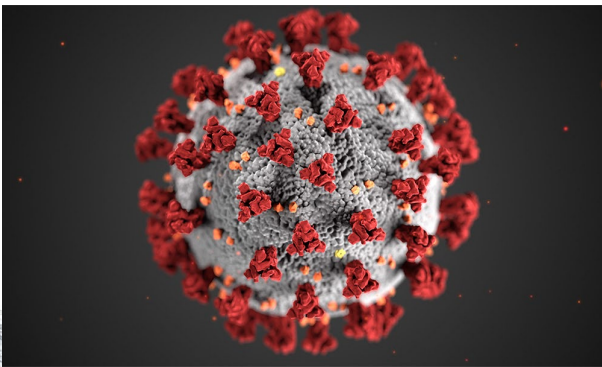


Cette présentation a été effectuée le 29 novembre 2023, au cours de la journée « *Une seule santé* » : *aller au-delà des applications traditionnelles* dans le cadre des 26es Journées annuelles de santé publique.

# Pondering One Health in Public Health Practice in Times of Unprecedented Change

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PhD FCAHS  
McEachran Institute**







# Are we ready for future health challenges (that are here now)

- **We need to be in the business of keeping the world healthy into the future**
  - But One Health focusses mostly on infectious disease of people now
- **We are in the business of helping people make decisions**
  - But predominantly describes harms and their causes
- **We are in times of unprecedented change**
  - But we are mistaking new technology and models for unprecedented ideas



Public  
health  
needs  
future ready  
programs

- **DETECT changes on the horizon that may pose threats or opportunities**
  - Expand points of view
  - See future possibilities by looking at present-day signals differently
- **RESPOND by uncovering specific implications of future change and plan accordingly**
  - Imagine intended and unintended consequences of decisions by thinking beyond our remit
- **EVOLVE to better thrive in the environment of anticipated future change**
  - Understand motivators for change
  - To conceive of opportunities to shift

# Three One Health Principles for Future Ready Public Health

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# Principle 1

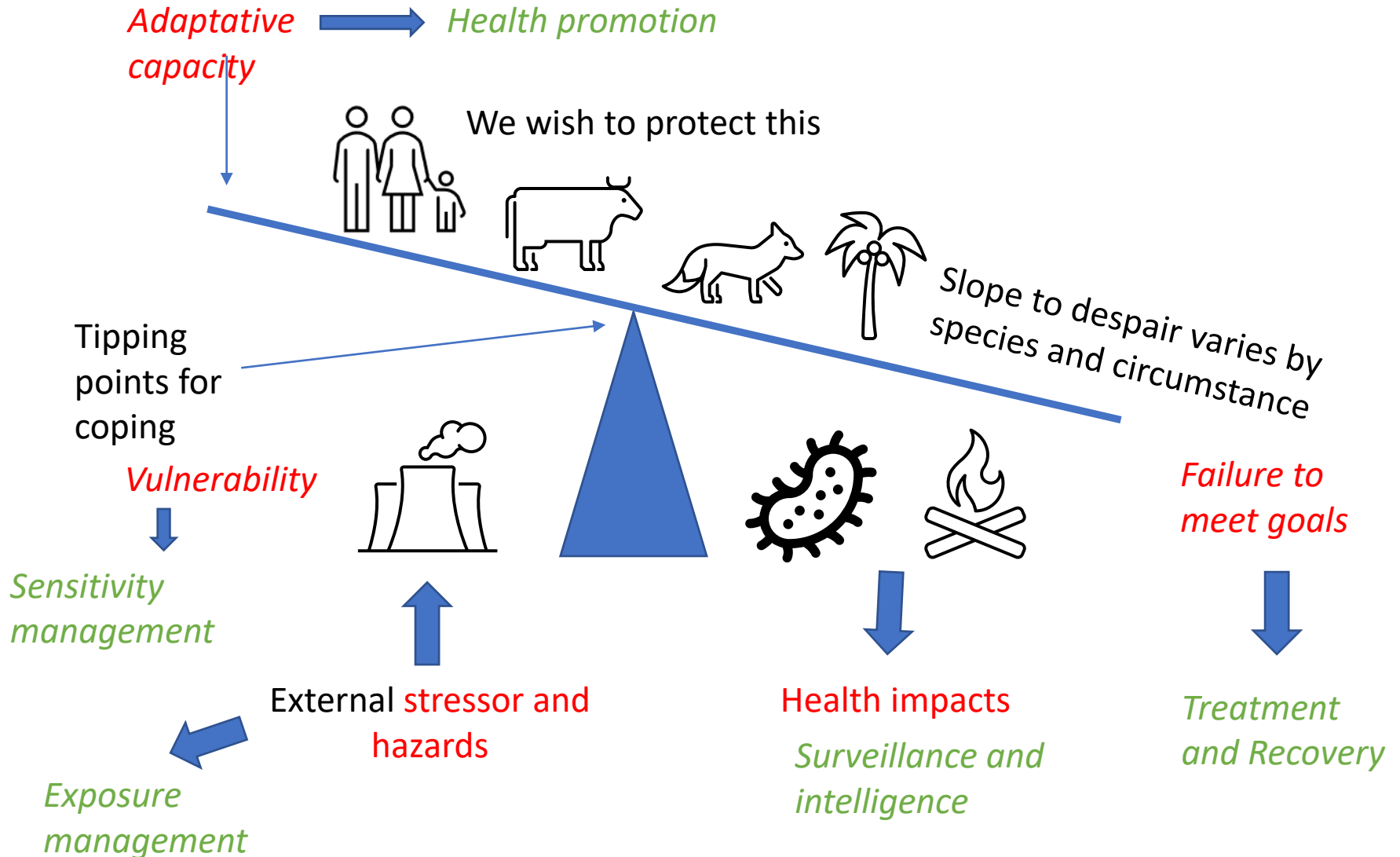


## **Intergenerational and interspecies health equity**

*Actions to protect the health of one species today should not compromise the ability of future generations or other species to meet their own needs*

# Principle 2

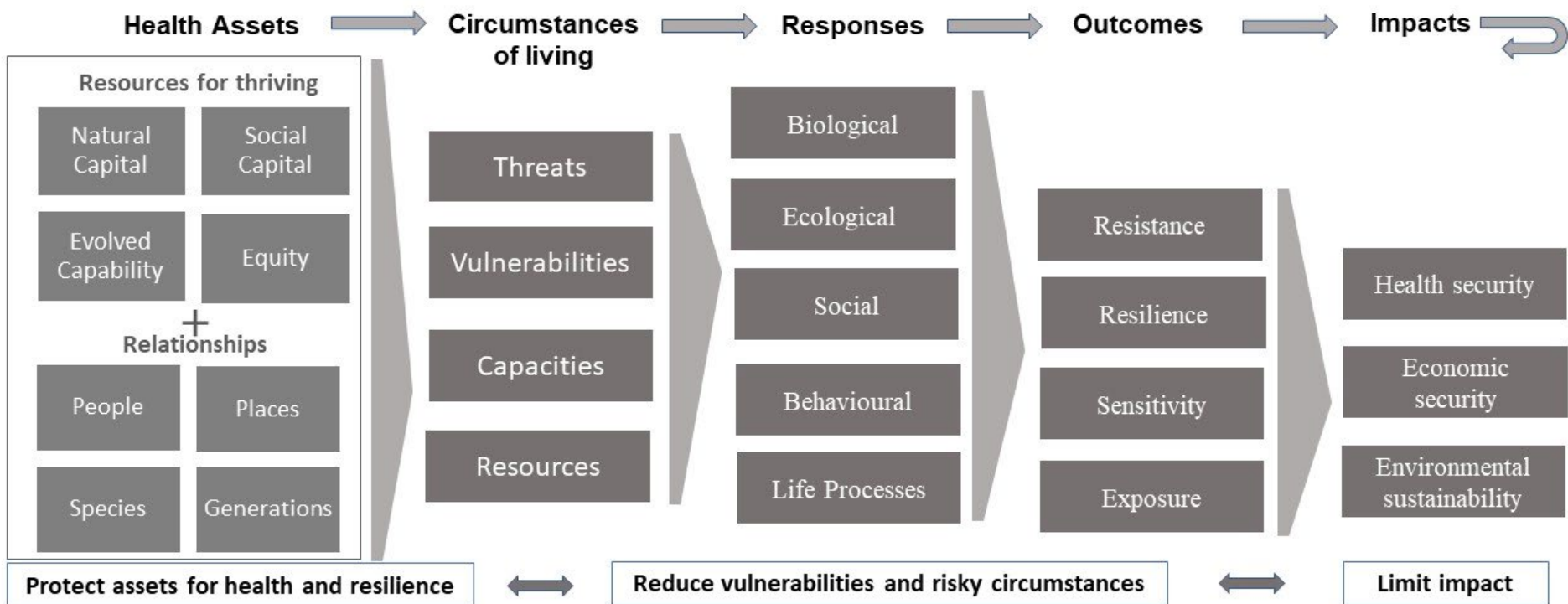
## Balance the agenda





# Principle 3

Fully embrace the socio-ecological model of health



# Applying the principles in practice

Example 1 – Paying attention to a wider suite of outcomes

Pandemic preparedness

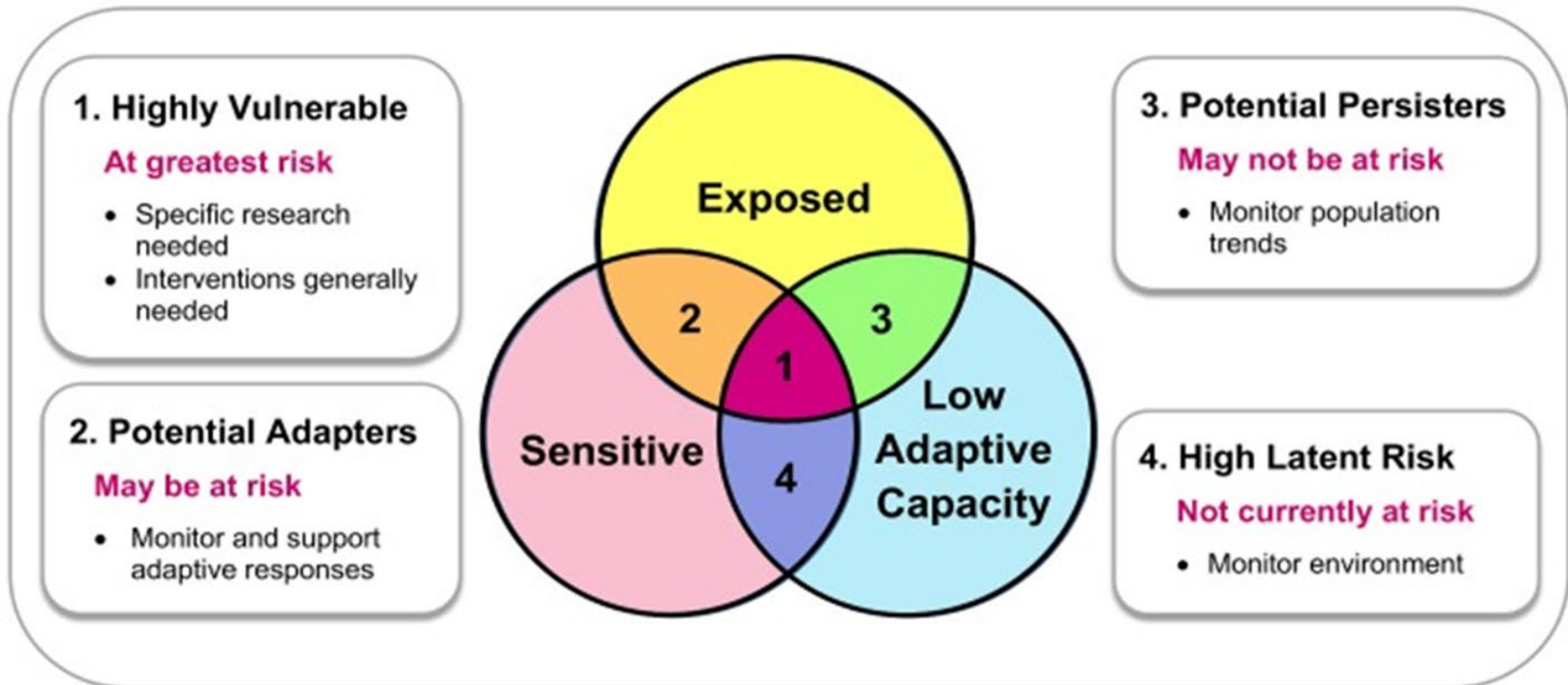


# Key message

Don't just ask if  
the animal is  
infected

Categories of new problems and surprises	Management Question	Strategy
<p>Knowable in retrospect but <b>elude detection</b></p>	<p>Is a harm possible under these conditions we are watching?</p>	<p><b>Curiosity</b></p> <p>Broader situational awareness for earlier response or proactive exposure and vulnerability reduction</p>
<p><b>Fail to recognize</b> actionable signal or not able to <b>respond</b> despite warning</p>		
<p><b>Unanticipated</b> consequences of socio-ecological interactions</p>	<p>Can the population deal with something unexpected?</p>	<p><b>Health Promotion</b></p> <p>Building resistance and resilience to cope the next inevitable surprise</p>
<p>Previously <b>inconceivable</b> events</p>		

# More to watch than pathogens



Focussing on group 1 is a too late strategy for the Anthropocene

# Ebola example

## Food vulnerable households

- Escalating food prices, declining local food production and low household incomes

## Fisheries policies

- Local fisheries push catches to external markets
- European fleet fishes out local waters
- Seafood was a major protein source

## Bushmeat

- Cultural practice – skills available
- Export market – supply chain developed

## Example 2 – Managing the circumstances of living

### Healthy cities, healthy settings

- There is not One Health, there are many
  - See settings beyond built environments and human ecology
  - Overlapping and interdependent in the same setting
    - Raw material for resilience, upstream determinants of vulnerability and risk
- The world is undergoing a massive urban transition
  - the greatest driver of global environmental change and the most significant influence on human health

“The overall guiding principle [in health promotion policy] for the world, nations, regions and communities alike, is the need to encourage reciprocal maintenance—to take care of each other, our communities and our natural environment.”

—*Ottawa Charter* (1986)

# Nature-Based Solutions Can Build Resilience to Multiple Climate Hazards



Source: Global Commission on Adaptation, *Adapt Now* report, 2019.

20.05.20



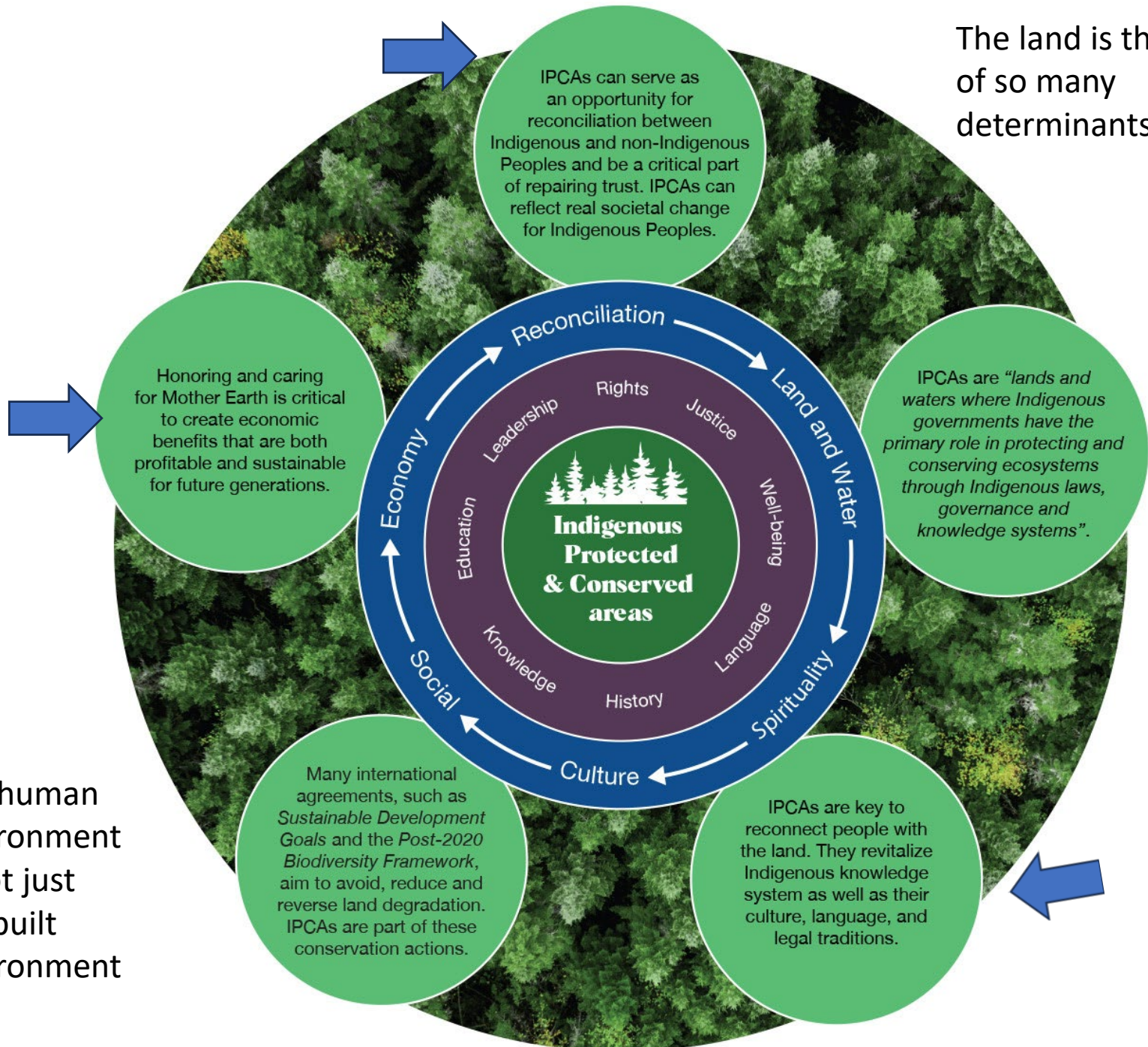
## Example 3 Protecting health assets

Part of Indigenous  
reconciliation

- Interconnection of land, language and culture are the foundations of wellness
- Being part of collective actions that ensure access to safe and sustained animal and ecosystem resources is a tangible way public health can contribute to reconciliation.
- **But**
  - One Health largely sees animals as a source of harm
  - Public health rarely seeks to promote healthy natural environments of animal populations

The land is the source of so many determinants of health

The human environment is not just the built environment



# Example 4 – Protecting health assets from the environment

## Food security

### Feeding 7 Generations

Food is a gift. Each citizen reminds us that your wealth is having access to native foods, along with the knowledge of how to gather, prepare and serve them. Our values and food traditions are a living legacy that tries us to past, present and future generations. Several times a day, we encourage opportunities to reflect on what we eat and how our choices change our world. When we harvest native foods and incorporate them into our regular lifestyle, we strengthen our cultural identity, our relationship to the land and ritual sovereignty. It will take all of us to feed the next seven generations.



**Live with the Seasons.**  
There are seven seasons in our traditional food systems. We have organized our lives to gather what is in season. In reports, we receive peak harvests that keep us healthy all year long.

**Diversify Your Diet.**  
Our ancestors ate a wide variety of foods just a few generations ago. Today, most diets consist of only 2-3 food items. A healthy diet includes a variety of fruits, vegetables, grains, and other nutrients. When we eat many types of foods, we receive the nutrients we need to stay strong. We also preserve the diversity and health of the land.

**Eat More Plants.**  
All health advocates agree that we need to eat more plants. Plant foods help us maintain a healthy weight and prevent chronic disease including heart disease, diabetes and cancer. Eating more plants also reduces climate change and environmental destruction.

**Traditional Foods are Whole Foods.**  
Imagine looking through the grocery store with your great grandparents. What would they recognize as food? Our ancestors stored on whole foods that weren't industrialized, genetically modified, refined, packed with sugar or saturated with artificial oils or chemicals. Whole foods had the nutritious vitamins and minerals that our bodies and spirits need.

**Gather Wild Foods.**  
There is a great wealth just above. Wild foods are the most nutritious and flavorful foods we can eat. Fresh and accessible, they grow all around us from forests to fields to backyards. Eating wild foods connects us to the gifts of the land and animals and the seasons.

**Cook and Eat with Good Intention.**  
Cooking is a time to offer respect to the plants and animals that gave their lives to nourish us. It is also an opportunity to honor and include the people with whom we share food. If we eat while on the go, we miss the pleasure of eating, and do not have sufficient time to savor and digest. Foraging, preparing, serving and connecting food with good intention feeds our bodies and spirits.

**Give Back to the Land.**  
When we harvest and grow food in a way that supports plant and animal communities, we preserve native values of generosity. Generosity includes both giving and receiving. Organic and seasonal practices honor both. 100 materials to the soil. Through caring for the soil, we preserve the abundant provision of our ancestors and the future of a world that supports generations to come.

Native Alliance Development Institute



### WEATHER-PROOFING FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIES FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE



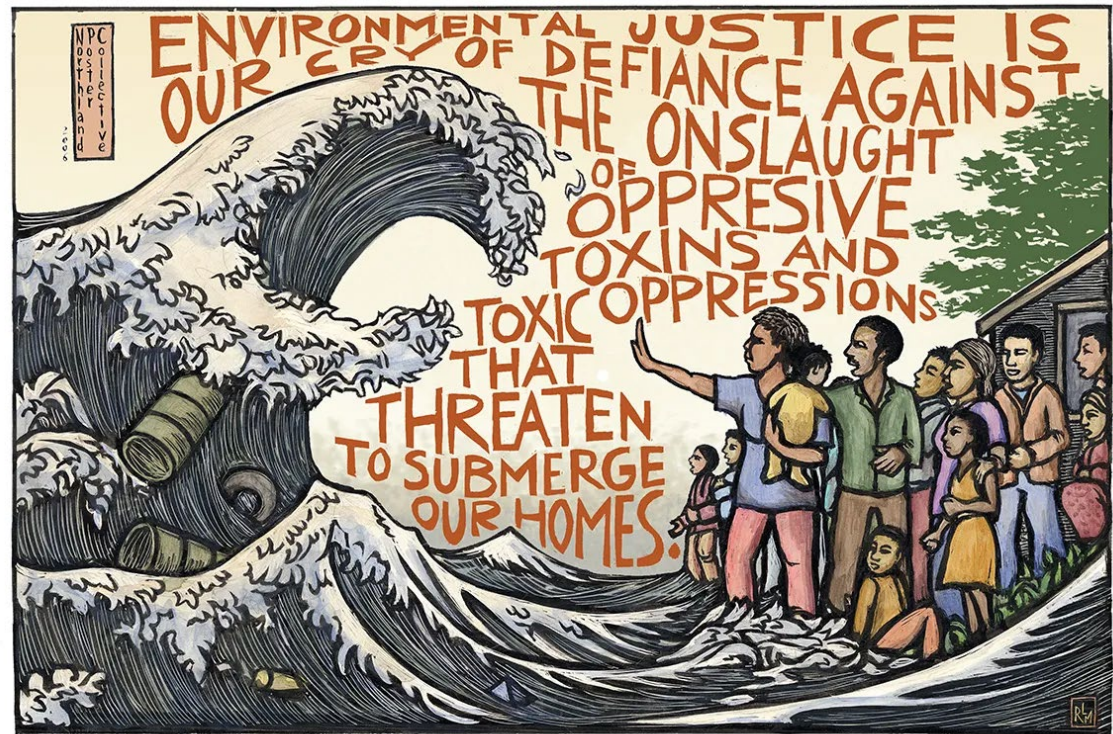
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## Example 4 Protecting health assets

A foundation  
of health  
equity

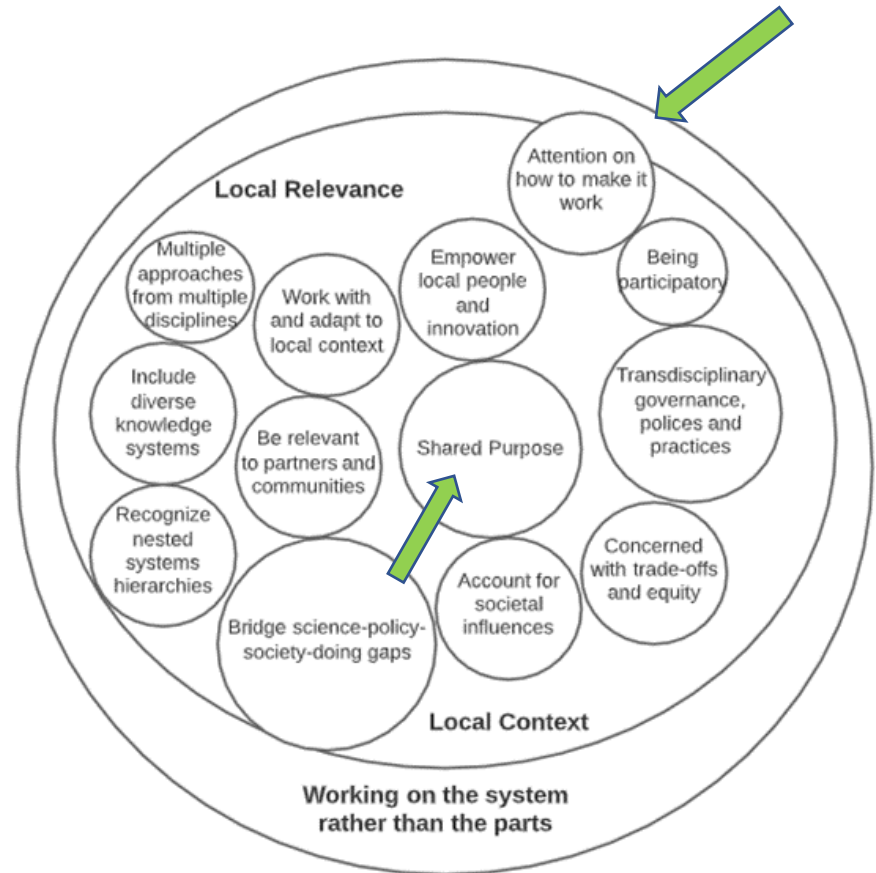
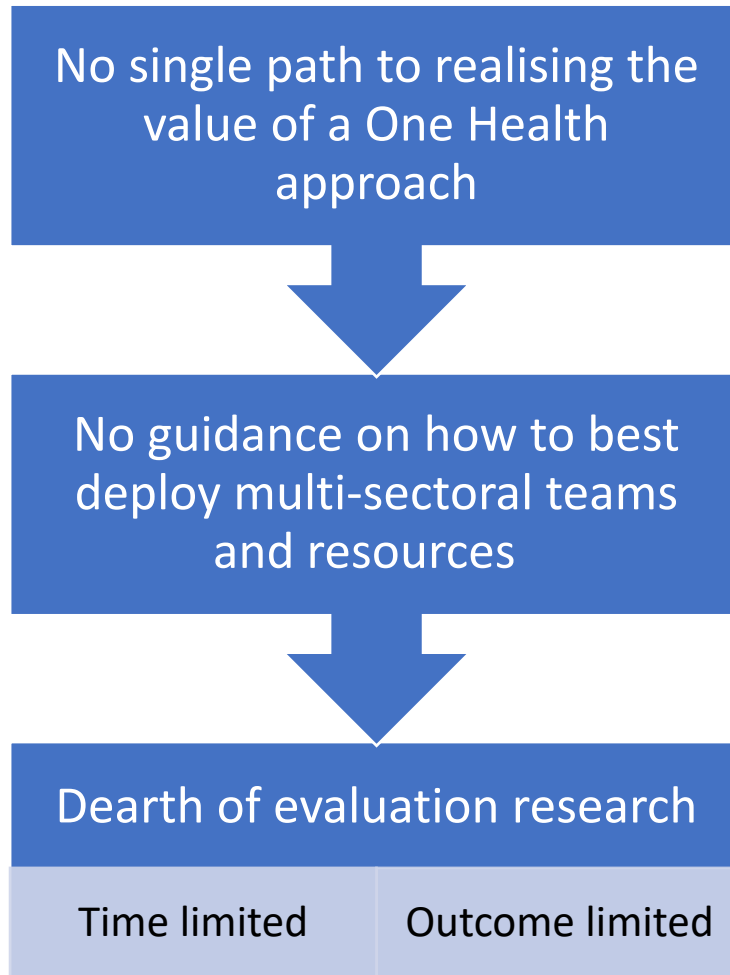
- Ecological degradation and climate change impact economic stability, environmental safety, food security and other determinants of health. They are global health equity threats





Steps to future-readying public health

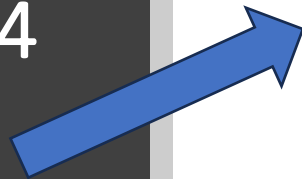
# Transformative One Health agenda for public health



Stephen, C. and Parmley, J., 2022. A transformative One Health agenda for livestock dependent communities. Report to ILRI

We need  
public health  
innovation to  
be future  
ready

Innovation  
needs these 4  
elements



You have a

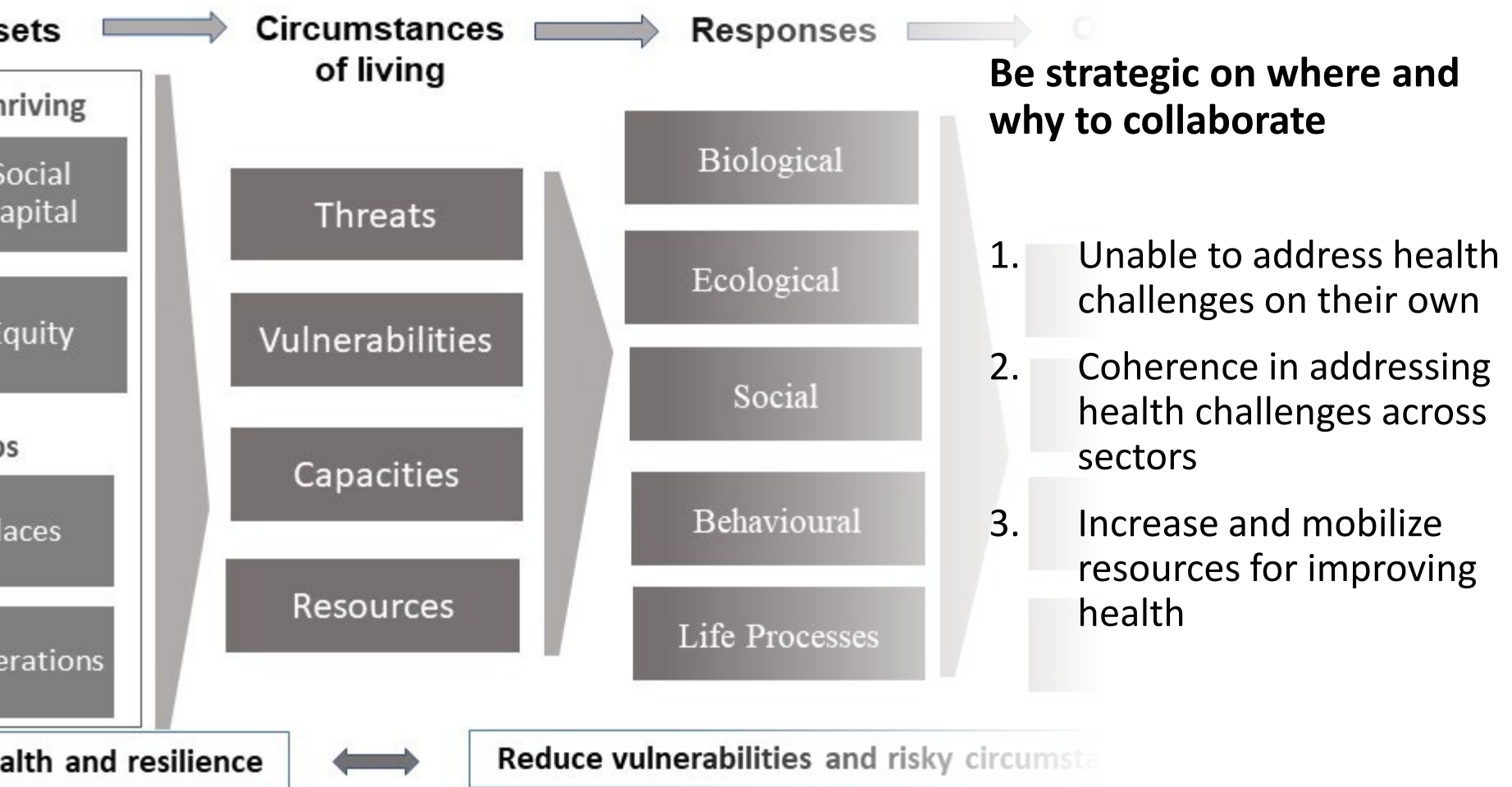
**VOICE**







You don't have to do it all



What are the obstacles to future readying via One Health (based on interviews with environmental health practitioners)

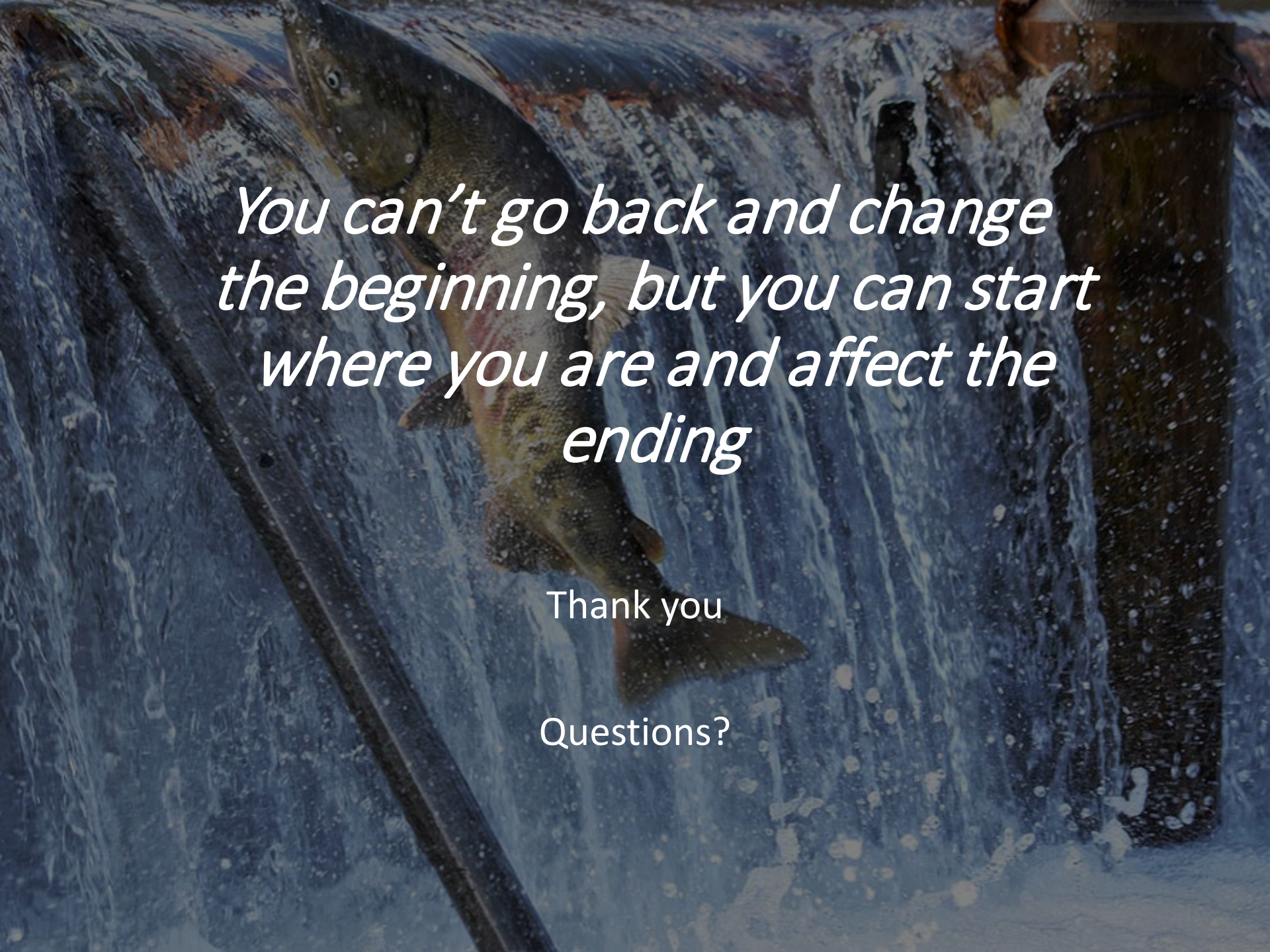
- Tyranny of the urgent
- Workforce crisis and work overload
- Legislative boundaries
- Lack of time to invest in relationship building
- Lack of encouragement from leadership
- Social determinants bias
- Confusion as to how this is different than “good public health practice”
  - Except with a limited scope of collaboration



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## We need game changers and innovative ideas to confront the oncoming health polycrisis

- One Health is not new
  - Part of a history of frustration in making the changes needed to avert existential crises.
- One Health's strength is not in getting other sectors' data or just dealing with today's problem
  - It is in finding innovative solutions to the problem arising from our changing world
  - This requires us to be open to new ways of framing problems and solutions
  - Time is not on our side
    - Embrace the glory of taking people's ideas and being thanked in the end

A large fish, possibly a salmon, is captured in mid-leap from a wooden structure into turbulent blue water. The fish is the central focus, with its body arched and fins spread. The water is dark blue with white foam and splashes, indicating a strong current or waterfall. The wooden structure is dark and textured, with a diagonal beam visible on the left side.

*You can't go back and change  
the beginning, but you can start  
where you are and affect the  
ending*

Thank you

Questions?