Support and Referral System***, appropriate accommodations are made to facilitate students with impairments at examinations. In other cases, arrangements are made to exempt students in mainstream schools from National Assessments and refer them to special needs education. One trained special education teacher was assigned to provide support and establish special education programmes at the Grand Bay Primary and Pierre Charles Secondary Schools, while twenty-two teachers participated in a Training Course on Autism Spectrum Disorder to respond to the needs of children in their classes.

Support in the form of guidance and counselling services in schools continue to be another support service intended to augment education programmes and

the delivery of quality education in Dominica. Guidance and counselling has been expanded and extended to primary school. Teachers and counselors were trained and equipped with additional requisite knowledge, skills and attitudes to effectively provide the required services through pastoral care, Expressive Art Therapy, and Working through Trauma and grief. Peer Mediation training was also conducted for 16 students at the Castle Bruce Secondary School.

The level of student performance is evidence that investments in the Education sector is contributing to the enhancement of access to education and performance of students. Efforts to improve **student performance** with regard to achievement levels in areas of literacy and numeracy, and assessments, and competencies in technology continued. Continuous assessment at the primary school level is a strategy employed to assess learning progress and utilize those findings to promote learning based on student needs. Results of the National Assessment for Grades 2 and 4 revealed an increase in the number of students who are reading, writing and doing mathematics at their respective grade levels. For example, at grade 2 Level, 75.33 % of students are reading at grade level compared to 61.5% in 2016 when the National Assessment was last administered. At the grade 4 level, 86. 82% in 2018 compared to 78.18% in 2016 are reading at grade level.

At the CCSLC regional exams written by students at Form 3 level, 423 students or 87% of the total who wrote the exams attained Mastery or Competent levels in the 2018 examination. The 6 students who entered for the 2018 CVQ in Garment Production were all deemed competent and awarded the CVQ Level One in Garment Production from CXC.

At the secondary level, while there was a decrease in the number of students who wrote the CSEC examinations, the results showed a 3.6% increase in the overall percentage pass of students receiving grades 1, 2 and 3 in the 2018 exams. The regional overall percentage pass was 70.3 percent in 2018

compared to 66.88 in 2017. The overall national percentage pass rate was 82% in 2018 compared to 78.4% in 2017, representing 12 points above the regional average. Of noteworthy, is the increasing trend in the overall national pass rate for the past six years. At the subject level, students performed above the regional average in all subjects with the exception of the three areas of French, Industrial Technology (Building) and Visual Arts. The figures in the table below show Dominica's pass rate in various subject areas compared to the regional averages.

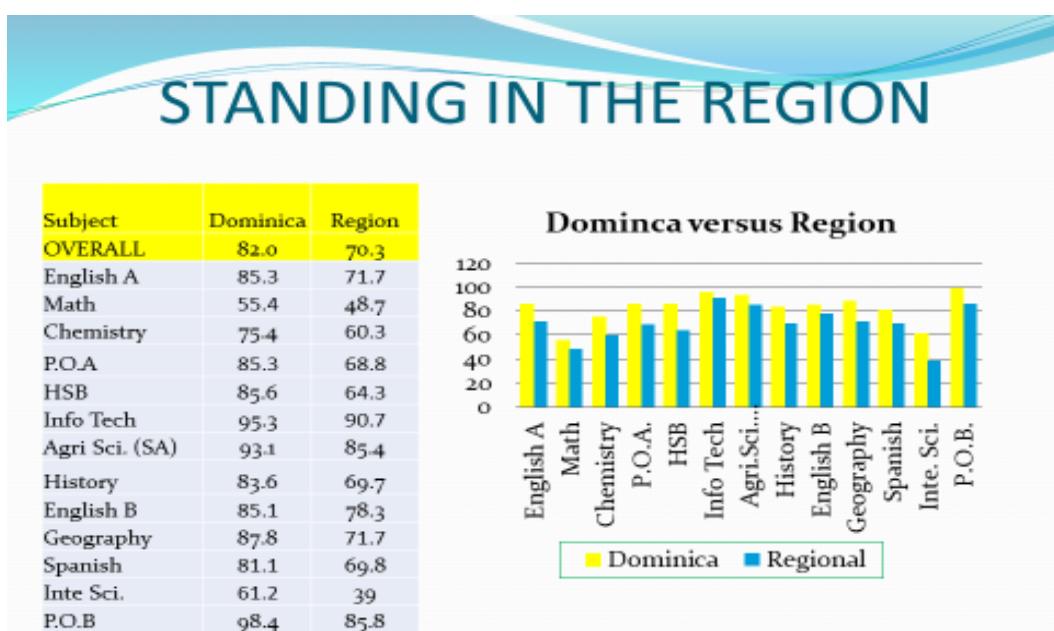


Figure 13: Standing in the region.

**Library and information service** is also another function of the Ministry. Like other education sub-sectors, the Dominica Library and information services (DLIS) focused on the restoration of services. The following were achieved:

- A new service space was opened on the first floor of the former subway building to facilitate the provision of public library services within the Roseau area;
- Work advanced on the rehabilitation of the Portsmouth Library;

- The National Archives completed digitization of the Almanacs (1821-1879) and Slave Register (1817, 1819, 1823, 1826 and 1832);
- Five new EBSCO online research databases were introduced into the service. It allows users to access research information related to a variety of fields including history, humanities, sciences, arts, cooking and general reference. Seven thousand books were added to the database.

The Government of Dominica strongly affirms that ***Human resource development*** is conceived to be an integral part of the process of economic development of any country and consequently, substantial investment is made in the development of qualified and competent individuals to impact the working age population. These investments span a wide spectrum of discipline at various educational institutions locally, regionally and internationally. The Ministry's main aim is to develop professionals and provide programs to orient, train and develop personnel by improving skills, knowledge, capabilities and competencies required for on the job effective performance.

To further address the changing landscape of required competencies, a new internationally recognized exam out of Paris, France is now offered as an innovative programme. The examination, Test d'Evaluation de Francais (TEF), which uses a combination of paper-based and online modality is designed for individuals who wish to study in a French territory, migrate to Canada, become a Canadian citizen or develop their competency level in French.

Most of the actual investment in human capital development however is through the provision of scholarships and financial assistance to persons pursuing studies at the post-secondary and tertiary levels in order to help them improve or acquire new sets of skills and abilities. The investment summary is detailed in the following table.

**Table 16: Tertiary Scholarship Expenses**

INSTITUTIONS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	AMOUNT PAID (EC\$)
Scholarships	7	512,587.49
Stipend	86	229,174.28
University of the West Indies		
- St. Augustine Campus	13	208,974.53
- Cave Hill Campus	31	345,665.77
- Mona Campus	17	465,372.78
- Open Campus	<u>88</u>	<u>404,199.34</u>
	<b>149</b>	<b>1,424,212.42</b>
Monroe College	75	6,031,360.18
Other Universities	200	4,823,973.16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>13,021,307.53</b>

## **Housing and Land Development**

The Building Damage Assessment conducted by the Ministry of Housing with the support of UNDP and Microsoft between November 2017 and January 2018 found that of 25,477 residential buildings surveyed, 96% of the housing stock were destroyed (5332) or had sustained some level of damage by Hurricane Maria (19,239). Given the extensive damage, the Government of Dominica with a renewed energy delivered on its promise to assist families in Dominica to rebuild. By June 2019, indirect transfers through village councils, a Cuban labour initiative, direct-cash transfer grants, and the Government Housing Programme, facilitated the repair and rehabilitation of an aggregate of 5,588 homes, with 1,267 major rehabilitation or new construction and another 4,321 repairs.

Government's housing interventions for the year 2018-2019 totaled \$90,980,988.92 and majority of these works was accomplished through indirect transfers via the village councils with a costed value of \$40,465,277.71. Through the home repair programme, every district, constituency, and village was reached, benefiting 2062 households and approximately 4330

family members. Table17 provide details on the distribution of cash transfers through the village councils for the purpose of housing development assistance and home repairs.

**Table 17: Indirect Cash Transfers through Village Councils for Home repairs**

Constituency	Households	Beneficiaries	Total
Castle Bruce	143	300	2,911,619.46
Colihaut	88	185	1,419,056.51
Cottage	55	116	2,014,051.27
Grand Bay	124	260	1,427,564.24
Kalinago Territory	85	179	2,880,708.52
La Plaine	300	630	2,539,227.32
Mahaut	116	244	3,800,000.00
Marigot	45	95	539,592.71
Grand Fond	50	105	2,035,673.43
Paix Bouche	125	263	3,076,435.11
Petit Savanne	184	386	41,291.40
Portsmouth	68	143	2,546,226.65
Roseau Central	54	113	2,225,390.13
Roseau North	70	147	723,785.16
Roseau South	54	113	1,126,722.49
Roseau Valley	83	174	2,941,117.98
Salisbury	56	118	17,383.01
St. Joseph	104	218	2,912,296.22
Soufriere	133	279	1,796,606.00
Vieille Case	82	172	1,774,267.10
Wesley	43	90	1,716,263.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2062</b>	<b>4330</b>	<b>40,465,277.71</b>

The Government of Dominica entered into and completed an agreement with Montreal Management Consultant Est. (MMCE) to undertake the following residential housing construction projects that will provide livable modern residential units to low and medium-income earners:

- Bellevue Chopin Housing;
- Georgetown Housing;

- Cotton Hill Housing;
- Roseau City Square Housing; and the
- East Coast Housing which will benefit the communities of Castle Bruce, La Plaine, Delices, Grand Fond, and San Sauveur

A number of factors are considered in the design and completion of the housing development projects, including the culture of the community of origin and the host village, family planning and care arrangements, commercial services, and the construction of recreational amenities, and health and education facilities.

During the year in review, much progress was made with the resettlement project at Bellevue Chopin for Petite Savanne residents who were displaced by Tropical Storm Erika in 2015, and which targeted 353 housing units. Upon completion, the Petite Savanne Resettlement Project will construct three hundred and fifty-three (353) residential units, and a commercial plaza with twenty-eight (28) units, a community center, a farmer's market and a football and basketball pitch. Thus far, 91 residential homes have been handed over to families. A completed townhouse duplex is shown below.



**Figure 14: Petite Savanne Townhouse Duplex**

Government is also undertaking a Georgetown Housing Project in the town of Portsmouth. Phase 1 of the project which includes the construction (24) two-bedroom residential units and (44) three-bedroom residential units is ongoing. Phase 2 includes the construction 158 of key commercial and government units such as a new fire and police station, basketball and tennis courts, indoor sporting amenities, Immigration and Traffic departments, Inland Revenue Division, the Sub-treasury and Registry departments as well as the Education and Sports divisions will be situated in Georgetown. Site progress is demonstrated in the pic below.



**Figure 15: Georgetown Housing Project**

In the town of Portsmouth, works are ongoing on the Cotton Hill Housing Project. Currently, structures are complete for all buildings and the internal fixtures for 3 remaining structures are 50% complete. The completed community will have 9 buildings in total with each having (24) two-bedroom units and (44) three-bedroom units, built with a modern and pristine design that complements the environment of Portsmouth. Like all of the other housing projects, the Cotton Hill apartments will also be constructed fully with

reinforced concrete, impact-resistant windows, and solar water heating features. The site progress as of April 2019 can be seen below.



**Figure 16: Cotton Hill Housing Project**

With regards to the East Coast Housing Project, two (2) buildings with 33 residential units, comprising of (9) one-bedroom units, (20) two-bedroom units, and (4) three-bedroom units will be or are being constructed in Castle Bruce, Grand Fond, La Plaine, Delices and San Sauveur. This will bring construction to a total of 330 apartment units in the communities. In respect of Castle Bruce and La Plaine, both buildings are structurally complete and in the final stage of interior completion. In Grand Fond, one building is 50% structurally completed. In Delices, the first building is now 50% structurally complete and the foundations for the second building is complete, and in San Sauveur both buildings are now nearing structural completion. Completed apartment structures in Castle Bruce and La Plaine are shown below.



Figure 17: Cotton Hill Housing Project

Concurrently with these housing developments, and to support resilient reconstruction, individual Petro Caribe-funded homes were rebuilt in Vieille Case, Penville Thibaud, Portsmouth, Morne Jaune, Riviere Cyrique, San Sauveur, Stockfarm, Grand Bay and Plat Ma Pierre., and new structures were built in Lily Valley. Homes were also constructed in the Kalinago Territory through a European Union arrangement, and elsewhere, a few houses were also built under the Sustainable Housing Sustainable Living Programme through CBI funds or other local funds. The outputs are displayed in the table below.

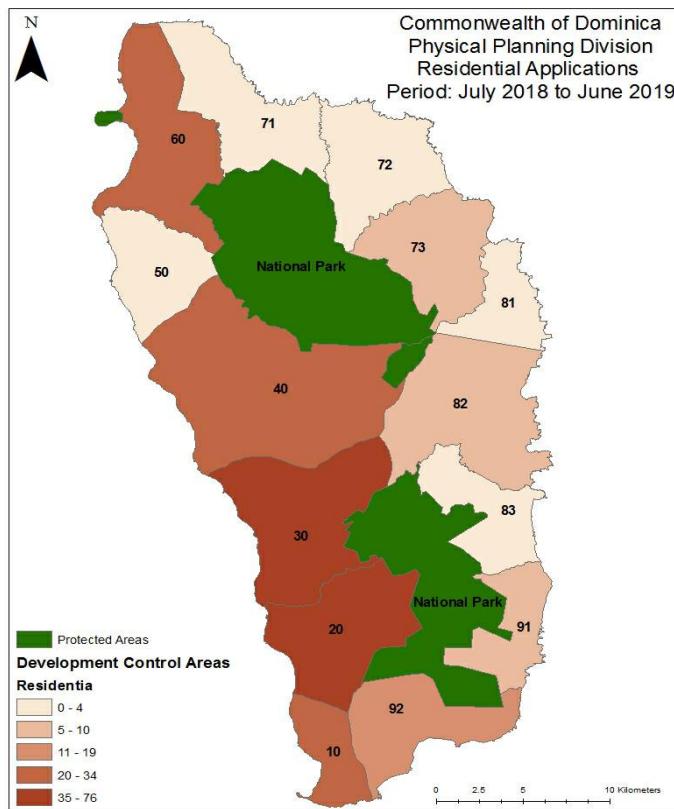
**Table 18: New Homes built in 2018/2019**

PROJECTS	STARTED	ONGOING	COMPLETED	TOTAL
Montreal Management Consultants EST (MMCE)	93	559	326	978
Sustainable Housing Sustainable Living	40	32	10	82
Petrocasa		25	40	65
EU Kalinago	50			50
Local		49	43	92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>1267</b>

Additionally, as part of an overall development partner initiative with the World Bank to support medium and long-term recovery in Dominica, the GoCD has commenced the operations of the Housing Recovery Project (HRP) through the recent establishment of the Project Implementation Unit. Among other components, the HRP will provide support for the reconstruction of completely destroyed houses through the delivery of direct grants of EC \$50,000 to 1700 vulnerable households. The project costs US \$40 million, with an allocation of \$33.5 million towards home reconstruction.

Regardless of these substantive and unswerving interventions by the state, it is reasonable to expect that housing demand will continue, both because of the large-scale level of damage to homes and the need to reinstate families into improved houses, and because of the potential of attracting employment and higher incomes as a result of large investments in the hotel sector across several regions in the country, which means that higher disposable incomes will encourage home ownership.

The Physical Planning Division reports an upward trend of urban and rural applications for the construction of new homes. This data confirms the ripple effect of economic growth in the country, and the economic attractiveness of remaining in rural communities.



**Figure 17: Applications to Physical Planning Division for Housing**

## Social Protection

The GoCD remains committed to heavy investments in social protection as a development strategy meant to improve the quality of life of families and individuals who, for various reasons - including disability, illness, low income or unemployment - cannot meet their basic living costs. This assistance is delivered through more than thirty (30) safety net programs across several sectors and ministries.

The table below summarizes 2018-2019 expenditure on selected public social programmes in an effort to enhance the quality of life of the poor and vulnerable. The amount of assistance is based on individual and family needs, size and income.

**Table 19: Selected Social Protection Programmes, Expenditure and Beneficiaries, 2018/2019**

Programme	2017/2018		2018/2019	
	Authorised Budget	Actual Expenditure	Authorised Budget	Actual Expenditure
Yes We Care				
Rapid Response Programme	14,500,000	14,084,644	37,037,782	37,000,000
Public Assistance	7,216,736	7,088,755	14,500,000	14,084,943
Medical Services	18,502,828	18,732,030	*	*
National Employment Programme	17,031,936	17,980,904	27,152,687	25,819,728
Child Welfare	689,190	544,425	739,890	295,479
Grants to Primary School	1,414,779	1,317,342	1,361,622	1,216,166
Grants to Secondary School	5,737,440	5,693,854	5,974,818	5,955,939
School Transfer Grant	5,737,440	5,693,853	5,974,818	5,955,939

The Public Assistance Programme delivered through the Social Welfare Division is one of the largest social protection programmes in terms of coverage and expenditure. On average, GoCD pays out in excess of \$500,000.00 monthly. The programme is meant to provide financial aid to persons classified as being indigent and casual relief in emergency situations. To improve the delivery of services, a manual for the Public Assistance Programme (PAP) was completed in December 2018 for the Social Welfare Division with assistance from UNICEF. A Data Management System is also being developed for the Social Welfare Division with the assistance of the World Food Programme (WFP) with a view to pilot with the PAP.

For the year in review, the Division also focused on the provision of social care to children and the aged. Child Care Services continued to provide a safe environment for children whose families cannot provide adequate care for them. This is done through the Foster Care Programme, adoption, child abuse prevention and direct provision of assistance to children with behavioral problems. With financial support from UNICEF, Government spent EC\$988,883.20 on repairs to CHANCES Children's Home to provide a better quality of life for the housed children.

The Division also facilitated the entry into institutions and also supervision of Government-sponsored homes. To date there are nine different institutions that received a subvention from Government totaling over one million Eastern Caribbean Dollars (\$1,051,536.00) annually.

The National Employment Program (NEP) is another proud social protection programme of the GoCD which seeks to provide employment and job creation opportunities for the unemployed through internships, mentorships and public works. In so doing, beneficiaries increase income and savings and become more empowered and independent. For the financial year 2018/2019, the increased placement of interns within the various sectors has served to promote and increase the production of locally manufactured goods and

enhance the opportunity for building higher levels of economic productivity by enabling many small business owners to have additional capital to be reinvested into businesses. A total of One thousand, sixty-four (1064) interns were placed for this financial year.

The public works component of the programme continues to provide for overall improvement in the general aesthetics within various communities. The program will continue to play a vital role in Dominica's drive for Resilience and offers potential for scalability during disasters to facilitate clean-up and rehabilitation. By the end of the financial year, the number of interns contracted under the National Employment Programme (NEP) was as follows:

**Table 20: NEP Beneficiaries by Programme Category**

<b>General Internship</b> - Public Sector - Private Sector - 50/50 payment arrangement	<b>1299</b> - 403 - 541 - 185
<b>Education Mentorship</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Community Employment</b>	<b>2509</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,978</b>

## **Family and Community Development**

In April 2018, following a Ministerial reshuffle by Cabinet, the Ministry lost part of its portfolio and was renamed Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs, Family and Gender Affairs. Since new prominence was being given to the ecclesiastical affairs component of the Ministry, it became necessary to ***establish partnerships with faith based organizations*** in order to collaborate on implementation of projects and programmes.

One of the first measures taken was the convening of meetings with church leaders and leaders of other faith based organizations. A National Consultation of Church Leaders and other Stakeholders took place in 2019 and was deemed

a success. The main objective was the establishment of a National Ecclesiastical and Family Affairs Committee. A Paper has been submitted to Cabinet for appointment of that committee.

As part of the Family portfolio, the Ministry hosted the first ever Family Fun Day in Dominica in December, 2018. On May 15, 2019 the Ministry, joined the international community in celebration of International Day of Families. A month of activities from May 14 to June 14, 2019 in ***recognition of families*** was held to include Movie Nights, Family Love Day, Feeding the vagrants and Family Play. The corporate public and other partners were very supportive of all activities.

The ***establishment and proper functioning of cooperatives*** is recognized by the state as a mechanism to build strong families and communities. Cooperatives at the school and community level are provided with technical and supervisory services. During the 2018 – 2019 fiscal year the Cooperative Division upheld its mission which is “*To foster sustainable, economic and social development through viable cooperatives.*” As such, the Division continued working with five primary and secondary schools with the aim of establishing junior cooperatives, and to promote attitudes of cooperation, responsibility, self-confidence and motivation, and to appreciate the value of work.

With technical support from the Cooperative Division, the Dominica Essential Oils and Spices having suffered tremendous damage from tropical storm Erika and Hurricane Maria purchased lands at Castle Comfort to rebuild its factory. The recommencement of operations will have direct implications for the farmers of Petite Savanne, Delices, Petite Soufriere and environs. A stakeholder conference was organized by the Cooperative Division and an advisory committee for the development of an apiculture industry was established. Eight (8) fisheries cooperatives which suffered damage during the

passage of Hurricane Maria have all received equipment, and their buildings have been repaired with the assistance of the Samaritan Purse.

Dominica's long-standing **Local Government** System is seen as a strategic leader in building strong communities and a shaper of prosperous and resilient communities. During the 2018 -2019 fiscal year, seven (7) Village Councils were inaugurated. Orientation training sessions were organized for all these Councils on varying subjects. The Division continued to closely monitor and supervise the councils particularly in respect to funds channeled to them for recovery efforts in the areas of housing, small business enterprise and the National Employment Programme.

The Division collaborated with the Office of Disaster Management and International Organization for Migration (IOM) in conducting a National Learning Needs Assessment and training for Shelter Managers and Assistant Managers. The objective of these activities was meant to strengthen communities' resilience to disaster. The Division also prepared and submitted Situation Reports during the 2018 Hurricane Season particularly, for Tropical Storms Beryl and Isaac. Additionally, reports were submitted on the status of Emergency Shelters island-wide.

The Division renovated the Warner, Loubiere, Pointe Michel, Soufriere, Gallion, Providence, (Paix Bouche), Mero, Toucarie and Morne Rachette public Conveniences. Support was received from Samaritan Purse for the renovation of the Mahaut, Tarreau and Bioche public conveniences. The improvement of these facilities has enhanced the overall sanitation of the communities, thereby strengthening community resilience. Additionally, Sixty-nine (69) projects valued at two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) received the approval of Cabinet for National Day of Community Service (NDCS). These road and storm drain projects provided benefits on climate adaptation, mitigation and resilience.

**The Basic Needs Trust Fund** (BNTF) undertakes poverty reduction initiatives in collaboration with communities through the establishment of necessary community based infrastructure and appropriate skills training ventures. The implementation of BNTF 7 and 8 sub-projects are categorized into three (3) targeted categories: Basic Community Access & Drainage, Water and Sanitation Systems Enhancement and Education and Human Resource Development. Most of the subprojects have been completed or progressing steadily. Subprojects undertaken are highlighted in Table 21.

**Table 21: BNTF 7& 8 Subprojects, 2018/2019**

<b>Target Category</b>	<b>Subproject</b>	<b>Estimated Cost (XCD)</b>
Basic Community Access & Drainage	Good Hope Resource Centre Retaining Wall (BNTF 7)	172,500.00.
	Calibishie River Defense Wall (BNTF 8)	359,627.60.
Water and Sanitation Systems Enhancement	Wesley/Woodford Hill/ Marigot Water Rehabilitation (BNTF 7)	1,249,545.00
	Salisbury Water Supply Rehabilitation (BNTF 7)	1,575,725.80
	La Plaine Water Supply Rehabilitation (BNTF 7)	1,416,113.87
	Boetica Water Supply Rehabilitation (BNTF 8)	1,310,174.89
	Bagatelle Water Supply (BNTF 8)	973,420.80
Education and Human Resource Development	Clifton Primary School Retaining Wall (BNTF 7)	144,884.25
	San Sauveur Primary School Rehabilitation (BNTF 7)	466,807.00
	Grand Bay/ Dubique Multi-purpose Facility (BNTF 7)	445,174.28.
	PCSS Auto-Mechanics Upgrade (BNTF 7)	516,866.14

The Grant Agreement for BNTF 9 has been signed. An amount of approximately EC\$ 6.57 million dollars is available for funding of sub-projects. Seven (7) sub-projects endorsed by Cabinet and approved by CDB are targeted for implementation. These sub-projects were initially considered under BNTF 7 & 8, respectively. However, they were deferred following the passage of TS Erika and replaced with restoration of water systems which became Government's priority. The targeted sub-projects are as follows:

- Basic Community Access & Drainage: Grand Fond Storm Drains
- Water and Sanitation Systems Enhancement: Morne Prosper Water Supply
- Education and Human Resource Development: Castle Bruce Secondary School (CBSS) - Production Facility, Dominica Community High School Extension, Morne Prosper Primary School Security and Sports Facility Upgrade, Extension of Dominica Association of Persons with Disability (DAPD) and Woodford Hill Playing Field Upgrade.

## **Constituency Empowerment**

The Constituency Empowerment Program continues to empower both elected officials and locally elected council members to govern their respective communities and make decisions based on circumstances and the needs of individuals, families and villages and circumstances. The program also focuses on economically empowering constituencies and promoting community spirit. In the last fiscal period the major interventions are captured in the table below:

**Table 22: Public Assistance - Transportation**

Constituency	Amount (\$)	Assistance
Castle Bruce	\$36,000.00	Transportation assistance to 15 students
Colihaut	\$13,800.00 \$22,500.00	Transportation assistance to 23 students Transportation assistance to 25 students
Cottage	\$32,200.00	Transportation assistance to 23
Grandbay	\$23,200.00 \$29,342.52  \$116,400.00 \$58,304.50 \$302,714.50 \$212,497.00 \$90,217.50	Transportation assistance to 29 students Basketball& Netball uprights for the multi-purpose courts in Centre Social Subsistence Allowance to 97 Residents Excavation & clearing of Geneva playing field Resurfacing of secondary road, part of Tete Morne main road. Rehabilitation of secondary roads Rigid pavement & drainage works
Mahaut	\$252,800.00  \$60,000.00	Assistance 158 elderly residents between the ages of sixty to seventy years in the communities of Massacre, Canefield, Mahaut, Belfast and Jimmit post Hurricane Maria. Feed My Sheep (Community Dream Centre) to assist with operational expenditure
Paix –Bouche	\$62,400.00	Transportation assistance to 52 students
Portsmouth	\$33,000.00	Transportation Assistance to 44 students
Roseau South	\$799.25	Purchase of Draft Boards for youth group
Salisbury	\$12,600	Transportation assistance to 14 college students
Soufriere	\$17,250.00	Clearing of the Sous tourism site in Pointe Mitchel

With the assistance of the Dominica National Lotteries Commission, an amount of **\$194,500.00** facilitated the hosting of community carnival activities in 28 communities in February 2019.

## **Indigenous Community Development**

The indigenous Kalinago plays an integral role in our country's history and the development of that community is at the forefront of the government's agenda. During the 2018/2019 fiscal period the Ministry of Kalinago Affairs continued with the Small Business development fund and the Emergency fund for the Kalinago people. Strides were made in the design phase for construction of an Emergency Centre while preparations continue for construction of an agricultural station.



**Figure 18: Kalinago Barana Aute**

## **Small Business Development Fund**

This project seeks to continuously enhance the livelihood and sustainable development of the Indigenous people of Dominica. Eighteen (18) small sustainable business enterprises were assisted in Agriculture and Tourism

sectors. The total amount of assistance given for the year in review is \$273,028.

### **Emergency Fund**

The Emergency Fund is designed to provide temporary, short-term, financial assistance to people who are managing demanding daily requirements while struggling with debilitating financial circumstances. Eighteen persons benefited under this program for the year, with total assistance amounting to \$24,182.

## **Youth and Adult's Livelihoods Enhancement**

### ***Vocational Skills Training***

The Government endeavours to provide efficient and effective services geared towards the empowerment of young Dominicans in their quest to contribute to individual, community and national development. To meet skills development and employment needs of young men and women, 175 young people (67 males & 87 females) completed and/or graduated from the following Youth Division's modules during the year:

**Table 23: Youth Division Skills Training Participation Statistics**

Module	Male	Female	Total
Computer Literacy	16	69	85
Electrical Wiring	32	2	34
Cosmetology, Aesthetician & Facials	0	9	9
Computer Maintenance	5	1	6
Auto Body Repairs	16	2	18
Auto Mechanic	16	0	16
Agriculture	4	2	6
Sewing	0	6	6
Leather Craft at Prison	10	0	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>175</b>

Job attachments were secured for over 40% of the trainees who successfully completed their respective modules; and about 25% were retained upon completion of the job attachment.

The Adult Education Division also resumed its annual summer program across the island from 9<sup>th</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 with two hundred and fifty-three (253) participants completing short courses in Pastry Making, Guitar playing, Food Preparation and Presentation, Plumbing, Basic Electricity, Tile Laying, Home Décor and Small Appliance Repair, among others. The programme culminated with a National Exhibition downstairs of the Adult Education Division Office on 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2018, leading up to Adult Education Month which was celebrated in September under the theme “*Responding to the call for Resiliency*”.

### ***Citizen Building***

241 young people were exposed to courses in Social Skills, Business Awareness, Office Etiquette, Health & Family Life Education (HFLE), Empowerment Forum, and Remedial Literacy & Numeracy; 44 graduated from the Youth Development Division’s Multi-Disciplinary Leadership training which was conducted in the South and Roseau Districts; and another 31 graduated in December 2018 from the Youth Development Division’s Basic Counseling Course.

The development of the youth takes the support of parents and thus, to complement activities in the youth sector, the Adult Education Division also provided parenting education in the South West, South east, North and Western zones with a total of 154 participants. Below is the Youth Engagement Data & Index for 2018/2019:

CODE	ACTIVITIES	NORTH	SOUTH	EAST	WEST	ROSEAU NORTH / VALLEY	ROSEAU SOUTH / CENTRAL	NORTH EAST	SOUTH EAST	TOTAL
A	Number of Active Youth Groups	24	25	9	16	13	14	7	6	114
B	Number of Active Environmental Clubs	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	9
C	Number of Active 4-H Clubs (Junior & Senior)	9	5	5	11	11	10	8	4	63
D	New Group Registrations	1	0	1	1	3	1	1	0	8
E	Group Meetings	9	65	8	26	43	29	18	18	216
F	Meetings with District Youth Council	2	0	0	3	11	3	0	1	20
G	Meetings with National Youth Council	0	1	1	3	1	0	1	2	9
H	School Based Leadership Sessions	6	5	3	4	10	10	0	0	38
I	Group Dynamics / Leadership Sessions	3	5	10	6	24	0	20	8	76
J	Number of Environmental Activities/Projects	7	2	0	2	1	6	0	2	20
K	Number of 4-H Activities/Projects	6	5	9	6	35	8	8	6	83
L	Number of Social/Related Skills Sessions	5	0	0	8	17	3	5	0	38
M	Number of Counseling Sessions	3	4	56	3	10	30	25	2	133
N	Number of Activities/Projects with Volunteers	7	8	6	1	9	12	11	9	63
O	Activities with Unattached Youth	3	1	3	1	4	3	7	0	22
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT INDEX		1.5	3.1	6.06	2.29	6.72	4.2	6.4	4.36	3.9

Figure 19: Youth Engagement Statistics

The 2018 Summer Volunteerism Programme was successfully executed in all 8 Youth Development Districts in July and August 2018; in collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment, Climate Resilience, Disaster Management & Urban Renewal through the Forestry, Wildlife & Parks Division and together under the theme “*Youth Volunteerism-The Foundation for Building a Resilient Environment*”, the following were achieved:

- Empowered over 218 young volunteers (65 males & 153 females) to better appreciate & contribute to a climate resilient nation through adaptation & mitigation practices;
- Empowered the youth to contribute to healthy environments in their communities through the propagation of over 650 plants & planting of over 300 trees;
- Assisted the youth in the restoration of eco sites & parks island wide, clearing of the trails for segments 3, 4, 5 & 13 of the Waitukubuli National Trail;

- Engaged the youth in self-development & community rehabilitation where 10 dwelling houses of economically challenged families were renovated & Beach & Waterways were cleaned in 5 communities;
- Harnessed their creative energy towards the preservation of the environment, themselves, their communities & the country as a whole; and
- Cultivated in the youth the art of critical thinking.

Fifty-three (53) Junior 4-H Clubs and 10 Senior 4-H Clubs participated in various 4-H activities during 2018/2019. The 4-H Farm and Environmental Improvement Project which was funded by the Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF) was successfully implemented at the Roseau, Goodwill and St. Martin Primary Schools, and at the St. Mary's Academy. The Government continues to support the 'Grow Project' initiative established by the New Town Primary School 4-H Club in collaboration with Junior Achievement Dominica. The project has been extended to all districts and has received sponsorship of US\$20,000 from Australian Aid. The 4-H body also collaborated with Global Environmental Facility-Small Grants Program (GEF/SGP) and Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) to host World Soil Day activities on December 5, 2018.

In January 2019, 4-H joined forces with the National Drug Abuse Prevention Unit in hosting two zonal anti-drug rallies under the theme, "Youth-Let's Talk about Alcohol & Drugs to Make the Best Better". The activity was executed in the southern zone and northern zones with participation from twenty-seven (27) 4-H clubs around the island participated.

At the regional level, a delegation from Dominica participated in the Caribbean Junior Culinary Conference (CJCC) and Dueling Challenge in Barbados from August 14 to 19, 2018. Dominica captured Bronze Award, the Spirit of the Competition Award, and the Media Presence Award.

### ***Building an Entrepreneurship Culture***

DYBT hosted Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 under the theme “*Creating a Resilient Entrepreneurial Landscape through Engagement*”. The main GEW highlights included the 14<sup>th</sup> Graduation & Awards Ceremony, a locally crafted expo, and a symposium under the theme, “Impact of Community Tourism on Local Economy” in collaboration with the Dominica State College. A number of entrepreneurs were recognized and awarded in the areas of business plan innovation and determination, and several others received certificates in the Dominica Youth Business Trust (DYBT) specialized programs of Entrepreneurship Development Programme, Small Business Assistance Facility, Business Sense for Making a Dollar, Business Etiquette for Entrepreneurs, Public Speaking, and Best Practices in Agro processing.

DYBT is also adopting a mentorship approach to fostering an entrepreneurship culture. Twenty-two mentors received credentials and were matched to twenty-seven mentees and currently, 23 young entrepreneurs (13 males & 10 females) are undergoing a four-week Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP).

### ***Community-based non-formal Education***

The Adult Education Division remains committed to developing national human resources through community-based non-formal education, enabling each adult citizen an opportunity to participate meaningfully in the spiritual, social, economic and cultural development of his or her community. To achieve this objective, the Division works in partnership with a number of organizations to implement initiatives focused around literacy, skills and capacity building.

In May-June 2018, 34 participants wrote (CSEC) examinations and 18 were successful. The Division boasts of pass rates of 62% in English A; 25% in Mathematics and 100 % in Accounts. This gave the Division an overall pass

rate of 60%. In January 2019, eight participants wrote the examination and 5 were successful. The pass rate was 66% in English, 50% in Mathematics, 100% in Accounts, 100% in Principles of Business and 66% in Office Administration. It is important to note that, the Division also provides customized literacy classes aimed at assisting individuals to attain the qualifications necessary for obtaining a meaningful job, decent earnings and access to training opportunities.

## **Sports Development**

The Government of Dominica is committed to the achievement of SDG 3 which aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Closely aligned to SDG 9 and in keeping with the nations vision of becoming the first climate resilient country in the world, Government has been focused on ensuring that investments continue to be made in the development and upgrade of sporting infrastructure to increase the level of participation in sports, and to provide avenues for hosting international competitions with a thrust towards making Dominica a sports-tourism destination.



Figure 20: Police Sports Club

### ***Athletic Development and Performance***

The development of marketable athletes spans many years and necessitates the quality support of parents, schools, coaches, and organisations and events to showcase showmanship. During the first quarter of the fiscal year under review 90% of the planned programmes were implemented. The second quarter began with the staging of Track and Field preliminaries which formed part of our celebration of Independence. The second quarter also saw the hosting of three championships at the Secondary Schools level; training programmes in cricket, netball and football; and participation at the Windward Islands under-15 Cricket Tournament in St. Lucia.

In the third quarter of the year, sixteen new sports programmes were implemented, such as the Secondary Schools volleyball championship, Secondary Schools under-20 Cricket Championship, Primary Schools Mini Basketball, Primary School Football Championship for boys and girls, and the Secondary Schools Athletics Championship. An additional seven new programmes were implemented in the fourth quarter, to include the under-15 Girls Basketball Festival, Secondary Schools under-15 Beach Volleyball, Primary Schools Netball Championship, and Primary Schools Cricket Championship.

In the area of National Representation, Dominica was represented at several Regional and International Sporting events. Among the sporting disciplines which were responsible for flying Dominica's flag at these events were: football, cricket, netball, track & field and volleyball. Dominica's success at winning the 2018 Windward Islands Senior Cricket tournament, Dominica's advancement to the second stage of the CONCACAF inaugural Nations Cup and to the Youth Olympics in Argentina, and Dominica 1<sup>st</sup> place position at the OECS leg of the female Youth Beach Volleyball Championship were among the highlights for Dominica during the period under review.

### **Sports Facilities**

In anticipation of the need to restore the facility to a condition suitable for playing and to provide a venue for hosting of the World Creole Music Festival in October 2018 Government engaged the services of NH International (Caribbean) Ltd. in May 2018 to undertake rehabilitation of the stadium. The first phase of this rehabilitative project was successfully completed at a cost of \$6,999,124.56. This included the entire covering of all stands, replacement of all gates, complete repairs to all VIP Booths and the Players Pavilion, external painting, repairs to the perimeter walls, some structural work and electrical work and replacement of all fire safety equipment. Restorative work was also undertaken on the playing field with the assistance of the National Lotteries Commission.

On June 6, 2017, a Purchase Agreement was signed between Government of Dominica and Francis-Lau Construction Company (the Supplier) located in Trinidad, for installation of a steel frame covering over the Massacre Basketball Court, at the cost of US\$203,855. To date, the steel frame has been erected and the structure has been fully covered with zinc. All designs and estimates have been completed for Phase 2 of the project and planned works are expected to continue earnestly in the first quarter of the new financial year.

The structural designs for the National Multi-Sports Complex to accommodate the sports of basketball, volleyball, netball, tennis and swimming have been completed by the architect and have been submitted to the Physical Planning Division for approval.

Restorative works and upgrades have been done on the Geneva playing field, the Centre Court in Grand Bay, and basketball courts in Pichelin, Paix Bouche and Bagatelle. Relatedly, the designs and bills of quantities, Site Plan and a Topographical Plan have been completed for the construction of tennis and netball courts in Portsmouth.

# **CHAPTER 4**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT & PROTECTION**

This chapter details the processes and practices that enable leading state agencies to reduce environmental impacts and the country's environmental footprint to ensure that the planet is left protected and in a healthy state for future generations. The efforts demonstrated through normal operations and project-based activities directly impact human life, but also help to preserve all forms of life, including marine life and vegetation.

### **Reducing Disaster Vulnerabilities**

Reeling from post-disaster challenges which resulted in increased scope and budgetary requirements to the Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project (DVRP)'s original structure, additional financing of EC\$82.77 million or US\$31 million was approved by the World Bank and went into effect in December 2018; with an extension of the project life to July 2023. Post additional financing arrangements, the DVRP's portfolio now stands at EC\$184.23 million or USD\$69 million. For the 2018/19 financial year, a total of EC\$15.6 million was allocated to the Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project. Of the total budget, contribution from Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica amounted to EC\$1 million, loan – EC\$6.46 million and grant totaling EC\$8.15 million. From the budgeted amount, a total of EC\$9.40 was expended during the fiscal year accounting for 60% of the budget.

Maintaining commitment to achieving its project objectives of reducing vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change impacts in Dominica through: (i) investment in resilient infrastructure, and (ii) improved hazard data collection and monitoring systems; notable accomplishments were realized in the following areas:

- Completion of the Immediate Works in the Castle Bruce area;
- Construction of eight (8) water storage tanks;
- Advancement in the acquisition of topographic and bathymetric LiDAR;
- Pre-engineering and design for 43.3km of road – Eastern Island;
- Design for new building to house Dominica Meteorological Services;
- Design for Forestry Nursery in Pont Casse;
- Publication of Request for Bids – East Coast Road Works;

The following summary provides a snapshot of accomplishments under the DVRP for the financial year 2018/2019 by component and related sub-projects:

### **Component 1 – Prevention and Adaptation Measures**

#### **West Coast Water Storage Tank Project:**

Eight (8) water storage tanks with supply and distribution lines were constructed along the West Coast, directly impacting eight (8) communities; namely, Morne Rachette, Colihaut, Bioche, Picard, Glanvillia, Grange, Cottage, and Savanne Paille. The tanks' storage capacities range from 30,000 imperial gallons to 100,000 imperial gallons and will directly impact 3,100 households and increased water storage capacity to 355,000 imperial gallons. Most notably, this project has alleviated the interruptions to water supply of the people of Morne Rachette following the destruction of the Coulibistrie intake during the passage of Hurricane Maria.

In total, 7,207 citizens will benefit directly from this EC\$6.76 million investment. This sub-project was implemented with supervision support from the Dominica Water and Sewerage Company (DOWASC0). The West Coast Water Storage Tank sub-project was constructed under contracts with three (3) local construction firms – ACE Engineering Ltd, F&C Construction Ltd and STEWCO Construction Ltd.

### **Immediate Works Post Hurricane Maria**

At close-out in December 2018, the total investment in the Immediate Works registered EC\$ 5.59 million. The Immediate Works on the eastern island was triggered following safety concerns necessitated by damages caused by TS Erica and further compounded by Hurricane Maria. Project execution was significantly impacted following Hurricane Maria due to shortages in labour, materials and equipment by the successful firms.

This sub-project was designed in the interim to address road failures and improve infrastructural resilience to disaster events by undertaking civil works on the Eastern Island Roads, including the construction of storm drains, slope stabilization, road rehabilitation, erection of retaining walls and culverts. This investment directly benefited approximately 4,801 persons within the project area; with female beneficiaries accounting for 46%. Delays during implementation resulted in time extensions mainly due to heavy rains and unavailability or shortages in materials and labour during construction.

### **Road Works Eastern Island**

The Road Works Eastern Island sub-project accounts for approximately 62% of the total DVRP envelope. The East Coast Road Works fulfills the first part of the project's objectives which identifies the building resilience through investment in resilience infrastructure. As a result, the main activities related to this sub-project included the pre-engineering and designs services and the associated civil works for 43.3km of road along four (4) Lots – Pont Casse Roundabout to Bois Diable; Bois Diable to Castle Bruce; Castle Bruce to Petite Soufriere; and Castle Bruce to Hatton Garden. During the 2018/19 financial year, the final design report for the 43.3km of road was completed and the Request for Bids was issued.

## ***Component 2 – Capacity Building & Data Development, Hazard Risk Management & Evaluation***

Activities under Component 2 support capacity building for analysis and assessment of risks from natural hazards and climate change including the integration of this analysis in the development decision-making process. Additionally, these activities target the development of national capacity by supporting institutional strengthening program designed to provide training, and build institutional capacity for risk analysis, data collection and data management. For the 2018/19 financial year, a total of EC\$ 3.98 million was allocated to support execution of sub-projects under this component. For the 2019/20 financial year, EC\$ 6.36 million is budgeted to support continued implementation of sub-projects under Component 2.

### **National Hydro-meteorological Network**

The DVRP has undertaken several activities aimed at assessing the country's hydro-meteorological needs and institutional capacity to operate and maintain the network once erected. An Indirect Peak Flow Discharge Research was completed in October 2015, following the passage of Tropical Storm Erika; findings and recommendations from this research have been used to design major infrastructural projects such as the West Bridge in Roseau. In addition, a hydro-meteorological assessment was also completed with recommendations for network design, capacity building and support. The hydro-meteorology network design of approximately forty-four (44) stations, comprising of water level stations, rainfall stations and automatic weather stations is intended to achieve several objectives including the establishment of a data collection facility to collect data, monitor flooding, and provide real-time information to relevant authorities and sectors, and early warning to the general public through a web portal that will be operated by the Dominica Meteorological Services.

## **National Soils Survey & Mapping**

Due to Dominica's unique climate conditions and given the challenges faced with regards to its very steep and finely dissected topography which accounts for a significant percentage of the country's productive base, the development of detailed scaled soil maps is critical to the country's future development. To facilitate smart and evidence-based decisions on agriculture and infrastructure, the DVRP advanced activities on a national soils survey and mapping exercise during the 2018/19 financial year. To further support this activity, portable soil test kits and bulk density sampling kits valued at EC\$26,817.50 were provided to the Division of Agriculture under the project. The eventual outcome under the National Soils Survey & Mapping is the identification of soil types, characteristics and properties to inform decisions in relation to agriculture (suitability of soil types to various crops); construction (civil and structural engineering purposes); land use planning and water and natural resources management.

During the 2018/19 financial year, two main outputs were achieved as follows:

- Development of a comprehensive soil mapping program that establishes the requirements and procedures for conducting a comprehensive soil survey for both agricultural and engineering purposes for the Commonwealth of Dominica, including required specifications;
- Produce Terms of Reference for contracting of field soil survey and mapping services; and
- Issue Request for Proposal for field soil survey and mapping services.

Key inputs for the Soils Survey Data Requirements are necessary for assessing watershed behaviour, soil erosion, land use suitability and risk analysis, particularly with respect to land slip potential which ultimately provide data to guide long and short-term development and investment decisions. For the 2019/20 financial year, EC\$2.6million is budgeted for this activity.

### **Light Detection & Ranging (LiDAR)**

The LiDAR sub-project commenced early 2017, and is defined by several key activities; namely, data collection of topographic LiDAR, data collection bathymetric LiDAR, data collection of aerial imagery 4-band multi-spectral aerial imagery to produce orthophotography. The DVRP completed the bathymetric survey in June 2017, and the topographic survey began in February 2018. Due to constant cloud cover over the north eastern part of the island, a second mission to complete LiDAR topographic acquisition was undertaken in November 2018; however, due to similar weather challenges acquisition of the topographic LiDAR is registered at 60% complete. For the 2019/20 financial year a budgetary allocation of EC\$498,000 is provided for completion of this activity.

Data collected from the LiDAR topographic and bathymetric survey will provide evidence-based information which is an important precursor to building and planning resilient infrastructure to include suitable locations for housing, roads and utilities structure.

### **Engineering Test Lab**

The DVRP made a significant contribution to the Ministry of Public Works, Water Resource Management & Ports through the provision of an engineering test lab valued at EC\$259,577.97. This investment will support the country's mandate to build back better following the passage of Hurricane Maria. A practical training session was held in April 2018 for engineers and associated Government Personnel on the use of the equipment.

### **Rehabilitation of Forestry Nurseries**

During the 2018/19 financial year, the DVRP completed the design for the proposed rehabilitation of the nursery at Pont Casse. Due to the passage of Hurricane Maria, prioritization for construction of Forestry Nursery became necessary due to budgetary constraints and change in national development focus. Construction is expected to commence in the 2019/20 financial year.

On a related matter, the DVRP, provided equipment valued at EC\$25,572.85 to the Forestry, Wildlife and Parks Division to further support reforestation efforts post Hurricane Maria.

## **Forest and Water Resource Management**

According to UNEP (2010) Dominica possesses the richest and most extensive forest system in the Lesser Antilles. It has a forest area of 45,580 hectares, which accounts for 63.44% of the island's 75,000-hectare land area. Forest management arrangements include forest reserves, national parks, State Lands, the Kalinago (previously known as Carib) territory and privately owned land.

Hurricane Maria defoliated an estimated 90-95% of the forest trees, with over 50% either having fallen to the ground or having suffered broken crowns and branches. Huge portions of soil were eroded in most areas and major hiking trails, the Waitukubuli National Trail (WNT) and eco-tourism sites were compromised. A great deal of damage was inflicted against the biodiversity and their habitat. Several watersheds were also critically damaged, compromising Dominica's water supply and associated resources.

In order to respond to the challenges and the devastating impact on the forestry sector post -Hurricane Maria, the Forestry Division, through the Min. of Environment and guided by the Minister of Environment, embarked on a major reforestation initiative dubbed, 'Million Tree Planting' drive to re-establish lost forest and wood resources. This initiative also created local livelihood opportunities and building the aesthetics of the country by extension.

This reforestation initiative is addressed through an agroforestry initiative that will allow for increased availability of forest and agricultural plants for replanting. Reforestation is also expected to increase or maintain clean water, clean air, and fertile soil within the various communities thereby improving the standard of living. Eight (8) local contractors have been hired to construct eight (8) nurseries across the island. A total of around EC\$523,000 have been expended on the contractual engagements and purchase of building materials for the nurseries construction from local suppliers. A further EC\$218,450 have also been spent in engaging chainsaw operators from various communities to engage in lumber salvaging operations from fallen trees within the forest in preparation for reforestation, while some EC\$79,650 have been spent on clearing critical rivers of logs which were clogging river pathways.

To improve nature trails and to re-establish the biodiversity in and around the various eco-tourism sites, eleven trails and eco-tourism sites were provided with support. Works involved repairs to the railings at Emerald Pool viewpoint and the snackette facility at Indian River, the repainting of the facility and Gazebo, clearing of the Morne Diablotin Trail, and solar lighting of the Cabrits entrance trail.

Revenue collected from user fees at the various eco-tourism sites during the period July 2018 –May 2019 amounted to a Net of EC\$1,037,735.93 and Gross of EC\$ 1,068,554.16. To date a total of some \$404,864 in trail rehabilitation contracts have been approved for works at various eco-trails and the WNT bringing direct economic benefits to over 160 individuals in various communities across the island.

An Amphibian Monitoring and Management Project which sought to protect the survival of the Mountain Chicken Frog through activities such as breeding, field monitoring, public awareness, and elimination of invasive species threats, such as the Cuban Tree frog (*Osteopilus Septentrionalis*) was undertaken. The

threat of the invasive species emerged during the 2018/19 financial year and over 1,000 invasive tree frogs were caught in a 5-acre area around the Longhouse Port in Portsmouth.

## **Sanitation and Environmental Health**

### ***Solid Waste Management***

Regular activities and actions to manage waste including the collection, transport, treatment and disposal of waste, as well as monitoring and regulation of the waste management process continued during the year. However, the effects of Tropical Storm Erika in 2015 and Hurricane Maria in 2017 have impacted waste management on the island and contributed vastly to the increase of the bulky waste streams such as derelict vehicles, zinc materials, white goods, wood, and construction and demolition materials.

Post Hurricane Maria, to minimize adverse impacts on human health from vermin's, and to decrease environmental degradation through pollution and leaching of substances such as oils to soil and ground water, over 12 locations through-out the Island were designated as temporary holding sites for zinc, white goods, and derelict vehicles.

According to data provided by the Environmental Health Department (EHD) there was a record of approximately six hundred (600) derelict vehicles on Island. There was a national drive to remove derelict and abandoned vehicles from communities and transport to the holding sites. Over 400 vehicles were hauled. The complete removal from communities was challenged by transportation issues.

The Government of Dominica contracted Caribbean Engineering Contractors Inc. for nine (9) months from July 2018, to clear, process, compact and prepare waste for export market. Consequently, eight out of the 12 locations have been cleared and over 4000 bales of scrap material have been processed.

### ***Vectors and Pest Control***

Activities to control the breeding of vectors and pests involved the training of fourteen (14) officers of the Environmental Health Department and the National Pest organisation to identify the different species of mosquitoes, their 'hot spots', and measures to curb their breeding.

With support from PAHO, the Department conducting an island-wide survey, proved that the 45 gallon drums is the number one container in the Environment for the breeding of mosquitoes, especially the Aedes Aegypti. A major drum-proofing exercise was performed and drums were retrofitted where there are high household indices of mosquitoes. Resultantly, there has been a decrease in the mosquito House Index from 15% to 11%, and Dominica has not seen an outbreak of any vector-borne disease.

### ***Water Quality***

After the devastation of Hurricane Maria, the population resorted to collecting water from springs. In partnership with UNICEF, the Environmental Health Department identified and mapped fifty (50) water springs around the country. Thirty-four (34) were tested for physical, chemical and micro-biological parameters since 16 were dried up by the time of testing.

### ***Food Safety***

To mitigate food-borne illnesses, the Department continued its' surveillance effort to ensure that publicly-served food is safe, particularly at mass gathering events. In the reporting year, 3166 food handler permits were issued. Dominica has not seen an outbreak of Food-borne illness since 2013.

## **Disaster Risk Management**

The Office of Disaster Management (ODM) is the designated Division of government tasked with managing emergency and disaster related activities on island. Central to the ODM operational mandate is to plan to implement projects aimed at disaster risk reduction. Recent experiences with major disasters resulting from Tropical Storm Erika and Hurricane Maria has provided first-hand views of limitations associated with access to risk information, lack of redundant communication system during major events and shelter management, among others.

In an effort to address these needs, several collaborative projects are being undertaken by the ODM to include: establishment of a Community Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) at Capuchin and a Communication System linking Capuchin with other communities along the west coast and the main EOCs facilitated by the Canada Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Fund (CCDRMF); Establishment of a National Telecommunications Network; Establishment of Dominica's Disaster Resource Centre (DDRC) and The Support Emergency Preparedness through Emergency Shelter project. These projects are aligned to the national framework to build the Climate Resilience capacity of the country.

### **Establishment of an EOC and Telecommunications system in Capuchin**

The CCDRMF established a communication network from a small Emergency Operations Centre at the Capuchin Emergency Shelter in the North and along the West coast to the emergency operations centres at Jimmit and Roseau. The objective of the project is to improve emergency communications. This will enable communities to communicate with each other and the national EOC before, during and after an event and to greatly improve overall efficiency of operations to save lives. The expected results / benefits are:

- i. Establishment of an Emergency Operations Centre at the Capuchin Emergency Shelter
- ii. Establishment of a communication network from the far north to the National Emergency Operations Centre
- iii. Thirty (30) community members trained in usage and maintenance of the communication equipment
- iv. Establishment of water storage and back-up power at two shelters

The project will increase resilience of shelters at Capuchin and Dublanc/Bioche which serves approximately 544 people. The total cost of this project is CAD \$90,071.

#### ***Dominica Disaster Resource Centre (DDRC)***

Following the passage of Tropical Storm Erika in August 2015, the Government of Dominica approved the establishment of the Dominica Disaster Resource Centre. This centre is expected to provide a physical point to obtain information about reconstruction, resilience and best practices. Given its location, visitors to Dominica could visit and contribute to disaster management efforts. Contractors have been engaged to rehabilitate the Victoria Memorial Building on Victoria Street and to provide modern technology to spark the imagination of visitors to the centre and connect them to disaster management efforts. The project has been delayed as a result of unanticipated structural elements requiring replacement due to damage done by Hurricane Maria.

#### ***Emergency Preparedness through Emergency Shelter***

In partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Government will expand communities' capacity to support emergency preparedness and address life-saving needs of internally displaced people (IDPs) in times of disasters and emergencies through a Support Emergency

Preparedness through Emergency Shelter project. This project will entail the retrofitting and equipping of at least 12 priority collective centers, and development of a Collective Shelter Manual. Outputs of the project include:

1. Retrofitting of 16 emergency shelters and provided them with the necessary amenities
2. Ten (10) families benefited from durable solutions;
3. Fifty-six (56) Shelter Managers, shelter assistants, and District Development Officers received training in Emergency Shelter Management (ESM) and 19 of them were trained as ESM trainers;
4. Seventy-three (73) persons from various government departments as well as community persons were trained in First Aid and Fire Safety;
5. Eighty-nine (89) persons received training in Psychosocial Support (PSS) and Gender Based Violence (GBV);
6. Thirty-one (31) persons, including members of the Dominica Association of Disabled Persons (DAPD) were trained to use HAM (Amateur) Radios;
7. Fifty-seven (57) persons have now completed their training in Community Emergency Response (CERT);
8. Over one hundred emergency shelter managers, and coordinators benefited from 300 Emergency Shelter Management Manuals;

# **CHAPTER 5**

## **SPECIAL FOCUS AREAS**

Gender, culture, indigenous peoples, and national security issues have become increasingly integrated into development and sectoral policy planning, and have been proven to be crucial prerequisites of building an inclusive, innovative and prosperous society. To secure regional and international financial support, bilateral and multilateral diplomacy are effective and proactive components of building a successful economy and accomplishing political development. Similarly, the performance of the public service must improve substantially through good governance to ensure effective delivery of service and implementation of plans. The Government of Dominica has noted that the gains in these sub-areas have been progressive and transformative. This Chapter describes the broad range of issues that are cross-cutting but are also critical for the sustainable development of the country.

### **Gender Equality**

The Government of Dominica, through the Bureau of Gender Affairs (BGA) continues to make significant strides in implementing positive measures towards gender equality and equity. In keeping with the Government's National Resilience Development Strategy 2018-2030, the Sustainable Development Goal Agenda 2030, more specifically SDG 5, and international and regional human rights frameworks, the Bureau embarked on several priority strategies and actions to integrate gender into national development and to implement programs to bring awareness for the need to address gender inequalities.

As part of its ***networking, advocacy and gender sensitization initiatives***, the Bureau of Gender Affairs staff attended several national workshops and meetings in order to be equipped with the knowledge and tools to promote gender mainstreaming in Government's plans, programs and policies. Regional

training programmes included Transformational Leadership for Gender Equality in the Caribbean: Regional Strategies and Partnerships which was aimed at promoting gender responsive governance on policy issues such as climate change adaptation, citizen security, social protection, energy, and agriculture. Member of staff also participated in a certification training course in Aggression Replacement Training (ART) organized by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the United Agency for International Development (USAID), as part of the Juvenile Justice Reform Project II. The objective of the training was to provide training in ART which is a cognitive behavioral therapy intervention used with at-risk youths and youths involved with the law.

The Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica remains committed to ***upholding human rights obligations*** in our country. As a result of capacity building, staff was able to assist in monitoring the country's compliance to various regional and international treaties related to gender equality and equity, and prevention of gender-based violence. Accordingly, the BGA played a key role in the completion of the Government's report for the Universal Periodic Review, particularly in areas that pertained to gender discrimination and gender-based violence. To facilitate the understanding of the international human rights frameworks and the role, obligations and reporting requirements of the country, the Bureau of Gender Affairs collaborated with UN Women and the Office of the Commissioner of the Human Rights Office. The result was the staging of a two-day intensive workshop which brought together representatives from fifteen (15) government departments and key organizations.

With respect to advocacy efforts, the Bureau embarked on a series of activities (radio programmes, presentations, community discussions) during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence held from November 25th to December 10<sup>th</sup> in 2018. Nine (9) panels were also hosted between January – May, 2019 on various topics on the '*Talking Gender*' and '*Let's Talk Gender*'

radio programmes. International Women's Day was observed in 2019 and thirteen (13) women in the fields of religion, leadership, family life, community development and agriculture were awarded. Focus was also placed on re-branding the Bureau to give greater prominence to men and boys issues.

## **Justice, Immigration and National Security**

The Ministry of Justice, Immigration and National Security, through the individual and collaborative efforts of its various departments, has been working to ensure that the Commonwealth of Dominica remains a peaceful, just and safe society.

### ***Policing***

The Commonwealth of Dominica Police Force increased its manpower strength of by 100, from 500 to 600 to permit a more visible presence in the streets and communities. For the period under review, ninety-seven (97) police officers (male and female) received training overseas while another four hundred (400) were recipients of local training. Officers benefited from training in subject areas of intelligence gathering and analysis, court prosecution, crime scene investigations, forensic analysis, sexual offences, Disaster Management, ballistics, scenes of crime, cybercrime, marine law enforcement, firearm, and internal security.

Efforts were also made to renovate a number of damaged police buildings to make them modern and more resilient to disasters. Restoration works continues on the Castle Bruce, Delices and Morne Bruce Police stations and the Marine Unit.

### ***Prison Service***

The Dominica Prison Service embarked on the continuation of rebuilding, recovery and rehabilitation programs. For the reporting period 2018/2019, the

prison population remained low with a population of two hundred and twenty (220) inmates consisting of two hundred and sixteen (216) males and four (4) females. A slight decrease in recidivism rate is observed. Restorative work was undertaken on the Buffer Zone, and over 260 ft. of wall is now completed on the fencing. This will provide an added layer of security. Improvements have also been made to the maximum security block, the female officers section, and the basketball hard court where the inmates are allowed to recreate.

Five (5) Prison officers have benefited from training by the Caribbean Basin Security Initiatives (CBSI) offered by the International Corrections Management Training Centre (ICMTC) in Canon City, Colorado, USA.

With respect to prisoner rehabilitation, the Adult Education and Youth Development Divisions continued in-house programmes at the Dominica State prison. Apart from leather craft, and basic and advance literacy classes, seven (7) out of 14 inmates attempted the CSEC examinations in June 2019. The examination offers prisoners a second chance for successful re-entry into society post incarceration.

### ***Law Commission Office***

During the last fiscal year, the Law Commission Office completed the annotation, collection and collation of all the printed laws of Dominica to be revised, and collaborated with Blackhall Publishing to have all outstanding laws, both principal and subsidiary, incorporated in a database in rich text format. This database has been completed and purchased by the Government of Dominica and is presently being used by the Law Commission Office to create the new Revised Edition of the Laws of Dominica.

### ***Fire and Ambulance Service***

The Fire and Ambulance Services Division is a critical component of the security infrastructure in Dominica. At present, renovations are on-going at

the Fire Brigade Headquarters, Portsmouth Fire Station and the Canefield Fire Station.

For emergency organizations like the Fire and Ambulance Services Division, the capacity for mobile communication cannot be overemphasized. Radio communication equipment was procured at a cost of EC \$241,869.70 to be installed in stations, on Fire Service vehicles, and on the vehicles of senior officers of the Division to reduce the response time to emergencies. Currently, twelve (12) Ambulances are in operation and for the period under review, the fire and ambulance service responded to a total of 8457 calls.

### ***Companies and Intellectual Property***

The Companies and Intellectual Property Office continued with the registration of business names, companies and intellectual property. For the period July 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019, the Office accomplished the following registrations:

**Table 24: Companies and Intellectual Property Statistics**

No. of Local Companies registered	172
No. of International Business Companies registered	149
No. of Business Names registered	898
No. of new Trade Marks applications received	183
No. of Trade Marks registered	196
No. of Trade Marks renewed	438

Seven (7) Journals of Intellectual Property were published.

### ***Labour and Immigration***

The Division of Labour continues to work diligently to promote International Labour Standards and Occupational Health and Safety practices in the work places in Dominica. The Division endeavours to ensure that local laws and international standards and practices are respected by both employers and employees in order to ensure preservation of industrial peace and encourage economic development for all Dominicans.

The continued effort to provide counselling services to the public, as well and to conduct numerous Labour Standard and Occupational Safety and Health Inspections, increased especially since the passing of Hurricane Maria. The Division also continues to work with the International Labour Office (ILO) to ensure that the decent work agenda continues to be relevant to Dominica.

One of the most important strategic instrument for obtaining growth and social protection in Labour and Industrial Relations in Dominica is the “Decent Work Country Program” for Dominica. It serves as an important tool for strengthening social dialogue, promoting social protection, stimulating job creation and enhancing the quality of life and efficiency at the work place, if properly implemented. It promotes human dignity and the integrity of the family, and has as its objective the protection of basic human rights and the achievement of peace, stability, economic and social development for every local and foreign national.

### ***Financial Intelligence***

The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has maintained international standards of operations and has been effective in the execution of its functions for the financial year 2018/2019, pursuant to the Money Laundering (Prevention) Act No. 8 of 2011 and the Proceeds of Crime Act No. 4 of 1993. The Unit has retained its membership in the Egmont Group, that is, the international standard setting body for Financial Intelligence Units. Complementary to the legislative changes being considered by government, the Financial Intelligence Unit staff continues to benefit from available training which has ultimately redounded to increase capacity of the Officers of the FIU.

During the year 2018-2019 FIU officers benefited from and/or participated in the following training opportunities:

- Open Source Investigations Course (x2) in collaboration with the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF);

- Suspicious Activity Report Intelligence Development- Regional Security System –Asset Recovery Unit and National Crime Agency (NCA);
- ARRIN-CARIB General meeting- the Regional Security System-Asset Recovery Unit (RSS-ARU)
- Strategic Analysis Course- Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF);
- Advance Strategic Analysis Course - Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF and Organization of America States(OAS);
- Cryptocurrency Investigation Course- International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) in association with the UNODC and National Center for State Courts (NCSC);
- Combatting the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) investigative techniques- Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) and World Bank;

During the financial year the FIU effectively dealt with a series of cash seizure cases in collaboration with other law enforcement agencies (LEA) to include the Customs & Excise Division and the Commonwealth of Dominica Police Force amounting to **\$1,304,072.21**. A total of **\$640,740.00** has been forfeited to the state and deposited to the Asset Forfeiture Fund. A sum of **\$663,332.21** has also been seized by the FIU and deposited in the Proceeds of Crime Detained Funds Account, currently awaiting trial.

### ***Magistrates' Court***

In the Commonwealth of Dominica, for the period July 2018 to March 2019, a total of 3484 new cases were filed at the Magistrates' Court, while the number of cases disposed of amounted to 3107. A breakdown is as follows:

**Table 25: Cases filed at Magistrates Court**

Types of Cases	July to September 2018	October to December 2018	January to March 2019	TOTAL
Civil	89	133	199	421
Criminal	271	319	277	867
Domestic Violence	43	39	34	116
Juvenile	25	34	24	83
Maintenance	107	106	99	312
Traffic tickets	409	558	511	1478
Traffic	43	71	93	207
<b>Total</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>1260</b>	<b>1237</b>	<b>3484</b>

**Table 26: Cases Disposed**

	July to September 2018	October to December 2018	January to March 2019	TOTAL
Civil	130	156	135	421
Criminal	201	359	285	845
Domestic Violence	51	31	28	110
Juvenile	11	35	28	74
Maintenance	70	179	89	338
Traffic Tickets	324	343	471	1138
Traffic	29	48	104	181
<b>Total</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>1151</b>	<b>1140</b>	<b>3107</b>

Revenue of six hundred and ninety-five thousand, seven hundred and thirty dollars and five cents (\$695,730.05) was collected for the period July 2018 to March 2019 as follows:

**Table 27: Revenue from Fines**

Quarters	Fines	Traffic Ticket Fines	Fees (O/C & NOE)
July – Sept 2018	\$ 159,220.00	\$ 62,540.00	\$ 247.00
Oct – Dec 2018	\$ 158,621.60	\$ 52,315.00	\$ 192.00
Jan – Mar 2019	\$ 213,531.45	\$ 48,900.00	\$ 163.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 531,373.05</b>	<b>\$163,755.00</b>	<b>\$ 602.00</b>

The Government of Dominica remains committed to ensuring a full contingent of magistrates to ensure the quick disposal of cases. A total of seven (7)

magistrates are employed with one vacancy which will be filled once the refurbishment of the Magistrates Court is completed. In May, 2019 five (5) magistrates attended a magistrates' conference in St Kitts sponsored by the Jurist Project.

### ***Supreme Court/Registry***

The Registry and High Court Division plays a pivotal role in the delivery of essential services to the general public. Key amongst these is the Administration of Justice. The Registry is responsible for administering several registries within the Department including the Civil (Births/Deaths/Marriages/Adoptions), Probates and Deeds Registries. The High Courts of Justice also falls under the management purview of the Registrar and his team.

Over the last financial year, the Department undertook renovation works of the Court's Building including Criminal High Court, which was severely damaged by Hurricane Maria. The cost of the project was met by the Government of Dominica. The project consisted of the replacement of part of the roof and ceiling, the Courtroom windows, painting, and tiling works. In addition to these structural works, the replacement of equipment, furniture and fittings in the Courtroom and in the Office of the Judge's Secretary and Clerk of Court were also undertaken.

### ***Land Titles Registry Division***

The Land Titles Registry, which formerly fell under the purview of the Registrar General, was made into a separate Registry with its own division head (Registrar of Titles) to enable the separation of registries and to maximize productivity.

For the period July 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019, the Office accomplished the following:

**Table 28: Registration of Titles Statistics**

<b>Transactions</b>	<b>Number</b>
Caveats, Caveats of Seizures and Mortgages and Request for Conversion of Equitable mortgage to legal Mortgages processed	877
Withdrawal of Caveats, Withdrawal of Caveat of Seizures and Discharge of Mortgages processed	472
Incumbrances processed	26
Incumbrances signed and delivered	28
Caveats, Caveats of Seizures and Mortgages signed and delivered	900
Withdrawal of Caveat, Withdrawal of Caveat of Seizures and Discharge of Mortgages signed and delivered	478
Requests for First Certificate of Title, Requests for New Certificates of Title by Case Stated, and Request for New Certificate of Title for lost or damaged Certificate of Titles presented.	253
Certificates of Titles Processed	1,009
Certificates of Titles signed and delivered	1,151
Requests for First Certificate of Title Reviewed by the Hon. Judges	126

**Table 29: Legislation passed, 2018 - 2019**

<b>NAME OF LEGISLATION/ACTS</b>	<b>NO.</b>
2018/2019 Appropriation Act, 2018	Act 12 of 2018
Supplementary Appropriation (2017/2018) (No.2) Act, 2018	Act 13 of 2018
Foreign Account Tax Compliance (United States of America) Act, 2018	Act 14 of 2018
Juries (Amendment) Act, 2018	Act 15 of 2018
Climate Resilience Act, 2018	Act 16 of 2018
Tax Information Exchange (Amendment) Act, 2018	Act 17 of 2018
Offshore Banking (Amendment) Act, 2019	Act 1 of 2019
International Business Companies (Amendment) Act, 2019	Act 2 of 2019
Fiscal Incentives (Amendment) Act, 2019	Act 3 of 2019
Offshore Banking (Amendment) (No.2) Act, 2019	Act 4 of 2019
International Business Companies (Amendment) Act, 2019	Act 5 of 2019
Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (Common Reporting Standard) Act, 2019	Act 6 of 2019
Police (Amendment) Act, 2019	Act 7 of 2019
<b>S.R.O.</b>	
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) (No.8) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 16 of 2018
Public Service (Schedules) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 17 of 2018
Emergency Powers Proclamation	S.R.O. 18 of 2018
Emergency Powers (Curfew) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 19 of 2018
Emergency Powers (Curfew) (Revocation) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 20 of 2018
Emergency Powers Proclamation	S.R.O. 21 of 2018
House of Assembly Prorogue of Parliament, 2018	S.R.O. 22 of 2018

House of Assembly Proclamation Convening 2018	S.R.O. 23 of 2018
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) (No. 9) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 24 of 2018
Customs Import and Export Tariff (Amendment) Regulations, 2018	S.R.O. 25 of 2018
Public Holiday (November 5 <sup>th</sup> ) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 26 of 2018
Public Holiday (November 5 <sup>th</sup> ) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 27 of 2018
Offshore Banking (Revocation of Offshore Banking License) (No. 3) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 28 of 2018
Supplies Control Petroleum Products Prices (Amendment) (No. 10) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 29 of 2018
Public Service (Ministry of Tourism and Culture) T-Shirt Regulations, 2018	S.R.O. 30 of 2018
Public Service (Ministry of Health and Environment) (T-Shirt) Regulations, 2018	S.R.O. 31 of 2018
Public Service Day (T-Shirt) Regulations, 2018	S.R.O. 32 of 2018
Dominica Air and Sea Port Authority (Charges) (Amendment) Regulations, 2018	S.R.O. 33 of 2018
Emergency Proclamation	S.R.O. 34 of 2018
Emergency Powers (Curfew) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 35 of 2018
Emergency (Curfew) (Revocation) (No. 2) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 36 of 2018
Emergency Proclamation	S.R.O. 37 of 2018
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) (No. 11) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 38 of 2018
Bankruptcy (Fees) (Amendment) Rules, 2018	S.R.O. 39 of 2018
Court of Appeal Procedures Fees Rules, 2018	S.R.O. 40 of 2018
High Court Proceedings Fees Rules, 2018	S.R.O. 41 of 2018
Commonwealth of Dominica Citizenship by Investment (Amendment) Regulations, 2018	S.R.O. 42 of 2018
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) (No. 12) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 43 of 2018
Independence Carnival Order, 2018	S.R.O. 44 of 2018
Public Service (Schedule) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 45 of 2018
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) (No. 13) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 46 of 2018
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) (No. 13) Order, 2018	S.R.O. 47 of 2018
Customs Import and Export Tariffs (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 2018	S.R.O. 48 of 2018
Supplies Control (Import Prohibition) (Non-Biodegradable) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 2 of 2019
Climate Resilience (Commencement) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 3 of 2019
Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 2019	S.R.O. 4 of 2019
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 5 of 2019
Customs (Import and Export Tariffs) (Amendment) Regulations, 2019	S.R.O. 6 of 2019
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 7 of 2019
Supplies Control (Restricted Imports and Exports) (Amendment) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 8 of 2019
Magistrate's Court District (Amendment) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 9 of 2019
Carnival Order, 2019	S.R.O. 10 of 2019

Public Service (Schedule) (Amendment) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 11 of 2019
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 12 of 2019
Public Service (Ministry of Health and Social Services) (T-Shirt) Regulations, 2019	S.R.O. 13 of 2019
Public Service (Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs, Family and Gender Affairs) (Uniformed Dress Shirt) Regulations, 2019	S.R.O. 14 of 2019
Public Service (Ministry of Trade, Energy and Employment (T-Shirt) Regulations, 2019	S.R.O. 15 of 2019
Public Service (Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs, Family and Gender Affairs) (T-Shirt) Regulations, 2019	S.R.O. 16 of 2019
Departure Tax Order, 2019	S.R.O. 17 of 2019
Departure Tax (No. 2) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 18 of 2019
Supplies Control Petroleum Products (Prices) (Amendment) (No. 4) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 19 of 2019
Public Service (Schedule) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 2019	S.R.O. 20 of 2019
Banking (Licenses) Regulations, 2019	S.R.O. 21 of 2019

### ***Legal Aid Clinic***

Data collected from Dominica Legal Aid Clinic for period 2018- 2019, shows that 198 persons sought assistance from the clinic on various matters. The breakdown is as follows:

**Table 30: Legal Aid Clinic Beneficiaries**

Area	Frequency	Area	Frequency
Affidavit	5	Land (general)	20
Bill of Sale	1	Landlord/Tenant	4
Birth Registration	14	Legal Advice	34
Civil	27	Letters of Admin/Probate	4
Criminal	1	Notice to quit	1
Deed Poll	10	Non Profit Registration	1
Family – Adoption	2	Probate	1
Family – Custody	4	Power of Attorney	1
Family – Divorce	30	Statutory Declaration	13
Family – Dom Violence	6	Wills	3
Family - Maintenance	6	Citizenship	2
First Cert. Of Title	7	Business Registration	1
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>198</b>

### ***Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions***

During the period July 30<sup>th</sup> 2018 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2019 sixty-nine (69) cases were indicted for trial of which a total of twenty (20) were Murder, Unlawful Killing and Death by Dangerous driving.

The prosecution of these and other serious cases have become relatively complex due to the method or sophistication of commission, the diminished reliance on eye witness evidence, the paucity of scientific and technical investigative applications and the archaic nature of the supporting rules of law and evidence and other issues.

For the period under review, eighteen (18) cases were disposed and seventy-eight (78) appeal cases were dealt with at Court of Appeal Case management hearing, and thirteen (13) criminal appeals were prosecuted. Two Hundred and Ninety (290) cases were also dealt with at the Juvenile, Traffic and the Magisterial Criminal Court, and prosecuted generally by the Summary/Police Prosecutors.

### **Promotion and Preservation of Culture**



Figure 21: Carnival 2019 Stilt Walkers

The year 2018 was declared as reunion year and therefore the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Independence was the main feature of the calendar of events to promote and preserve cultural heritage, identity and traditions. Some of the activities organized by the Cultural Division included Opening of Independence, Cultural Festivals, Flag Day, Miss and Madam Wob Dwiyet pageants and the National Cultural Gala. Other **festivals** hosted by the Division during the financial year included Emancipation Celebration, Ole Mas Festival, the National Schools' Arts Festival and DOMFESTA 2019.



Figure 22: World Creole Music Festival 2018 – Cultural Performance

The Dominica Institute for the Arts (DIFA) saw record enrolment in 2018-19, with 189 students being part of various **arts training programmes**. The Cultural Division also partnered with the Discover Dominica Authority in a

community-based training program that has produced 26 individuals trained in the Jing Ping Instruments and traditional dances.

In an effort to document the cultural expressions of Dominica, the Division published Volume 3 of Heritage Dominica; a collection of old Dominican Photographs and paintings. An exposition was also held at the Government Headquarters as part of a drive to further sensitize the general public of the various **publications and documentaries** produced by the Division.

Over the years, the Division has facilitated **cultural cooperation and exchanges**. In the past year, the Cultural Division hosted students from the University of Delaware, a master accordionist and folk music group from Colombia and the Pertime Steel Orchestra of St. Lucia. Groups like the Paix Bouche Drummers, the Capuchin Cultural Group and Pan in Harmony also visited the neighbouring French territories. International exchanges with countries including Morocco also occurred.

As part of **rehabilitative works** to the Old Mill Cultural Centre facilities, including the main building, the stage, the dance studio, the wood carving studio, the bridge and the mill's chimney post Hurricane Maria, efforts were also made to enhance the Old Mill as a heritage site and tourist attraction, through signage. Structural enhancements are also ongoing at the Arawak House of Culture to the tune of \$730,000.

## **Bilateral and Multilateral Relations**

In the last financial year, the Government of Dominica has remained focus on the development of relations with numerous countries. The Government has continued to pursue the promotion of climate diplomacy as part of our foreign policy with the establishment of relations with new partners who recognize the

value of climate resiliency, added to their increased presence in the Caribbean region.

Most notably among the development of **bilateral relations** are the appointment of Dominica's first resident Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates and the establishment of the Dominica Embassy in Abu Dhabi. Additionally, diplomatic relations were established with Seven (7) countries, notably Republic of Ghana, Republic of Djibouti, Republic of Palau, Denmark, Republic of Armenia, Ukraine and the Islamic Republic of Iran.



Figure 23: Diplomatic Relations Dominica and Ukraine May 2019

The Government of the People’s Republic of China continues to be Dominica’s most valued bilateral partner and this year approval has been received for One hundred and twenty- five (125) individuals to participate in training courses in the following areas: Information and Communication Technology, Agro-processing, Maintenance Technology, Protocol and Tourism Development and Management. The Ministry continues to work with the Embassy of the PRC in ensuring the successful implementation of projects and programmes for the benefit of all citizens of Dominica, some of the projects include the New Dominica-China Friendship Hospital, the West Coast Road Rehabilitation project, and the Agricultural Mission in Portsmouth.

Additionally, the Ministry facilitated the work of various international and regional organizations as these entities continue the reconstruction work post-hurricane Maria, these institutions include the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Samaritans Purse, ISRA Aid among others. Post-hurricane Maria financial assistance was received by the Ministry from the Government of the Republic of Korea for the purchase of two (2) replacement vehicles which were destroyed during hurricane Maria.

The Government of Dominica signed ***visa waiver agreements*** with nine (9) countries namely; Ukraine, Argentine Republic, Russian Federation, Republic of Chile, Republic of Ethiopia, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, El Salvador, Republic of Colombia and Cambodia. The Government of Dominica also provides ***consular services and assistance*** to overseas based nationals. Approval for the upgrading of the Office of the Honorary Consul to a Consulate General in Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe was received from the Government of France. As a result, the Government of Dominica is in the process of appointing a Consul General for that office.

The Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs understands the need for effective partnerships in order to response to Climate Change and the national

goal of becoming the first Climate Resilient Country in the World. The ministry, therefore, recognizes that its mandate of facilitating ***multilateral relations*** is even more critical in this new development paradigm, particularly to act as a mediator by connecting Dominica to friendly partners and multilateral agencies.

In so doing, the Ministry has facilitated the visit to Dominica of a number of internationally renowned Leaders who have expressed their unwavering support to the articulated vision of creating a Climate Resilient Nation. The Ministry facilitated well over twenty - five (25) visits of officials and delegations to Dominica. Those who visited included Foreign Ministers and their delegations, Ambassadors for the presentation of credentials, Special envoys as well as Ambassadors to discuss matters of cooperation.

The Ministry also assisted a number of individuals from various Ministries in attending Capacity Building workshops and meetings in numerous countries with diplomatic relations with Dominica. These include Kingdom of Morocco, Mexico, People's Republic of China, Republic of Cuba, The Netherland, Geneva, Holland, Costa Rica, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Lucia, Jamaica, United Kingdom and Japan.

In April, the Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, Immigration and Labour hosted a training seminar with representatives of the United Nations Convention against Torture Initiative. In May 2019 Dominica presented its Universal Period Review (UPR) at the United Nations in Geneva and received favourable reviews for its continued progress in the area of Human Rights. The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a unique process which involves a periodic review of the human rights records of all 193 UN Member States.

## **Public Sector Modernization**

In the last fiscal year, the Establishment, Personnel and Training Department implemented a number of programmes to increase productivity and improve human resource management in an effort to contribute towards public sector modernization. Rehabilitation of key infrastructure such as the Public Service training Centre was also conducted. This project in particular has an estimated cost of three million, five hundred and sixty thousand, ninety-five dollars and twenty-five cents \$3,560,095.25 with a completion date projected for June, 2020. Overall, 35% of the project scope has been completed.

The Reform Management Unit implemented a ***Process Mapping*** initiative guided by the need to attain a panoramic view of the key processes undertaken within the Ministries and Departments for the sole purpose of process enhancement, productivity and efficiency improvements, and institutional memory preservation. During the fiscal year, documentation of process maps was performed in three (3) Departments.

During the fiscal year 2018 /2019 the Public Service Training Centre delivered in seven (7) workshops on Crisis Management geared at capacity building and orienting public officers with tools to enhance resiliency. A comprehensive ***training*** was also provided to all Janitorial staff in order to ensure effectiveness in service delivery. Cumulatively, a total of six hundred and eighty (680) persons were successfully trained by the PSTC of which seventy-two percent (72%) were females. In particular, the Public Service Rules and Regulations workshop attracted two hundred and twenty-five Public Officers which represented thirty-three percent (33%) of the entire pool.

The Department also undertook a review of ***Records Management*** Process adopted within the various ministries and government departments as a precursor to the standardization of the existing filing system. With the vast volumes of information held across the Public Service and the increasing need for quick access to information to facilitate an efficient service to the public, it

is important that records are filed accurately and consistently across all formats. During the fiscal year 2018/2019, the Establishment, Personnel and Training Department (EPTD), in collaboration with the ICT Unit and the Dominica Library and Information Services embarked on a journey towards the modernization of the Public Service Filing Systems through a designated Electronic Management System. Relatedly, the EPTD has commenced work on a File Plan for the Ministry of Agriculture and has completed the revised File Plan for the Establishment, Personnel and Training Department and the Ministry of Health and Social Services. The objective of the file plan is to foster knowledge transfer and improve institutional memory.

The Establishment, Personnel and Training Department employs various methodologies to ensure that positions within the Public Service are properly classified and graded and that the duties performed are in-sync with the overall mission and strategic objectives of the Department. In order to accomplish this, the Department performs ***Human Resource Audits and Job Evaluations*** in collaboration with Ministries/Departments. For the year under review, audits were performed for the Public Service commission, Ministry of Education and Human Resource, Ministry of Trade and Employment and Ministry of Justice, National Security and Immigration.



Figure 24: Public Service Day



# **CHAPTER 6**

## **PROGRESS IN GLOBAL CHALLENGES**

This review now shifts focus to look at progress towards global commitments at the national level, in order to take stock of what Dominica is doing in terms of implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, pursuing Climate action and delivering on the ‘first Climate Resilient Country in the World’ vision. Throughout the report, specific progress on all three fronts at the programme and project level is explained. Moreover, this section gives an overview of the tools and initiatives that Dominica is developing and using, as well as how they will enhance the success rate of the national agenda, in order to illuminate good practices for achieving these three interrelated global commitments.

### ***Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals***

With the vision to build the world's first climate resilient country, with greater and sustainable social, economic, environmental and political prosperity, the GoCD is recovering from the effects of Hurricane Maria with the Sustainable Development Goals in mind. To ensure that the nation delivers on that promise to spur economic growth, government departments have adopted the integral concepts of development resilience and sustainability at the formative stages of planning and in critical planning frameworks such as the National Development Strategy (Dominica's first ever long-term national development strategy), the Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan, and sector strategic plans.

Efforts have also been made to align the SDGs to the budgetary process through the development of specific guidelines and tools such as the Capital Project Proposal form and the Strategic Impactful Transformative and Sustainable (SITS) appraisal protocol.

The Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica is now embarking on a three-pronged approach to the localization of the SDGs which will involve the

formalization of a coordinating mechanism to oversee its implementation; enhancement of public awareness of the SDGs and the production of high-quality data. Awareness-raising involves the production of print media, stakeholder discussions and learning sessions. The Central Statistical Office is currently developing a website which will have direct connections to SDG-related data. The CSO is currently working on an assessment to determine the availability of data for the CARICOM core indicators on the SDGs. ECLAC recommended that there should also be the inclusion of other indicators that may be relevant to Dominica.

### ***Climate Financing: The UNFCCC Modality for Climate Resilient Interventions in Dominica***

Dominica is a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Signatory countries are committed to implementing actions to reduce green house gas emissions, the cause of increasing concentrations on carbon in the atmosphere and the resultant deleterious climate change and impacts.

Dominica's National Determined Contributions (NDC) are national commitments made (as required by signatories to the UNFCCC) to implement actions to reduce green house gas emissions. For Dominica these are encapsulated in the Low Carbon Climate Resilient Strategy (LCCDRS 2012-20). Given the need of financing to implement the NDC's the Green Climate Fund was created by the UNFCCC to facilitate countries in the implementation of their NDC. Dominica's LCCDRS has been accepted by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) as the framework for national engagement with Dominica. Recently this framework document was updated to a draft Climate Change Policy and Action Plan (CCPAP). This draft document will be finalized via GCF preparatory support processes. These processes are ongoing and among other things will establish a GCF coordinating mechanism to guide, monitor, review and approve the GCF interventions. Concurrently with this exercise however, a number of

financial instruments have been approved by the GCF for Dominica and some are in preparation and these include :

### **Sustainable Eastern Facility for the Eastern Caribbean (Geothermal)**

In keeping with the sustainable development and the climate resilience vision of the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica Geothermal Energy is being undertaken. To date the Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States has allotted a total amount for OECS of US\$196.8 million as loan available to all island states. The allocation to developing Dominica's Geothermal Sector is US \$46 million. The terms- loan facility at 0.55%-0.7 % interest, twenty (20-40) years, with 5yrs grace period.

### **Enhancing Direct Access (EDA)**

The Enhancing Direct Access (EDA) project aims to build integrated resilience of individuals and their businesses, communities and governance systems through responsive grant and loan award mechanisms that are transparently managed through devolved decision-making by those affected by climate change. The project has four components that will be implemented in three pilot countries. This will establish transparent decision-making processes and build capacity. The grant will be awarded for the adaptation in pilot public infrastructure projects; to small adaptation grants to CSOs and NGOs; and concessional Revolving Loans to "un-bankable" homes and businesses.

The EDA grant amounts to US\$ 20 million, with the allocation to Dominica being US\$6 million. The funds will be allocated to the Government climate adaptation interventions. The mobilizing of these funds will be used to facilitate the Ministry of Finance to become an accredited entity to the GCF and so directly access GCF funds. Supporting community based NGO adaptation interventions. The funds will also be used to establish a revolving loan at 0% to fund for private owned climate resilient properties.

### **National Adaptation Plan**

A total of US\$ 3 million has been allocated towards the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) which was expected to launch in June 2019. These funds will be allocated to the Government, Private Sector, and NGO's. The use of the funds is to enhance capacity of the Physical Planning Division to develop and approve adaptation plans, and finance feasibility analysis for the development of concept notes and full proposal submission to the GCF. These funds will also be mobilized to assist the private sector, and communities to development of their adaptation, and sector plans.

### **GCF Preparatory Support Program**

The Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica received US\$464,778 as grant funding from the UNDP. These funds will be allocated towards the engagement of all stakeholders in GCF programs and processes, developing a coordinating procedure for GCF and the development of Operations Procedure for the review of and No Objection for submission of proposals for direct access accreditation for the NCCU/League to access the GCF.

## **Progress in Building the First Climate Resilient Country in the World**

### **National Planning**

The vision *to build the first climate resilient country in the world*, as articulated by the Hon. Prime Minister was celebrated internationally and enthusiastically captured, locally. While there existed a level of questioning about the characteristics and elements of that ambitious vision immediately after the pronouncement, state systems very quickly sprang into action with the production of the National Resilience Development Strategy (NRDS). While the committee of Permanent Secretaries (CoPS) provided support the NRDS was

championed by the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development with contributions from many line ministries.

The NRDS was produced with great efficiency in quick time and has received favourable reviews from local stakeholders and the development Community. The NRDS is considered a live document hence, consultations to further inform its update is ongoing.

The NRDS is a broad strategic framework which provides the roadmap and guidelines for sectoral Strategies and action plans. It integrates climate resilience and disaster risk management into the national growth and development planning framework to achieve desired national development outcomes.

Using the NRDS as the framework document, and in turn the SDGs, most sectors have developed strategic plans to guide their interventions over the next four (4) years.

Resilience building for Dominica is an imperative. To ignore such a command is tantamount to the acceptance of a non-existent fate. Dominica is a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) with a narrow and very open economy. While available Natural resources provide opportunities for national growth and development that scope is limited. The experience of Hurricane Maria in 2017 eroding 226 percent of GDP and damaging and destroying 93 Percent of the housing stock means that reliance on the country's narrow resource base for growth and development would expose the country to an uncertain future.

The country still relies heavily on agricultural production and efforts for growth and development. The tourism sector has shown significant advancement driving the structural transformation of the country into services supported by the wholesale and retail sector and public administration, especially from the perspective of Government.

Resilience building must therefore target our people and their livelihoods. The traumatizing experience of Maria and the response by the state has helped to shape the psyche of the Dominican people. It has become apparent that our people are more conscious and responsive to events of climate variability and climate change. A significant amount of work was done through the establishment of the new housing guidelines that help to embed the resilience consciousness at the level of the state for public infrastructure and buildings, and at the level of homeowners. The guidelines have been and are being observed very closely in the resilience requirements of housing reconstruction. The updating of building legislation and regulations remain an imperative for ensure compliance to resilient construction standards and the importation of quality building materials.

The Agricultural Sector provides food security, export earnings and employment. Building resilience in that sector will require attention to location, soil type, crop and livestock species, value chain mapping and production and marketing timing. Resilience is the capacity to withstand adversity, function during adversity; and to recover quickly and be stronger and better from adversity. The Agricultural Sector must continue to build resilience to drought conditions and other severe weather conditions. The root crop sub-sector showed significant resilience in the wake of Maria to the extent that locally grown yams were exported the week following the hurricane.

The supply chain for the tourism sector should also be mapped to produce the required guidelines for resilience building at every stage. Much of the island tourism is nature based and suffers severe destruction especially from hurricanes, storms and flooding. Important for that sector is the restoration of the natural ecological system that often requires dexterity and skills.

Service sector resilience is important especially within in the private sector. The Government has advanced both the concept and the practice of resilience especially in the construction sector. The private sector must follow the lead

and do likewise. So far the private sector has responded well with the build back better concept post Maria however resilience building has to be understood as a journey.

Institutions of public administration must also continue ongoing efforts at capacity building and institutional strengthening. In the aftermath of Hurricane Maria the response from the state and private sector and civil society institutions was commendable with a few glitches. However, with very good support from the donor community and strong leadership from the political directorate these were overcome in short time.

### **Climate Resilience Execution Agency for Dominica (CREAD)**

The CREAD was formally announced by the Honorable Prime Minister Dr. Roosevelt Skerrit in March 2018, and the CREAD Act was endorsed unanimously by Parliament on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019. CREAD is a statutory, independently funded agency tasked with catalyzing Dominica's initial journey towards climate resilience, over its four-year mandate. As a small island developing state faced with a plethora of challenges, both natural and anthropogenic, Dominica must think about resilience to climate change, *as well as* to environmental-, economic- and societal vulnerabilities (see Figure 15). As such, CREAD takes a truly holistic view in addressing resilience.

## Dominica must think about resilience to climate change, as well as to environmental-, economic- and societal vulnerabilities

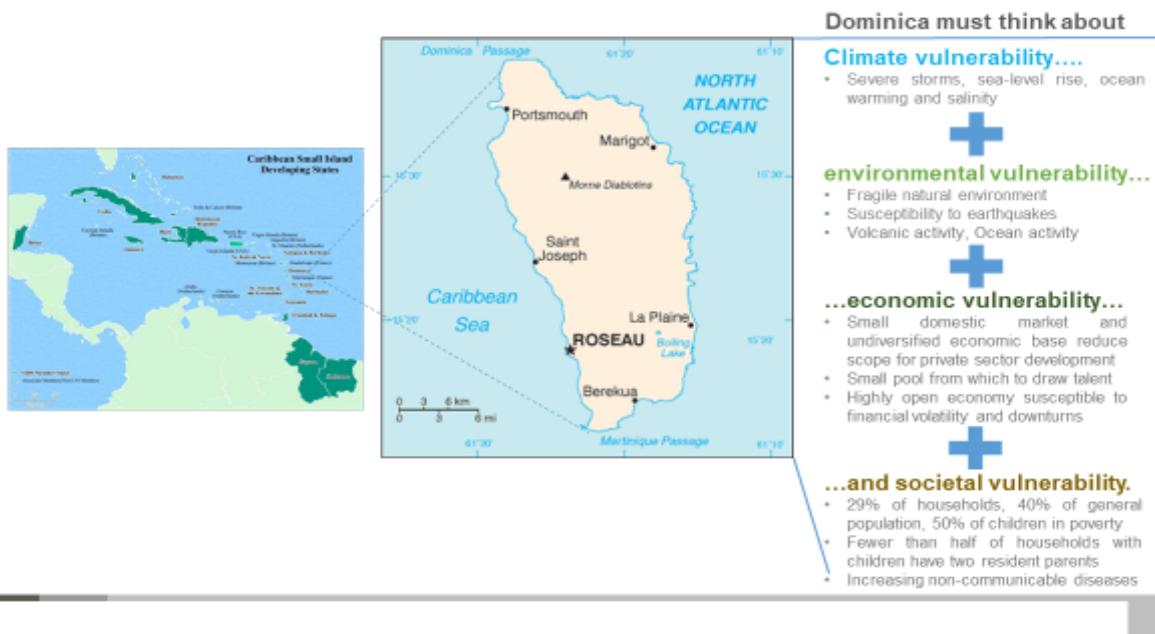


Figure 25: Achieving resilience requires addressing Dominica's vulnerabilities comprehensively

Hence, to become truly resilient, CREAD's thesis is that Dominica must focus on developing strong communities, a sustainable economy and well-planned, durable infrastructure—underpinned by the pre-conditions of Valuing Resilience, Financing Resilience and Institutionalizing Resilience—while carefully leveraging the country's unique assets (see Figure 16).

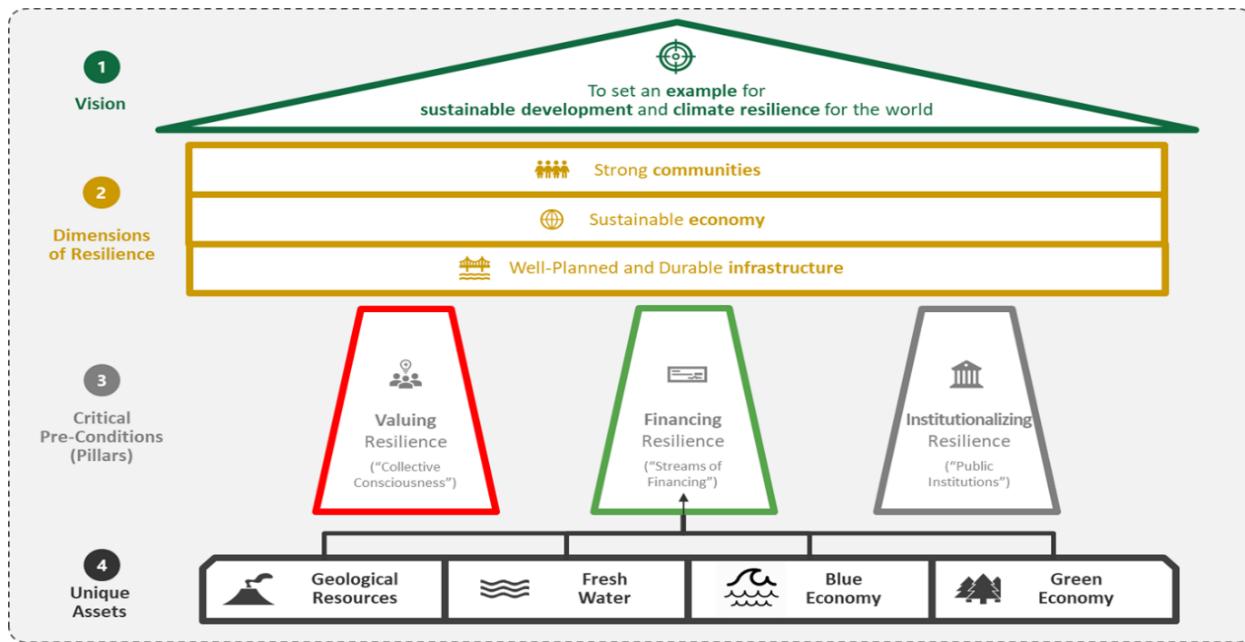


Figure 26: CREAD focuses on three dimensions of resilience, as well as on its preconditions.

### **CREAD's 2019 Strategic Work Plan**

Figure 18 focuses on seven critical streams of activity, namely:

- 1) the set-up of CREAD;
- 2) defining CREAD Flagship Projects intended to support achievement of Dominica's climate resilience vision but developing and, subsequently, delivering initiatives that are either a fundamental prerequisite for resilience in specific sectors, or are truly transformative in their own right;
- 3) defining metrics and targets for resilience, and analyzing the 'gap to resilience' which must be closed over a period of time;
- 4) reviewing, detailing, planning and executing Capital Projects vested in CRDAF by its Policy Board;
- 5) defining a Resilient Dominica Physical Plan, which illustrates visually what Dominica seeks to become by 2030;
- 6) on-going stakeholder reengagement, with the public, private and social sectors to understand their needs and expectations, and to integrate these into CREAD's activities and/or ways of working; and

7) working closely with public service entities to define and deliver fundamental systems change such that these institutions can, over time, take on CREAD's mandate to design, develop and deliver high-impact projects and initiatives to support Dominica's resilience goal.

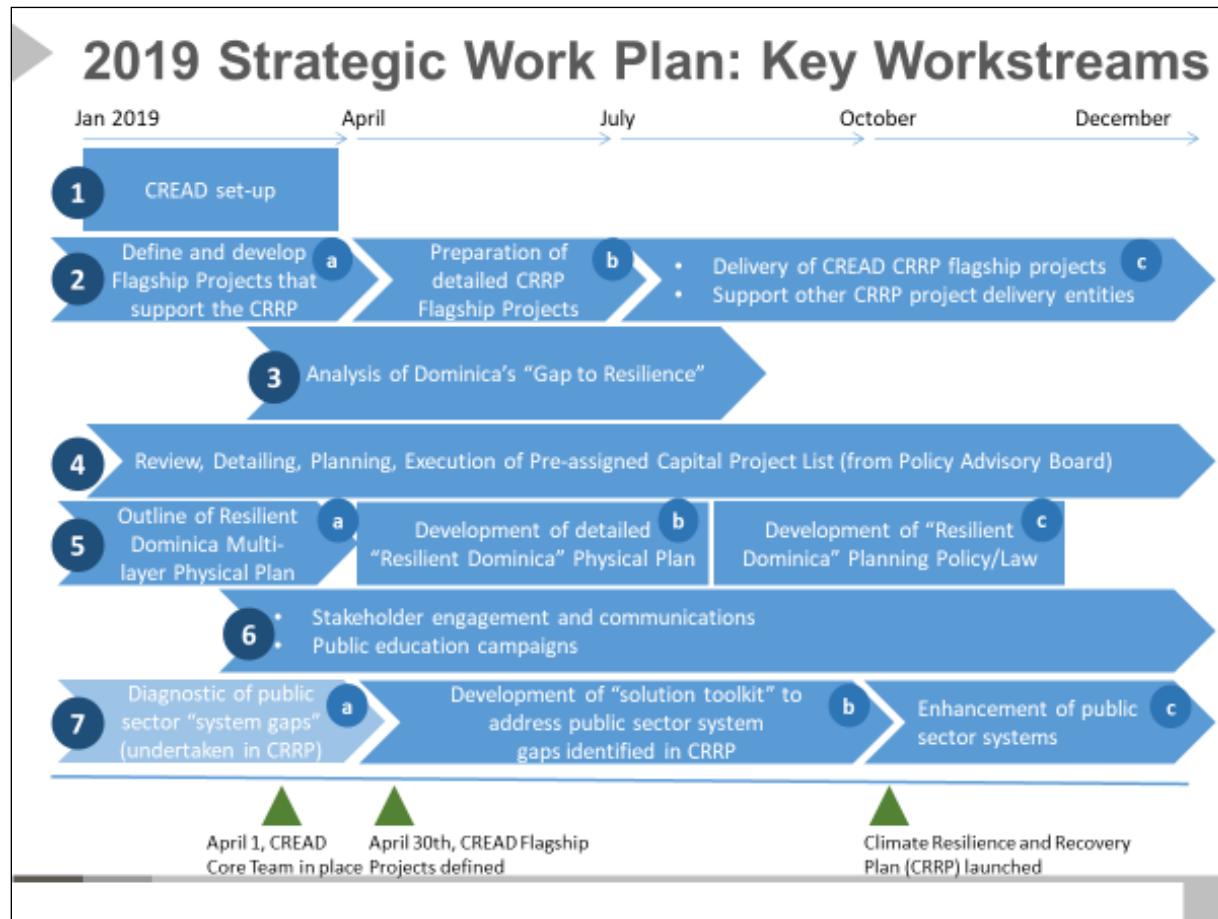


Figure 27: CREAD 2019 Work-Plan

CREAD is largely on track to deliver on all work streams as expected in 2019. Of particular note are the following:

- CREAD has put into place office infrastructure, staffing and governance structures in order to become fully functional. Its staff complement comprises 18 highly-qualified professionals committed to its mandate. Of this total, 16 are funded by CREAD, 1 is funded by the United Kingdom's Overseas Development Institute (ODI), and 1 is funded by the

Commonwealth Secretariat. Currently 17 roles are filled, and 1 is pending. Nine staff are Dominicans of which three are Dominican nationals returning home from overseas, three are Caricom nationals, and five are non-Caricom nationals. Eight staff are women, and nine are men.

- CREAD has also defined and shared with its Policy Board fifteen (15) Flagship Projects that it seeks to champion. These are, together with other Ministry-led activities, reflected in Dominica's Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan (CRRP), which CREAD is responsible for preparing and delivering upon, as per the CREAD Act.
- CREAD has, in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat, launched a critical initiative designed to enhance public service objective setting, project rationalization and prioritization and reporting systems through the implementation of an online Management by Objectives approach across all Government entities. This work, which commenced in May 2019, has been well-received by the public service as a whole as a structured methodology for developing and delivering on work programs, and is pending a Directive from the Prime Minister to become institutionalized.

However, one notable exception in terms of adherence to the Work Plan is Work stream 5 (outlining Resilient Dominica Physical Plan). This is due to a lack of critical funding to implement this activity. Funding options continue to be pursued, however this is seen as an area for priority to operationalize resilience and, as such, it is hoped that this the Government will prioritize support to this Work stream.

Work stream 4 (delivering on pre-assigned Capital Projects) has also faced significant challenges, albeit on the operational side. At the time of writing, the process of defining the exact role of CREAD on each of the projects remains

outstanding and therefore CREAD are working as Technical Assistance to the Line Ministries in the delivery of these projects as and where possible.

**Table 31: CREAD Project**

	<b>CREAD Assigned Project/Programme</b>	<b>Status/Barriers to delivery</b>
1	UK CIF/CDB Water Rehabilitation	CREAD supporting DOWASCO on implementation. Design consultant appointed and extensive survey of existing water network underway
2	UK CIF/CDB Loubiere to Bagatelle Road Rehabilitation	CREAD awaiting completion of the design phase for the project to be fully handed over by Ministry of Public Works. Design complete, awaiting CDB appraisal and signing of finance agreement in order to proceed to procurement
3	PAHO/DFID Smart Healthcare Facilities Programme	Currently being implemented by PAHO in Barbados, limited information available
4	CANADA/CDB Schools Rehabilitation	CREAD working closely with Ministry of Education on implementation. Design Consultant to be appointed July 2019
5	World Bank Agriculture Resilience Project	CREAD supporting the PIU on implementation as project moves into procurement phase and Communication strategy ahead of Beneficiary identification
6	World Bank Housing Recovery Project	CREAD supporting the PIU on Management Information System Consultancy and Communication Strategy ahead of Beneficiary identification
7	World Bank Disaster Vulnerability Recovery Project	Formal role for CREAD to be defined
8	World Bank Geothermal Domestic Plant	Formal role for CREAD to be defined
9	EU Shelters and Housing	CREAD to operate as project supervisor and providing technical support at the current design procurement stage

The journey to building the first Climate resilience country in the world has started and the success thus far must be celebrated. That journey however will continue to require strong leadership, determination and commitment if the vision of building the world's first climate resilient country is to be realized. It is expected that the road ahead will be fraught with challenges such as hurricanes, floods, droughts and financial crises but each challenge must serve to strengthen our resolve and determination as a people.

## **CONCLUSION**

Dominica's recovery period post Hurricane Maria has practically and critically facilitated the free movement of capital, trade and labour, and has created a large number of opportunities for job creation, decent work and income generation. During this phase of recovery and rehabilitation, many families who lost their homes and comfort to Hurricane Maria became beneficiaries of Government's resilient and quality housing programme. The quick response to housing recovery ensured that displaced individuals and households, especially vulnerable women and children, were reunited. The trauma, inflicted by the enormous loss of lives, property, livelihood and security, will long linger on the psyche of citizens of this beloved country. The rapid intervention by the state and the donor community ensured a level of unprecedented restoration and return to normalcy. The immediate undertaking of repairs to houses and other infrastructure created decent jobs in the construction sector. These investments accelerated the recovery in economic activities which served to reduce otherwise prolonged periods of relief.

Building resilience throughout the Dominican society required collective effort and an understanding that such undertaking is a journey which has to be incorporated within the element and practice of the sustainable development paradigm. The Sustainable Development Goals which has been integrated into

the National Resilience Development Strategy can serve as an appropriate guide. The NRDS must continue to serve as the national framework for sector strategies and action plans. The country is on a resilience journey guided by the national Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan (CRRP). That journey is expected to present many challenges but success is assured through the demonstrated fortitude of all Dominicans at home and abroad.

Greater favourable outcomes are expected to be secured in the near future however, the transition to inclusive and economic growth will only be realized through the recognition of varying potentials within different internal regions and economic sectors; a focus on critical activities; incentivizing research and innovation; prioritisation of specific technical skills development; increased access to the regional and global market; stronger and consistent domestic policies, regulations and legislation; adoption of innovative financing mechanisms; and improved monitoring and evaluation.

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