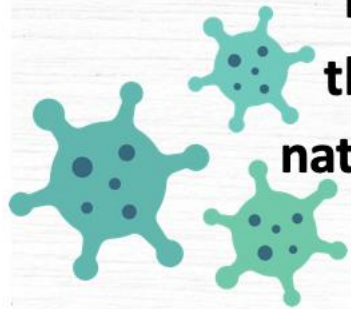




Realization of Systemic Risk on the Education Sector in the Caribbean region

Hon. Curtis King
Minister of Education of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.



The COVID-19 pandemic reveals the complex and interconnected nature of risks to disrupt the normal functioning of society.

The economies of the Caribbean countries will fall on average by 6.2% (ECLAC)

COVID-19 has exacerbated other vulnerabilities and inequalities, with a significant increase in gender-based violence.

In the LAC region, on average, primary and secondary students lost 158 days of the 190 days of the school calendar in 2020.



In the education sector alone, around one and a half billion students around the world have had their education interrupted.



3 out of every 5 of those students are from Latin America & the Caribbean



Drivers of Risk in the Education Sector

Limited budgets on school safety actions

Gender inequality

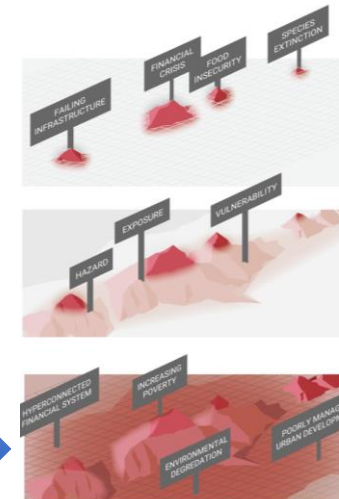
Deficiencies on school infrastructure, and access to water and sanitation

Limited access to connectivity (internet)

Multi-hazard vulnerability

Inadequate use of preventive health services

Slow economic growth, high indebtedness, and government income dependence on tourism



Context of Risk in the Education Sector

Hazards

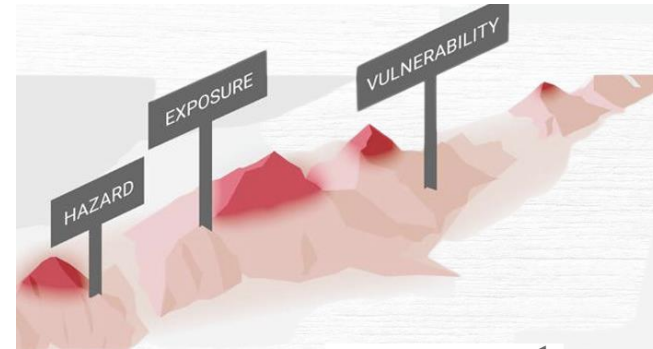
incl. geological, hydrometeorological, technological, biological, environmental and societal hazards

Exposure

Children, teachers, and education staff are exposed in different degrees.
Due to the particularities of the region most of the school infrastructures are located in hazard-prone areas.

Vulnerability

The education system is susceptible due to the physical conditions of their infrastructure and to the social, economic and environmental factors that affect the sector



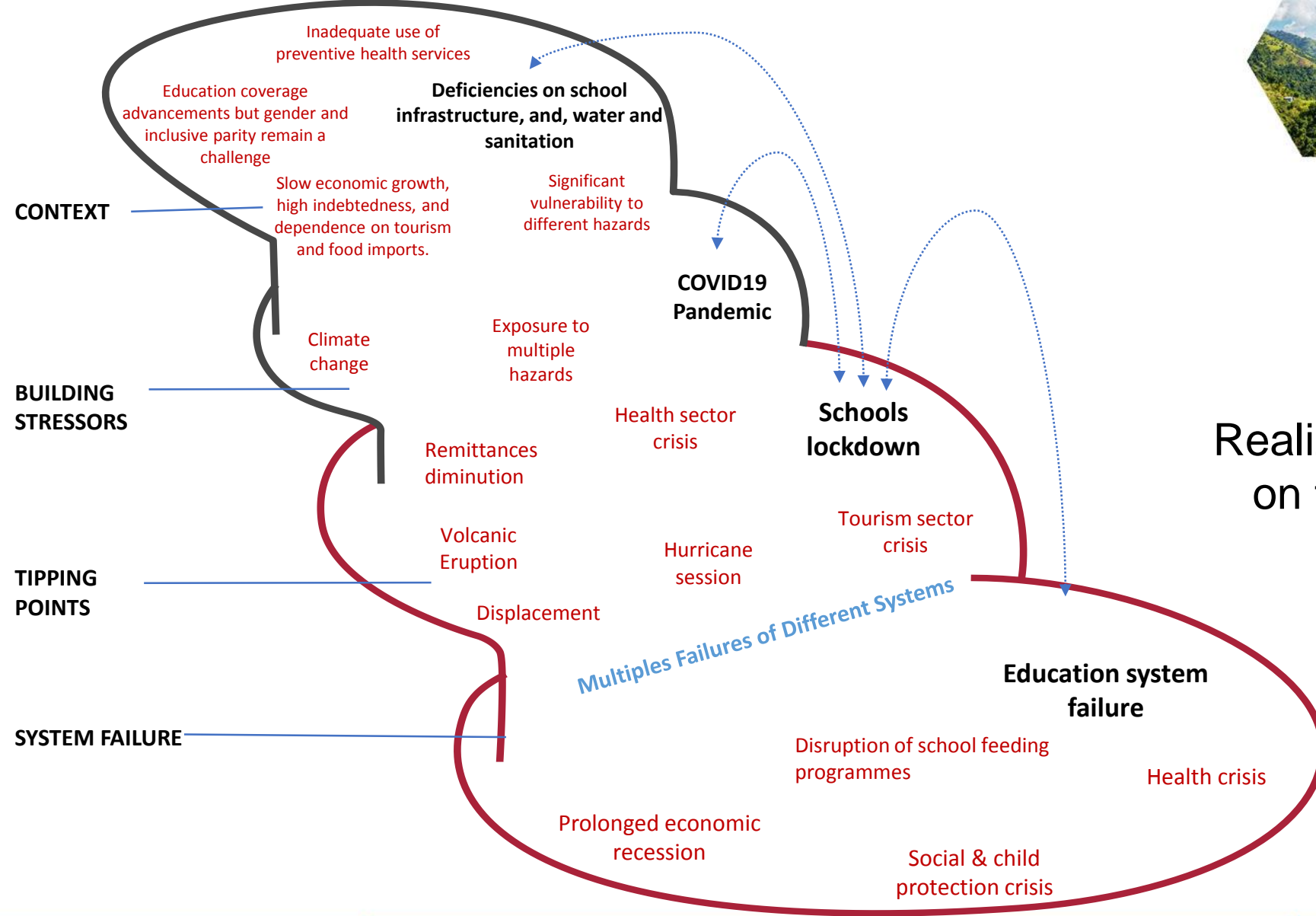
Realization of Risk in the Education Sector

Inability to ensure an inclusive, equitable quality education.
Incapacity to provide lifelong learning opportunities for all (SDG4)

Inadequate infrastructure of educational facilities (SFDRR, D3)

Prolonged disruption of the education services (SFDRR, D6)





Realization of Systemic Risk on the Education Sector in the Caribbean region



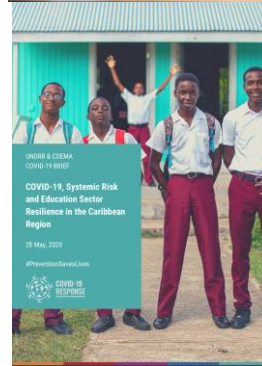
Caribbean Road Map on School Safety

19 Caribbean States have joined the CSSI

The Caribbean Road Map and Antigua and Barbuda Declaration on school safety guide the Caribbean Safe School Initiative (CSSI) for the upcoming years. In order to ensure the implementation of the Road Map it is critical that countries and partners include the activities identified in the Road Map in their respective work plans. The Group of Caribbean Ministers of Education will ensure the political buy-in and follow-up. Technical support will be guaranteed by the members of the CDM sub-committee on Education and other regional as well as national partners. During the Ministerial meetings and other regional and global fora, ministers as well as partners shall report on progress, good practices and challenges.

Enabling Environment

Priority area	Reg/Nat	Activity	Timeframe	Responsible	Technical / Financial support
Develop enabling policies and National plans/strategies	Regional	Mapping school safety national plans and policies	2 months	CDEMA/MINISTERS OF EDUCATION	Technical Support
	Regional	Provide technical guidance in developing national policies, plans and strategies			
	National	Update and/or development National School Safety plans and policies (ensure the inclusion of the budget)	6 months	Ministries of Education with the stakeholders	Technical and financial resources
	National	Review legal and policy legislation framework to ensure the Safety School is part of it.	12 to 18 months	Ministries of Education	Technical support from AG's office or Legal Draftsman
	National	Align the SS plans with the National DRM plans	4 months	MOE/ NATIONAL DRM SYSTEM	Technical support from agency responsible for DRM
	National	Monitoring and evaluation of National School Safety Plans	Ongoing with annual reviews	Ministries of Education	Technical Support
Human and Financial resources	Regional	Provide technical support in project development and fundraising initiative at regional level	3-18 months	CDEMA and GADRESS partner	Technical Support
	National	Create capacity within MoE dedicated to the School Safety	During budget preparation period - specific to each country	Permanent Secretary/ Chief of Education Officer/	Technical /financial support from Human Resource Management team
	National	Develop a proposal for School Safety funding	4 months(to end the proposal)	MoE Planning Unit	Technical support



3rd CSSI Ministerial Forum
Sint Maarten, 2022



The way forward



- Better understand the multidimensional nature of risk, addressing risk from a systemic perspective.
- Need for interdisciplinary research approaches, involving non-traditional partners (such as other Ministries or NEMOs) and enabling innovative and collective action.
- Ensure the articulation of education policies and plans with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the Paris Agreement
- Strengthening regional cooperation for an effective implementation of the school safety agenda in the framework of the **Caribbean Safe School Initiative**.