

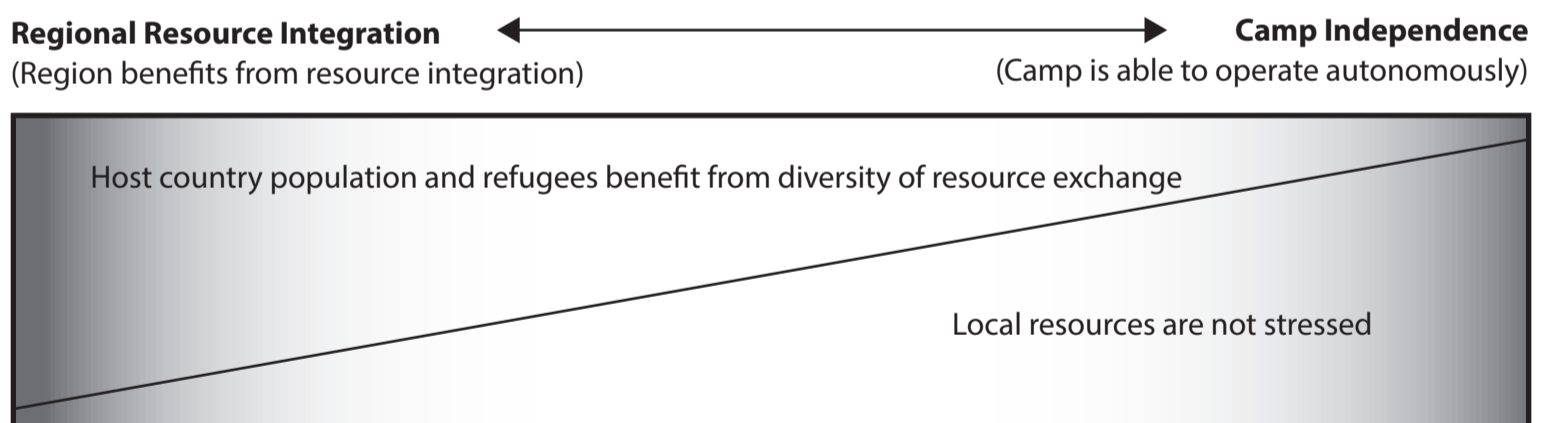
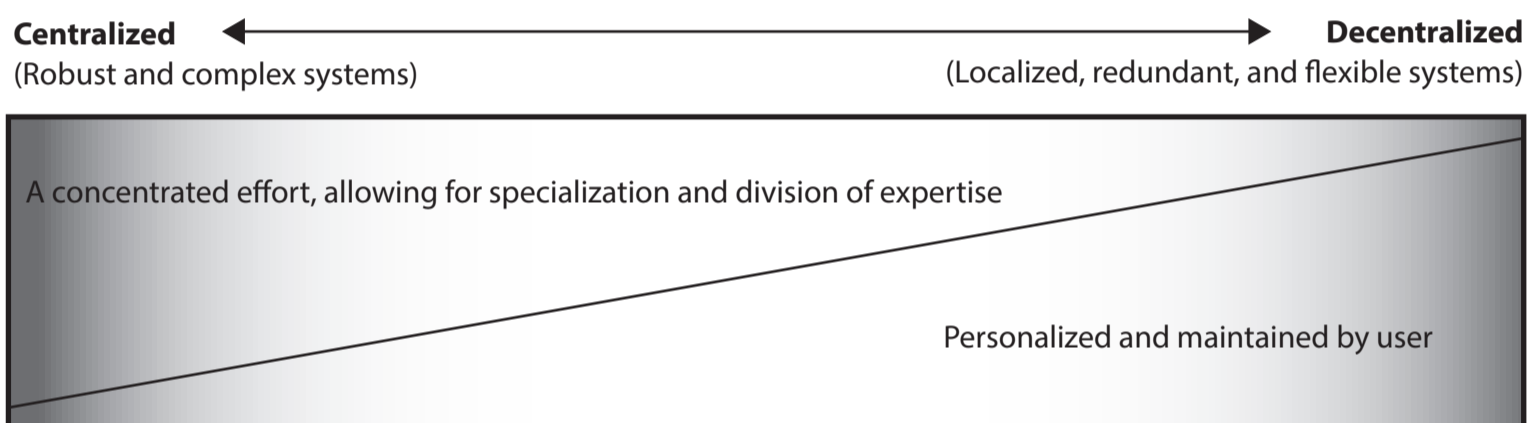
# Contradictions Model

Contradictions expose the inherent complexity found within a particular situation. Contradictions are composed of two mutually exclusive options – wherein it is impossible to deploy solutions from both poles of the spectrum simultaneously. These countering forces paradoxically hold inconsistent elements that must be reconciled in order to create harmonious outcomes.

Often the two extremes within a contradiction present qualities that are equally desirable. Due to the dualistic nature of contradictions, a reconciling solution must be made which identifies the resulting trade-offs. The goal is not to find a happy middle ground. The goal is to understand the suite of options available to you and the trade-offs and externalities of each. For example, within the context of the lifespan of a given refugee camp it may be that all stakeholders desire a resolution which sees the refugees resettle and the camp disbanded. However, for the camp to embody a feeling of home that allows a life of dignity and peace, a certain degree of permanence must be present.

As contradictions are interwoven with your context, it becomes clear that there are no universal elegant solutions. Contradictions are to be held in mind throughout the process, in order to ensure awareness of the implicit consequences which all decisions create. These contradictions are best suited for shifts in perspective and acknowledgement of the complex nature of such problems. Reflect on your specific context, upon all the variables at play, and think for yourself where you currently land within the contradictions, what trade-offs are incurred, and how the other tools within this toolkit can help take you towards a more regenerative and integrated future.

Listed below are five contradictions which are considered universal to all refugee camps. In addition, we have included a list of situational contradictions, which may appear due to one's context. We encourage you to submit additions to this list, as it is ever-growing.



Uganda gave the right to work to all refugees.  
Brussels residents providing beds for refugees.

