

Droughts

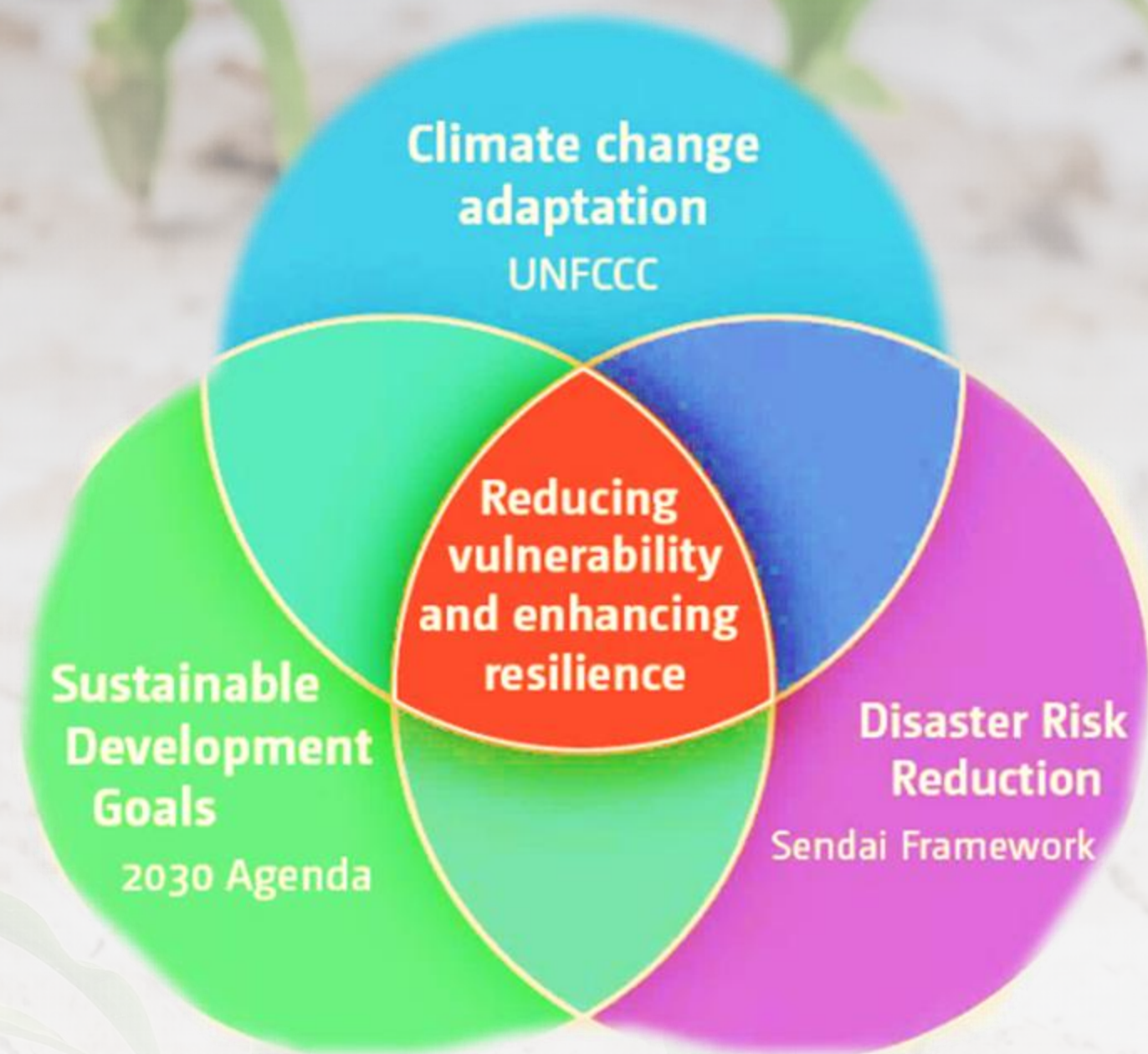
GAR Special Report 2021

Findings and recommendations

Paola Albrito - UNDRR
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Droughts impacts are far-reaching. We need to explore how to move from reactive to prospective and proactive drought management- getting ahead of the risk.

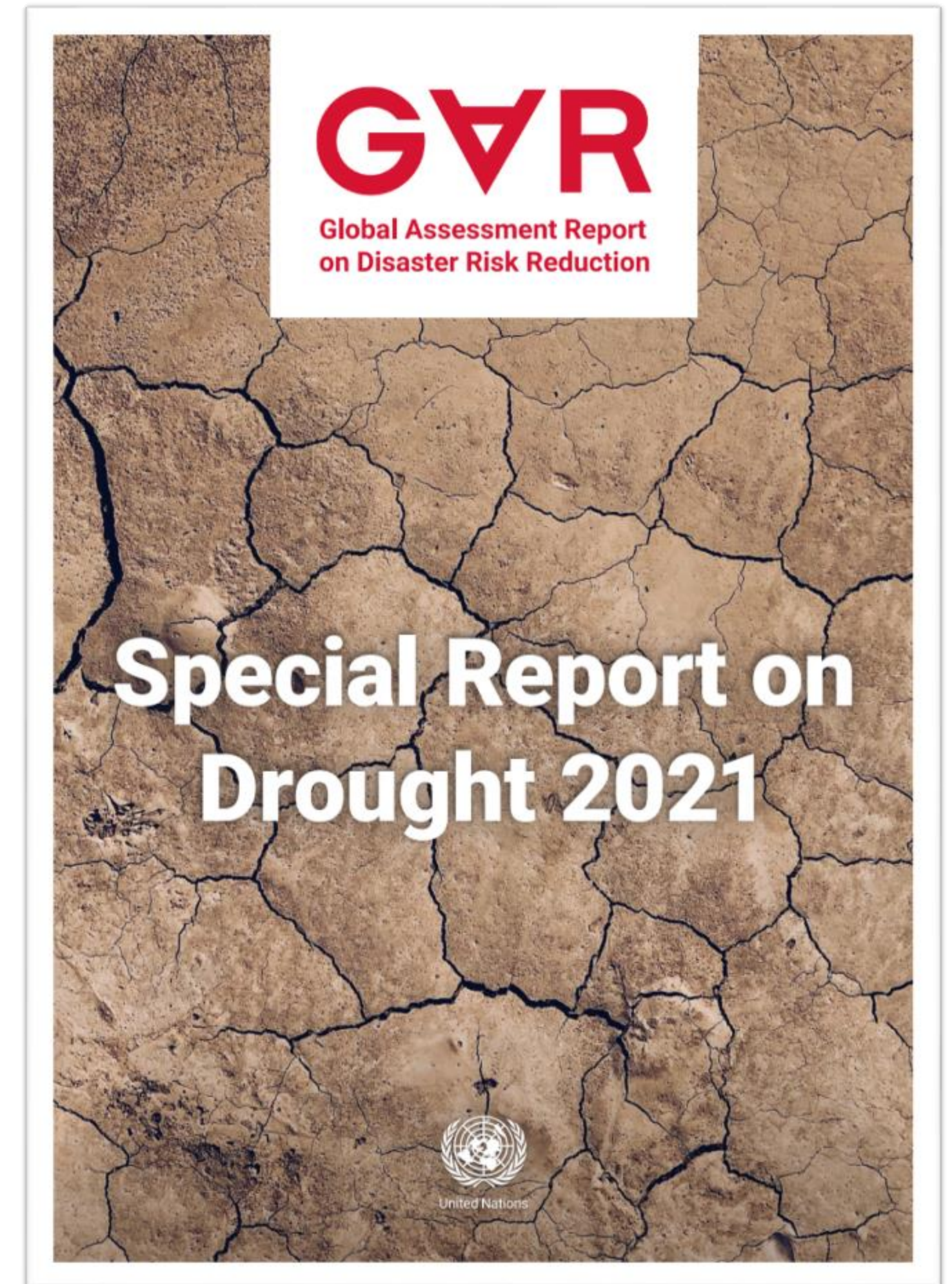
And this underpins innovative strategies for reducing risk so that we can achieve the SDGs



Reducing risk and building resilience to drought and water scarcity is where the sustainable development, the climate change adaptation, biodiversity and the disaster risk reduction agendas converge.

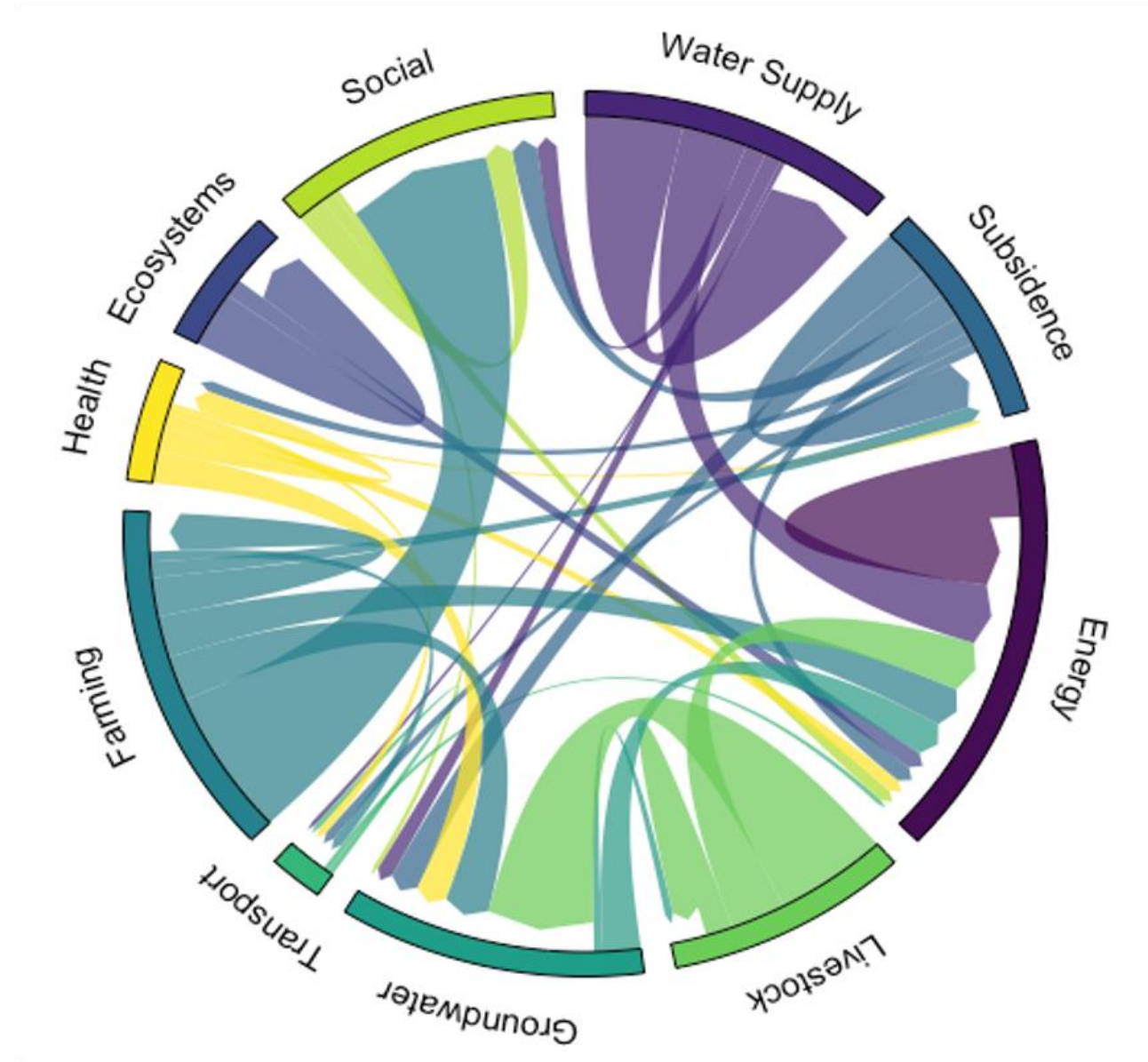
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Assess economic impact is challenging

Schematic representation of potential interconnections among different sectors affected by droughts



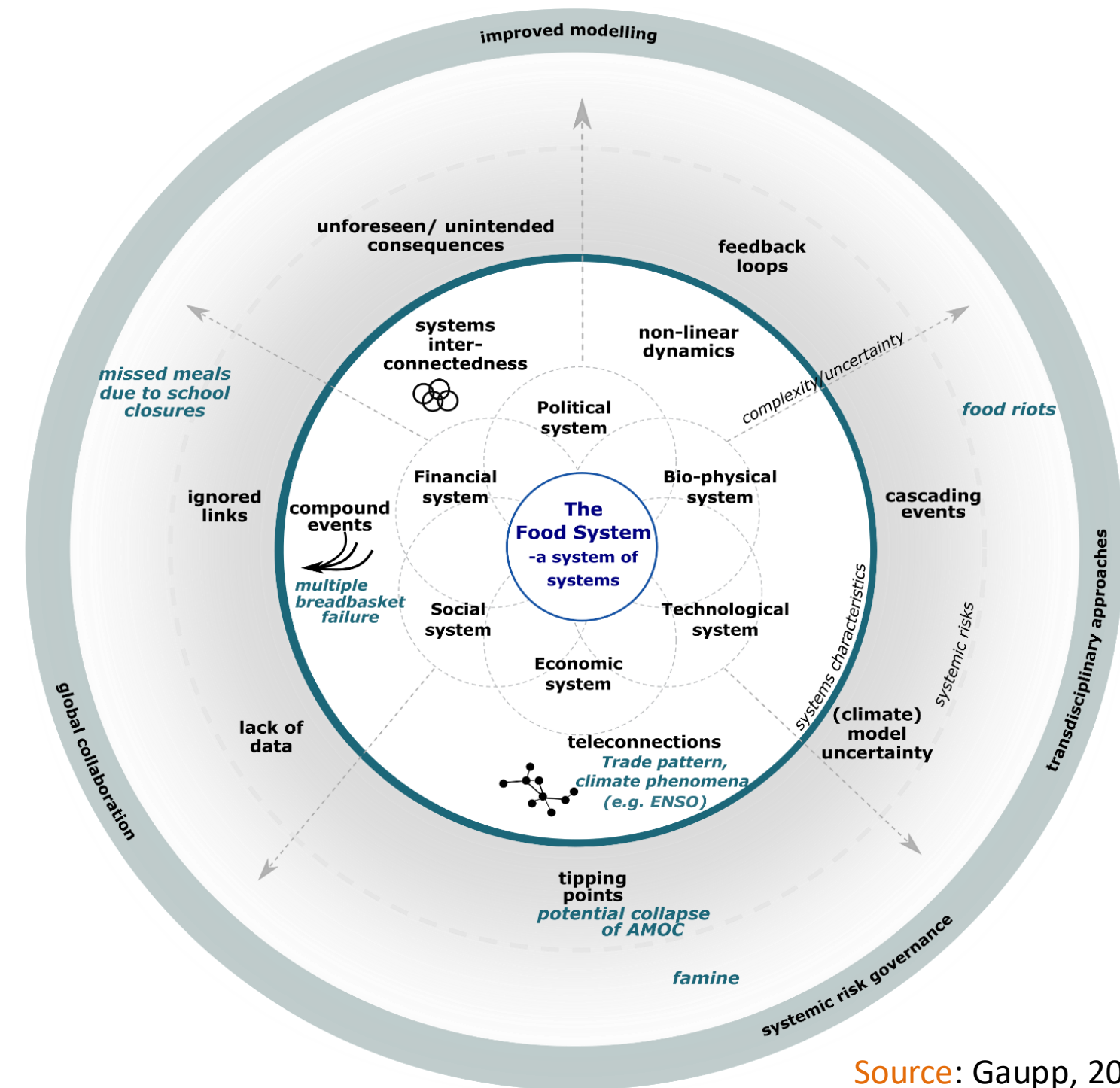
Complex interactions among different economic sectors make it difficult to monitor the overall impacts of droughts

As droughts often affect large areas, sometimes over several years, these cascading impacts can affect large parts of society and economic sectors distant from the drought event.

Visualizing drought-related systemic risk: Adaptive governance and management

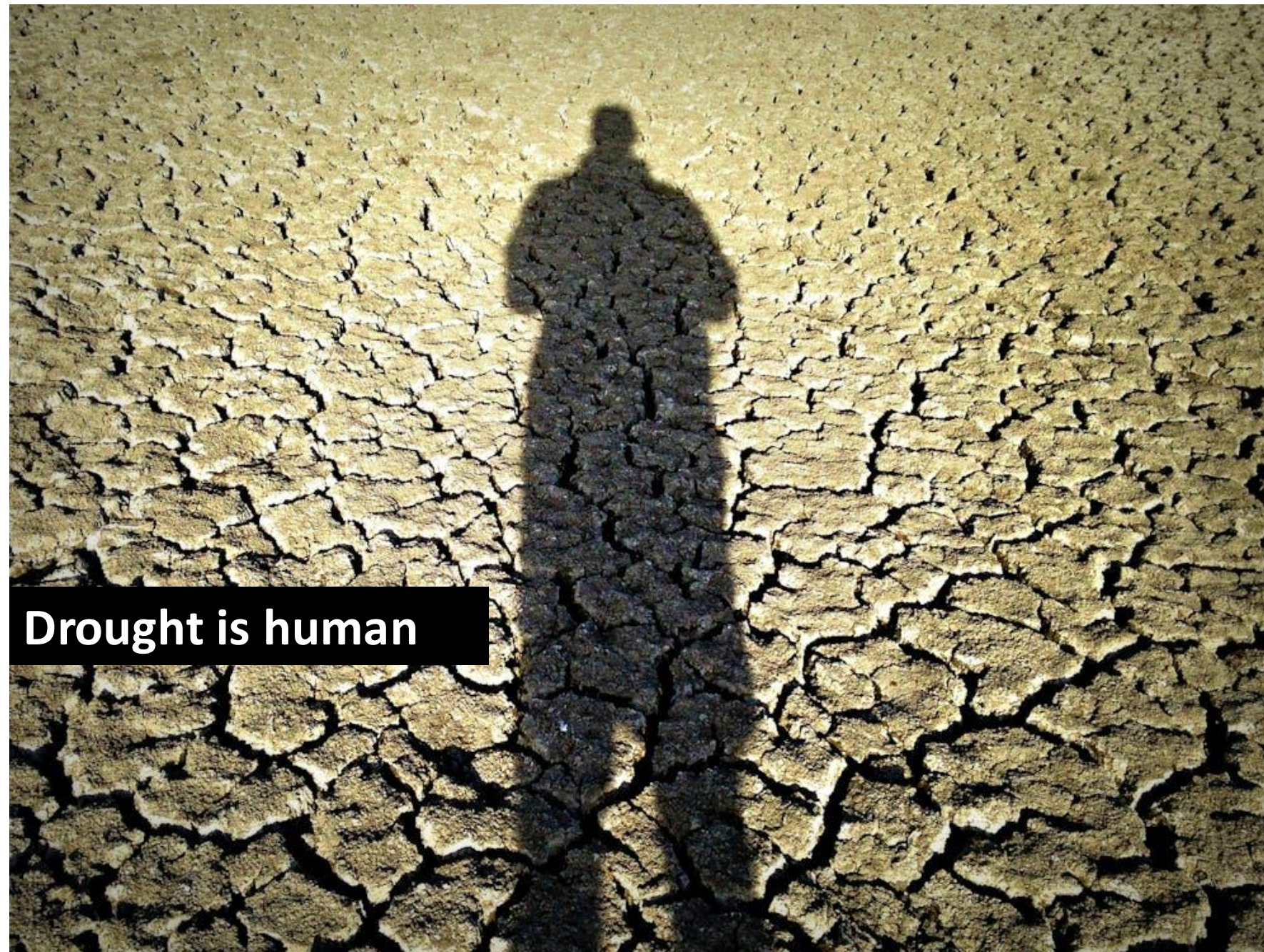
Complex nature of drivers and conditioning factors surrounding global food security

Effective **governance of drought risks** must be able to cope with systemic uncertainty, thresholds and surprises. **Early warnings, iterative analysis, monitoring, integrated approaches and improved learning mechanisms are crucial.** Deviations from targets should not be seen as failures, but rather as opportunities to learn and adjust



Source: Gaupp, 2020

Moving forward: Toward adaptive risk governance:



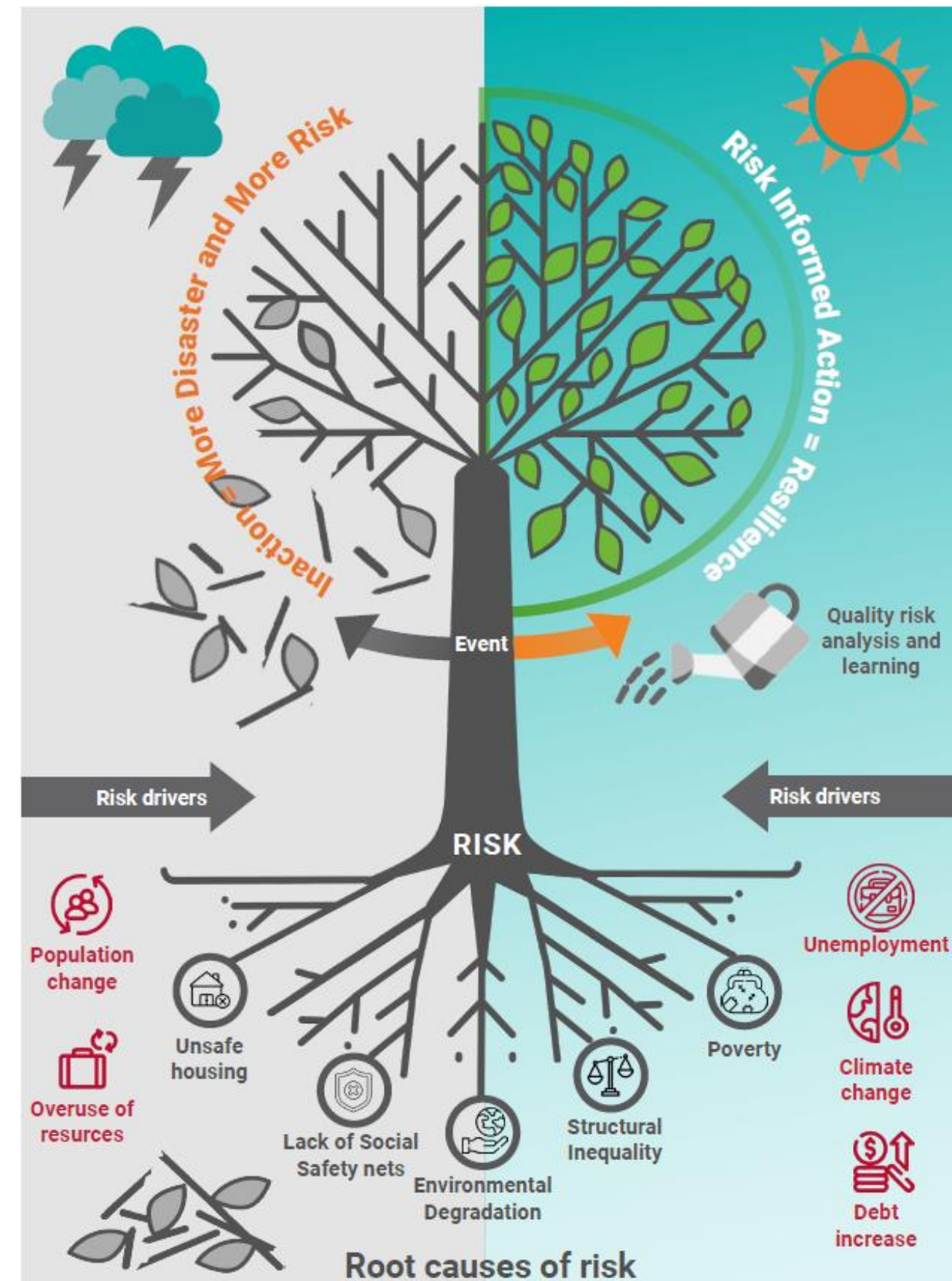
Drought is human

Key conclusions from the GAR SR 2021 included to:

- **Support the establishment of a global mechanism for drought management and innovative financing focused on systemic risks and opportunities**
- **Develop national drought resilience partnerships that work to ensure a seamless link with public, private and civil society partners at local levels**

GAR 2024: How forensic analysis can help across mechanisms

- Focuses on **understanding root causes** rather than just immediate triggers and integrates insights from multiple disciplines to offer a holistic view of disaster risk, including historical, social, economic, and political factors.
- It emphasizes proactive, preventive measures and highlights opportunities for future risk reduction across all sectors,
- Contrasts approaches that focus on immediate needs or assigning blame.



To sum up:

Learning from past disasters is essential. As climate change intensifies, hazards are becoming more severe. Communities, already vulnerable due to poverty and rapid urbanization, need better preparation to prevent these hazards from escalating into disasters.

And that needs to underpin our innovations needed for the future.

Drought is complex, and systemic, but we do have tools that can create locally effective buffers that can protect sustainable development



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Thank you!