



# FOSTERING FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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## I. INTRODUCTION

15.01 During the Eighth Plan period, family and community development programmes were implemented in line with the objective of creating a caring society that provide support for the development of other sectors of the economy. The implementation of these programmes contributed towards improving the general welfare of the people and a better quality of life.

15.02 During the Ninth Plan period, the implementation of family and community development programmes will give greater emphasis on building resilient families and a more caring society in order to achieve an optimal balance between material growth and societal development. In this regard, efforts towards strengthening the family unit, enhancing community participation and increasing the role of civil societies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) towards cultivating a more tolerant and caring society will be undertaken. Concerted efforts will be undertaken to foster greater unity and integration among Malaysians to ensure social stability.

## II. PROGRESS, 2001-2005

15.03 During the Eighth Plan period, the Government continued to undertake social development programmes aimed at strengthening family units as well as improving the quality of life of the people including children, people with disabilities and the elderly. Family development programmes were focused on building good family relationships and creating awareness as well as recognition of the family unit as an important social institution. The welfare and protection of children continued to be emphasised while facilities for people with disabilities and the elderly were improved and expanded to ensure quality care. Community development programmes were implemented with the participation of NGOs and the private sector.

## Family Development

15.04 Efforts were undertaken to strengthen the family unit as the key to building peaceful, prosperous and stable communities. The establishment of women, family and community development councils in each state enabled the implementation of integrated family development programmes at the grass root level. In this regard, various preventive and advocacy programmes and activities were implemented in collaboration with NGOs, the private sector as well as education and training institutions. These activities were aimed at creating awareness on the importance and benefits of a happy and harmonious family as well as helping families cope with changes in the living environment.

15.05 The Family First campaign was launched at the national and state levels in 2003 to create awareness and recognition of the family as a social priority and fundamental unit of society, which should be protected and supported by the state and community. The Government implemented various family-friendly policies for public sector employees. These included a five-day working week to enable parents to spend quality time with their families, increasing paternity leave from three to seven days and providing three days compassionate leave during the demise of close family members.

15.06 The SMARTSTART package, which provided information and knowledge to newly-weds on their roles and responsibilities as well as the importance of nurturing their relationship, was developed during the Plan period. The package provided information and advice on seven key areas, namely marriage preparation, marriage, family health, pregnancy and childbirth, parenthood, managing family resources as well as managing stress and conflict. In addition, a standardised pre-marriage training module was developed in consultation with various religious organisations and NGOs to educate those planning to get married on their roles and responsibilities in marriage.

15.07 During the Plan period, the Government approved the establishment of one-stop family service and training centres or *Kompleks KASIH Keluarga* to provide programmes and services in strengthening the family unit including counselling, parenting skills and reproductive health services. In this regard, one complex was completed at Shah Alam, Selangor. In addition, two adolescent and youth centres known as *kafe@TEEN* were established on a pilot basis in Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur and Butterworth, Pulau Pinang. The *kafe@TEEN* provided information and knowledge on adolescent sexuality and reproductive health as well as guidance and services tailored to adolescents.

## Children

15.08 To safeguard the welfare and interest of children, efforts to ensure their protection, rehabilitation and development were continued. Towards this

end, the Child Act 2001 was enacted in 2001 through consolidating the Juvenile Courts Act 1947, the Women and Girls Protection Act 1973 and the Child Protection Act 1991. The enactment of this Act took into consideration the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). This Act provided for the mandatory reporting by medical practitioners, family members and childcare providers on child abuse cases. In this regard, the reporting of child abuse cases increased from 1,036 in 2001 to 1,656 in 2005. The Act emphasised on parental responsibilities and involvement in the rehabilitation of the child and overcoming social disharmony within the family through the provision of interactive workshops. A special court known as the Court for Children and presided by a magistrate with two advisors from members of the public was established in 2002 to hear child-related cases.

15.09 Various efforts were undertaken to address the issue of violence against children including strengthening community participation in implementing prevention and rehabilitation programmes. Child Protection Teams and Child Activity Centres were established at the state and district levels to provide locally-based services, especially for high-risk families and children. These services included child-related activities, counseling for children and parents, parenting courses as well as childcare services aimed at providing the psychological and motivational support to those affected. During the Plan period, a total of 131 Child Protection Teams with 1,572 active members as well as 135 Child Activity Centres was set up. In addition, Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) teams were established at district and state hospitals to supervise and monitor child abuse cases referred to the hospitals. During the Plan period, a total of 14 SCAN teams was established at state hospitals and about 690 child abuse cases were reported.

15.10 The Child Care Centre Act 1984, which ensured a minimal standard of care for children in child care centres, was reviewed in 2005 to institute greater enforcement measures and to enhance quality child care. In addition, the public and private sectors were encouraged to establish child care facilities in the work place through the provision of various incentives such as grants and tax rebates. During the Plan period, 86 registered child care centres were established at the workplace while 3,197 child care providers were given training to enhance their capability in operating child care centres.

15.11 The Government continued to provide institutional care for orphans as well as abandoned, abused and neglected children. During the Plan period, three new *Rumah Kanak-Kanak* were established in providing care and protection for 320 children. In addition, seven *Rumah Tunas Harapan* were established, which enabled children in need of care and protection to live within a family environment. These homes were made possible through partnerships and collaborations with corporate bodies, the state governments and other related agencies such as the National Welfare Foundation, NGOs and community-based organisations. A total of 240 children benefited from this effort.

15.12 In line with the CRC, efforts to promote greater participation of children in the formulation and decision making process were undertaken. Capacity building efforts and empowering of children on children's issues and rights were carried out through the awareness and participation programmes that involved a total of 163 children during the Plan period. To further ensure that the voices of children are heard, children were involved in the evaluation of the first National Plan of Action (NPA) and the drafting of the second NPA (2006-2020) which took into consideration the elements of the CRC, namely child survival, protection, development and participation.

### **People with Disabilities**

15.13 The Government continued to provide care and support for people with disabilities through various programmes. These included the provision of facilities to enable them to lead a normal life. To ensure that people with disabilities have access to these programmes, a campaign to educate and raise awareness on the need to register people with disabilities began in 2001. By the end of 2005, a total of 150,600 people with disabilities was registered with the Department of Social Welfare. The Government also provided benefits such as free medical consultation, medication and hospitalisation in government hospitals, discounts on travel fares, exemption of road tax, free travel documents, additional income tax relief, discounts on excise duty for purchase of national vehicles and discounts for the purchase of low cost houses.

15.14 Efforts to integrate the disabled into the mainstream activities of society were intensified through the community-based rehabilitation programme, which involved their families and communities and supported by relevant agencies such as health, education and social welfare. During the Plan period, 313 community-based rehabilitation centres were established benefiting 8,453 people with disabilities.

15.15 The Government continued to provide training and employment opportunities to assist people with disabilities to be self-reliant. The Bangi Industrial Training and Rehabilitation Centre provided training to 703 people with disabilities in computer programming, dressmaking and design, making of prosthetic and orthotic appliances and wheelchair manufacturing. About 30 per cent of the trainees joined the labour force while some were employed in shelter workshops managed by the Government and NGOs. To encourage the disabled to continue working to support themselves and their families, the Disabled Worker's Allowance of RM200 per month was provided beginning in 2004 to those earning less than RM750 a month. Launching grants up to a maximum of RM2,700 per person were also provided to encourage and assist people with disabilities to venture into small businesses whereby additional grants were also provided for those who undertook business expansion.

15.16 Efforts were undertaken to provide more disabled-friendly facilities such as information and communications technology (ICT) and barrier free facilities. Under the Integrated Public Housing Programme, housing developers are required to allocate 10 per cent of flats built to be fitted with the necessary features and facilities for the disabled. In addition, public transportation such as the light-rail transit and buses also incorporated features that would facilitate accessibility and mobility of persons with disabilities. The *Taman Sinar Harapan*, was completed in Jitra, Kedah making a total of seven homes to accommodate 1,080 people with disabilities. These homes were equipped with facilities that provided physiotherapy, occupational therapy, music therapy, medical rehabilitation as well as counseling to help residents lead meaningful lives.

### Older Persons

15.17 Taking cognisance of the socio-economic implications of the increasing proportion of the elderly, programmes for the aged shifted from a welfare approach to a development approach to ensure active and productive ageing. Programmes introduced emphasised on community participation that included promotion of healthy lifestyles, social and recreational activities. These programmes also encouraged volunteerism among older persons as well as intergenerational activities, lifelong learning programmes and learning skills such as ICT to enable their continued contribution to family, society and country. This is in line with the National Plan of Action for Older Persons promulgated in 1989 that aims to provide a society of older persons that are independent and possess a high sense of self-worth and dignity.

15.18 The Government continued to undertake measures to encourage family members to take care of the elderly. To assist healthy and active older persons to enjoy more productive lives while their family members are out at work, day care centres were built. During the Plan period, 15 centres were completed and managed by NGOs that benefited 600 older persons.

15.19 Various amenities and privileges for older persons were introduced during the Plan period. These included the provision of special counters and seating areas by Government agencies that offered counter services while rebates of 50 per cent on fares for domestic air and rail travel were provided. Employment opportunities for older persons were provided by the Ministry of Human Resource whereby employers were allowed to claim 100 per cent tax rebate on retraining costs for older persons taken in as employees.

15.20 Provision of institutional services for the care and protection of older persons were continued with the establishment of nine homes for older persons and two homes for the chronically ill. In addition, two *Rumah Tunas Budi*, were built in collaboration with the private sector during the Plan period which provided

care for 40 older persons. NGOs complemented the Government's effort in providing institutional care through the provision of residential homes and cottages for older persons to enable them to continue living within their own communities.

### **Non-Governmental Organisations**

15.21 Recognising the important role of NGOs in contributing to the social development of the country and enhancing the creation of caring societies, the Government continued to provide grants to assist them in implementing various community programmes and activities especially for the socially vulnerable groups of society. During the Plan period, grant allocation increased from RM14.9 million in 2001 to RM34 million in 2005 for 210 NGOs to implement their activities as well as undertake capacity building programmes for their volunteers and caregivers. A total of 855 care givers was trained to enable them to carry out their roles and responsibilities in a more effective manner.

### **Community Development**

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15.22 During the Plan period, community development programmes continued to be undertaken in the rural and urban areas with the objective of fostering harmonious living and nurture the spirit of caring among the various communities as well as to inculcate positive values. In the rural areas, community development programmes were undertaken by Community Development Departments (KEMAS) to provide opportunities for the people, particularly the hardcore poor to improve their socioeconomic status. To prepare children of rural families for formal education, a total of 1,310 pre-school classes was set up during the Plan period, benefiting about 36,570 children.

15.23 In the urban areas, community development programmes were implemented to promote good neighbourliness and national unity. Programmes were implemented through the *Rukun Tetangga* committees set up in housing estates throughout the country. During the Plan period, a total of 780 *Rukun Tetangga* committees was established in urban areas, bringing the total to 3,065 committees with a membership of about eight million people. The scope of *Rukun Tetangga* programmes was expanded to include social outreach activities, which focused on specific target groups such as the marginalised groups and the needy including the disabled, single mothers, orphans as well as former drug addicts who needed attention and care from society.

15.24 To enhance the effectiveness of the *Rukun Tetangga* committees, training programmes on leadership, conflict management, basic skills of voluntary patrolling and counselling were organised. To develop a lifelong learning culture and create a knowledge society, members were also encouraged to participate in lifelong learning programmes conducted at the *Pusat Rukun Tetangga* and the

*Pusat Aktiviti Perpaduan*. During the Plan period, 42 new *Pusat Rukun Tetangga* and three *Pusat Aktiviti Perpaduan* were built throughout the country. To promote national unity and integration among the various races beginning from young, national unity pre-school classes continued to be established. During the Plan period, 250 pre-school classes were set up bringing the total to 1,396 benefiting about 38,040 children.

15.25 The National Social Policy (NSP) which provided the framework for social progress and balanced development through the synergistic efforts of the Government, the private sector and civil societies as well as the community was launched in 2003. To ensure effective implementation of the policy, an inter-ministerial council was established to monitor as well as to evaluate the performance of social development projects undertaken by various ministries and agencies within the framework of the NSP. The implementation of the NSP was further facilitated by the establishment of *Pusat Rujukan Sosial* which provided counseling services and information on social development programmes to serve the needs of the people. In addition, these centres acted as venues for community level meetings. During the Plan period, a total of 47 such centres was established throughout the country, which provided services for 38,820 people, particularly in the rural areas.

### III. PROSPECTS, 2006-2010

15.26 During the Ninth Plan period, continued emphasis will be given towards building resilient families and creating a more caring Malaysian society. Towards this end, family development programmes will be implemented, particularly to promote greater community participation in caring for the socially vulnerable groups. In this regard, efforts by the public sector will be complemented by the private sector and NGOs through partnerships and joint programmes. Focused efforts will be given to foster national unity and closer integration among Malaysians through improved and well-coordinated programmes. The strategic thrusts in the Ninth Plan period will be as follows:

- ❑ *strengthening family institutions towards creating a resilient and more caring society;*
- ❑ *strengthening the social support delivery system;*
- ❑ *encouraging greater involvement of the local community and non-governmental organisations in social development effort; and*
- ❑ *enhancing community development and national unity.*

## Strengthening Family Institutions

### *Family Development*

15.27 Recognising that the family is the primary determinant of a nation that is healthy, dynamic, productive and resilient, programmes that contribute to the strengthening of the family unit will continue to be given emphasis. In view of the changing family structure and relationships, indicated by the increasing percentage of nuclear and dual income families, greater efforts will be undertaken to ensure that the role of the family as the basic socialising, stabilising and care agent for the young and the elderly is maintained. Towards this end, the National Family Policy will be formulated with the objective of developing and enhancing the family institution as well as promoting a family first concept. This policy will ensure the incorporation of family well-being initiatives in all policies, legislation, programmes, services as well as facilities.

15.28 Family development programmes will be revised to incorporate an integrated approach, targeting the different stages of the family life cycle and meeting the needs of every member as well as empowering them with knowledge and skills to meet the challenges of modern living. In this regard, efforts will continue to be undertaken to strengthen the family institution through the design, implementation and expansion of preventive, supportive and rehabilitative programmes. These programmes will emphasise a culture of mutual respect, caring and sharing of resources and responsibilities among family members. Towards this end, a module on grandparenting will be developed to give greater emphasis to intergenerational relationships and recognition of the role of grandparents in enhancing the family institutions, including the inculcation and preservation of cultural, religious and traditional values. In addition, efforts will also be undertaken to implement retraining programmes for counselors to enable them to continuously improve and upgrade their skills and knowledge.

15.29 Recognising the increasing participation of women in the labour force, steps will be undertaken to create awareness and provide knowledge to parents on the importance and need to balance work and family responsibilities. Towards this end, based on the existing family development modules, the Parenting@Work Programme will be developed to provide guidance on parenting skills, ensure stable and resilient family units as well as equip families to face modern day challenges. At the initial stage, this programme will be implemented in all government agencies at the federal and state levels.

15.30 Efforts will continue to be undertaken to implement programmes that inculcate character building and family values that contribute towards resilience, integrity, solidarity and cohesiveness of the family. Towards this end, family friendly services and programmes that contribute towards strengthening marriage,

inculcating family values and the equitable sharing of resources, responsibilities and tasks will be implemented. Pre-marriage courses will be conducted more extensively for couples intending to get married to educate them on their roles and responsibilities as well as ensure their readiness for marriage. Priority will be given to vulnerable and marginalised families so that they may assume their responsibilities within their families and community. In addition, the mass media will be required to place greater emphasis on promoting and disseminating positive values and information that are consistent with the nation's socio-cultural and family sensitivity to contribute towards individual and family development.

15.31 During the Plan period, more research on current and emerging population and family-related issues including the needs of special groups such as the elderly, single parents and adolescents will be undertaken. Results of these research activities will contribute to the formulation of relevant social policies and intervention programmes towards strengthening the family unit. In this regard, family development indicators will also be formulated to assess the impact of programmes on family well-being.

### **Strengthening Social Support Delivery System**

#### *Children*

15.32 As the family is the fundamental unit of society and the natural environment for the growth and well-being of its members, particularly children, concerted efforts to strengthen the family institution and family support mechanisms to facilitate child welfare, protection, development and participation will be continued during the Ninth Plan period. These will include consolidating existing programmes, enhancing quality assurance as well as strengthening other support programmes including capacity building of personnel and upgrading of facilities.

15.33 As a follow-up to the first NPA in the 1990's, the second NPA (2006–2020) will be implemented to enhance the quality of life of children with emphasis on their protection, development and participation in line with the CRC and Vision 2020. An Early Childhood Care and Development Policy will be formulated to provide the policy framework for the future development of strategies and programmes that would ensure the total development of children in accordance to their rights and needs. The policy will address issues pertaining to their age group that spans from birth to six years.

15.34 Community participation will continue to be a major strategy in the prevention and rehabilitation programmes for children during the Plan period. The role of child protection teams, child welfare committees and court advisors for Court for Children will be enhanced through capacity building efforts that

facilitate their effective functioning in helping to protect the best interest of the child and undertake preventive and rehabilitative programmes to curb the many social problems of children. Specialised training programmes will be undertaken where all members will be given the knowledge and skills in dealing with children as well as knowledge on court proceedings, the provision of relevant acts and awareness of children's rights.

15.35 The Child Care Centre Act 1984 will be reviewed to further improve the provision of quality services in line with the principles of early childhood care and development. The establishment of the community child care centres will provide affordable and accessible quality child care facilities especially for the lower income groups in the urban areas who cannot afford to send their children to child care centres run by the private sector.

#### *People with Disabilities*

15.36 Programmes to integrate people with disabilities into society to enable them to lead a normal life will be further intensified. To ensure that people with disabilities are not marginalised, the registration process of people with disabilities will be strengthened for the proper planning of programmes and facilities. An online registration system will be implemented to enable the Government to know the extent of disabilities before formulating suitable programmes for the development of people with disabilities.

15.37 The People with Disabilities Act will be enacted to actively promote and protect the rights of the disabled to live with dignity and self-respect. The Act will ensure their rights to an inclusive society, greater access to education and vocational training, employment, barrier free environment as well as access to ICT.

15.38 Community based rehabilitation programmes have proven to be cost effective and an effective alternative to institutional rehabilitation of people with disabilities. In this regard, additional community based rehabilitation centres will be established during the Ninth Plan period. These community based rehabilitation centres will be developed as a one-stop service centre to provide more comprehensive services for people with disabilities. Among the services to be provided will be disability screening and detection, referral services, dissemination of information on disabilities, vocational training and job placement, registration of people with disabilities and advocacy.

#### *Older Persons*

15.39 Measures will be undertaken to provide for an environment for the elderly to remain healthy, active and secure while being able to age with

dignity and respect as well as leading independent and fulfilling lives as integral members of their families, communities and country. Programmes to create greater awareness among family members and the community in caring especially for the elderly will be undertaken. In this regard, values such as familial responsibilities, love and understanding for the elderly will be given greater emphasis. Community level participation will be enhanced through a strong network of community services and the creation of opportunities for their engagement in social and economic activities. A more coordinated effort in the implementation of development programmes for the elderly will be undertaken to ensure effective participation of the target group in national development efforts. In addition, the skills, experiences and contributions of senior citizens in national development will be promoted by facilitating partnerships between the Government, civil society, NGOs and the private sector.

15.40 To help families cope and enhance their role as effective and meaningful care givers to their ageing parents, a range of community support services including home help, home support and occupational therapy assessments will be made available and affordable. In addition, counseling services within the community will be encouraged to provide psychological knowledge and self-skills for older persons to enable them to be more competent to cope with the social, economic and psychological changes associated with ageing.

15.41 To ensure the overall well-being of society, continuous improvements to enhance delivery mechanisms will be undertaken in line with expectations of society for the provision of fast and efficient service. A social outreach programme to ensure groups in need are not left out of mainstream development will be undertaken as a proactive measure. The mobile welfare unit, *Unit Mayang* will be set up with the objective of making available welfare services direct to the community. The Unit will provide professional services such as counseling beside processing applications for financial aid and the making of payments, registration of people with disabilities, advocacy as well as disaster relief operations.

#### *Financial Assistance*

15.42 Development programmes for children, people with disabilities and the elderly during the Plan period will be enhanced with the provision of financial assistance such as *Bantuan Kanak-kanak*, *Bantuan Orang Tua*, *Bantuan Geran Pelancaran* and *Bantuan Alat Tiruan*. The assistance provided will benefit about 150,000 recipients during the Plan period.

#### **Greater Involvement of Non-Governmental Organisations**

15.43 Recognising the role of NGOs, the Government will continue to give the necessary support to enable NGOs to sustain and develop programmes

and facilities for the marginalised and socially vulnerable groups. In this respect, efforts to enhance capacity building of NGOs will be continued through human resource development programmes. To ensure quality care is provided to the target groups, the amendments to the Care Centre Act 1993 will facilitate registration of all institutions run by NGOs and strengthen enforcement of the Act. In addition, a guideline for the management of children's homes will be formulated as a quality assurance mechanism to determine and ensure quality and standards for children's homes run by NGOs.

## **Enhancing Community Development and National Unity**

### *Community Development*

15.44 Community development programmes with the objective of inculcating positive values, fostering neighbourliness and harmonious living among the various communities as well as inculcating the spirit of self-reliance will continue to be implemented in the urban and rural areas. In the rural areas, non-formal education which include family development classes on food and nutrition, family health and hygiene as well as home economics will be continued to further improve the quality of life of the rural community. The construction of new resource centres and community service centres will provide more opportunities for the rural families to be involved in community development programmes. The *Jawatankuasa Keselamatan dan Kemajuan Kampung* will be encouraged to cooperate with the private sector to implement community development projects.

15.45 In the urban areas, more *Rukun Tetangga* committees will be established and their scope of activities will be expanded to include the young through the *Rakan Muda* programmes. Intensive efforts will be undertaken by these committees to promote neighbourliness and foster community participation as well as assist in reducing crime in housing estates. Resident associations as well as social and recreational clubs will be further encouraged to extend their social outreach programmes to promote mutual respect and tolerance among the various communities.

15.46 To further promote and strengthen inter-racial cooperation and understanding among communities, profiles of residents within the particular housing area will be developed to ensure a more systematic approach towards the planning of activities and the initiation of efforts towards community development. Training in various areas such as conflict management and counseling will be conducted to enable members to handle challenges that they face in dealing with the community. The spirit of *gotong-royong* and the sense of commitment to achieve unity in a diverse and multi cultural society will be inculcated among members of the community through various programmes.

Income generating activities will be encouraged among members aimed at improving their economic well-being. More pre-school unity classes will be established during the Plan period to inculcate mutual respect, greater understanding and love for the country among the young.

15.47 Various unity programmes that encourage the involvement of people from different races will be continued to enable all level of societies to interact and better understand each other. This will include cultural activities at the federal and state levels and the celebration of festivals belonging to the various races in the country. Efforts will continue to be undertaken to educate and create awareness among the various communities that unity is an important and paramount agenda in all aspects of life and it needs to be practised, internalised and strengthened from time to time. In this regard, the role of the media will be greatly emphasised.

15.48 To ensure the successful implementation of the NSP, the Government will be committed to inculcate behavioral and mindset changes and instill the commitment at all levels of the government machinery and NGOs in addressing social issues. In this regard, concerted efforts involving the public and private sectors as well as the NGOs will be undertaken to identify more effective measures and approaches particularly in addressing social ills within the society. Existing mechanism and resources within the community will be utilised to the maximum to complement the Government's efforts in providing care and services to the target groups.

15.49 During the Plan period, the *Institut Sosial Malaysia* (ISM) will continue to train professional social workers and care givers with emphasis on providing quality care to the target groups. The National Standard for Social Work Competencies will be implemented to prepare social practitioners in facing challenges such as natural disasters, social security, population ageing and poverty eradication. ISM will become a training hub for social practitioners in the region.

#### **IV. INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT AND ALLOCATION**

15.50 The Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development will continue to be the lead agency in the implementation of family and community development programmes. In addition, complementary programmes will be implemented by the Department of National Unity and National Integration as well as KEMAS.

15.51 During the Ninth Plan period, a sum of RM842.5 million will be allocated for family and community development programmes, as shown in *Table 15-1*. Of this total, 55 per cent will be allocated for welfare services programmes

which includes the care, protection and rehabilitation of children, people with disabilities and the elderly while 45 per cent will be allocated for community and family development programmes.

TABLE 15-1  
**DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE AND ALLOCATION FOR FAMILY AND  
 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES,  
 2001-2010**  
 (RM million)

<i>Programme</i>	<i>8MP Expenditure</i>	<i>9MP Allocation</i>
Family Development	19.1	30.1
Welfare Services	220.1	463.4
Community Development	429.6	264.0
Unity and Integration	70.0	85.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>738.8</b>	<b>842.5</b>

Source: Economic Planning Unit

## V. CONCLUSION

15.52 Family and community development programmes during the Eighth Plan period were implemented with the aim of increasing its accessibility and coverage to a wider section of the Malaysian population for a better quality of life. Its contribution to the overall development of the economy and general well-being of society will continue to be emphasised during the Ninth Plan period through improvements in the delivery system and enhancement of capacity building programmes. Intensive efforts will be undertaken to foster as well as harness national unity and social integration, particularly among the younger generation.