High civic engagement

Voter turnout and citizen participation in public life are consistently strong in your local context.

Strong local civil society

Many active citizen-led associations exist in your town.

University nearby

A local university has a social science department that engages in local issues.

Volunteer tradition

The local community regularly volunteers in cultural and social projects.

Shared sense of place

The community has a strong identity and local pride.

Culturally diverse community

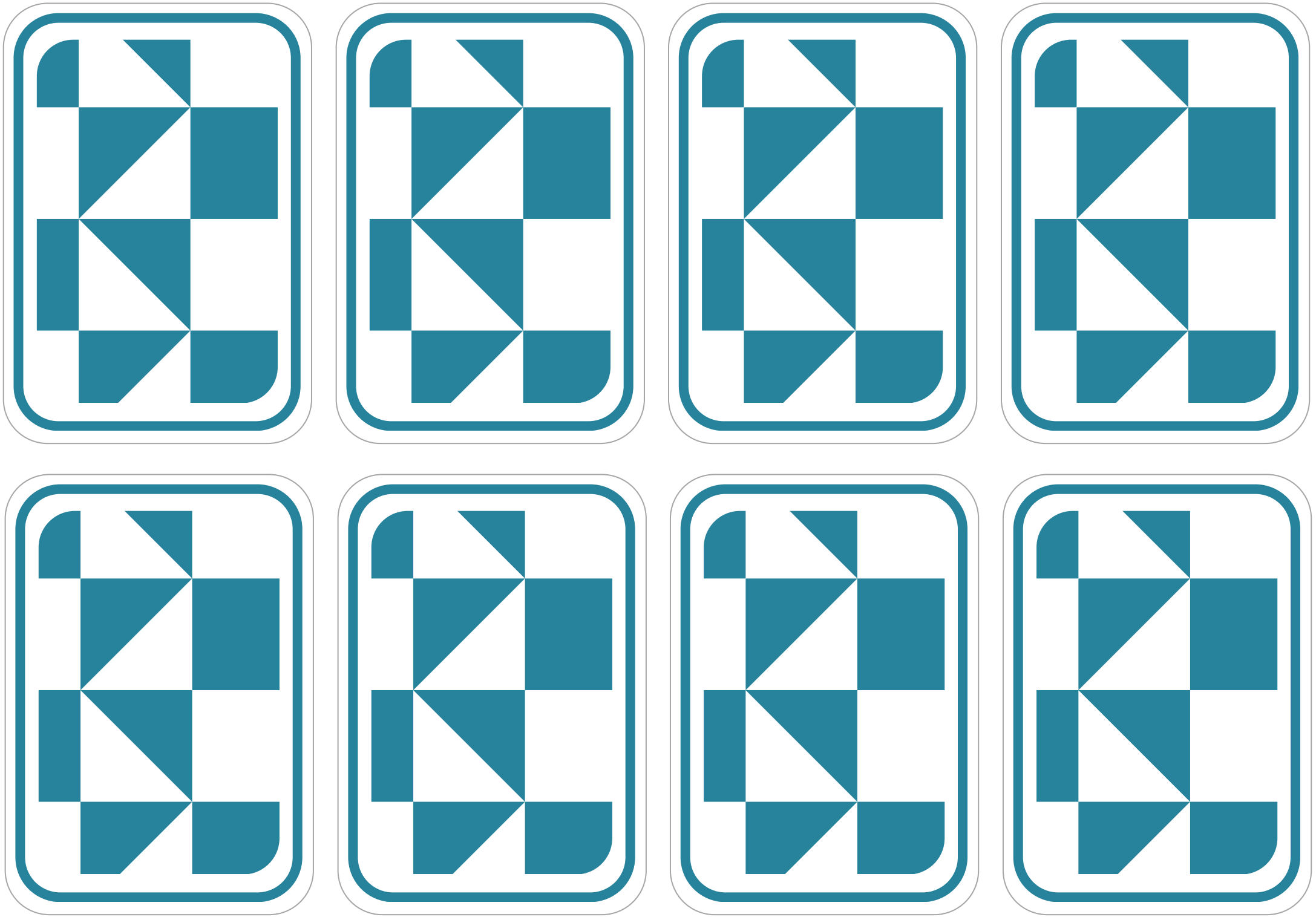
The local population is plural and welcoming, fostering inclusivity.

Democratic wave

The newly elected local government actively promotes participation.

High civic engagement

Voter turnout and citizen participation in public life are consistently strong in your local context.



Local leadership

The institution is led by someone trusted and based in the community.

Flexible legal setup

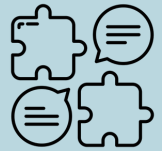
The CHI has a hybrid legal form that supports both nonprofit and commercial work.

Shared decision-making

Community members help steer the institution through panels or working groups.

Commons-based governance

Local or national frameworks allow co-management between CHIs, municipalities, and citizens.



Adaptive grant schemes

Innovation funding includes flexibility to refine and adjust project ideas during implementation.

Network membership

The CHI is an active member of a cultural network, benefiting from peer exchange and visibility.

Participatory budgeting

At least one programme has been co-designed with the community and receives public input on spending.

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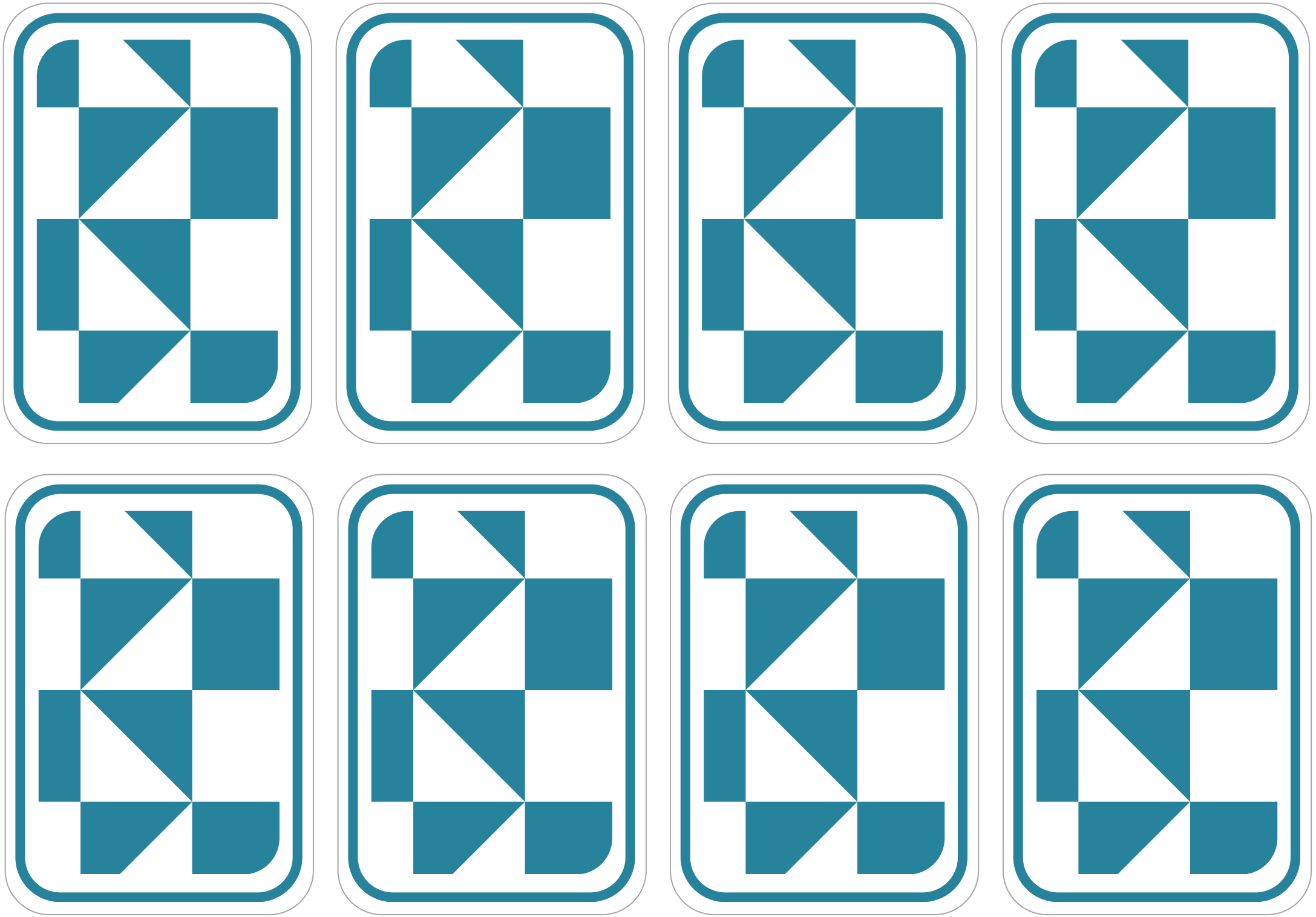


Micro-grants

Small flexible funds to quickly test ideas.

Innovation spaces

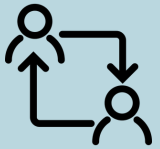
Access to labs or shared rooms allows CHIs to experiment safely.

Cultural brokers

Mediators within CHIs help connect institutions with communities and policymakers.

Peer mentoring

Exchange schemes let CHIs learn directly from each other's practices.



Alternative metrics

CHIs gain recognition when impact is measured through stories and participatory tools.

Volunteer training

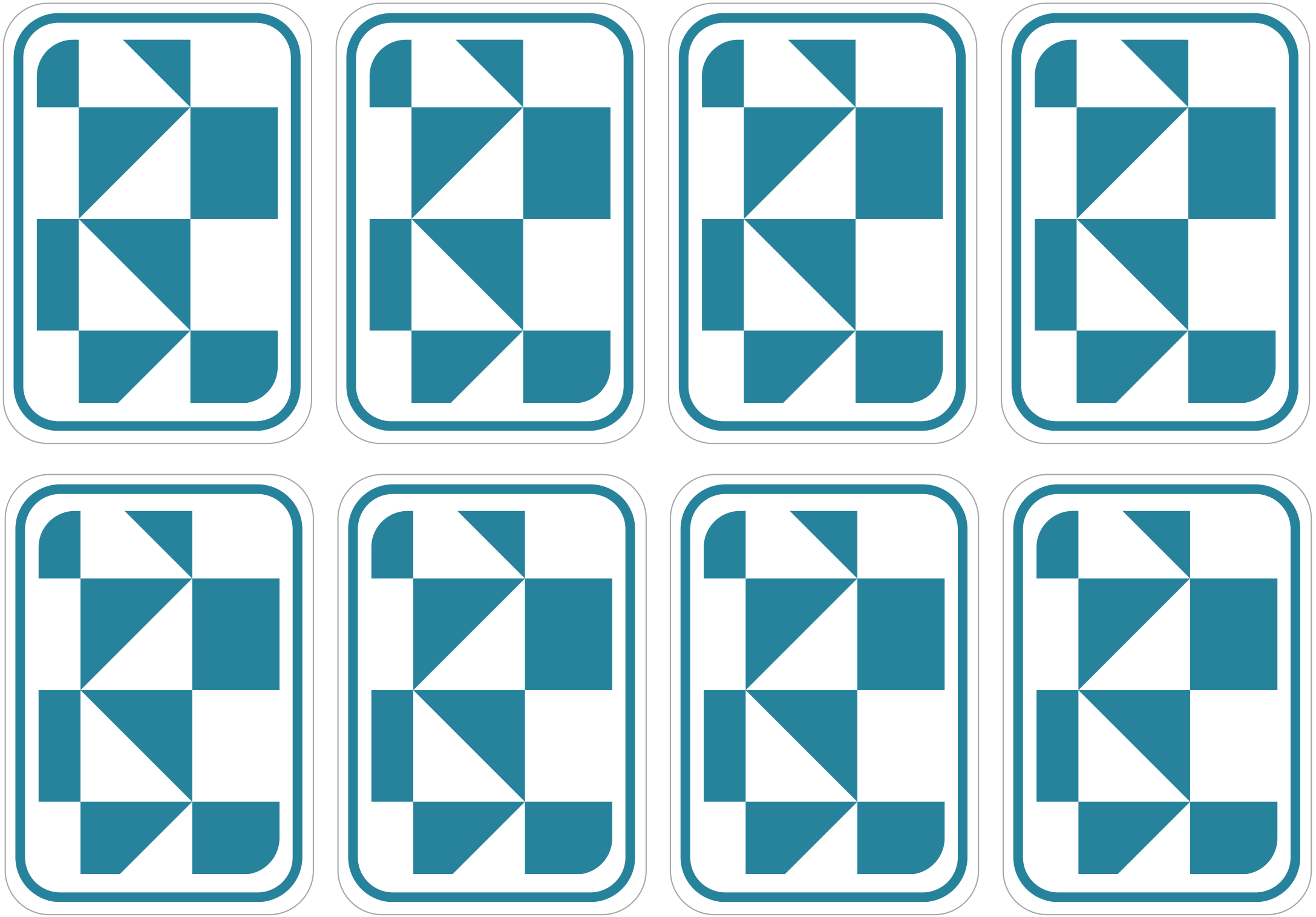
Training programmes turn CHI volunteers into active innovation partners.

Cross-sector links

CHIs thrive when supported to collaborate with health, education or environmental actors.

Policy sandboxes

Temporary legal flexibilities let CHIs test new governance or funding models.



High unemployment rate

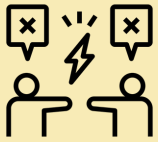
The last economic crisis massively destroyed local jobs in the area.

Unresolved dark heritage

Painful or traumatic heritage remains unacknowledged.

Heritage conflict

Competing or contested heritage narratives generate tension and division within the community.

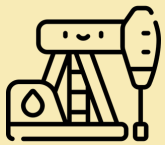


Lack of local entrepreneurship

The area has very few active small businesses or creative enterprises.

Extractive tourism

Most activity in the area is focused on external visitors, not locals.



Seasonal ghost town

The CHI is in a place that “empties out” during off-season months.

Exodus

Because of lack of opportunities the local community is shrinking. Especially among the younger population.

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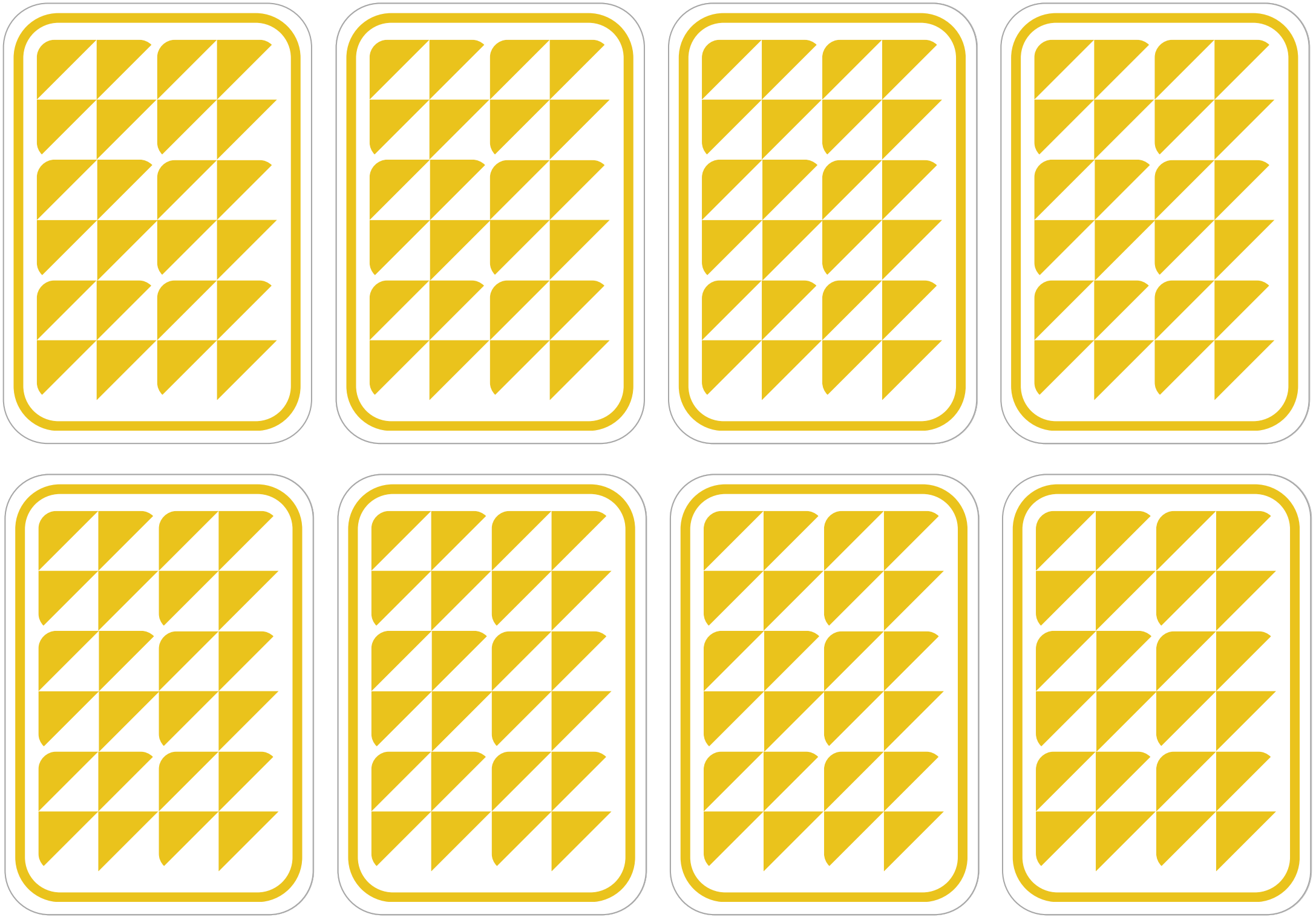

Innovation = patents

Only tech-based, IP-protected innovation gets funded.

Consultants around

The institution's innovation strategy was developed by an international consulting firm.

Participation theatre

Citizen engagement is required by funders but lacks meaningful resources or influence.

Trust deficit

A corruption scandal from past leadership continues to damage credibility locally.

Rigid heritage laws

Legal protections make it nearly impossible to reuse heritage spaces in adaptive ways.

No support for coordination

Funding covers outputs and events, but not the roles needed to build partnerships.

Success = numbers only

Funders focus solely on audience numbers, and deliverables over learnign and experimentation.

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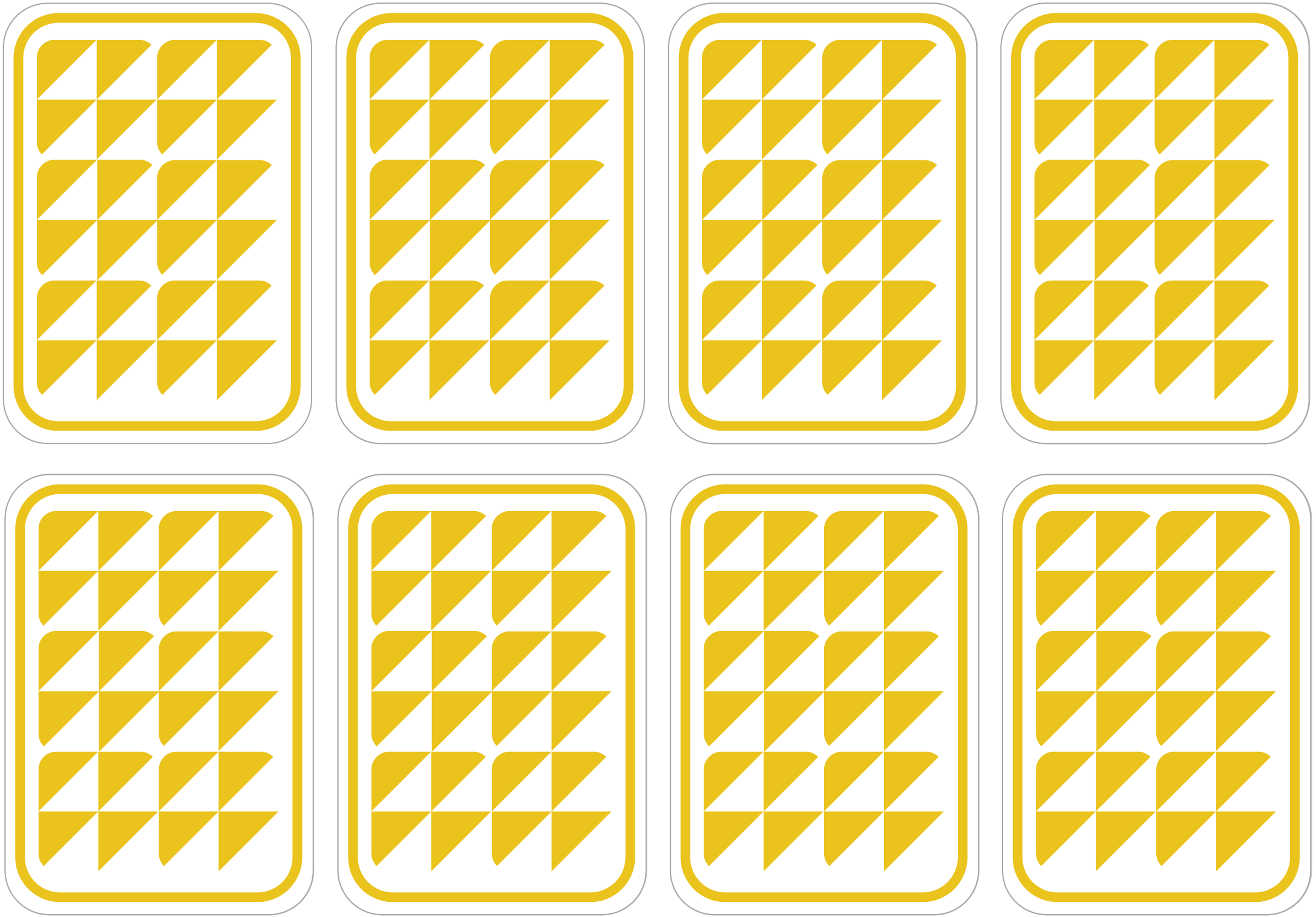

Complex applications

Grant processes require heavy administrative capacity.

Staff precarity

Unstable contracts and reliance on volunteers weaken CHIs' innovation continuity.

Rigid schedules

Strict opening hours prevent CHIs from engaging broader communities.

Fragmented governance

Overlapping authorities impose conflicting demands on CHIs.

Digitalisation bias

CHIs are sidelined when innovation is reduced to digitalisation projects.

Invisible practices

Everyday adaptive innovations in CHIs remain unrecognised and unsupported.

EU call barriers

Energy-intensive EU procedures exclude smaller CHIs from participation.

Same old faces

Recruitment in CHIs favours traditional profiles, limiting diversity and blocking the arrival of new skills needed for innovation.