



THEA CHASE
DIRECTOR,
SOUTHWEST
INNOVATION
CORRIDOR
A TELLURIDE
FOUNDATION
INITIATIVE

Supporting Entrepreneurs and building eco-systems an International perspective



What
you find
in rural
America

Stagnant and shrinking economies

Institutions taking leadership role in eco-
system development

Networks supporting mostly local market
penetration

A few dynamic leaders

Some good companies



What you want

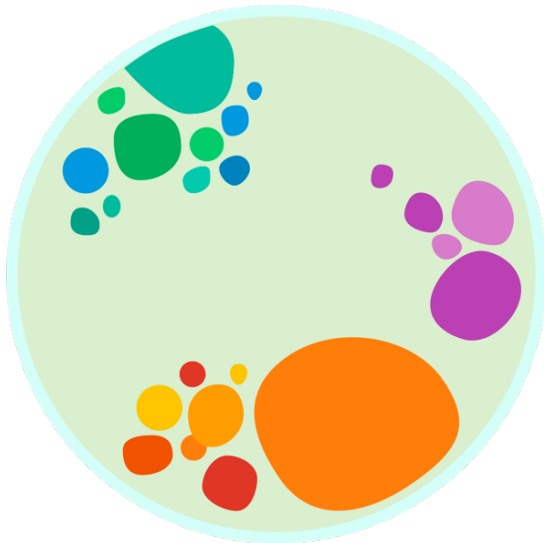
Growing economies

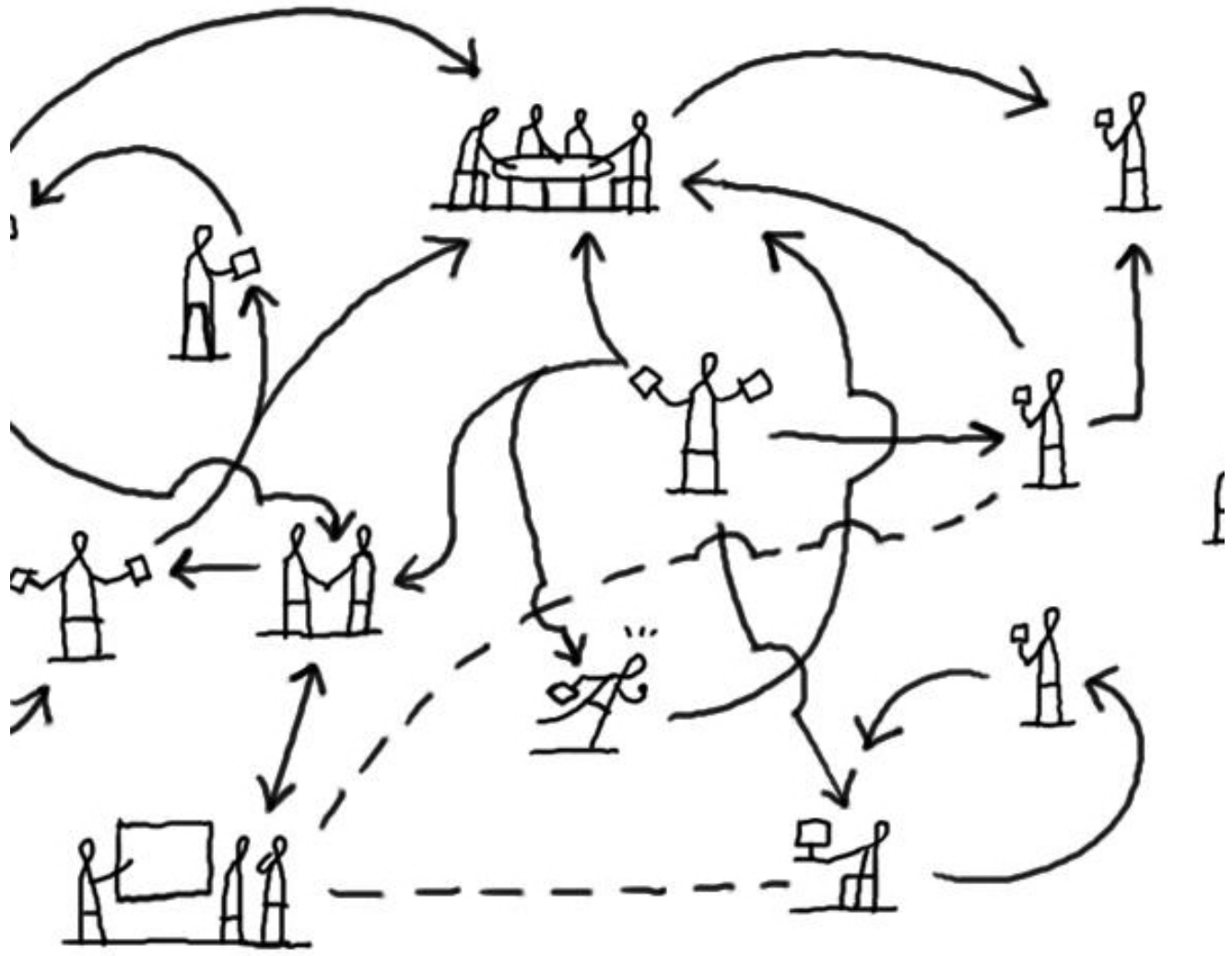
Entrepreneurs leading eco-system
development

Robust networks – industry and functional

Movements not dependent on individuals

Critical mass of innovation and growth
activity



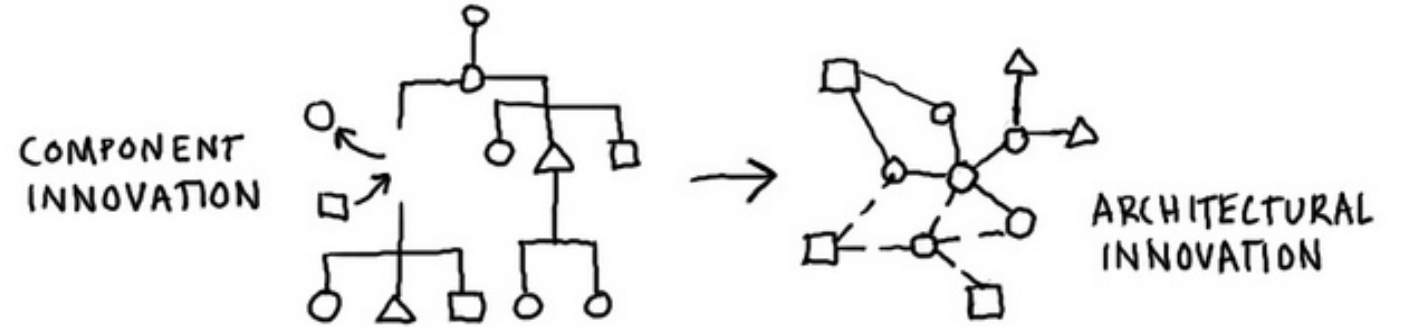


Getting there
requires us to
rethink

Removal of geographic and political boundaries



How we deploy resources



Role of institutions and government

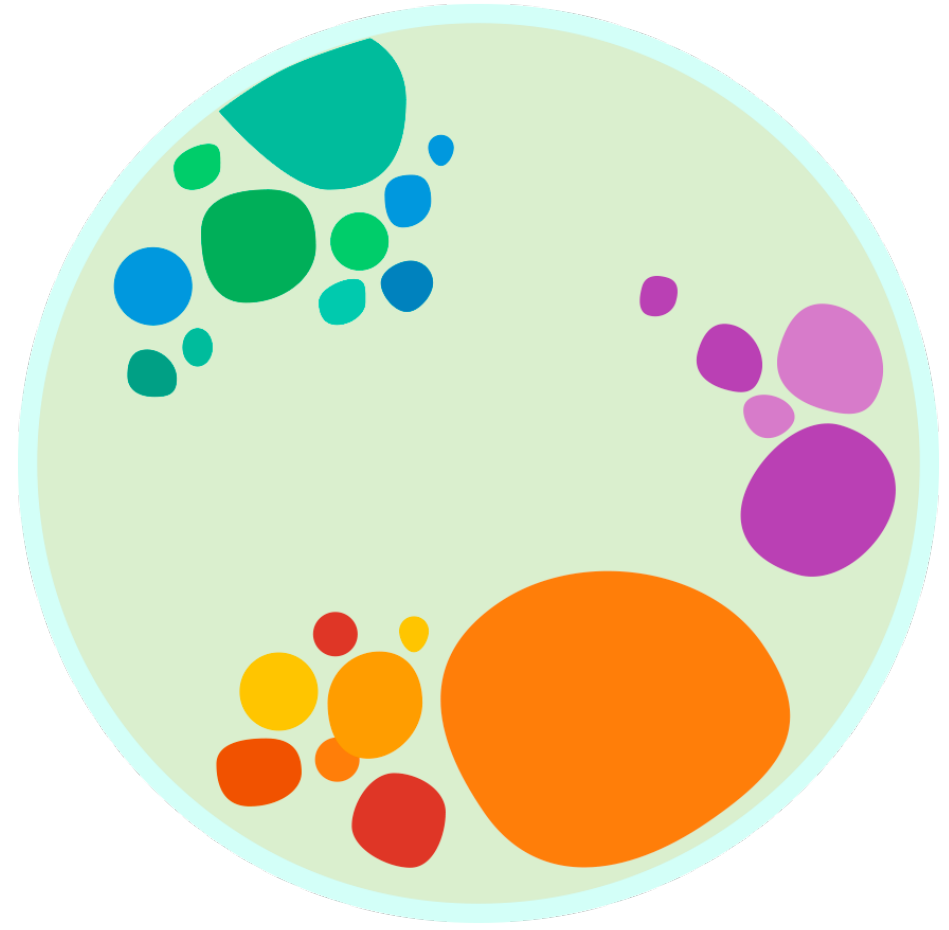
Lets be real...

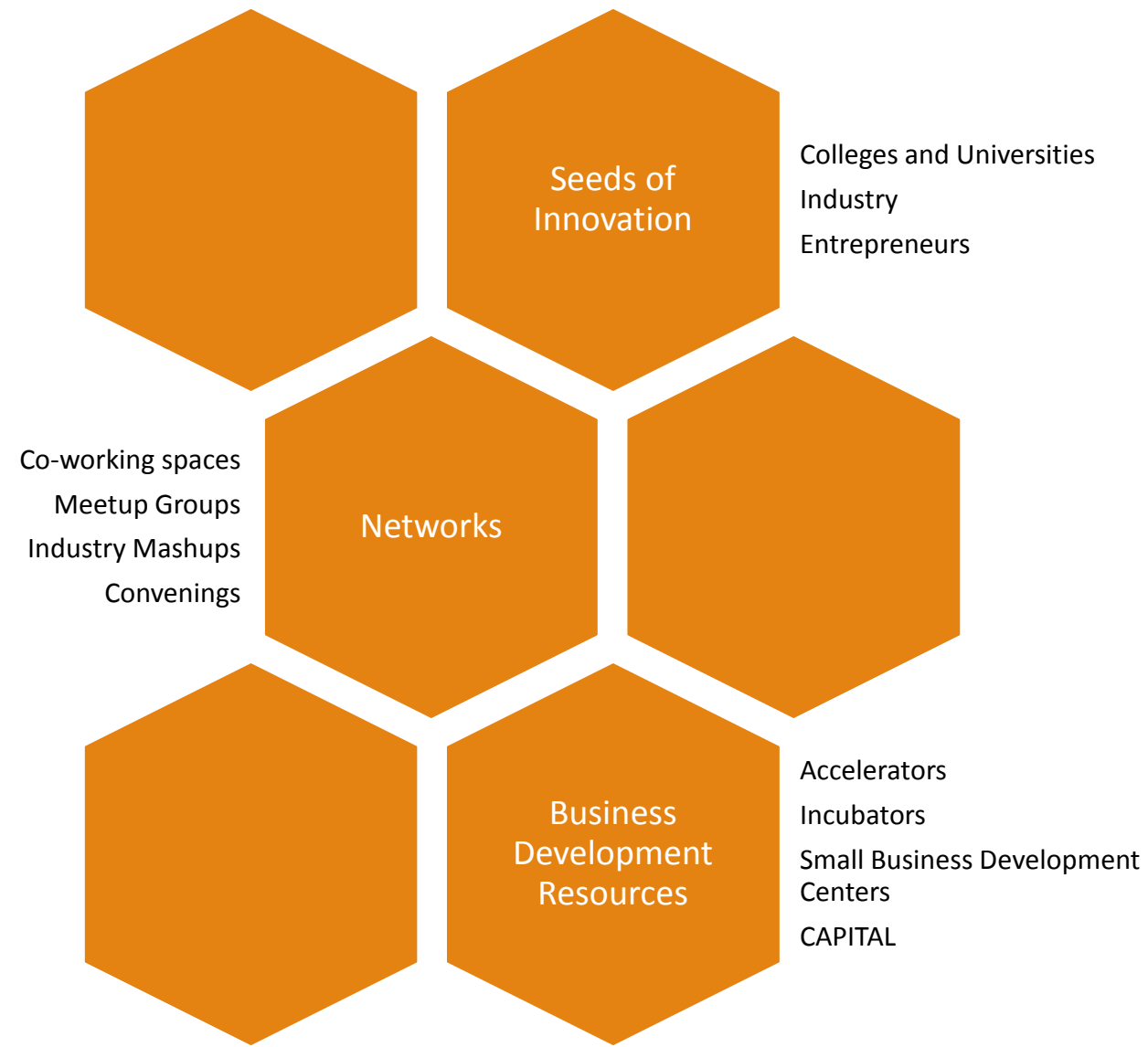


Cultural rigidity



To be founder
focused...







Morphing
models

Acceleration

Telluride Venture Accelerator (TVA)

Southwest Colorado Accelerator
Program for Entrepreneurs (SCAPE)

Incubation

IceLab at Western State College

Virtual hub and Spoke



Morphing
models

Small Business
Development
Centers

Combining regions and
redeploying resources in
western Colorado

Higher Ed

Fort Lewis College

Technical College of the
Rockies



Morphing
models

Research Centers

Mountain Studies
Institute

Center of Excellence for
Advanced Technology
Aerial Firefighting (CoE)



Some
really
cool
stuff

coworking

Coding “schools”

Apprenticeship and internship programs

Community connection creative space

Startup weekend D51 high schools



What
we
haven't
quite
figured
out

Right capital at the right time with the right terms and conditions

Recognizing the jewels and how to maximize their success

Restructuring economies



IF YOU CAN'T TEACH
CREATIVITY, HOW

DO YOU PROMOTE IT?

- ENABLE
- ENCOURAGE
- FACILITATE

Sustainability



Grow
entrepreneurship
through innovative
practice!
