

DRR and systemic risk new approaches and trends

ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES (ACS)

INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE ACS MULTI-STAKEHOLDER TASK FORCE ON COVID-19

(VIRTUAL MEETING)

ACS Secretariat, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 8th March, 2021

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Chief of Office

Regional Office - Americas and the
Caribbean



UNDRR

UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



SENDAI FRAMEWORK

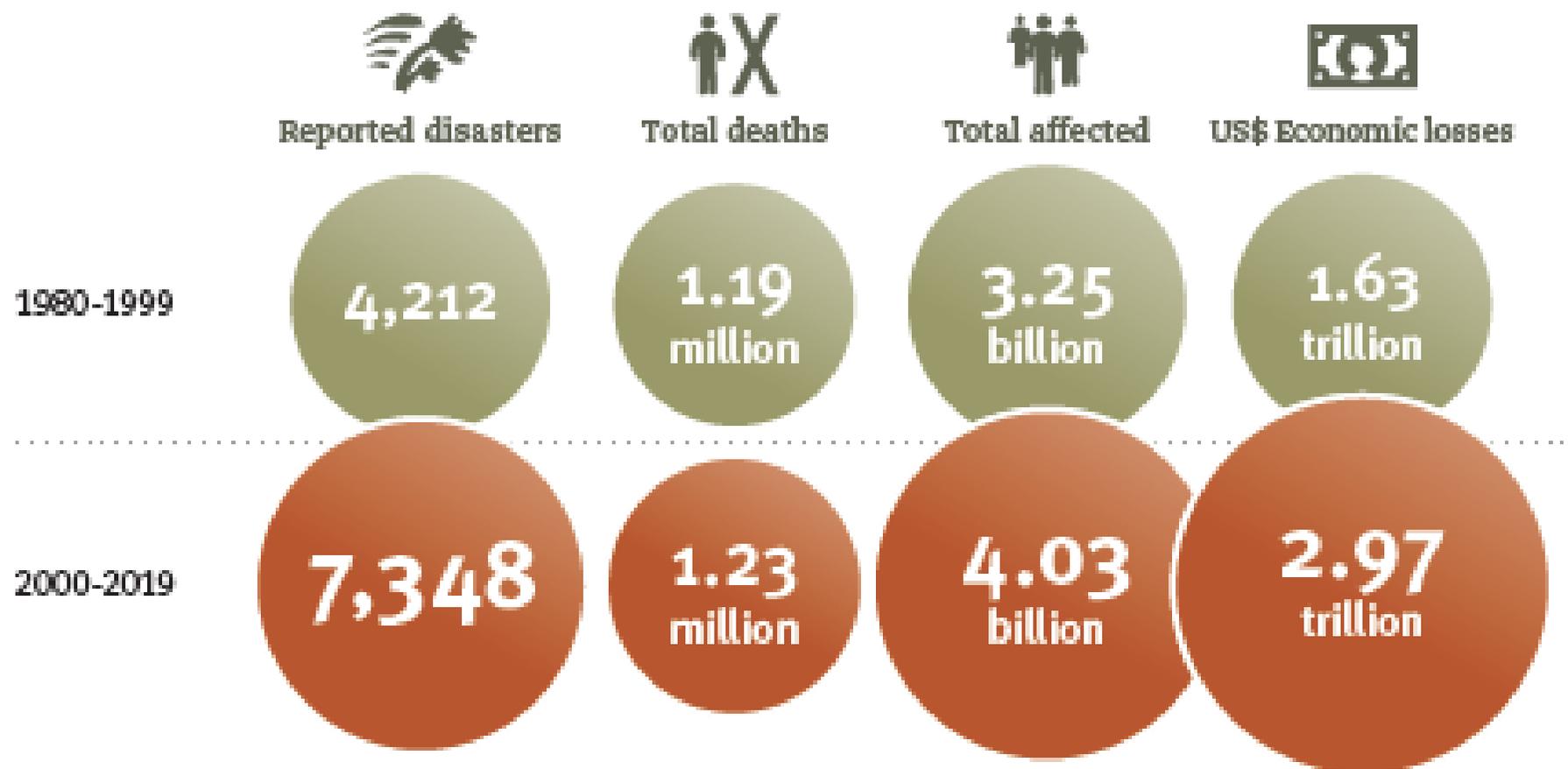
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

Disaster Impact Trends over the last 45 years

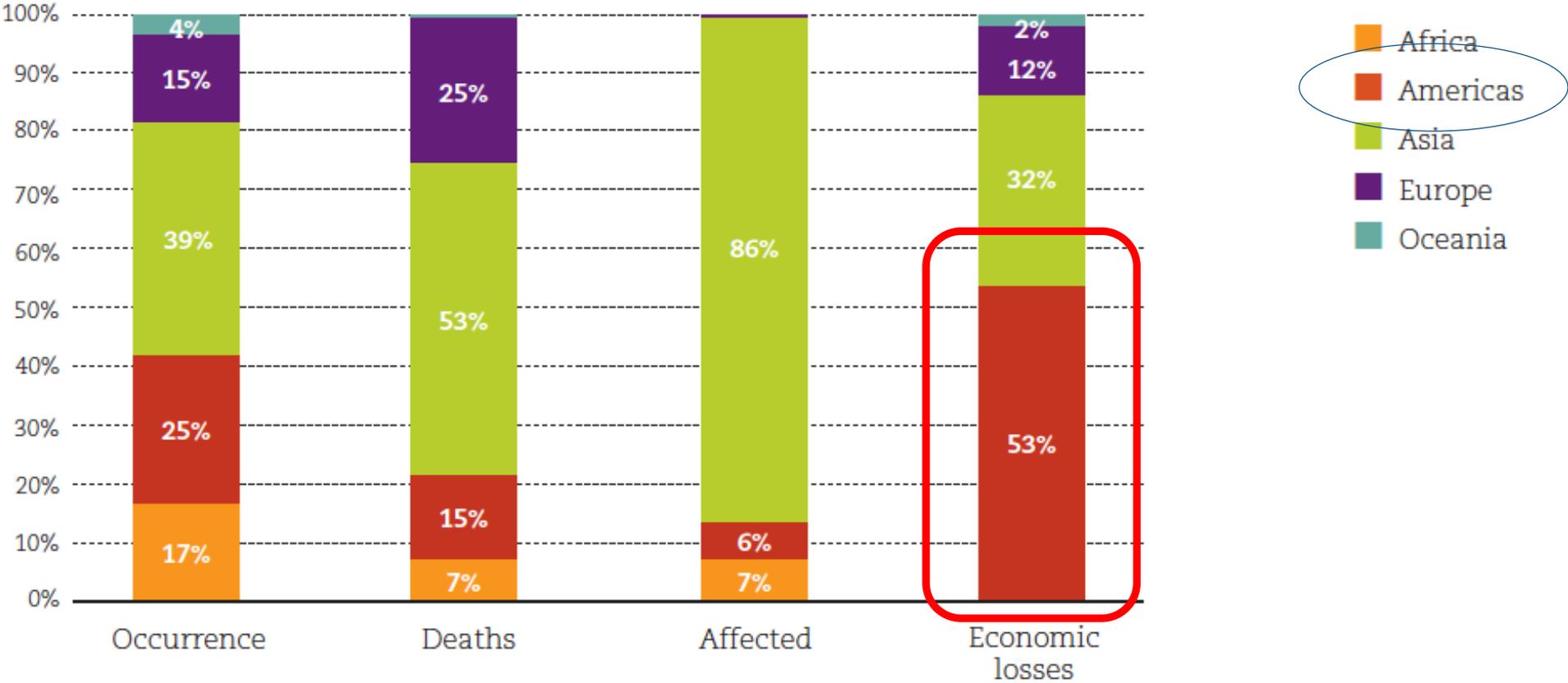
Figure 1

number of people affected by disasters, including injuries

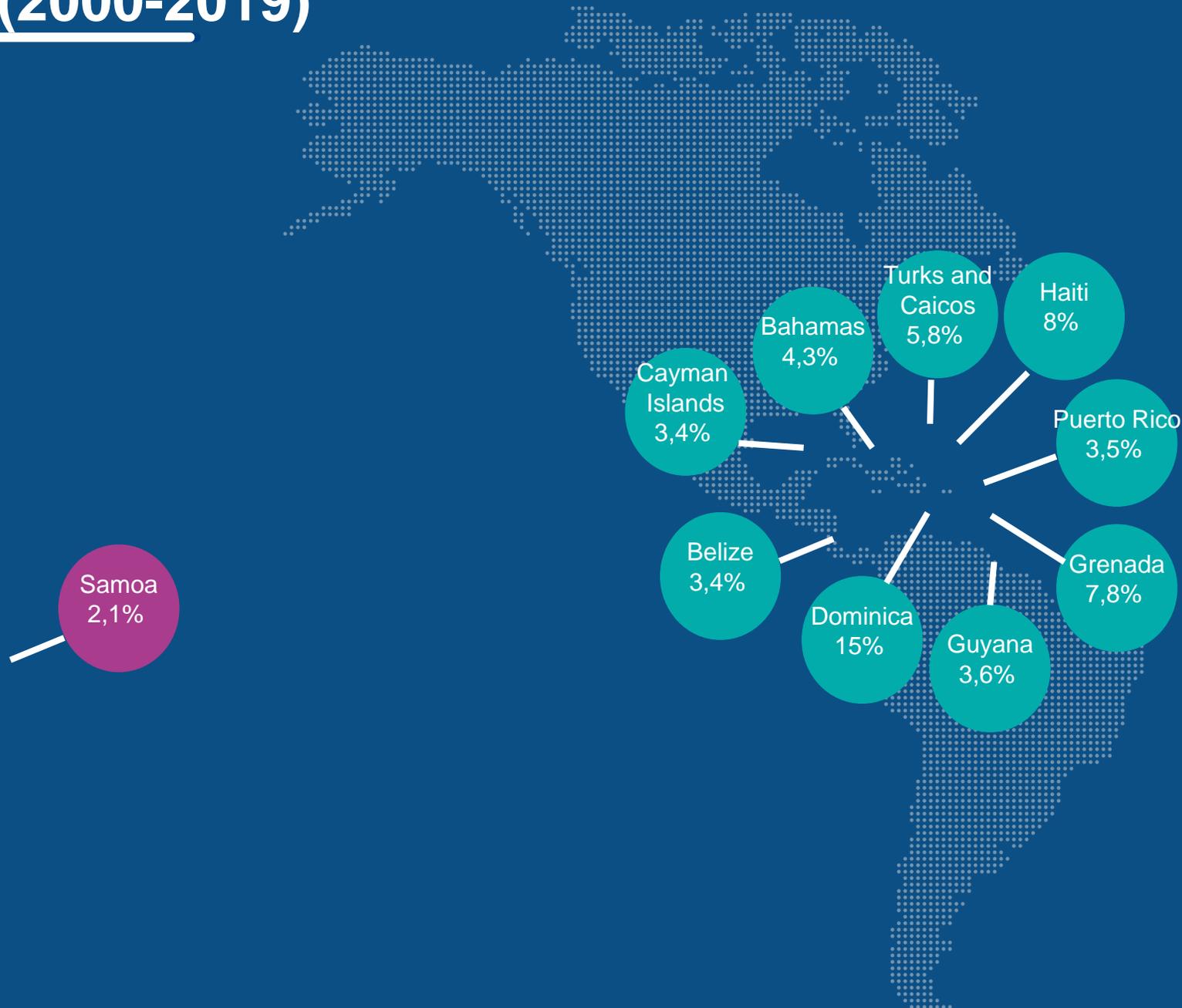
Disaster Impacts:
1980-1999 vs. 2000-2019



Relative human and economic costs per continent



Top ten countries impacted by disasters as % of GDP (2000-2019)

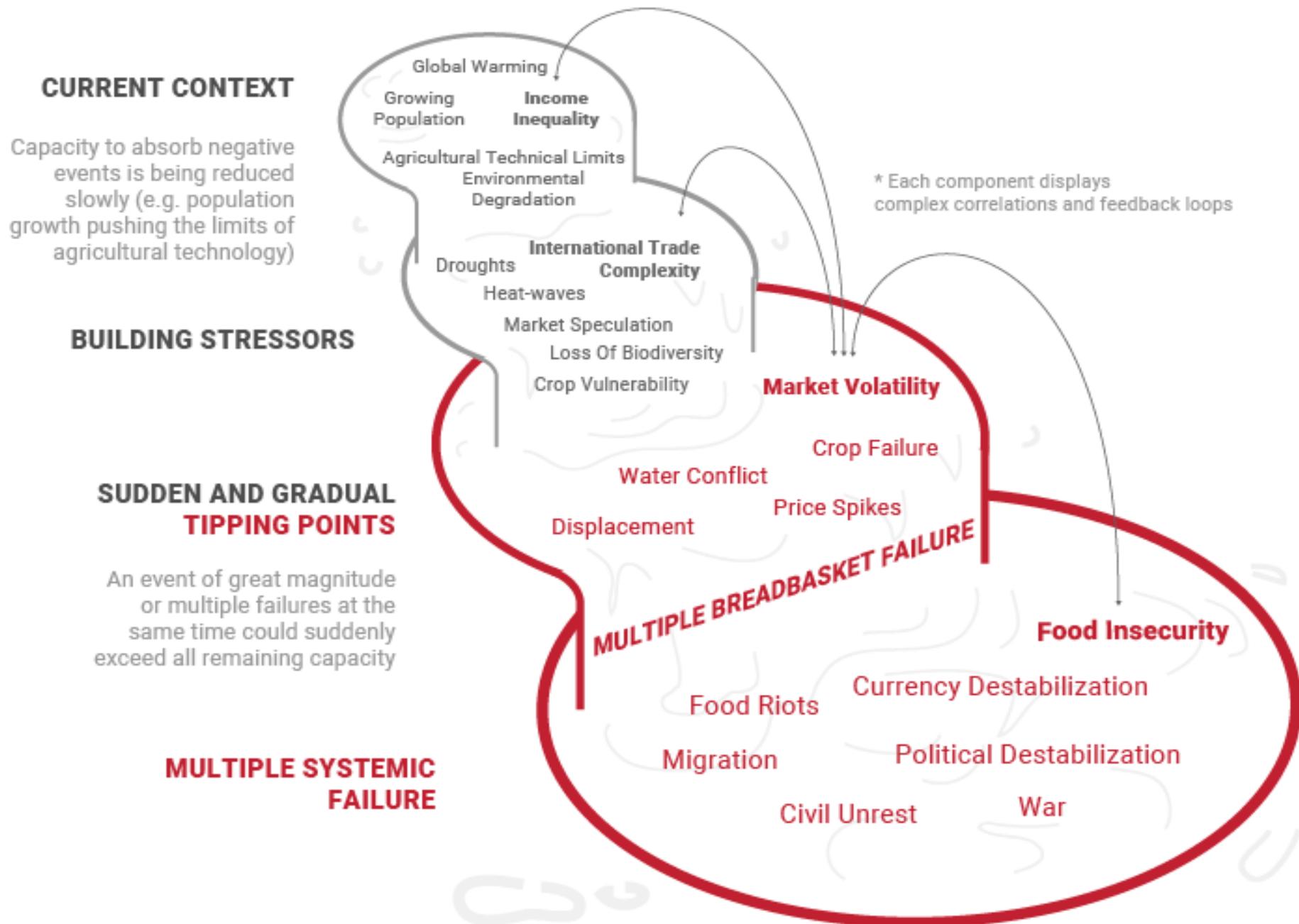


Context: A region impacted by systemic risks

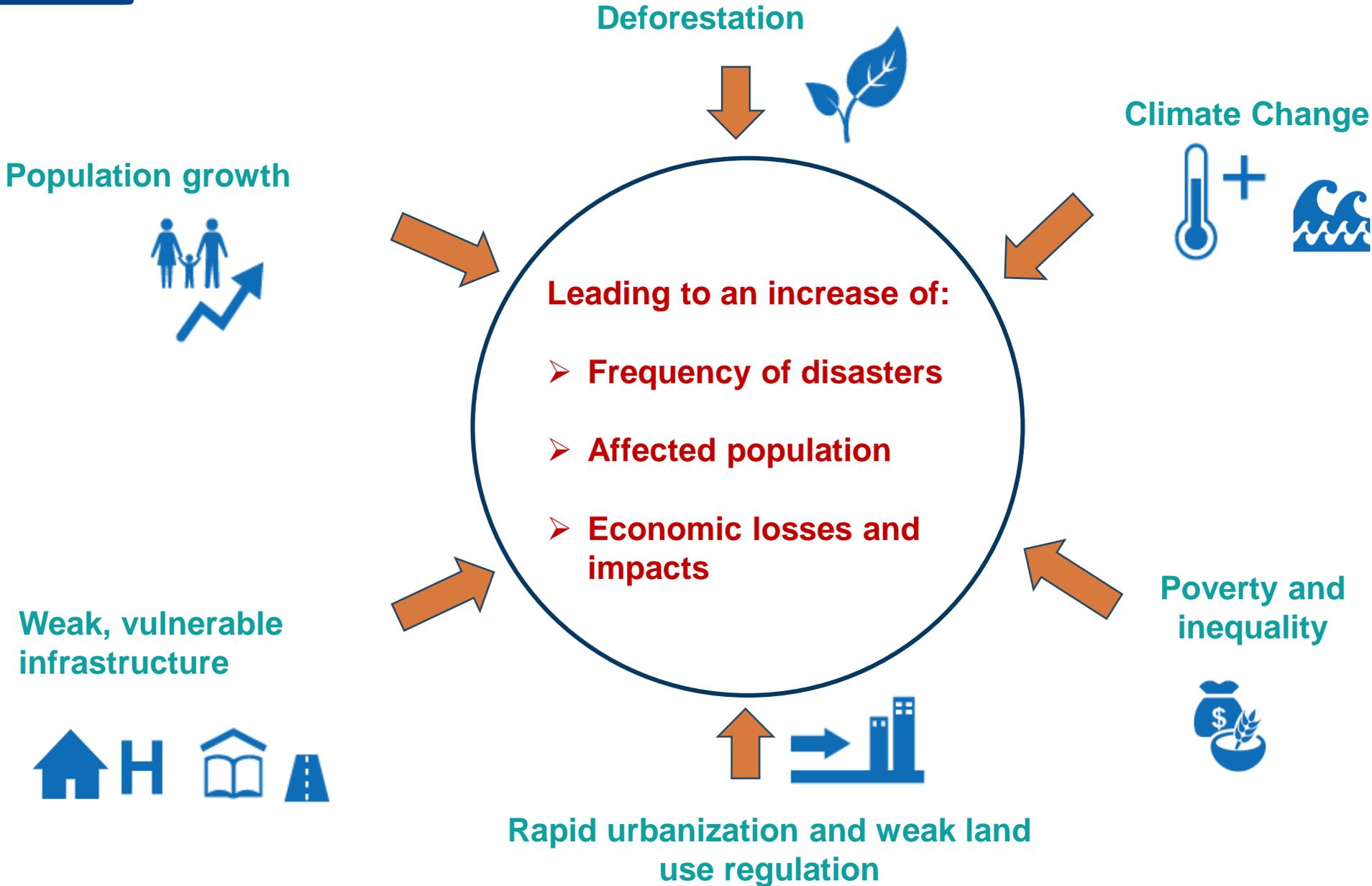
- Already fragile economies and economic contraction.
- Weak social protection mechanisms and services, especially health care systems.
- High levels of inequality, unemployment and poverty exacerbated by COVID-19
- Multi-hazards scenarios affecting the region (e.g: last hurricane season 85% chance for above-normal tropical cyclone activity in Trinidad and Tobago)



The systemic nature of risks and its cascading effects



Risk Drivers Enhancing and Creating Hazards



The projected socio-economic impact of COVID-19

Estimated GDP percentual drop in the Caribbean

	2019	2020* Pre Covid-19 (%)	2020** Including COVID-19 effect (%)
Antigua & Barbuda	6.2	6.5	-12.3
Bahamas	0.9	-0.6	-10.5
Barbados	0	1.3	-8.8
Cuba	0.5	0.5	-8
Dominica	9	4.9	-8.1
Grenada	3.3	4	-10.5
Haiti	-0.7	0.3	-5
Jamaica	1.7	1.6	-5.3
Dominican Republic	4.8	4.7	-5.3
St. Kitts y Nevis	3	3.5	-11.5
St. Vicent & The Granadines	2.5	2.4	-7.8
St. Lucia	2	3.2	-11.9
Trinidad & Tobago	0.6	1.9	-7.1
Caribbean	2.1	2.3	-6.2
Central America	2.3	2.5	-5.7
South America	-0.1	1.1	-9.0
Latin America	0.1	1.3	-9.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.1	1.3	-9.1

Systemic Risk in the Caribbean

COVID-19

1

- Dependence on foreign tourism (G,R)
- Coastal Populations and urban centers (N)
- 90% of Caribbean economies are in coastal areas (R)
- Poor (Coastal) Infrastructure (L)
- Low agricultural production and high imports (G)
- Vulnerability to weather and climate extremes (L)
- High debt to GDP ratio

1. Current Context

2

- Inter-regional Displacement (R)
- Strong dependence on external markets
- Low remittance flows
- Potable water access
- Food Insecurity
- Low demand on tourism services
- Sargassum development
- Impact, relief & recovery cycle with limited mitigation or proactive investments
- Low level of insurance
- Adequacy medical facilities
- High mental stress levels

2. Multiple Stressors

4. MULTIPLE SYSTEMIC FAILURES

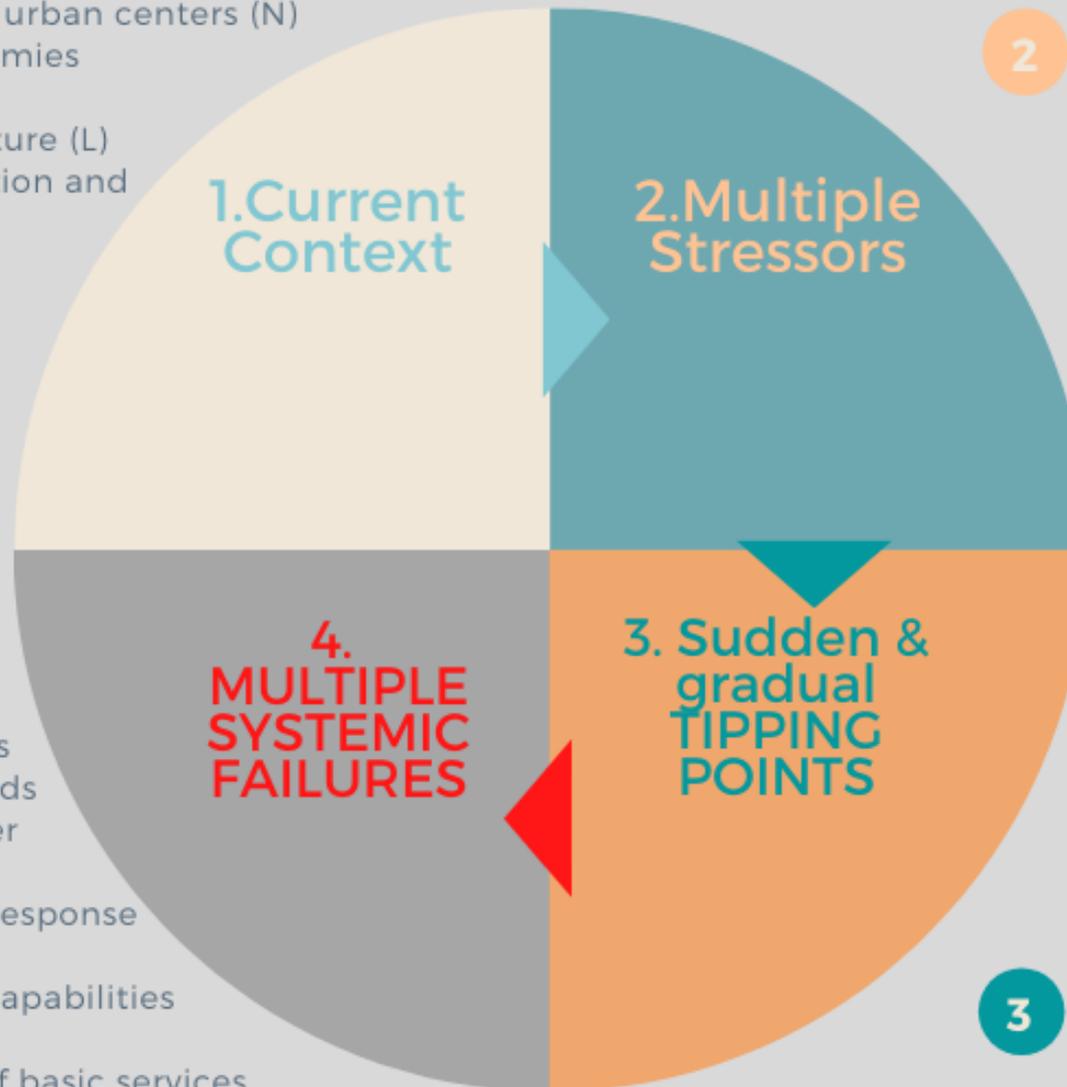
3. Sudden & gradual TIPPING POINTS

- Pandemics
- Unavailability of services and goods for basic needs
- Inaccessibility of disaster sheltering
- Overwhelmed disaster response capabilities
- Reduction of financial capabilities to meet basic needs
- Continuous disruption of basic services

- Very active hurricane season
- Potential for multiple hurricane impacts
- Supply chain disruption
- Potable water supply for tourism services during the dry season
- Post disaster migration
- Inter-regional Displacement
- Strong dependence on Remittance Flows

3

4



In summary...

1. Multi-hazard events causing disasters
2. Understanding the systemic nature of risk and its underlying causes :
This means adaptive, anticipatory planning to identify the drivers of risk
3. Multisector Approach to achieve resilience
4. Risk informed investments to achieve sustainable development



Thank you

For more information, please contact:

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