



# The Fundamentals of DRF and Financial Instruments

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# Abstract

- Recap four core principles of Disaster Risk Finance
- Overview of financing instruments available to governments
- Introduction to advantages and disadvantages of different financing instruments.

# What is Disaster Risk Finance?

Protecting livelihoods and development by implementing sustainable and cost-effective financial protection policies and instruments.



-  Ensuring money reaches people **who need it the most, when they need it the most**
-  **Using Financial Planning to protect Investments** in human development and productive assets
-  Adapting to **long-term climate changes** and trends
-  Planning on how to meet the cost of disasters **before they happen**
-  Increasing the speed, predictability and transparency of disaster response
-  Raising funds from International partners **after a disaster**
-  Financing risk reduction and development



## Four Primary Groups impacted by natural disasters and climate risk



**GOVERNMENT**



**HOME/BUSINESS OWNERS**



**FARMERS/HERDERS**



**THE POOREST**

# Five Steps

## Towards Strengthening Financial Resilience

Take Stock of how disaster response is currently financed



Gather risk information/carry out risk assessments



Decide on policy priorities



Build financial protection strategy



Work with and improve existing processes for DRF



# Remember Four Core Principles of DRF



**Timeliness** of Funding



**No One Financial Instrument**  
Can Address All Risks



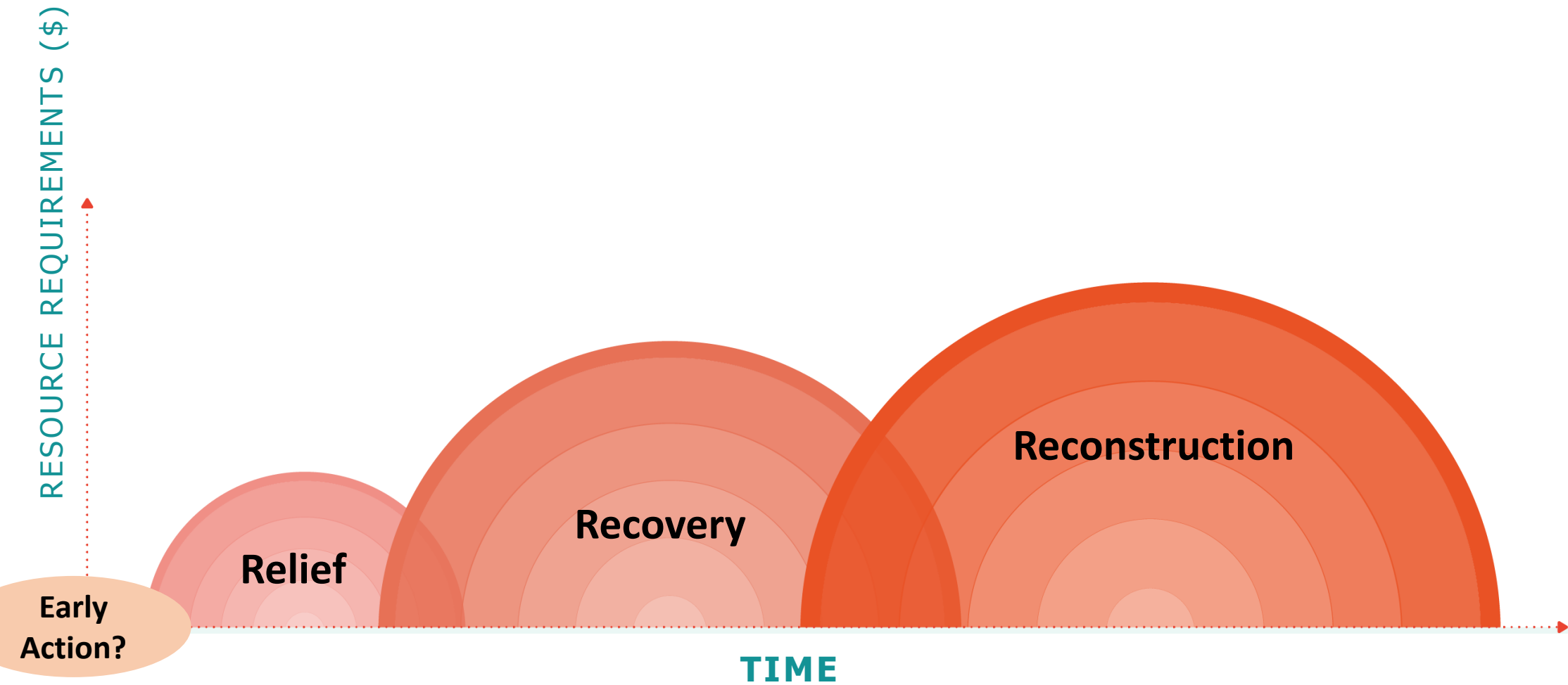
How **money reaches**  
**beneficiaries** is as important  
as where it comes from



To make sound financial  
decisions **you need to have**  
**the right information**

# Core Principle 1

## Timeliness of funding

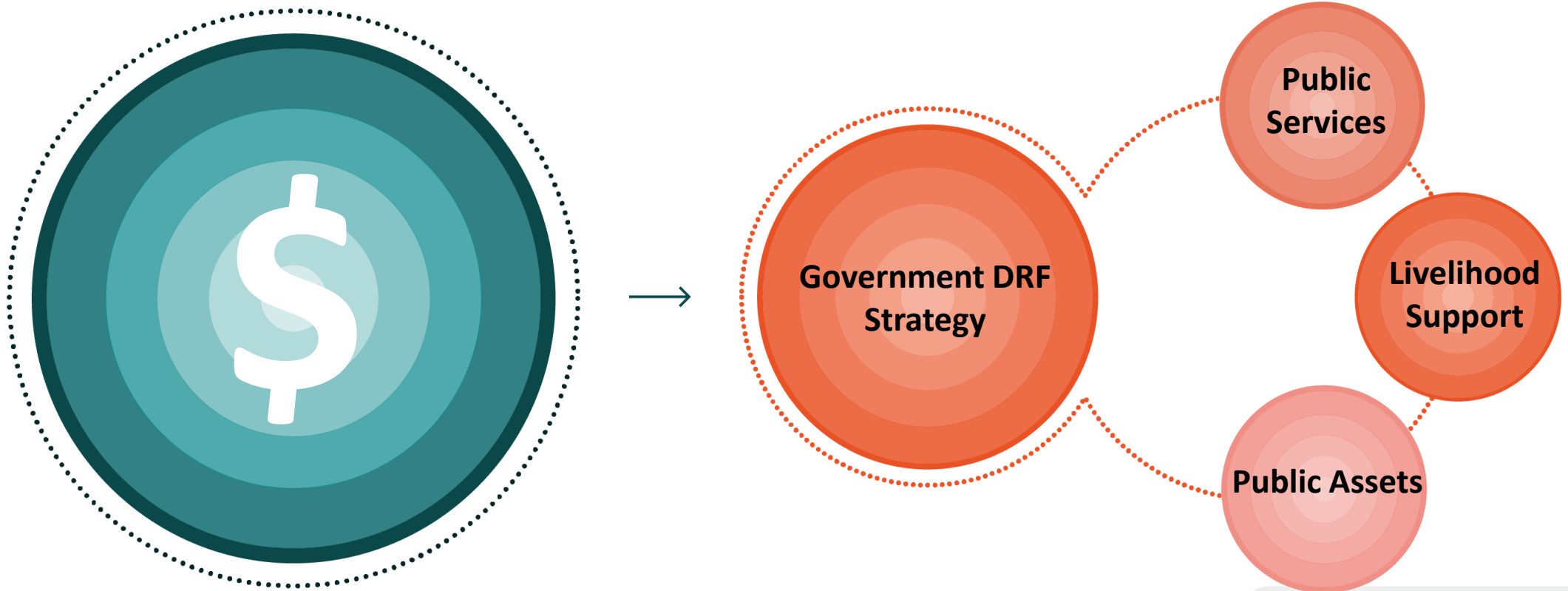


**Speed matters, but not all resources are needed at once.**



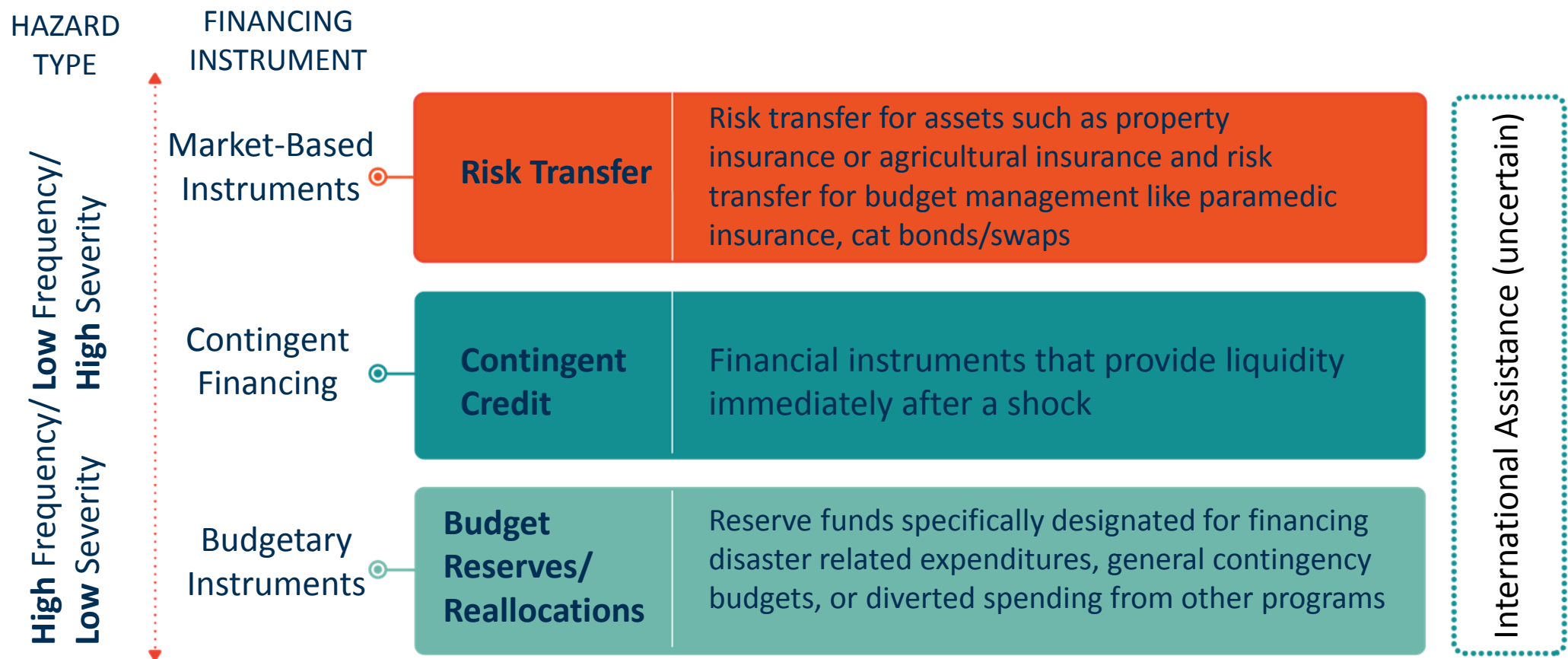
# Core Principle 2

**How money reaches beneficiaries is as important as where it comes from**



# Core Principle 3

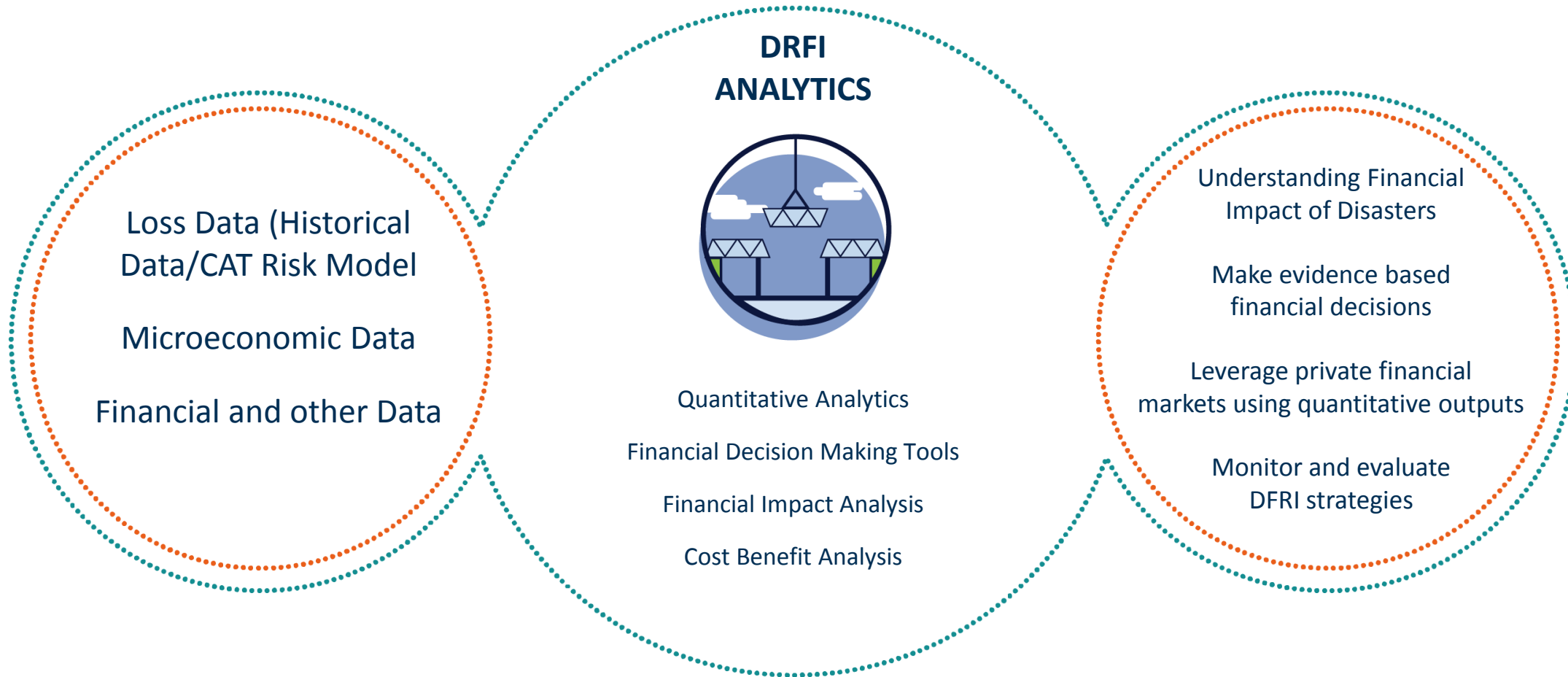
## Disaster Risk Layering



**No single Financial instrument can address all risks**

# Core Principle 4

## Data and Analytics



To Make Sound Financial Decisions you need to have the right information

# Common instruments used for financial planning

	<b>Ex ante instrument</b> (arranged before disaster)	<b>Ex post instrument</b> (arranged after disaster)
<b>Risk Retention</b> (changing when/how one pays)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contingency fund or budget allocation</li> <li>Line of contingent credit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency budget reallocation</li> <li>Emergency tax increase</li> <li>Post-disaster Credit</li> </ul>
<b>Risk transfer</b> (removing risk from the balance sheet)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traditional insurance/reinsurance</li> <li>Index insurance, reinsurance, or derivatives</li> <li>Capital market instruments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discretionary post-disaster relief from development partners</li> </ul>

# Ex-post transfer

	Ex ante instrument (arranged before disaster)	Ex post instrument (arranged after disaster)
Risk Retention (changing when/how one pays)	Contingency fund or budget allocation Line of contingent credit	Emergency budget reallocation Emergency tax increase Post-disaster Credit
Risk transfer (removing risk from the balance sheet)	Traditional insurance/reinsurance Index insurance, reinsurance, or derivatives Capital market instruments	Discretionary post-disaster relief from development partners

## Examples:

- Humanitarian aid
- Crisis response grants/loans from development banks

## Advantages

- Flexible – can respond to need
- Accurate (?)
- Can be concessional/ grant

## Disadvantages

- Can be slow and costly
- Can be unreliable and unpredictable
- Undermines planning

# Ex-post retention

	Ex ante instrument (arranged before disaster)	Ex post instrument (arranged after disaster)
Risk Retention (changing when/how one pays)	Contingency fund or budget allocation Line of contingent credit	Emergency budget reallocation Emergency tax increase Post-disaster Credit
Risk transfer (removing risk from the balance sheet)	Traditional insurance/reinsurance Index insurance, reinsurance, or derivatives Capital market instruments	Discretionary post-disaster relief from development partners

## Examples:

- Emergency budget reallocation
- Emergency tax increase
- Post-disaster Credit

## Advantages

- Can be cheap (but not always)

## Disadvantages

- Often slow
- Can be unreliable
- Can have high economic costs / negatively affect other investments
- Undermines planning



# Ex-ante retention

	Ex ante instrument (arranged before disaster)	Ex post instrument (arranged after disaster)
Risk Retention (changing when/how one pays)	Contingency fund or budget allocation  Line of contingent credit	Emergency budget reallocation  Emergency tax increase  Post-disaster Credit
Risk transfer (removing risk from the balance sheet)	Traditional insurance/reinsurance  Index insurance, reinsurance, or derivatives  Capital market instruments	Discretionary post-disaster relief from development partners

Examples:

- Contingency fund or budget allocation
- Line of contingent credit

## Advantages

- Can be cheap, particularly for frequent shocks
- Fast
- Allows implementers to plan
- Can support clarity of risk ownership

## Disadvantages

- Opportunity cost of funds
- Requires fiscal discipline
- Political pressure

# Ex-ante transfer

	Ex ante instrument (arranged before disaster)	Ex post instrument (arranged after disaster)
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## Examples:

- Traditional insurance/reinsurance
- Index insurance, reinsurance, or derivatives
- Capital market instruments

## Advantages

- Can be cheap, especially for extreme shocks
- Can be fast
- Allows implementers to plan
- Supports fiscal discipline

## Disadvantages

- Can be expensive for frequent shocks
- Often criticized after the fact
- Can miss need
- Need a level playing field to negotiate



**UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE**  
INSTITUTE FOR  
SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP

**Disaster Risk Financing  
& Insurance Program**



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