

# Mobilizing international solidarity, accelerating action and embarking on new pathways to realize the 2030 Agenda and the SAMOA Pathway: Small Island Developing States

Alicia Bárcena

*Executive Secretary*

*Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean*



# Five transmission channels of COVID-19 crisis will affect the regional economy

---

**A drop in trade with  
key trading partners**

**A fall in  
commodity  
prices**

**Disruption  
of global  
value chains**

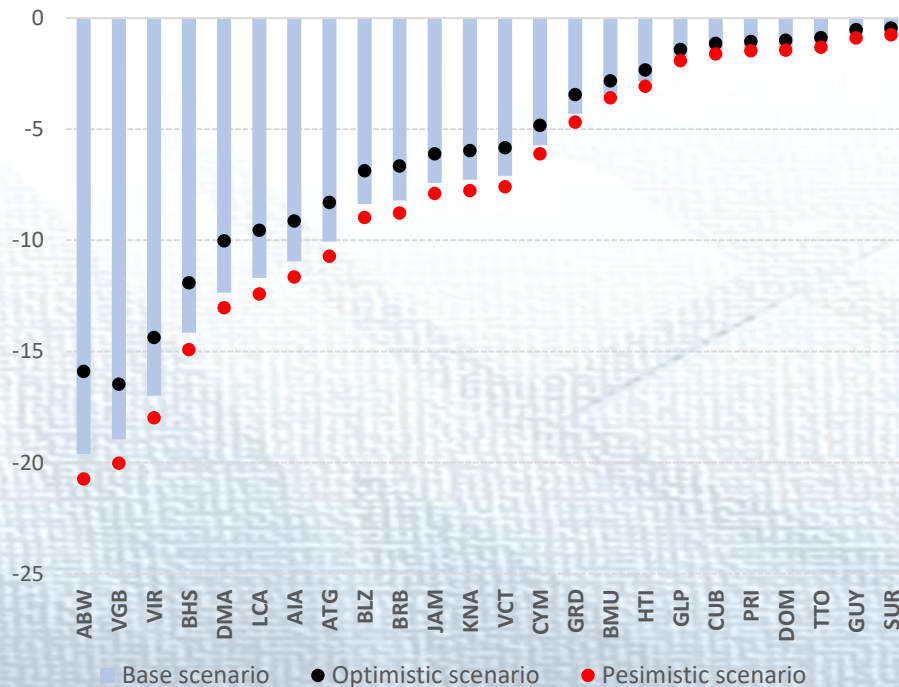
**Less demand for  
tourism services**

**Decline in  
remittances**

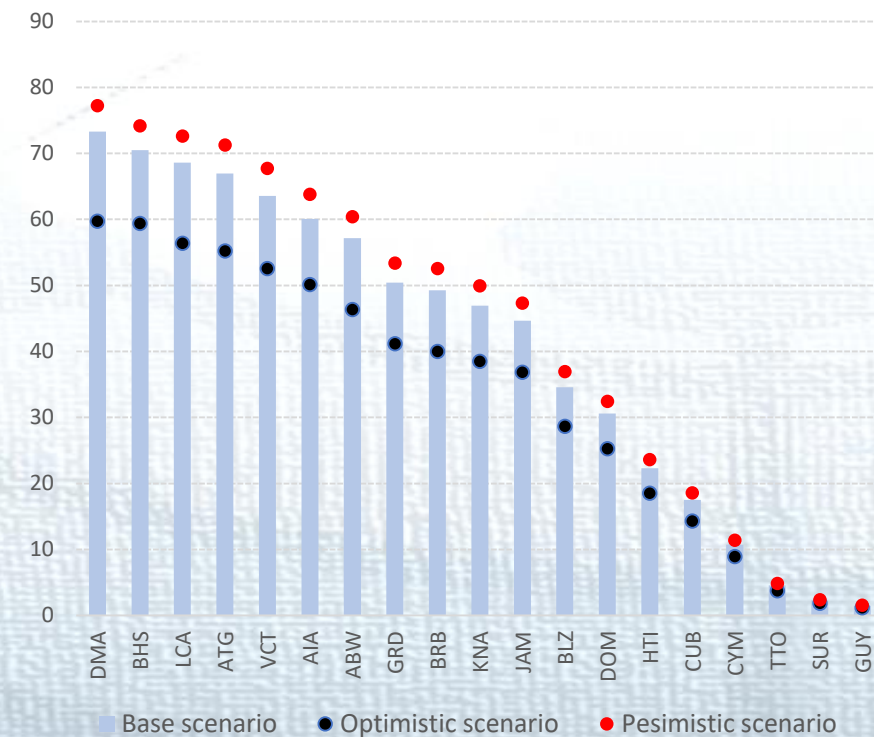
# COVID-19 Impact on Tourism

Visitor arrivals will fall by between **57% and 75%** in 2020, leading to losses of tourism expenditure between **US\$22B and US\$28B**

Direct tourism impact on GDP growth, 2020  
(Percentage)



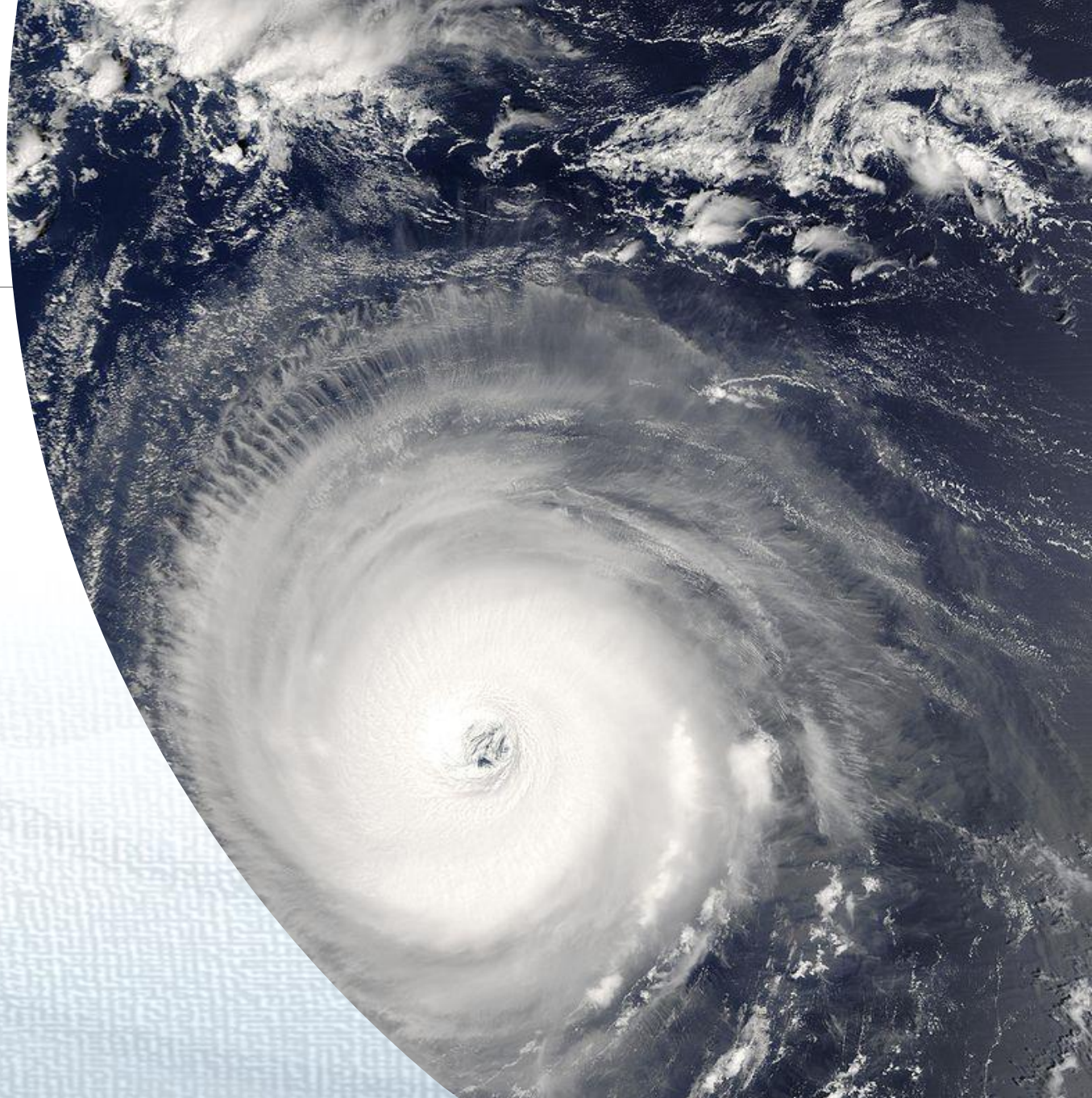
Visitor expenditure losses  
(Per cent of exports of goods and services<sup>1</sup>)





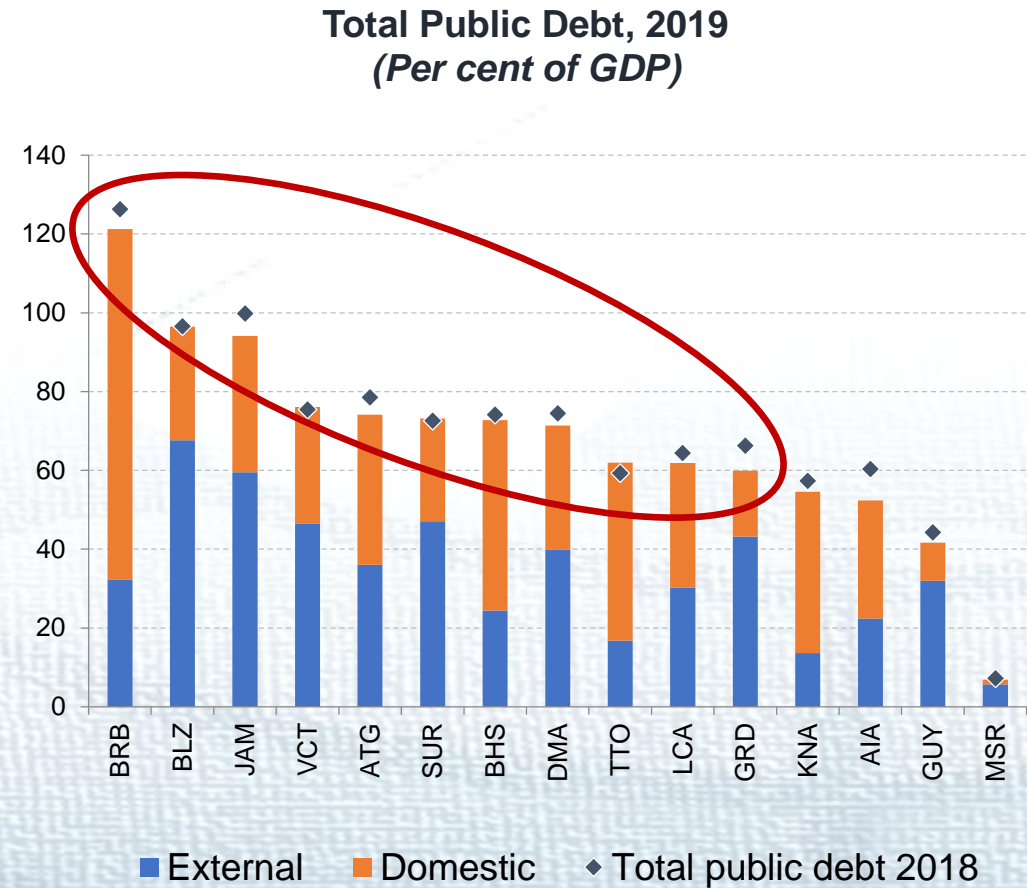
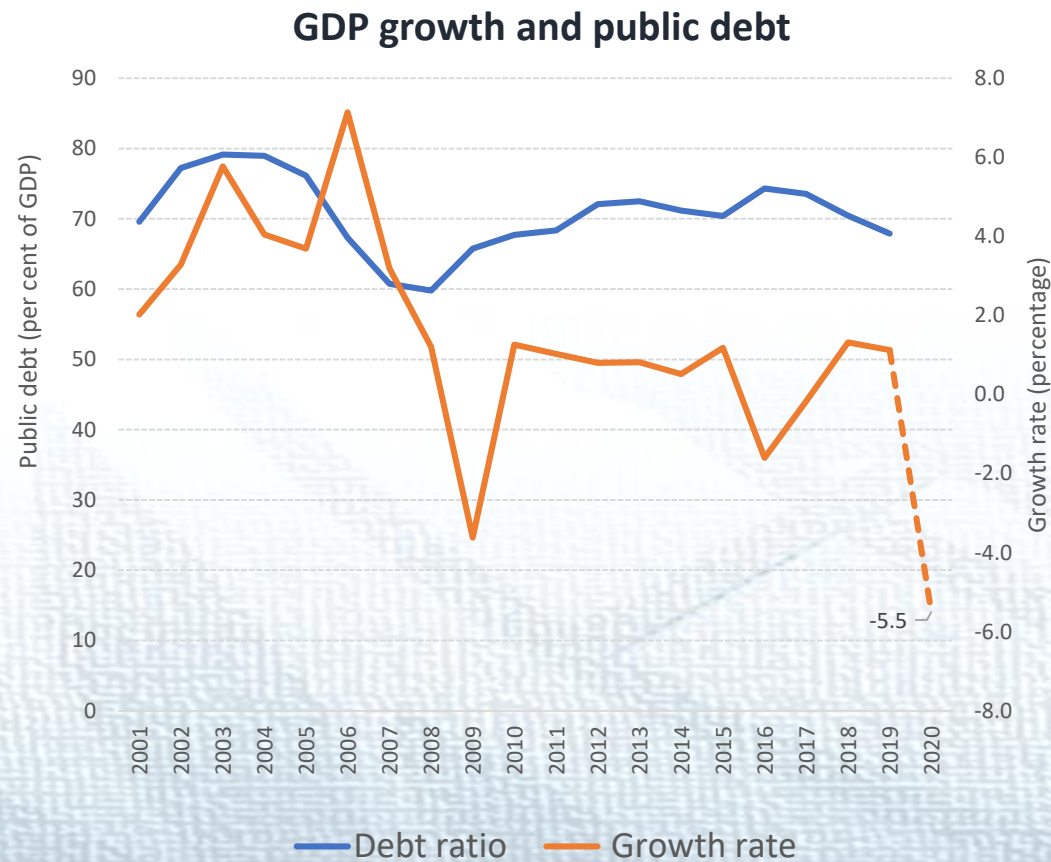
# Climate Change Vulnerability

- During 1990 - 2019, there were over 400 disasters in the Caribbean, 90.4% from hydro-climatic phenomena
- In 2019 Hurricane Dorian caused US\$3.4b in the Bahamas; 1% of GDP.
- 2020 is forecast to be highly active with an estimated 16 named storms anticipated.

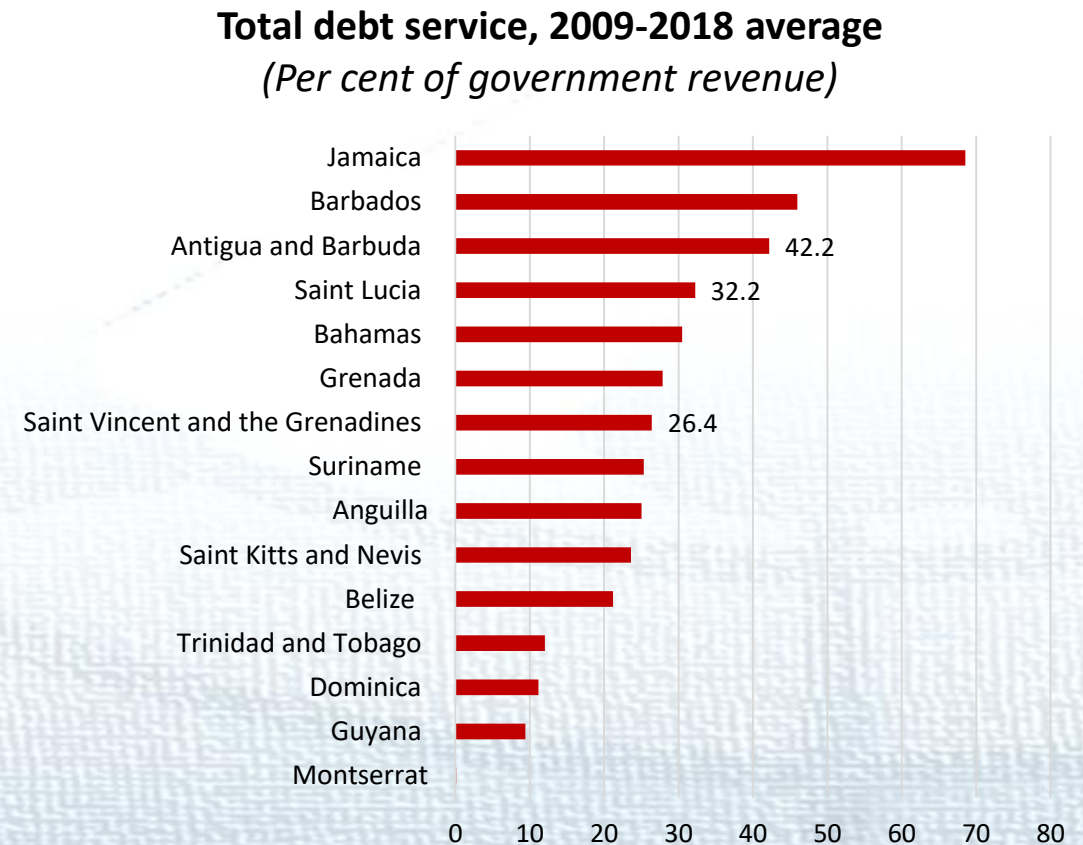
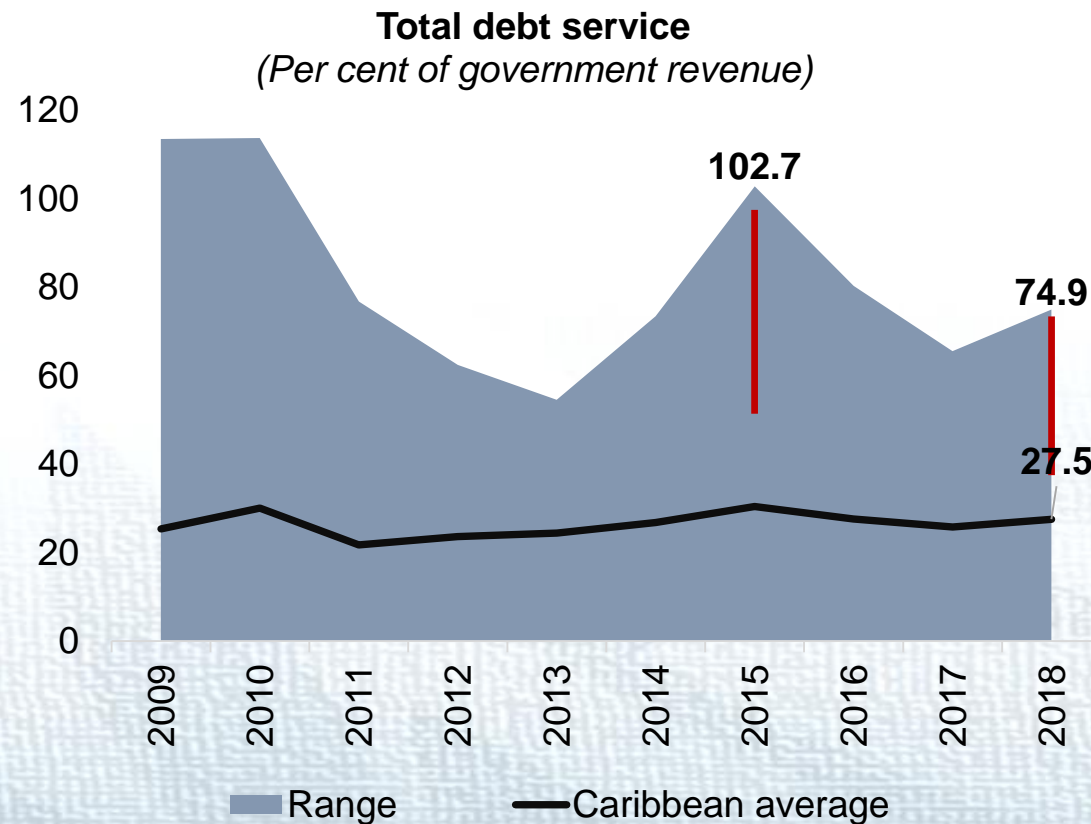




# High public debt and low growth



# High debt service limits fiscal space for COVID response



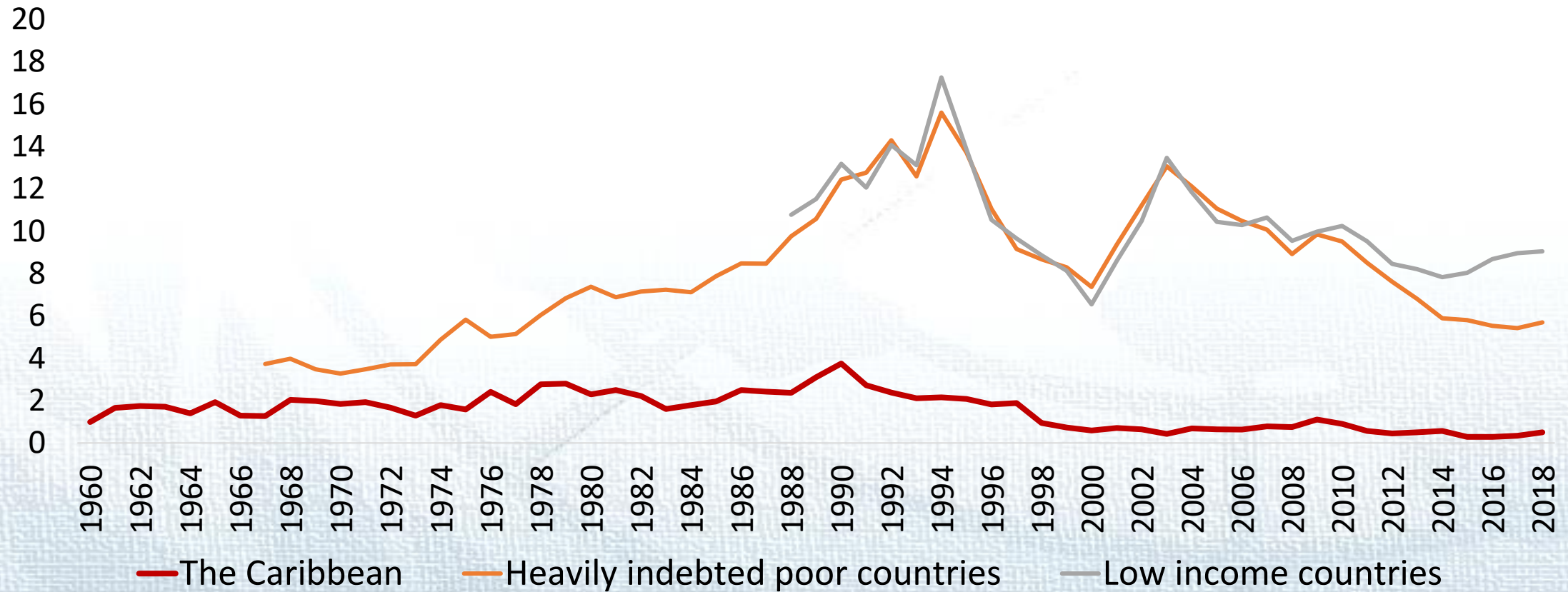
Notes: 1. This chart illustrates the wide range of debt burdens that Caribbean SIDS face.

2. The high end of the shaded area is maximum debt service ratio, and the low end is the minimum, which remains at or just above zero.

3. Bahamas data is unavailable for 2017 and 2018 and Barbados data is unavailable after 2015..

# Concessional financial support is an imperative for the Caribbean

The Caribbean (13 countries): net official development assistance received, 1960–2018  
(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



# Five recommendations for financial support and increase fiscal space for Caribbean SIDS

---

1. ECLAC debt relief initiative for resilience
2. Debt and service stand still and access to concessional funding, eligibility criteria of IFIs
3. Stage contingency bonds: hurricane clause
4. Green and blue bonds
5. Liquidity support Special Drawing Rights (SDR) Issuance.



# Warning signs just 10 years from Agenda 2030 and SAMOA Pathway



**Poverty and  
inequality**



**Women's  
empowerment**



**Food security  
and access to ICT  
platforms**



**Unemployment  
particularly for  
youth**



**Strengthening  
health and  
sanitation**



**Thank you**