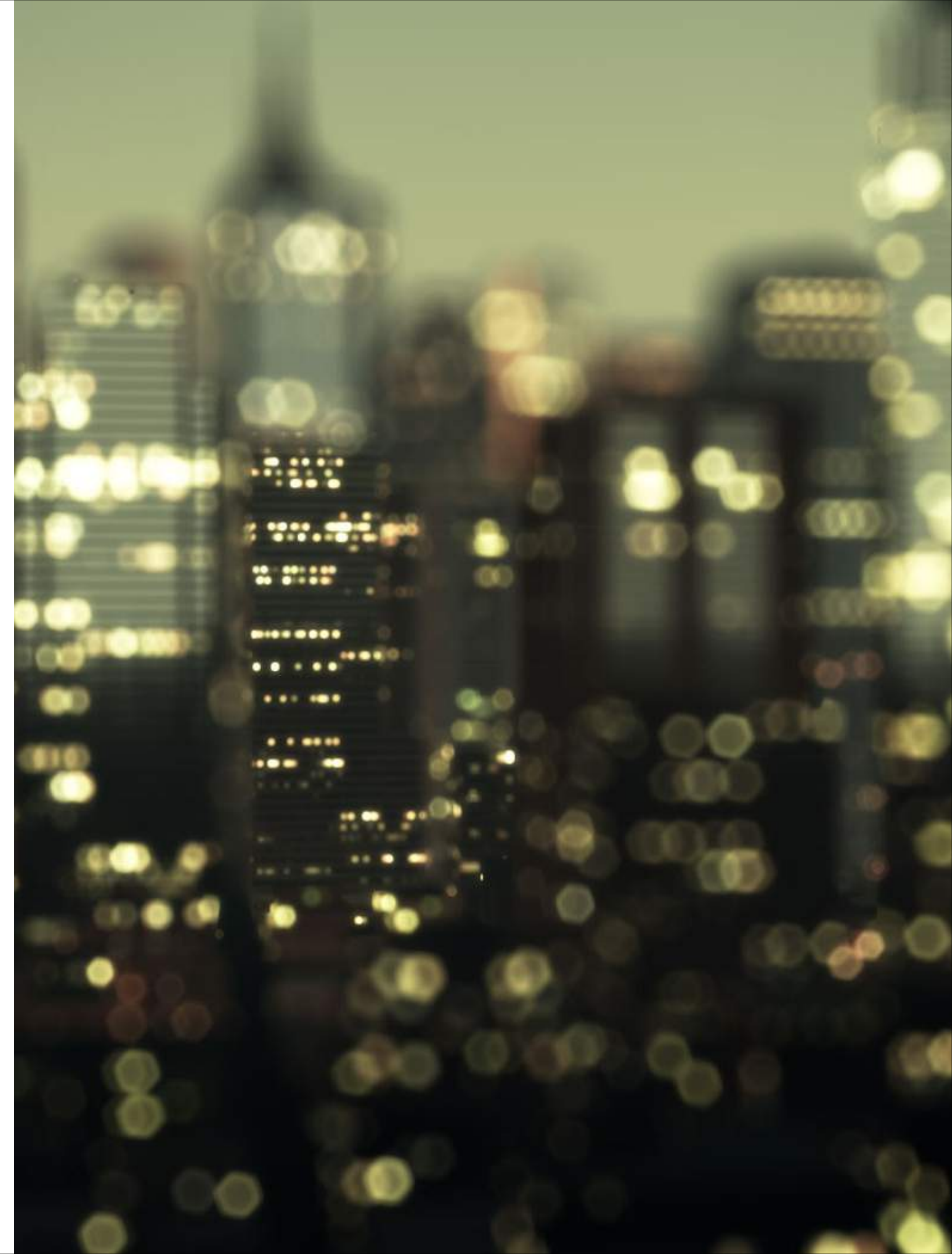


Francisco J. Santana Villegas

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY AS DRIVERS OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BEYOND NAFTA

The "Cities for North America" Network



BEFORE & AFTER



A composite image featuring a globe with a network of glowing lines connecting various points, set against a bright sunburst in a blue sky.

GLOBALIZATION COMPLEXITY

An abstract background with organic, flowing shapes in shades of green and yellow.

MULTIPLICITY

An abstract background with organic, flowing shapes in shades of blue and green.

INTERDEPENDENCE

“

Nothing should be done by a larger and more complex organization which can be done as well by a smaller and simpler organization. In other words, any activity which can be performed by a more decentralized entity, should be.

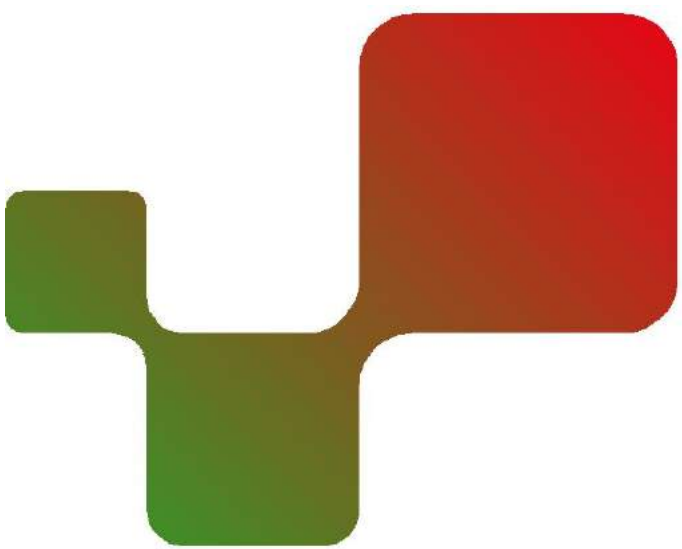
-Principle of Subsidiarity



CITIES AS NEW GLOBAL ACTORS

- Associations of cities
- City marketing strategies
- Presence in international events
- City networks

CITY NETWORKS



UCLG
United Cities
and Local Governments



CITYNET

A satellite map of North America, showing the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The map is oriented with North at the top. The landmasses are shown in various shades of green and brown, representing different vegetation and terrain. The surrounding oceans are a deep blue. A semi-transparent dark blue horizontal band runs across the middle of the image, serving as a background for the text.

CITIES FOR NORTH AMERICA

A regional city network proposal



OBJECTIVE

To create a strong institution aimed to promote and manage cooperation efforts among diverse North American actors, and on different issues in order to face common challenges.

KEY FEATURES

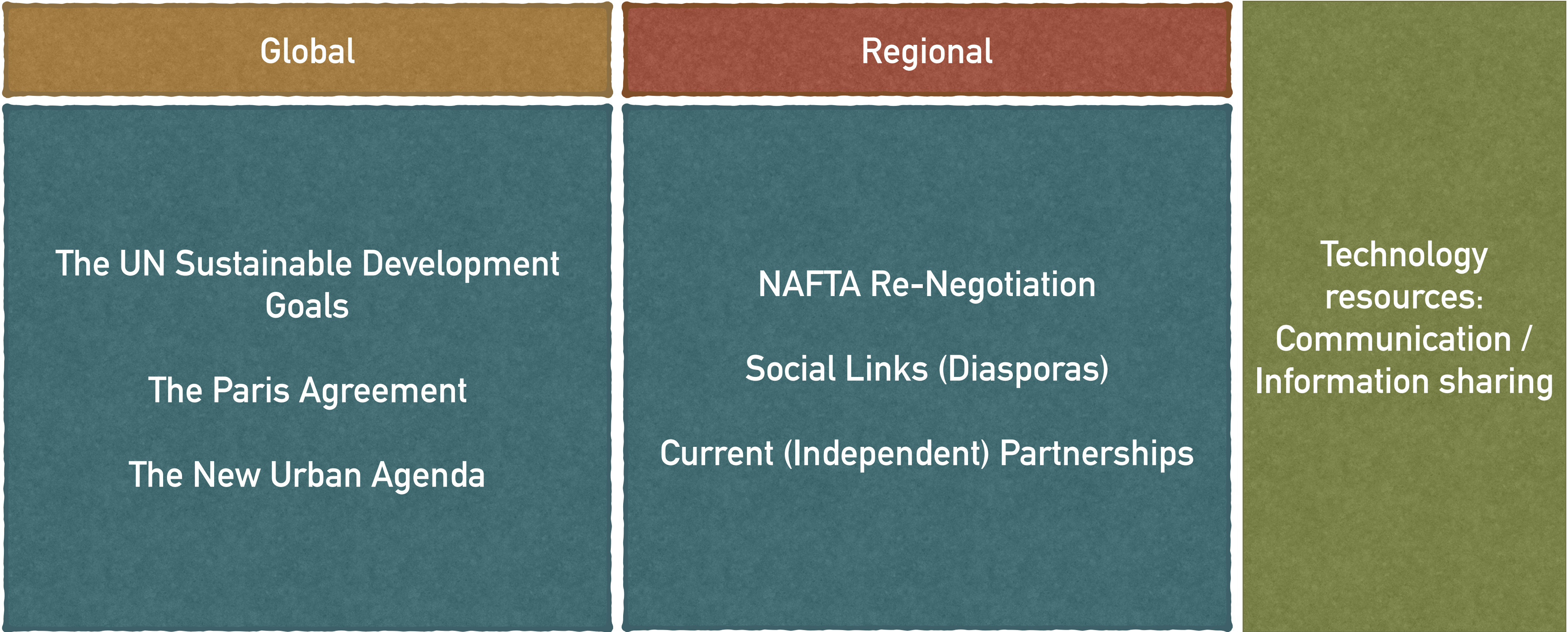
LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS

CIVIL
SOCIETY

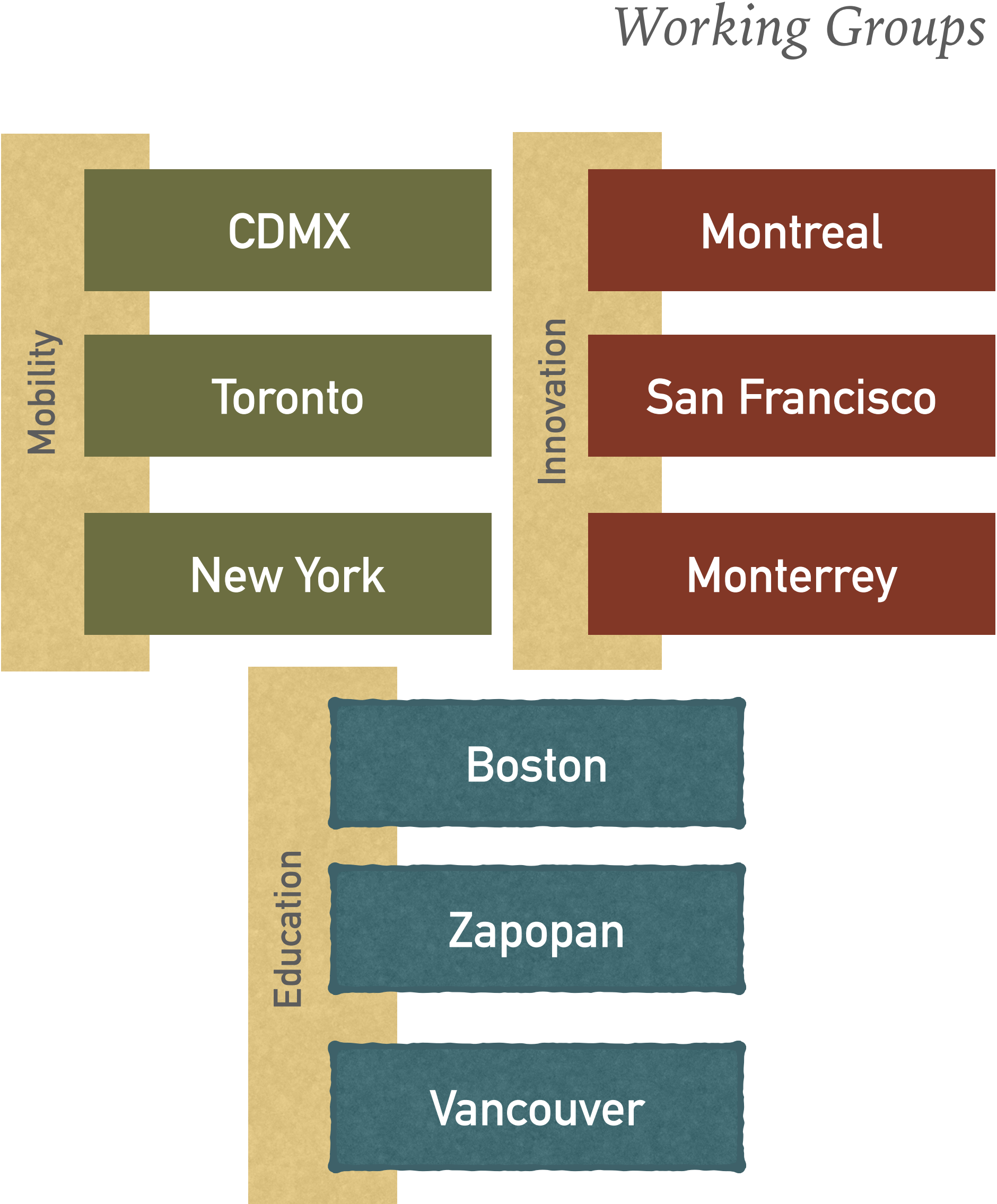
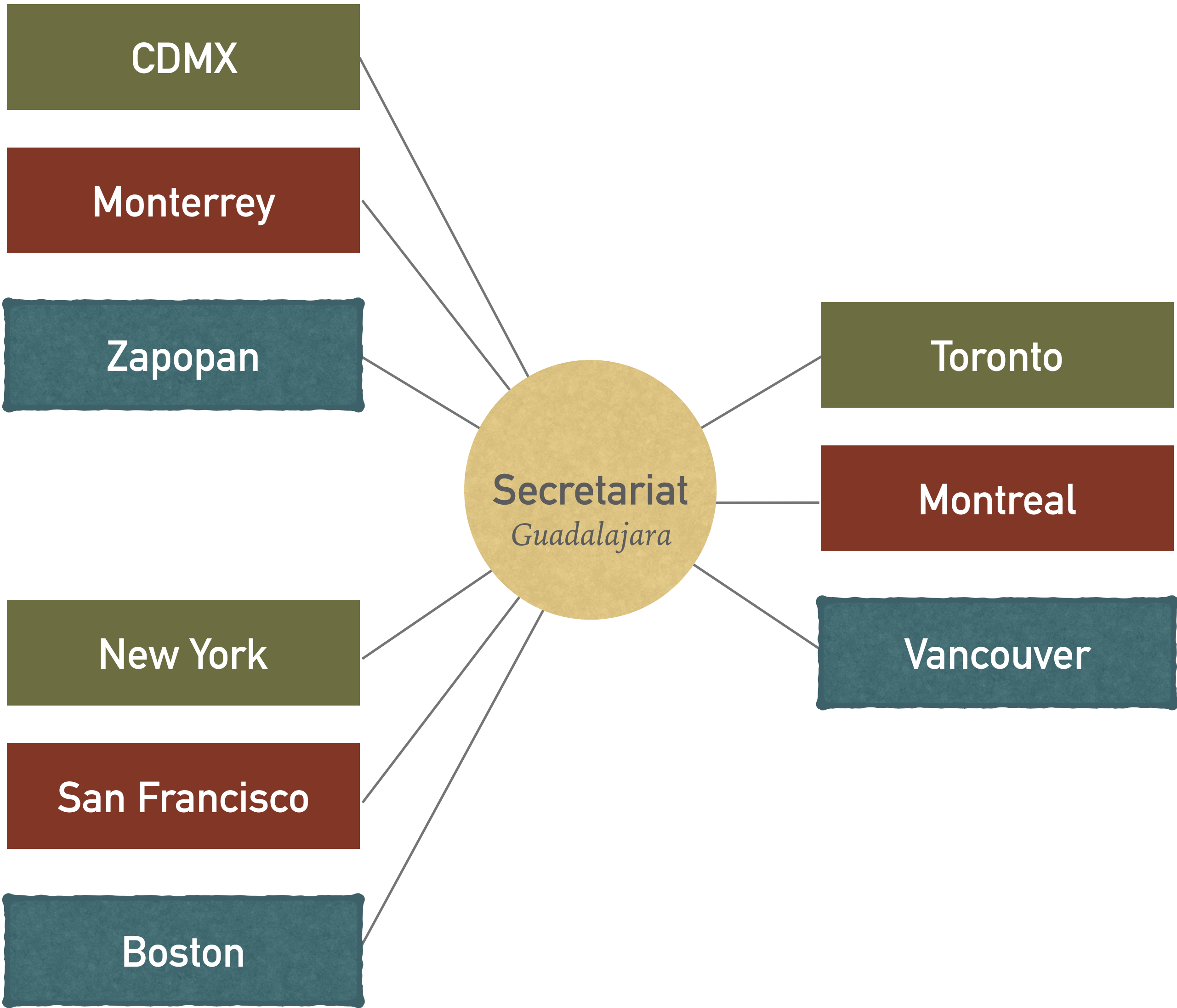
SCHOLARS AND
ACADEMIA

CORPORATIONS
AND CHAMBERS

THE CONTEXT



NETWORK LAYOUT *Example*



WORKING GROUPS *Example*



ACTIVITIES *Example*



STRUCTURE *Example*

Advisory Board

City Mayors
University Presidents
CEOs
NGO Representatives

Management Structure
(Staff)
Secretariat

President / Pro Tempore
(City Mayor)

Director
Administration
Finance
Memberships
Policy Advisors
Communications
Human Resources
(...)

Management Structure
(Staff)
Working Groups

General Coordination
Project managers
Communications
(...)

BENEFITS



Find solutions to common problems

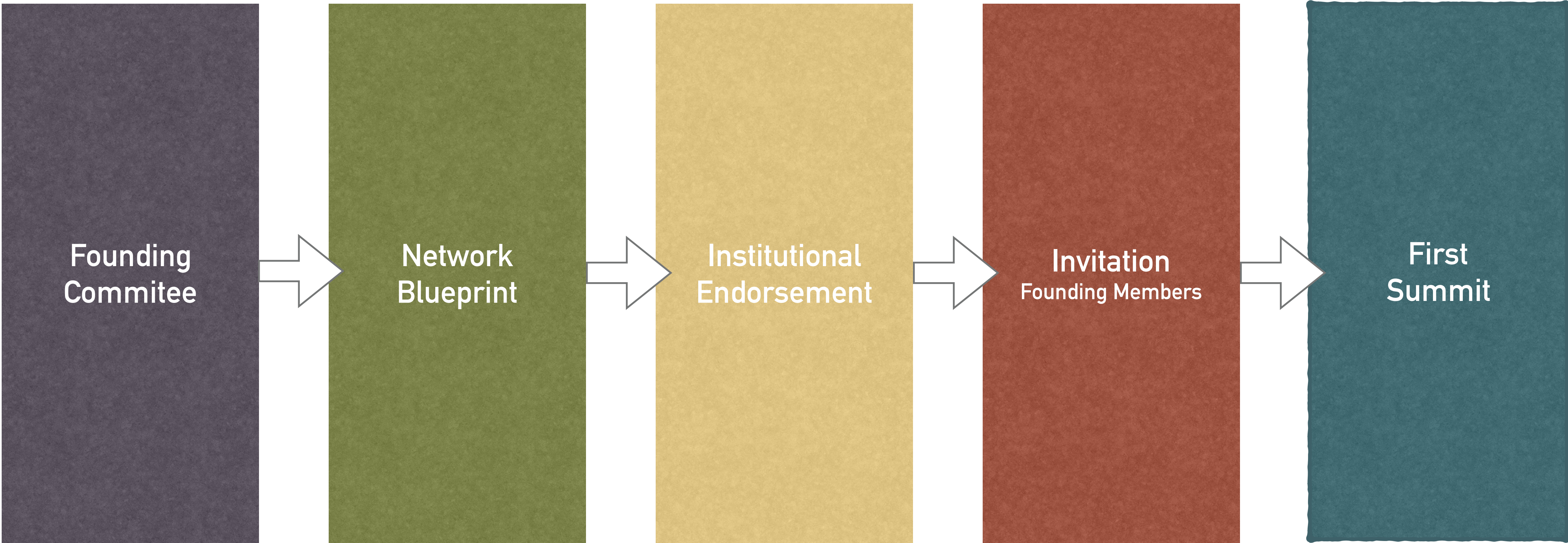
Strength to lobby other actors

An inclusive forum for different voices

Capacity to act aside central governments

A solid institution for continuous cooperation

PROCESS / THE NEXT STEPS



CONCLUSIONS

In times of uncertainty, working together and organized as a region can help us, not only to be stronger, but also to be more creative to face present and common challenges; it's on us to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Francisco J. Santana Villegas

THANK YOU

fjsantanav@gmail.com

