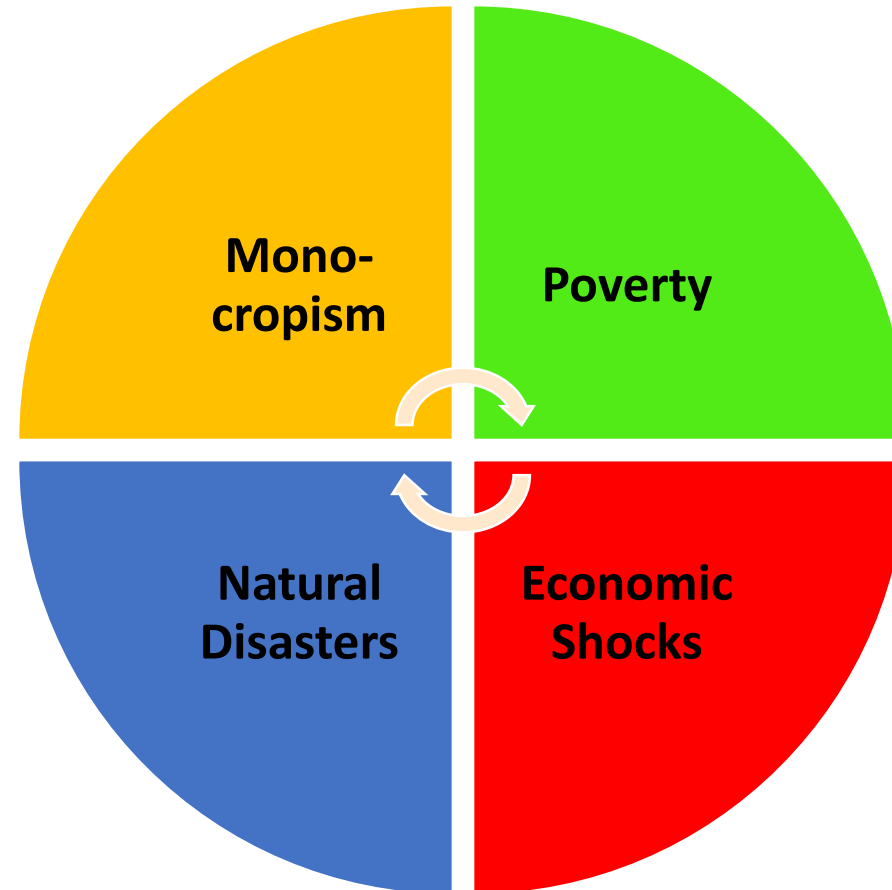# Sixteenth Meeting of Ministers of Heads of Planning Presentation by Dominica

Gloria Joseph

Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Planning and Economic Development

August 29, 2019

Background

Caribbean economic and social history is glutted with a plethora of economic, social and environmental events that challenged at the very core the fortitude and resilience of its people.
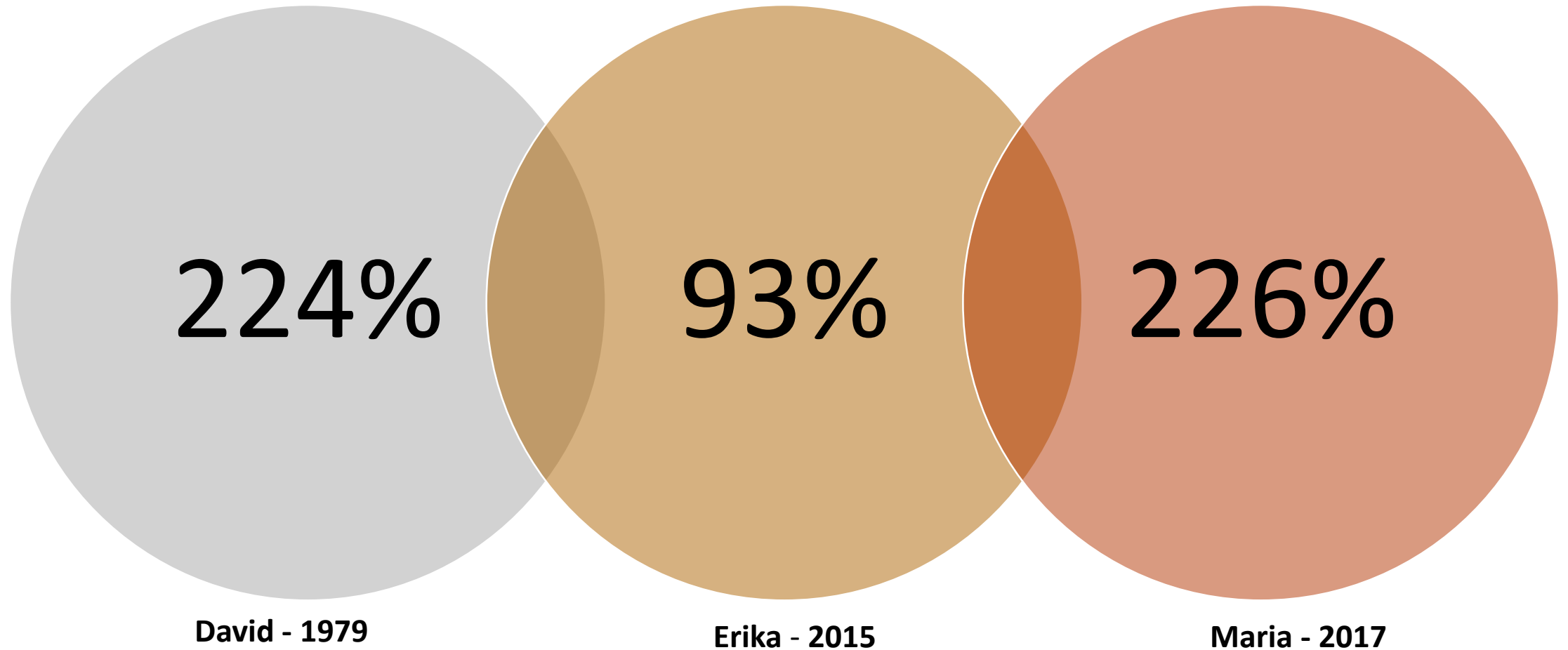
Challenges of Development

History of recent Natural Disasters

- 1979 – Hurricane David
- 1999 – Hurricane Lenny
- 2007 – Hurricane Dean
- 2015 – Tropical Storm Erika
- 2017 – Hurricane Maria

Impact of Natural Disasters and Weather Events on Dominica's GDP

224% 93% 226%

David - 1979   Erika - 2015   Maria - 2017

Impact of TS Erika 2015

- The transportation network - damages of EC$644.0 million.
  - The East bridge in Roseau had to be replaced to the tune of EC$18.0 million. River dredging alone costed EC$9.5 million,
- Restoration of water supply system - EC$10.0 million.
- Nine (9) communities declared disaster areas and two (2) communities had to be abandoned and resettled elsewhere on approximately 50 acres of lands acquired by government.
- In excess of 400 resilient urban style housing units erected to house close to 1000 resident.

Build Back Better

Lessons learnt from Erika

- *Government adopted a policy to building back better*
  - Implementing stricter standards for the construction sector
  - Training and supervising artisans and personnel in the construction sector
  - Implementing a rigorous import regime for construction material
  - Adopting standards for land use and rehabilitation / construction of physical infrastructure

Impact of Hurricane Maria 2017

- The majority of damages were sustained in the transport sector (60 percent) followed by the housing sector (11 percent) and agriculture sector (10 percent).
- Out of a population of 72,340, **33** people lost their lives and **574** were made homeless.
- The main airport Douglas Charles was ravaged with flood waters and debris from Storm Erika and had to be rehabilitated to the tune of EC$46.0 million.

Hurricane Maria – September 18, 2017

- 90% Housing destroyed
- 90% Agriculture destroyed
- 40% Tourism Hotel plants destroyed
- 83% School plants destroyed
- 15% Health plants destroyed
- 74 Residents killed

226% GDP eroded

Global Pronouncement by Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Roosevelt Skerrit

Building **Dominica** to become the **First Climate Resilient Country of the World**!
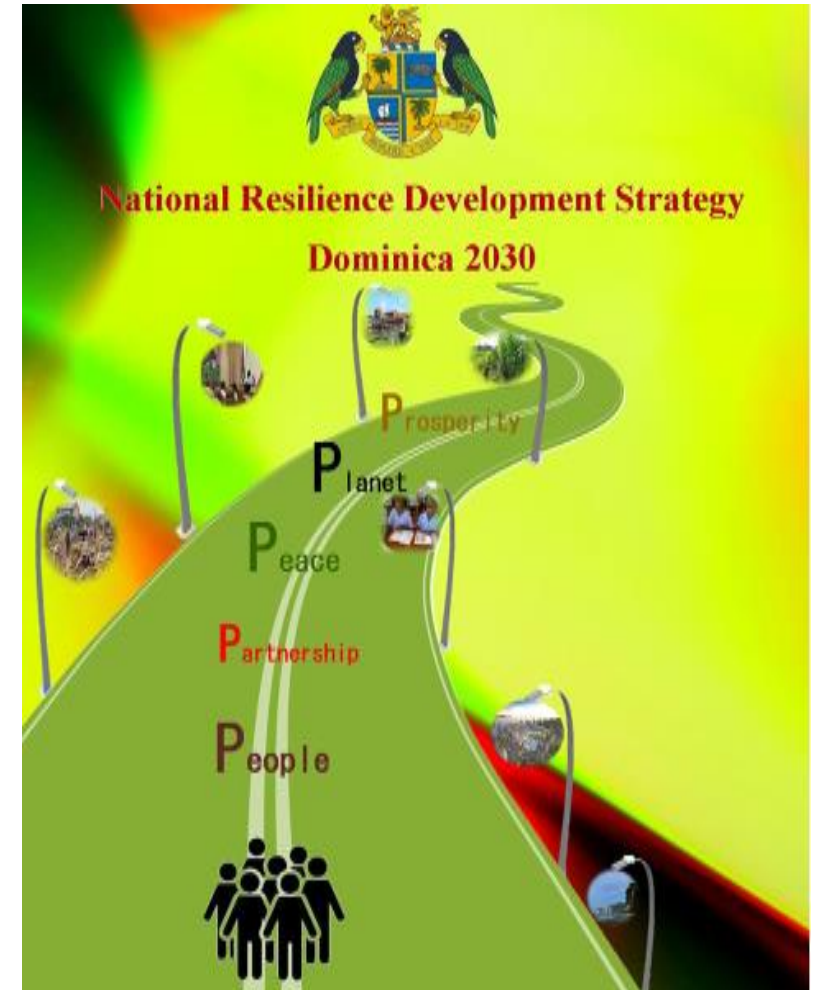
September 22, 2017
UN Headquarters, NY

Climate Resilient & Sustainable Development Strategies
Dominica in 2030

NRDS Dominica 2030

The National Resilience Development Strategy (NRDS) was developed in the months following Hurricane Maria to provide the framework and guidelines that would inform strategies and actions to attain the Vision to make Dominica the first climate resilient country in the world.

Sustainable Development Paradigm

THE PROCESS

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS

PLANNING

EXECUTION

The National Resilience Development Strategy (NRDS)

CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT

MONITORING

EVALUATION

REPORTING

PUBLIC AWARENESS

CAPACITY BUILDING

DATA ANALYSIS

Territorial Planning for Dominica – some examples

- Socioeconomic planning and development is focused and dispersed across sectors and communities all at the same time

- Housing Projects are ongoing in the North, East, South and West regions all at the same time
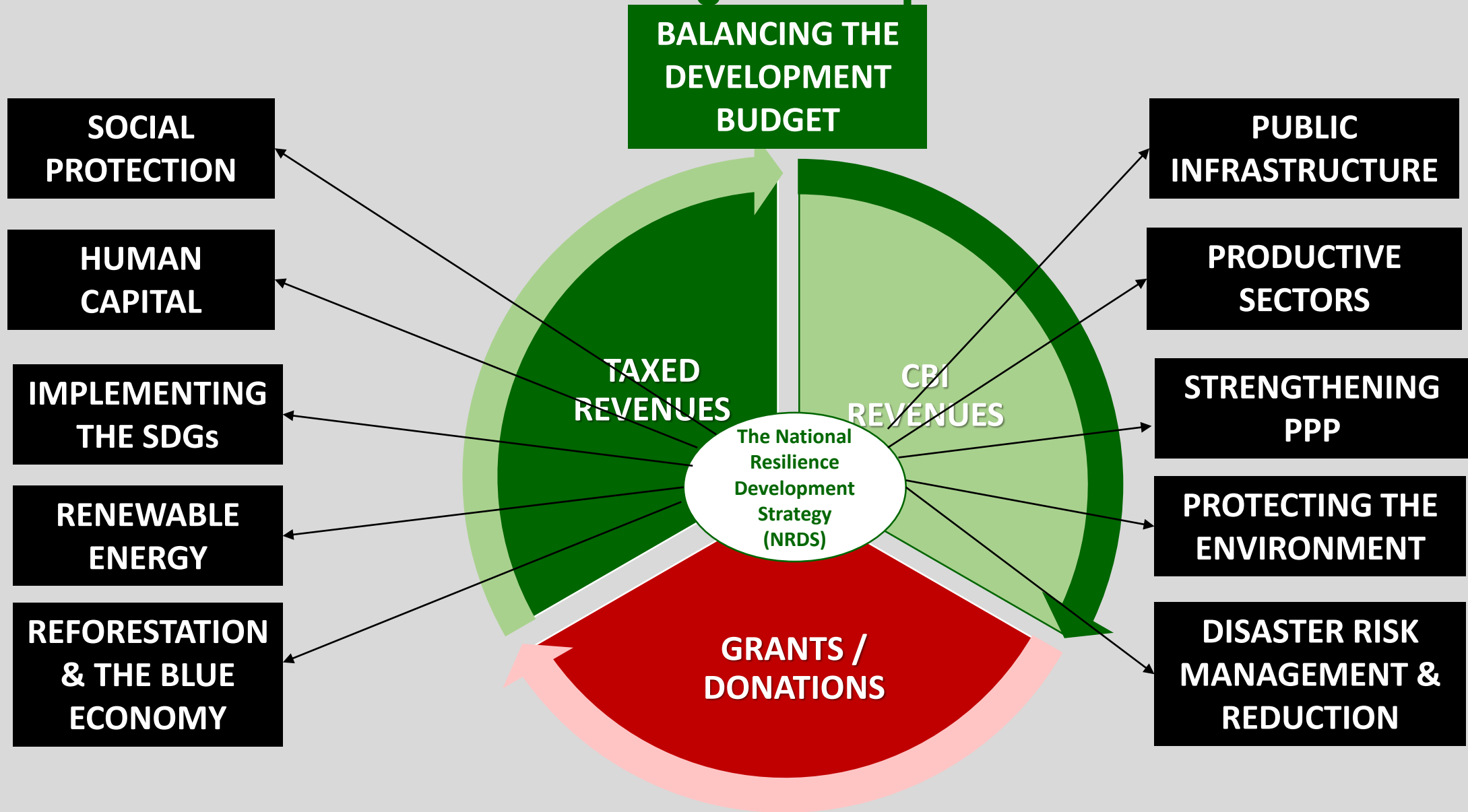
Territorial Planning for Dominica – some examples

- Roads and bridges rehabilitations are similarly ongoing around the island
- Tourism (particularly eco, community and heritage) is receiving special attention in various regions – 5 Star hotel resorts are being developed under the CBI in the North, South, West and Roseau Valley regions; all to be opened between July 2019 and before end 2020.

Territorial Planning for Dominica – some examples

- SMART Schools, Hospitals and Health Centers are being constructed or rehabilitated around the island
- Increased emphasis is being given to building resilience in agriculture and fisheries with a special World Bank implemented programme to the tune of USD65 million
- A 1 million tree replanting programme to rehabilitate the forest reserves is underway.

Financing Development

Thank you