

# 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*

March 8, 2021

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UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

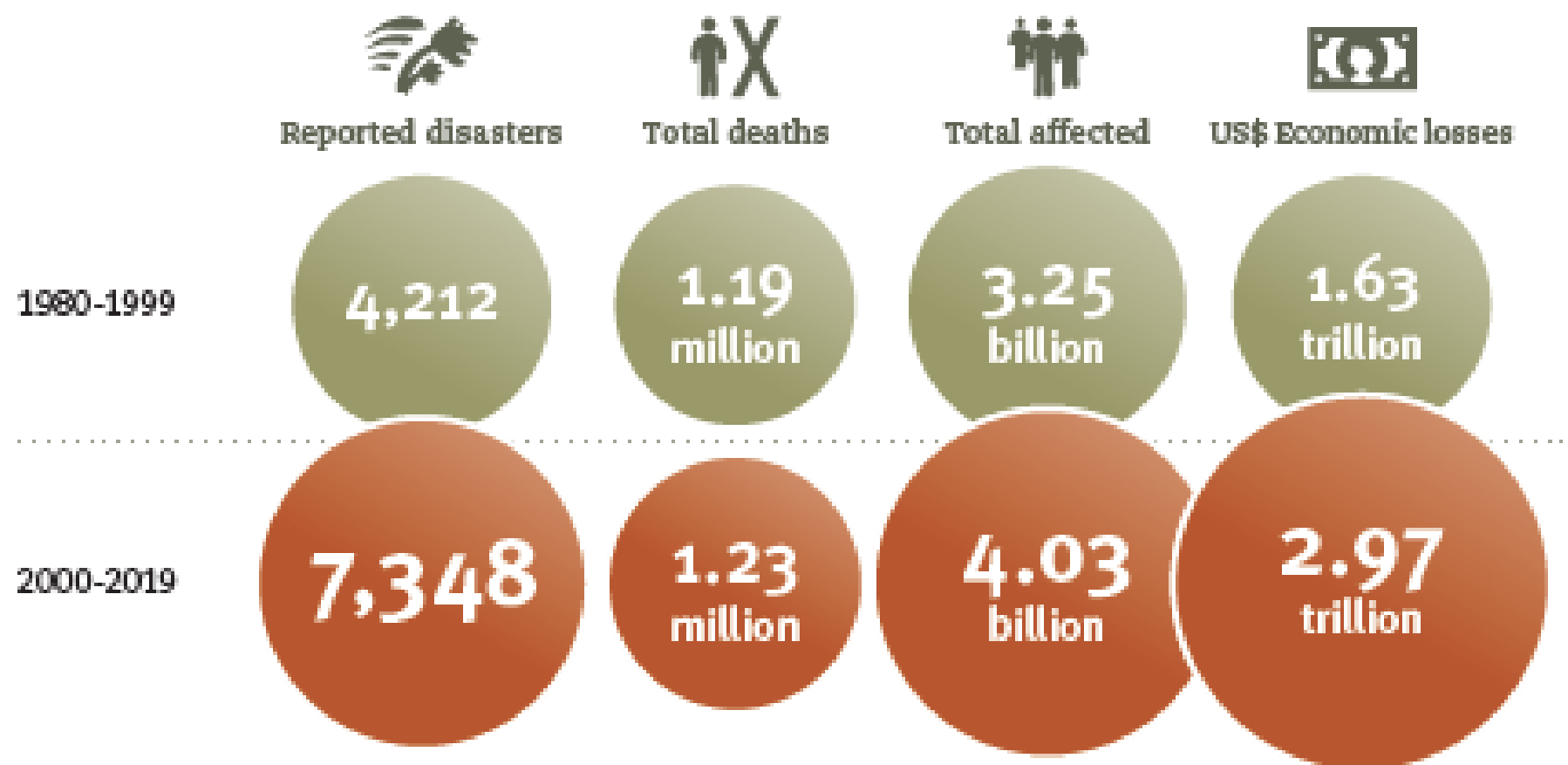


# Disaster Impact Trends over the last 45 years

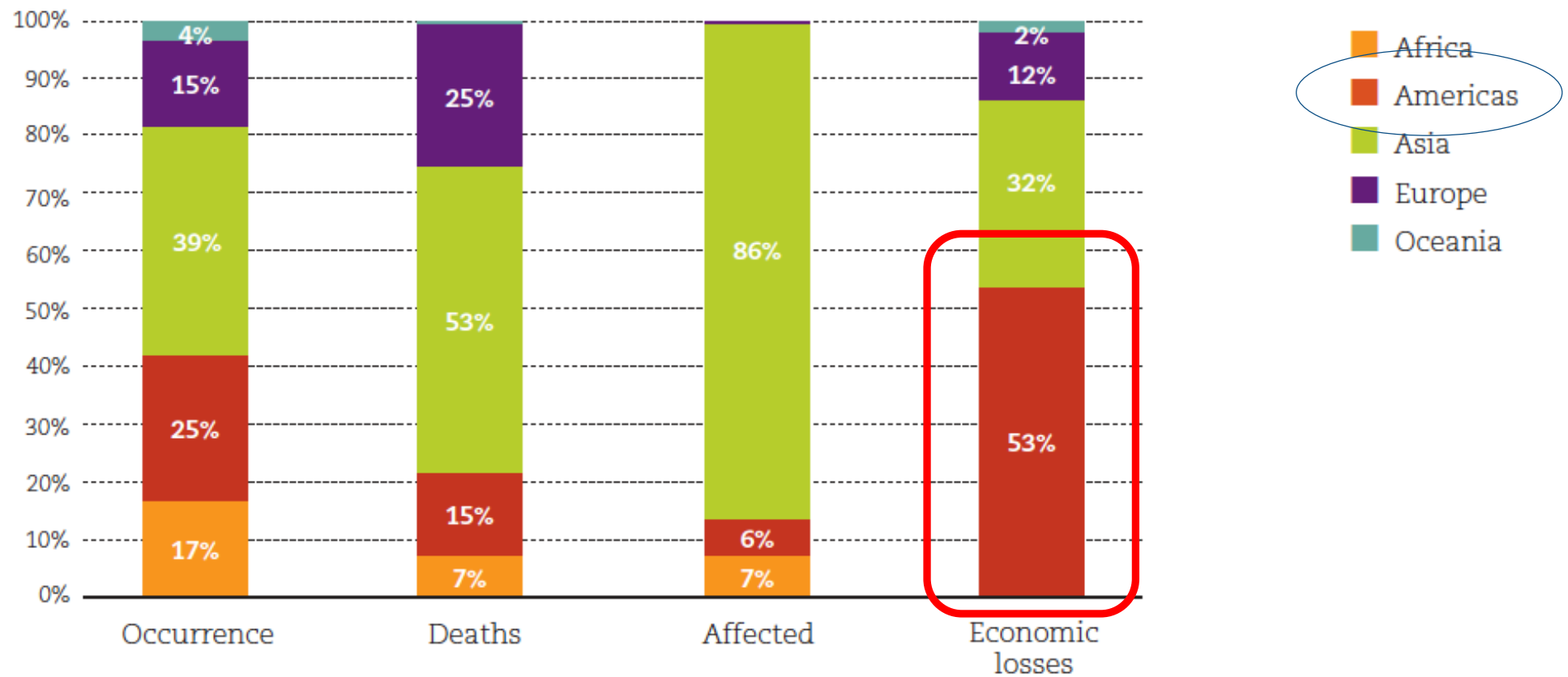
Figure 1

number of people affected by disasters, including injuries

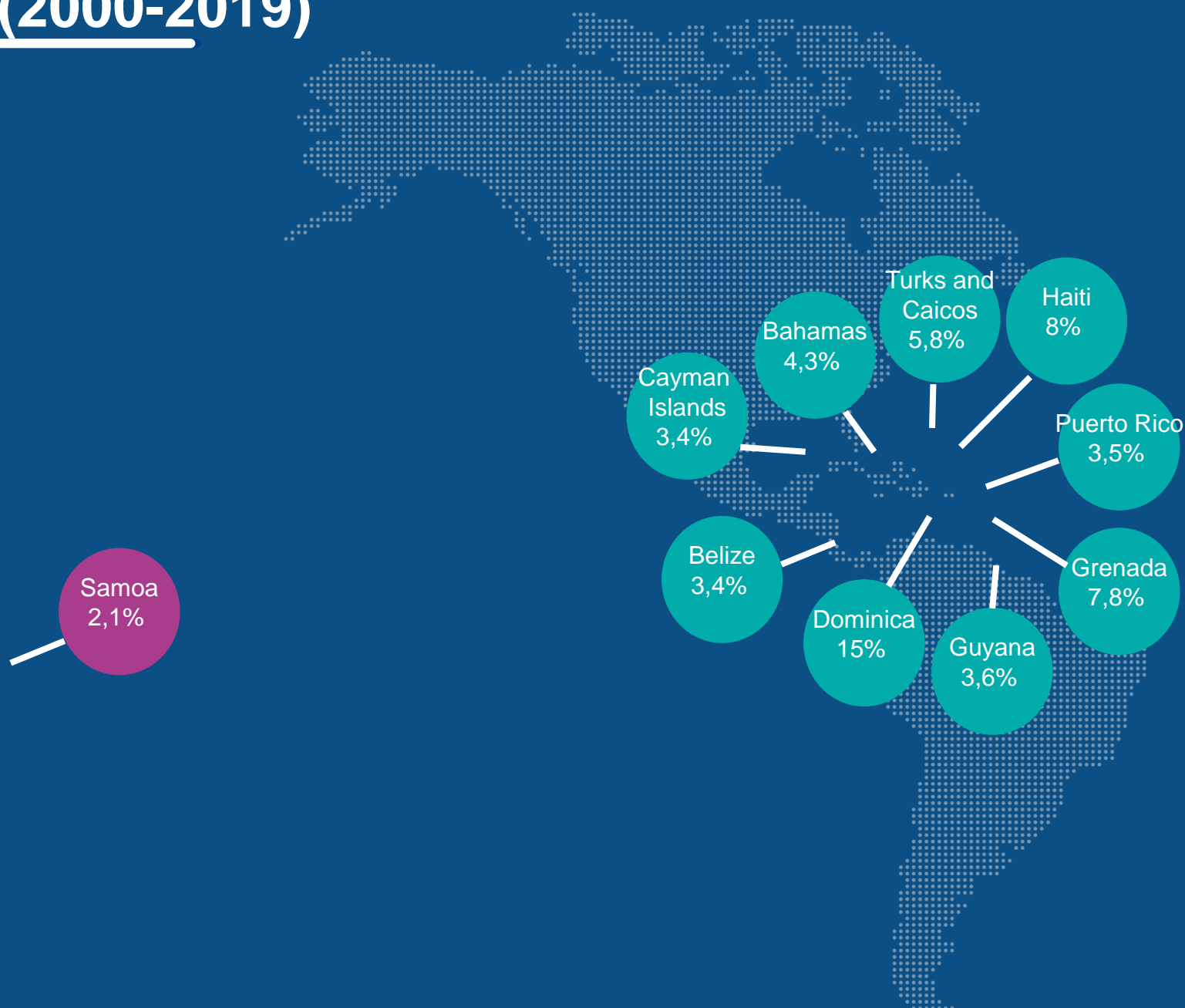
Disaster Impacts:  
1980-1999 vs. 2000-2019



# Relative human and economic costs per continent



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



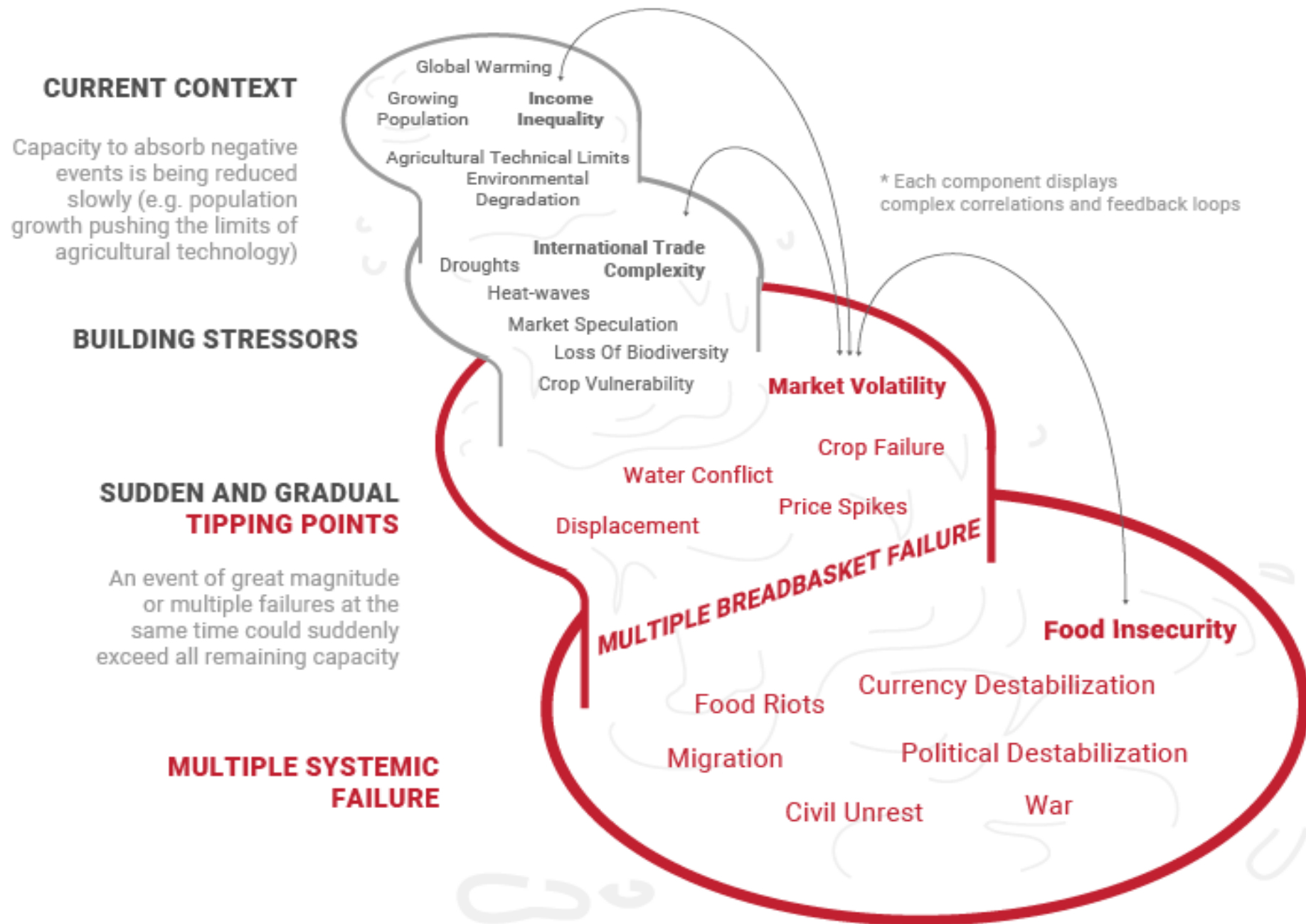
# Context: A region impacted by systemic risks

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- 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)

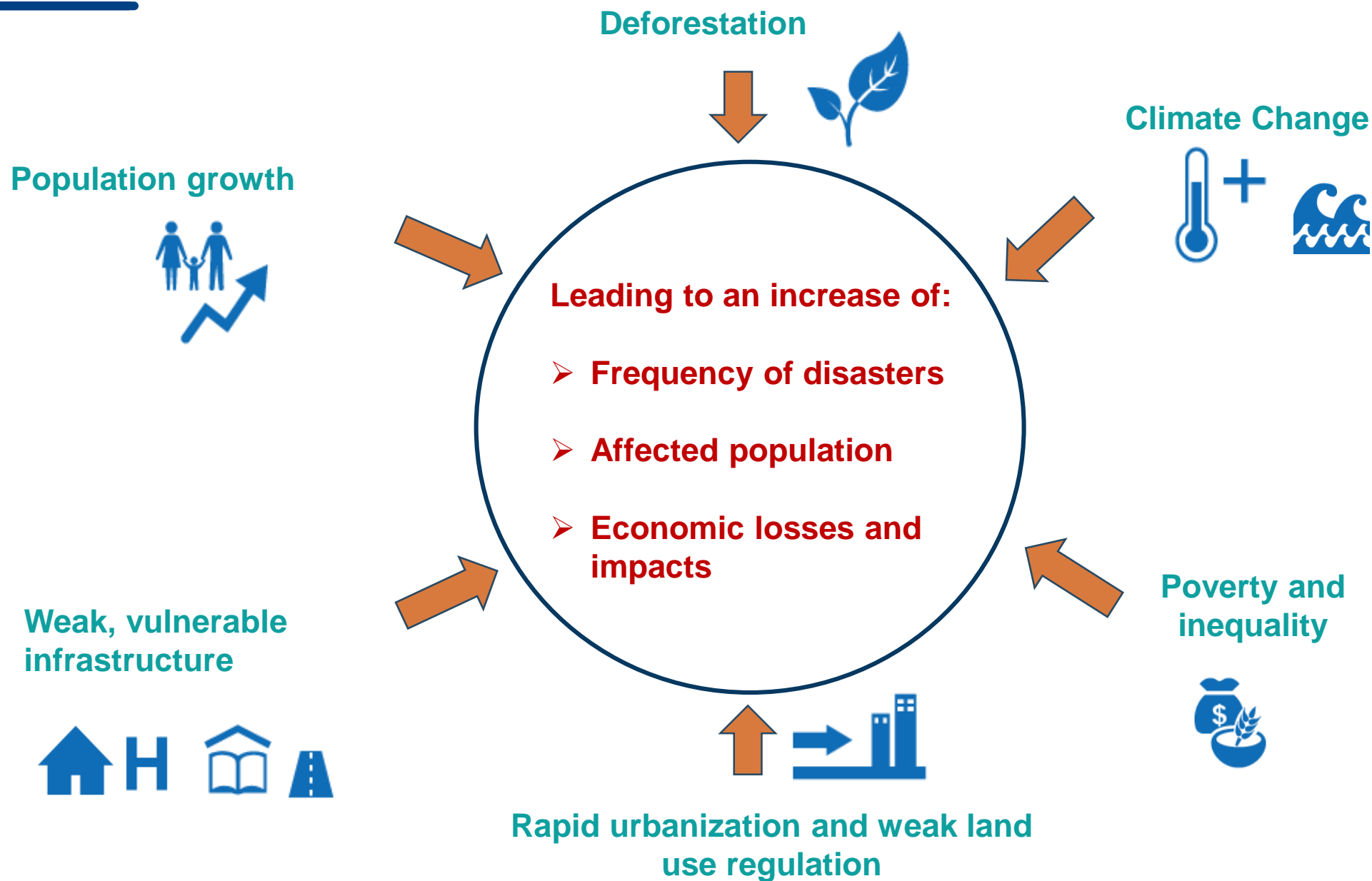


# The systemic nature of risks and its cascading effects





# 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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. Sudden & gradual TIPPING POINTS

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- 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

## 4. MULTIPLE SYSTEMIC FAILURES

## 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

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