

We're now going to turn to the issue of how we transform these complex systems. You will have selected a problem, a complex problem that you think is interesting. You will have looked at the complex problem domain. You would have played with some tools about how you can understand that domain from a point of view of where you should intervene and where you should innovate. You played with the system mapping. We've all had a discussion about the system journey.

But now we're going to switch gears and stop looking at the system in the problem, and start looking much more directly at: what's an innovation? How do we recognize a good innovation? How do we introduce it into a system?

Social innovation isn't about inventing new things, so much as it is about recognizing and managing new ideas and new ways of doing things, in order to create the system transformation that we hope to achieve.

In this particular next set of lectures, we're going to look at what is social innovation and complex adaptive systems, and we're going to talk about categories of social innovation, and the phases of innovation, so that you can begin to recognize different types.

But also, [we'll discuss] different stages in any different type, which helps you to understand the innovation itself.

Then, we're going to turn to the issue of agency: your potential role in transforming the system. We call people working at this level of a complex adaptive system, *system entrepreneurs*. We'll explore a little bit about how they work in complex adaptive systems to strengthen social innovation.

Once we've covered that, we'll turn to a few tools to identify promising social innovations. How would you know that this innovation over that innovation is one where you should put your energy to make it happen?