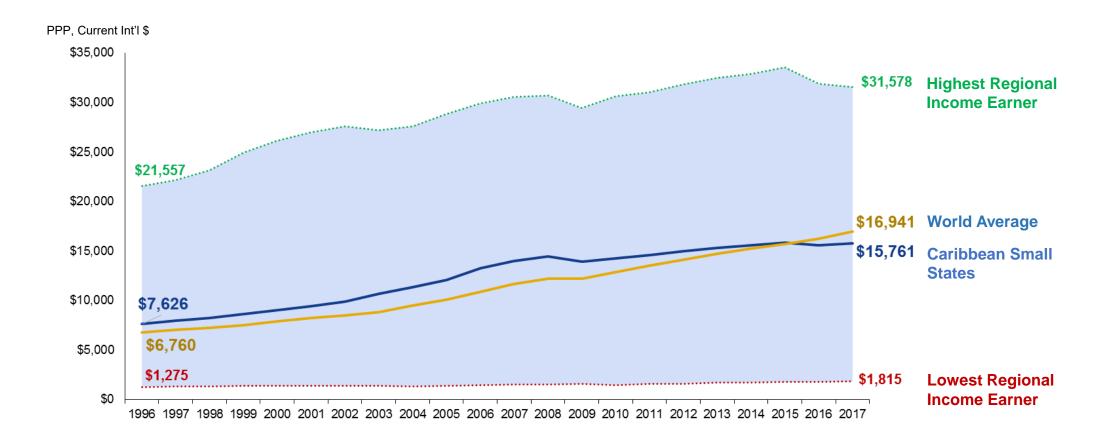
On Building Resilience

Justin Ram 24 February 2022

The Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Institute of International Relations
The University of the West Indies
St. Augustine Campus

Although regional per capita production doubled in the last two decades, this growth is uneven across the Region

GDP Per Capita*, 1996 – 2017



Note: Based on available data from the World Bank. The Lowest Income Earner is always Haiti. The Highest Income Earner is The Bahamas until 2008, then Trinidad and Tobago thereafter

The Big Picture: What causes our vulnerability?



COVID: How long will it take to recover?

ADR discounts lead to long recovery time Total US, 12MMA, Monthly ADR % Change, Indexed to Event



 Many Hotel Owners and Bankers are still thinking about a "U" shaped recovery curve.

Current analysis and research tells us to expect a "Nike" shaped recovery curve.

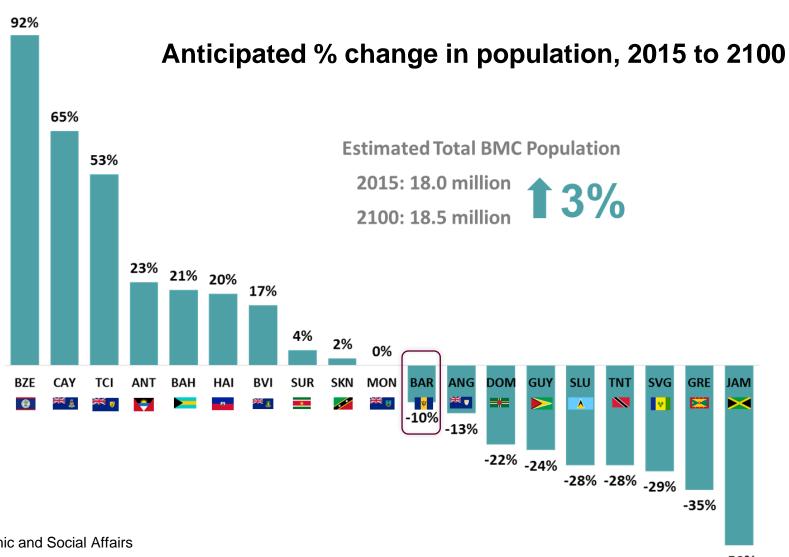
U

VS



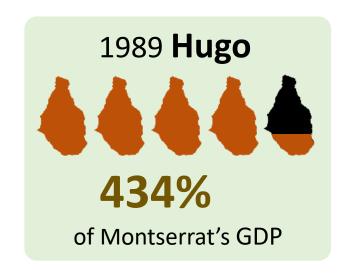
Source: ECLAC

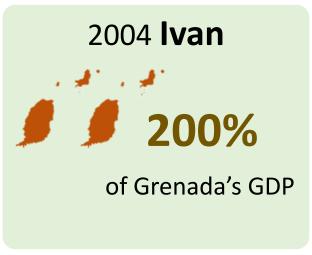
Some Caribbean countries will experience population decline during this century



The economic costs of natural disasters have been significant

Economic Costs of Storms in the Region









Regional Challenges



Macroeconomic

Low economic growth

High debt, low savings and declining reserves

Poor sovereign debt ratings

Loss of CBRs and the high cost of AML/CFT compliance



Productivity & Competitiveness

Low rankings in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business index

Large infrastructure gaps

Inefficient and costly transport links

High energy and electricity costs and nascent regulation



Thuman Development

High poverty and unemployment

Very high youth unemployment and poor education outcomes

High crime and citizen insecurity

Limited social data available for designing and measuring effective strategies



Environmental

High annual natural disaster costs

Low insurance payouts

Insufficient building codes

Poor climate change adaptation tools

Implementation Gap

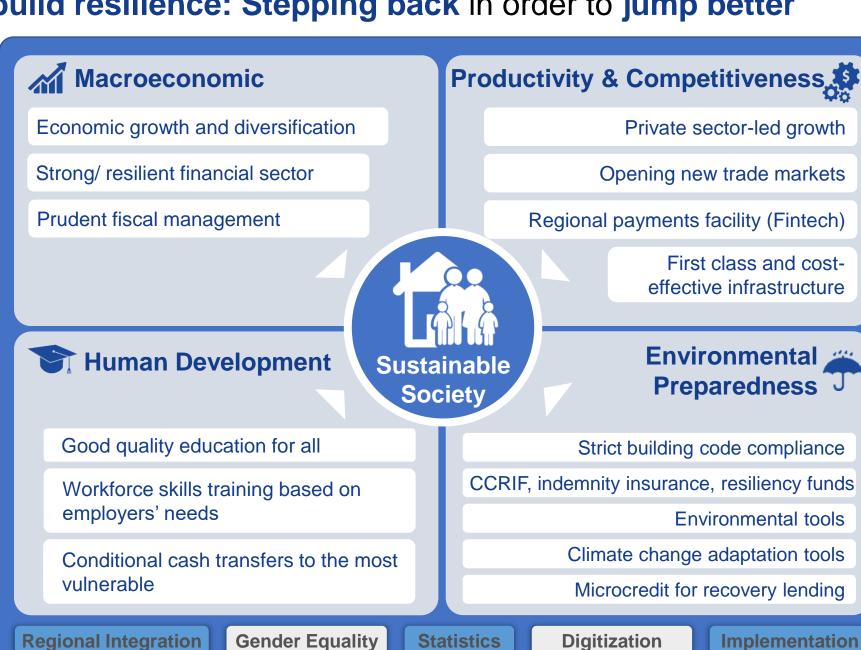
Regional Approach Gap

How to build resilience: Stepping back in order to jump better

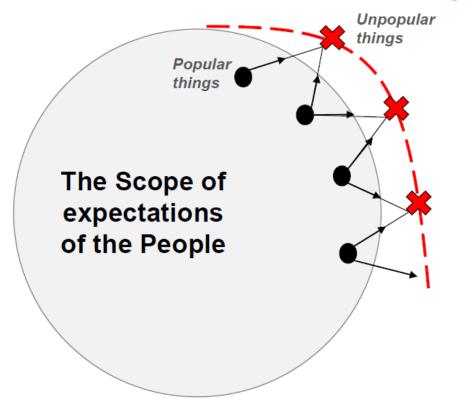


Caribbean Blueprint: A strategy for resilience and to turn equal opportunity into tangible rewards at the household and individual level

FINANCE is CRITICAL!



Diplomacy will require Transformational Leadership for resilience



Transformation is about broadening the scope

It's about

- 01 dancing on the edge
- **building trust capital**
- doing things outside of popular expectation

"Transformation Leadership is about disappointing people at the rate they will permit"

Marty Linsky, Harvard Professor

Source: PEMANDU-Idris Jala, 2017

