



SHOCK-RESPONSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION IN THE CARIBBEAN

Regional Symposium | 27 June 2019
Providenciales, Turks & Caicos Islands



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INFO SESSION I

Shock-Responsive Social Protection in the Caribbean Key Concepts & Approaches & Emerging Trends

Presenters

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Social Protection: putting people at the centre of resilience and response



Social Protection as Development Strategy



Powerful tool for **alleviating poverty, mitigating risks, promoting resilience** and **economic growth**



Countries' progress towards articulating national social protection **strategies**, introducing **policies**, revising **legislation**



Ex-ante investments to **strengthen systems and capacities** to ensure adequate and predictable support



Creation of **fiscal space** to generate resources for social protection



Explicit incorporation into the **Sustainable Development Goals**



Emerging role in **emergency response** & to **foster recovery**



What is Shock-Responsive Social Protection?





Shock-Responsive Social Protection

- Social Protection **intrinsically intended to be shock-responsive**
- Social protection systems are considered to be more 'shock responsive' when they can **respond flexibly and at scale to major shocks** (e.g. economic, natural hazards, conflict, displacement)
- In practical terms, **improving the 'shock-responsiveness'** of existing systems and programmes may entail:

Improving coverage of existing systems and their ability to expand in order to absorb additional needs (**data / information management & targeting**)

Ensuring **delivery mechanisms** (cash; in-kind) are flexible enough to enable people receive assistance, promptly, even in crisis

Enabling greater **integration and coordination** within DRM strategies to strengthen emergency responses

Improving access & diversification of **disaster risk financing** mechanisms to scale up responses in a sustainable manner

Complementarities between Social Protection and Emergency Response



Distinctions between objectives, operational instruments and guiding principles **are lessening**

Emergency response **conventionally seen** as focusing on saving lives through provision of basic goods and services, whereas social protection focused on addressing chronic poverty or inequality

Changing crisis/humanitarian landscape: more long-term and protracted emergency responses, and social protection interventions contributing directly to saving lives



Linking Social Protection to DRM

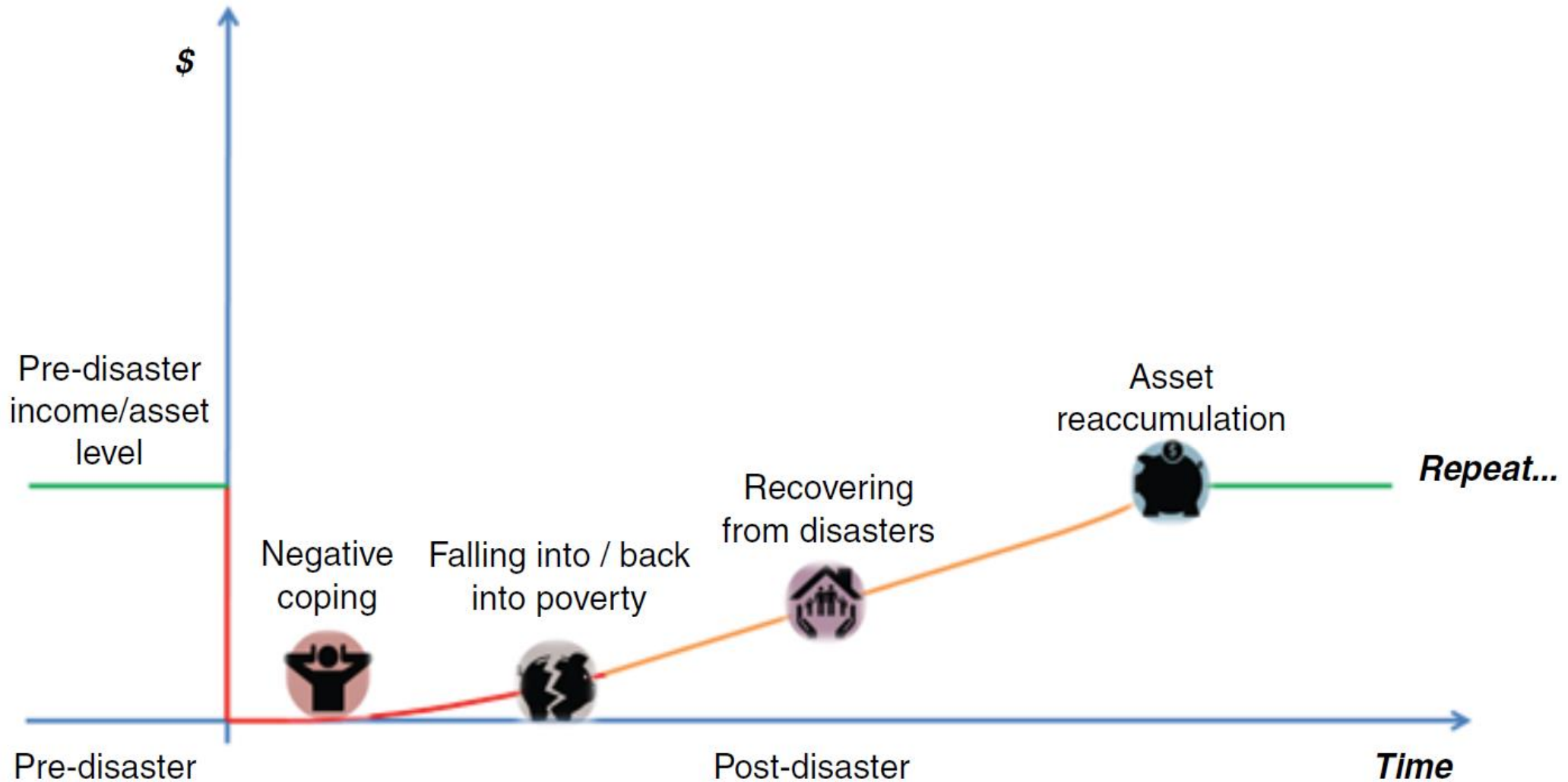


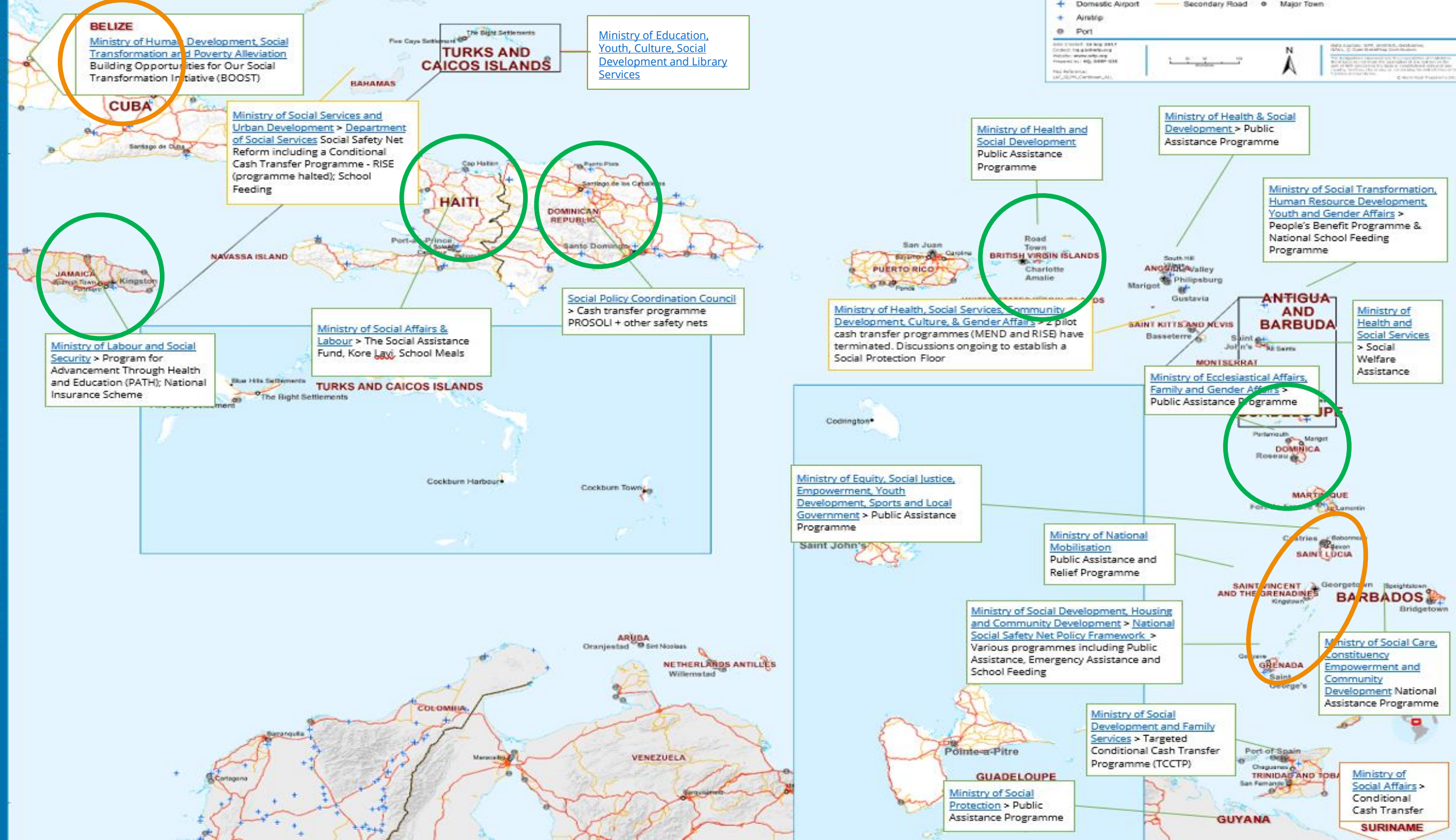
Aspects of DRM	Example of DRM mechanisms	Example of linkages with SP
Preparedness	Vulnerability, risk and hazard assessments	Assessments can be used to design responses, and shape the targeting of social protection programmes to make them more shock-responsive;
Response	Provision of cash and in-kind transfers	Existing SP targeting and delivery mechanisms can be used to provide assistance to disaster-affected populations; SP programme can be expanded to provide additional support to those in need
Recovery & Prevention	Reconstruction programmes	Could be linked with public-works initiatives which provide cash or food-based payments through employment; in-kind transfers to support building back better;

Why focus on social protection for climate risks and other type shocks in the Caribbean?



Cycle of poverty & vulnerability





Design options for emergency response &

5 dimensions for a strengthened social protection



Design options for emergency response



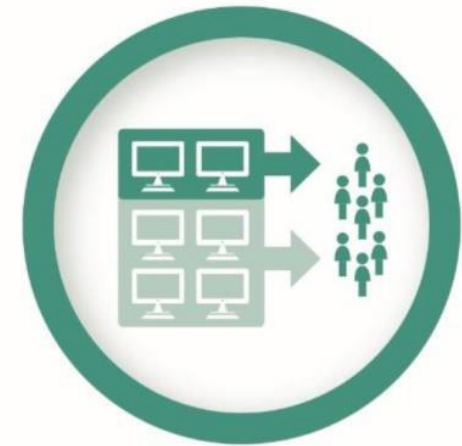
Vertical Expansion

Temporarily increasing the value or duration of benefit for existing beneficiaries



Horizontal Expansion

Temporarily increasing the number of recipients in an existing social protection programme



Piggybacking

Using elements of an existing social protection programme or system while delivering a separate emergency response.

5 dimensions for a strengthened SP



PREPAREDNESS OF SOCIAL PROTECTION



INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Develop systems to ensure equitable distribution of resources, oversight and linkages with other services



Ensure integration of database and information systems; add data on vulnerability to shocks to social registries



TARGETING SYSTEMS

Adapt the targeting mechanism in order to allow a better emergency response.



Develop contingency processes to register new beneficiaries; link protocols for coverage expansions with early warning indicators;



DELIVERY MECHANISMS

Adapt the delivery mechanism of cash and in-kind transfers.



Modernise delivery mechanisms; Develop contingency plans for alternative payment mechanisms; consider pre-registering populations in high-risk areas



FINANCING

Align with resources for an integrated and sustainable response to shocks



Improving access & diversification of disaster risk financing mechanisms to scale up responses in a sustainable manner



COORDINATION

Align with DRM actors for an integrated shock response.



Formalise the role of social protection in emergency response within disaster risk management strategies; develop joint preparedness measures;

Study on Shock-Responsive Social Protection in CDEMA Member States

Overview of main findings



Regional Research on Shock-Responsive SP

Phase 1 and 2 (2016-2018 - completed)

- ✓ Theoretical framework and literature review
- ✓ 7 case studies: Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Peru & Dominica > **Link: <https://bit.ly/30yWGR6>**
- ✓ 1 Synthesis report – key findings and policy recommendations

Phase 3 (2019-ongoing) – greater focus on DRM

- ✓ Focus on the Caribbean > with the establishment of WFP Barbados Office for Caribbean Emergency Preparedness & Response
- ✓ 1 Literature review in 18 countries (CDEMA's Participating States)
- ✓ 4 case studies: Belize, St Lucia, Jamaica, Guyana (+1 TBC)
- ✓ 1 Synthesis report – key findings and policy recommendations
- ✓ Training of surge capacity teams in ex-ante; ex-post Shock Responsive Social Protection



Vertical Expansions: are in administratively easier but require preparation for timely support

Social assistance

Jamaica

90,000 beneficiaries of PATH received top-up transfers of US\$ 30 in response to Hurricane Dean in 2007

Dominica

All PAP beneficiaries (~6,600) received top-up transfers of US\$ 90 per household and US\$ 30 per child in response to Hurricane Maria in 2017

Haiti

10,331 beneficiaries of Kore Lavi received food vouchers (U\$ 25) in response to Hurricane Matthew in 2016

Social insurance

Jamaica

75,000 NIS pensioners received transfers of U\$72 in response to Hurricane Dean in 2007.

Grenada

3,400 NIS pensioners received transfers in response to Hurricane Ivan in 2004.

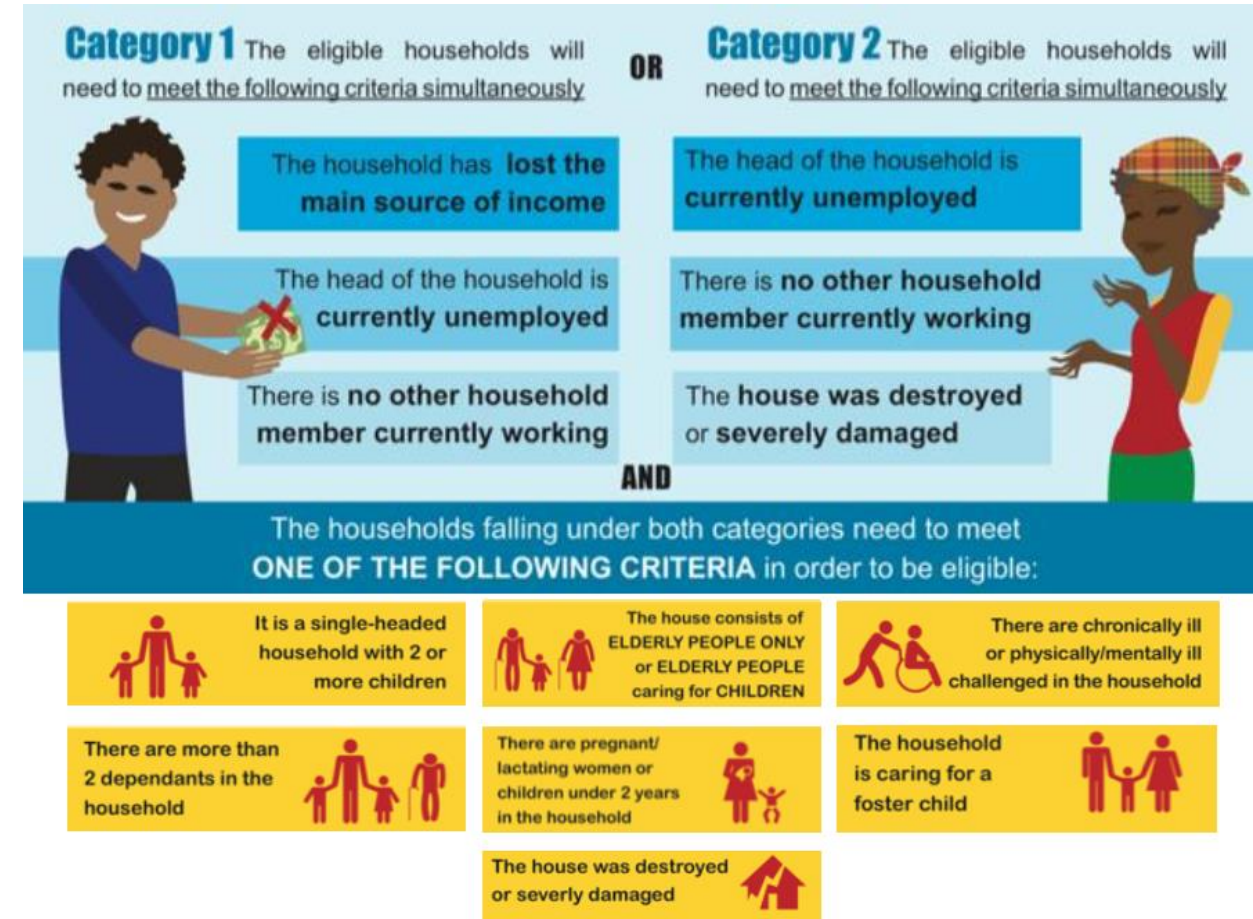


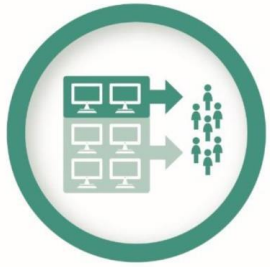
Horizontal Expansions: are administratively more complex (targeting, delivery, mandates, etc.)

Social assistance

Dominica - the Emergency Cash Transfer (ECT)

- US\$90 per household per month, with a top-up of US\$50 per child up to three children
- ~18,000 people received the transfer – in addition to the vertical expansion of PAP (~6,600)
- Targeting mechanism: Vulnerability and Needs Assessment conducted throughout the country and local Beneficiary Selection Committees pre-selected beneficiaries based on the criteria in the figure.
- Delivery mechanism: manual transfers – the same as the flagship cash transfer programme





Piggybacking – requires at least one solid systems or process.

Social assistance

Jamaica

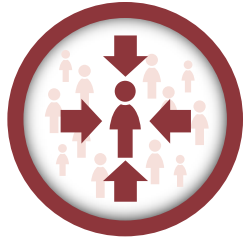
The payment mechanism and the staff of MLSS and PATH are used in emergency responses

BVI

The Joint Cash Platform was used to transfer benefits to 1,076 hurricane-affected households between Dec. 2017 and Jan. 2018



Case study for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement



Institutional arrangements

- ✓ Some social protection strategies include a role in DRM (e.g. Jamaica, Anguilla, St Lucia, St Kitts and Nevis)
- ✓ Some DRM strategies include disaster response role for ministry overseeing social protection (e.g. Belize and Jamaica)



Information systems

- ✓ Few countries have **integrated** systems with wide coverage and systematic mechanisms for collecting up-to-date data
- ✓ The development of a solid information system for the sector is identified as a **policy priority**. (e.g. Anguilla, Dominica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, St Lucia, Jamaica and Guyana)
- ✓ Flagship programmes in most countries do have a supporting electronic management information system to perform core functions



Targeting

- ✓ Social protection targeting mechanisms in the region have been largely designed with the objective of reaching the chronic poor
- ✓ Flagship social assistance programmes have limited reach as they cover a small share of the population



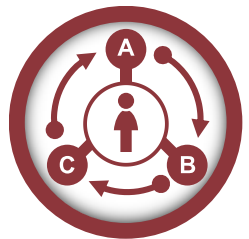
Delivery

- ✓ Most social assistance programmes deliver cash manually (e.g. Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Dominica)
- ✓ Manual payments can be used to provide cash support to affected households (e.g. Dominica, Jamaica)



Financing

- ✓ Caribbean states have relied significantly on donor funding (loans and grants – e.g. World Bank’s Contingent Emergency Response Component CERC-)
- ✓ CCRIF SP is an innovative regional risk-pooling fund
- ✓ There are no protocols for funding SP responses to shocks, but also no restrictions



Coordination

- ✓ In few countries there is close collaboration between DRM and social protection
- ✓ Regional cooperation is well established (e.g. CDEMA)

Innovations related to SRSP in the region

- **Dominica** – cash transfer given by the Government and WFP at the beginning of the 2018 hurricane season for preparedness. A one-off transfer of US\$135 to the 25,000 people who received the ECT.
- **Jamaica** case management system for resilience: Provides assessment tools for; psychosocial support, identifying at risk/ vulnerable households and improving socio-economic resilience.
- **Grenada** - low-income households are eligible for insurance from wind and excess rain through the Livelihood Protection Policy (LPP), which is a weather index-based insurance policy. The LPP caters to low-income individuals irrespective of occupation.
- **Dominican republic** – SIUBEN: the system that uses social protection data for identifying people vulnerable to shocks.

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THANK YOU

