Searching for Resilience: A Conceptual Journey Through Conflict Analysis

INSCT Workshop on Resilience

Tjip Walker

US Agency for International Development

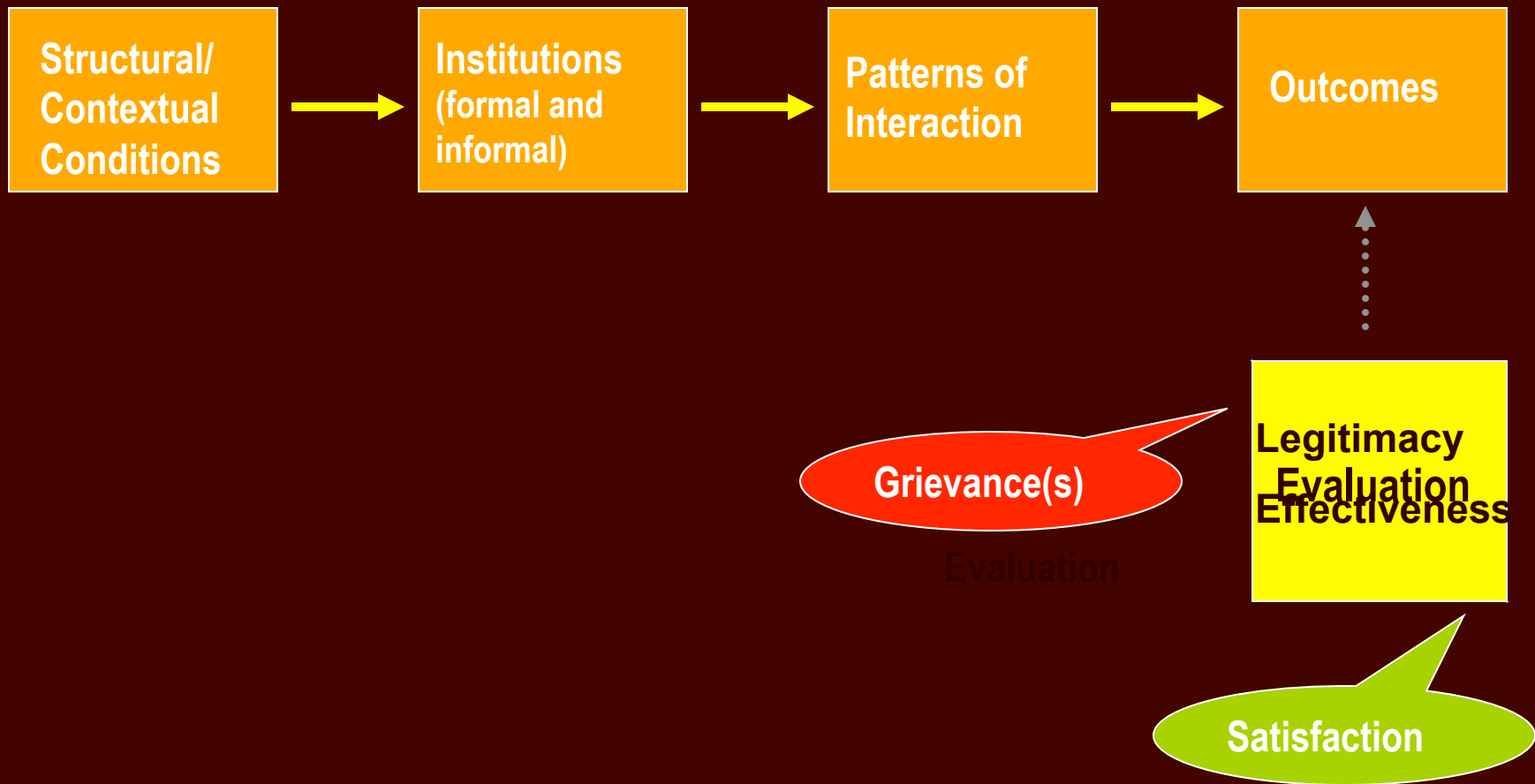**January 16, 2009**

Practical resilience

We know it when we see it:

- Guinea: ethnic accommodation
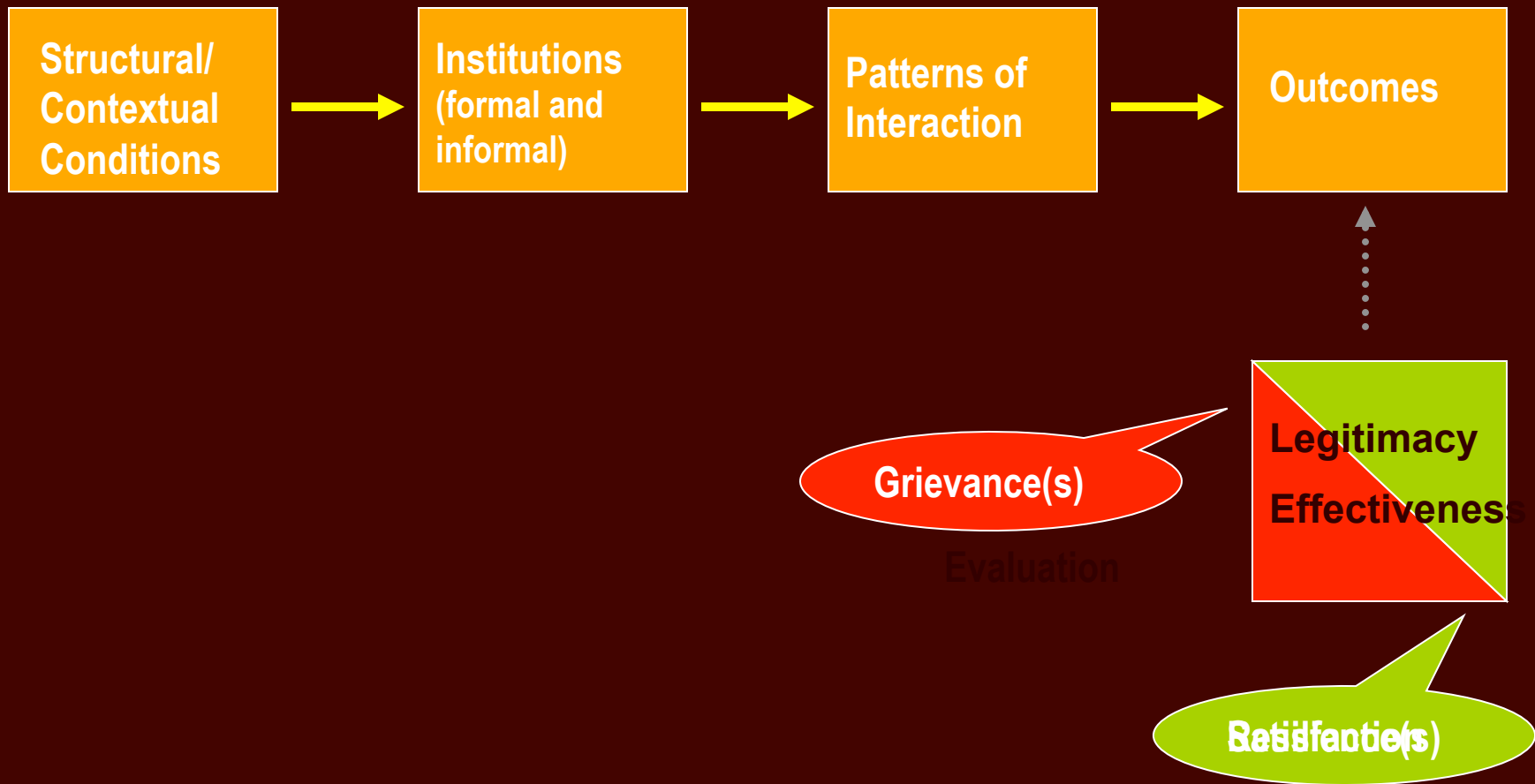- "Turn-around states": lingering local capacity

But how do we incorporate it into our analytics?

- Three alternatives

The underlying framework

Alternative 1: Individual evaluation

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┌──────────────┐      ┌──────────────┐      ┌──────────────┐      ┌──────────────┐
│ Structural/  │ ───▶ │ Institutions │ ───▶ │ Patterns of  │ ───▶ │  Outcomes    │
│ Contextual   │      │ (formal and  │      │ Interaction  │      │              │
│ Conditions   │      │  informal)   │      │              │      │              │
└──────────────┘      └──────────────┘      └──────────────┘      └──────────────┘
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Grievance(s)

Evaluation

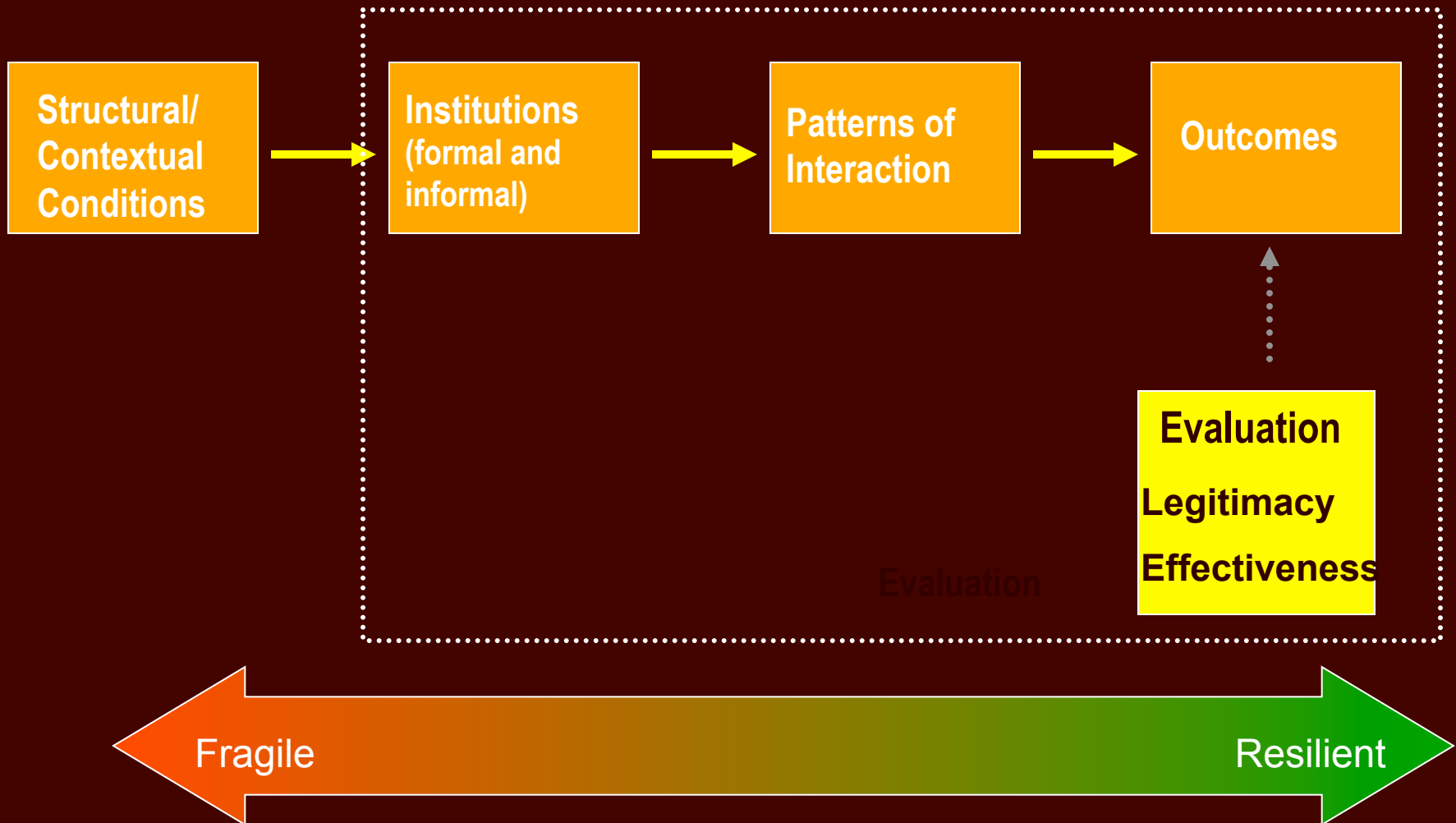**Legitimacy**

Effectiveness

Satisfaction(s)

Alternative 2: Summary evaluation

"Together, capacity and resources, institutions, legitimacy and an effective political process combine to produce resilience"

- OECD/DAC, *Concepts and Dilemmas of State Building in Fragile Situations: From Fragility to Resilience, 2008*

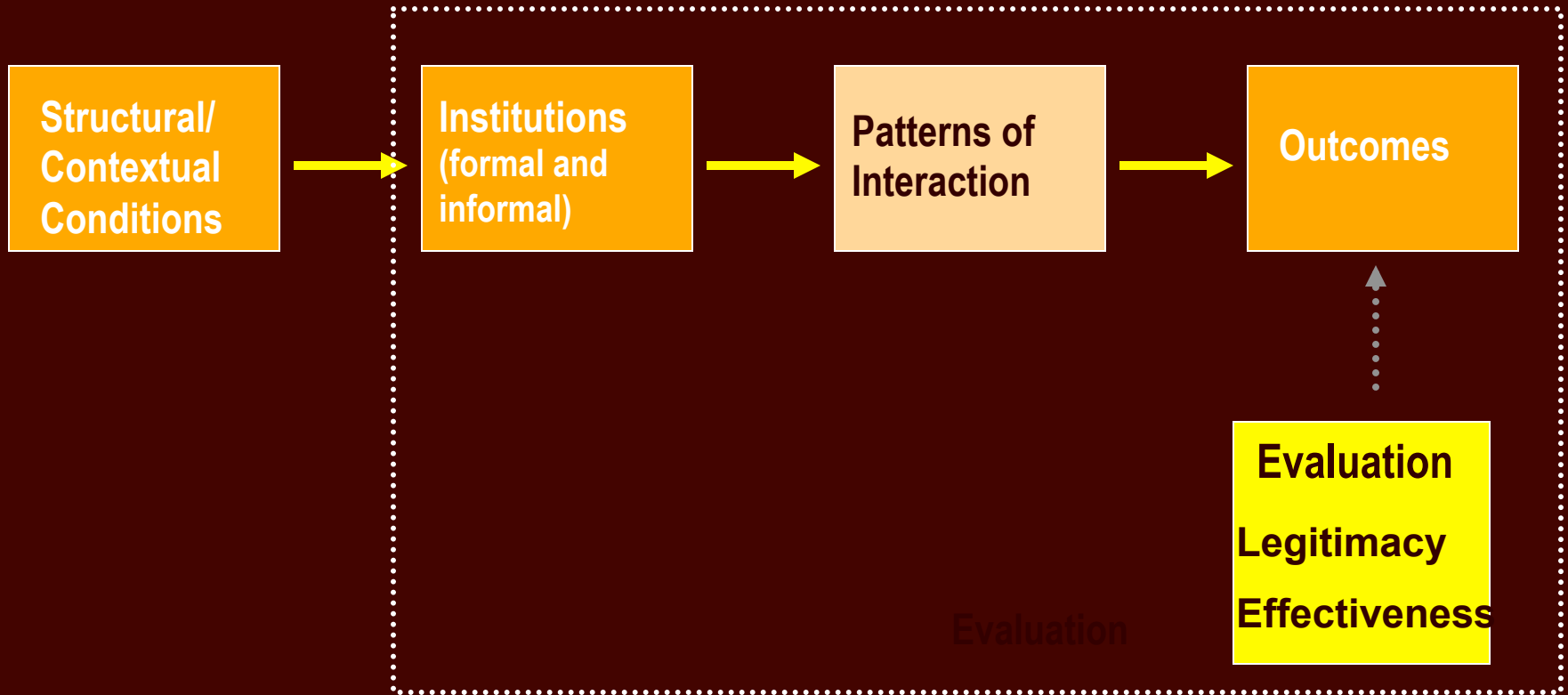# Alternative 2: Summary evaluation

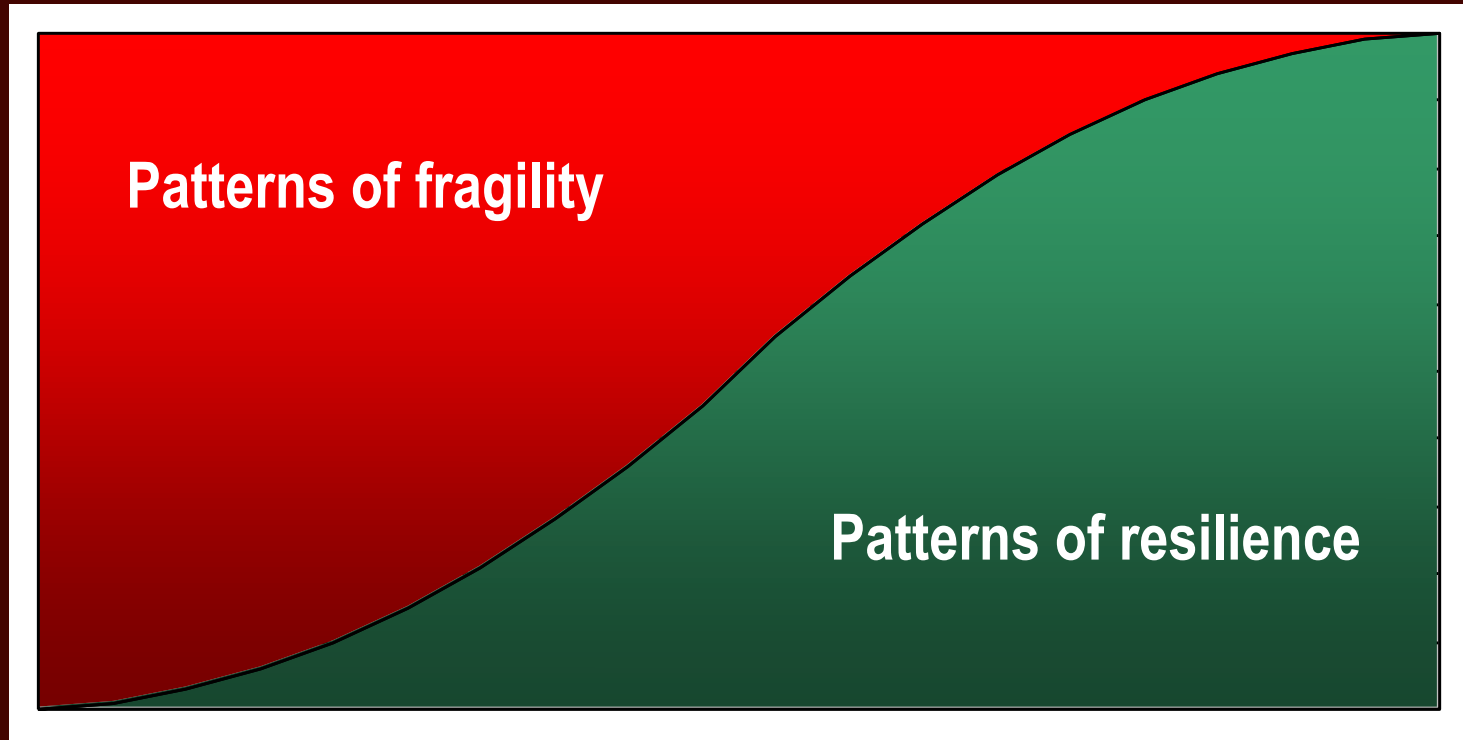# Alternative 3: Particular patterns

Complement to patterns of fragility/grievance:

1. Elitism

2. Exclusion

3. Chronic capacity deficits

   - Systemic stagnation

   - Strategic resources (oil, diamonds, timber)

   - Ungoverned space

4. Transitional moment: unmet expectations

5. *Corruption/rent-seeking*

Alternative 3: Particular patterns

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The daunting question

If Alternative 3 is the most compelling conceptualization of resilience, then what are the component patterns?