



Faculty of Design

2021

Moving Toward Paradigms and Patterns of Transformative Innovation in Public Sector Labs

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Suggested citation:

Cole, Lindsay (2021) Moving Toward Paradigms and Patterns of Transformative Innovation in Public Sector Labs. In: Proceedings of Relating Systems Thinking and Design (RSD10) 2021 Symposium, 2-6 Nov 2021, Delft, The Netherlands. Available at <http://openresearch.ocadu.ca/id/eprint/3868/>

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A scenic sunset over a body of water with a forested shoreline. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and light blue, with some clouds. The water is calm, reflecting the light. The shoreline is dark with silhouettes of trees and rocks.

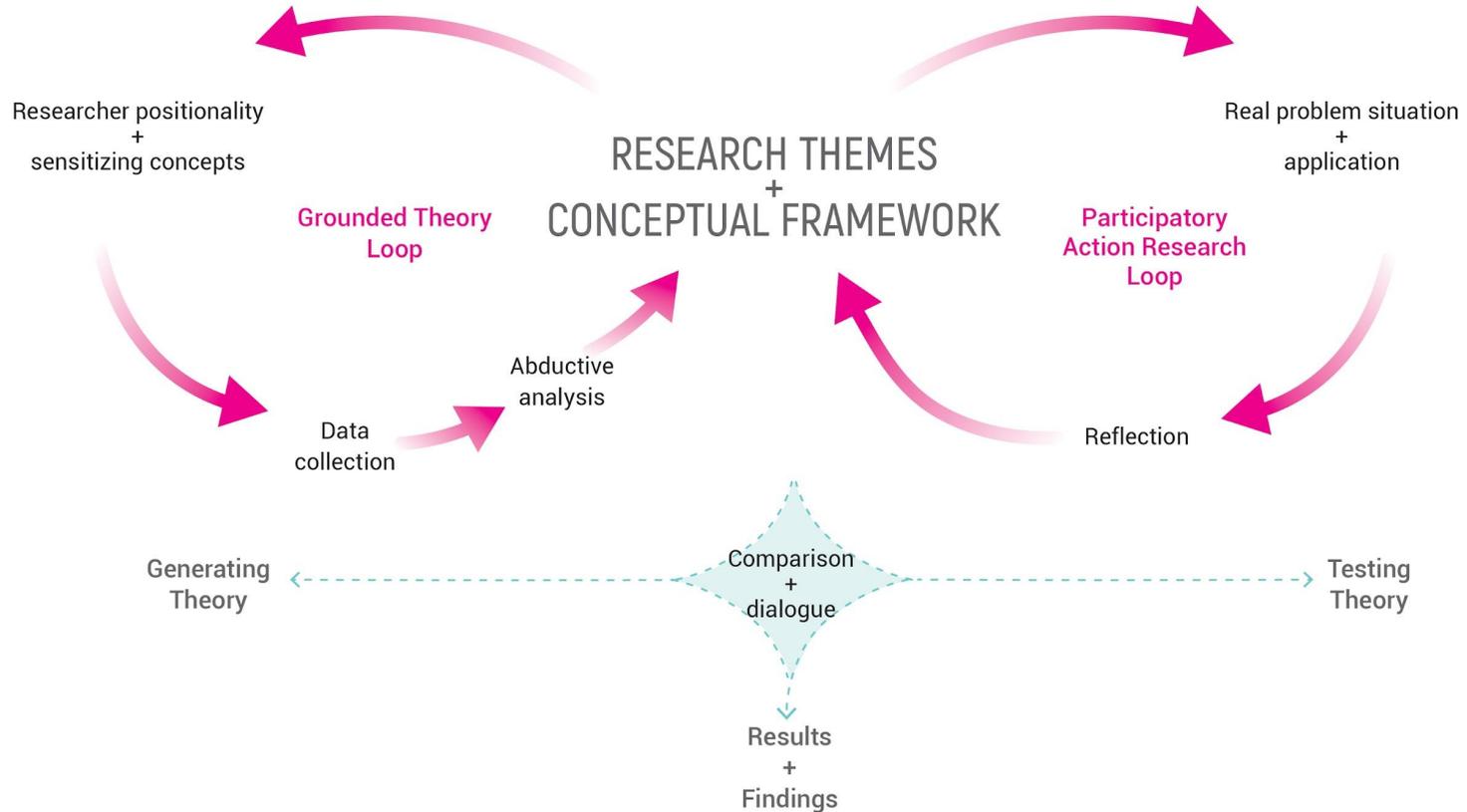
Moving toward paradigms and patterns of transformative innovation in public sector labs

November 5, 2021

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Research Methodology







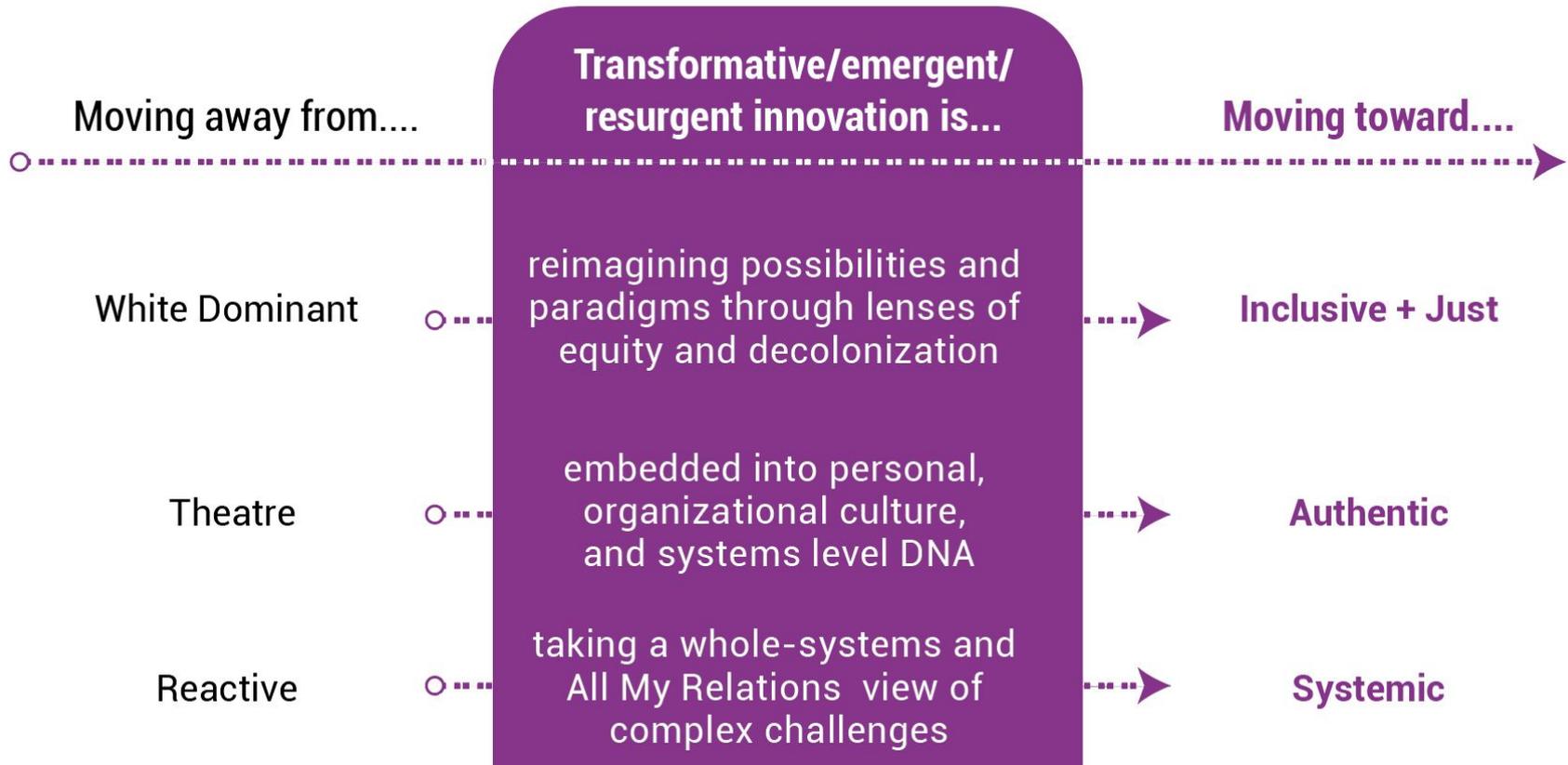
Change

Transformation

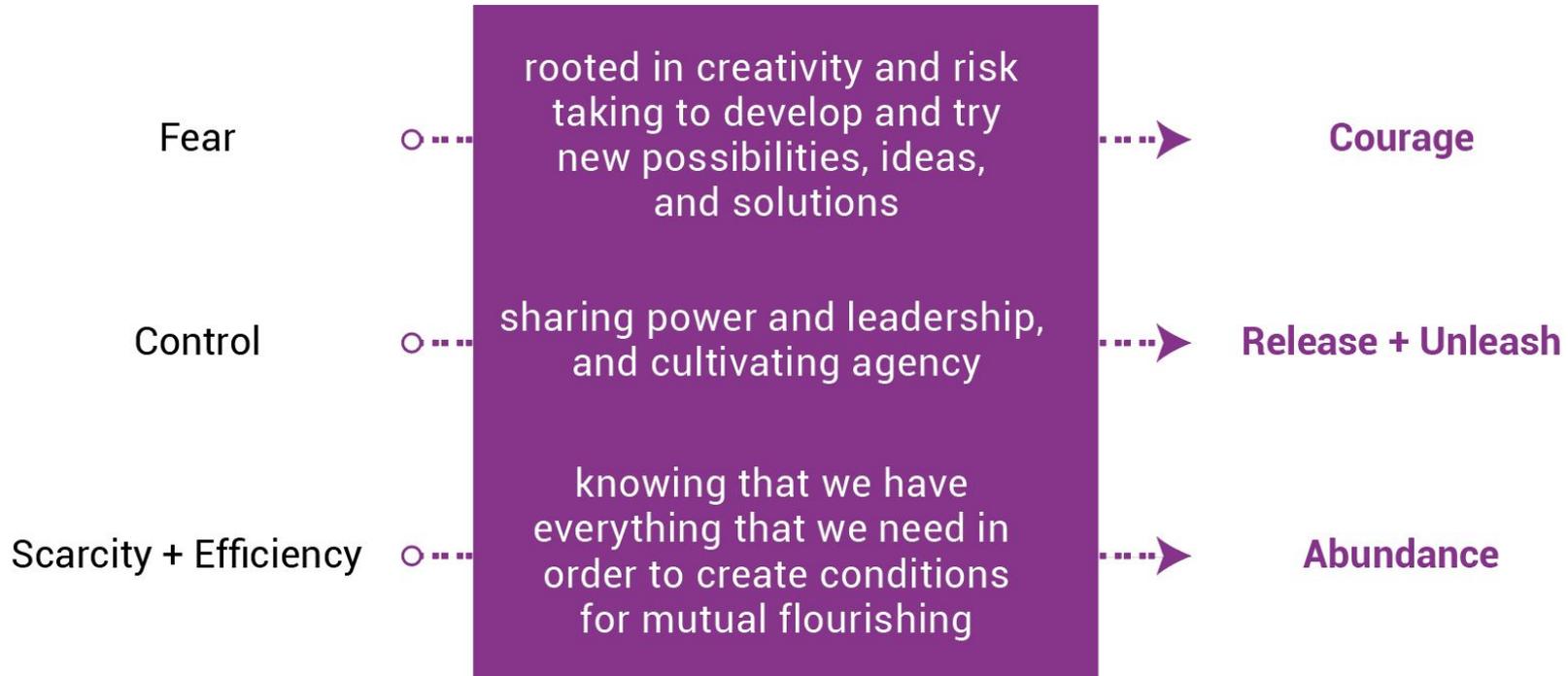
Emergence

Resurgence

Patterns to move away from and move toward...



Patterns to move away from and move toward...



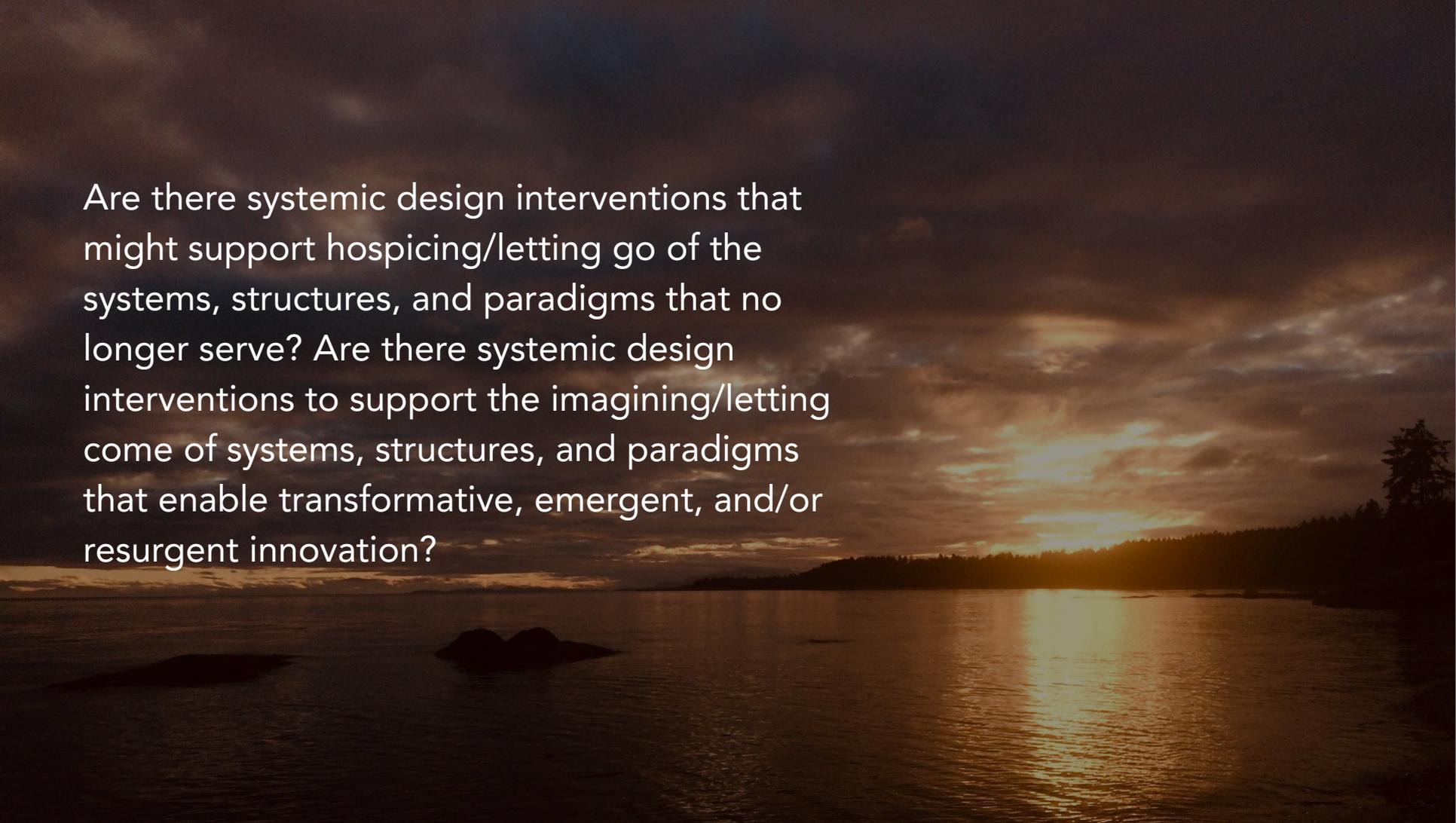
Patterns to move away from and move toward...





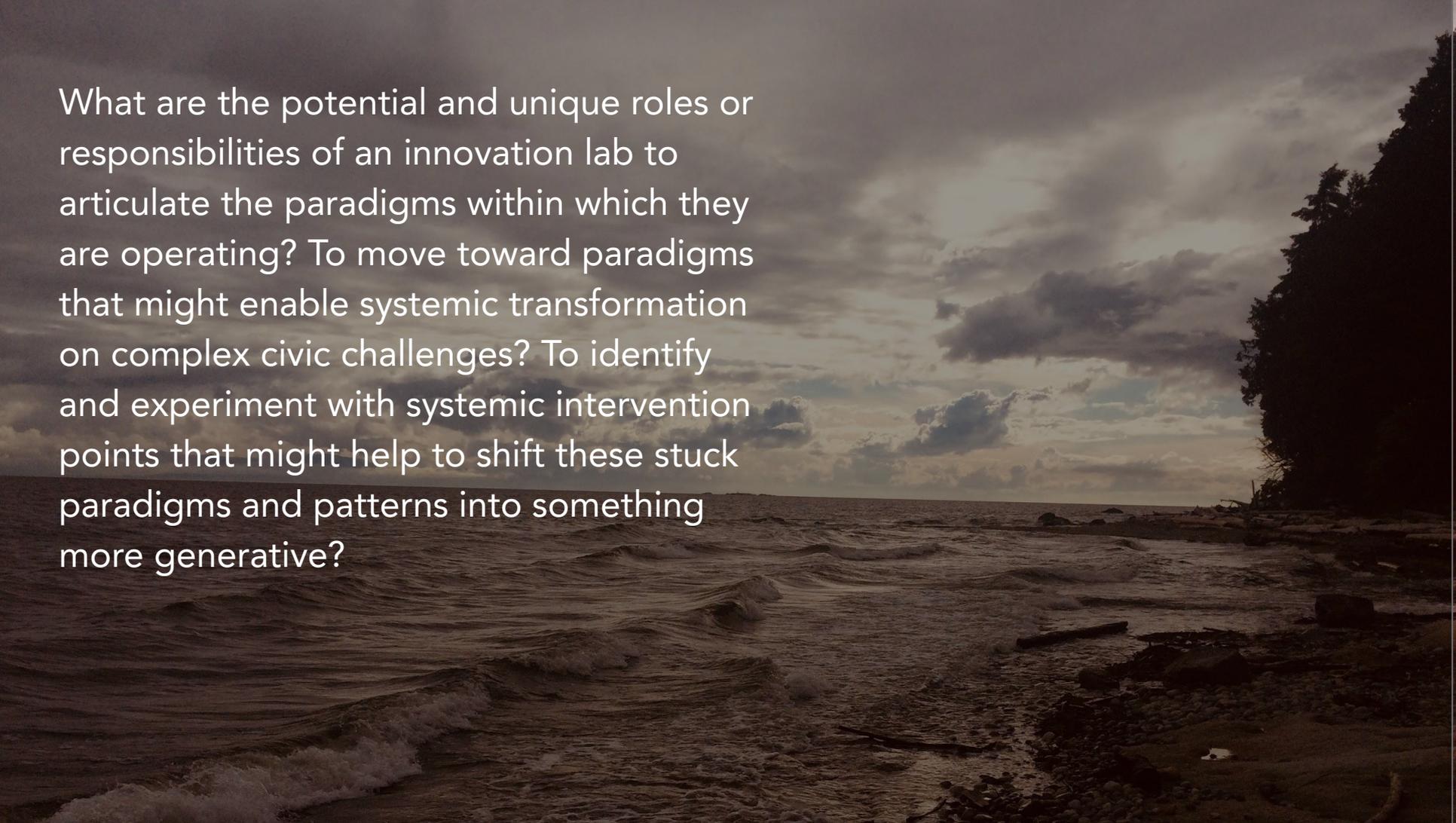


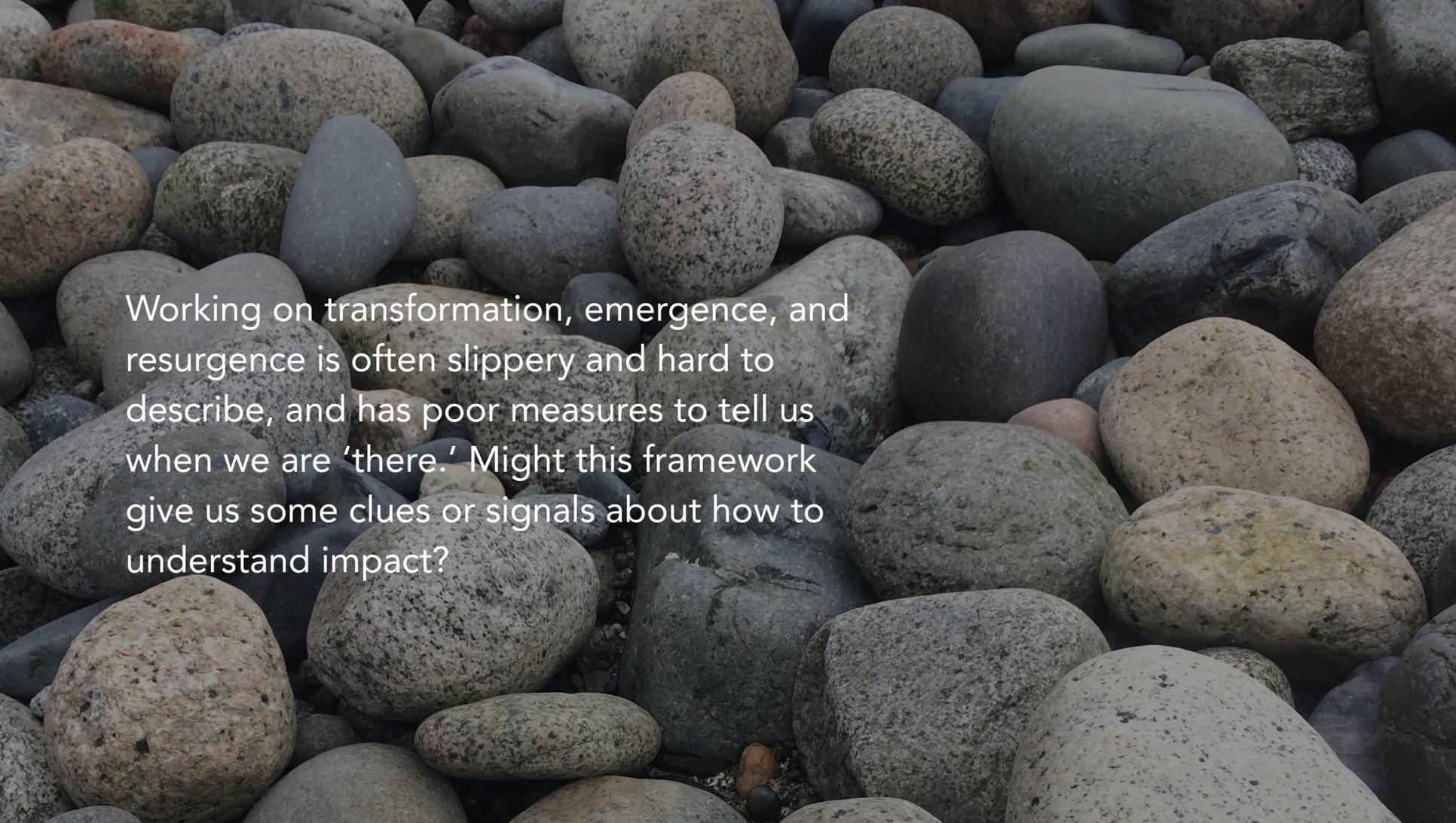
Questions for
discussion...

A sunset over a body of water with a forested shoreline. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The sky is filled with dark, dramatic clouds. The water is calm, with some ripples. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted rocks or small islands. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

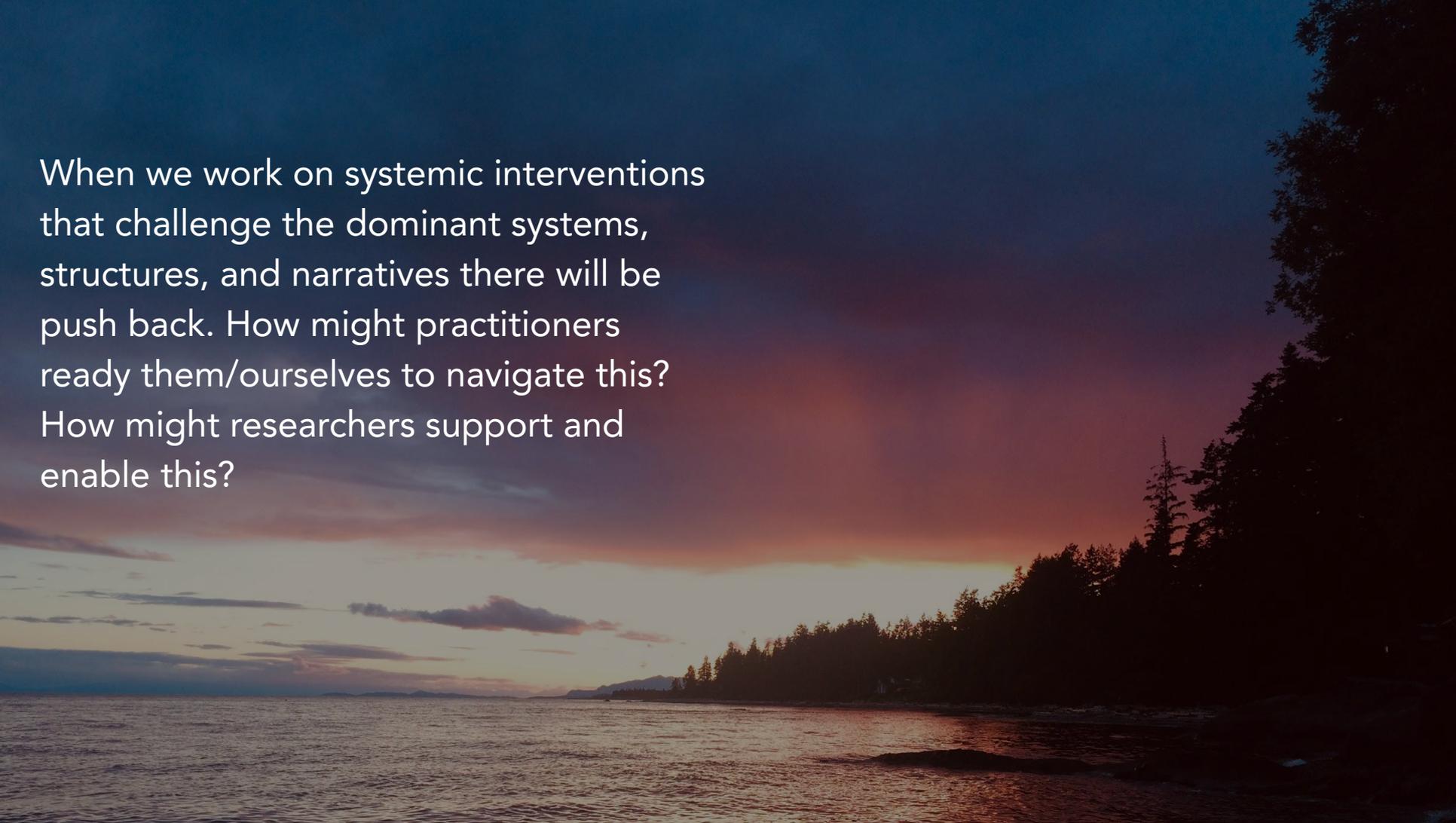
Are there systemic design interventions that might support hospicing/letting go of the systems, structures, and paradigms that no longer serve? Are there systemic design interventions to support the imagining/letting come of systems, structures, and paradigms that enable transformative, emergent, and/or resurgent innovation?

What are the potential and unique roles or responsibilities of an innovation lab to articulate the paradigms within which they are operating? To move toward paradigms that might enable systemic transformation on complex civic challenges? To identify and experiment with systemic intervention points that might help to shift these stuck paradigms and patterns into something more generative?

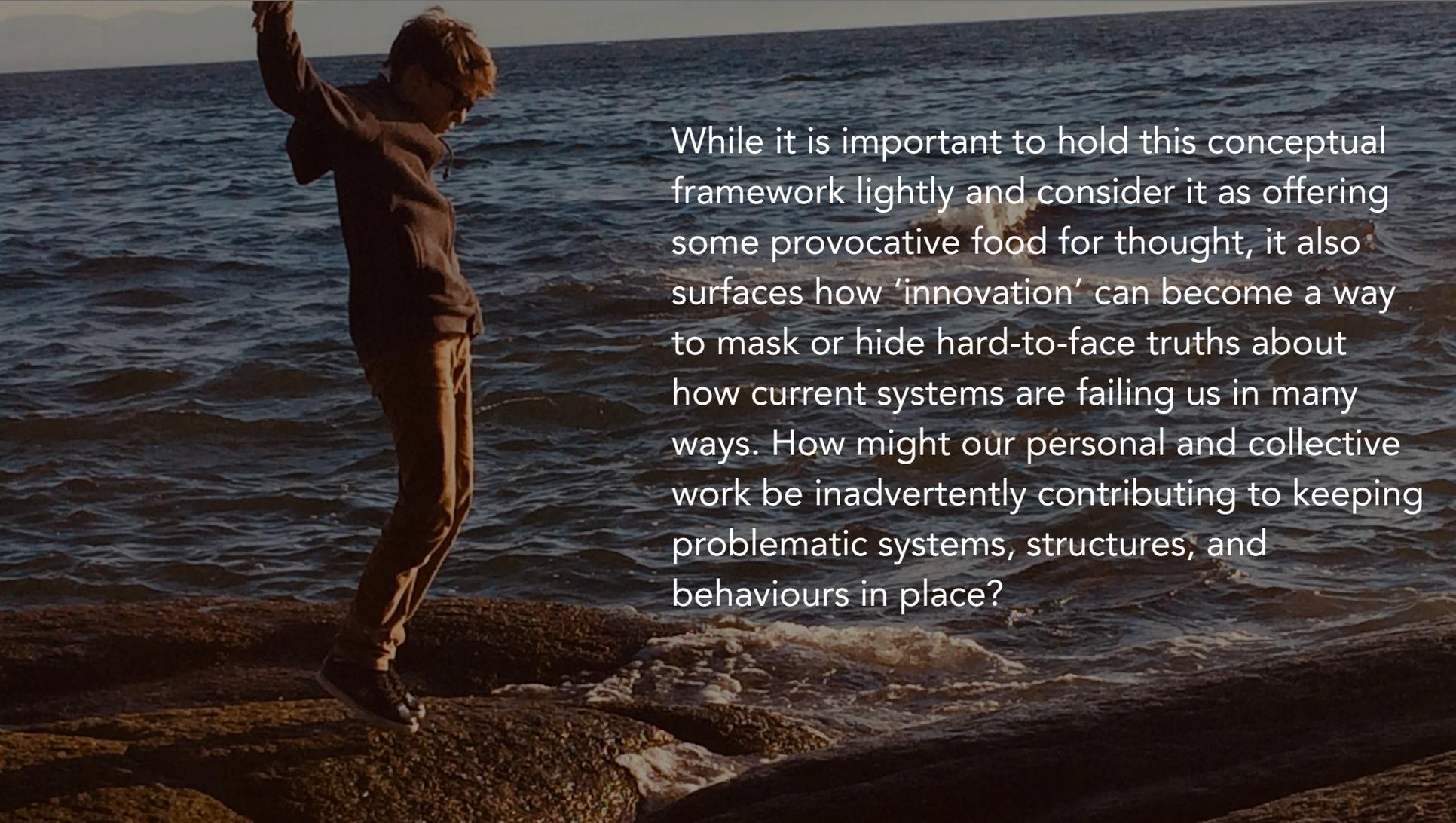




Working on transformation, emergence, and resurgence is often slippery and hard to describe, and has poor measures to tell us when we are 'there.' Might this framework give us some clues or signals about how to understand impact?

A scenic sunset over a body of water. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow near the horizon. The water reflects the colors of the sky. On the right side, there is a dark silhouette of a forested shoreline. The overall mood is calm and contemplative.

When we work on systemic interventions that challenge the dominant systems, structures, and narratives there will be push back. How might practitioners ready them/ourselves to navigate this? How might researchers support and enable this?

A person with long hair and glasses, wearing a dark jacket and pants, stands on a rocky shore. They are looking out at the ocean with their right arm raised. The ocean is dark blue with white foam from waves crashing against the rocks. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

While it is important to hold this conceptual framework lightly and consider it as offering some provocative food for thought, it also surfaces how 'innovation' can become a way to mask or hide hard-to-face truths about how current systems are failing us in many ways. How might our personal and collective work be inadvertently contributing to keeping problematic systems, structures, and behaviours in place?