The LAC-INFORM model has a multi-layer structure (see image below). A risk score is calculated by combining 82 indicators that measure three dimensions: hazard and exposure, vulnerability and lack of coping capacity.

Each dimension is defined by two categories of analysis, such as exposure to natural hazards, vulnerable groups, or lack of infrastructure capacity.

The categories are made up of components, which are carefully chosen sets of indicators that capture specific topics.

The indicators are individual datasets. These are given a weighting and added together to calculate the risk index and its components for each country. The LAC-INFORM index is a score between 0.0 and 10.0. The low values of the index represent a better condition (e.g. lower risk), and the high values of the index represent a worse condition (e.g. higher risk).