## World Bank Group Report Launch: Financial Protection of Critical Infrastructure Services

## Financial Protection of Critical Infrastructure Services: Key concepts, findings and call for action

**Benedikt Signerindings and call for action** Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance Program, World Bank Group bsigner@worldbank.org



# From protecting assets to protecting services



APEC experience and underlying fundamentals

**2018** Operational Framework for protecting assets

**2019** Proposed financial product to embed resilience and risk finance



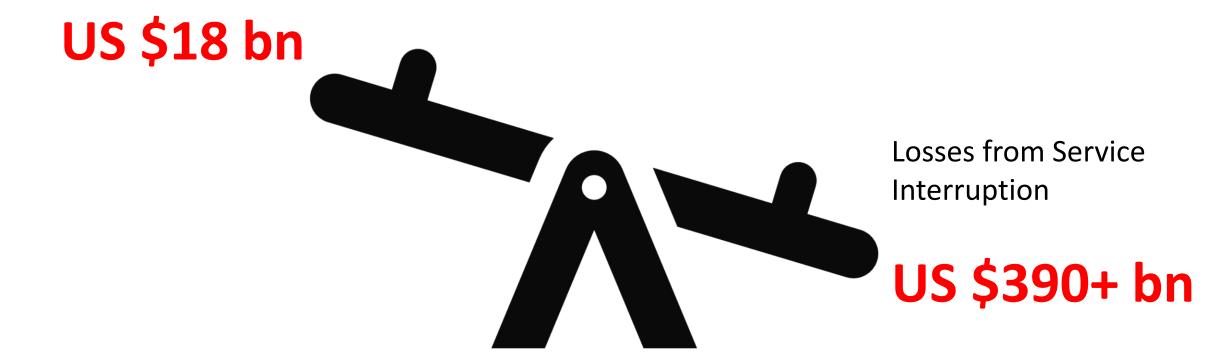
2020 Protecting critical infrastructure services

# Why focus on critical infrastructure <u>services</u>?

- **1. Much larger cost to the economy:** Estimated cost of disruption to services at least 20 times larger than cost of physical damages.
- 2. The COVID-19 experience: Disruption to services can emerge not just from physical damages, but also disruptions to people, inputs, or even shocks to demand.
- **3. Unaccounted contingent liability on the government balance sheet:** usually not quantified, cost of temporary actions to maintain critical services, cascading effects.
- **4. Unclear risk ownership:** Unlike ownership of physical assets risk ownership of critical services usually not as established between government and operators. Also can create poor incentives for resilience and delays in service restoration.

## Why focus on critical infrastructure <u>services</u>?

Losses to Assets



Annual losses to energy and transport sector in low- and middle- income countries globally

Infrastructure systems to deliver services



One or multiple physical assets connected in a network (e.g. roads, hospitals, power plants)





People





Inputs (e.g. raw materials, fuel, electricity)

# **Shock responsive systems: Combine Financial and Operational Preparedness**



### **Operational preparedness:**

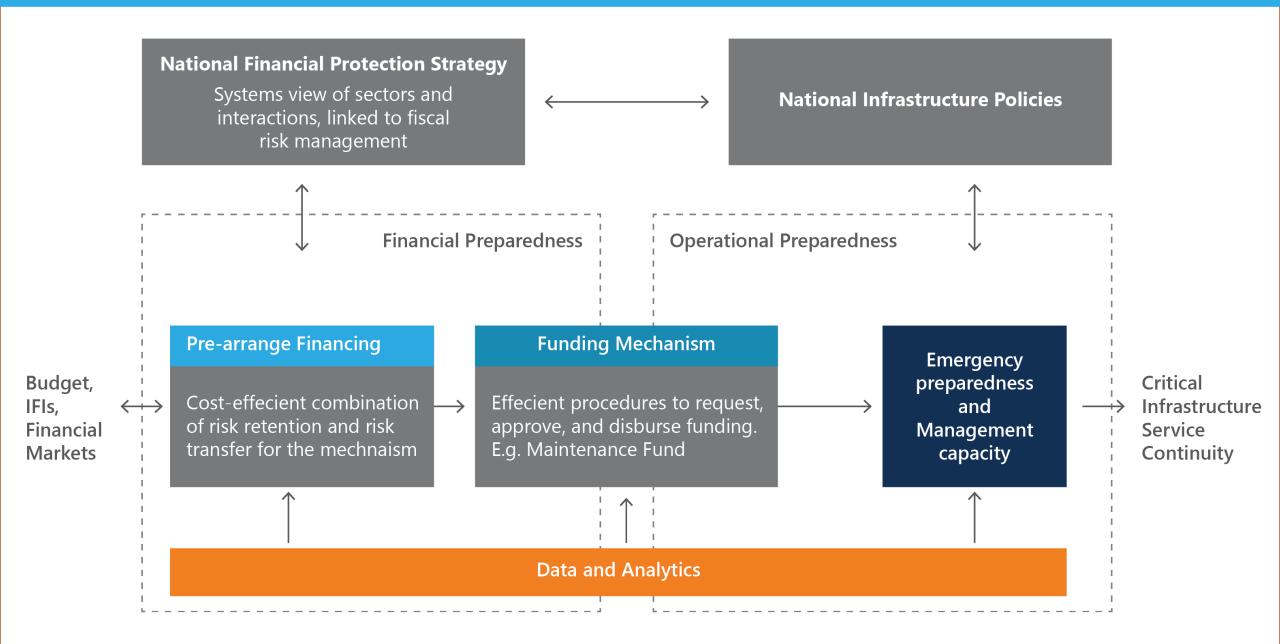
The right plans, standard operating protocols, and capabilities (e.g. people, equipment, resources) in place to quickly restore critical services.



#### **Financial preparedness:**

A mechanism to ensure adequate and timely financing is available to implement those plans and that it can be accessed effectively.

(Both availability and disbursement of funding).



Governments and Finance Ministers can promote financial resilience of critical infrastructure services through the following areas

- 1. Assessing the potential fiscal impact from disruptions to critical services;
- 2. Strengthening the integration of operational and financial preparedness planning;
- 3. Integrating the contingent liability from critical service interruptions in risk financing frameworks;
- 4. Considering ways to promote comprehensive risk management during recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.