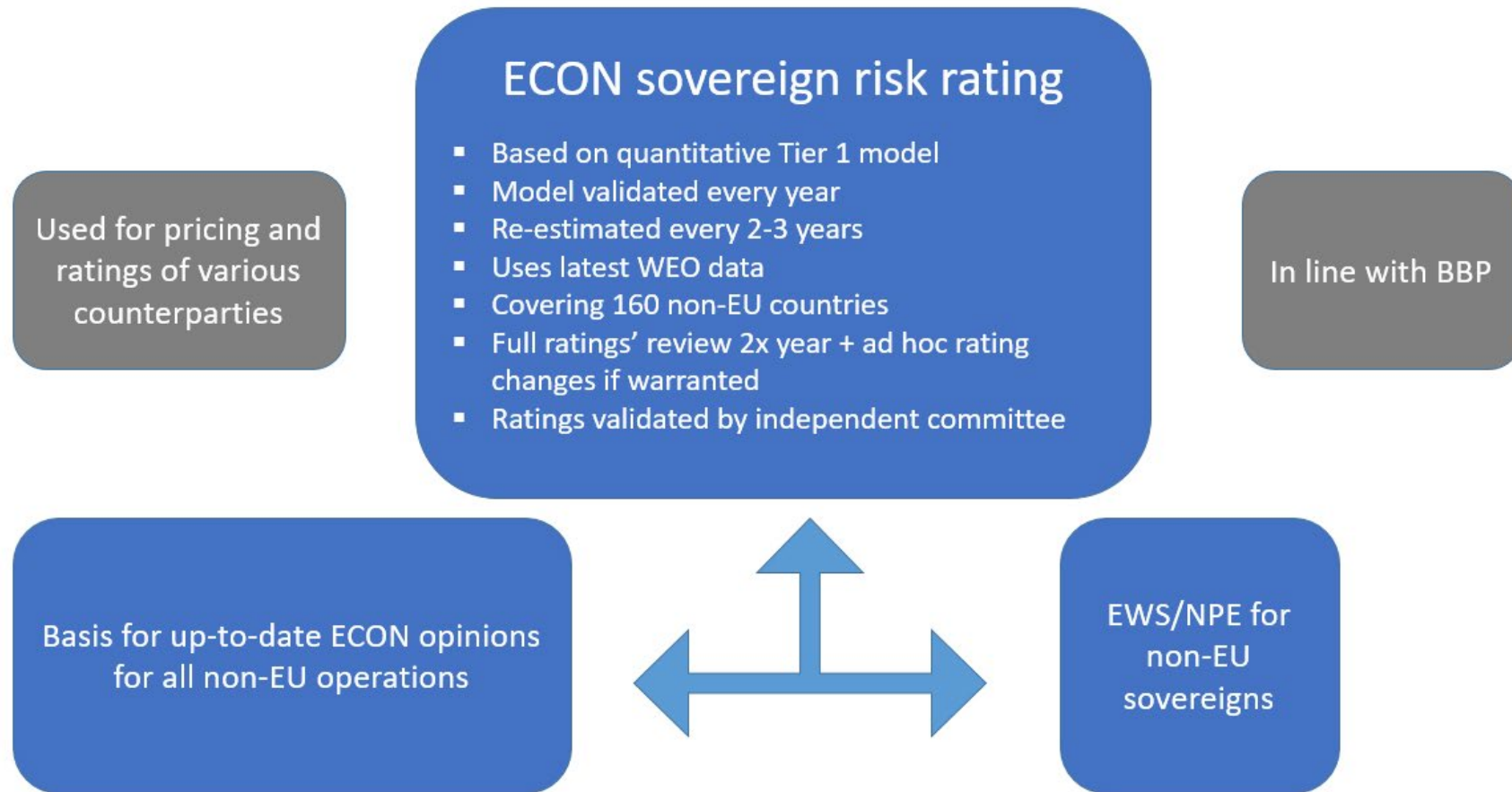


Sovereign, Banking and Climate Risk at the EIB

Ricardo Santos, EIB Economics Department

May 2025

EIB country risk assessment



Sovereign Ratings and Risk Scores

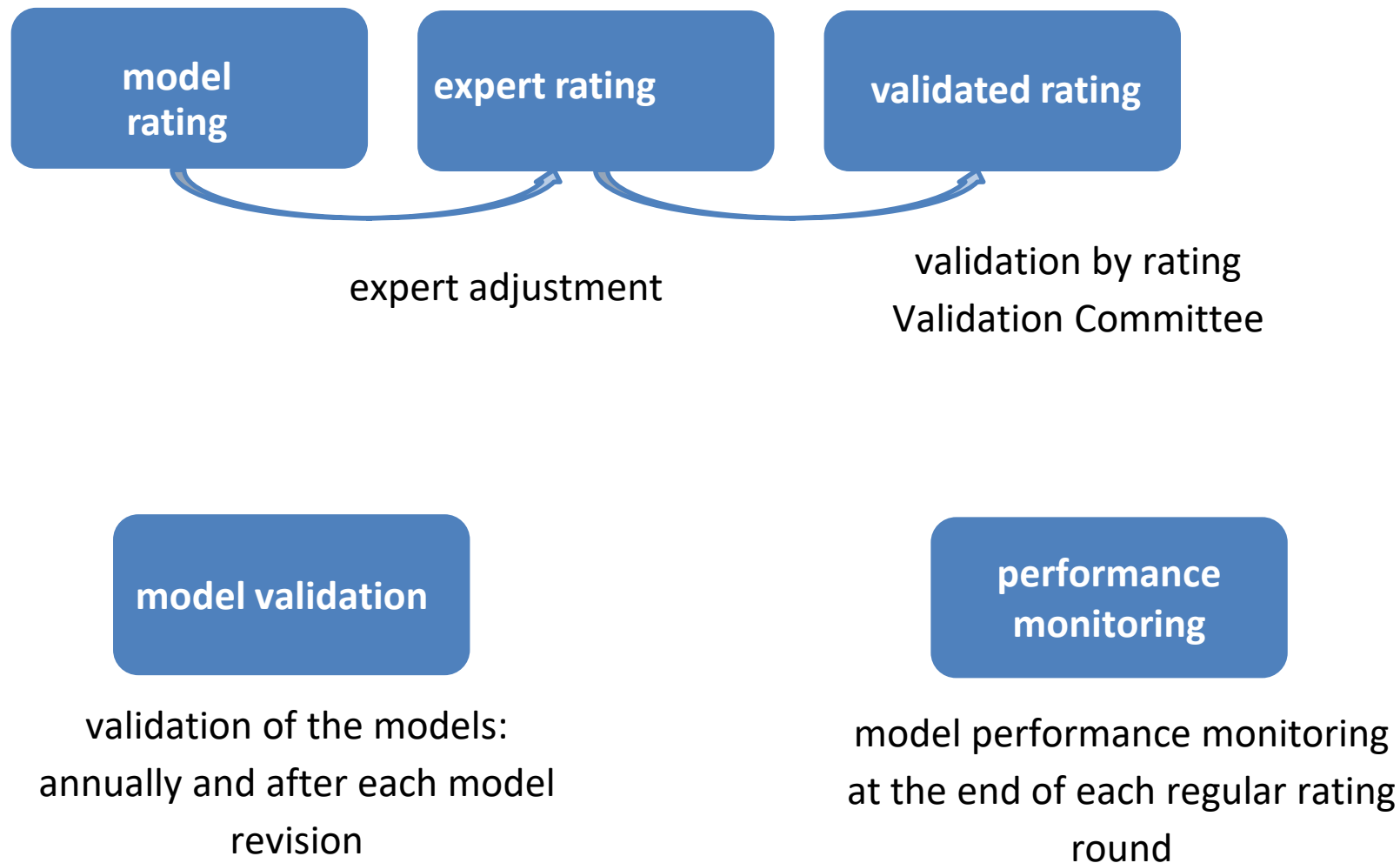
Purpose and scope – Sovereign Ratings

- Assessment of the ability and the willingness of the sovereign issuer to meet its obligations vis-à-vis creditors
- Ratings for all countries to which the EIB is currently exposed or is likely to develop an exposure – except for EU countries

Use

- Risk-pricing
- Eligibility criterion for guarantees and certain activities
- Risk-measurement (capital requirements, provisioning)
- Derivatives/treasury operations
- **Banking Industry Risk and Macroeconomic Risk scores**
- Both scores are included in the EIB's rating model for financial institutions)

Rating and validation/monitoring process



Expert ratings and scores

expert rating/scores = model rating/score + expert adjustment

Model ratings and scores

- Based on four performance factors
- Model rating is a linear combination of indicators
- Model specification follows extensive estimations
- Data treatment:
 - Outliers are removed
 - Current and forward looking data (5y GDP growth)

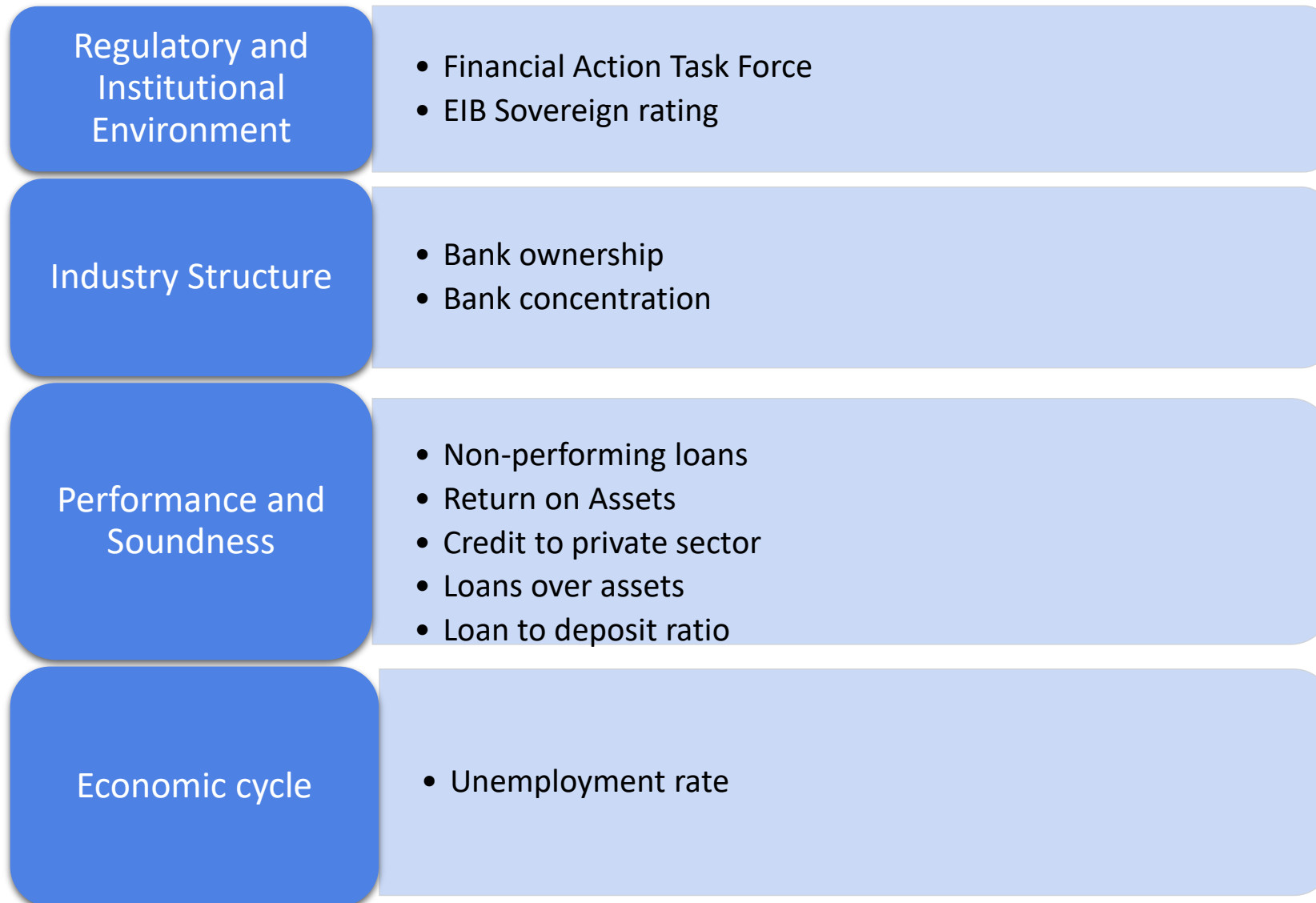
Expert adjustment

- Based on the judgement of the country expert
- Takes into account:
 - factors not included in the models
 - more recent information (e.g. acquired during missions)
 - country-specific situation
 - global developments
 - (economic and banking) outlook
 - Climate risk

Sovereign rating model

Size and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GDP per capita• Nominal GDP
Economic Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investment• Inflation• Future GDP growth
Public Finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government debt• Implicit interest rate
External Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current Account• NIIP• Exchange rate regime and foreign reserves
Institutional Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Governance Indicators

Banking Industry Risk Model

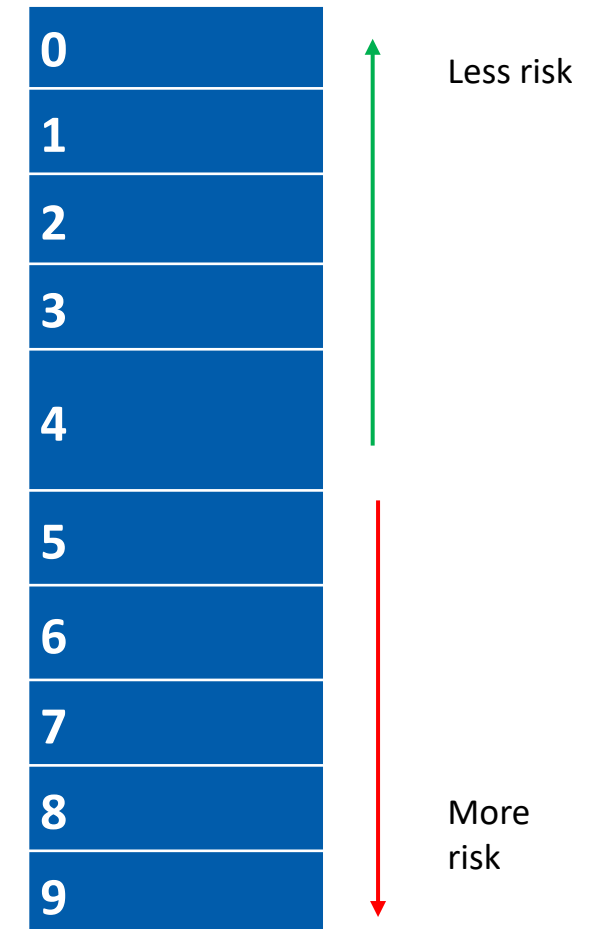


Rating and risk scales

Sovereign ratings scale

	Credit risk	Default	Remark
Aaa	Lowest level of credit risk		Investment grade
Aa1 – Aa3	Very low credit risk		
A1 – A3	Low credit risk		
Baa1 – Baa3	Moderate credit risk		
Ba1 – Ba3	Speculative, substantial credit risk	Default unlikely but risks are present and must be acknowledged	
B1 – B3	Speculative, high credit risk	Default risk is material even if loss may be minimal (default risk still <50%)	Speculative grade
Caa1 – Caa3	Speculative, very high credit risk	Default is a real possibility (risk >50%)	
Ca	Highly speculative, very high credit risk	In or very near to default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest	
C	Exceptionally high credit risk	Typically in default with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest	
D			Internal default

Macro and BIR scores



EIB Climate Risk Country Scores

EIB/ECON developed an indicator that comprehensively covers the various dimensions of **Climate risk**:

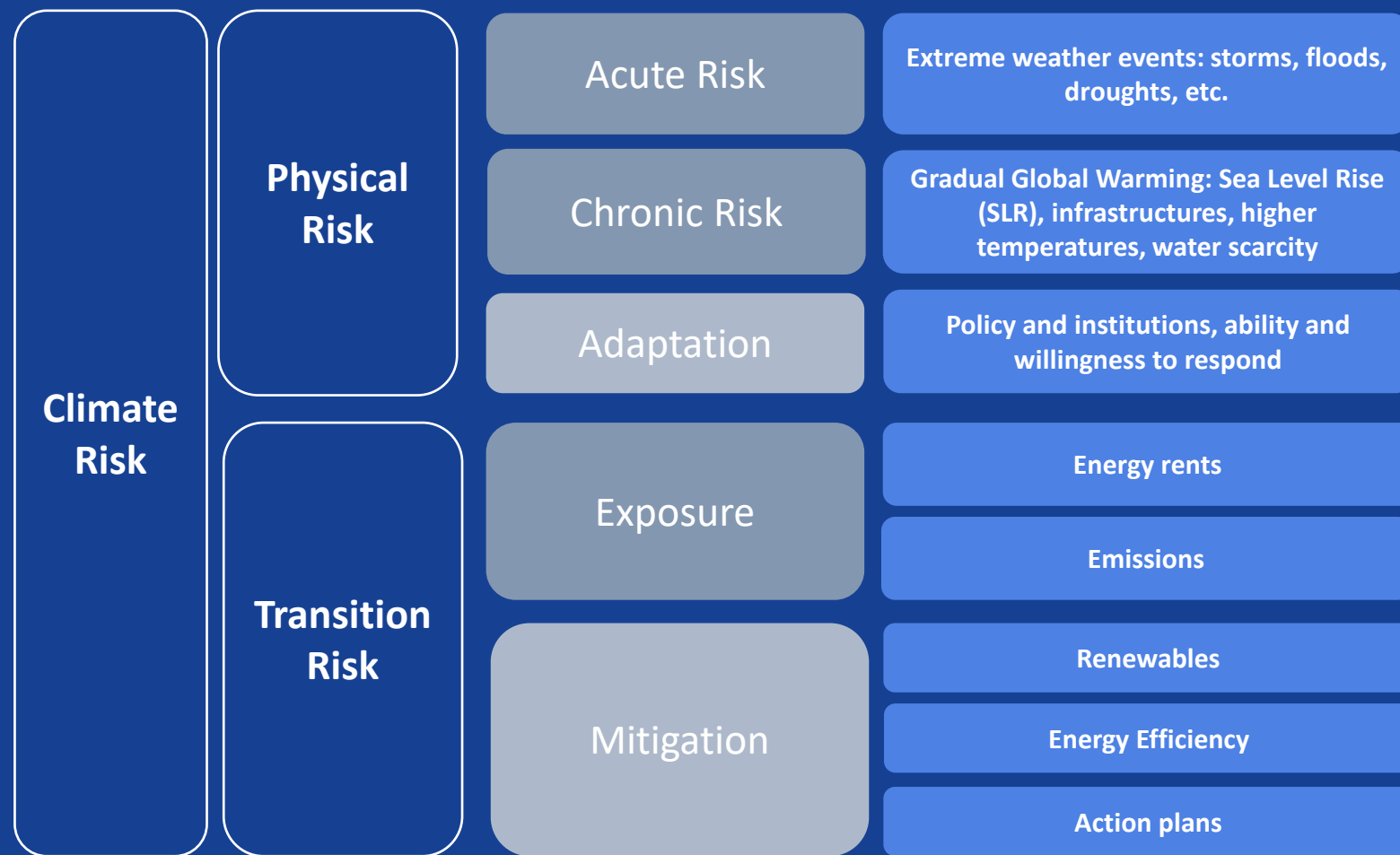
- 1) physical risk
 - 2) transition risks
- ... taking into account Adaptation and Mitigation capabilities of the country

The model was **internally validated**

EIB Climate Risk Country Scores

- covering 186 countries
- Range 1 – 5 (1=best, 5=worst), or 1-10
- “cleverly” aggregated (not equally weighted)

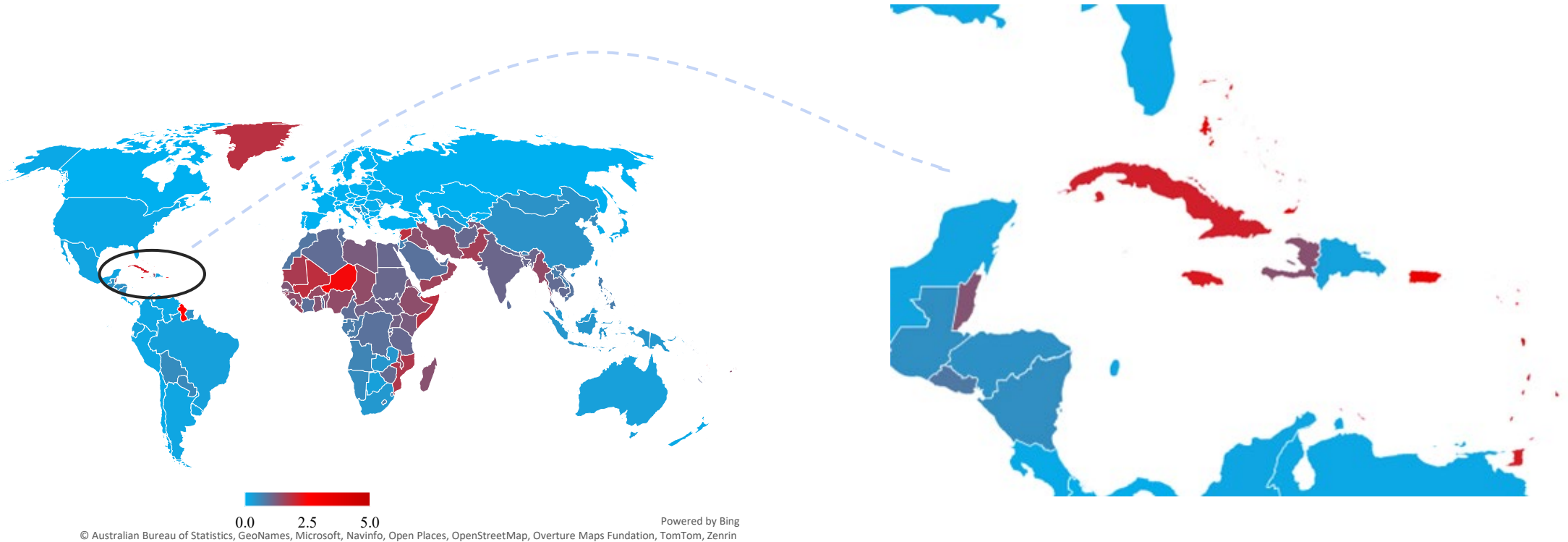
It serves the need of EIB risk management framework being an input for the **Climate Change Screening Tool**



Countries are scored in relative terms, and relative to their capacity to withstand the climate risks

Physical Risk

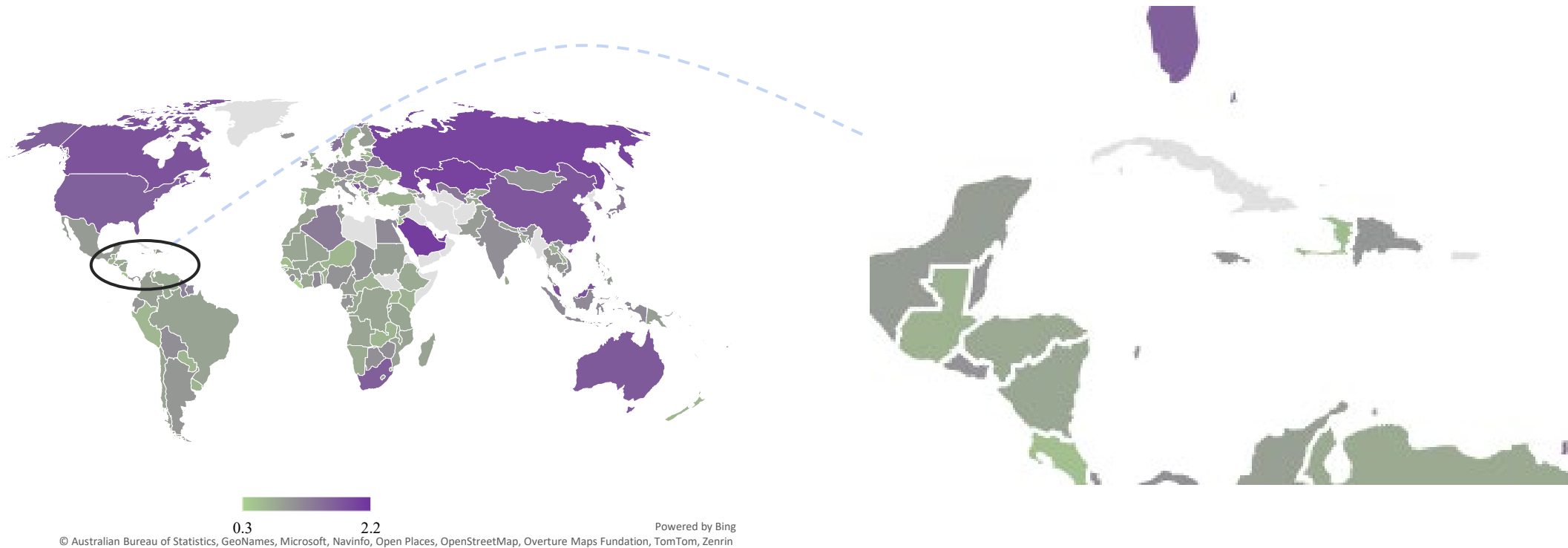
Poorer, smaller, and exposed to waters and heat



Countries are scored in relative terms, and relative to their capacity to withstand the climate risks

Transition Risk

Fossil fuel producers, developed and those with delayed climate action plans

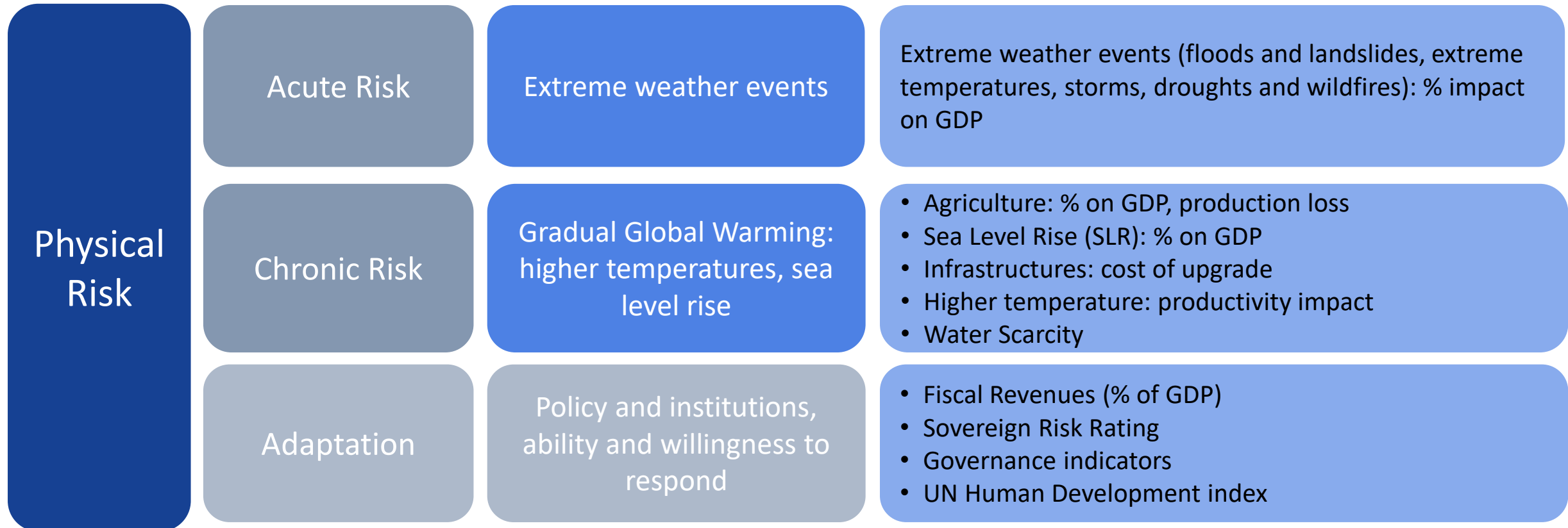


THANK YOU!



European
Investment Bank

Physical risk building blocks



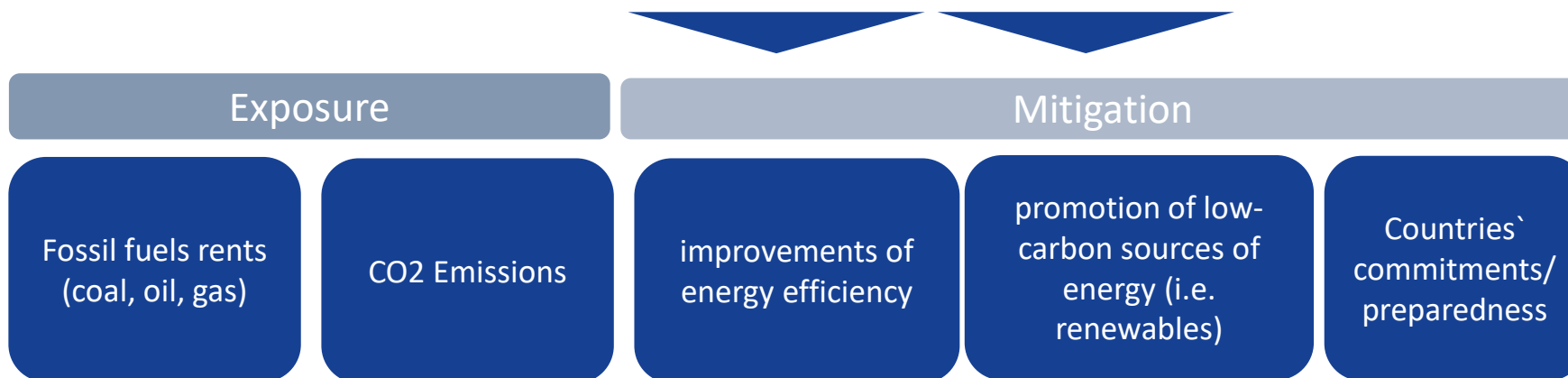
Physical risk: variables and sources

Dimension	Feature	Variables used	Unit	Source	Type of source
Physical Risk: Acute	Hydrogeological (floods and landslides), Meteorological (extreme temperatures, storms), Climatological (drought and wildfires) impacts	Damages	% of GDP	EM-DAT	dataset
		Germanwatch	Rank (based on % GDP impact)	Germanwatch	dataset
	Lower crops	Agriculture	% of GDP	WDI	dataset
		Production Loss	% of GDP	FAO (2017)	Academic paper
Physical Risk: Chronic	Impact of Sea Level Rise (SLR)	GDP impact	% of GDP	Diaz (2016)	Academic paper
	Need of upgrading infrastructures	Adaptation gap	index, % of GDP	World Bank (2016)	Academic paper
	Impact of heat on productivity	Labour productivity	%	McKinsey (2020)	Academic paper
		Monthly average Temperatures	Celsius degrees	World Bank	dataset
	Water scarcity	GDP impact	% of GDP	World Bank (2016)	Academic paper

Transition risk: the framework

The risk associated to the transition to a net zero economy starts from the Kaya identity, augmenting it

$$\frac{CO_2}{POP} = \underbrace{\frac{E}{GDP}}_{\text{energy intensity}} * \underbrace{\frac{CO_2}{E}}_{\text{CO2 intensity}} * \frac{GDP}{POP}$$



Transition risk: variables and sources

Dimension	Feature	Unit	Source
Revenues	Revenues from coal export	% of merchandise exports	WB
	Revenues from oil export	% of merchandise exports	WB
	Revenues from gas export	% of merchandise exports	WB
Costs	GHG emissions	MMtonnes CO ₂ /capita	EIA
Climate action	Energy consumption per capita or GDP	quad BTU/capita or /GDP	EIA
	Renewables production	% of final energy consumption	EIA
	Commitments to mitigate GHG emissions	0-1	CAIT/NDCs
Macroeconomic	Gross Domestic Product	\$2015PPP	EIA
	Population	M persons	EIA
Thresholds: 2°C scenarios	Global GHG emissions budget 2030	GT CO ₂	UN
	Global consumption 2030	PJ	IEA
	Global population development	M person	UN