

ADAPTED FOR SPES PROJECT

version 1.0b 30 sept 2024

INTRODUCTION

Le Grand Jeu does not have a moralistic message to deliver, does not impose any alignment to the players and does not provide clear victory rules.

Like in real life!

This scenario, with the modification of the rules that it implies, has been prepared for application in the SPES project - Sustainability Performances, Evidence and Scenarios (funded by European Union's Horizon Europe Programme).

The SPES project deals with the following main research question:

How can productivity, equity, environmental sustainability, participation & empowerment, and human security be reconciled to drive the transition towards Sustainable Human Development in Europe?

Within the general scope of the SPES project, its Work Package (WP) #8 aims to understand the drivers of public support for and opposition against transition trajectories towards more socially and environmentally sustainable societies. WP8 addresses the core questions:

- To what extent do problem perceptions, key transition goals, associated policies and current tools to monitor progress match the attitudes and expectations of citizens in different socio-economic positions?
- From a bottom-up perspective, how should governments balance efforts to address ecological objectives, including climate change, with other economic and social priorities?

These questions are examined from the perspective of individuals as well as through a close attention to the formation of the collective interests and preferred policy solutions by citizens, with a particular attention on the youth.

For these reasons, task 8.3 of the SPES project aims to elicit and assess the collective dimension of citizens' perceptions of the transition, also exposing the process of forming shared opinions.

Therefore, a SPES-tailored version of Le Grand Jeu is deemed very appropriate to uncover collective opinions and preferences about initiatives, policies and instruments that citizens think are most important in promoting and facilitating the sustainability transition. The group-based nature of LGJ will give insights into what kind of concrete policy solutions are likely to encounter the support of citizens if implemented, and the collective political support from groups that are at particular risk of social and economic marginalisation.

For the SPES application, the very general objective of the play is the following:

Are we able to jointly design a society/community/city that creates and ensure social value within the planetary boundaries? How? What are the interdependencies among actors?

In this way, the SPES-tailored version of Le Grand Jeu endorses the SPES framework, and particularly its attention to the five pillars of Sustainable Human Development. Moreover, it resonates with the well-known Doughnut Economics by Kate Haworth that defines a safe and just space for humanity to thrive in.

ABOUT THE GAME

Le Grand Jeu is the name of a game designed in May-July 2016 by an expert group in a 4 days workshop, held in Milan 10-14 July 2016. The group gathered by Federico included artists, engineers, design experts and activists. The idea was to design a situation where some narratives about the future of our society could be told, crafted and discussed in a positive way together by a group of people.

Some games were from the beginning tools to spread ideas and have people adopt them and use them while reflecting over those issues. Is the case of many games. LGJ is thought to mirror some new concepts that can be quite technical and difficult to explain otherwise: stock and flow value chains, blockchains, radical transparency, consensus, governance, entropy, finite resources, renewable energy and grids are just some examples.

This little book contains an introduction to the game and a scenario specifically designed for SPES to enjoy playing the future of humanity starting from a sustainability perspective.

The rest is to the master and to the players to find out by doing.

The authors would like to thank all the players that helped us refine these scenarios and will help in the future to shape reality of a better world.

LINKS

www.legrandjeu.net | @legrandjeu11 #legrandjeu

You can find the necessary files for laser-cutting your own game set on GitHub (<https://github.com/freddbomba/legrandjeu>).

CONTACT

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Amsterdam

1. GAME ELEMENTS

THE PLAYERS

That's you.

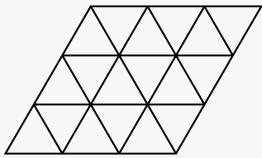
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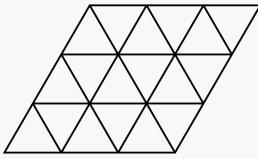
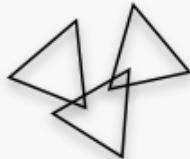
And then there is a Game Master. It can be one of you. The game master ensures that the game flows and plays the world with everything that is "on the table". The GM is not a player. He is knowledgeable and impartial. More about mastering comes in the Game Mastering (section 3).

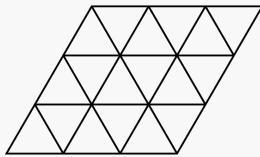
Be Aware: *the term GM is a homage to the tradition of role playing games as Dungeons and Dragons, it does not imply specific powers of a "master and servant attitude". A GM serves the game...*

THE PHYSICAL WORLD

LGJ is a turn based game. Turns stand for time, and allow to know what comes before and what comes after.

	<p><i>THE BOARD</i></p>
	<p>The Boards consist in two similar pieces of diamond shaped transparent plastic.</p>
	<p>In this scenario we use two of them. They are transparent so you can use them to cover maps you have drawn yourself or a real map or anything else.</p>
	<p>The Grid is the mesh of triangles drawn on the board.</p>
<p>Bio region grid: where you travel long distances</p>	<p>The moving from one piece to the next on the grid is the travel. Every triangle stands for a bioregion some of the players will traverse.</p>
<p>Local grid</p>	<p>another grid stands for one of the bio regions were local economies live and strive. To set your triangle on the grid means that you are connected to civilisation; off the grid that you stand alone. Two triangles connected form a micro grid.</p>

	<i>THE BOARD</i>
	THE LAND
	You find transparent triangles to be used to represent the land that you control in the game.
	to decide how many units of lands they have the players throw in the beginning
	Players can play on the land and/or as travelers



THE BOARD

You can place **The Land on The Board**, so the terrain is “on” the grid or off The Board, if you put it outside you mean you have no services (electricity, sewerage, running water, etc.) and you have to provide to all by yourself. What you see here is an arrangement between the many possible, were the no-grid is represented as two adjacent triangles with no grid drawn. The Player can put the land where they want taking in account that for all our scenarios the total amount of land is finite. Therefore the master says that there cannot be more than a total of more than N units of land off the grid

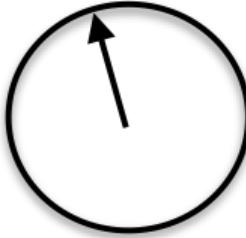
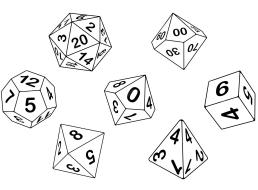
Suggestion

Draw a map, populate your grid of characteristics, and superimpose the transparent grid to it. Another tactics for map making are possible.

THE FORTUNE

Fortune comes (and goes) in many ways.

We prefer to use D&D style dices because we find them fun to use...

	<i>The Wheel</i>
	allows your master to map distribution laws of events or directions of winds. It is specified in the scenarios. To operate it keep it on the palm of your hand and tick the arrow...
	The Dices
	Dices are for deciding the outcome of an action, an event where all cases have the same chance to happen, or to measure its outcome. For example determining a yield connected to our turn activities. Is up to the master to tell you which dices to use and how many. PS: in the box you will find a set of D&D dices, because we like those... Dices are nominated in the standard way: 1d10 means throw one time a 10 faced dice; 2d6 means "throw two six faced dices" and so on.

	<i>The Wheel</i>
	The Cards
	In this scenario we have thought of 2 sets of cards: one is source of events for the scenario, a second one is set of issues that comes from the "Grand Jeu" and are to be played as global events to which players have to adapt. You will find the cards in the respective tables. Best thing is to keep them as cards, one for each and put them on the table in the beginning.

LGJ CARDS

The cards of the forces from the local chaotic events for the two different continents. The drawing of the card is decided by the Master (probability throw), the effect with a round of discussion between the participants.

TABLE OF LGJ EVENTS FOR THIS SCENARIO

<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Type of Disaster/Event</i>	<i>Description/Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
1	Bioregion Chemical Takeover	A neighboring bioregion shifts to chemical-intensive cereal production, affecting local ecosystems and economies.	Community division over environmental concerns; protests may arise.
2	Alien Technology	Advanced extraterrestrial technology appears, creating confusion and opportunities for innovation or chaos.	Mixed reactions; excitement from some, fear and distrust from others.
3	Universal Basic Income	A new policy guarantees income for all, impacting local economies, job markets, and social dynamics.	Support from lower-income groups, but resentment from those opposed to UBI.

<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Type of Disaster/Event</i>	<i>Description/Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
4	Hyperinflation	All costs increase by 50%, leading to economic instability and challenges in maintaining livelihoods.	Rising tensions as people struggle to afford necessities; potential for unrest.
5	Bio Terrorism	A foreign country attacks another's resources; infections spread, risking public health. Roll to determine impact.	Community fear and paranoia; distrust of outsiders and authorities.
6	Make a Mistake!	An unexpected error leads to unforeseen consequences; be creative in describing the event.	Uncertainty and chaos; community may band together to rectify the mistake.
7	Death Cult	A dangerous cult rises, spreading fear and chaos in the community, leading to potential violence.	Division within the community; some may be drawn to the cult while others resist.

<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Type of Disaster/Event</i>	<i>Description/Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
8	Positive Carbon Trading	A new carbon trading initiative boosts local economy and encourages sustainable practices.	Generally positive reception; community collaboration in green projects.
9	Global Warming Catastrophe	Climate change leads to extreme weather events; roll to determine the specific event (famine, flood, fire, drought, hurricane).	Increased anxiety about the future; potential for solidarity during crises.
10	Mining Expansion	Resource extraction increases, threatening local environments and displacing communities.	Resentment from locals; potential for protests against environmental degradation.

<i>Id22 Throw</i>	<i>Type of Disaster/Event</i>	<i>Description/Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
11	Urban Exodus/Green Economy	A significant movement of people toward greener practices and areas occurs, changing demographics and economic focus.	Mixed feelings; existing residents may feel threatened by new arrivals.
12	Migration	An influx of newcomers due to climate change or economic factors creates challenges and opportunities for integration.	Cultural blending but also potential for xenophobia and social tension.
13	Change of Global Policy	A new law makes a previously accepted practice illegal, causing disruption in the community.	Resistance from those affected; potential for civil disobedience or reform movements.

<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Type of Disaster/Event</i>	<i>Description/Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
14	Cartel Control	A criminal cartel takes over resource distribution, impacting safety and access to essential goods. Roll to determine influence.	Community fear and helplessness; possible collaboration with law enforcement or vigilantes.
15	Fake News Crisis	Misinformation spreads, leading to panic, division, and misguided actions within the community.	Polarization among residents; trust in institutions erodes further.
16	Famine from Labor Shortages	A lack of agricultural workers leads to food shortages, impacting health and stability in the area.	Desperation and rising crime rates; potential for community-driven food initiatives.
17	Investment Opportunities	New investments become available, creating potential for growth but also risks of exploitation. Make your pitch!	Excitement and hope, but skepticism about who benefits from the investments.

<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Type of Disaster/Event</i>	<i>Description/Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
18	Cheap Flight Airport	A new airport offers low-cost flights, increasing tourism but straining local resources.	Mixed feelings; tourism brings income, but locals may feel overwhelmed.
19	UN Regeneration Program	A global initiative based on carbon credits is introduced, providing funding for community regeneration projects.	Hope for revitalization; potential conflicts over resource allocation.
20	Unmaintained Roads	Infrastructure deteriorates, leading to a logistics crisis and difficulties in transportation and trade.	Frustration and isolation; possible mobilization for local repair initiatives.
21	Global Blackout	A massive power failure disrupts daily life, affecting communication, safety, and resources.	Community anxiety and potential for panic; opportunity for mutual aid.

<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Type of Disaster/Event</i>	<i>Description/Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
22	Asteroid Impact	A catastrophic event occurs when an asteroid hits Earth, leading to widespread destruction and game-ending consequences.	Total upheaval; communities must come together to survive amidst chaos.

USAGE:

- Roll a **1d22** to determine the **disaster or event** affecting the rural area, alongside its potential impact on the **social sphere**.
- The social sphere insights will inform how communities react, allowing players to navigate the complex dynamics of the environment effectively.

TABLE OF GSR EVENTS IN THIS SCENARIO: YES, THIS HAPPENS TO YOU, THE PLAYER!

Here's an integrated table that combines the **SPES events** affecting the player with the previous tables for a comprehensive gameplay experience. Each player event retains its original definition, and I'll add a "**Social Sphere**" column to reflect how these events impact the player's social dynamics.

TABLE OF GSR EVENTS AFFECTING THE PLAYER

<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
1	Tax Inspector	A tax audit is initiated, causing stress and potential financial strain.	Increased anxiety and potential for conflict with authorities.
2	Travelers Camp Sets Up	A group of travelers establishes a camp on your land, leading to complications.	Community debate over land use; some may support, others resist.
3	Depression	You experience a bout of depression, impacting your productivity and social interactions.	Possible isolation from the community; friends may rally for support.

<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
4	Double Your Basic Income	Your basic income is unexpectedly doubled, improving your financial situation.	Increased opportunities for community involvement and investment.
5	Bees in Your Garden	A swarm of bees takes up residence in your garden, affecting your crops and pollination.	Local interest in beekeeping; potential conflicts with neighbors.
6	Mega Shopping Center Opens	A new shopping center opens nearby, affecting local businesses and community dynamics.	Tension between traditional markets and modern retail; possible community divides.
7	Betrayal by Friends	You discover that you inadvertently caused trouble for friends, creating tension.	Distrust may grow among social circles; potential for reconciliation efforts.

<i>Id22 Throw</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
8	Cold Winter Affects Harvest	Harsh winter conditions halve your energy harvest, impacting your resources.	Community solidarity in facing shared hardships; increased reliance on mutual aid.
9	Missed Alarm	You fail to wake up in time and miss an important event or deadline.	Disappointment from peers; may affect reputation within the community.
10	Fall in Love	You develop a romantic interest, bringing joy but also potential distractions.	Community support or gossip, depending on the relationship dynamics.
11	Goats Destroy Everything	Goats (yours or neighbors') wreak havoc on your crops, leading to frustration.	Possible neighbor disputes; may need to negotiate solutions.

<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
12	Flood Destroys Garden	A sudden flood devastates your garden, affecting food supply and morale.	Community rallies to support recovery efforts; shared resources become crucial.
13	Learn to Fly	You acquire a new skill or hobby that opens up new perspectives or opportunities.	Inspiration for others; potential for community workshops.
14	New Subsidies for Wind Plants	You receive subsidies to invest in wind energy, boosting your income and sustainability.	Community discussions about renewable energy and environmental initiatives.
15	Hard Disk Crash	A major IT failure results in loss of important data, complicating your work.	Distrust in technology; may lead to community knowledge sharing about backups.

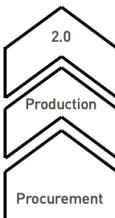
<i>1d22 Throw</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Social Sphere</i>
16	Hacked	Your personal or business accounts are hacked, leading to potential financial loss.	Distrust within the community; heightened awareness of cybersecurity issues.
17	Decide to Break Bad	You consider engaging in questionable activities to improve your situation.	Moral dilemmas may divide social circles; some may support, others condemn.
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			

USAGE:

- Roll a 1d20 to determine the specific **event** affecting your character, along with its **social implications**.
- These events add personal stakes to the game, intertwining character development with the broader community dynamics and challenges present in the bioregion.

This table will help enrich the narrative experience by incorporating personal challenges alongside community-level events, creating a more immersive role-playing environment.

THE FUNCTIONAL WORLD

	<i>The Elements</i>
	<p>You find in the box two types of pieces that are to be used to design the Elements of your activity. Elements are to be organised on 3 levels: procurement, production, 2.0.</p> <p>Elements can be combined in lines of production, individually or cooperatively or under any other form of agreement you can come up with.</p> <p>The Elements are to be written upon with a whiteboard marker, you will find some in the box</p>
	The Shadow

	<i>The Elements</i>
○ ●	<p>Greys and Whites are the main currency of the game. (you can render that with different dry beans, glass beads, game fishes or stones from the GO game...) They are translating wide concepts like: White: money, cryptocurrency, resources, knowledge, energy etc.; Grey: pollution, loss of biodiversity, bad karma, depletion of resources, entropy, CO2 etc. A third metric is Reds: representing the social value of the society/community attributed by the players in each round.</p>
	<p><i>Is good for the master to be aware that to avoid any color bias, you can always invert the beans. They are beans anyway, their color is not exactly the way they might give scandal...</i></p>
Social Coin	In the SPES scenario we have introduced a token for social results
	<p>This is how the procurement element becomes something: On the left in both grays and whites its cost; on the right the yield it can give when operates (in this case 2d6, meaning two 6 sided dices). The top values are the investment cost, both in grays and in whites</p>



THE REST OF THE STUFF

You will see in the box: there are markers, this book, sticky notes to write all kind of deals between you, small extra things to play with... AND some colour plastiline that you should already have used...

Post it notes, maps, pencils and wires of various colors your fantasy is the limit... If you play as Game Master feel free to customize the kit to your taste and needs for each scenario you want to play or design.

2. TO PLAY A GAME

Le Grand Jeu is a future-thinking game that allows to set a situation where different conditions are simulated and concepts emerge from doing, players are peers and all languages intermix

.... and a story emerge

The very general objective of the play is: Are we able to jointly design a society/community/city that creates and ensure social value within the planetary boundaries? How? What are the interdependencies among actors?

- We ask the players as well to put on their land a piece of plastiline with their color, to recognize them, and then to mimic the thing they will build adding and moulding more details as the game progress.
- To set up the game now your GM refer to the instructions of the scenario you chose to play
- Once you have set up the table accordingly you can just start, because all the rules can be introduced while playing the first round

PREPARATION

A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE GAME...

A short clip / presentation is shared with all players (to be watched before the game) to set common parameters on the main elements of the game (objective, definition of social value, definition of planetary boundaries, etc.).

In addition, a short questionnaire is filled out before the game (some days before) to collect information from each player on interests, perceptions, attitudes, and the interpretation of social value.

START OF THE GAME

- decide who is the master (can be done with a dice throw, the highest score becomes "the Master")
- set up the game board
- set up three bowls of beans of different color
- let every player throw 2d6 for white and 1d6 for the gray they have at game beginning
- for each player throw 1d4+1 for the land they already have

RULES

- INDIVIDUAL WIN: Wins who, at the end of the game, has more whites after they have been balanced with the grays (as a proxy of the environmental sustainability of the player)

- **COLLECTIVE WIN:** The society/community built over the game will be considered coherent with the SPES framework if it ensures a solid social foundation (min 10 reds) and does not overshoot planetary boundaries (max 50). This rule is not communicated to players at the beginning of the game, but only revealed at the end.
- If the table has more than 50 grays we all die, to make the Ecological ceiling principle operational.
- If a player dies the global gray pot gets 20 grays and every player gets 5, to make the "Leave no one behind" principles operational.

EACH ROUND

At their turn the players: Pay dues if any, they can be according to the scenario taxes, energy, money or else but are always accounted with the white coin; decide between one of the following

- Invest/Build/Entrepreneurship action
- Find/Research/Invent
- Call an assembly to decide upon a law proposal

At the end of each round, all players discuss the social value jointly created and assign a value (from 0 to 3)

CLOSURE OF THE GAME

The game concludes after 5/6 rounds. (The game should last 2.5 hours on average even for first timer players).

A final wrap-up session takes place to comment on both the outcome (winner, social value, environmental impact) and the game experience, through individual comments (e.g., 3 minutes each) and a collective discussion.

Then evaluate , and the story about how each table has achieved these results

A FEW DAYS AFTER THE GAME...

A short questionnaire is filled out after the game on the experience and change of attitudes / interpretations of social value and planetary boundaries

2.2. HOW TO BE GM FOR A SIMPLE GAME

- You want people to have fun and everyone to speak
- You play the world both in the scenario (the small game) and outside (the big game), you use dices to take decisions, and have access to the larger store of beans
- You take care of the rounds and the accounts and to translate what the player decides to do in the language of the game
- You are the Master of Chaos, have fun
- You can use a 3-minute hourglass/sand timer to limit the time of discussion (in Assembly) or decisions, (if necessary). Other techniques are the stick of speach, throw the dice to decide the firs and co (conter) clockwise etc. Try to give space to everyone to play.

DECISIONS

- 10 faced dices are for percentages. Can be used to determine the success of an action.

- es: player says "I am going to set up a workshop for electric bikes and solar energy"; Then throws 10 faced dices, and obtain a throw of 6, that on a scoresheet 1 to 10 is a reasonable success.
- Master reasons: "This exists in our word, and you have empty space to build it, so you can do it. It will cost **X white** to establish, and account the generation of **Y greys** for the environmental cost of your decision. To operate it will need an investment of x and will produce 1d4 of yield and y greys of impacts on the environment".
- Accordingly to the master judgement a success of 100% (or a failure with a throw of 1 or 2) can be prised or punished
- 20 faces dices are mostly used for inventions. Player says: " I want to invent a technology to have bike batteries that recharge 3 times faster". The master opens a short discussion with open questions like: "what would you think the advantage would be economically or environmentally". The master as well decides if the invention is to be allowed (for example contradicts a principle of Thermodynamics). Then considering everything gives a success level on the 20 faces dice, for example 3/20 means only 18,19,20 pass the round with a success.
To research on something the player has to spend money and generates gray, so is to decide as well how much and if the grey effects the player's own account or the world one, as if is, as an example, CO₂ in the atmosphere.
- d4, d6, d8, d12 maps usually the variability of yields, so use them wisely in measuring the yield of activity to map as well the risk. You can decide as well to model losses if you need but the less time you need to account for the economy of a turn the more time you leave to the game to develop.

- The use of the Weel is introduced later on in this guide, as a general rule you should play the weal to introduce chaos. Players can throw a round of Weal and pick a card. Is used as well if you need to decide about directions (for example of the wind) in a particular moment.
- At the end of each round, the master should guide the players in discussing the meaning of social value and whether they believe the collective deserves the Reds (up to 3). This will help capture the participants' interpretation of social value and observe if it evolves throughout the game through playing together and engaging in these discussions.

OBSERVER/ STORYTELLER

For the SPES game we point out the necessity of a team of two to play. The GM (that can be as well substitute by one of the participants) and a observer. The observer takes notes to be able to tell the story of the game and to relate it to the scopes of the players group. The storytelling function is very important, because we learn tools to build stories. She/He should also use post-it or coloured chalks to take notes on policies, approaches to solve problems, etc. (useful also for a matter of comparability across countries). The Observer is mandated to write the story of the game and to collect the points of view and perspectives of the players.

P2.3. PLAY THE BASIC SCENARIO

The basic scenario we usually propose to learn to play the game is something along these lines:

You and a group of friends have decided to go to live in a mid-sized city characterized by a dynamic core area, some rural adjacent restorable land and some off-the-grid "wilder" wilderness. You would like to live happy in a cohesive society and in harmony with nature. The place is populated by overall friendly people and has some basic grid facilities, but you can as well decide to put yourself off the grid. Basic infrastructure (e.g., internet, water, electricity) and basic social services are available on the grid for 3 white of local tax to be payed at each round.

We call it the "wellbeing city" scenario and usually brings out a lot of issues to ensure a safe and just space for human flourishing for all.

The game master has to keep track about the wellbeing of the "non playing participants" to the life of the city and treat the players a bit as newcomers...

Another suggestion is to give focus not only to economy but to the society. In this scenario a GM might give (or take) greys as well for actions that change the karma of players and of the city atmosphere and not only related to economical advantage and/or production of goods.

The wheal of fortune can be used at the end of each round to add chaos to the strategies. Try to divide it in 50% chance of getting a LGJ card, another 20% of getting a local event and the rest divided equally between "invent" and a choice between "elections" and "business as usual". Alternatively, after the 3rd round a LGJ event happens.

REMEMBER, THE GM HAS TO HAVE FUN AS WELL.

If you find yourself loosing the "fun element" try to make a short pause or give the mastering task to someone else, throw dices to pick your future choices or even better take a LGJ card yourself...

##

3. GAME MASTERING TIPS

We list here some of the skills that people might want to explore-learn-simulate in the game. Many more can be invented, introduced, both in preparation of the game and during it.

- Use your imagination
- access collective knowledge, ask your players
- model processes, put them on the table so that the table tells you what to do
- throw the dice, if you don't know anything you can get to a yes-no and give yourself a 50/50 chance
- you are the master of chaos

You can prepare tables to distribute anything that is in the scenario that you wish to play with your players. The following is an example:

Here's a table for a 1d20 roll that assesses **social values** and **crime** in the rural area, helping to determine if a character is welcome or not. The table includes a range of social conditions, from highly welcoming to hostile, reflecting community dynamics, crime levels, and social cohesion.

<i>1d20 Throw</i>	<i>Social Values and Conditions</i>	<i>Crime Level</i>	<i>Community Reception</i>
1	Hostile Environment – Strong distrust of outsiders. Community values secrecy and is deeply fragmented.	Very High – Organized crime is prevalent; violence and intimidation are common.	Not Welcome – Significant risk of confrontation; outsiders are viewed with suspicion.
2-3	Unwelcoming – Community is insular, valuing tradition over change. Outsiders are met with skepticism.	High – Crime is rampant, with petty crime and occasional violent incidents.	Not Welcome – Hard to integrate; any attempts at engagement are met with hostility.
4-5	Guarded – Some community members are friendly, but overall, there is a wariness of newcomers.	Moderate – Occasional petty theft or vandalism; serious crime can occur sporadically.	Somewhat Unwelcome – Efforts to integrate may yield limited success; cautious engagement recommended.

<i>1d20 Throw</i>	<i>Social Values and Conditions</i>	<i>Crime Level</i>	<i>Community Reception</i>
6-7	Cautiously Welcoming – Mixed feelings towards outsiders; some acceptance, but significant reservations remain.	Moderate – Petty crimes are common, but violent crime is rare.	Somewhat Welcome – Possible to find allies; gaining trust may take time and effort.
8-9	Ambivalent – Community is indifferent; some support for outsiders, but many prefer to keep to themselves.	Low to Moderate – Rare incidents of theft or property damage, but community policing exists.	Welcome with Caution – Integration possible, but engagement is necessary to build trust.

<i>1d20 Throw</i>	<i>Social Values and Conditions</i>	<i>Crime Level</i>	<i>Community Reception</i>
10-11	Neutral – A balanced perspective towards newcomers; some see value in collaboration, while others resist change.	Low – Minimal crime; community-focused initiatives keep crime low.	Somewhat Welcome – Opportunity exists for positive relationships; shared interests can foster trust.
12-13	Friendly – Many community members are open to engaging with newcomers, valuing cooperation and support.	Very Low – Crime is rare; a strong sense of community accountability exists.	Welcome – Potential for collaboration; community activities can foster integration.
14-15	Inclusive – Community actively encourages participation and values diverse contributions.	Very Low – Crime is almost non-existent; community works together to resolve disputes.	Very Welcome – Strong community support; newcomers are seen as valuable assets.

<i>1d20 Throw</i>	<i>Social Values and Conditions</i>	<i>Crime Level</i>	<i>Community Reception</i>
16-17	Welcoming – Enthusiastic acceptance of newcomers; a sense of shared purpose drives collective efforts.	Minimal – Any crime is dealt with quickly and effectively by the community.	Highly Welcome – Opportunities for collaboration and support abound; new ideas are embraced.
18-19	Supportive – A vibrant, engaged community that thrives on diversity and welcomes contributions from all.	Negligible – Criminal activity is rare; community safety is a priority.	Extremely Welcome – Newcomers are seen as integral to community development and success.

<i>1d20 Throw</i>	<i>Social Values and Conditions</i>	<i>Crime Level</i>	<i>Community Reception</i>
20	Ideal Community – A harmonious, diverse society with strong social values promoting sustainability and cooperation.	Nonexistent – No crime; community actively promotes well-being and social support.	Unconditionally Welcome – Newcomers are celebrated and actively encouraged to contribute to the community's growth.

USAGE:

- Roll a 1d20 to assess the **social values**, **crime levels**, and **community reception** in the rural area.
- The result can help determine the character's **level of acceptance** within the community and provide context for interactions, challenges, and opportunities for collaboration.

This table enables players to navigate social dynamics in the rural area, influencing their strategies for integration and engagement while highlighting the impact of crime and social cohesion on their journey.

CUSTOMIZING SKILLS

You can create skill lists tailored to the setting or the specific characters. For example:

- **For Nia:** Permaculture, Water Management, Circular Economy.
- **For Yannis:** Animal Husbandry, Foraging, Traditional Craftsmanship.

Roll a D6 for each skill to determine proficiency:

- 1-2: Basic -2
- 3-4: Proficient -
- 5-6: Expert +1

Here's a list of 30 skills that would be relevant in the mountain bioregion of the Mediterranean north, covering various aspects of survival, sustainability, local craftsmanship, and community-building. You can assign these skills to NPCs and players, and use them in your role-playing game.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND LAND-BASED SKILLS

1. **Permaculture Design** – Creating sustainable ecosystems for food production and land regeneration.
2. **Foraging** – Identifying and gathering wild edible plants, herbs, and mushrooms.

3. **Water Conservation** – Techniques for managing water resources in arid climates.
4. **Soil Restoration** – Methods for improving and maintaining soil health in degraded landscapes.
5. **Drought-Resistant Farming** – Growing crops that thrive in dry, Mediterranean climates.
6. **Terrace Farming** – Building and maintaining terraced fields on mountain slopes.
7. **Composting** – Creating and managing compost to enrich soil.
8. **Natural Pest Control** – Using plants, animals, or organic methods to manage pests.
9. **Olive Tree Cultivation** – Growing and harvesting olives, a staple crop in the Mediterranean.
10. **Herbalism** – Identifying, cultivating, and using local herbs for medicine and cosmetics.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND WILDLIFE

11. **Shepherding** – Managing goats or sheep for milk, meat, and wool production.
12. **Bee-Keeping** – Raising bees for honey and pollination of crops.
13. **Wildlife Tracking** – Tracking local wildlife like boars or foxes for hunting or conservation.
14. **Cheese-Making** – Crafting artisanal cheeses from goat or sheep milk.
15. **Hunting** – Tracking and hunting wild game for food and managing local wildlife populations.

CRAFTSMANSHIP AND TRADITIONAL SKILLS

16. **Stone Masonry** – Building or repairing stone walls and houses, common in Mediterranean villages.
17. **Carpentry** – Crafting furniture, buildings, or tools from locally sourced wood.
18. **Weaving** – Creating fabrics or baskets using traditional techniques.
19. **Leatherworking** – Producing goods from animal hides, such as clothing, tools, or containers.
20. **Clay Pottery** – Making and firing pots, dishes, and storage vessels from local clay.

ENERGY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

21. **Solar Energy** – Installing and maintaining small-scale solar panels for homes and farms.
22. **Firewood Management** – Collecting and managing wood sustainably for heating and cooking.
23. **Wind Energy** – Building and maintaining small wind turbines to harness mountain breezes.
24. **Natural Building** – Constructing homes using earth-friendly materials like cob, stone, or wood.
25. **Rainwater Harvesting** – Setting up systems to capture and store rainwater for irrigation.

COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SKILLS

26. **Conflict Mediation** – Mediating disputes within a small, tightly-knit rural community.
27. **Local History** – Knowledge of the region's history, traditions, and cultural practices.
28. **Event Organization** – Coordinating community events, festivals, or markets.
29. **Bartering and Trade** – Negotiating exchanges of goods and services in a low-cash economy.
30. **Storytelling** – Preserving and sharing oral traditions, myths, and histories of the region.

DIGITAL NOMAD SKILLS

1. **Web Development** – Creating websites for local businesses, tourism, or community initiatives.
2. **Graphic Design** – Designing visual materials like logos, packaging for local products, or tourism brochures.
3. **Social Media Marketing** – Promoting local crafts, eco-tourism, or agricultural products through online platforms.
4. **E-commerce** – Setting up online stores to sell local goods (e.g., olive oil, artisanal crafts) to a global market.
5. **Content Creation** – Producing blogs, videos, or podcasts about sustainable living, rural life, or the local culture.
6. **Digital Photography** – Documenting the beauty of the region or helping locals market their products with professional photography.

7. **Remote Teaching** – Offering online courses or workshops on anything from language learning to sustainable practices.
8. **App Development** – Creating mobile apps for local tourism, environmental monitoring, or community planning.
9. **IT Support** – Setting up and maintaining internet connections, troubleshooting tech problems, or helping locals integrate digital tools.
10. **Cybersecurity** – Protecting digital infrastructure for local businesses or farms that are increasingly using online platforms.

SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATION SKILLS

11. **3D Printing** – Using 3D printers to create tools, parts, or sustainable housing components for local projects.
12. **Hydroponics** – Introducing hydroponic or aquaponic farming systems for growing food without soil, perfect for limited land space.
13. **Vertical Gardening** – Implementing vertical gardens in small spaces to enhance food production in the community.
14. **Drone Mapping** – Using drones to map the terrain, monitor wildlife, or help with land management and reforestation projects.
15. **Remote Work Facilitation** – Setting up co-working spaces or remote offices to attract other digital nomads and provide infrastructure.

16. **Blockchain for Supply Chains** – Creating transparent and sustainable supply chains using blockchain technology for local products.
17. **Crowdfunding Management** – Organizing online fundraising campaigns to support local eco-projects or community initiatives.
18. **Sustainable Packaging Design** – Designing eco-friendly packaging solutions for local products that can be sold internationally.
19. **Data Analysis** – Collecting and analyzing data on local ecosystems, agriculture, or tourism trends to help the community make informed decisions.
20. **Circular Economy Consulting** – Advising the community on how to reduce waste and reuse materials, integrating circular economy practices into local industries.

CREATIVE AND REMOTE COLLABORATION SKILLS

21. **Film and Video Production** – Producing documentaries, short films, or promotional videos about the region's culture and environment.
22. **Music Production** – Setting up small recording studios or teaching locals how to produce music digitally, perhaps using traditional sounds and instruments.
23. **Remote Project Management** – Coordinating community projects or collaborations with remote teams to improve sustainability efforts.
24. **Virtual Reality (VR) Development** – Creating immersive virtual experiences that showcase the region's landscapes and culture to global audiences.

25. **Language Translation Services** – Offering translation or interpretation services for tourists or global partnerships.
26. **Online Wellness Coaching** – Offering remote coaching or classes in yoga, meditation, or fitness, possibly integrating local landscapes into virtual sessions.
27. **Sustainable Fashion Design** – Designing eco-friendly clothing using locally sourced materials and selling it through online platforms.
28. **Digital Nomad Networking** – Connecting with other digital nomads to build a larger community and attract more people to the region.
29. **Creative Writing** – Writing about the bioregion's culture, history, or current sustainability efforts for blogs, books, or publications.
30. **Online Fundraising** – Organizing digital fundraising campaigns to support local regenerative projects, eco-tourism, or preservation efforts.

SERVICE SKILLS FOR THE REGION

1. **Plumbing** – Installing and maintaining water systems for homes, farms, and irrigation setups.
2. **Car Repair and Maintenance** – Fixing and maintaining vehicles, essential for getting around rural areas where public transport is scarce.
3. **Computer Repair and Maintenance** – Providing technical support for computers, crucial for digital nomads and small local businesses.
4. **Electrical Work** – Installing and maintaining electrical systems for homes, farms, and off-grid energy solutions.

5. **Solar Panel Installation** – Setting up and repairing solar energy systems for homes and community buildings.
6. **Wind Turbine Maintenance** – Maintaining small-scale wind turbines, common in mountainous and windy regions for off-grid power.
7. **Masonry Repair** – Fixing stone walls, terraces, and old stone buildings that are common in Mediterranean mountain villages.
8. **Roof Repair** – Maintaining and repairing roofs, especially tiled or thatched roofs common in rural settings.
9. **General Handyman** – A jack-of-all-trades capable of basic carpentry, plumbing, painting, and minor home repairs.
10. **Heating System Maintenance** – Maintaining and repairing fireplaces, wood-burning stoves, and solar thermal heating systems.

MECHANICAL AND EQUIPMENT SKILLS

11. **Small Engine Repair** – Fixing generators, chainsaws, or farming equipment like tillers and tractors.
12. **Bicycle Repair** – Repairing and maintaining bicycles, which may be a popular eco-friendly form of transportation.
13. **Water Pump Repair** – Fixing water pumps, essential for wells, irrigation, and off-grid living.
14. **Farm Equipment Maintenance** – Maintaining tractors, tillers, and other agricultural machinery used in farming operations.
15. **Blacksmithing** – Repairing tools and creating metal goods, often needed in traditional agriculture and building maintenance.

16. **Ham Radio Operator** – Setting up and maintaining ham radio stations for communication in remote areas or emergencies.
17. **Generator Repair** – Fixing backup power generators, critical for areas with unreliable electricity supplies.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS SKILLS

18. **Boat Maintenance** – Fixing and maintaining small boats used in coastal or riverine areas.
19. **Motorcycle Repair** – Servicing motorcycles and scooters, which may be more practical than cars in mountainous or rural areas.
20. **Off-Road Vehicle Repair** – Specializing in repairs for 4x4s and other off-road vehicles that are vital for navigating rugged terrain.
21. **Fuel Supply and Management** – Managing fuel supplies for vehicles and machinery, especially important for remote areas with few gas stations.
22. **Courier Service** – Providing a delivery service between villages or to more remote areas, vital for communication and logistics.

COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

23. **Ham Radio Communication** – Maintaining a communication network via ham radio for emergencies or long-distance community networking.

24. **Internet and Wi-Fi Installation** – Setting up and troubleshooting internet connections, vital for remote workers and local businesses.
25. **Telecom Infrastructure Repair** – Maintaining or repairing telecommunications towers, satellite dishes, or local phone lines.
26. **Home Security System Installation** – Setting up basic home security systems, including cameras and alarm systems.
27. **Telemedicine Support** – Helping set up and maintain equipment for remote healthcare or telemedicine consultations, vital in remote locations.

AGRICULTURE AND LAND MAINTENANCE

28. **Irrigation System Maintenance** – Repairing and optimizing irrigation systems for farming and gardening, especially crucial in dry Mediterranean climates.
29. **Greenhouse Maintenance** – Building and maintaining greenhouses for growing food year-round in the mountain climate.
30. **Forest Management and Fire Prevention** – Managing forests to reduce fire risk, maintaining fire breaks, and creating sustainable woodlots.

HEALTH AND CARE SKILLS

1. **First Aid** – Providing immediate medical assistance in emergencies, crucial in remote areas.

2. **Nursing** – Offering ongoing medical care, including monitoring health conditions and administering medications.
3. **Mental Health Counseling** – Providing support and therapy for individuals dealing with stress, trauma, or mental health issues.
4. **Traditional Herbal Medicine** – Using local herbs and plants for medicinal purposes, integrating traditional knowledge with modern practices.
5. **Nutrition Counseling** – Advising on healthy eating and dietary practices based on local produce and sustainable practices.
6. **Midwifery** – Assisting with childbirth and prenatal care, especially important in rural communities with limited access to hospitals.
7. **Physical Therapy** – Offering rehabilitation and physical therapy services to help people recover from injuries or surgeries.
8. **Elder Care** – Providing specialized care and support for the elderly, including companionship and assistance with daily activities.
9. **Childcare and Early Childhood Education** – Caring for and educating young children, including organizing playgroups or educational activities.
10. **Emergency Response Training** – Training community members in emergency response skills, including CPR and evacuation procedures.

SCHOOLING AND EDUCATION SKILLS

11. **Teaching** – Providing formal education in subjects such as literacy, math, and local history to children and adults.
12. **Outdoor Education** – Teaching skills related to outdoor survival, environmental awareness, and nature appreciation.
13. **Vocational Training** – Offering courses in trades like carpentry, plumbing, or farming techniques, focusing on practical skills for local job markets.
14. **Language Instruction** – Teaching local languages or foreign languages to promote communication and cultural exchange.
15. **Arts and Crafts Instruction** – Teaching traditional crafts, music, or arts to preserve cultural heritage and promote creativity.
16. **Community Workshops** – Organizing workshops on sustainability, gardening, cooking, or self-sufficiency for community members.
17. **Tutoring** – Providing one-on-one support for students struggling in specific subjects or skills.
18. **Technology Training** – Teaching community members how to use computers, software, and online tools, especially for digital nomads.
19. **Conflict Resolution** – Training community members in skills for resolving disputes peacefully and collaboratively.
20. **Parenting Support** – Offering resources and guidance for new parents on child development and parenting skills.

SOCIAL INTERACTION SKILLS

21. **Community Organizing** – Mobilizing community members for collective action, events, or initiatives.
22. **Public Speaking** – Effectively communicating ideas in community meetings or gatherings, vital for leadership roles.
23. **Event Planning** – Organizing community events, festivals, or workshops to foster social interaction and engagement.
24. **Cultural Mediation** – Bridging cultural differences between locals and newcomers to promote understanding and collaboration.
25. **Volunteering Coordination** – Organizing volunteer opportunities for locals and visitors to contribute to community projects.
26. **Social Media Management** – Utilizing social media to foster community engagement, share news, and promote local initiatives.
27. **Crisis Intervention** – Providing support and resources during community crises, such as natural disasters or economic challenges.
28. **Facilitation** – Leading discussions and meetings to ensure all voices are heard and fostering productive dialogue.
29. **Networking** – Building relationships between community members, local businesses, and external organizations for mutual support.
30. **Cultural Exchange Programs** – Organizing exchanges or collaborations with other communities to promote diversity and cultural understanding.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Federico "fredd" Bonelli

Fredd is passionate about creative research, a term without boundaries. He is interested in developing talent mentoring and consulting. Sometimes it involves walking in the woods blindfolded.

His repertoire of experiences have led him to several EU funded research projects, a one-of-kind experimental projects. As an artist he has covered many roles in many projects in the years for independent cinema, theatre and performance, visual and digital arts.

Since 2012 he is running a laboratory for sustainable off the grid performance research named trasformatorio (www.trasformatorio.net). Trasformatorio is a neologism for Art Laboratory and Transformations. The methodological insight learned from the lab enriched the methodology “trasformatorio”.

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Raffa is a researcher passionate about trans-disciplinary research and environmental issues.

She led the Research unit of the Copenhagen Institute of Interaction Design (www.ciid.dk) for 5 years where she successfully delivered H2020 projects on digital dialogue in cultural spaces, ethics in technology, STEAM and practice-based learning and prototyped a participatory installation for the

EUROfusion Expo. She is partner of a consultancy company (www.team.it) active in the European project field where she has been working for 10 years as a researcher and project manager, dealing with urban regeneration projects, simulations of complex systems (System Dynamics), Circular Economy and Life Cycle Assessment.

She has a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Genoa (Italy) and a PhD in Sustainability and Regional Planning from the University of Brescia.

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