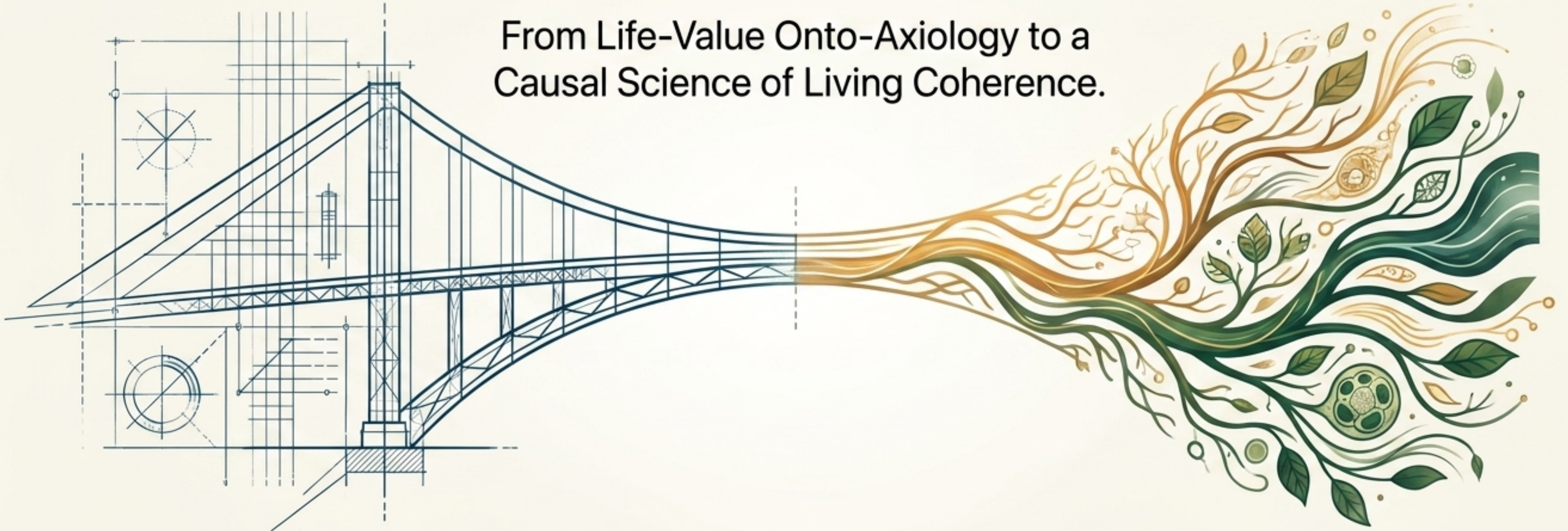


The Missing Bridge

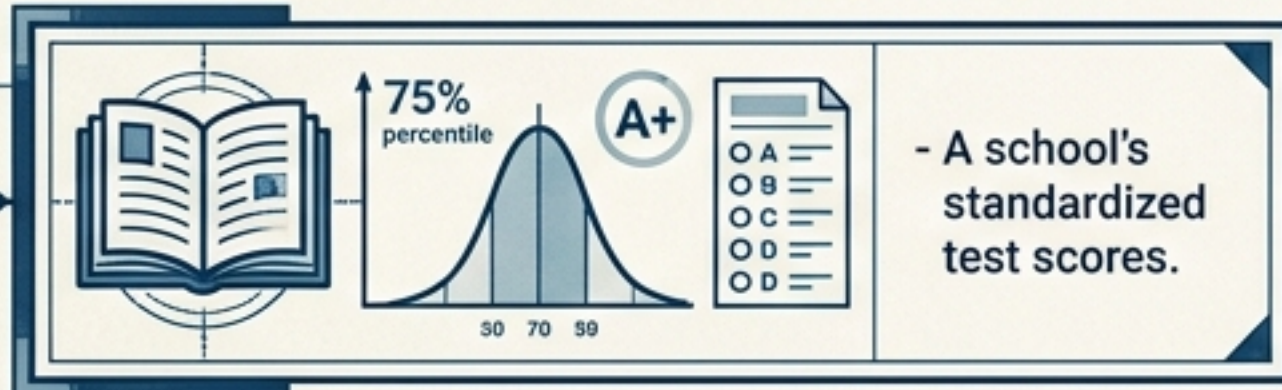
From Life-Value Onto-Axiology to a
Causal Science of Living Coherence.



Bichara Sahely, BSc, MBBS, DM

5 September 2026

What we successfully measure:



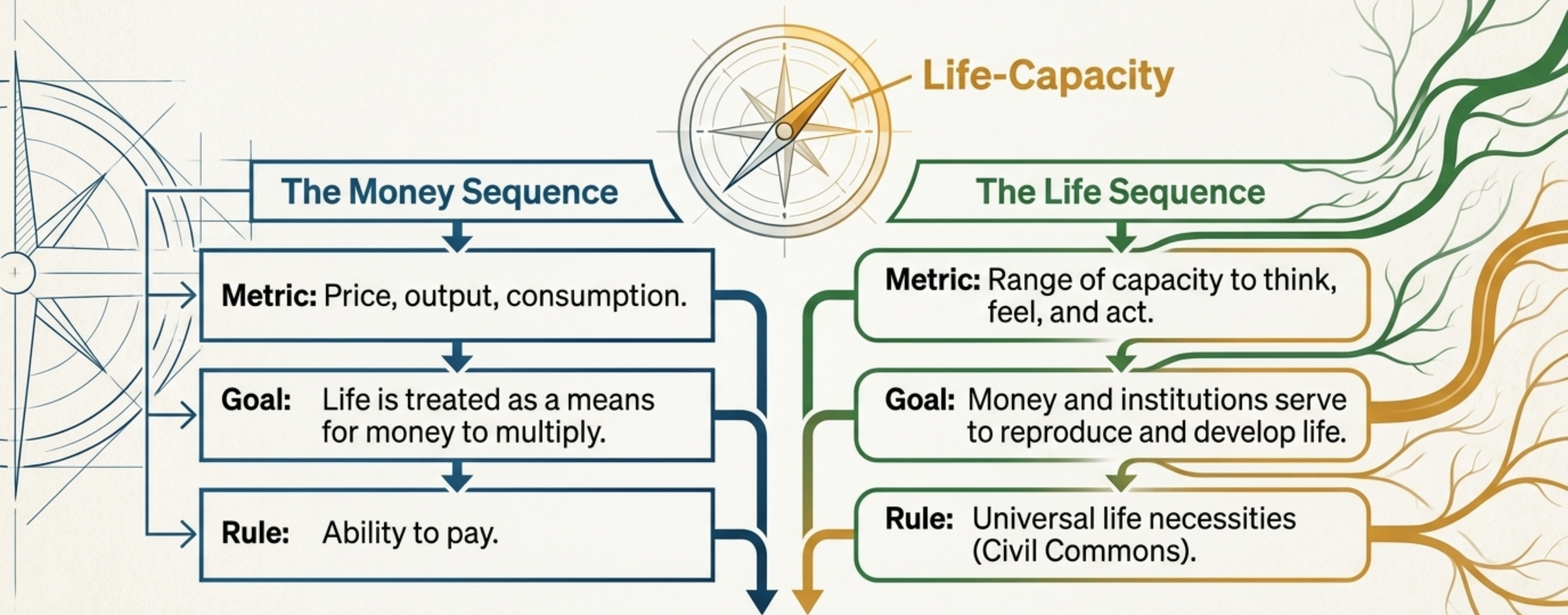
What we consistently ignore:



What do our rules and institutions actually do to the conditions that make life possible?

The Life-Value Compass

Value must finally be judged by whether it enables or disables life.



A universal value criterion gives us a compass. But a compass is not a map.

The Gap Between Analogy and Mechanism

The Temptation: We see a social system damage health and call it a pathogen. We see recurring institutional patterns and call it resonance.

The Danger: Analogy quietly takes the place of mechanism. Social arrangements do not enter the bloodstream as statutes or market rules.

Social Policies

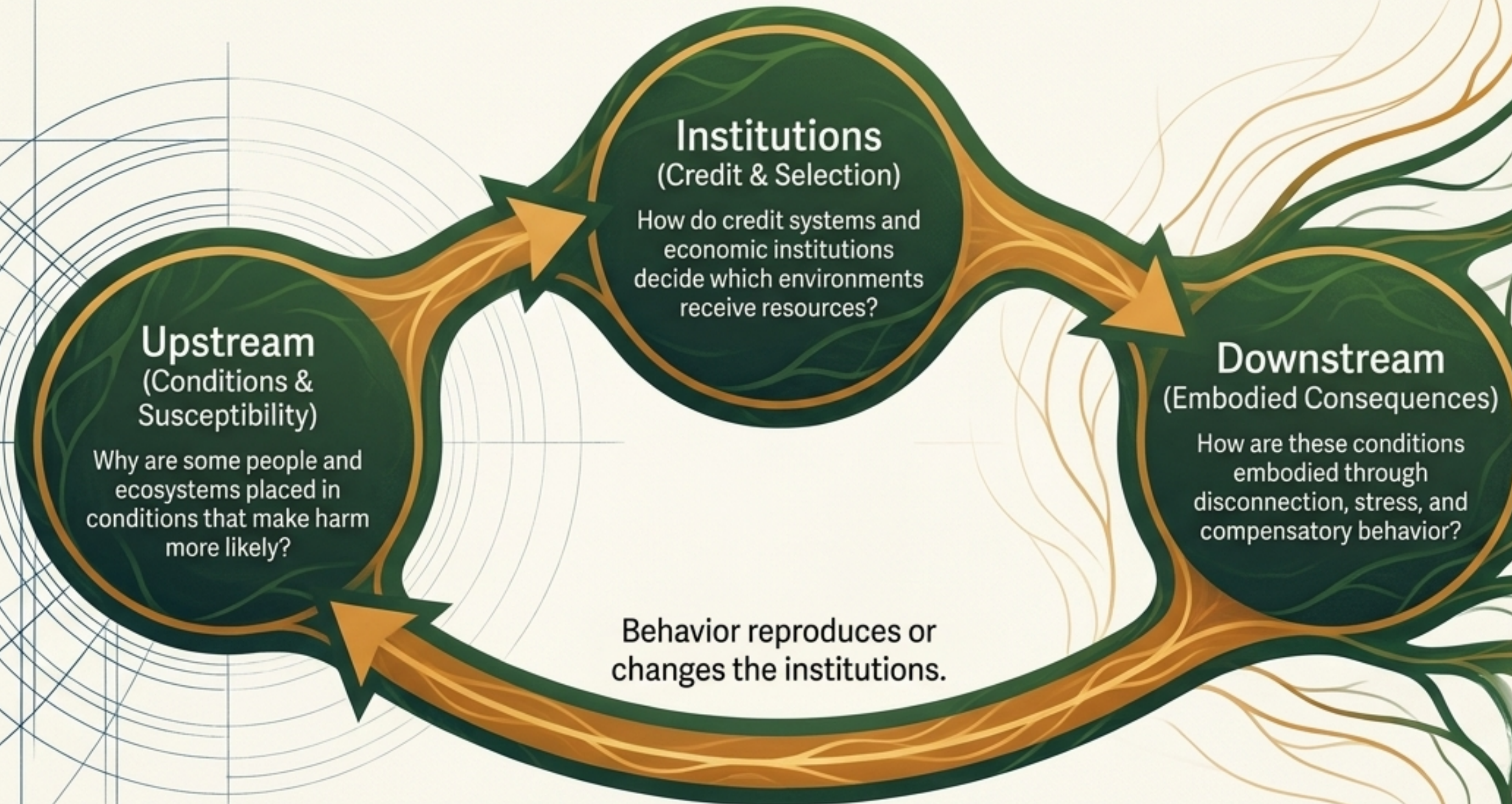
Metaphor
(e.g., 'The system is a disease')

Biological/Ecological Harm

Causal Mechanism

The Requirement: A defensible bridge must show the material and relational steps in between. Rules shape conditions. Conditions alter exposures.

The Origin: Three Parts of One Causal Story



The original 2017 architecture moved both upstream and downstream.
The missing bridge turns that intuition into a highly testable, rigorous method.

The Missing Bridge: The Causal Sequence

1. Rule / practice / institution

What is socially produced?

2. Provision / exposure

What needs, resources, toxins, or deprivations change?

3. Load / capacity / margin

What demand is imposed, what can respond, what reserve remains?

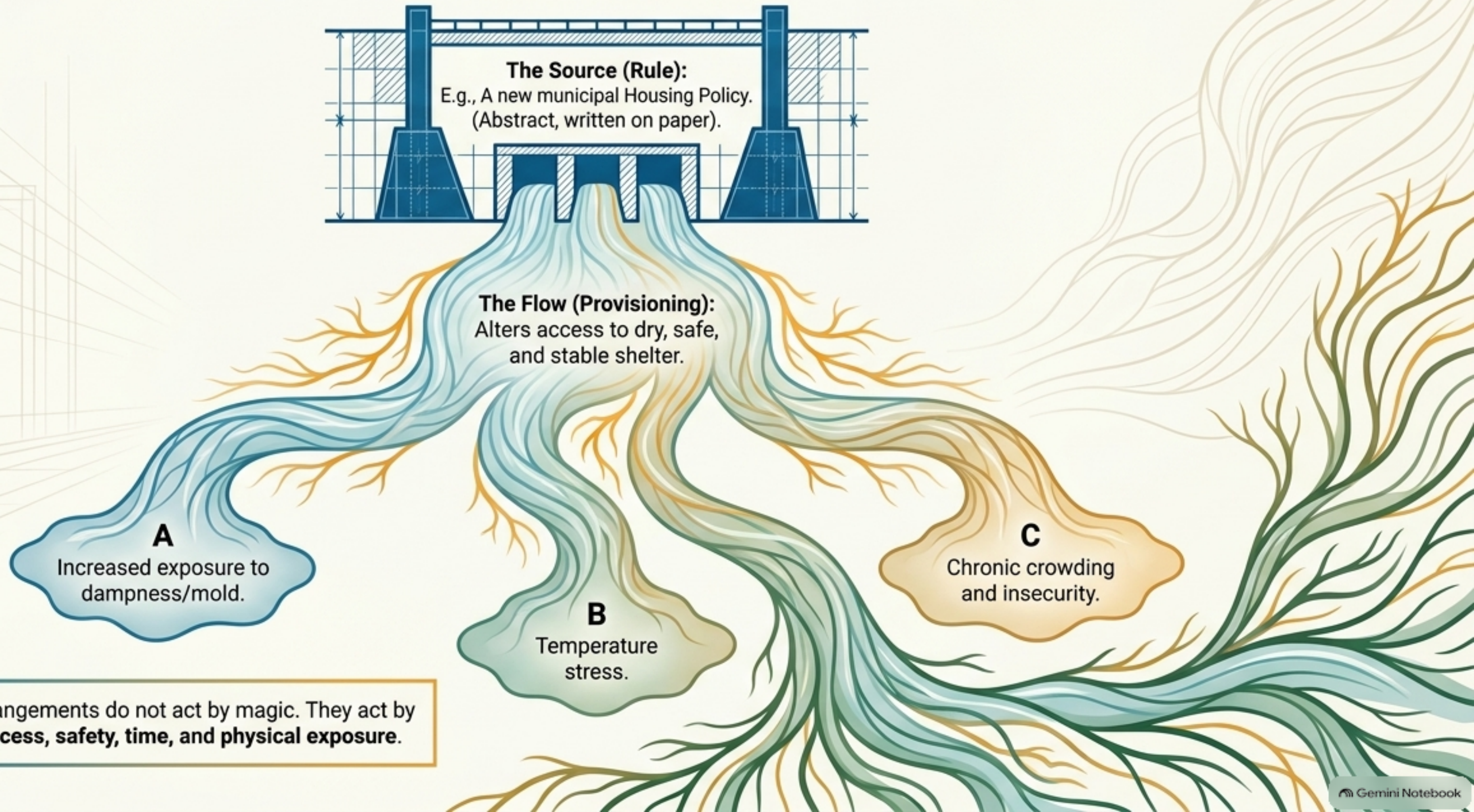
4. Regulation / repair

How does the living unity compensate, adapt, recover, or fail?

5. Life-capacity trajectory

What changes in viable thought, felt being, action and future options?

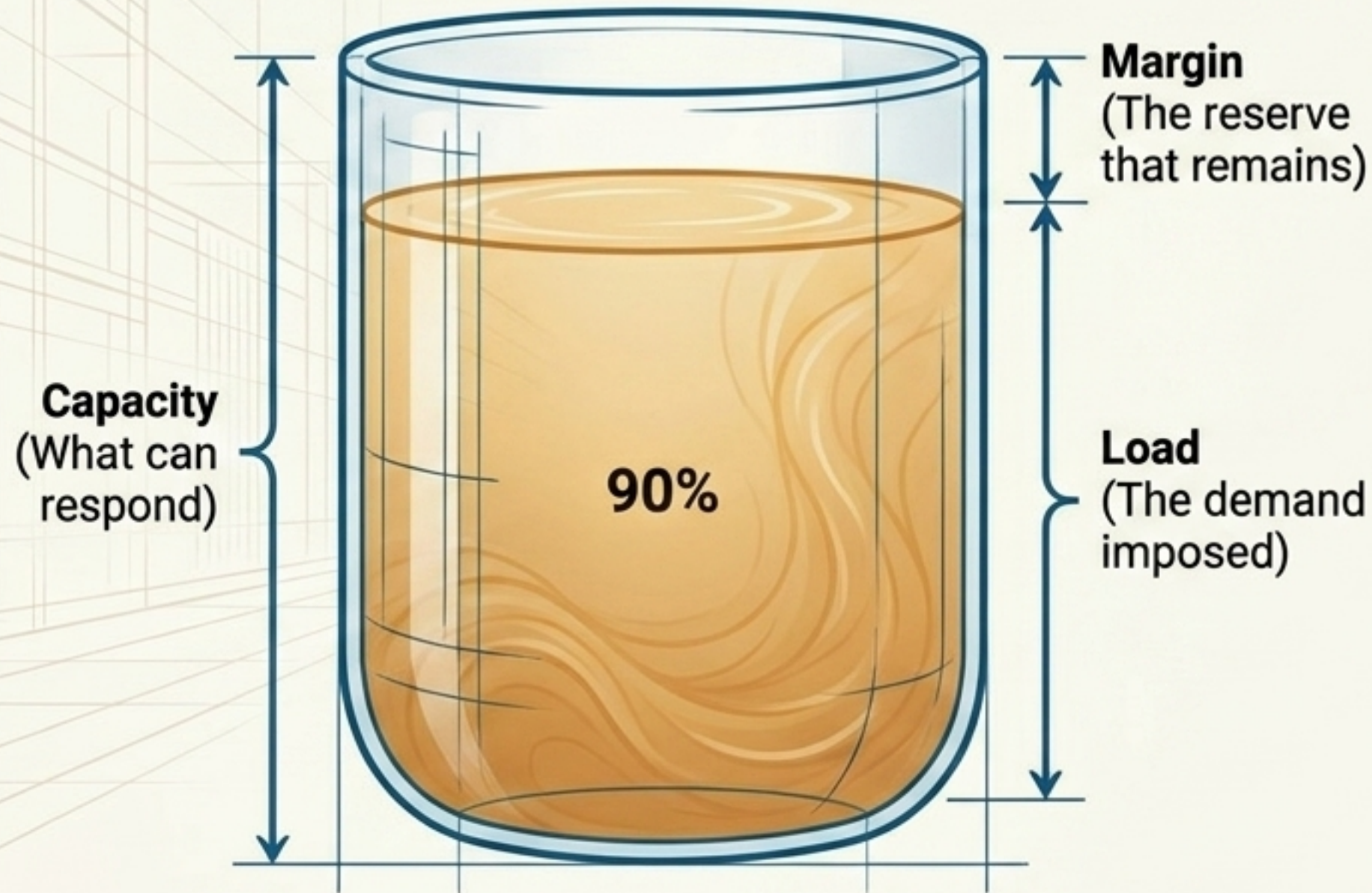
Steps 1 & 2: Abstract Rules to Material Conditions



Takeaway: Social arrangements do not act by magic. They act by forcing changes in **access, safety, time, and physical exposure**.

Step 3: The Illusion of Resilience

The Viability Reservoir



- A system can appear completely stable because it is successfully managing the current Load.
- However, if the Margin is silently shrinking to zero, the system is losing viability.
- Once reserves are exhausted, the next minor disturbance produces systemic collapse.

Takeaway: Present performance can hide declining viability. Repair is not optional maintenance; it is a **prerequisite for life**.

Steps 4 & 5: Regulation and Trajectory

Salutogenic Trajectory

- Restoration of margins.
- Enlargement of capacities.
- Expansion of viable future options.

The Pivot Point (Step 4: Regulation/Repair)

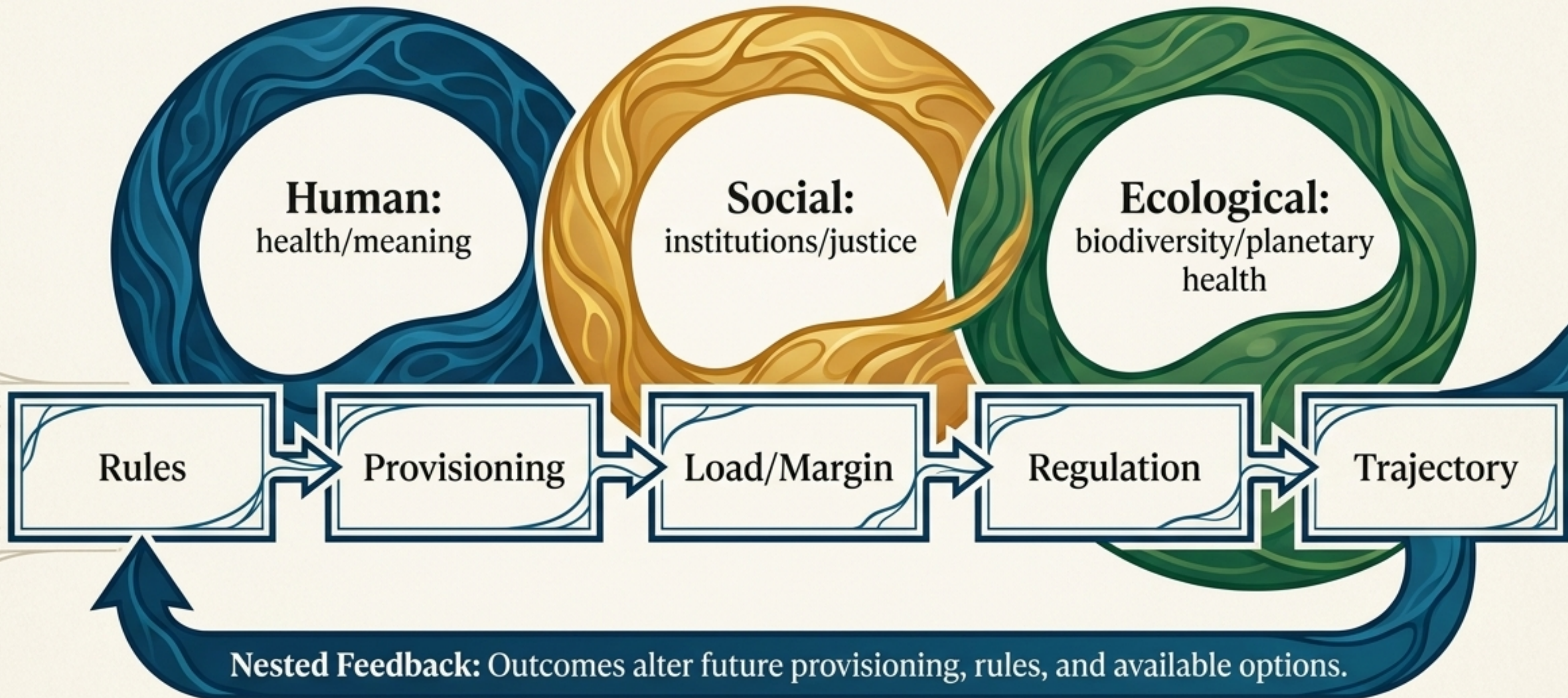
Does the living unity
compensate, learn, and
physiologically/ecologically
repair? Or does it fail?

Pathogenic Trajectory

- Depletion of reserves faster than restoration.
- Narrowing of viable options.
- Cascading illness (affecting school, employment, future capability).

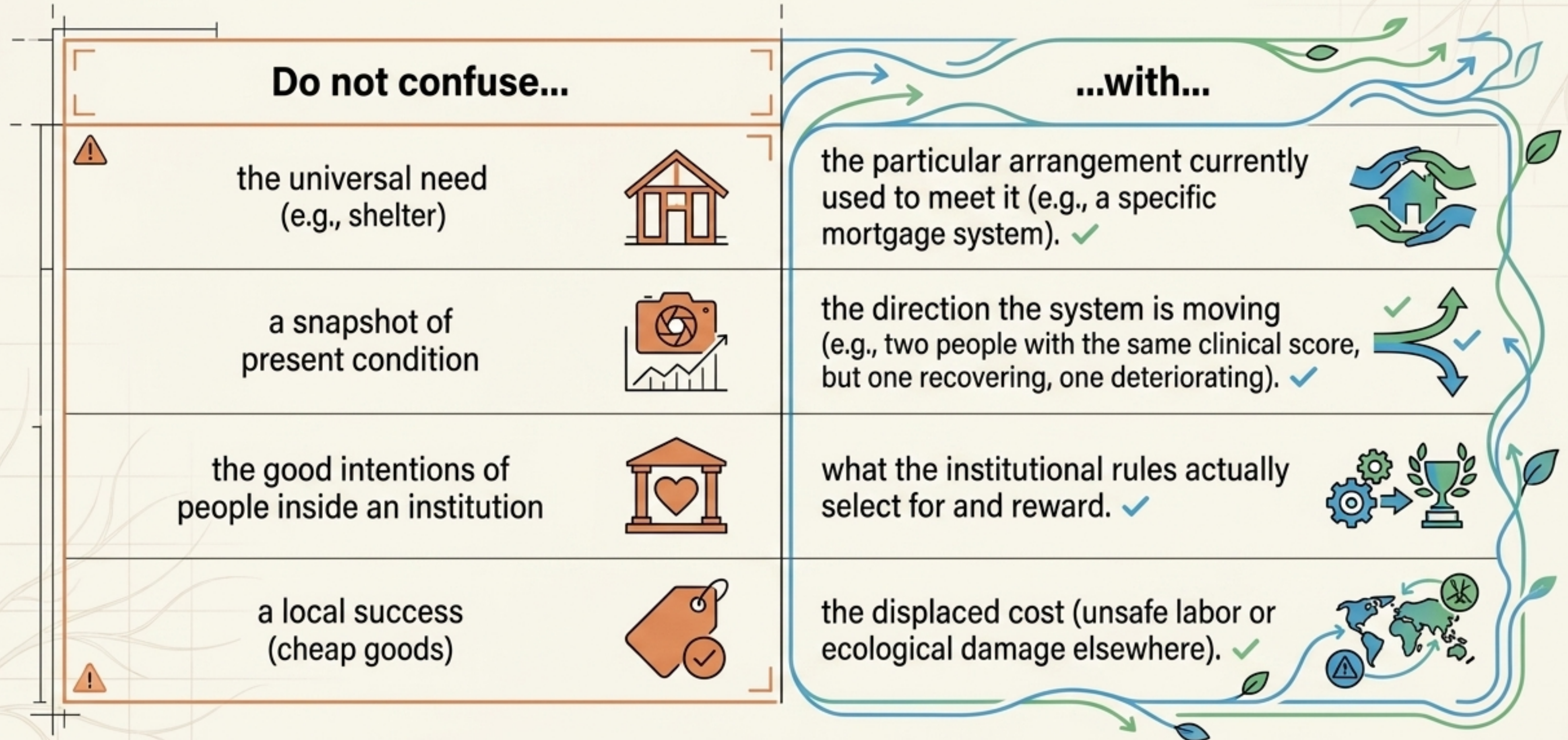
The Master Loop of Living Coherence

Life-Value Criterion: Does this protect, restore, or enlarge life-capacity?



The Grammar of Inquiry: Reasoning Controls

Connection without distinction becomes confusion. We must separate variables before linking them.



Categorizing Interference: Restricting vs. Enlarging Life

Pathogenic Interference



Definition: Rules/practices that acutely or cumulatively increase deprivation, damaging exposure, or excessive load.

Mechanism: Obstructs repair and depletes viable margins.

Result: Reduces life-capacity across relevant scales relative to alternatives.

Salutogenic Interference (Aaron Antonovsky)

Definition: An orientation toward the origins and resources of health rather than disease alone.

Mechanism: Secures necessary provisioning, restores viable margins, and repairs capacity.

Result: Enlarges sustainable life-capacities without shifting comparable harm onto others.



The Phases of Action

Interventions must match the phase of viability. Continuing emergency controls post-crisis is harmful; demanding growth during a crisis is destructive.

Phase 2: REPAIR

Trigger: Once danger is controlled.

Action: Restore damaged structures, physiological reserves, ecological trust, and relationships.

Phase 1: STABILIZE

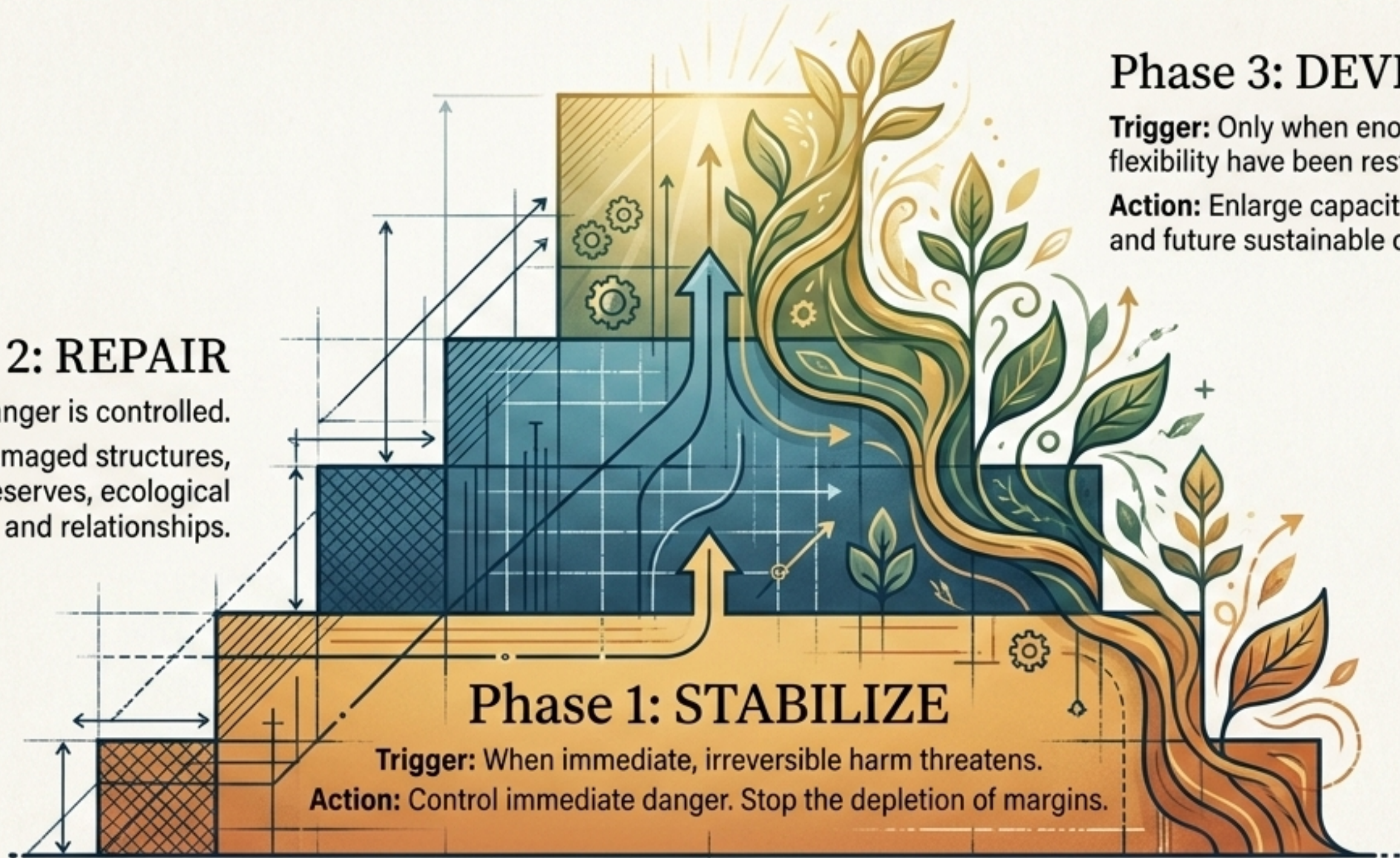
Trigger: When immediate, irreversible harm threatens.

Action: Control immediate danger. Stop the depletion of margins.

Phase 3: DEVELOP

Trigger: Only when enough margin and flexibility have been restored.

Action: Enlarge capacities, participation, and future sustainable options.



Safeguarding the Science: Falsifiability

A causal science of living coherence must be corrigible by design.
What evidence would make us change our minds?

Proposed Claim	Falsification Condition
A rule harms health by increasing a specific exposure.	The rule changes, but the exposure does not—or the predicted health effect fails to manifest.
Excessive demands are depleting people's capacity to recover.	Rigorous measurement of load/margin does not show the expected relationship to recovery rates.
Changing credit priorities will improve living conditions.	Financing changes, but improvements in provisioning and life outcomes do not follow.

The New Baseline: Making Institutions Answerable to Life

The goal is no longer simply to maximize activity inside existing systems. It is to ask whether the systems themselves are reproducing the conditions that make life possible.

1. Trace:

Follow how abstract rules become material burdens.

2. Protect & Repair:

Restore the margins on which future life depends.

3. Redesign:

Change the rules so life-capacity grows rather than being consumed.



A civilization capable of doing this is not free of uncertainty, but it is capable of noticing when its own arrangements disable life—and correcting them before the damage is irreversible.