



Building Back Better: Reckoning with Size in Pursuit of Resilience

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Objective: Resilient Development

- Resilience is defined as *“the capacity of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to adapt, by resisting or changing in order to reach and maintain an acceptable level of function and structure.”* (Hyogo Framework)
- Achieving resilience therefore implies enhancing recovery capacity through the identification and reduction of risk by:
 - Territorial planning
 - Strengthened infrastructure
 - Financial protection
 - Technological application



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Size Matters

In assessing disaster risk, small size:

- **heightens** risk of exposure
- **amplifies** the impact of hazards
- **undermines** national capacity to recover.

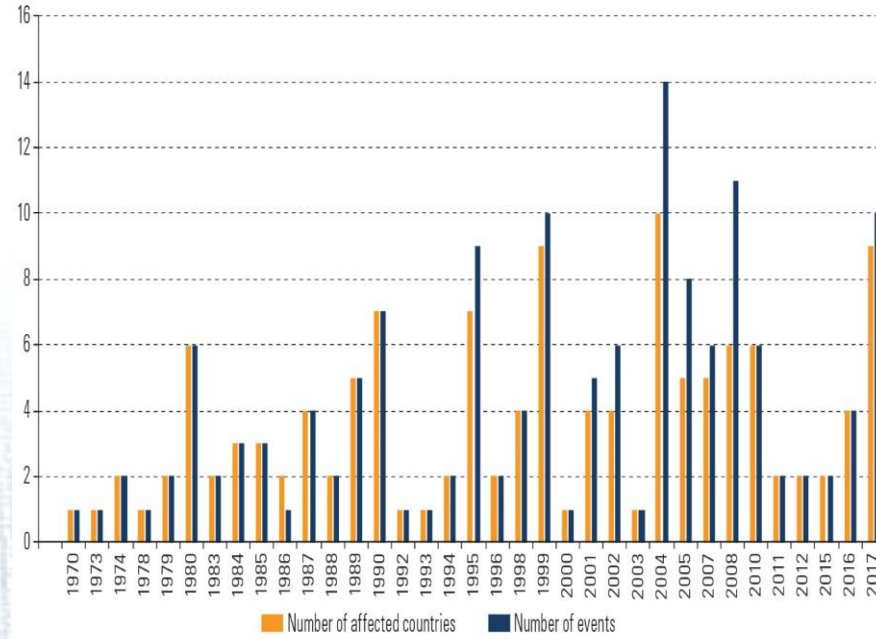


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The Caribbean is the second most hazard-prone region in the world

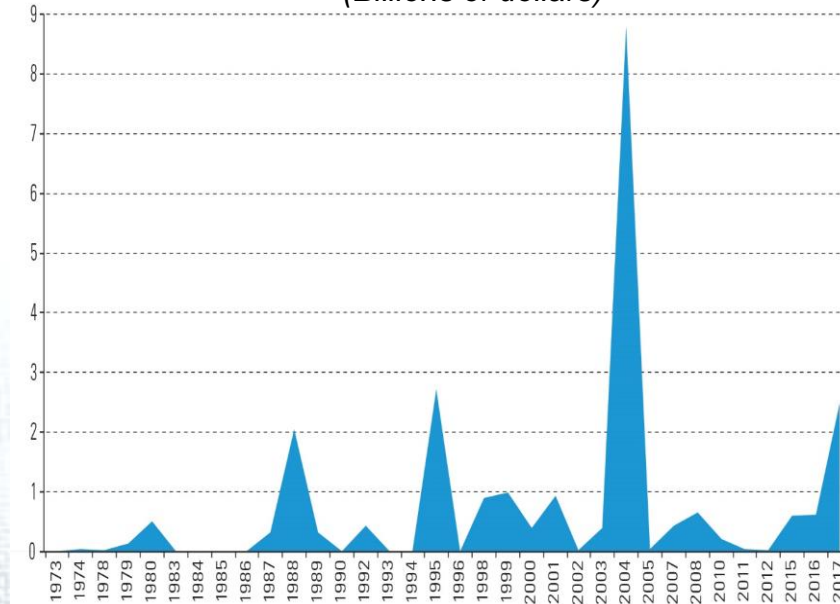
Disaster-related costs are expected to escalate in the face of population growth, rapid urbanization, increased exposure of assets to climate change related phenomena

The Caribbean (29 countries and territories): number of disasters caused by storms and number of affected countries, 1970-2017



Source: Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT) [online] www.emdat.be.

The Caribbean (29 countries and territories): a damage caused by storms, 1973-2017 (Billions of dollars)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT) [online] www.emdat.be, and assessments by ECLAC and the World Bank Islands.

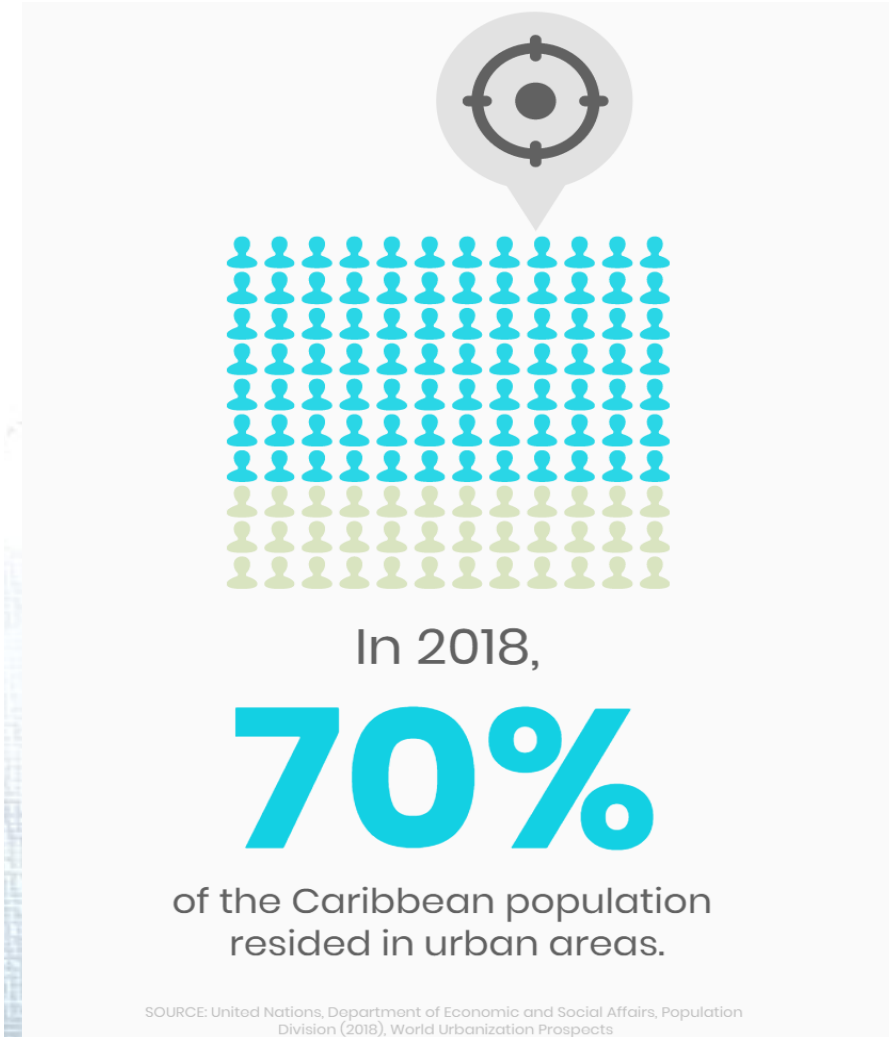
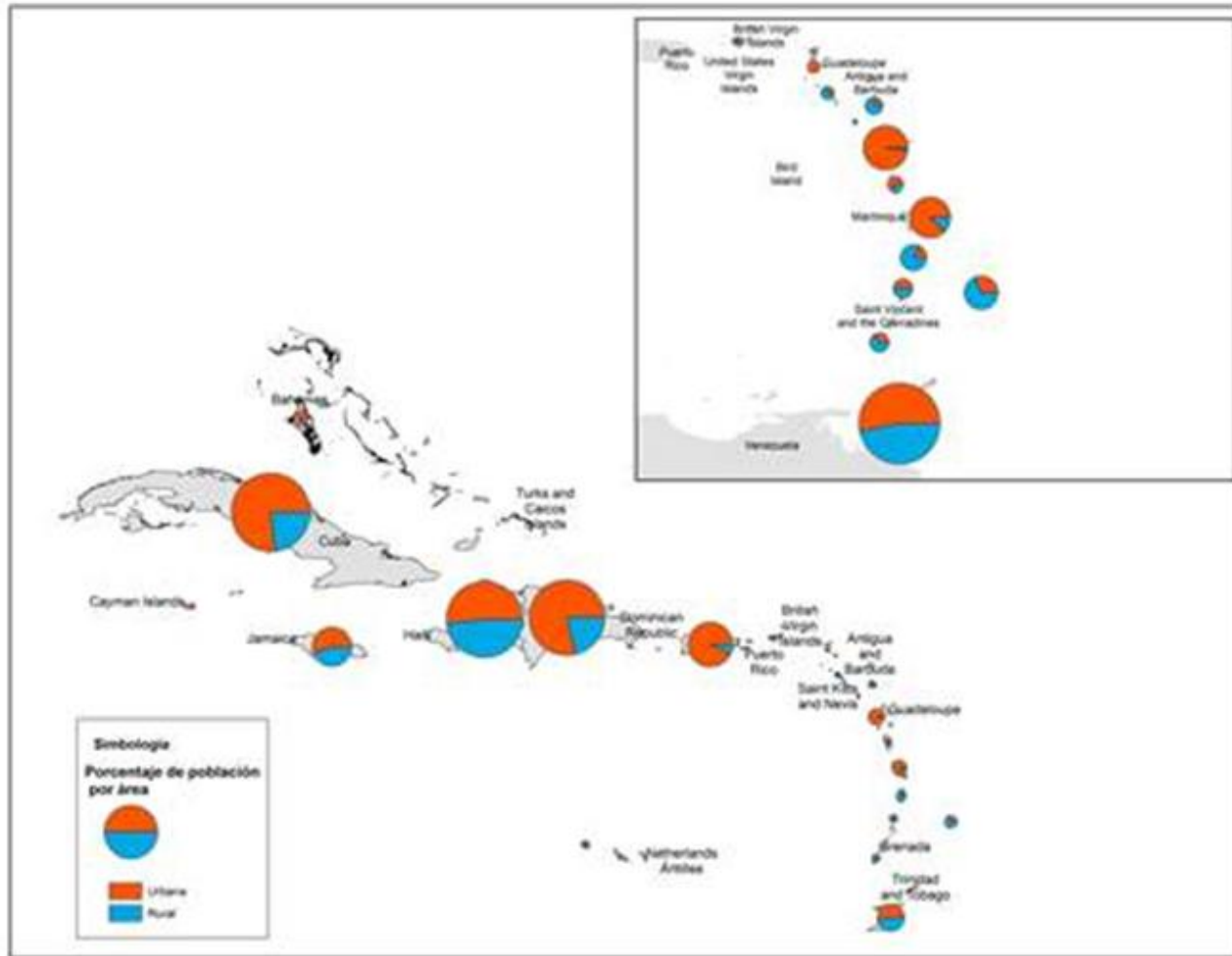
Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bahamas, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, former Netherlands Antilles, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Martin, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sint Maarten, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands.



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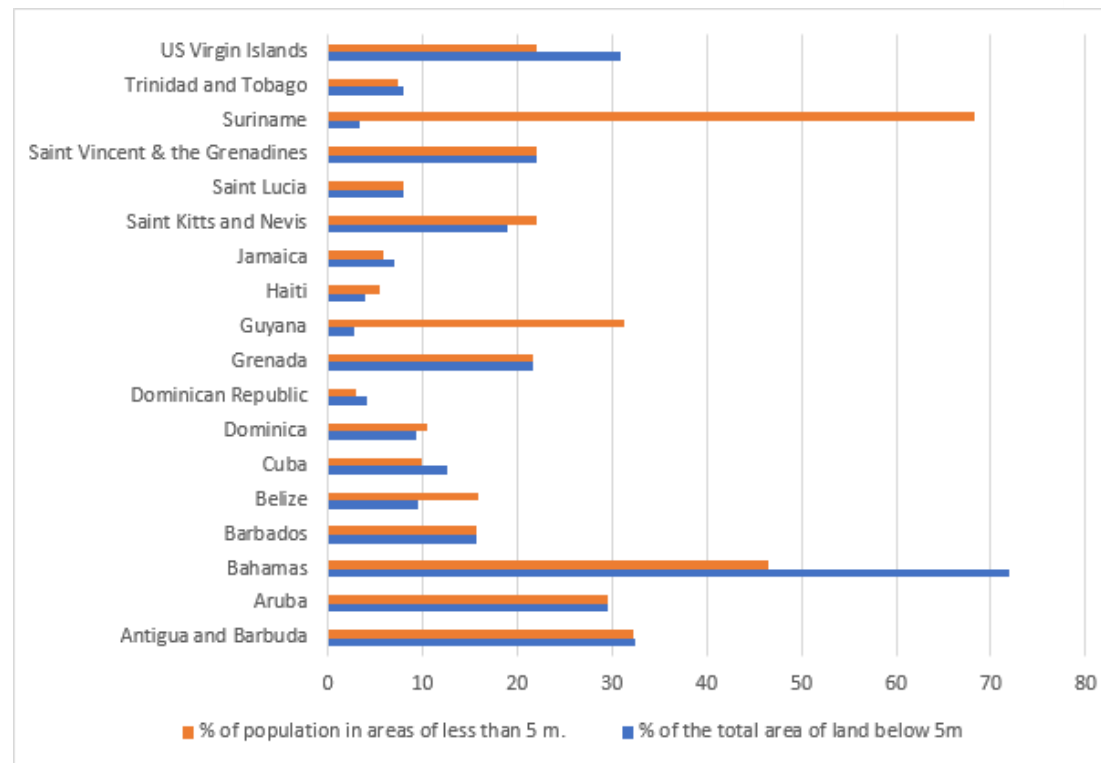
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Caribbean urban population



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Concentration of population and activities in low elevation coastal zones



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Extreme risk and adaptive capacity in the case of Belize



Reckoning with Size in Pursuit of Resilience, United Nations Headquarters, 10 July 2019.



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British Virgin Islands



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Turks and Caicos Islands



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British Virgin Islands



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The Bahamas



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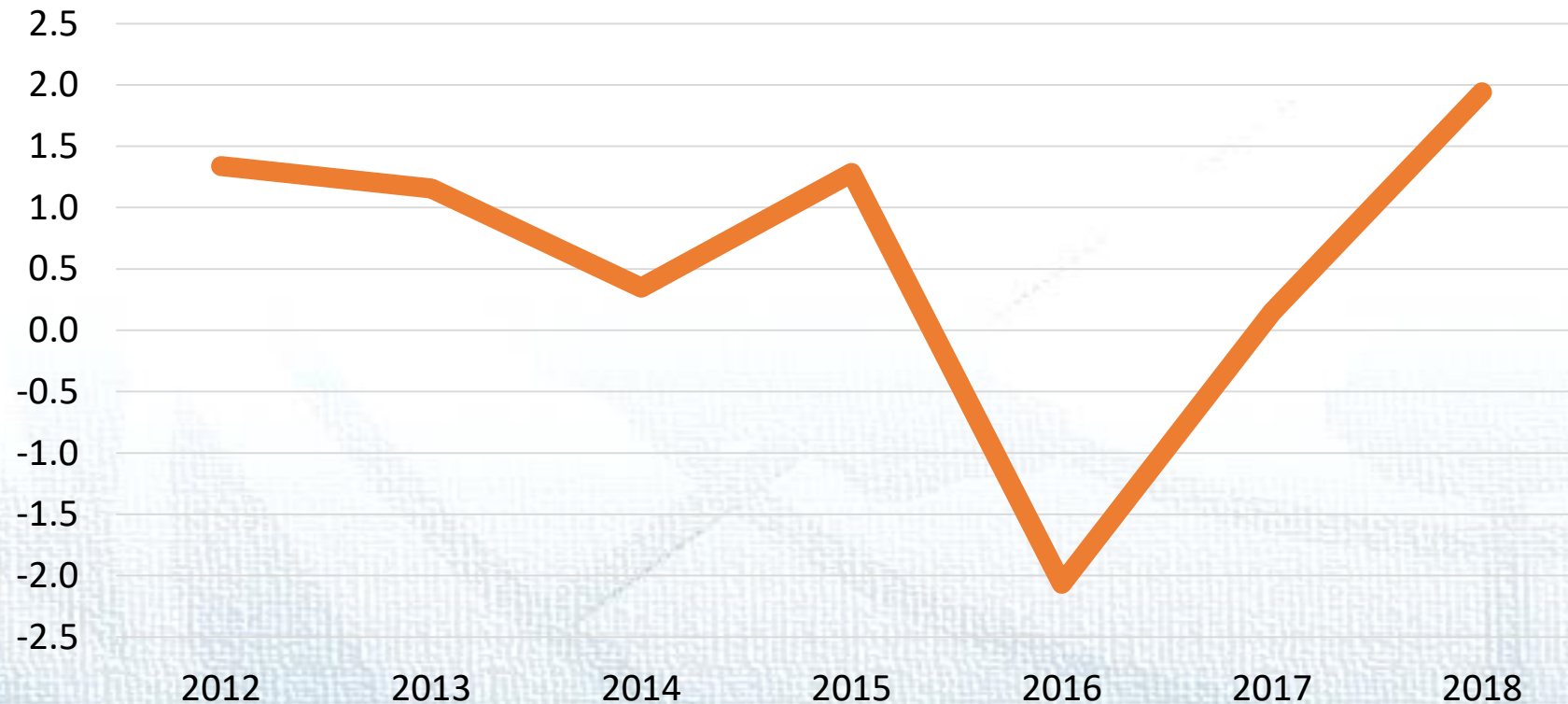


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Weak economic growth

The Caribbean (15 countries): Average GDP growth rate (*percentage*)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.

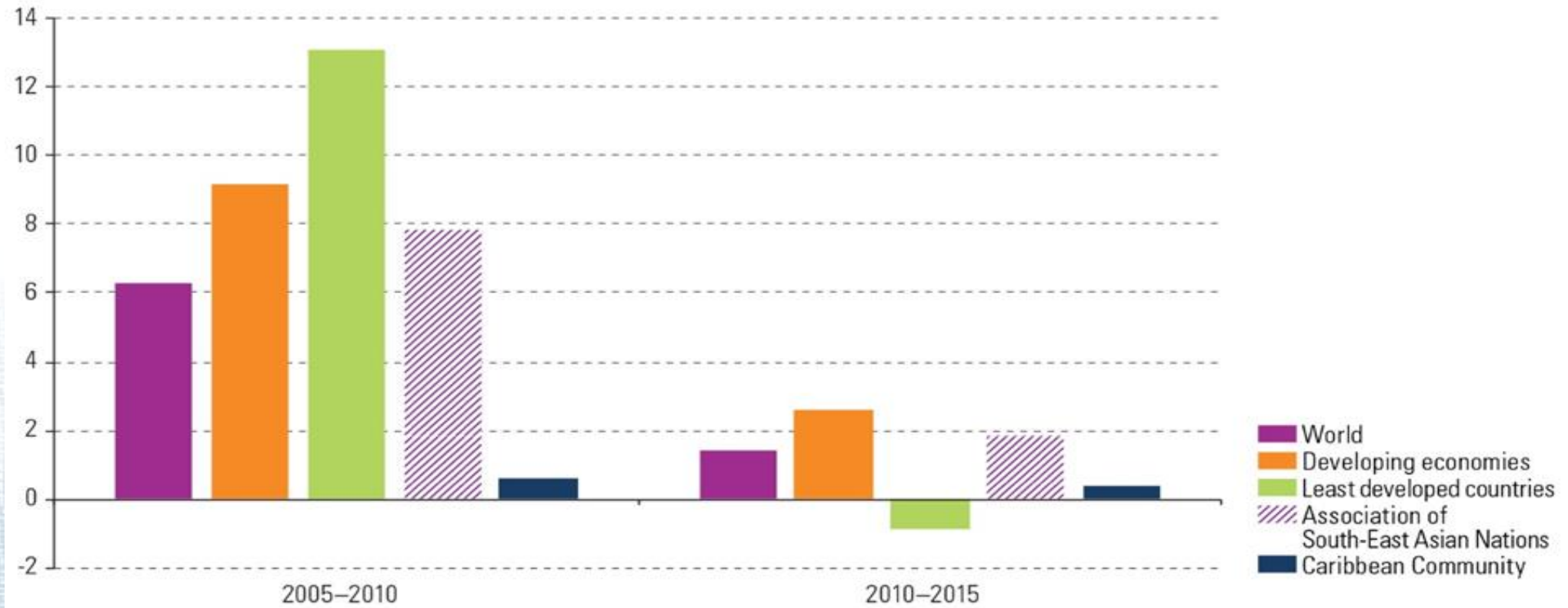
aAnguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.



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Declining exports

The World and selected groupings: merchandise exports, 2005-2015
(Average annual growth rates)



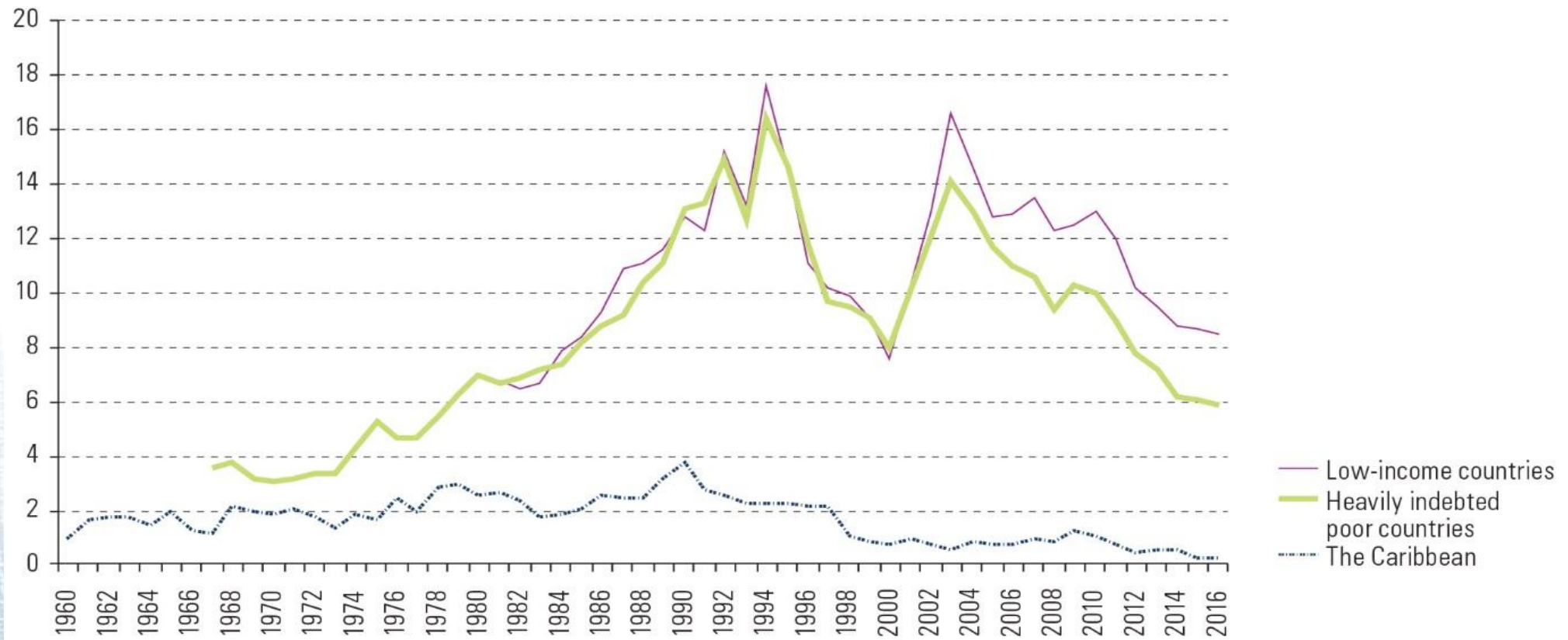
Source: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNCTADstat [online database] unctadstat.unctad.org.



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Declining overseas development assistance

The Caribbean (13 countries): net official development assistance received, 1960–2016
(Percentages of gross national income)



Source: World Bank database.

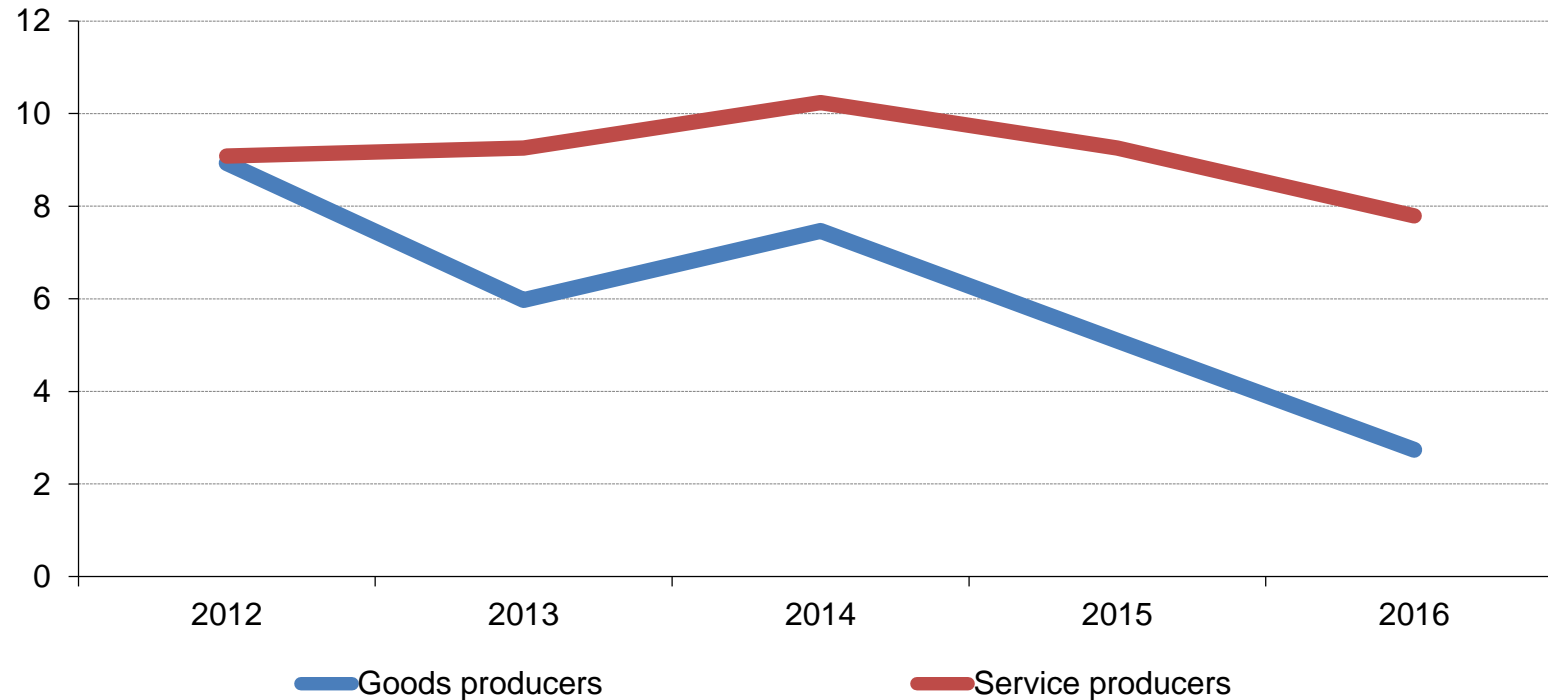
a Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago



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Falling foreign direct investments

The Caribbean (15 countries):^a foreign direct investment inflows
(Percentages of GDP)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures

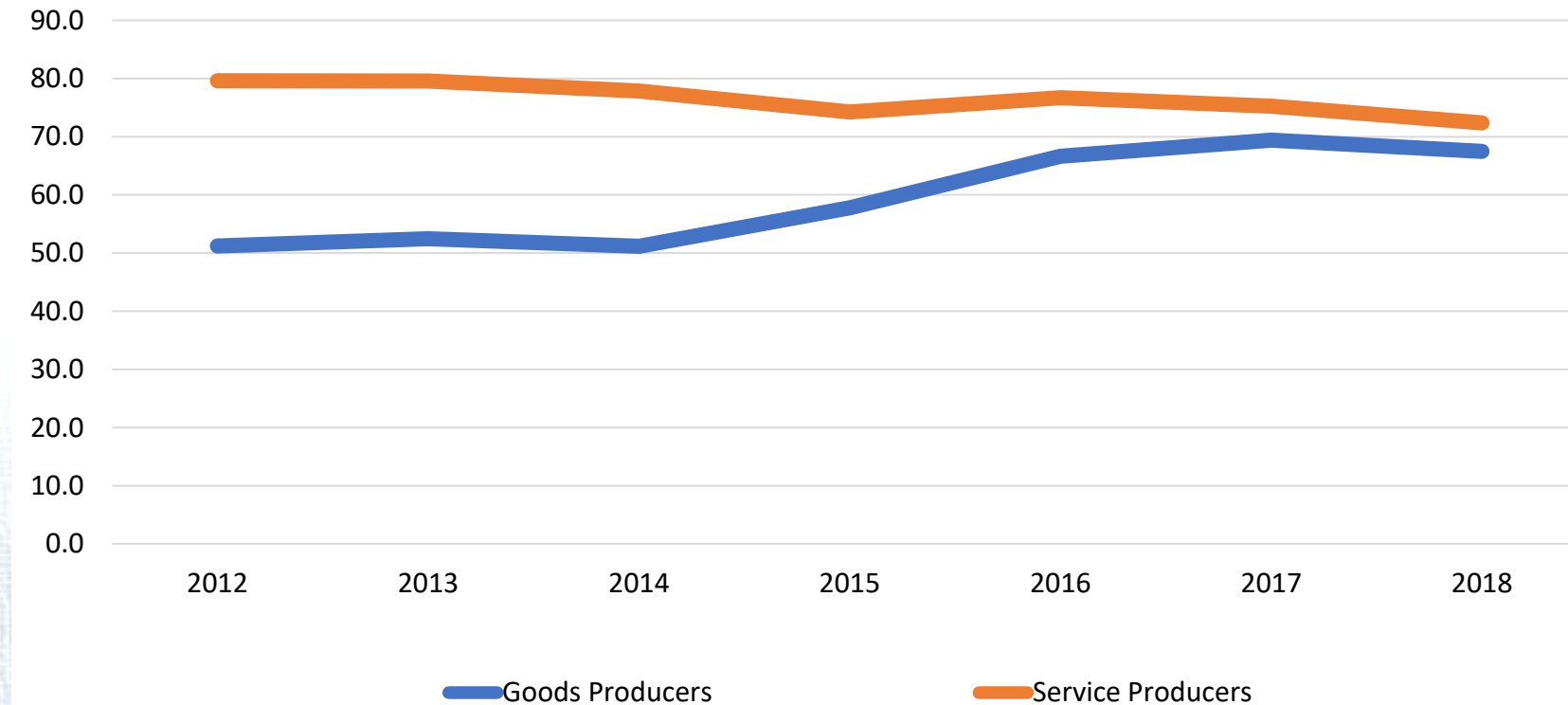
^a Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.



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High debt burden

The Caribbean (15 countries): *average* total public debt for goods and service producers
(Per cent of GDP)



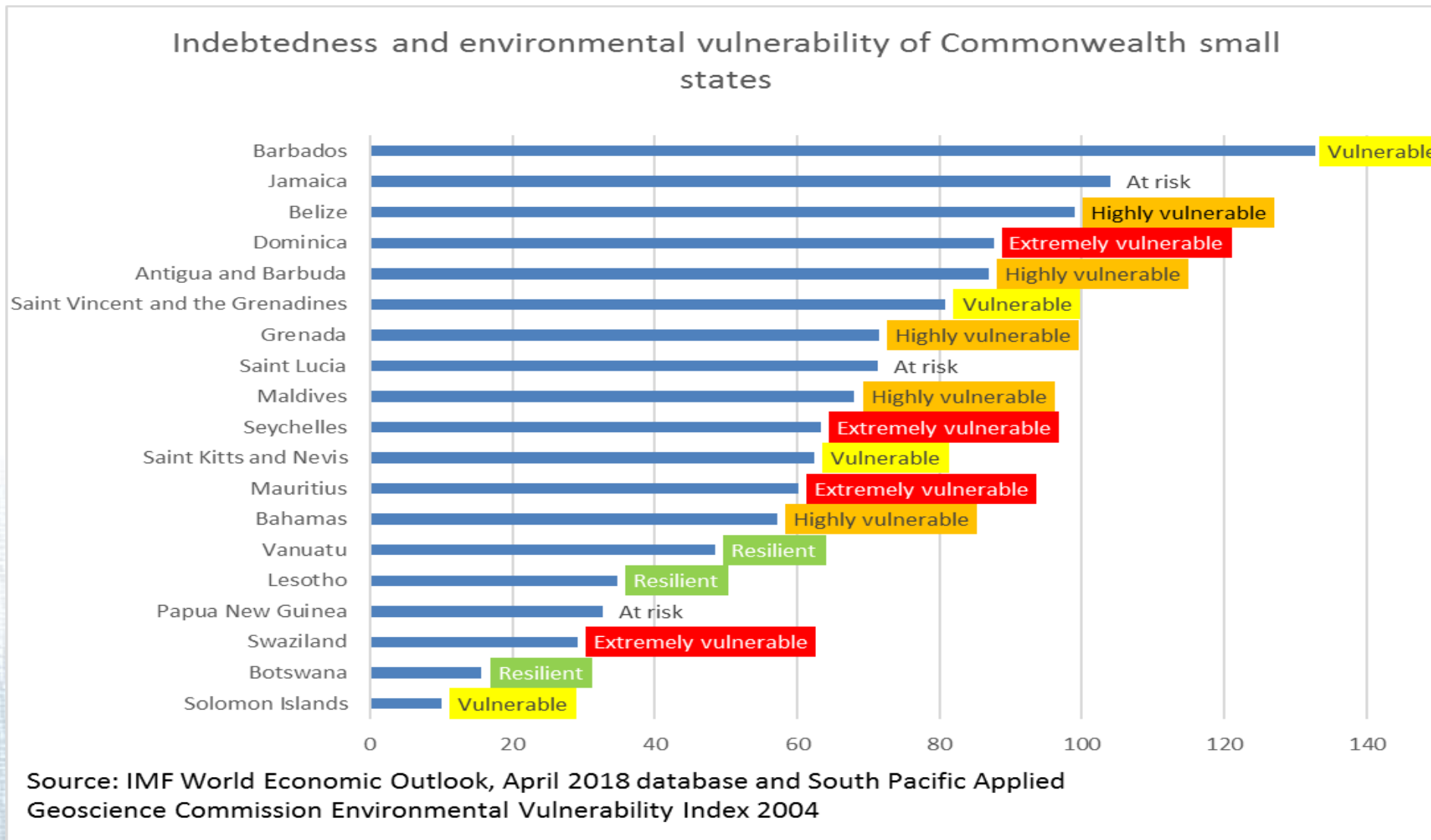
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.

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Indebtedness and Vulnerability



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External challenges affecting the Caribbean

Reduction in
global growth
expectations

Weakening of
multilateralism

Graduation
of Middle
Income SIDS

Declining
FDI

Blacklisting:
Caribbean
countries
black and
grey listed
by EU for
failure to
meet OECD
tax
compliance
standards

De-risking



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Fiscally constrained to meet social Challenges



**Addressing
Poverty and
inequality**



**Advancing
women's
empowerment
and their
autonomy**



**Investing for
quality in
human capital**

- Resources
- Delinquency



**High levels of
unemployment
particularly for
youth and
migration of
skilled persons**



**Low social
protection and
ageing of the
population**

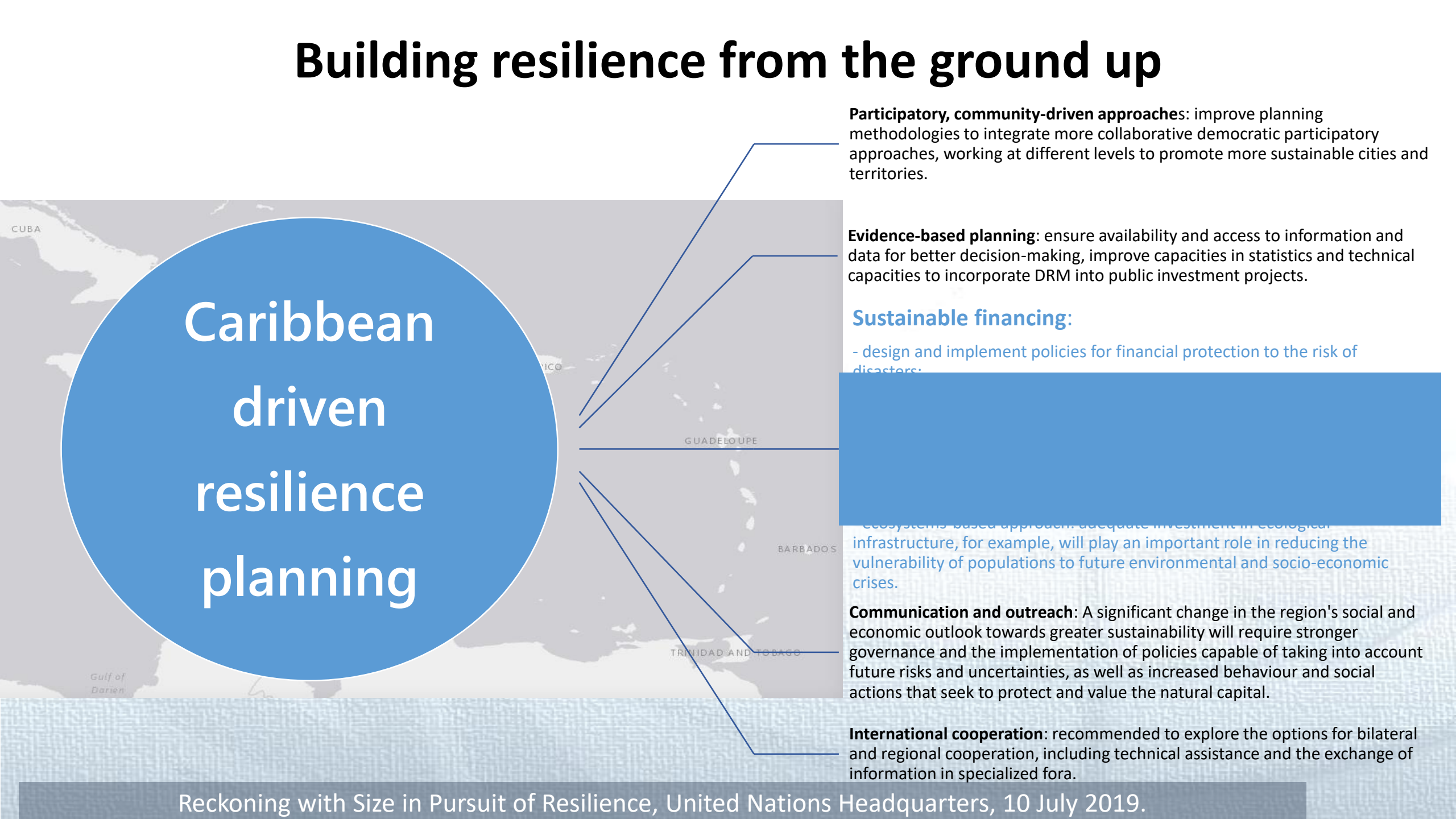


**Addressing
NCDs and
access to
quality
education for
persons with
disabilities**



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Building resilience from the ground up



Caribbean driven resilience planning

Participatory, community-driven approaches: improve planning methodologies to integrate more collaborative democratic participatory approaches, working at different levels to promote more sustainable cities and territories.

Evidence-based planning: ensure availability and access to information and data for better decision-making, improve capacities in statistics and technical capacities to incorporate DRM into public investment projects.

Sustainable financing:

- design and implement policies for financial protection to the risk of disasters:

ecosystems based approach. adequate investment in ecological infrastructure, for example, will play an important role in reducing the vulnerability of populations to future environmental and socio-economic crises.

Communication and outreach: A significant change in the region's social and economic outlook towards greater sustainability will require stronger governance and the implementation of policies capable of taking into account future risks and uncertainties, as well as increased behaviour and social actions that seek to protect and value the natural capital.

International cooperation: recommended to explore the options for bilateral and regional cooperation, including technical assistance and the exchange of information in specialized fora.

Incorporating the concept of resilience into development planning

Critical areas
for resilient
sustainable
development

governance framework for disaster risk
management

quality information for disaster risk
management decision-making

integration of the DRM strategies into the
preparation and evaluation cycle of the project

territorial approach

sectoral approach

macroeconomic policies

integrating disaster risk management into
development policies and other instruments

Planning

- the integration of resilience strategies in territorial planning and in land-use planning

Implementation

- the incorporation of DRR into the national public investment systems

Compliance

- upgrading and guaranteeing compliance with building codes

The way forward

**Valuation of
Natural
resources;
Increased
Environment
Data and
Statistics to
support
Evidence Based
Decision making**

**Improved access
to finance;
Pursue resilient
investment;
Expand insurance
schemes**

**New
technologies to
identify and
communicate on
coming hazards;
sensitize
population with
early warning
systems**

**Implement
DRM Strategy;
Include
disaster prep
in national
planning**

**Strengthen
partnership
with the
private
sector,
global
partners**

**Enhance
resilience
through
mitigation
and
adaptation;
physical
planning;
building code
inspection**



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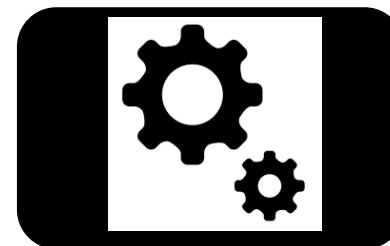
Partnerships for SIDS Sustainable Development



New partnership for
International
Cooperation



Address debt reduction
through the ECLAC debt
for climate adaptation
swap initiative



Public-Private
Partnerships



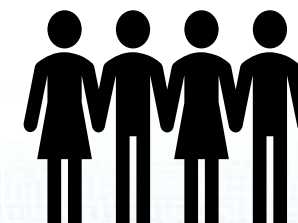
South-South, SIDS-
SIDS and Triangular
Cooperation



Strengthen regional
integration



Promote
international
advocacy and
solidarity on SIDS
issues



Collaboration
between State-
Private sector-
Civil society



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Small is beautiful!

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