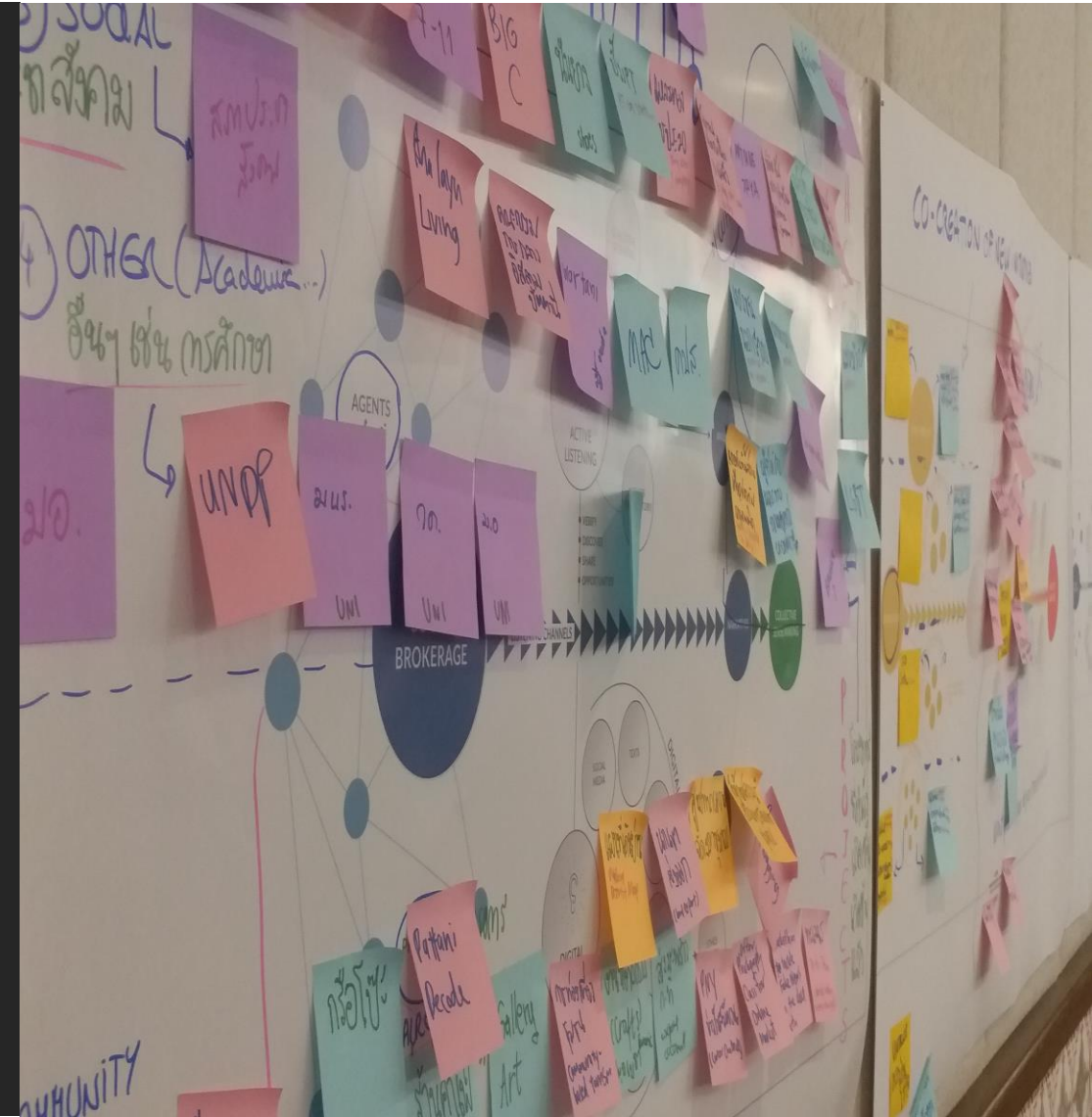# How can 'Social Innovation Platforms' help local governments prepare & co-design post COVID-19 recovery plans?

Using social innovation to support economic responses:
An initiative led by UNDP with the ALC foundation,
Basque region, Spain and Ac4, Columbia University

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Recovery plans require that we understand how COVID-19 affects (and will continue to affect beyond the spread of the virus) the socio-economic and cultural eco-system of local communities.

Social Innovation Platforms are designed to be integration engines that brings together a **variety of actors, methods and interconnected actions to allow a more** systemic approach to complex issues and shocks such as the COVID-19 crisis.

How are LGs using 'Social Innovation Platforms' for Post COVID-19 Recovery?
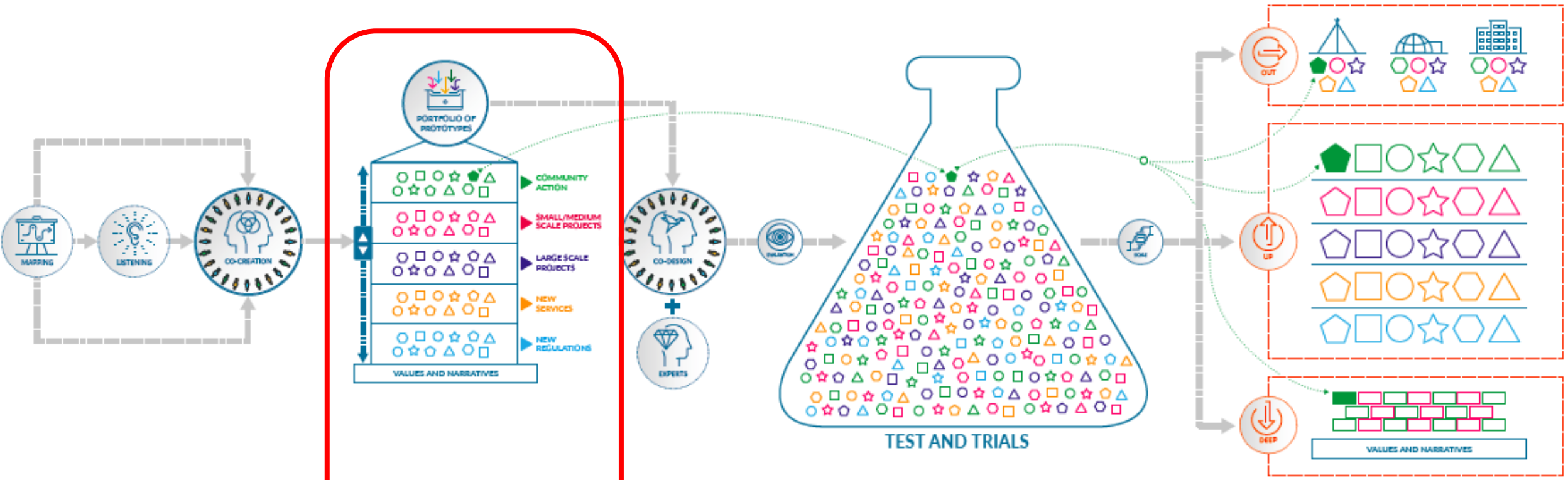

Protecting/strengthening **local tourism** and the **food industry** in Thailand and Pakistan; Supporting **local farmers** and the **cashmere market** in Mongolia; Targeting **most vulnerable populations** in Malaysia and Cambodia; Rethinking **youth entrepreneurship** in Bhutan and Lao PDR; Supporting prioritization process for **social programmes and local investments** in Indonesia.

Subnational Innovation Platforms and COVID-19: The 4 core dimensions

- **Deep listening, systems mapping** and sense making. Each region and community is experiencing COVID-19 differently. Responses need to capture these differences, map the system and interpret the information collectively.

- **Co-creation and prototyping** interventions at 5 interconnected levels.
  - Community relations
  - Small business/Start-ups
  - Large scale public-private partnerships
  - Public service redesign
  - New regulations

- **Portfolio approach**. Leverage points for COVID-19 response.

- **Transformation Capital and Digitalization**: Funding and delivering differently

Portfolio of interconnected initiatives and investments

Deep listening & system thinking

Co-designing the portfolio

Prototyping

Learning, Scaling (de-risking investments)

Example: Portfolio to mitigate the negative impact on the local food industry

Community relations

New local and community solidarities (provide food and care to vulnerable people), circular economy, 'Food for Health Workers'.

Small scale entrepreneurship

Support 'restaurant food suppliers' sell products directly to individuals (new market); Map/promotion of new products (Yala Icon designer) and encourage new local initiatives (food trucks, e-commerce, selling vouchers).

Medium and large scale

Gov support on SMART Farmers; "Rice trade with Fish' (trade products between regions); Local product branding and domestic trade/exports: (Betong Chicken, Budu Sauce); Cooperation with Chefs from Michelin stars restaurants (branding products, know how, culinary heritage, etc.), Avoid disruption of supply chain (agriculture and seafood products).

Public services redesign

Specialized trainings and certification for Food industry. Government led initiatives and investments for agriculture and food/hospitality industry. New public contracts (to support local suppliers).

Regulation

Simplified regulation for business creation; Enhanced hygiene regulations for food processing/handling. New regulations on 'social distance' in hospitality industry.