

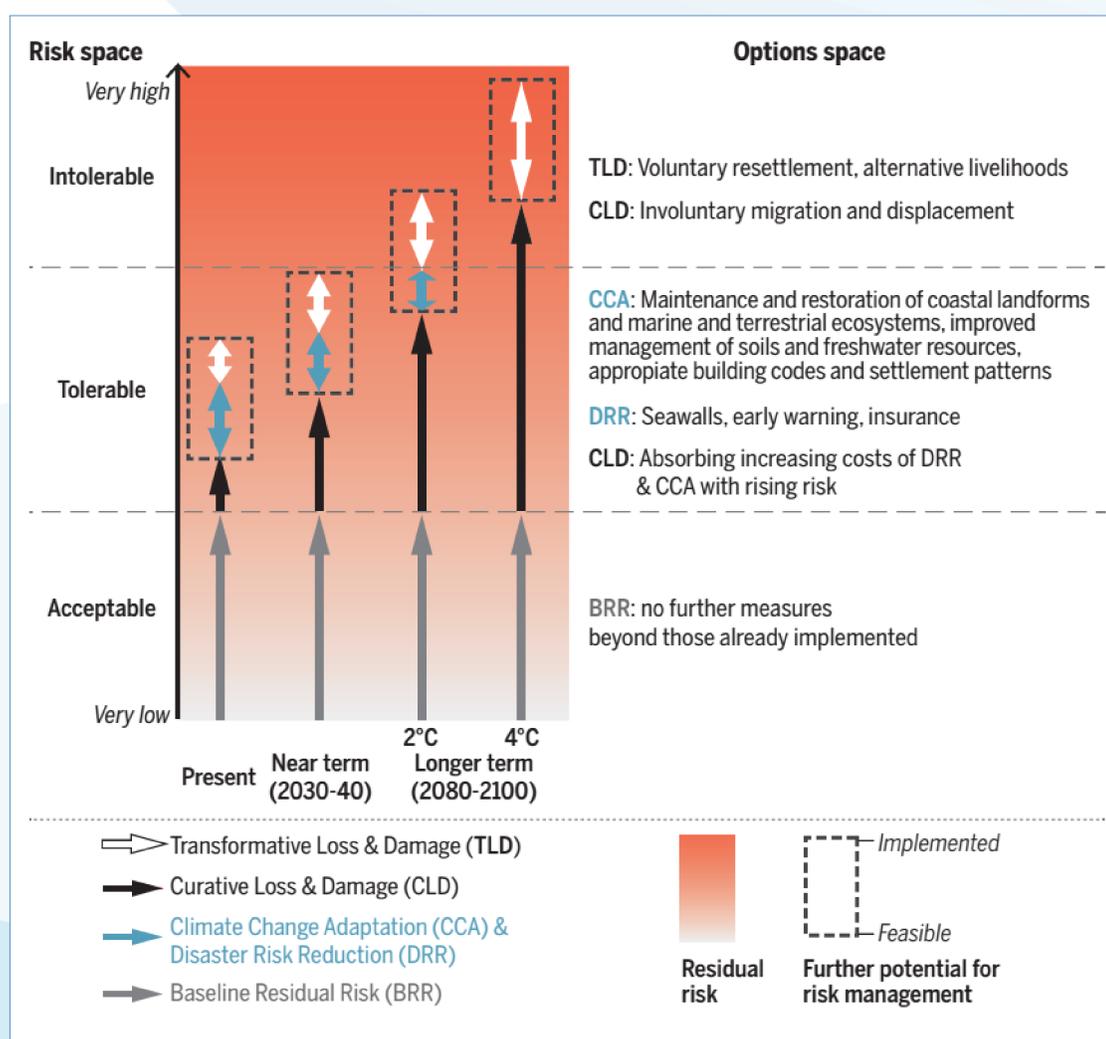
The Loss and Damage Mechanism

The issue of 'dangerous' climate change has been fundamental for the international climate negotiations informing the adoption of the 2 °C and 1.5 °C goals. The Paris Agreement included groundbreaking text on the need for a Loss and Damage Mechanism to help identify risks beyond adaptation and support the victims of climate-related Loss and Damage — but how the mechanism exactly will work remains unclear and contentious.

The paper, building on broad-based engagement with Loss and Damage negotiators, lays out a policy framework for Loss and Damage in terms of supporting measures that can help vulnerable people survive, adapt, and even become more resilient in the face of irreversible climate change impacts. It suggests that recent advances in physical and social sciences may be aligned to a broad-based climate risk analytical perspective on Loss and Damage, and thus point a way forward for the complex negotiations. Three lines of analysis are of particular importance:

- considering comprehensive climate-related risk;
- a social science perspective on risk; and
- distributive and compensatory justice considerations with regard to burden sharing.

As the authors suggest, these building blocks can be used to constitute the Loss and Damage policy space vis a vis the space for disaster risk management and climate adaptation, and help to devise acceptable options for stakeholders.



Climate risk management options in Small Island States

The risk and policy space for Loss and Damage as applied to risks from sea level rise in Small Island States. The scenarios identify classes of curative measures for unavoided and un-avoidable impacts of sea level rise and transformative measures for avoiding and managing increasingly intolerable risks.