



COMPONENTS OF A SUSTAINABLE CROSS- SECTOR PARTNERSHIP

NCII Rural Guided Pathways

April 2024

CIVICLAB

BUILDING RURAL COMMUNITY SYSTEMS

CivicLab will select 10 rural cross-sector partnerships to participate in system-building cohort designed to improve the connection of postsecondary education to employment opportunities aligned with future economies.

**Application Due:
May 10, 2024**









Critically the herd is aligned and in a process of constant alignments, it is not organized or directed to achieve a result, but rather create more favorable conditions.

This un-selfish approach allows the herd to maintain speed while traveling through multiple contexts and respond to multiple threats simultaneously.

We must create and maintain patterns of interactions that enable more effective, real-time engagement with uncertainty.



**TWO APPROACHES
TO SUSTAINABILITY**

FIXED SUSTAINABILITY

- The group aligns around the **resources** within a predicable, fixed, and stable context.
- Set the desired outcome - pursue the desired outcome.

ADAPTIVE SUSTAINABILITY

- The group aligns around its **fit* and relationship** to a moving and dynamic context.
- Set the desired vector - pursue the desired vector.

**How an organism is fitted, how it is constantly being designed, redefined by a dynamic process. Fitted-ness is always redefining itself, reconstituting itself. It is something that is constantly changing within a process of self-organization because there is no essence. There is no final design on fitted-ness. Fitted-ness has to constantly be redesigning itself in a self-organizing fashion so it can constantly pick up on the way in which the world is constantly varying and dynamically changing. - Dr. John Vervaeke, Univ. of Toronto*

RESOURCES

Deficit-Based

Scarcity/
Competition

When we use
resources, they are
forever depleted

Closed-System

RELATIONSHIPS

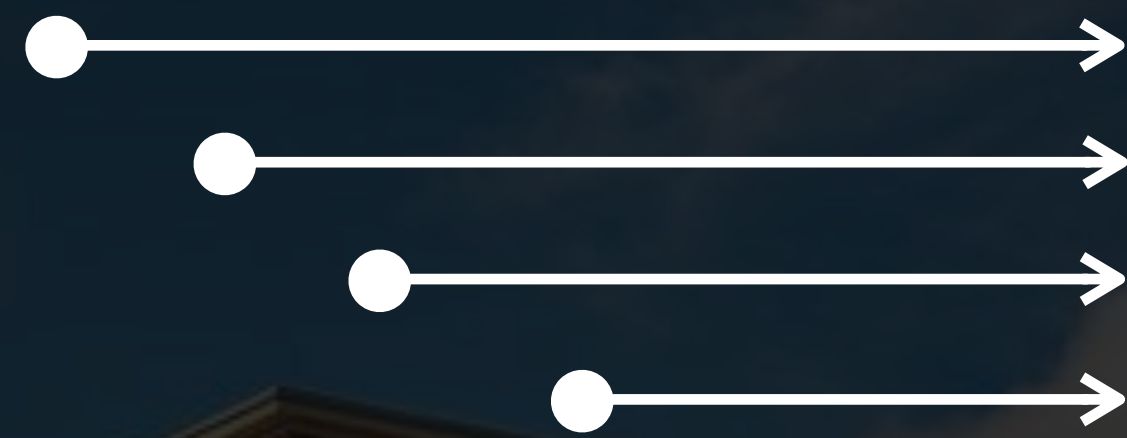
Asset-Based

Abundance/
Cooperation

Relationships grow
stronger the more
we engage them

Open-System

A PARADIGM SHIFT



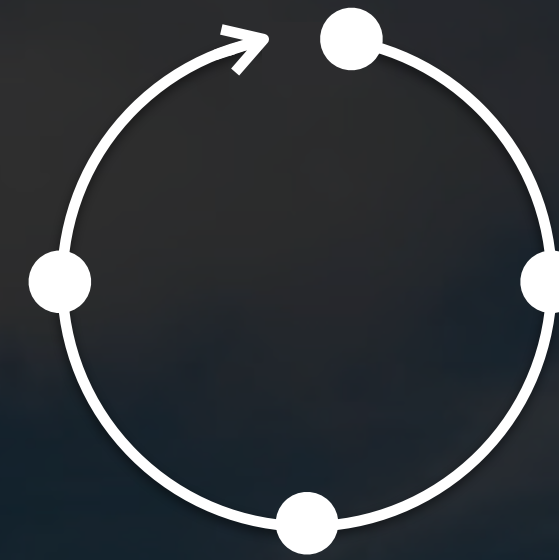
A PROGRAMMATIC MODEL

Operating Principles:

Solve a Problem
Organizational-Focused
Episodic, Static
Sharing Different Information
Planning-Oriented
Allocating Resources

The Result:

A new programmatic intervention



A SYSTEMIC MODEL

Operating Principles:

Dissolve a Problem
System-Focused
Real-Time, Dynamic
Sharing Same Information
Process-Oriented
Shaping Relationships

The Result:

A fundamental redesign of the work



CHANDRA SCOTT

Alabama Possible



TESSA LESAGE

Collaboratory

