This infographic presents key concepts excerpted from the 2020 Resilience Assessment: Eastern and Southern Caribbean and summarizes seven critical risks, gaps, and recommendations for United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to support building resilience in the region.

**01**

**KEY RISK**

Increased physical damage, societal impacts, and economic losses due to multiple and concurrent hazards

**GAP**

Lack of alignment in mitigation, response, and recovery across multiple hazards

**RECOMMENDATION**

Promote and support a multi-hazard approach

---

**$27 BILLION**

in losses and damages in the Caribbean from 2000-2017 from natural hazards.

5.7% estimated average reduction in annual GDP for Caribbean countries due to such disasters.
STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED

62 PEOPLE
32 ORGANIZATIONS

USAID & USG
Academics, Private Sector, NGOs, Civil Society
Regional Entities
Donors & Development Banks
National Governments

KEY RISK 02
Cascading and widespread impacts across sectors due to interdependencies
GAP
Siloed disaster risk management and climate change adaptation across sectors and services
RECOMMENDATION
Build national capacity for sector and inter-ministerial integration

RISK AND RESILIENCE

Risk is the balance between environmental, economic, and social impacts of natural hazards and human-induced stressors and the resilience capacities in communities and development sectors.

LOW RISK
HIGH RISK

KEY RISK 03
Economic and resource insecurity due to reliance on hazard-sensitive sectors and dependence on international markets
GAP
Economic and resource dependence exacerbates risk of natural hazards
RECOMMENDATION
Build sustainable and equitable economic independence to increase resilience and self-reliance
HAZARDS

Hazards are natural events that may harm humans and societies. The Caribbean region experiences many hazards, including:

- Earthquakes
- Volcanoes
- Flooding
- Hurricanes
- Droughts

Climate change is increasing the frequency and/or intensity of many climate hazards.

In 2017, category 5 hurricanes Irma and Maria caused an estimated $26.7 billion in damages to Caribbean countries.

AND STRESSORS

Human-induced stressors interact with hazards, exacerbating impacts.

- Poverty
- Violence
- Crime
- Epidemics
- Discrimination
- Land degradation

In Barbados, land conversion increased impervious surfaces, triggering greater surface runoff and flash flooding.

KEY RISK

Natural hazards cause major financial losses and budget volatility

GAP

Financial management capacity is low and financial products limited

RECOMMENDATION

Build financial capacity and financial products that support and sustain integrated resilience

KEY RISK

Recurring cycle of response and recovery impedes ability to reduce long-term risks and build resilience

GAP

National disaster legal frameworks are predominantly inadequate

RECOMMENDATION

Support national governments in strengthening legal and policy frameworks for resilience
IMPACTS

Natural hazards and stressors can directly impact communities and cause long-term damage to key economic sectors and social systems.

INJURY AND LOSS OF LIFE
POWER OUTAGES
DISRUPTION OF ACCESS ROADS
DISRUPTION OF COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS
LOSS OF WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES

Damage estimates from Hurricane Ivan in 2004 were more than twice Grenada’s annual GDP, harming economic growth and development.

RESILIENCE CAPACITIES

Countries and citizens are resilient to hazards when they can plan for and mitigate the impacts of natural phenomena.

Knowledge and Technology
- Data and information
- Technical expertise
- Workforce
- Decision support systems
- Early warning systems
- Education and training

Public Sector
- Established institutions
- Effective governance
- Policies and strategies
- Laws and regulations
- Horizontal and vertical coordination

Human and Communities
- Stable livelihoods
- Secure housing and tenure
- Basic services
- Security
- Public health
- Civil society
- Cultural norms
- Equity and inclusion

Finance
- Stable funding for core operations
- Capital financing
- Emergency response funds
- Insurance mechanisms

KEY RISK

Disproportionate impacts on poor and coastal communities, including marginalized populations

GAP
Limited community-level capacity undermines absorptive and adaptive resilience

RECOMMENDATION
Strengthen and scale local capacity for resilience

KEY RISK

Disproportionate impacts on youth and increasing alienation of youth

GAP
Untapped potential in human capacity to support disaster preparedness, response, and reconstruction

RECOMMENDATION
Engage and empower youth to build resilience