

Building Resilience to the Risk of Compound and Cascading Disasters in the Context of Climate Change -

IGES International Workshop 21 January 2022



UNDRR

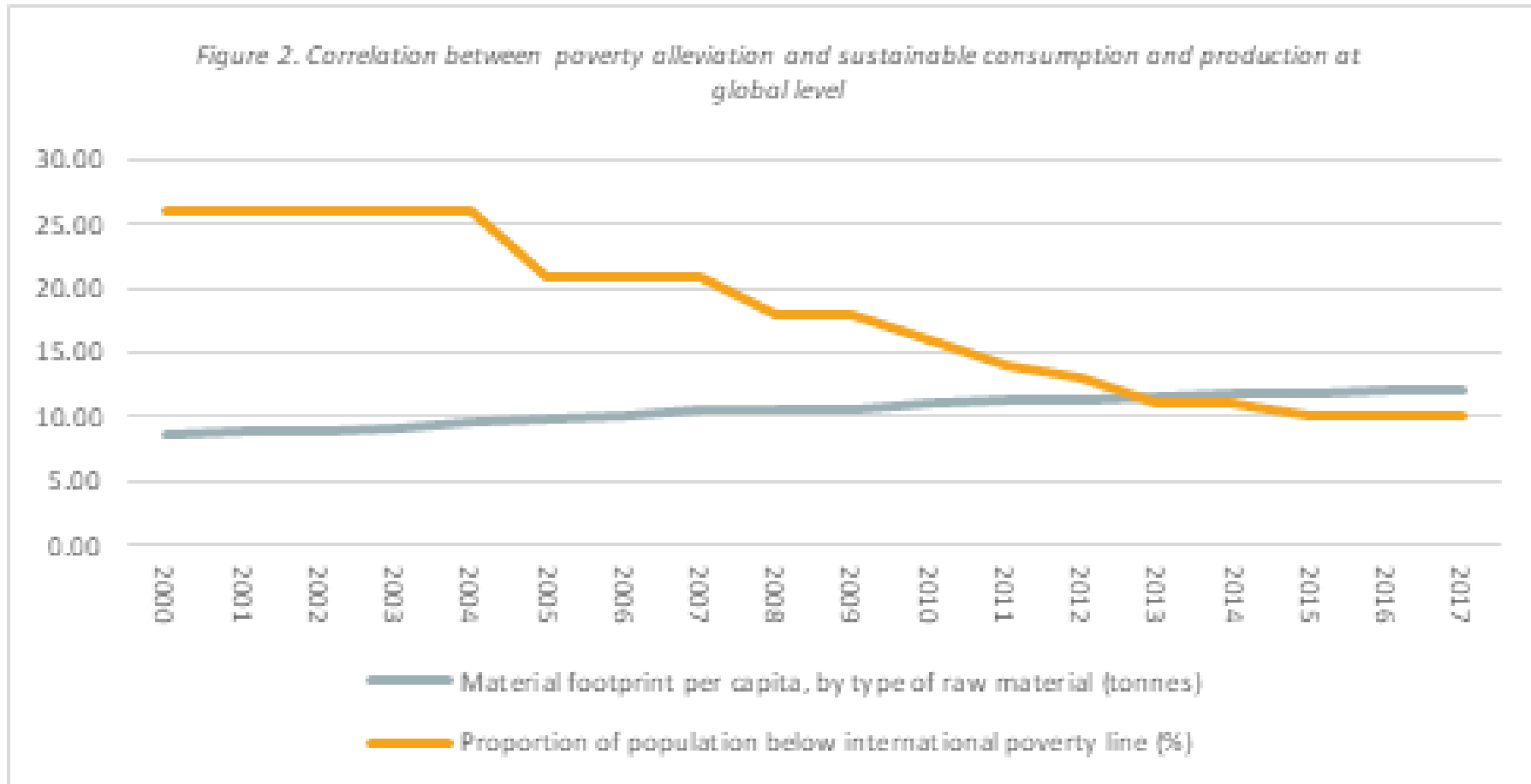
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

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SEDAI FRAMEWORK
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

Risk is increasing, and global systems are not sustainable

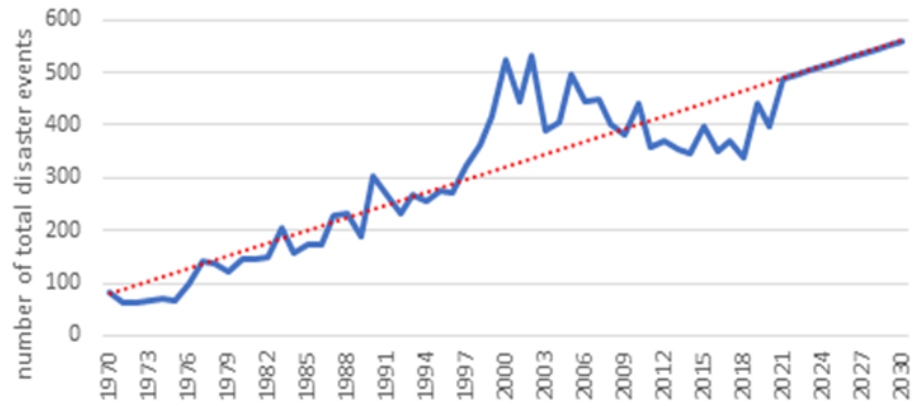
Correlation between poverty alleviation and sustainable consumption and production at global level



Source UNDRR GAR 2022

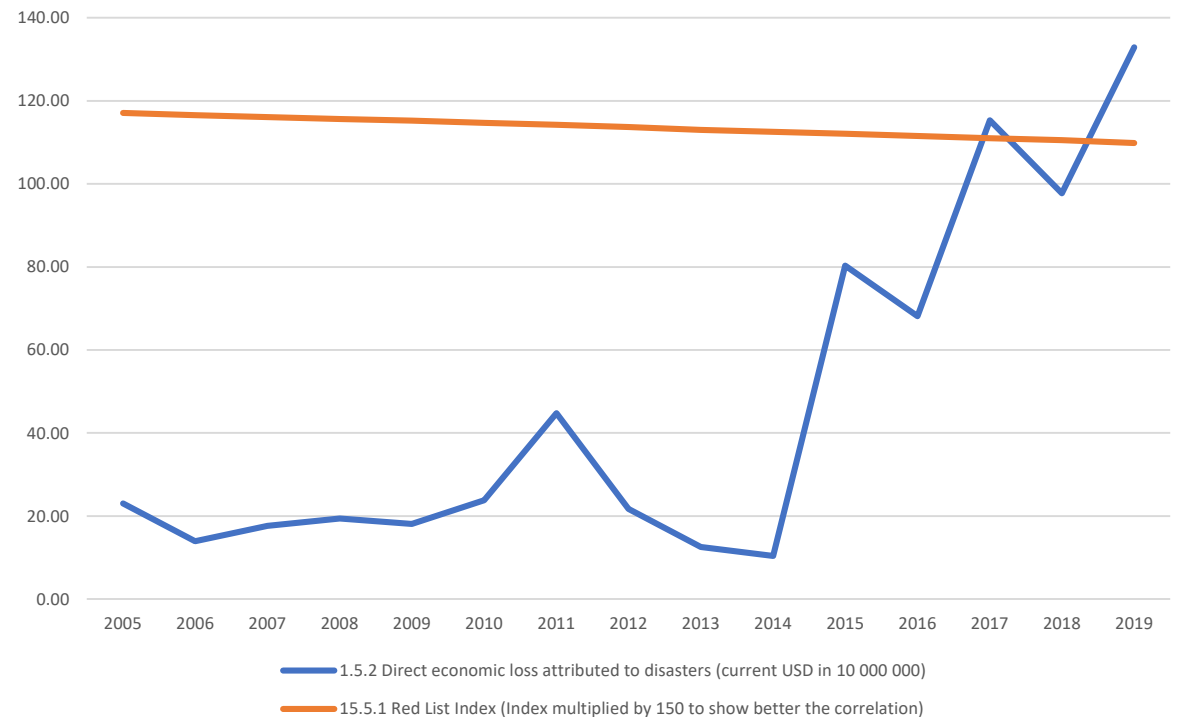
Disaster and economic losses and are increasing

Increasing number of total disaster events
Forecast through 2030
(2016-2030)



As bio-diversity decreases and climate change accelerates

Figure 3.10. As disaster-related economic loss grows, the species extinction risk intensifies (Red List Index)



Source UNDRR GAR 2022

CURRENT CONTEXT

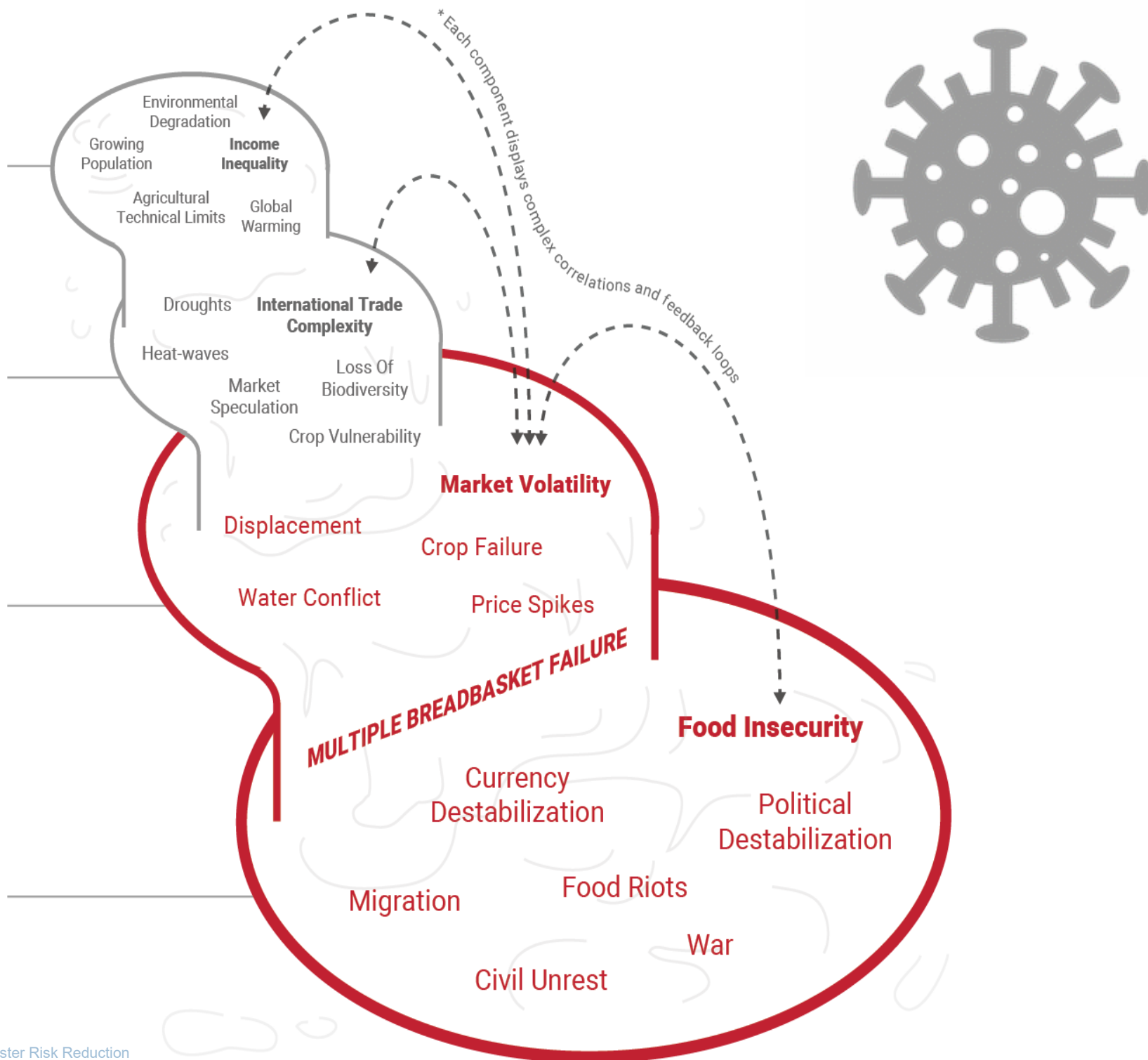
Capacity to absorb negative events is being reduced slowly (e.g. population growth pushing the limits of agricultural technology)

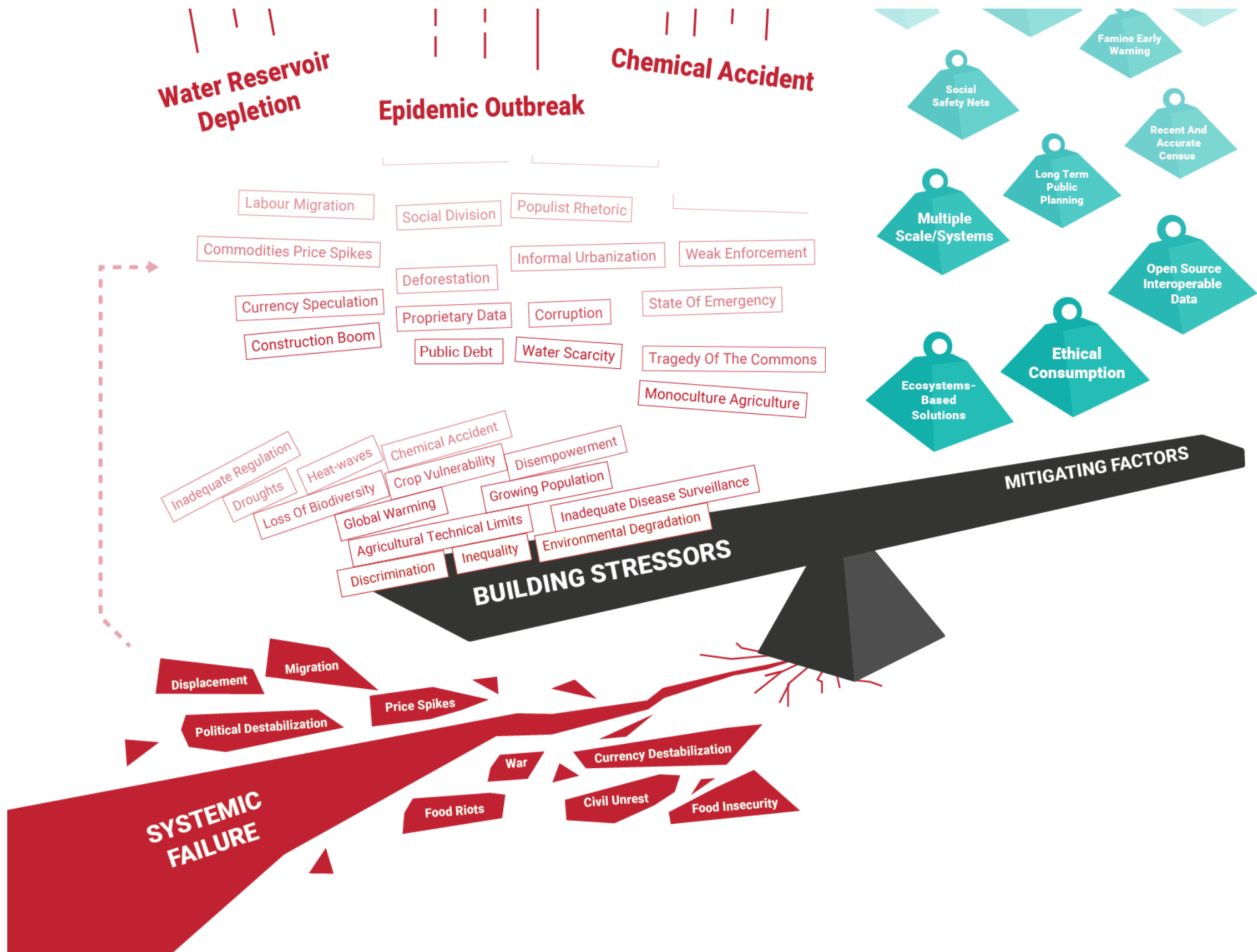
BUILDING STRESSORS

SUDDEN AND GRADUAL TIPPING POINTS

An event of great magnitude or multiple failures at the same time could suddenly exceed all remaining capacity

SYSTEMIC FAILURE





Transformation is needed in environmental, financial and governance systems



Key Policy Developments

- Leveraging of science and technology
- Recognition of people, planet, prosperity nexus and the role of risk reduction in safeguarding sustainable development
- Innovations in governance to work across silos and design with, not for, affected people
- Growing recognition of the systemic nature of risk, and the need to factor in risk to future generations and long term ecosystem stability

Eg: UN DRR GAR 2022, and UN Common Agenda “UN Strategic Foresight and Global Risk Report” and Futures Lab work plan

Emerging research areas

- UNDRR-IRDR-ISC Research agenda highlights 9 priority areas including; understanding root causes; supporting just transitions and enabling transformative governance
- Analytics are a key tool for consultation, but we can't predict the future.
- Moving towards a more common risk language is key
- Reworking metrics to include social and environmental assets and costs



Food for thought

- We live in a time of certain uncertainty
- The first line of defense is to reduce the vulnerability, inequality and exposure that drive disasters
- Investing in understanding how disasters impact countries and communities improves effective decision making
- Investments in systemic risk analytics are essential, but are tools not predictions, so they need to be backed up by more flexible, agile consultation and governance systems
- Reworking financial systems to value sustainable development and to take into account the real costs of risk is key

Some key questions to ponder

- How agile are your planning systems to uncertainty? How quickly can your systems pivot?
- Do you have information on what drives vulnerability and exposure in your country? Who is often left out of data? What safety nets are in place for these groups specifically?
- Do your planning and budgets include provisions for investing in resilience building and in protecting essential infrastructure like hospitals, schools etc? If not how can that happen?
- Have you begun to look at knock-on or cascading impacts of disasters? Do you have modeling that can do this? If not can you start, and who needs to be part of discussions to interpret and use that analysis?
- Do your fiscal planning systems value people, and the planet or just prosperity? How can could this become more balanced in your context? Do you value your children's generation too?



Thank you

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