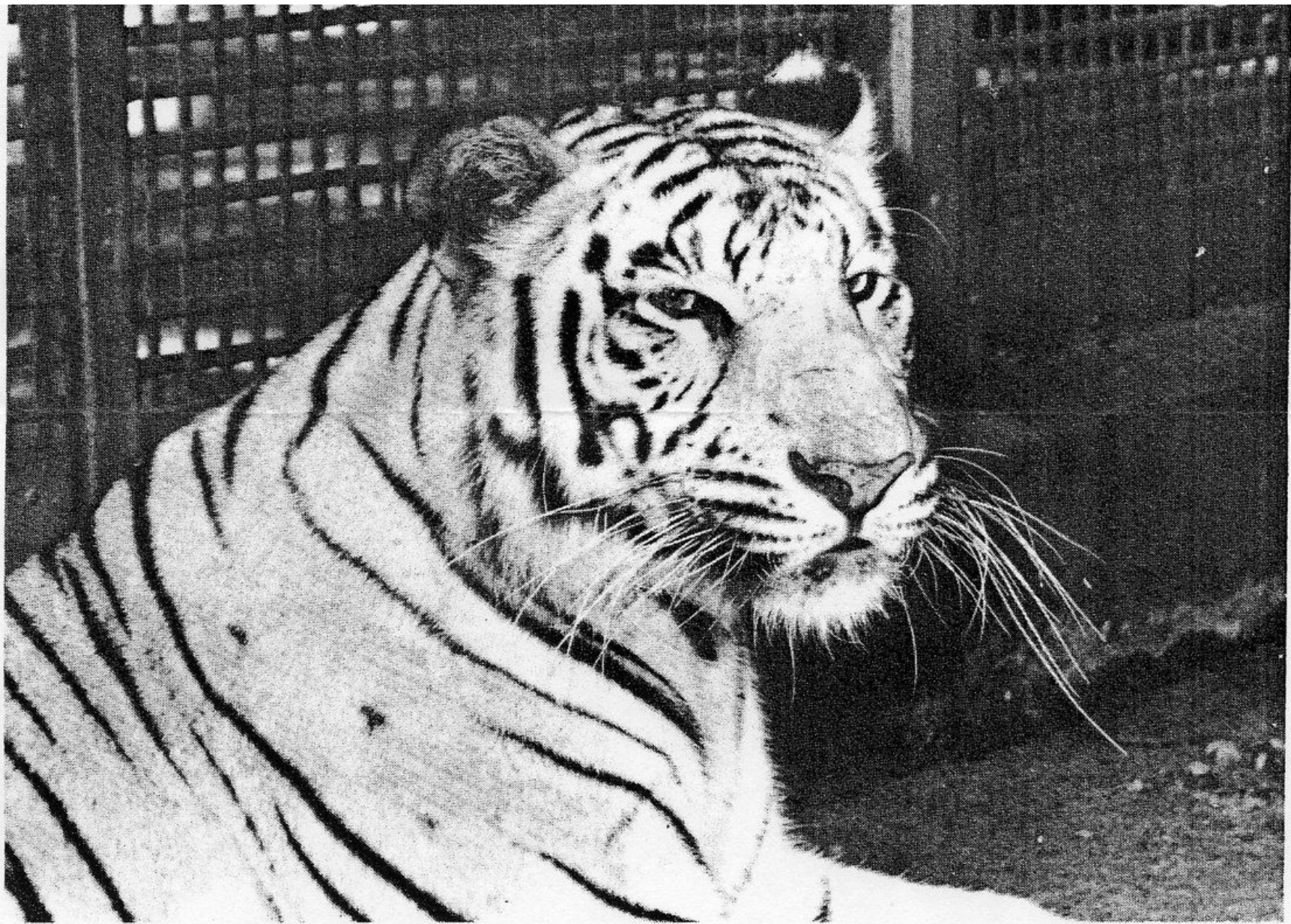


from collaborative action to collective impact

Katherine Skinner, @Educopia
Digital Preservation of Federal Information Summit
San Antonio, Texas April 3, 2016

EDUCOPIA
INSTITUTE



(Courtesy National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C.)

Better bred than dead

David Challinor on the efforts of zoos to preserve rare species

ZOO DIRECTORS and others concerned with the survival and well-being of zoo animals are increasingly interested in the ability of wild animals to adapt to captivity. The present design of new zoo exhibits reflects in part this concern. Not only are the new barless enclosures more aesthetically pleasing to the visitor, but they are also designed to reduce some of the neurotic behaviour shown by some mammals, particularly primates and cats, when confined to the old fashioned menagerie cage. The moats and glass barriers now used are designed to protect the animal from the visitor and, in the case of glass panels in primate houses, serve the double purpose of keeping the monkeys from catching humans' colds and freeing the visitor from the animals' pungent smell.

Despite such improvements, some zoo-bred animals, when moved from cramped quarters to landscaped habitats, cannot readily adapt. We have had several examples of animals' difficulty in breaking habitual behaviour at the Smithsonian National Zoo. Our white tiger, Mohini, released from her old barred cage to expansive new quarters with trees, grass and even a swimming pool, seldom strayed from her electrically heated concrete pad. She even wore out the grass walking back and forth in front of it, covering exactly the distance she had travelled during her years in her old quarters. Eventually, after a few months, she was able to break this pattern and occupy the entire enclosure. Yet, one of our polar bears, when moved to large new quarters, was unable to swim freely in his new pool, paddling in a tight circle of the same diameter as of his old pool.

The most recent anecdote about animal

their new enclosure would climb only along the stable wooden framework and supporting cables. The flexible natural branches were too much for these old males, but not for the younger animals in the troops, who readily adapted to their new surroundings.

Although some animals are adapting well to captivity, unexpected problems continually arise. The magnificent sable antelope is now breeding successfully at the Smithsonian's Conservation Research Center at Front Royal, Virginia. However, their hooves are not worn down as fast in



Grass is better than concrete

the lush pastures and hardwood thickets of Virginia as they are in the flinty soils of their home ranges. Unless manually trimmed about twice a year, their excessive length can damage the muscles and small bones in their feet. Trimming is done while the antelope is tranquillised by a dart gun. Unfortunately, sable antelope seem to be more vulnerable than other antelope species to darting, with the result that we have lost some animals by using this method. The challenge is now to find other ways to keep their hooves the proper length.

New Scientist, 1984



Source: Ken Lawrence, Unsplash, <https://unsplash.com/photos/YJIH8vK0qFc>



Shift
Key

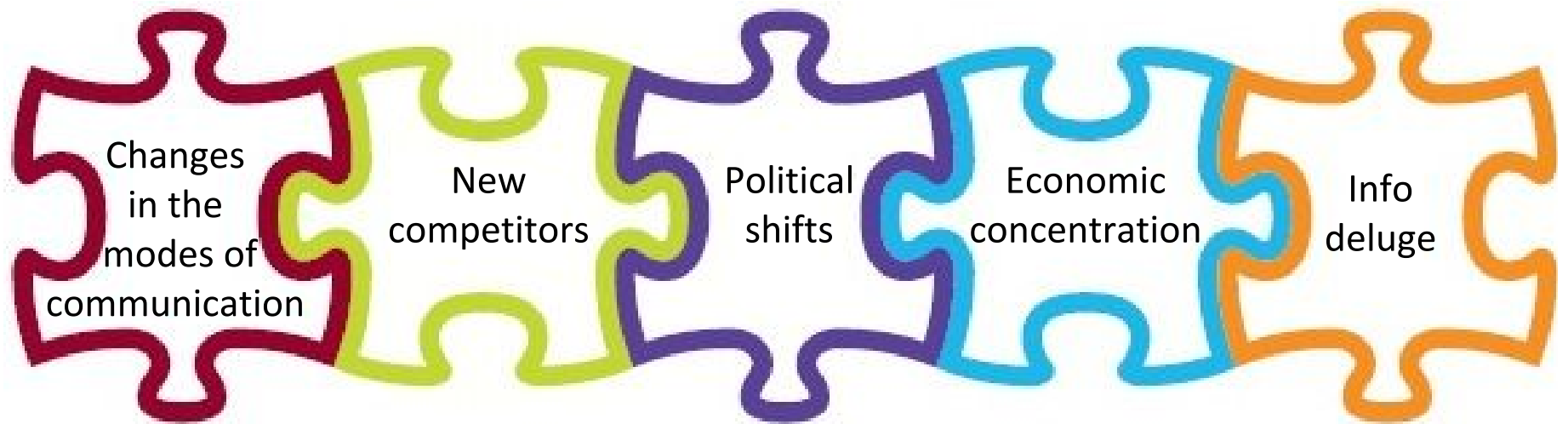


Image source: Daniella Winkler, Stadtbibliothek, Germany, Unsplash, <https://unsplash.com/photos/8TGRQ6-5KRU>



Image source: Hevesh5, YouTube, sobadsogood.com

What makes this a “critical moment”...



Fields and Transitions...

1. Fields tend toward stasis



Fields and Transitions...

2. Innovations happen on the *fringes*



Fields and Transitions...

3. Field-wide change depends on networks



Not a single extraordinary genius...



...but a network of players

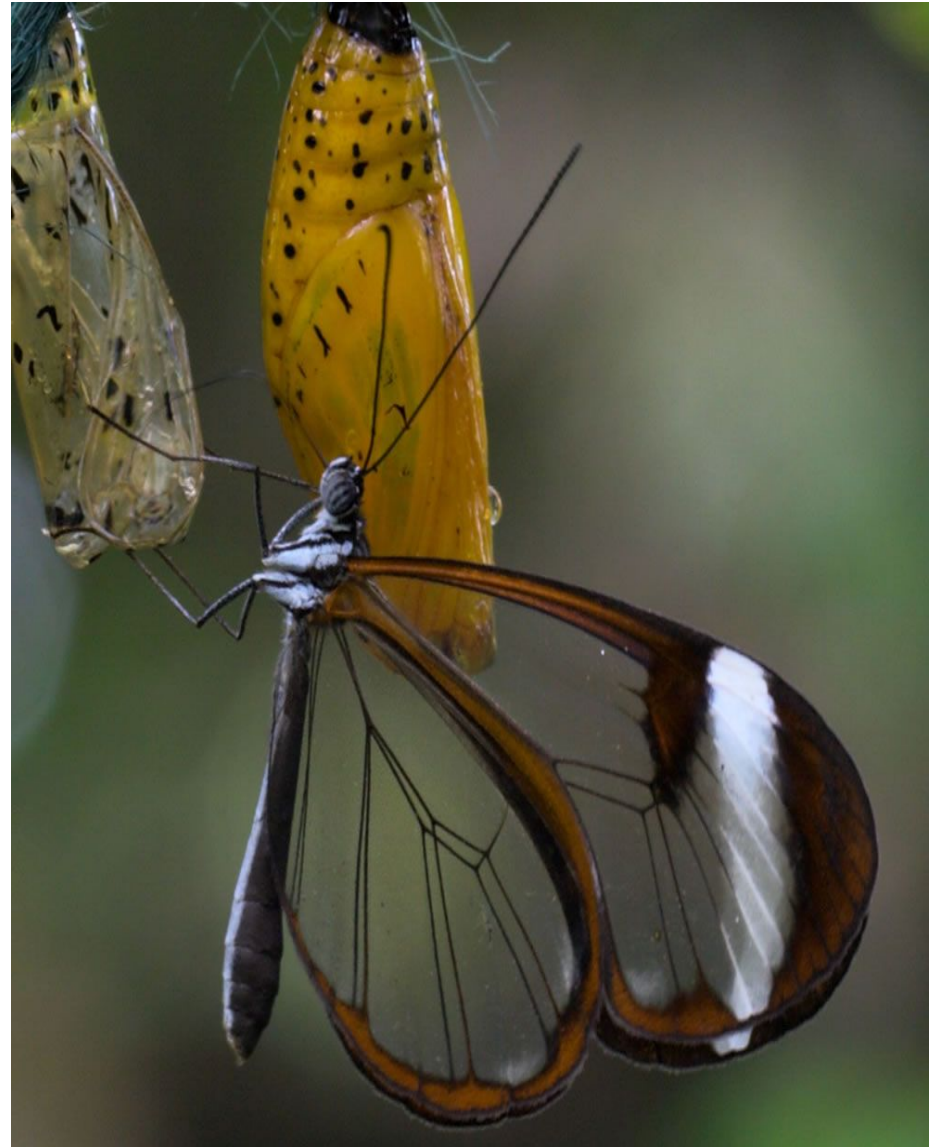



If

- This is a critical moment
- Fringe players innovate
- Networks bring change

Then

- Alignment is a transformative tactic





Collective Impact
brings people
together in a
structured way to
achieve social change





Common Agenda

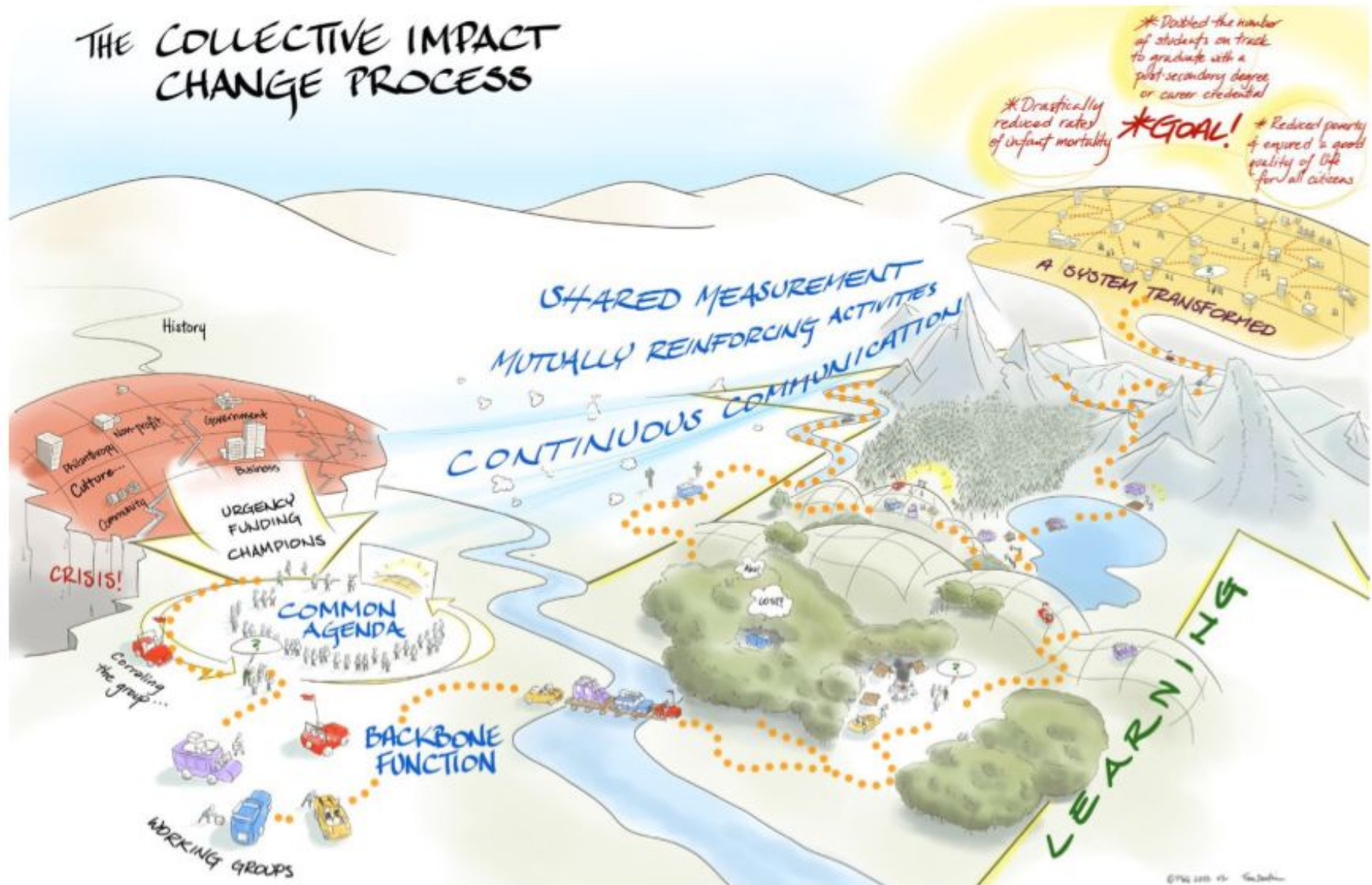
Shared Measurement

Mutually Reinforcing Activities

Continuous Communications

Backbone Support

THE COLLECTIVE IMPACT CHANGE PROCESS



© 1994 2010 FSG. See below.

Source: H. Preskill, M. Parkhurst, J. Splansky Justler, "Learning and Evaluation in the Collective Impact Context" (FSG, 2014)

Cascading Levels of Collaboration

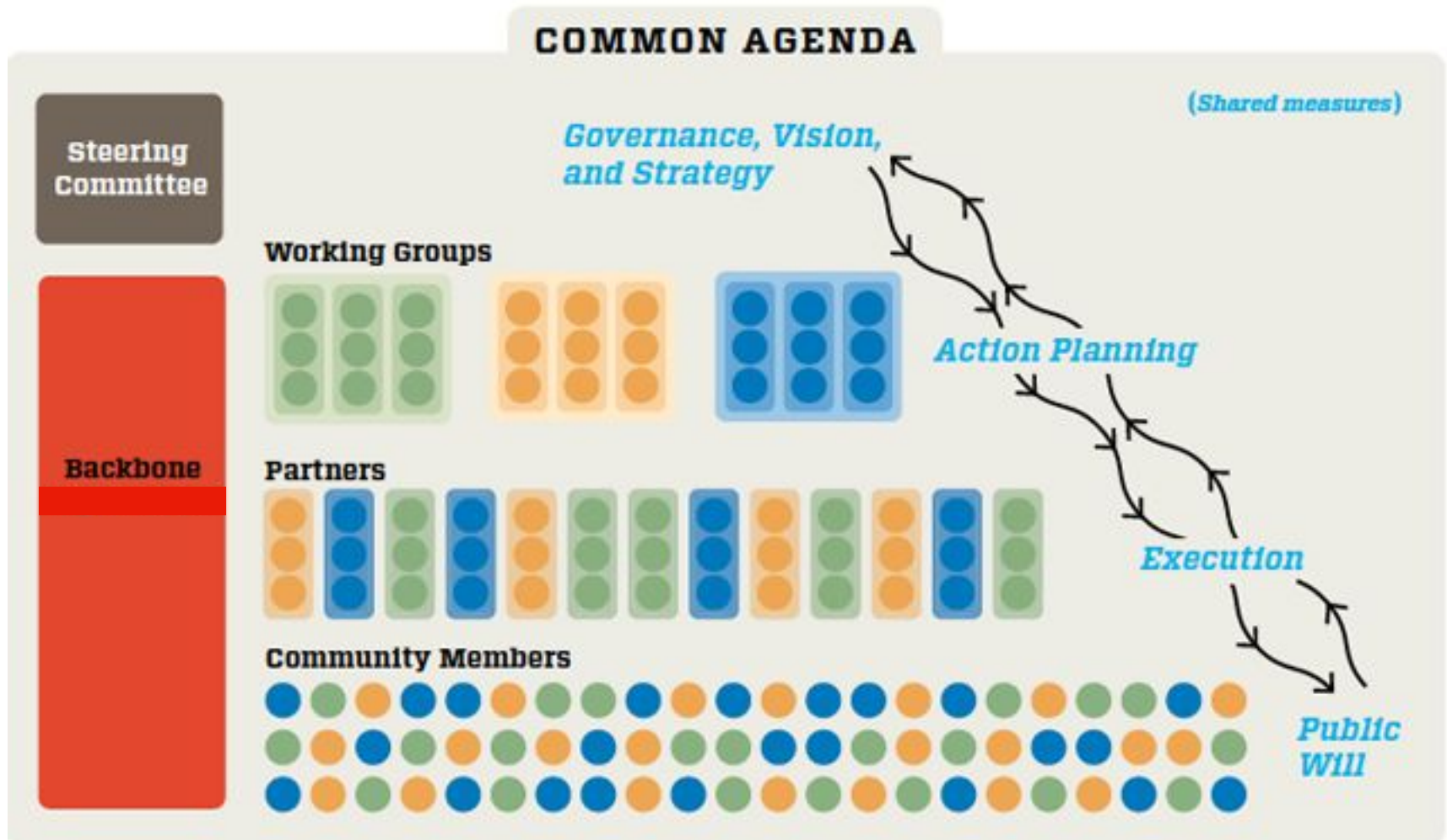




Image source: Alessia Caudiero, Unsplash, <https://unsplash.com/photos/ZW7unsyfPGQ>