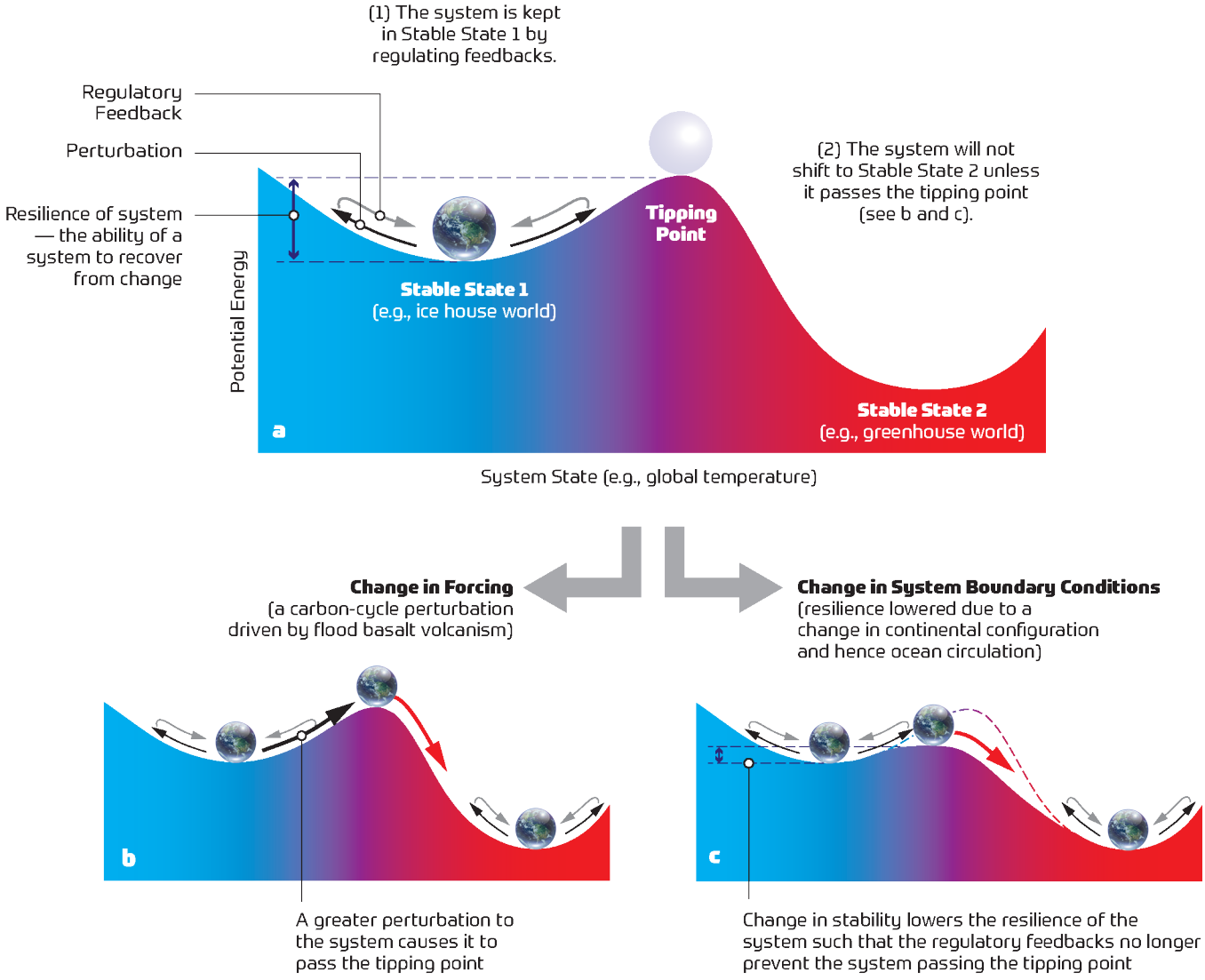

Stability landscapes in which valleys represent stable states and the peaks between them represent tipping points. Regulating feedbacks that prevent perturbations from pushing the system beyond a tipping point keep the system in a stable state (a). In the climate system, changes in insolation are offset by changes in precipitation and carbon burial. The tipping point may be crossed if the system is perturbed even more, for example, it is subject to greater forcing as a result of internal amplifying feedbacks or an external driver (b), or if gradual changes in system parameters lead to a change in the stability landscape that lowers its resilience to perturbations (c). *Illustration by Rosalind Coggon*