



March 20-24, 2023
San Francisco, CA



Adrienne Arsht-
Rockefeller Foundation
Resilience Center



Atlantic Council



USE YOUR GAME DEVELOPER **SUPERPOWERS** TO FIGHT THE **CLIMATE CRISIS**

#GDC23





Atlantic Council



Adrienne **Arsht-**
Rockefeller Foundation
Resilience Center

WHAT ARE OUR GOALS?

MAKE PEOPLE MORE RESILIENT TO CLIMATE IMPACTS

- Work with AAA companies to include **climate and resilient messages/lessons**
- Work to **educate developers** on climate impacts and resilience.
- **Grant money** to indie qualifying titles

USE YOUR GAME DEVELOPER SUPERPOWERS TO FIGHT THE CLIMATE CRISIS

WHAT ARE OUR GOALS FOR TODAY?

HELP YOU HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- **Help you understand** the climate crisis and related interventions
- Through both theory and practice, **teach you** fundamental design approaches for effective climate design
- **Empower you** with the knowledge, processes, and considerations you need to get started

WHO ARE WE?



Grant Shonkwiler

Commander & Shonk,
Shonkventures
he/him



Arnaud Fayolle

Art Director,
Ubisoft, Positive Play
he/him



Chance Glasco

Creative Director,
Good Dog Studios
he/him



Paula Escudra

Sr Design Researcher,
Xbox Game Studios
she/her



Trevin York

Lead Game Designer,
Mindblown Labs
he/him

WHO ARE WE?



Shayne Hayes

Associate Director,
Video Game Initiative
he/him



Nidhi Upadhyaya

Deputy Director,
Strategic Initiatives
and Partnerships
Adrienne Arsht –
Rockefeller Foundation
Resilience Center
she/her



Rosemary Mann

Director,
Strategic Initiatives
and Partnerships,
Adrienne Arsht –
Rockefeller Foundation
Resilience Center
she/her

USE YOUR GAME DEVELOPER SUPERPOWERS TO FIGHT THE CLIMATE CRISIS

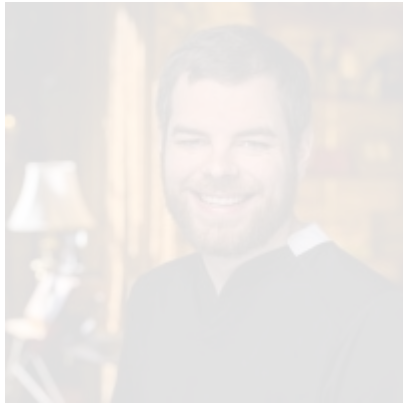
Join the Climate SIG Discord

tinyurl.com/ClimateSIGGDC



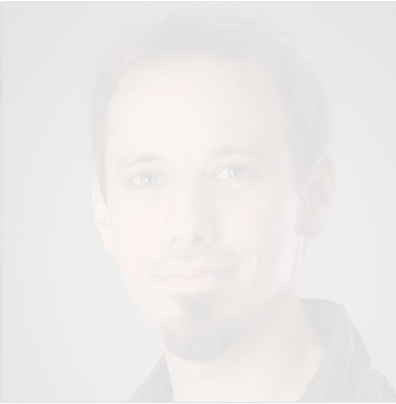
igda[®]
Climate SIG

INTRODUCING THE DAY



Grant Shonkwiler

Commander & Shonk,
Shonkventures
he/him



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Ubisoft, Positive Play
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Mindblown Labs
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MindBlown Labs



Trevin York

Dire Lark

MindBlown Labs



TRAKID
Explorer Quest

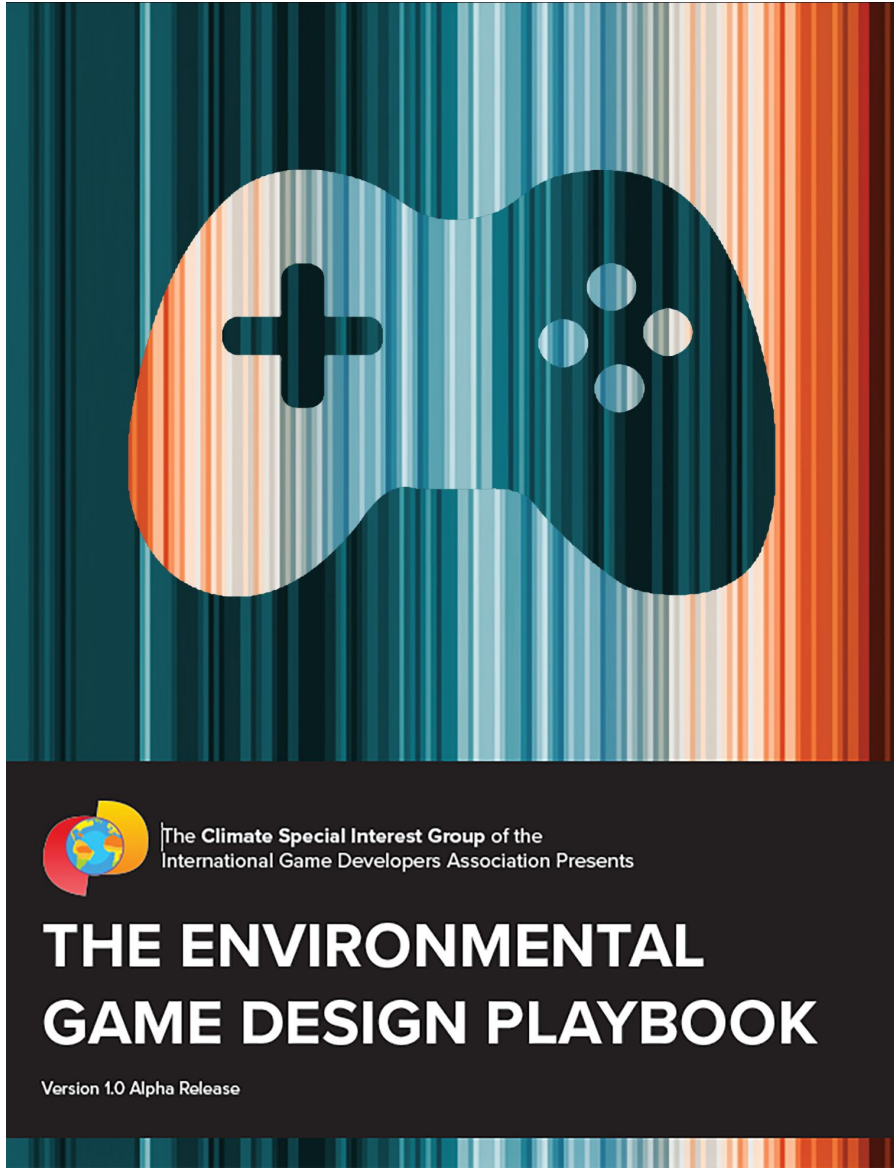
Millipore
SIGMA

RICHARD MYLES JOHNSON
FOUNDATION

 **TIAA** T.RowePrice®



Trevin York



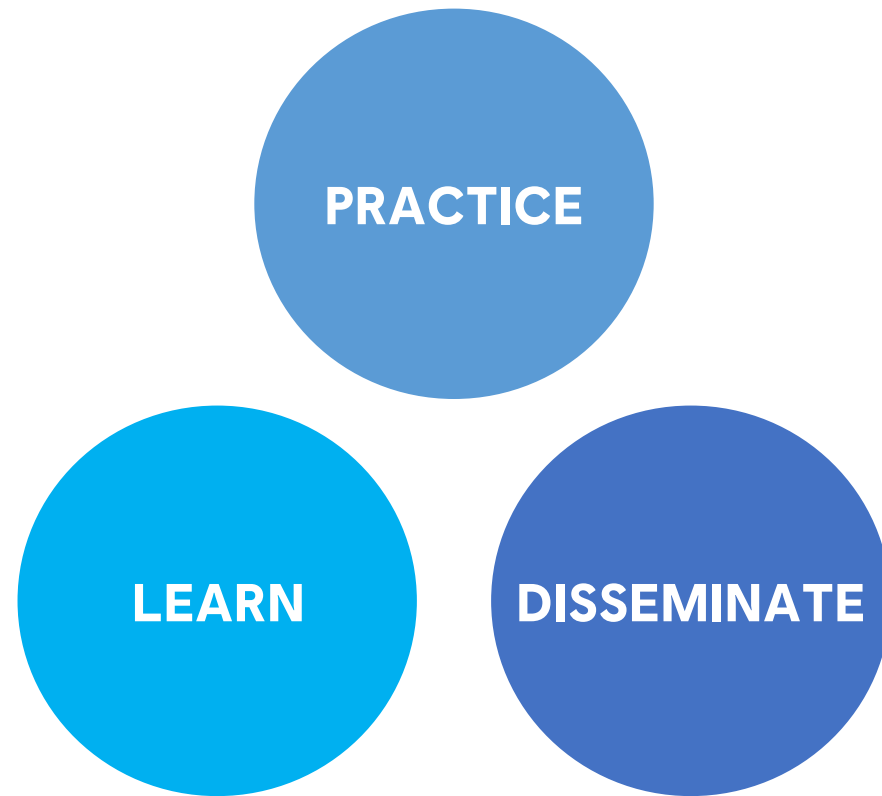
DESIGN FOR CHANGE



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
Edinburgh College of Art

Transformational Games are those games developed with the intention of changing players in a specific way that transfers and persists beyond the game.

- Sabrina Culyba



OUR TOPICS



Grant Shonkwiler



Arnaud Fayolle



Chance Glasco



Paula Escudra



Trevin York

OUR TOPICS



Grant Shonkwiler

Exploring Climate
Impacts



Arnaud Fayolle

Climate Game Toolkit For
Content Creators



Chance Glasco

Examples of Climate
Design



Paula Escudra

Let's Build A Theory of
Action



Trevin York

Designing Games That
Transform Players

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Designing Games That
Transform Players

YOUR TASK



Grant Shonkwiler



Arnaud Fayolle



Chance Glasco

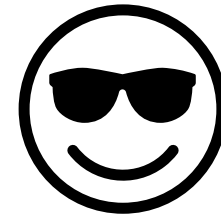
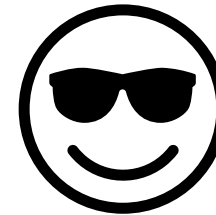
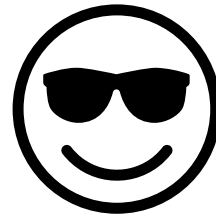
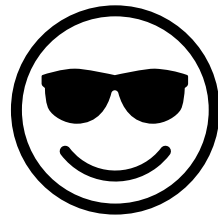


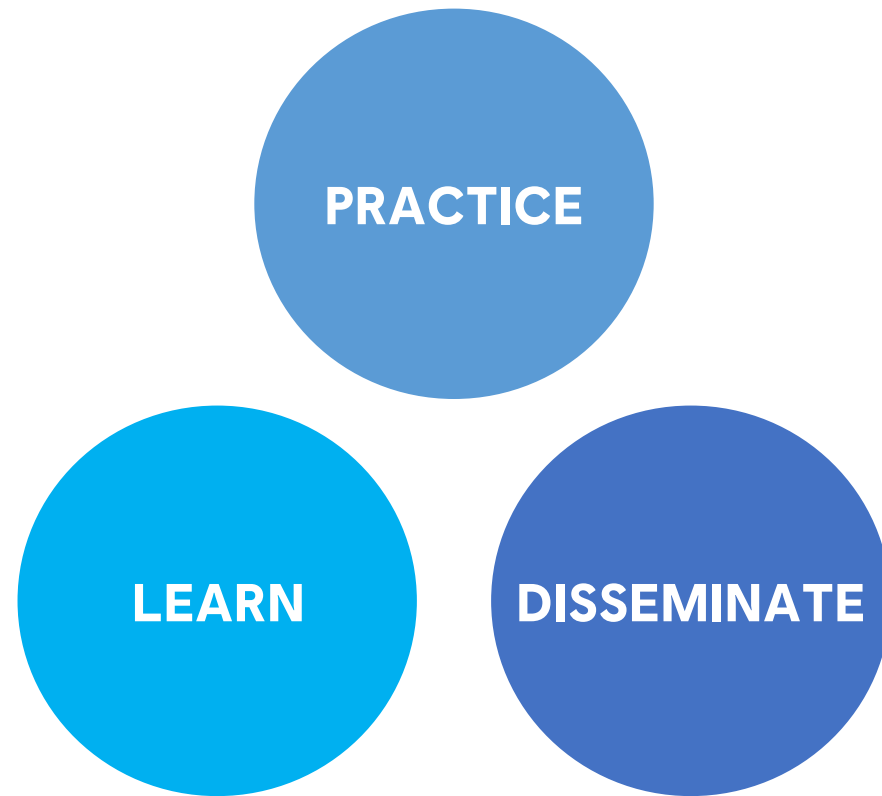
Paula Escudra



Trevin York

All of you!





A wide-angle landscape photograph showing rolling hills in the foreground and middle ground. The hills are covered in low-lying vegetation, appearing in shades of brown, tan, and green. The sky is filled with large, dramatic clouds, with patches of blue visible. The overall mood is contemplative and expansive.

DOES ANYTHING WE DO MATTER?





CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

As California drought retreats, threat of spring flooding rises



Workers use shovels to clear storm drains at a flooded orchard in Porterville, Calif., recently. (Gina Ferazzi / Los Angeles Times)

BY HAYLEY SMITH | STAFF WRITER

MARCH 17, 2023 5 AM PT

Seriousness ←————→ Playfulness

-Dr. Joost Vervoort

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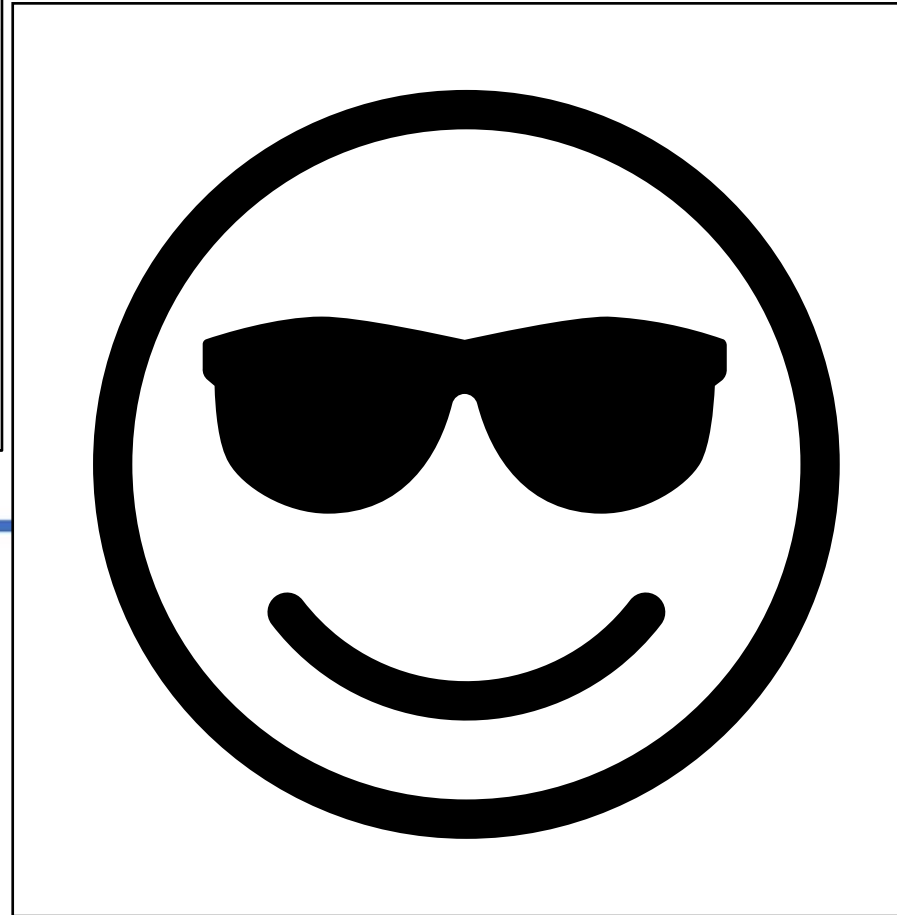


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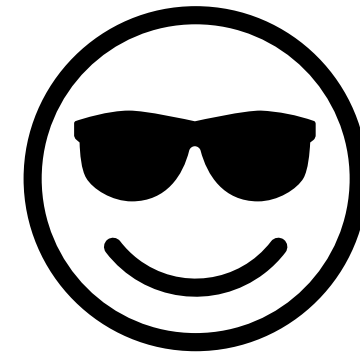


Seriousness

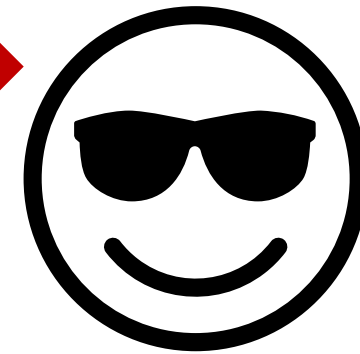
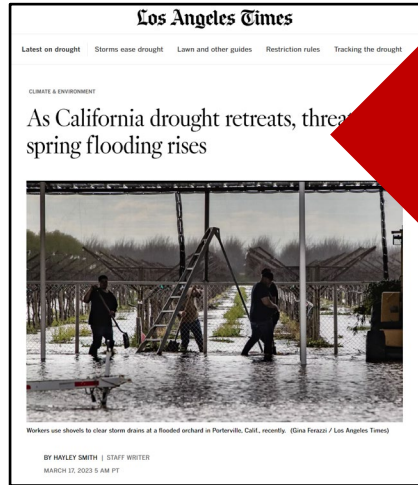


Playfulness

-Dr. Joost Vervoort



-Dr. Joost Vervoort



Seriousness

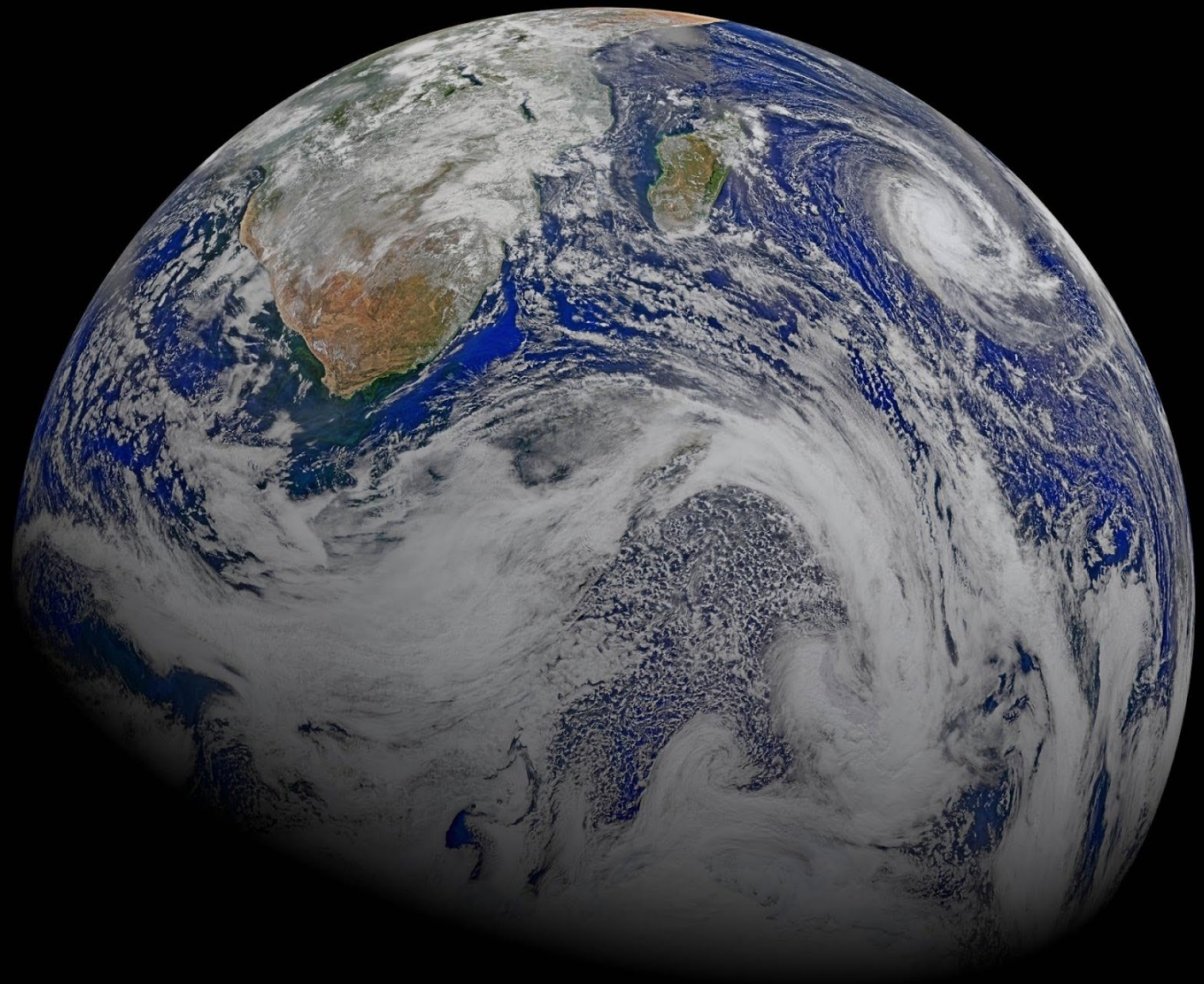
Playfulness

-Dr. Joost Vervoort

More useful – deep seriousness and playfulness as closely related



Vervoort, J. (2022) *Deep seriousness and deep playfulness are not opposites*, Anticiplay. Available at: <https://anticiplay.medium.com/deep-seriousness-and-deep-playfulness-are-not-opposites-c57ee718105>



THANK YOU!

NEXT PART

1

EXPLORING CLIMATE IMPACTS

Grant SHONKWILER



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Rockefeller Foundation
Resilience Center



Atlantic Council



Use Your **Game Developer Superpowers** to Fight the **Climate Crisis**

1

EXPLORING CLIMATE IMPACTS

Grant SHONKWILER

#GDC23



Intro

Grant Shonkwiler



Production/Leadership Consultant @
Shonkventures

Senior Fellow @ AARFRC-Atlantic Council
Former Producer: Epic Games, id Software,
Megatouch Games

Former Lead Designer & Programmer
Shipped 65+ games

20 years making games, 13 professionally

Plan/Agenda

Intro

Focus

20 minutes of presentation

10 minutes of group breakouts to brainstorm ideas



Shout it out



What are Climate Impacts?



Any downstream effect of Climate Change

Heatwaves

Flooding and Drought Cycles

Ocean Destruction

Air Pollution

Food & Water Security

Financial

Migration

Heatwaves

Heatwaves - Forest Fires

- **Interventions: Understanding of how forest fires start, Understanding of how to prevent them, Understanding how to escape them**



Heatwaves - Heat Islands

- Interventions: Urban Forests, Urban Horticulture



Heatwaves - Urban Heatwaves

- **Interventions: Heat Action Plan, Educate the Populus, Educate Policy Makers**



Heatwaves - Construction Site/Laborers

- Interventions: Manage Exposure, Educate on Symptoms, Educate on Treatments



Heatwaves - Poor Construction Practices

- Interventions: Urban Planning, Identifying heat radiating materials, LEED and Green building practices



Heatwaves - Urban Disasters

- Interventions: Trained Emergency Services, Disaster Kits



Heatwaves - Poor Access to Drinking Water

- **Interventions: Access to clean drinking water**



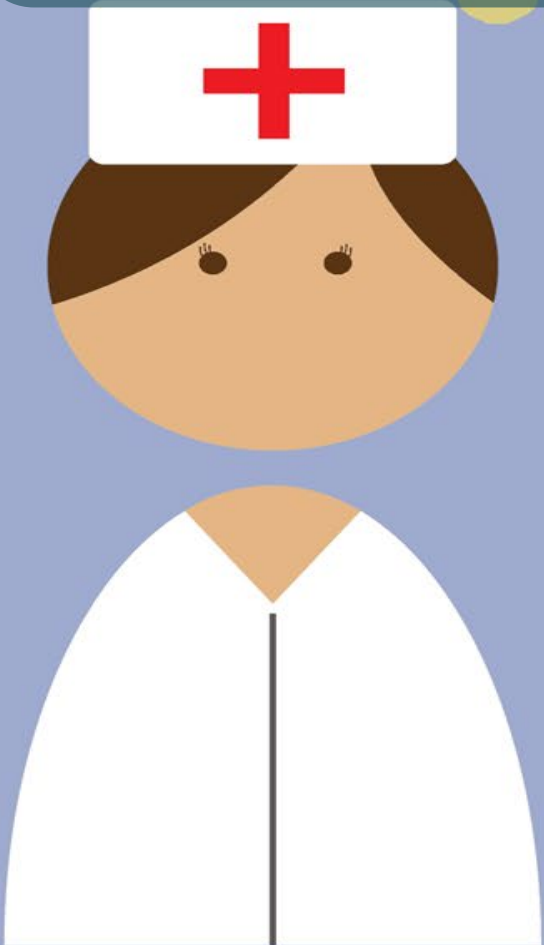
Heatwaves - Human Health Effects

- Interventions: Access to public healthcare, Information on new illnesses



Heatwaves - Poor Communication

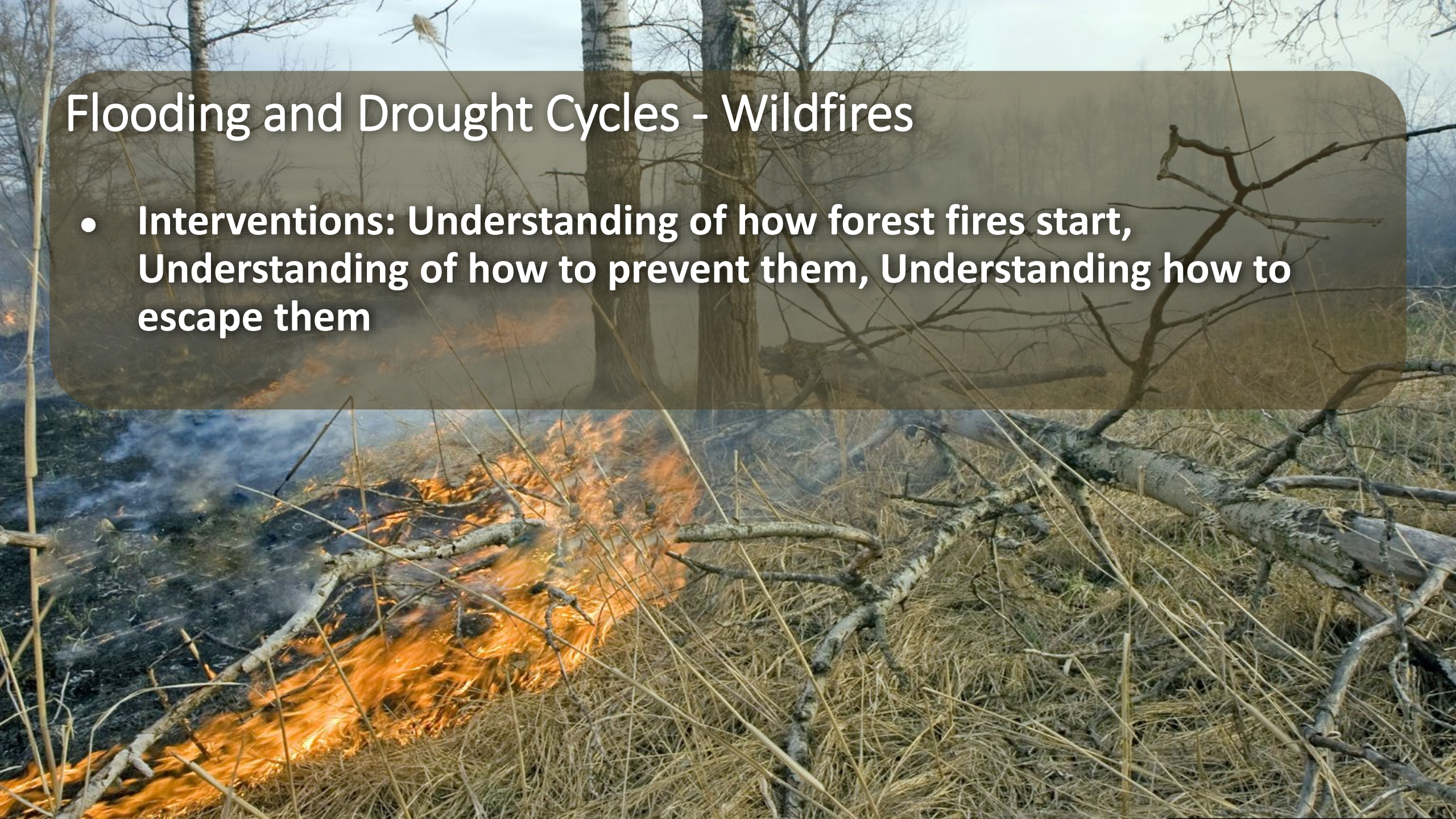
- **Intervention: Communication strategy**



Flooding and Drought Cycles

Flooding and Drought Cycles - Wildfires

- **Interventions: Understanding of how forest fires start, Understanding of how to prevent them, Understanding how to escape them**



Flooding and Drought Cycles - Water Shortage

- Interventions: Urban Horticulture, Drip irrigation, Plumbing, Water Rationing, Rainwater Collection



Flooding and Drought Cycles - Urban flooding

- Interventions: Urban Planning, Drainage Networks



Oceans

Oceans - Damage to Wetlands & Infrastructure

- Interventions: Planting wetlands, Understanding their benefits



Oceans - Island Nations

- Interventions: Urban planning, Preparing for floods, tsunamis, rising water levels



Oceans - Fish/Aquatic Life Conservation/Coral Reefs

- **Interventions: Gaining awareness of the damage, Learning ways to reduce and reverse the damage, Simple things like ocean safe sunscreen**



Oceans - Hurricanes

- Hurricane: Preparing and organizing, Education, Disaster Kits



The background image shows a large, dark, cylindrical pipe extending from a concrete structure on the left towards the center. Dark, murky water is being discharged from the end of the pipe into a body of water, creating white foam and splashes. The water in the background is a brownish-yellow color. The concrete structure is weathered and has some smaller pipes or openings. The overall scene suggests industrial or municipal wastewater discharge into a natural water body.

Oceans - Water Pollution

- **Interventions: Managing water temperatures, Increased laws around disease-causing agents, Education on water quality**

Oceans - Rising Water Levels

- Interventions Preparing and protecting, Education, Coastal protection



Food & Water Security

Food & Water Security - Land

- **Intervention: Proper Land management, Proper crop rotation, Understanding how a changing climate impacts the soil and nutrients present in it.**



Food & Water Security - Agricultural Yield

- **Intervention: Proper Land management, Proper crop rotation, Understanding how a changing climate impacts the soil and nutrients present in it, Gardening, Indoor Agriculture**



Finance

Finance - Wildfires & RECA Tool

- **Interventions: Understanding the causes of wildfires and how to prevent them, Proper Evacuation Plans, Using RECA to plan for financial impacts**



Migration

Migration - Mass Migration

- Interventions: Awareness of Mass Migration, Welcoming Countries, Understanding what causes it



Migration - Vulnerable Communities/Slums

- Interventions: Education on the areas, Education for the people, Basic Housing and Sanitation



Migration - Human Trafficking

- **Interventions: Awareness of Human Trafficking, Laws, Training Professionals to help reintegrate trafficked people**



Migration - Hosts for Migrants

- Interventions: Welcoming Countries, Livelihood Tools, Financial Support



Migration - Personal Security

- Interventions: Making Migration Safe, Teaching Self Defense/Protection



Migration - Animal Migration



Migration - Water Scarcity

- **Interventions: Learning how to conserve water, Awareness of issues with lack of water.**

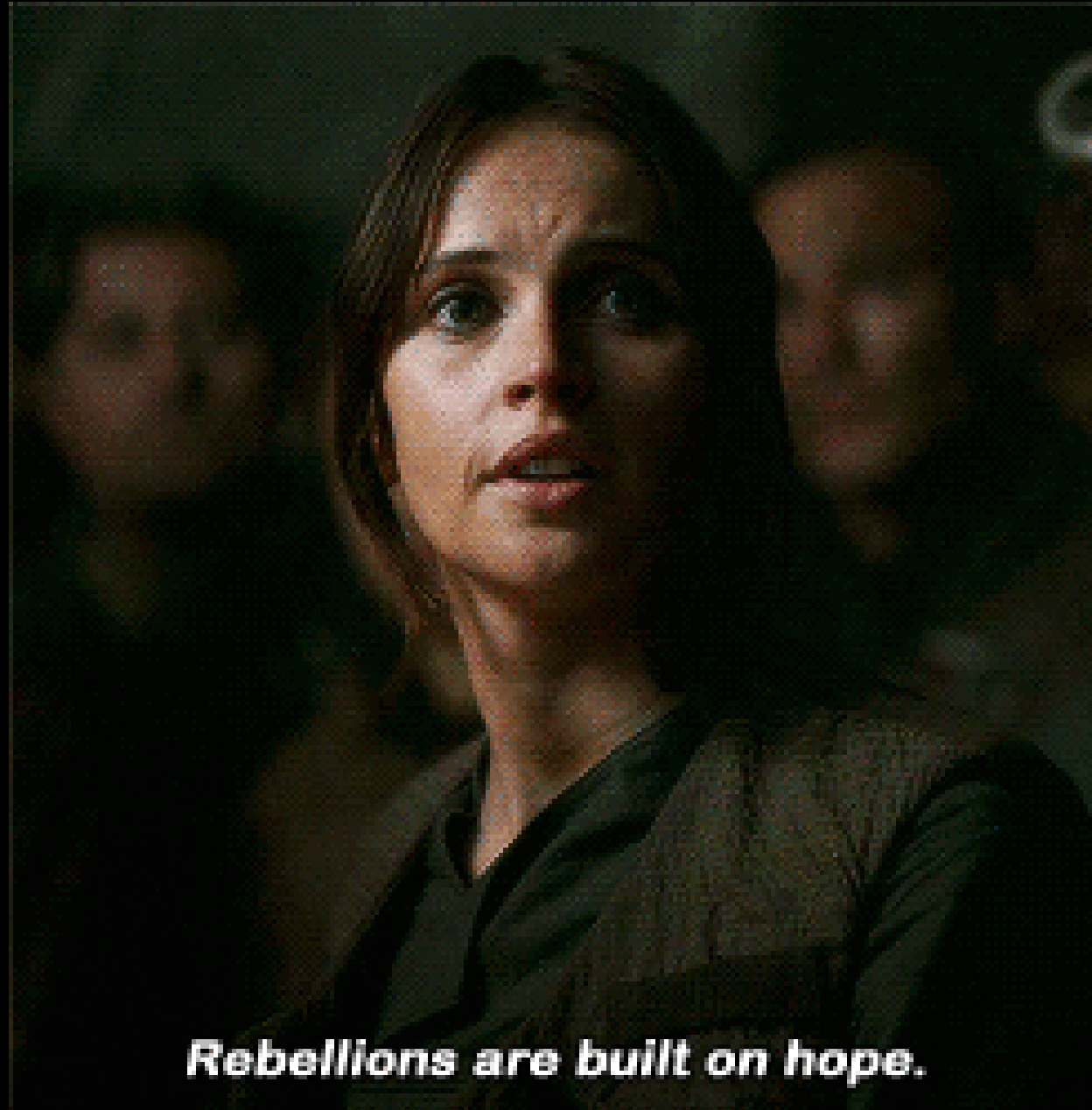


Migration - Terrible Working Conditions

- **Intervention: Understanding abuse of migrants in workplaces**



Hope



Use Your Game Developer Superpowers to Fight the Climate Crisis

1 BREAKOUT

For More Info on Interventions
go to

tinyurl.com/ClimateInter

THANK YOU!

NEXT PART

2

CLIMATE GAME TOOLKIT FOR CONTENT CREATORS

Arnaud FAYOLLE



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2

CLIMATE GAME TOOLKIT FOR CONTENT CREATORS

Arnaud FAYOLLE

#GDC23





ARNAUD FAYOLLE (He/him)
ART DIRECTOR - UBISOFT





NOW YOU KNOW

WHY WE MUST ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE



Progressive

WE WANT TO HELP!

Complex Problem
Solvers

Want to keep
making games!



WHAT CAN GAMES DO FOR CLIMATE?

WHO CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



**HOW CAN GAMES POSITIVELY
IMPACT CLIMATE ?**

WHAT CAN GAMES DO FOR CLIMATE?

OUR AREAS OF IMPACT

CULTURAL INFLUENCE

Maximize our
cultural impact



INDIRECT CARBON INFLUENCE

Motivate players
to reduce their
own emissions!



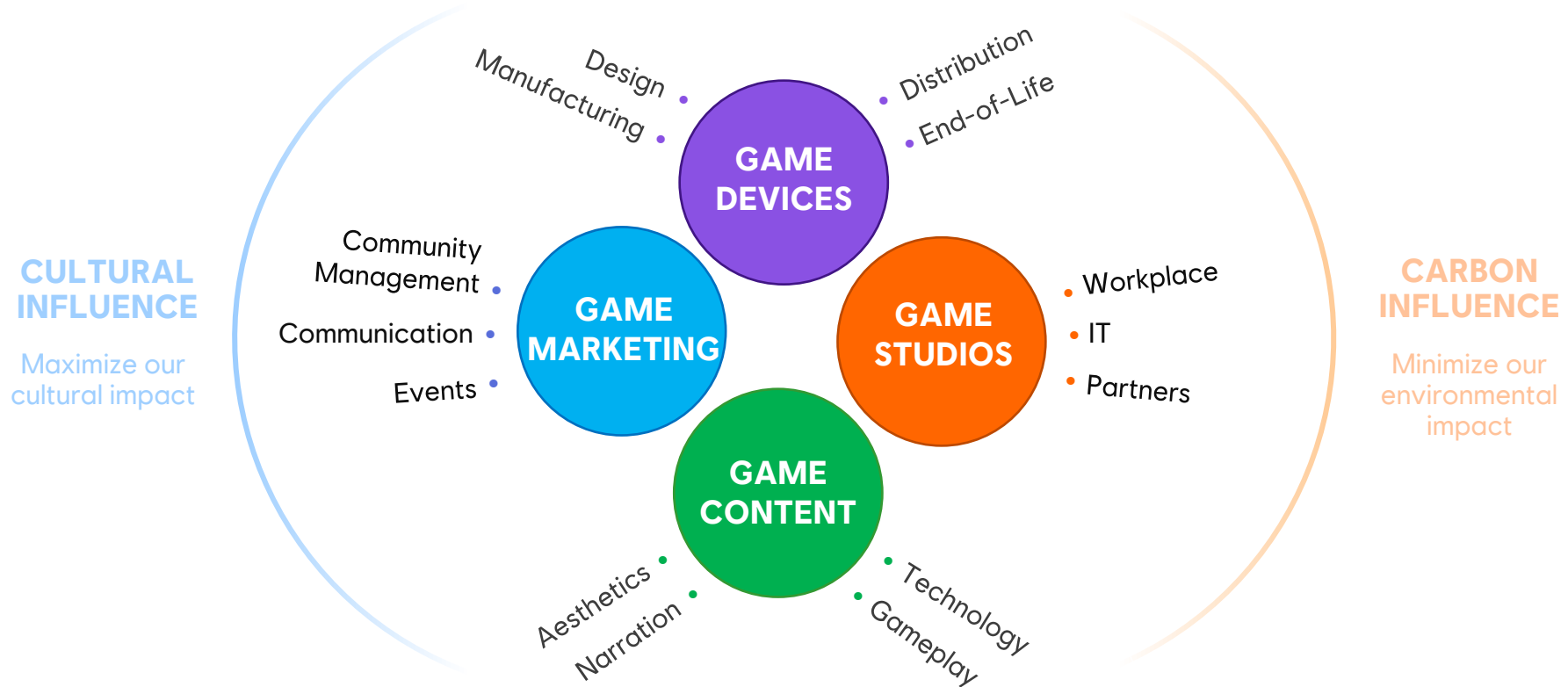
CARBON INFLUENCE

Minimize our
environmental
impact



WHO CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

THE GAME INDUSTRY'S KEY PLAYERS



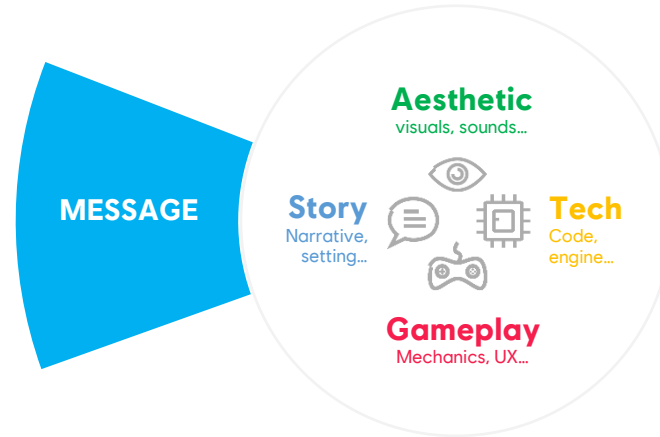
HOW CAN GAMES POSITIVELY IMPACT CLIMATE?

TOOLKIT FOR CONTENT CREATORS



HOW CAN GAMES POSITIVELY IMPACT CLIMATE?

TOOLKIT FOR CONTENT CREATORS



MESSAGE

WHY IT MATTERS

- Every **creative product** convey one or multiple **messages**
- Ignoring it often **default to destructive messages** (colonialism, capitalism, domination...)
- Weaving **relevant themes** in narratives can turn every game into a **force for good**
- The more **engaging** the game is, the more **attention** players pay to the message



Never Alone (Upper One Game / E-line media, 2014)

MESSAGE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Tell stories from **climate front lines**



Never Alone (Upper One Game / E-line media, 2014)

MESSAGE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Tell stories from **climate front lines**
- Raise **awareness** about unfamiliar topics



MESSAGE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Tell stories from **climate front lines**
- Raise **awareness** about unfamiliar topics
- **Educate** in fun, non-judgmental ways



Beyond Blue (E-line media, 2020)

MESSAGE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Tell stories from **climate front lines**
- Raise **awareness** about unfamiliar topics
- **Educate** in fun, non-judgmental ways
- **Restore trust** in others to foster a culture of collaboration



MESSAGE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Tell stories from **climate front lines**
- Raise **awareness** about unfamiliar topics
- **Educate** in fun, non-judgmental ways
- **Restore trust** in others to foster a culture of collaboration
- Describe Climate Change as a **legitimate threat to humanity**



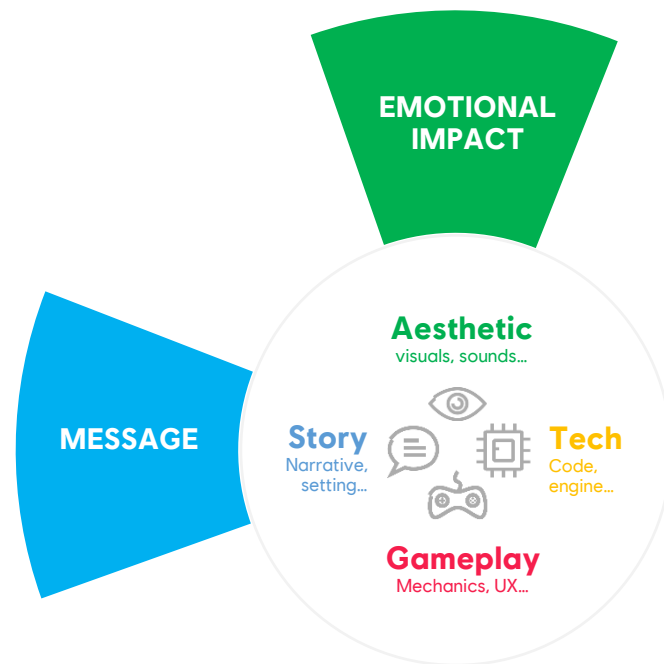
Horizon Zero Dawn (Guerilla Games, 2017)

MESSAGE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Tell stories from **climate front lines**
- Raise **awareness** about unfamiliar topics
- **Educate** in fun, non-judgmental ways
- **Restore trust** in others to foster a culture of collaboration
- Describe Climate Change as a **legitimate threat to humanity**
- Instil **indirect messages** in games labelled as pure escapism







EMOTIONAL IMPACT

WHY IT MATTERS

- *"The role of the artist is to make revolution irresistible"*
(Toni Cade Bambara)
- Emotions make **abstract** or **remote events** **relatable** on a personal level
- Emotions **drive decision-making** more than cognition



Gibbons: Beyond the trees (Broken Rules, 2022)



EMOTIONAL IMPACT

HOW TO USE IT?

- Leverage **aesthetics codes** to increase the message impact



Gibbons: Beyond the trees (Broken Rules, 2022)



EMOTIONAL IMPACT

HOW TO USE IT?

- Leverage **aesthetics codes** to increase the message impact
- Associate **desirable outcomes** with *feel-good* aesthetics





EMOTIONAL IMPACT

HOW TO USE IT?

- Leverage **aesthetics codes** to increase the message impact
- Associate **desirable outcomes** with *feel-good* aesthetics
- Associate **destructive trends** with **unsettling** aesthetics



Final Fantasy VII Remake (Square Enix, 2020)



EMOTIONAL IMPACT

HOW TO USE IT?

- Leverage **aesthetics codes** to increase the message impact
- Associate **desirable outcomes** with *feel-good* aesthetics
- Associate **destructive trends** with **unsettling** aesthetics
- Engage players around **hard topics** by making them **visually appealing**





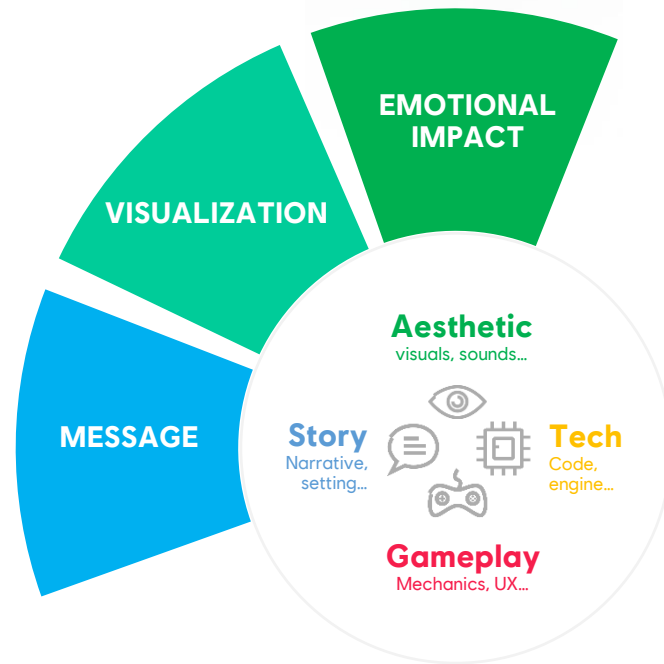
EMOTIONAL IMPACT

HOW TO USE IT?

- Leverage **aesthetics codes** to increase the message impact
- Associate **desirable outcomes** with *feel-good* aesthetics
- Associate **destructive trends** with **unsettling** aesthetics
- Engage players around **hard topics** by making them **visually appealing**
- Make players **want to care** & reflect on the **meaning of life**



Firewatch (Campo Santo, 2016)





VISUALISATION / REPRESENTATION

WHY IT MATTERS

- It's **hard to imagine** things we've **never seen**
- Our brains don't relate to **long-term** or **geographically distant** problems
- Give players **a vision to embrace** and make their own



Overwatch (Blizzard Entertainment, 2016)



VISUALISATION / REPRESENTATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Show what a **regenerative future** looks like



Overwatch (Blizzard Entertainment, 2016)



VISUALISATION / REPRESENTATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Show what a **regenerative future** looks like
- Illustrate **what's at stake** if we don't act



Plasticity (Plasticity Games, 2019)



VISUALISATION / REPRESENTATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Show what a **regenerative future** looks like
- Illustrate **what's at stake** if we don't act
- Inspire and **normalize** sustainable ways of living



Cities: Skyline - Green Cities (Colossal Order Ltd, 2017)

VISUALISATION / REPRESENTATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Show what a **regenerative future** looks like
- Illustrate **what's at stake** if we don't act
- Inspire and **normalize** sustainable ways of living



Forza Horizon 4 (Playground Games, 2018)



VISUALISATION / REPRESENTATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Show what a **regenerative future** looks like
- Illustrate **what's at stake** if we don't act
- Inspire and **normalize** sustainable ways of living
- Represent **happiness** that's **not relying on consumerism**





VISUALISATION / REPRESENTATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Show what a **regenerative future** looks like
- Illustrate **what's at stake** if we don't act
- Inspire and **normalize** sustainable ways of living
- Represent **happiness** that's **not relying on consumerism**
- Inspire **reconnecting with Nature** by showing its **beauty**



HOA (Skröllcat Studio, 2021)

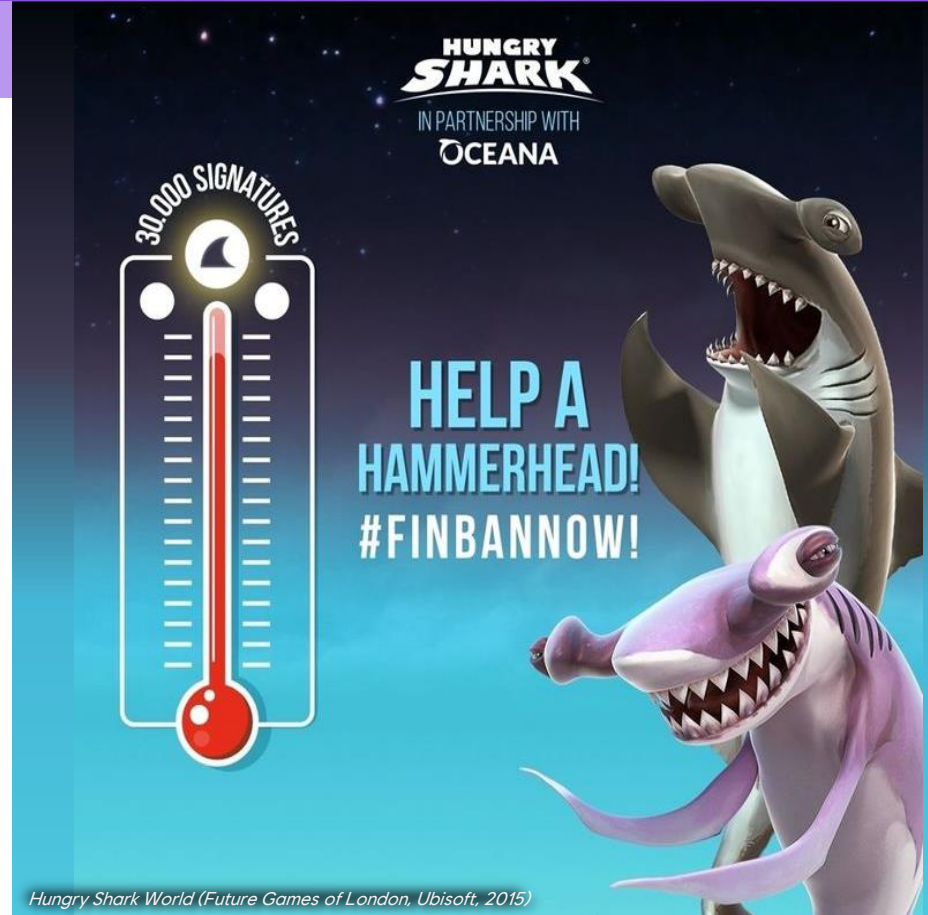




CALL TO ACTION

WHY IT MATTERS

- Players want to act but **don't know how**
- Games can **prime players** to take action in real life
- Repeated **exposure to Calls to Action** prime our brains, making us **more likely to answer the call** later
- Players already primed can be activated by **the right nudge at the right time!**





CALL TO ACTION

HOW TO USE IT?

- **Motivate players** to take action in the real world



Hungry Shark World (Future Games of London, Ubisoft, 2015)



CALL TO ACTION

HOW TO USE IT?

- **Motivate players** to take action in the real world
- **Point to available solutions** at an individual level





CALL TO ACTION

HOW TO USE IT?

- **Motivate players** to take action in the real world
- **Point to available solutions** at an individual level
- **Connect with other players** to amplify impact



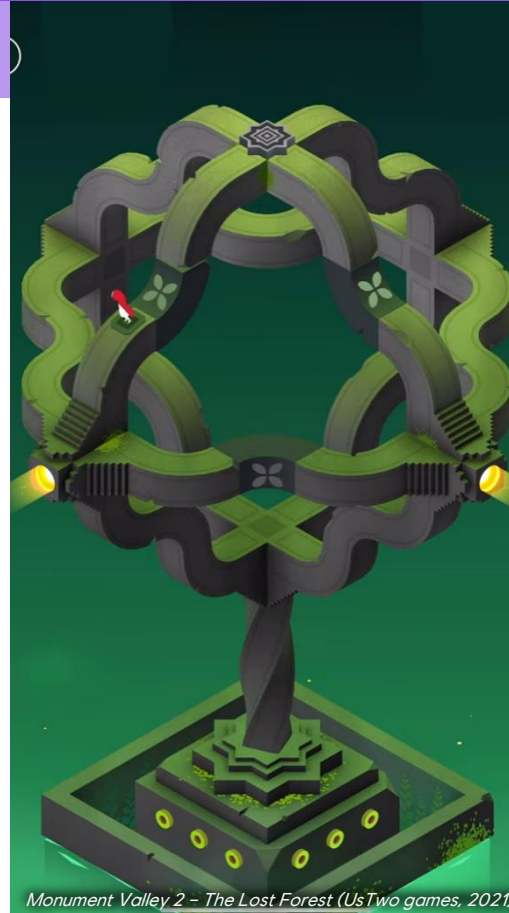
Pokemon Go (Niantic, Nintendo, 2016)



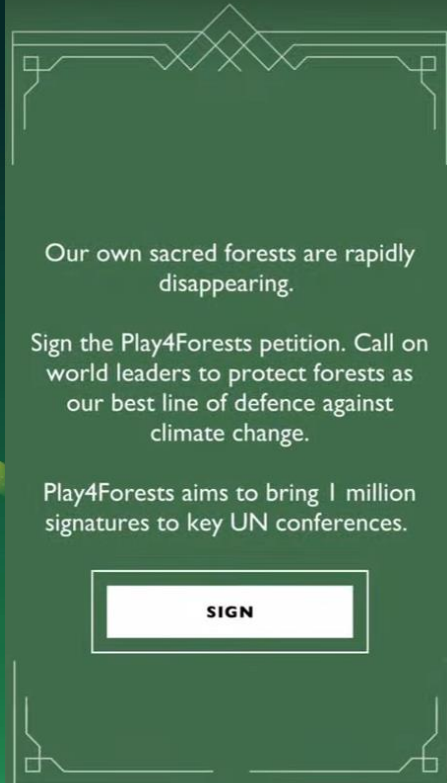
CALL TO ACTION

HOW TO USE IT?

- **Motivate players** to take action in the real world
- **Point to available solutions** at an individual level
- **Connect with other players** to amplify impact
- Encourage **support/contribution to climate orgs**



Monument Valley 2 - The Lost Forest (UsTwo games, 2021)



CALL TO ACTION

HOW TO USE IT?

- **Motivate players** to take action in the real world
- **Point to available solutions** at an individual level
- **Connect with other players** to amplify impact
- Encourage **support/contribution to climate orgs**



Ghost Recon Breakpoint (Ubisoft Paris, 2019)



CALL TO ACTION

HOW TO USE IT?

- **Motivate players** to take action in the real world
- **Point to available solutions** at an individual level
- **Connect with other players** to amplify impact
- Encourage **support/contribution to climate orgs**
- **Reward positive behaviours** in real-life







BEHAVIORAL TRANSFERENCE

WHY IT MATTERS

- For our brain, **solving problems** in games or in real-life are **undistinguishable**
- **Repeated actions** in games become **habits**
- Habits acquired in game can **transfer to real life**



BEHAVIORAL TRANSFERENCE

HOW TO USE IT?

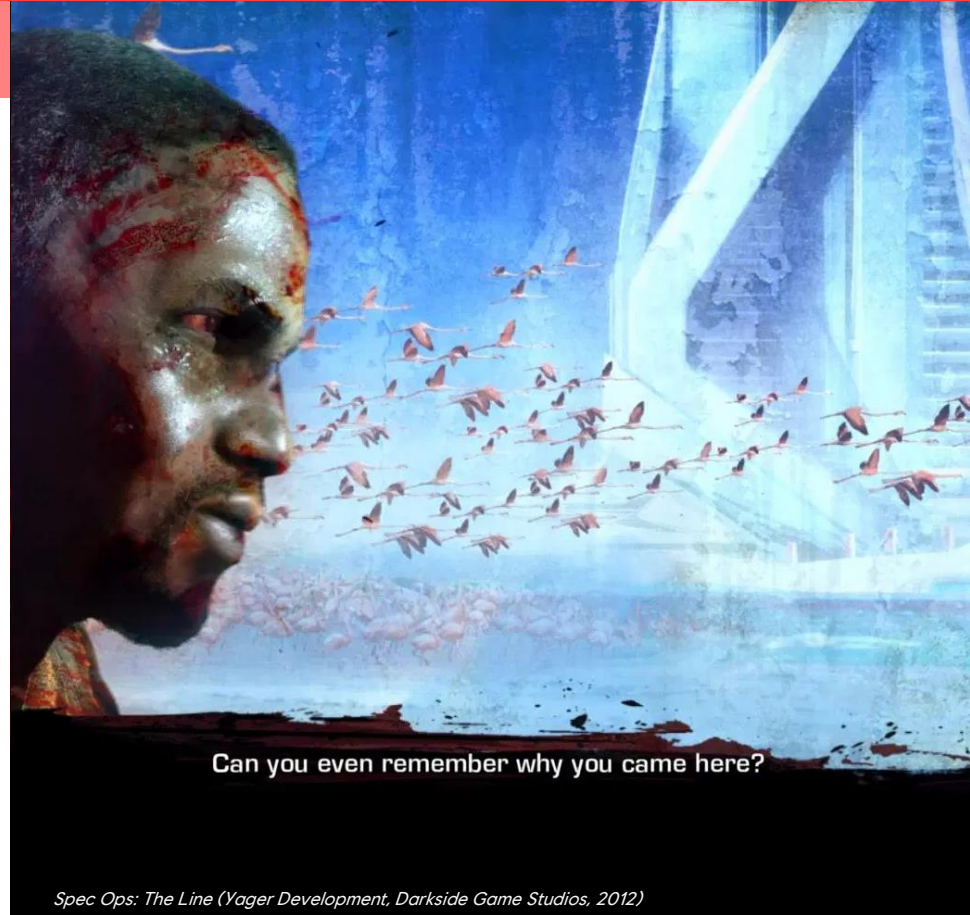
- Build **emotional resilience**



BEHAVIORAL TRANSFERENCE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Build **emotional resilience**
- Push players **out of their comfort zone**



Spec Ops: The Line (Yager Development, Darkside Game Studios, 2012)

BEHAVIORAL TRANSFERENCE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Build **emotional resilience**
- Push players **out of their comfort zone**
- Normalize **eco-conscious** behaviours



A short hike (Adamgryu, 2019)

BEHAVIORAL TRANSFERENCE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Build **emotional resilience**
- Push players **out of their comfort zone**
- Normalize **eco-conscious** behaviours
- Teach **useful life skills** for the future



BEHAVIORAL TRANSFERENCE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Build **emotional resilience**
- Push players **out of their comfort zone**
- Normalize **eco-conscious** behaviours
- Teach **useful life skills** for the future
- Let players experience **the joy of doing good deeds**



Alba: A Wildlife Adventure (ustwo games, 2020)

BEHAVIORAL TRANSFERENCE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Build **emotional resilience**
- Push players **out of their comfort zone**
- Normalize **eco-conscious** behaviours
- Teach **useful life skills** for the future
- Let players experience **the joy of doing good deeds**
- Allow **peaceful resolutions** of conflict



Dishonored 2 (Arkane Studio, 2016)

BEHAVIORAL TRANSFERENCE

HOW TO USE IT?

- Build **emotional resilience**
- Push players **out of their comfort zone**
- Normalize **eco-conscious** behaviours
- Teach **useful life skills** for the future
- Let players experience **the joy of doing good deeds**
- Allow **peaceful resolutions** of conflict
- Discourage **negative behaviours** such as **hoarding**



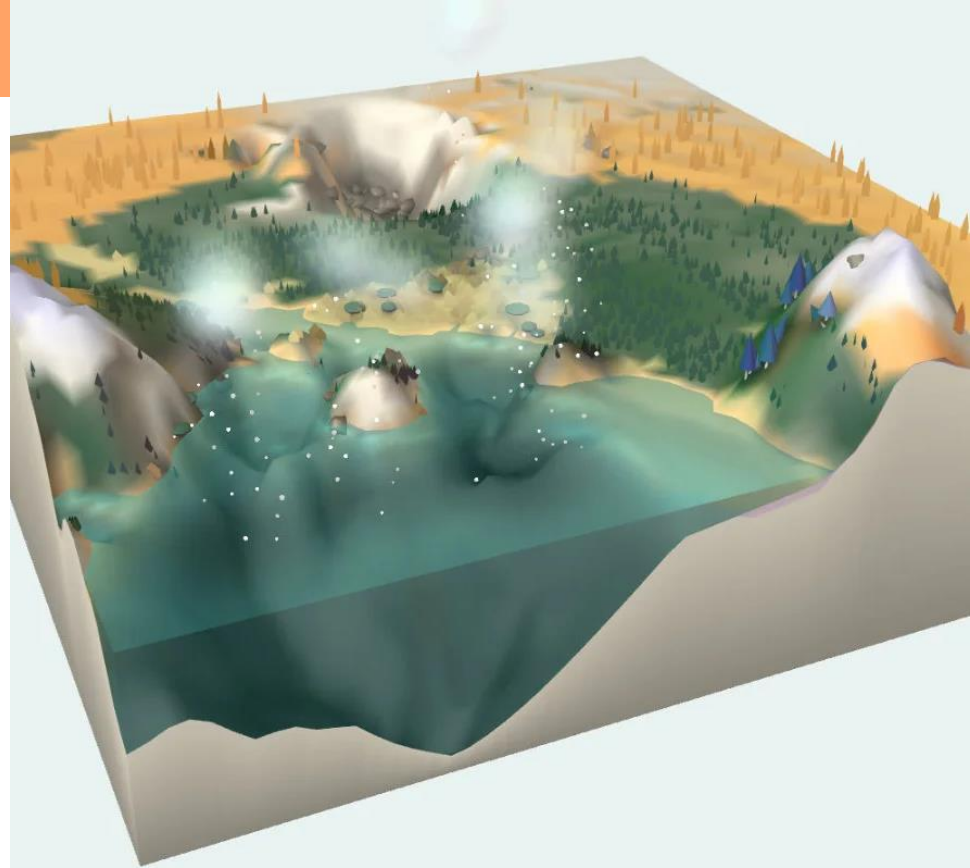




SIMULATION

WHY IT MATTERS

- Our brains value **short-term outcomes** over long-term ones
- Games make us experience the **long-term consequences** of our actions on a much **shorter time-frame!**
- Experimentation makes us **understand complex systems**





SIMULATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Ground your game in **real Earth science & data**

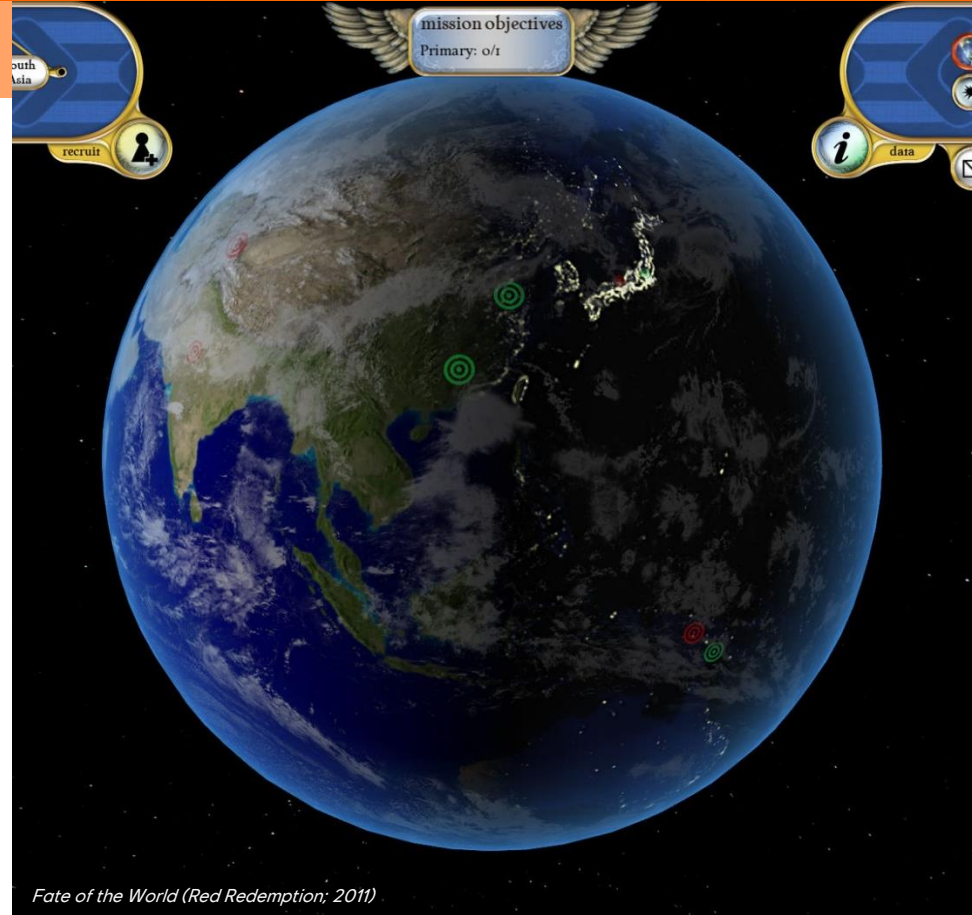




SIMULATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Ground your game on **real Earth science & data**
- Give opportunities for **trial & error** in safe environment





SIMULATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Ground your game on **real Earth science & data**
- Give opportunities for **trial & error** in safe environment
- Demonstrate **interconnections** between **Humans & Nature**





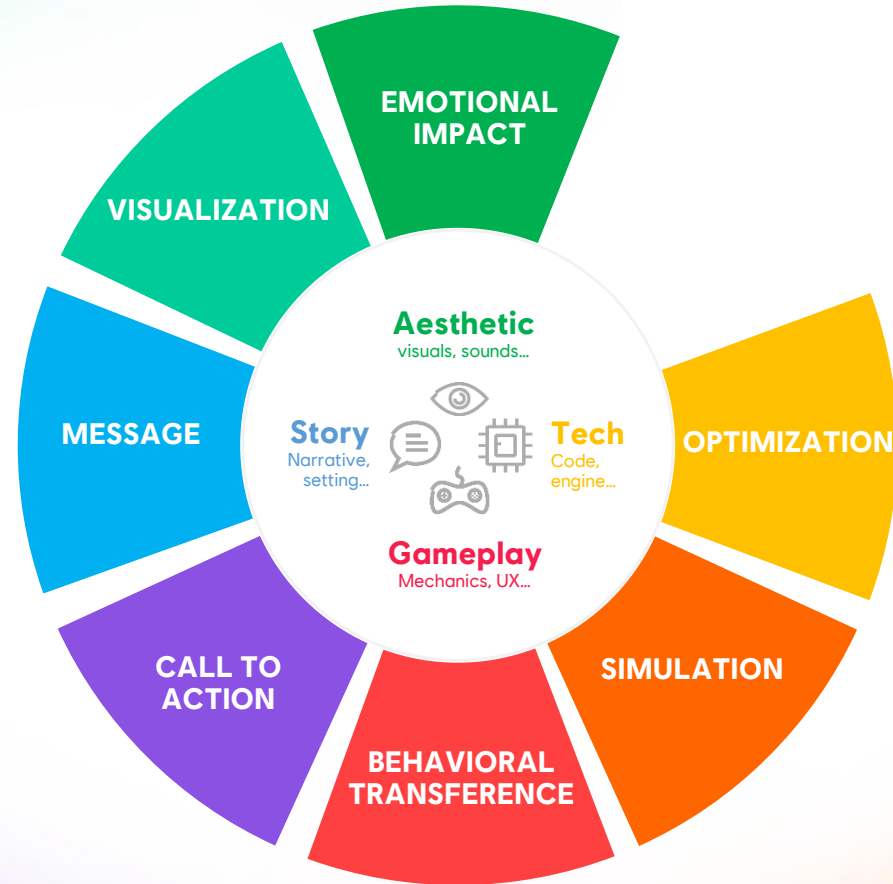
SIMULATION

HOW TO USE IT?

- Ground your game on **real Earth science & data**
- Give opportunities for **trial & error** in safe environment
- Demonstrate **interconnections** between **Humans & Nature**
- Build **systemically** to encourage curiosity and experimentation



ECO (Strange Look Games, 2018)





OPTIMIZATION

WHY IT MATTERS

- Before doing good, we should at least **do no harm**
- Ever-increasing horsepower have led us to build bigger, better, but more **power-consuming games**
- High power usage = **high carbon emissions**





OPTIMIZATION

HOW TO USE IT

- **Optimize code** to reduce power consumption



Subway Surfers (Sybo Games, 2012)



OPTIMIZATION

HOW TO USE IT

- **Optimize code** to reduce power consumption
- Propose an **opt-in power saving mode**

Settings

Start new games with your preferred settings, such as difficulty and control options. Your presets will be applied to games that support this feature. The selected settings will be applied differently depending on the game.

Difficulty

Game Default

Performance Mode or Resolution Mode

Prioritize performance or image quality. Select Performance Mode for higher performance. Select Resolution Mode for higher graphic quality. This applies to games that support this feature.

✓ Game Default

Performance Mode

Resolution Mode

Eco Mode

First-Person View

Third-Person View

Subtitles and Audio



OPTIMIZATION

HOW TO USE IT

- **Optimize code** to reduce power consumption
- Propose an **opt-in power saving mode**
- Release on **multiple platforms** to increase the reach of your positive impact





OPTIMIZATION

HOW TO USE IT

- **Optimize code** to reduce power consumption
- Propose an **opt-in power saving mode**
- Release on **multiple platforms** to increase the reach of your positive impact
- Bring the extreme optimizations of **ports** back into your **main SKU**



Ori and the Will of the Wisps (Moon Studios, Xbox Game Studio, Ian8bit, 2020)

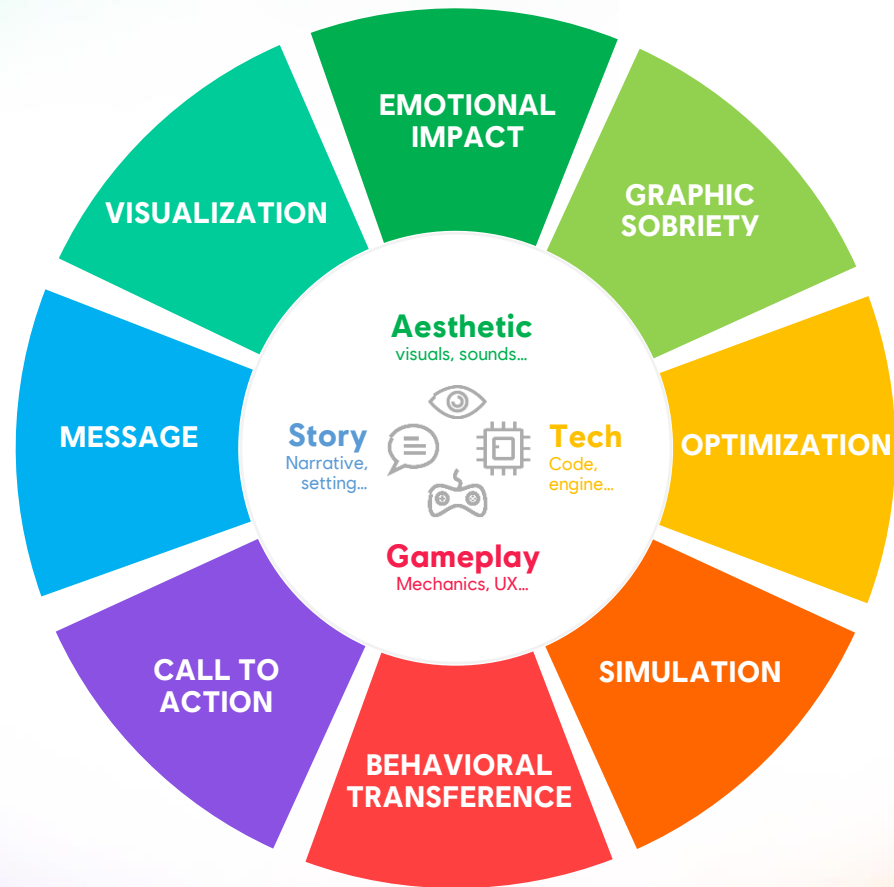


OPTIMIZATION

HOW TO USE IT

- **Optimize code** to reduce power consumption
- Propose an **opt-in power saving mode**
- Release on **multiple platforms** to increase the reach of your positive impact
- Bring the extreme optimizations of **ports** back into your **main SKU**
- Release on **previous generation devices** to fight **obsolescence**







GRAPHIC SOBRIETY

WHY IT MATTERS

- Culture assumes that **good graphics makes good games**
- We've been conditioned to **"always max out"** our graphics
- Graphics are responsible of most of the **power consumption and game size**



The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild (Nintendo, 2017)



GRAPHIC SOBRIETY

HOW TO USE IT

- **Tailor Art Direction** to your target experience





GRAPHIC SOBRIETY

HOW TO USE IT

- **Tailor Art Direction** to your target experience
- Rely on **smart asset and texture** usage to limit GPU usage and memory footprint



Team Fortress 2 (Valve Corporation, 2007)



GRAPHIC SOBRIETY

HOW TO USE IT

- **Tailor Art Direction** to your target experience
- Rely on **smart asset and texture** usage to limit GPU usage and memory footprint
- Educate about **power/carbon impact** of each graphic setting

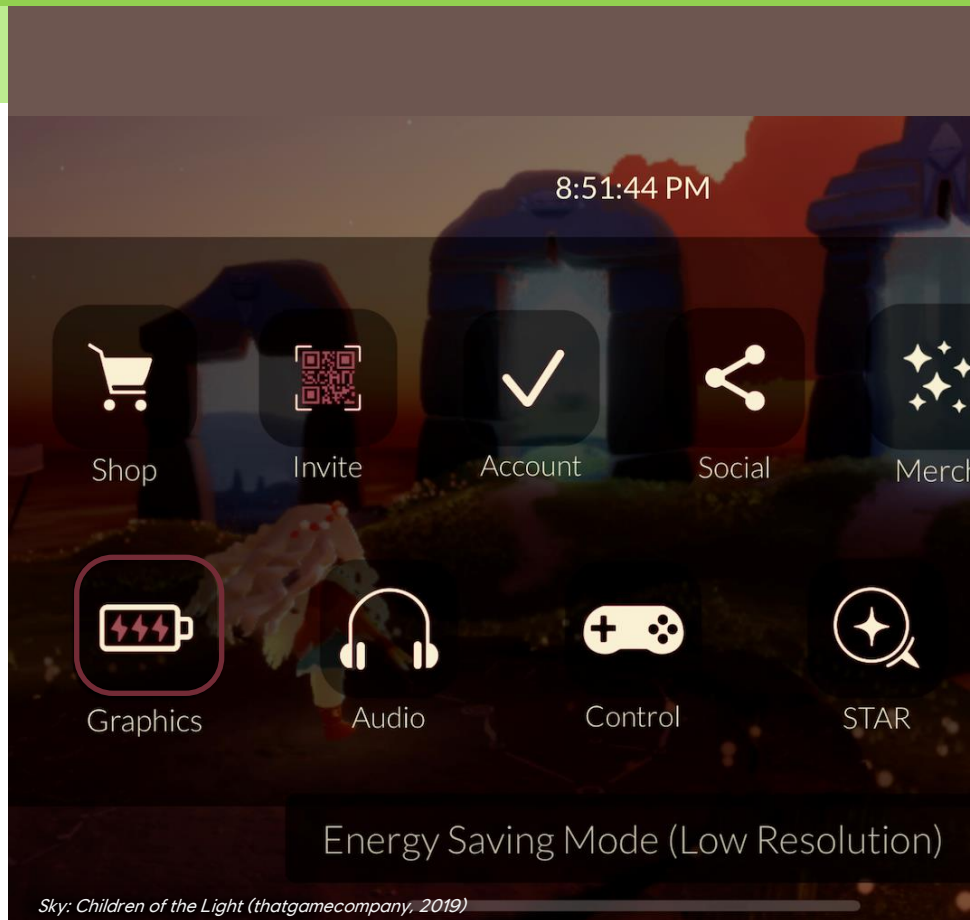




GRAPHIC SOBRIETY

HOW TO USE IT

- **Tailor Art Direction** to your target experience
- Rely on **smart asset and texture** usage to limit GPU usage and memory footprint
- Educate about **power/carbon impact** of each graphic setting
- **Give players agency** to balance their power consumption





GRAPHIC SOBRIETY

HOW TO USE IT

- **Tailor Art Direction** to your target experience
- Rely on **smart asset and texture** usage to limit GPU usage and memory footprint
- Educate about **power/carbon impact** of each graphic setting
- **Give players agency** to balance their power consumption
- **Reduce game size** to save bandwidth

FAR CRY® 6

Internal storage

All items

Game and add-ons



FAR CRY® 6

Base game

68.8 GB

Version 1.3.4.20

Installed



Select all

Unselect all

Save changes

0 items will install

0 items will uninstall

Internal storage

383.4 GB free

52.2%

16 R16 - RESTRICTED For ages 16 and over
Cruelty, Offensive Language, Violence

HD Texture Pack : Off



HD Texture Pack : On







CONCLUSION



EVERY GAME CAN MAKE AN IMPACT

- ✓ All game types, genres, settings, audiences
- ✓ Preserve the diversity of experience

An illustration of two women in a garden setting. The woman on the left has short brown hair and is wearing a blue denim jacket over a grey shirt and orange camouflage pants. She has a speech bubble above her head containing a green sprout icon. The woman on the right has dark skin and long dark hair, wearing a grey and orange top and blue cargo pants with a yellow pocket. She is holding a large green blueprint that shows a diagram of a fish and some text. They are standing in a garden with a wooden birdhouse, a lattice fence with plants, and a small wooden structure in the background.

EVERY DISCIPLINE IS IMPORTANT

- ✓ We need everyone
- ✓ We can act individually or collectively



EVERYONE CAN CONTRIBUTE

- ✓ Don't wait to be asked
- ✓ What can YOU do?



EVERY GAME MUST BE FUN

- ✓ Make **green** games fun
- ✓ Make **fun** games green

THANK YOU!

NEXT PART

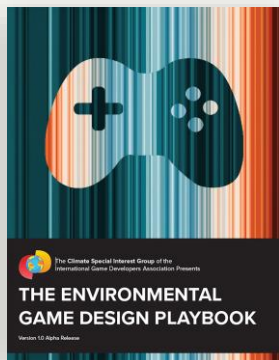
3

EXAMPLES OF **CLIMATE DESIGN**

Chance Glasco

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Join like-minded people at
<https://www.igdaclimatesig.org/>



Download and read the Environmental Game Design Playbook
<https://www.igdaclimatesig.org/workstream-pages/published-resources>

RELATED SESSIONS @ GDC 2023

Teaching Sustainability and Game Design: From the Low-Hanging Fruits to the Root of the Problem

Presented by Patrix Prax, Clayton Whittle, Trevin York, Sonia Fizek

<https://schedule.gdconf.com/session/educators-summit-teaching-sustainability-and-game-design-from-the-low-hanging-fruits-to-the-root-of-the-problem/891032>

Climate Games: The Developer's Field Guide

Presented by Arnaud Fayolle

<https://schedule.gdconf.com/session/climate-games-the-developers-field-guide/890846>

Playing for the Planet Climate Check: 10 Steps to Climate Leadership

Presented by Sam Barratt

<https://schedule.gdconf.com/session/playing-for-the-planet-climate-check-10-steps-to-climate-leadership/894994>

How Xbox, 343i, Epic and Ubisoft are Reducing Energy & Emissions While Maintaining Gameplay Fidelity

Presented by Trista Patterson, Tad Swift, Paula Angela Escuadra, Alex Le Boulicaut, Ben Woodhouse, Iris Gardet

<https://schedule.gdconf.com/session/how-xbox-343i-epic-and-ubisoft-are-reducing-energy-emissions-while-maintaining-gameplay-fidelity-presented-by-microsoft/894609>



March 20-24, 2023
San Francisco, CA



Adrienne Arsht-
Rockefeller Foundation
Resilience Center



Atlantic Council



Use Your **Game Developer Superpowers** to Fight the **Climate Crisis**

4

DESIGNING GAMES THAT **TRANSFORM PLAYERS**

Trevin YORK

#GDC23



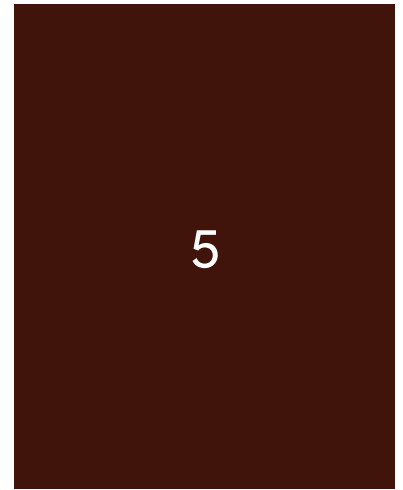
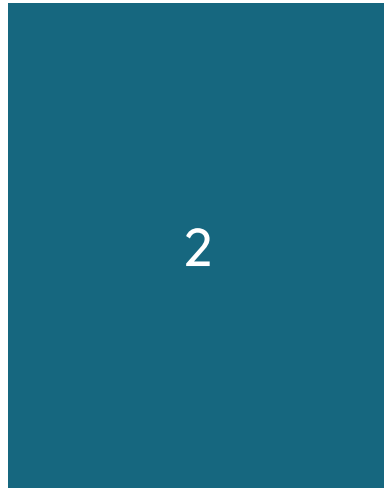
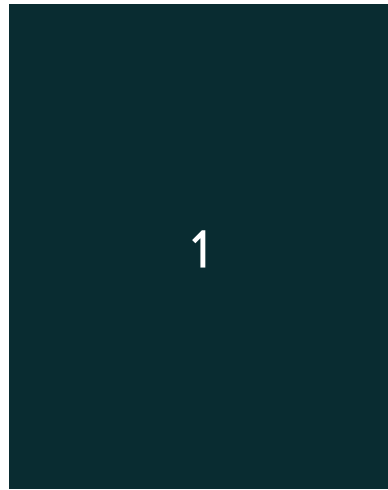
What I've learned while designing games
that transform players:

What I've learned while designing games that transform players:

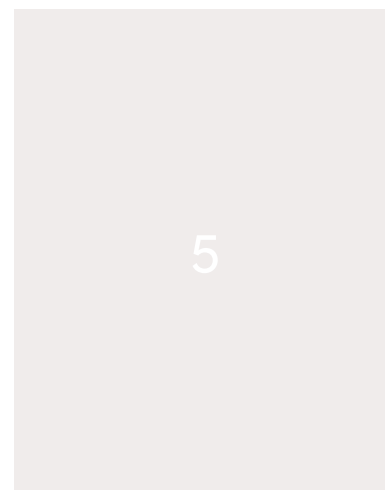
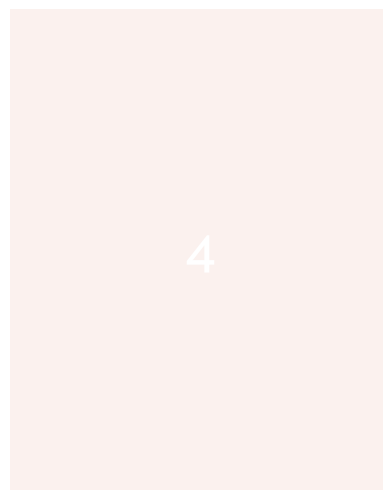
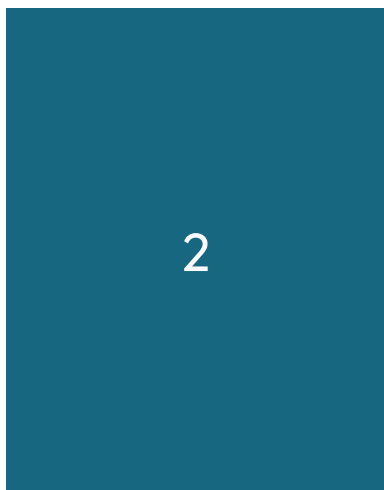
- It's hard!



CONSIDERATIONS

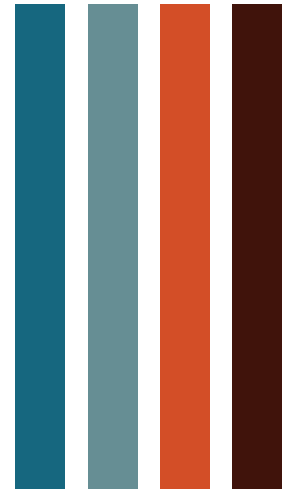


CONSIDERATIONS



CONSIDERATIONS

FRAMING



THIS IS A FUNDRAISER

THIS IS A FUNDRAISER

DONATE NOW

SAVE THE SQUIRRELS!!

















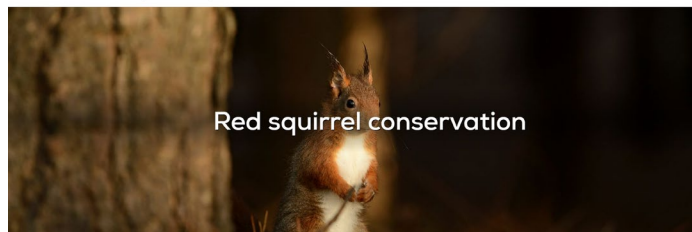
Red squirrel conservation



This attractive mammal has a chestnut upper body, with buff to cream underside, noticeable ear tufts and the famous fluffy tail. It is a smaller animal than the introduced grey squirrel.

Red squirrels are naturally found across most of Europe into northern Asia and Siberia. In this part of its range the creature is not threatened. In the UK it is restricted to a few sites, mainly those free from competition by grey squirrels.

The red squirrel was historically widespread on Anglesey and particularly within the broadleaved woodlands bordering the Menai



Red squirrels were once found across most of the UK. However, non-native grey squirrels have pushed them out of many areas.

Red Squirrel Conservation

PRACTICE NOTE

ISSUED BY FORESTRY PRACTICE

SEPTEMBER 1998

BY HARRY PEPPER & GORDON PATTERSON

INTRODUCTION

Our native red squirrel has disappeared from large parts of its natural range in the UK over the past 50 years. This is mainly as a result of the spread of the introduced grey squirrel which is better able to live in most broadleaved

THE CHALLENGE

Because grey squirrels (greys) are now an established part of our forest wildlife, with a population of 2.5 million, it is not practical to aim to re-establish red squirrels (reds) to their former range. The current distribution of reds is



RED SQUIRRELS ARE HEADING FOR EXTINCTION

Sightings of Red and Grey Squirrels across Scotland

REPORT A SQUIRREL SIGHTING NOW

RED SQUIRRELS

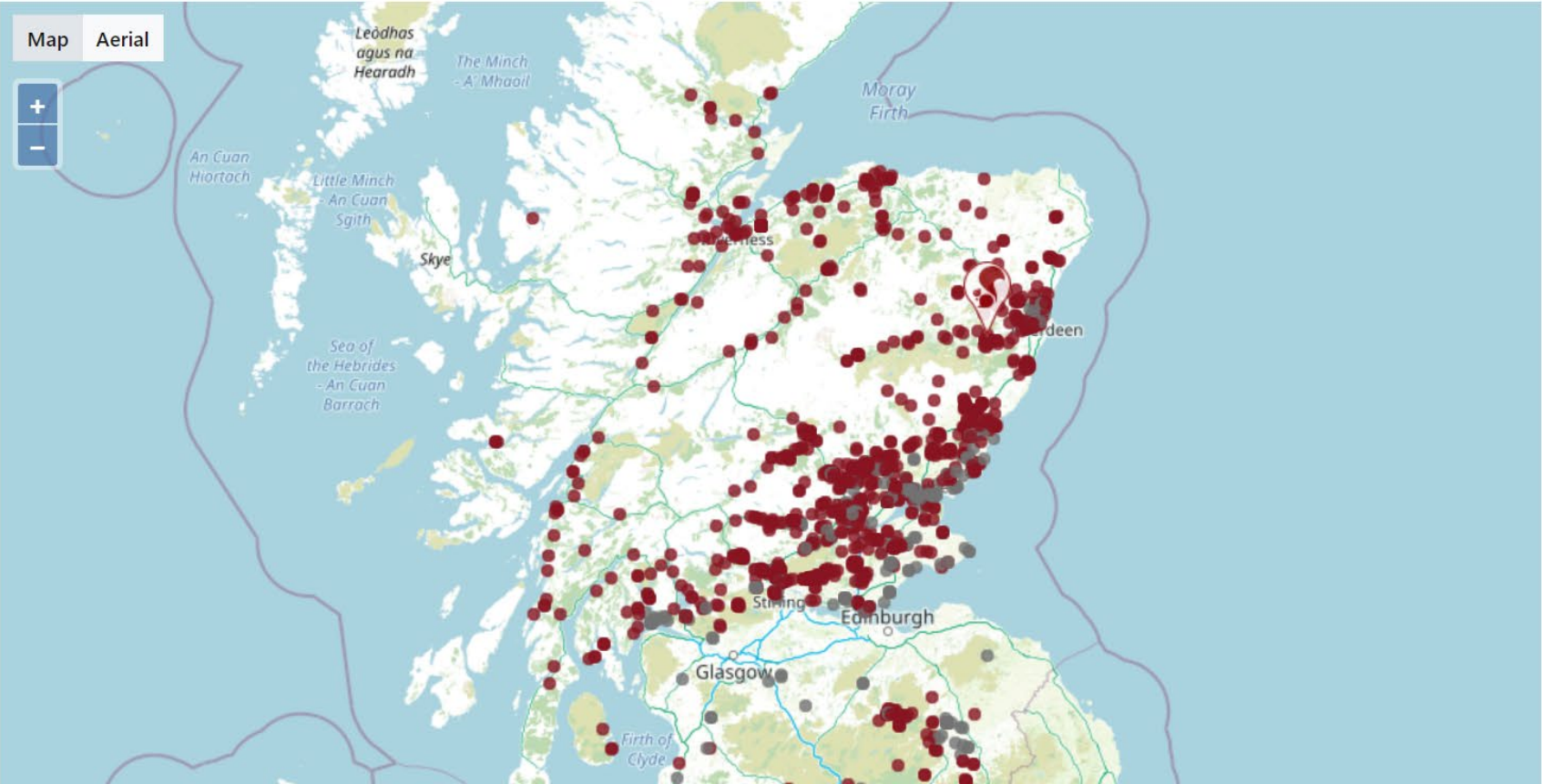
GREY SQUIRRELS

ALL SQUIRRELS

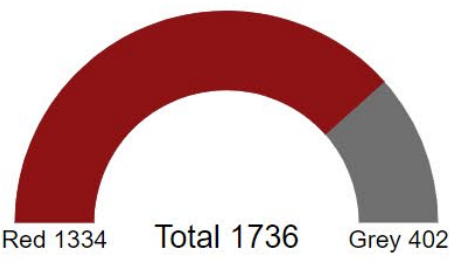
Year to display on map:

2022

▼



This Year's Sightings



REPORT A SQUIRREL SIGHTING ►



The long read

'Kill them, kill them, kill them': the volunteer army plotting to wipe out Britain's grey squirrels

Exmoor Squirrel Project wants grey squirrels culled and on menus

🕒 28 February



| Ms Hosegood said the grey squirrel has caused an estimated £40m worth of damage to UK trees





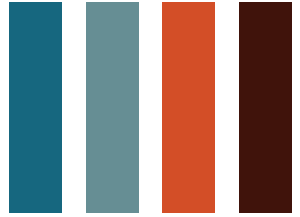
'It invades gardens, and will take peas from their pods as cleanly as a man. In spring it turns carnivorous and eats eggs and young birds. It damages trees by biting bark and preventing the flow of sap.'

George Jennison, 1927

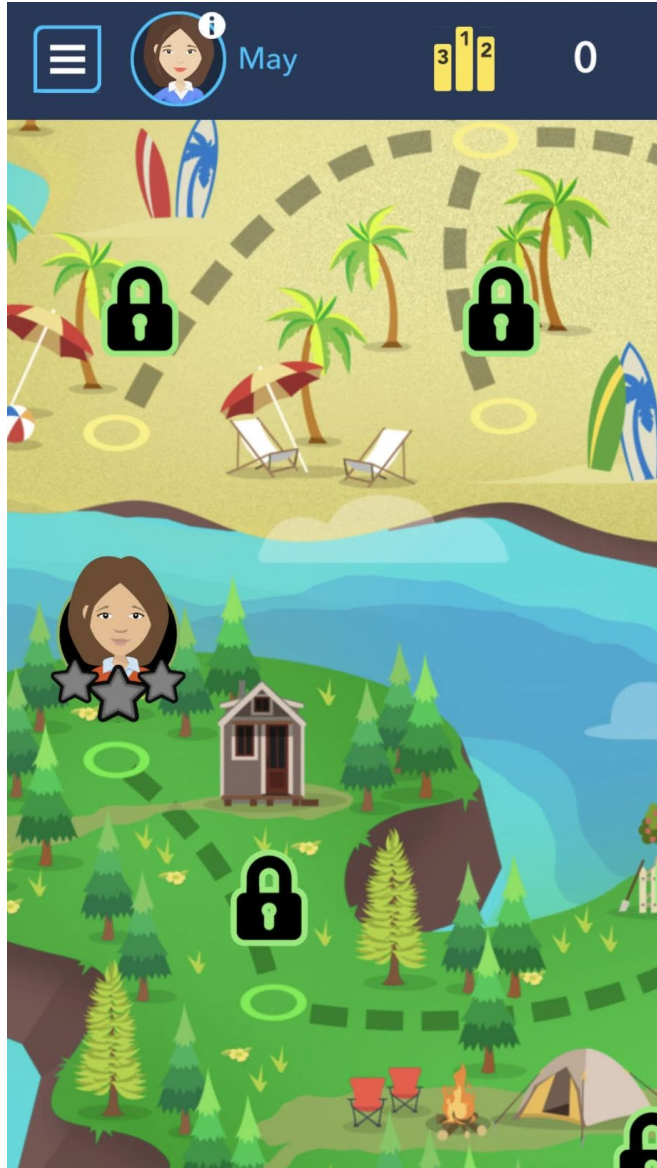




CONSIDER



1. What are you trying to say? Does the framing created by your gameplay support that message?
2. Your framing defines your truth.





Emma saved

\$172,386

which will last until she's 53 years old!



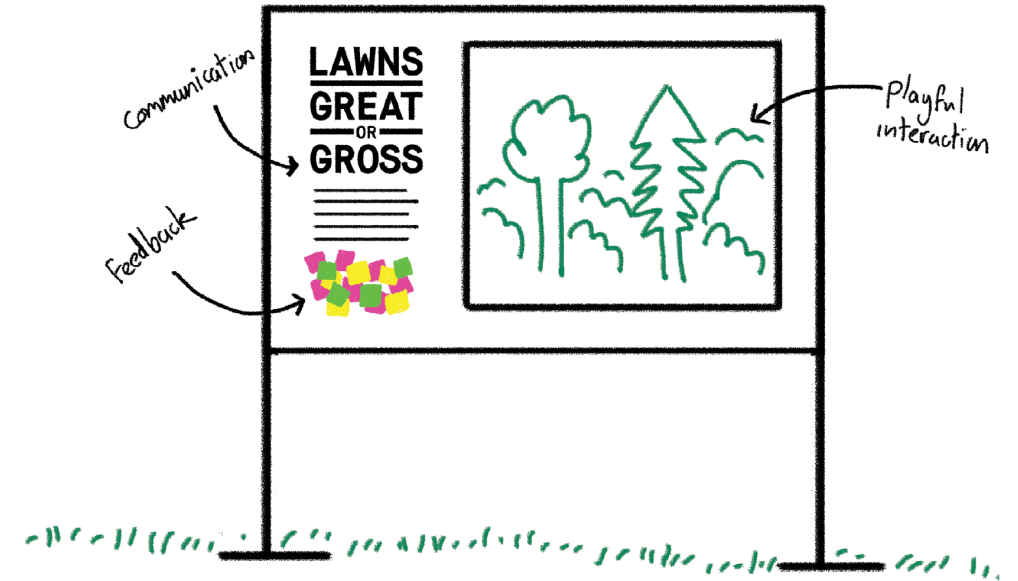
 <div><div>INCOME</div><div>45</div></div>	<div><div>EARNED</div><div>\$562,500</div></div>
 <div><div>EXPENSE</div><div>80</div></div>	<div><div>SPENT</div><div>-\$124,990</div></div>
 <div><div>SAVINGS</div><div>31</div></div>	<div><div>DEPOSITED</div><div>\$96,875</div></div> <div><div>BONUS AVG</div><div>\$75,511</div></div> <div><div>X1</div></div>

READY TO RETIRE?

LAWN TO BE WILD

Design for Social Change

Ahkila Ganesh Shamanur. Eliza Garduza.
Trevin York. Sebastian Chaloner.





INTERVENTION IDEAS

Participants generated specific interventions and in some cases were eager to act on them.

We are essentially building on top of trees

Wildflowers for the win!

We don't need to cut them. Nature plants new flowers anyway. Don't MANICURE the green spaces

Different plant areas: Wild, Garden for food, Forest, AREA to use

Huge, a lot of trees - Water Place - SWAMP: pond - Everything full of DIVERSE LIFE

Wetlands can help our world become better in lawn land.

More trees, less student accommodation in Edinburgh.

SUDS - turn lawns into something more ecologically diverse (Sustainable urban drainage systems)

I'm going to make a community garden here.

Whats the next step?

CONSIDERATIONS

FRAMING

2

3

4

5

CONSIDERATIONS

A decorative graphic consisting of a central teal rectangle with the word 'CONTEXT' in white. To the left of the teal rectangle is a dark teal vertical bar. To the right are three vertical bars in light teal, orange, and dark brown.

CONTEXT

Context is key!

Context is key!

Context is key!

Context is key!





Specificity



Impact





PALGRAVE STUDIES IN MEDIA AND
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION

Digital Games After Climate Change

Benjamin J. Abraham



palgrave
macmillan





Not the
whole
story?



mstoriabeall@gmail.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/victoriabeall/>







RASPBERRIES

Rubus idaeus | Harvest July - August



HARVEST RESPONSIBLY

You can harvest both berries and leaves (which are great as a tea). However, be sure to leave some berries for birds and insects to enjoy as well and be careful not to take too much from any single plant.

WHERE DOES IT GROW?

Wild raspberries are quite widespread this time of year, particularly near open woodland, scrub, heathland and hedgerows. In the uplands, it grows on the drier ledges of basic crags and ravines, and below base-rich cliffs.

WHO USES IT?

We all know the much larger cultivated raspberries, but these wee wild ones have a distinct flavor. If it's tasty to us, that usually means other species find it so too. Wild raspberries are popular among beetles and other flying insects, as well as deer and squirrels. In the Highlands, raspberry leaves were once used to treat sore throats and to aid pregnant women in preparing to deliver.

WHERE TO LEARN MORE

- Mark Williams, Galloway Wild Foods | gallowaywildfoods.com
- Monica Wilde | monicawilde.com
- Szymon Szyszczakiewicz, Foragerium | foragerium.co.uk
- Robin Harford, Eat Weeds | eatweeds.co.uk
- Leanne Townsend | wildfoodstories.co.uk
- Woodland Trust | woodlandtrust.org



Digital version

DRYAD'S SADDLE

Cerioporus squamosus | Harvest March - August



RESPONSIBLE HARVESTING

Dryad's saddles are really only edible when the mushrooms are young and small, smaller than the size of your hand. Any bigger and they become too tough. If you find larger specimens, leave them for the insects!

WHERE DOES IT GROW?

Dryad's grow on dead and dying broad-leaved trees, especially willow, sycamore, and polar.

WHO USES IT?

Mushrooms are just the reproductive organs of a fungus, and the majority of the fungus is actually growing through a vast network of root-like strands called mycelium. The dryad's saddle fungus is a decomposer, working to recycle dead trees into nutrients and soil for other organisms. The mushrooms themselves are also a good source of food for flies and gnats.

WHERE TO LEARN MORE

- Mark Williams, Galloway Wild Foods | gallowaywildfoods.com
- Monica Wilde | monicawilde.com
- Szymon Szyszczakiewicz, Foragerium | foragerium.co.uk
- Robin Harford, Eat Weeds | eatweeds.co.uk
- Leanne Townsend | wildfoodstories.co.uk
- Woodland Trust | woodlandtrust.org



Digital version

CLEAVERS

Galium aparine | Harvest March - September



OTHER NAMES

Cleavers have made such an impression on humans, that we have many different names for them. They're also known as goosegrass, sticky

WHERE DOES IT GROW?

Cleavers are widespread across Scotland. They can be found in hedgerows, scrub land, and on cultivated land, including gardens. They're incredibly prolific, and so there is not much risk of overharvesting.

WHO USES IT?

Many insects, like aphids and spittlebugs, eat cleavers. Dogs are also strangely attracted to cleavers and will nibble on them (which is totally safe). For humans, cleavers are an extremely versatile plant. The boiled leaves and stems can be used in pretty much any way you'd use garden greens. The seeds can be roasted to make a (caffeinated!) coffee substitute. If crushed into a poultice, cleavers can also relieve bites and stings.

WHERE TO LEARN MORE

- Mark Williams, Galloway Wild Foods | gallowaywildfoods.com
- Monica Wilde | monicawilde.com
- Szymon Szyszczakiewicz, Foragerium | foragerium.co.uk
- Robin Harford, Eat Weeds | eatweeds.co.uk
- Leanne Townsend | wildfoodstories.co.uk
- Woodland Trust | woodlandtrust.org



Digital version

DANDELIONS

Taraxacum officinale | Harvest Year-Round



RESPONSIBLE HARVESTING

Dandelions love to grow along roadsides and are widespread in urban areas. However, you should exercise caution and avoid harvesting from areas such as parks where pesticides/herbicides may have been sprayed, as well as highly trafficked areas that may be polluted by trash, dog feces, or car emissions.

WHERE DOES IT GROW?

Dandelions are very common. You can easily spot them in gardens, parks, lawns, roadsides, waysides, meadows, fields, orchards, and woodlands

WHO USES IT?

Dandelions are a key plant for pollinating insects like bees. They are nutrient dense, and every part of the plant is edible. The leaves have a spicy kick and can be used as you would with any leafy green. The flowers, stems, and young buds can be pickled or used in baking, and the roots have traditionally been used as a coffee substitute.

WHERE TO LEARN MORE

- Mark Williams, Galloway Wild Foods | gallowaywildfoods.com
- Monica Wilde | monicawilde.com
- Szymon Szyszczakiewicz, Foragerium | foragerium.co.uk
- Robin Harford, Eat Weeds | eatweeds.co.uk
- Leanne Townsend | wildfoodstories.co.uk
- Woodland Trust | woodlandtrust.org



Digital version



RICHARD MYLES JOHNSON FOUNDATION



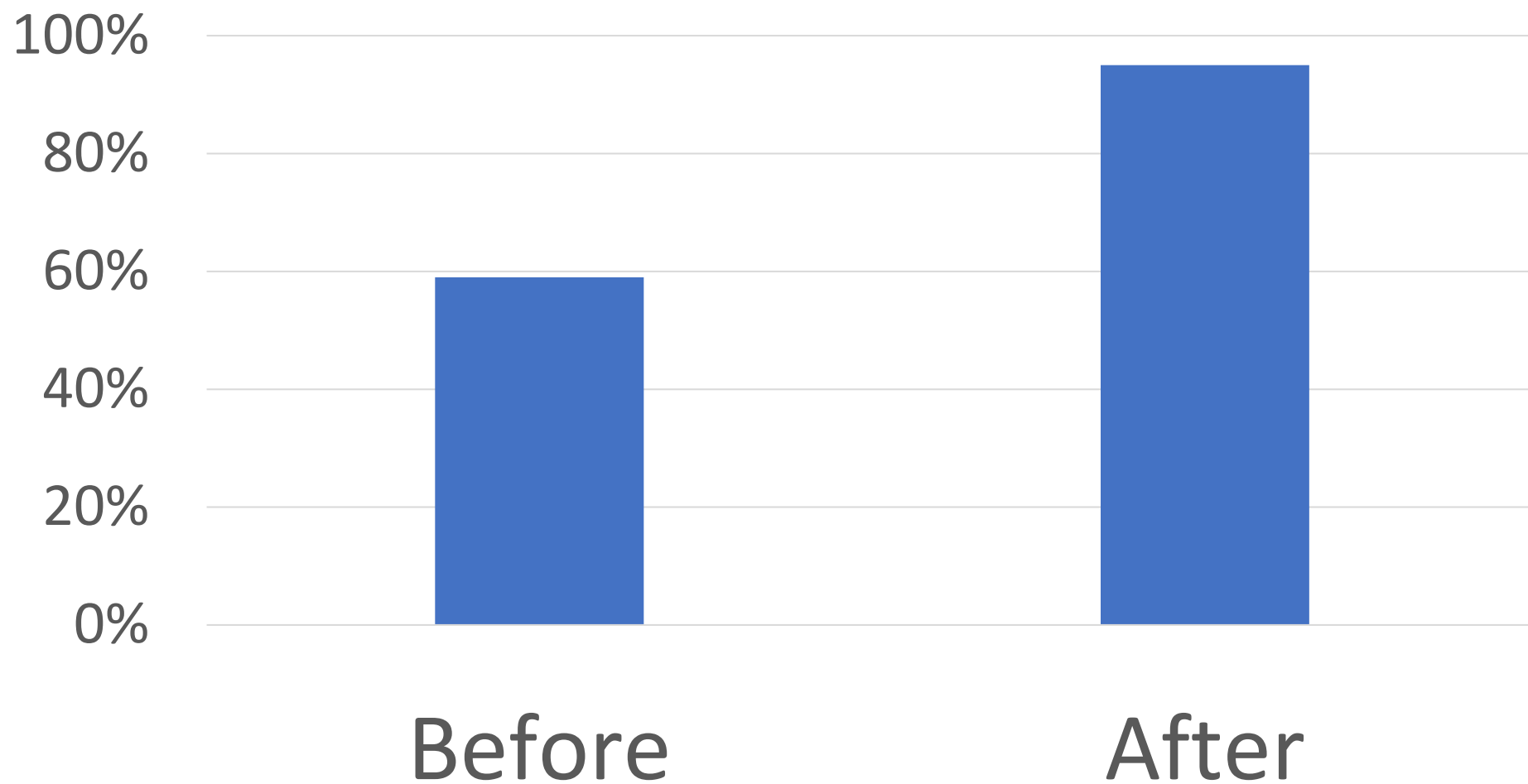
Welcome to the
Bite of Reality App!

Tap the button below
when your facilitator
says to begin.

Who am I?

Restart

I create and follow a monthly budget



RICHARD MYLES JOHNSON FOUNDATION



Welcome to the
Bite of Reality App!

Tap the button below
when your facilitator
says to begin.

Who am I?

Restart

Design, When Everybody Designs

An Introduction to Design for Social Innovation

Ezio Manzini



Copyright © 2015 MIT Press. All rights reserved.

Consider:

1. Who are you trying to impact? What is their specific context?
What's the best way to reach them?
2. Ideally, build a business model that lets you work in the appropriate context.

CONSIDERATIONS

FRAMING

CONTEXT

3

4

5

CONSIDERATIONS



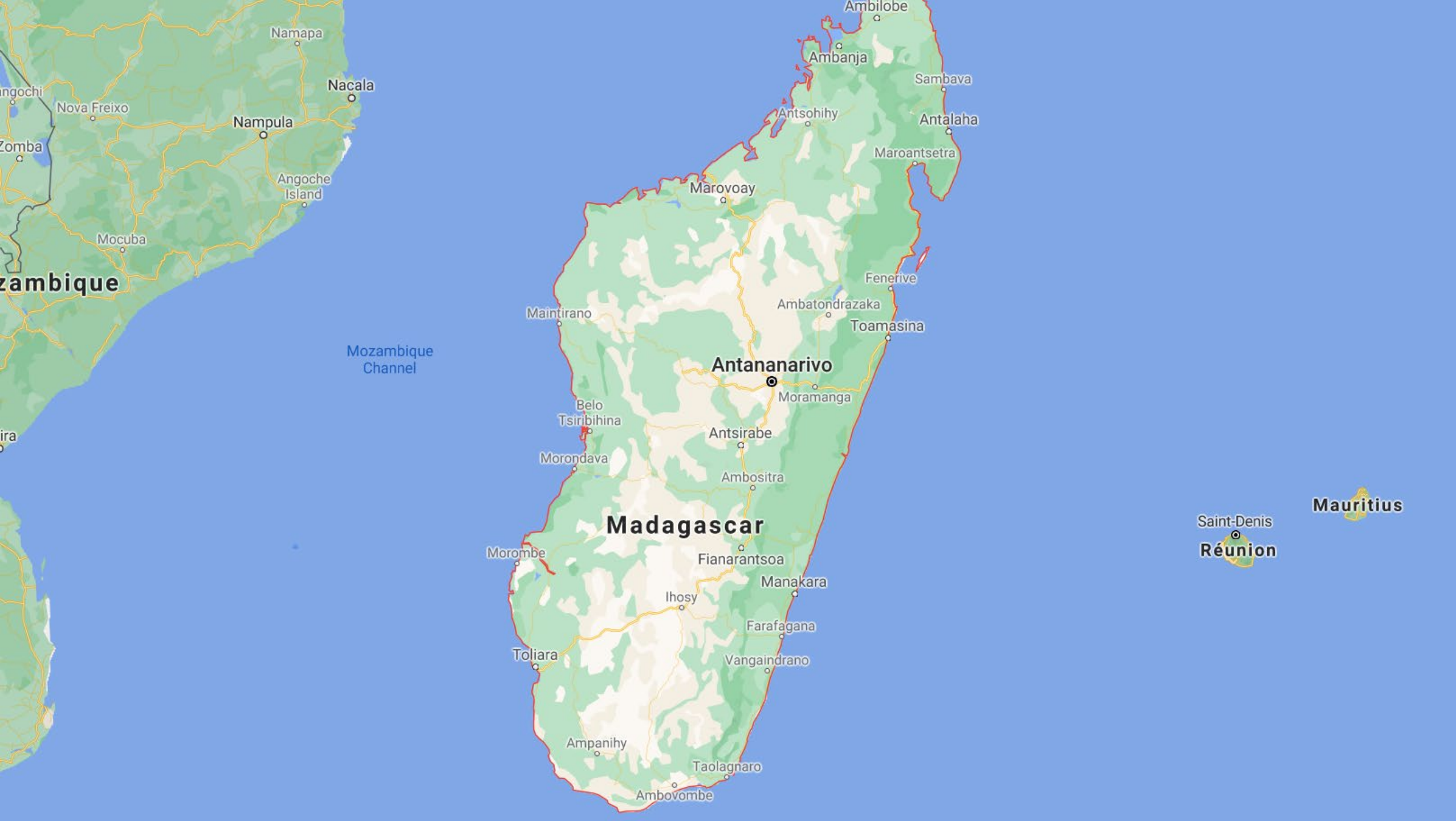
TRUST

1. TRUTH IS DEPENDANT ON TRUST

Science is a system designed to translate direct observation of the natural
world
into a story that earns the collective social
trust.

Dr. Arno Verhoeven







FACT: SANTA IS REAL

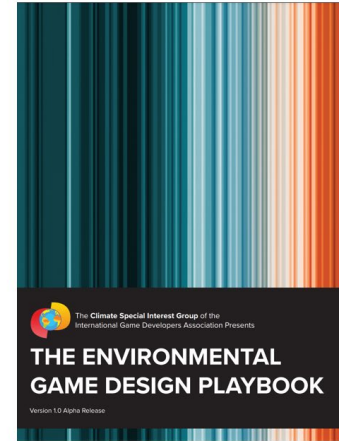




DESIGN FOR CHANGE



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Edinburgh College of Art



MindBlown Labs



**Millipore
Sigma**



Trevin York



Challenging the image of the altruistic and flexible household in the smart grid using design fiction

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Björn Hedin
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Engineering Sciences KTH
Stockholm, Sweden

The Limits of Our Imagination:
Design Fiction as a Strategy for
Engaging with Dystopian Futures
Theresa Jean Tanenbaum, Marcel Pufal and Karen Tanenbaum
UC Irvine
Department of Informatics
ttanen@uci.edu; mpufal@uci.edu; karen.tanenbaum@uci.edu

Transition Design: An
Educational Framework for
Advancing the Study and Design
of Sustainable Transitions
Terry Irwin ⁽¹⁾, Cameron Tonkinwise ⁽²⁾ and
Gideon Kossoff ⁽³⁾

Original research article
Towards pragmatic narratives of societal engagement in the UK energy
system
Iain Soutar*, Catherine Mitchell
Energy Policy Group, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

Original research article
Political power and renewable energy futures: A critical review
Matthew J. Burke^{a,*}, Jennie C. Stephens^b
^a Department of Natural Resource Sciences, McGill University, Macdonald Campus, 21,111 Lakeshore Road, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec H9X 3V9, Canada
^b School of Public Policy & Urban Affairs, Global Resilience Institute, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, USA

State imaginaries of the public good: shaping UK innovation
priorities for bioenergy
Les Levidow*, Theo Papaioannou
Development Policy and Practice, Open University, Milton Keynes, UK

Original research article
Reimagining energy futures: Contributions from community sustainable
energy transitions in Thailand and the Philippines
Jens Marquardt^{a,*}, Laurence L. Delina^b
^a Program on Science, Technology & Society, Harvard University, 79 JHK Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA
^b Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer Range Future, Boston University, 67 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215, USA

Original research article
What smart grids tell about innovation narratives in the European
Union: Hopes, imaginaries and policy^a
Lucia Vesnic-Alujevic*, Melina Breitegger, Ângela Guimarães Pereira
European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Via E. Fermi 2749, 21027 Ispra, Italy

2021-08-08T17:11:27Z
Unleashing Sociotechnical Imaginaries to Advance Just and Sustainable Energy Transitions: The Case of Solar Energy in Puerto Rico
Angel Echeverri, Tereza Batista Gomes, Melissa Kibaki, Christopher Grogan, Michael Lander-Gill, Maria Rosendo, Rocio L. Lopez, & Miguel A. Rosendo
Energy and Climate, 2021
Vol. 12, No. 1, pp. 1-16, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enclim.2021.100101>
Sociotechnical Imaginaries and National Energy Policies
MEL A. LEVITOW* & SANDY OTEN KIM*
Center for Energy Policy and Planning, University of Exeter, "Research Institute of Environmental Policy and Planning, College of Business, University of Exeter, Exeter, UK
Original research article
The micro smart grid as a materialised imaginary within the German energy transition
Franziska Engel*, Anna Verena Münch
Institute for Energy Systems and Energy Conversion, Technical University of Munich, Boltzmannstr. 15, D-85748 Garching, Germany

Original research article
Imagining energy futures: Sociotechnical imaginaries of the future Smart Grid in Norway
Ingrid Foss Ballo*
University of Bergen, Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities, Postbox 7805 O Department of Geography, Postbox 7802, 5020 Bergen, Norway

Reassembling Natures, Cultures, and Sociotechnical Imaginaries in Public Engagement
CLAIRE FOLEY, SHARON WEINBAUM & ALICIA G. WERNER
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, USA
Energy Policy, 2021
Vol. 12, No. 1, pp. 1-16, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enclim.2021.100101>
Bioenergy Futures: Framing Sociotechnical Imaginaries in Local Places
Michael M. Fernald
Department of Geography
University of Wisconsin
Stephen P. Gaudet
Department of Geography
University of Wisconsin
Lorenzine Bland
Department of Geography
University of Wisconsin

The everyday lives of energy transitions: Contested sociotechnical imaginaries in the American West

Jessica M Smith
Liberal Arts and International Studies, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO, USA
Abraham SD Tidwell
School for the Future of Innovation in Society, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, USA

Social Studies of Science
2021, Vol. 46(2) 117-143
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DOI: 10.1177/0306312721104414
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Original research article
Envisioning and implementing wood-based bioenergy systems in the southern United States: Imaginaries in everyday talk
John Schelhas^{a,*}, Sarah Hitchner^b, J. Peter Brosius^c
^a Southern Research Station, USDA Forest Service, 320 Green Street, Athens, GA 30602, USA
^b Center for Integrative Conservation Research, University of Georgia, 321 Holmes Hunter Academic Building, 101 Herty Drive, Athens, GA 30602, USA
^c Department of Anthropology, 250 Baldwin Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, USA

Original research article
Cosmopolitan, dynamic, and contested energy futures: Navigating the pluralities and polarities in the energy systems of tomorrow
Laurence Delina*, Anthony Janetos
Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer Range Future at Boston University, 67 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215, USA

Original research article
Whose and what futures? Navigating the contested coproduction of Thailand's energy sociotechnical imaginaries
Laurence L. Delina
Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer Range Future, Boston University, 67 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215, USA

1. TRUTH IS DEPENDANT ON TRUST

1. TRUTH IS DEPENDANT ON TRUST

2. YOU CAN BENEFIT FROM EXISTING TRUST



The **Climate Special Interest Group** of the
International Game Developers Association Presents

THE ENVIRONMENTAL GAME DESIGN PLAYBOOK

Version 1.0 Alpha Release

- 1. TRUTH IS DEPENDANT ON TRUST**
- 2. YOU CAN BENEFIT FROM EXISTING TRUST**
- 3. YOUR PLAYERS (WILL) TRUST YOU**

CONSIDERATIONS

FRAMING


CONTEXT

TRUST

4

5

CONSIDER:

-  1. What are you trying to say?
-  2. Who are you trying to say this to?
-  3. Why should they trust you?

THANK YOU!

NEXT PART

INTERLUDE

COFFEE! We'll return at 3pm

CONSIDERATIONS

FRAMING

CONTEXT

TRUST

4

5

CONSIDERATIONS

FRAMING

CONTEXT

TRUST

4

5

Long term stuff

ONTOLOGY

WAYS OF BEING

ONTOLOGY

WAYS OF BEING

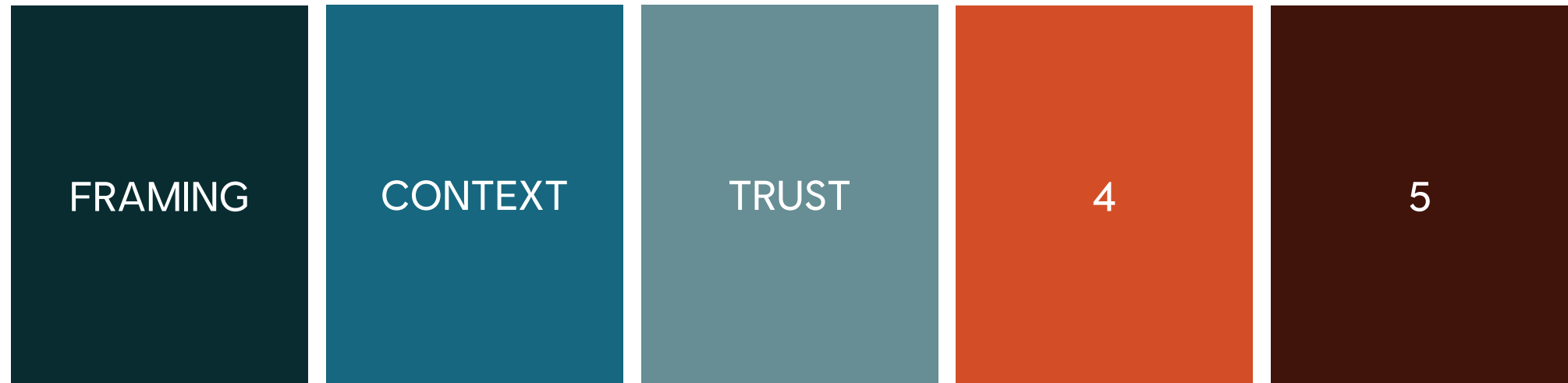
EPISTEMOLOGY

ONTOLOGY

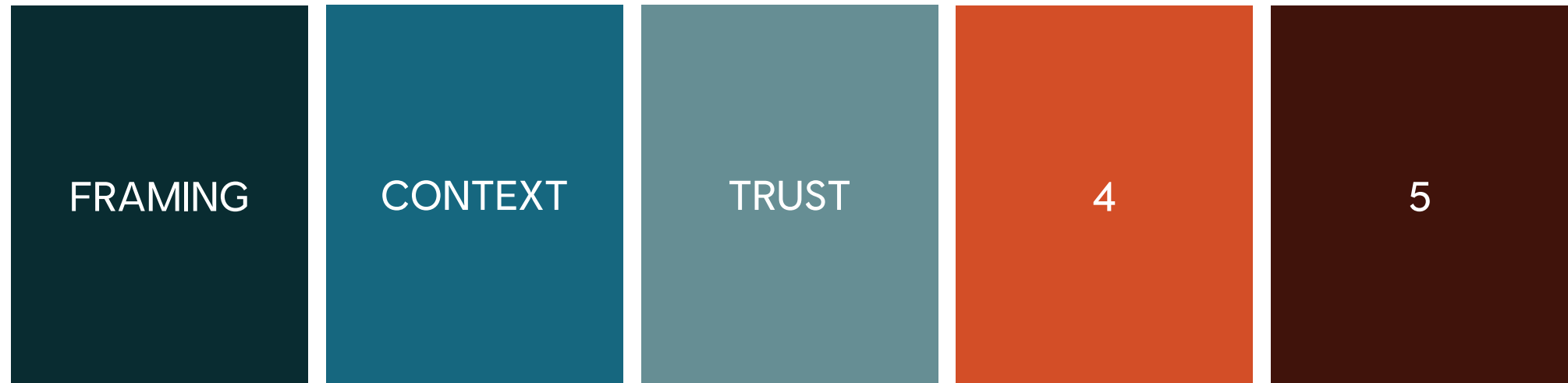
WAYS OF BEING

EPISTEMOLOGY

WAYS OF KNOWING



EPISTEMOLOGIES



EPISTEMOLOGIES

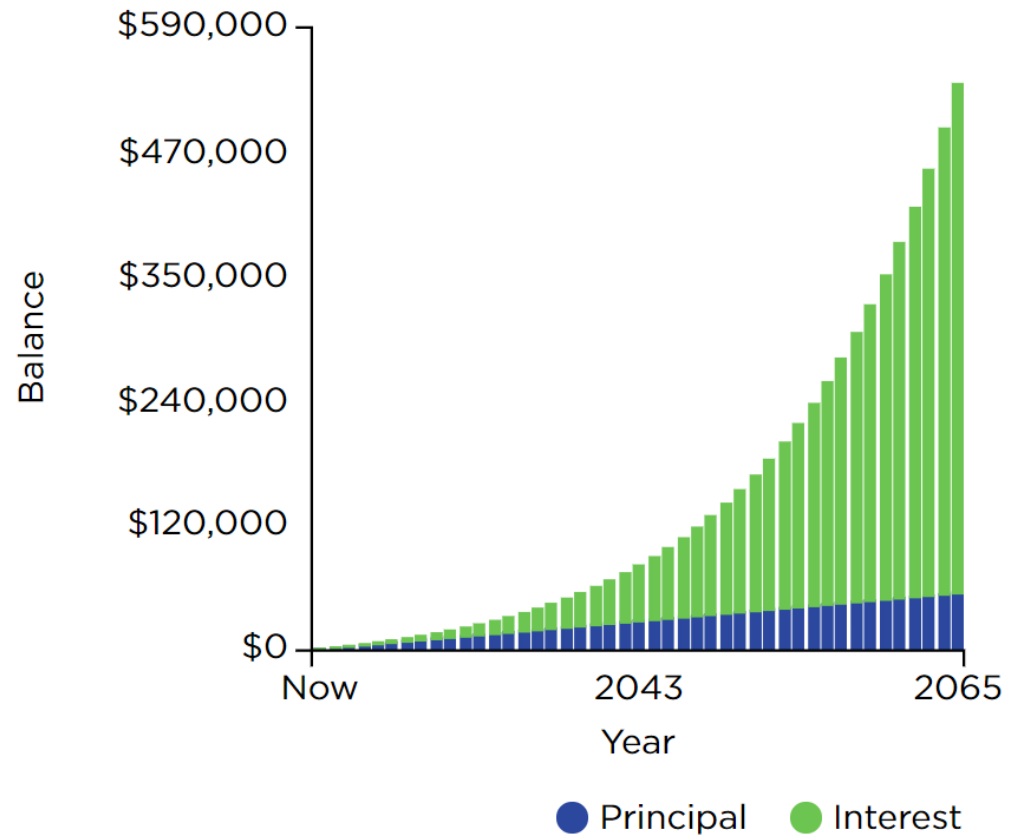
ONTOLOGIES

CONSIDERATIONS

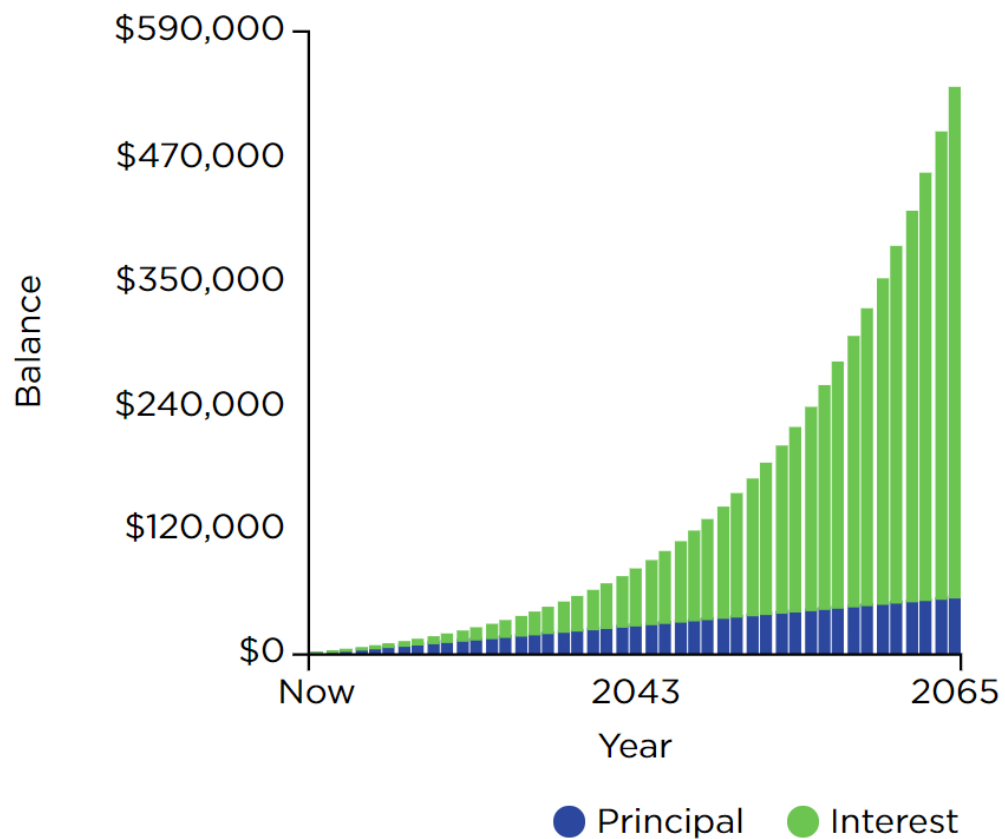


EMOTIONS

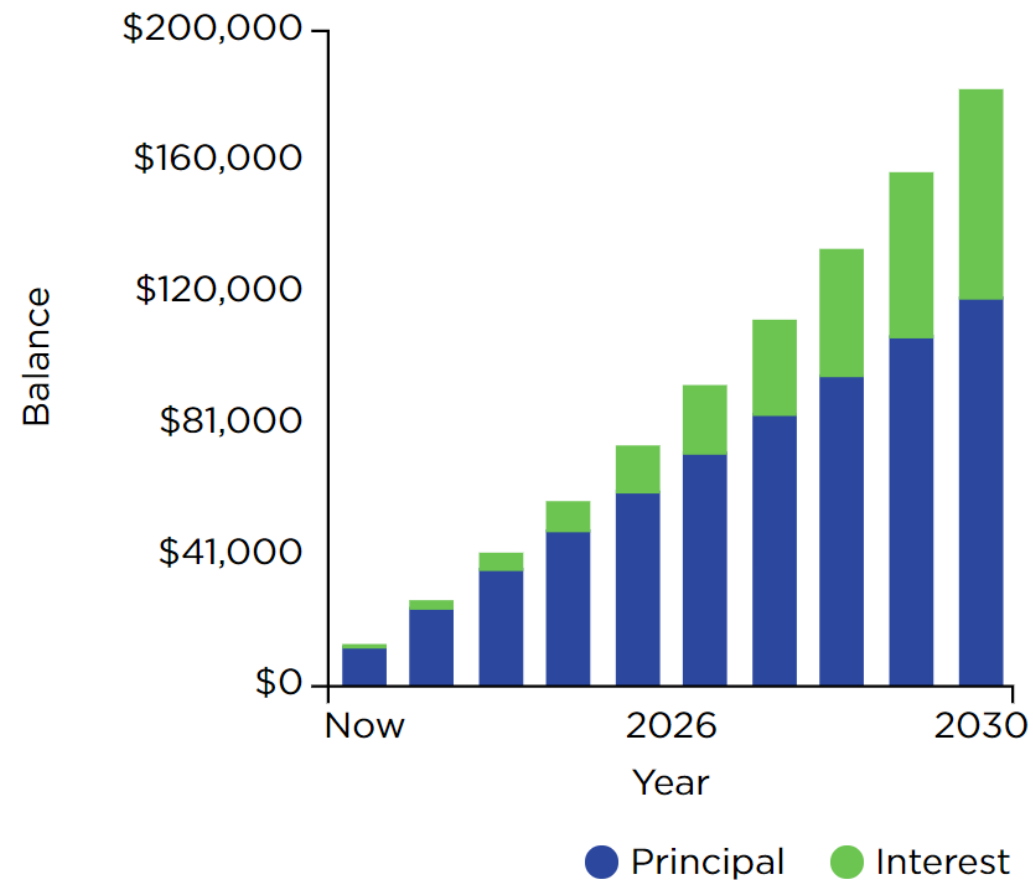
Future Balance
\$534,745



Future Balance
\$534,745



Future Balance
\$184,397





When people become emotionally
overwhelmed, they shut down.

“THE IDEA OF RETIREMENT IS
EXCITING, BUT IT'S MORE **SCARY**
AND **CONFUSING** THAN
ANYTHING”

“I'M **OVERWHELMED** BY ALL THE
DIFFERENT POSSIBILITIES AND
DON'T KNOW WHERE TO TURN
FOR A RESOURCE.”

4 Elements to Pro-environmental Behavior

01

Attitude

02

Knowledge

03

Perceived
Self-efficacy

04

Hope

4 Elements to Pro-environmental Behavior

01

Attitude

02

Knowledge

03

Perceived
Self-efficacy

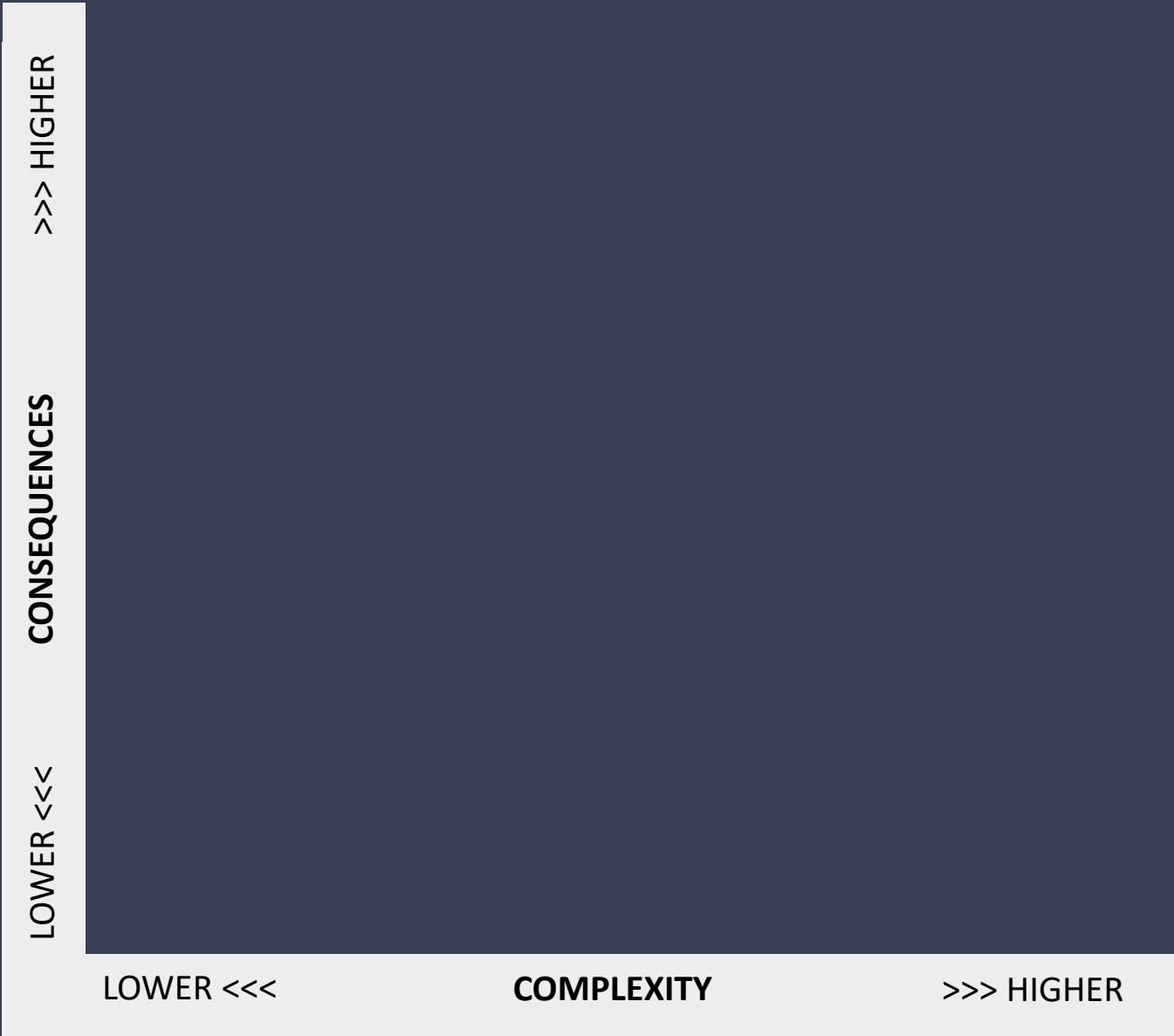
04

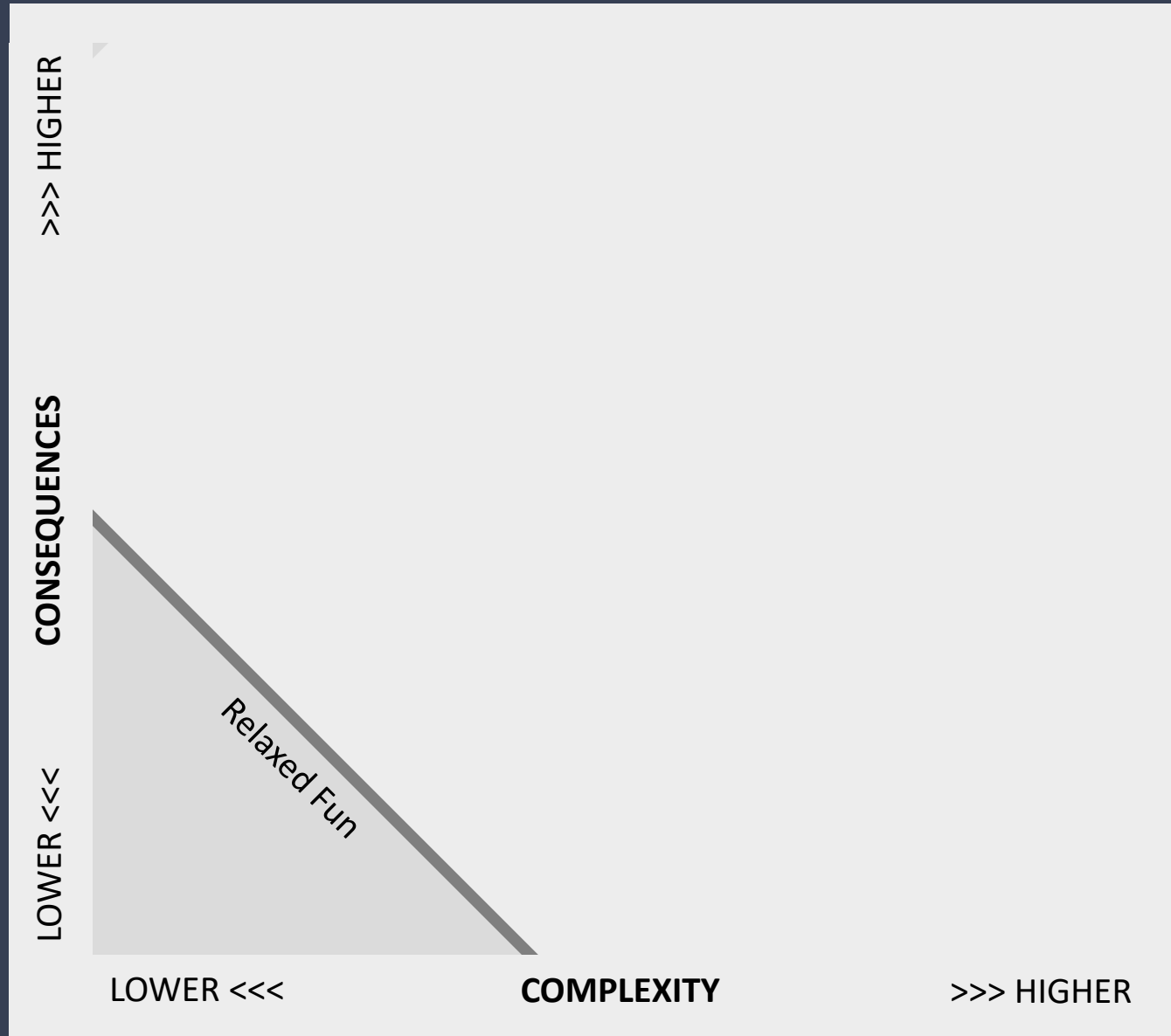
Hope

LOWER <<<

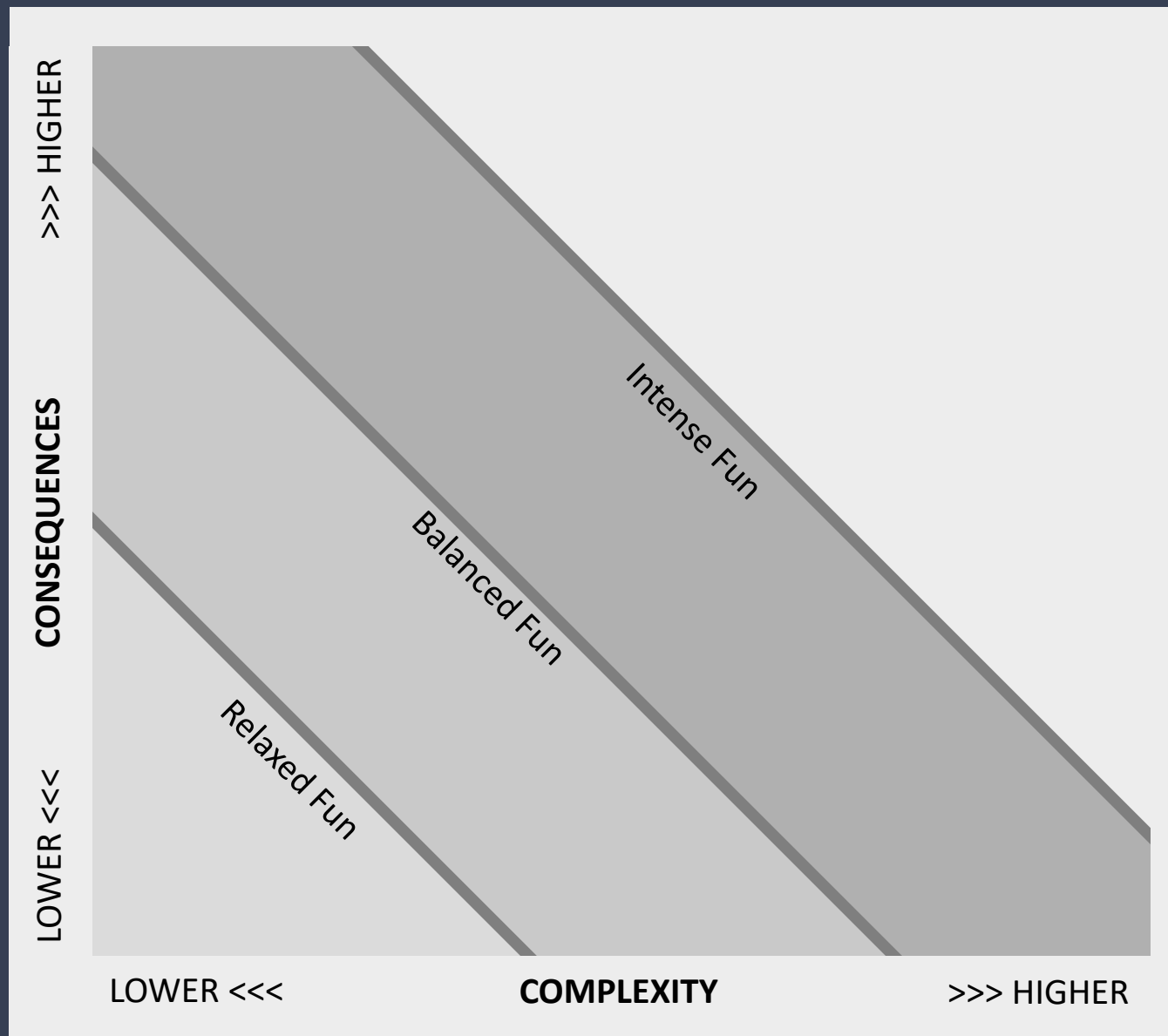
COMPLEXITY

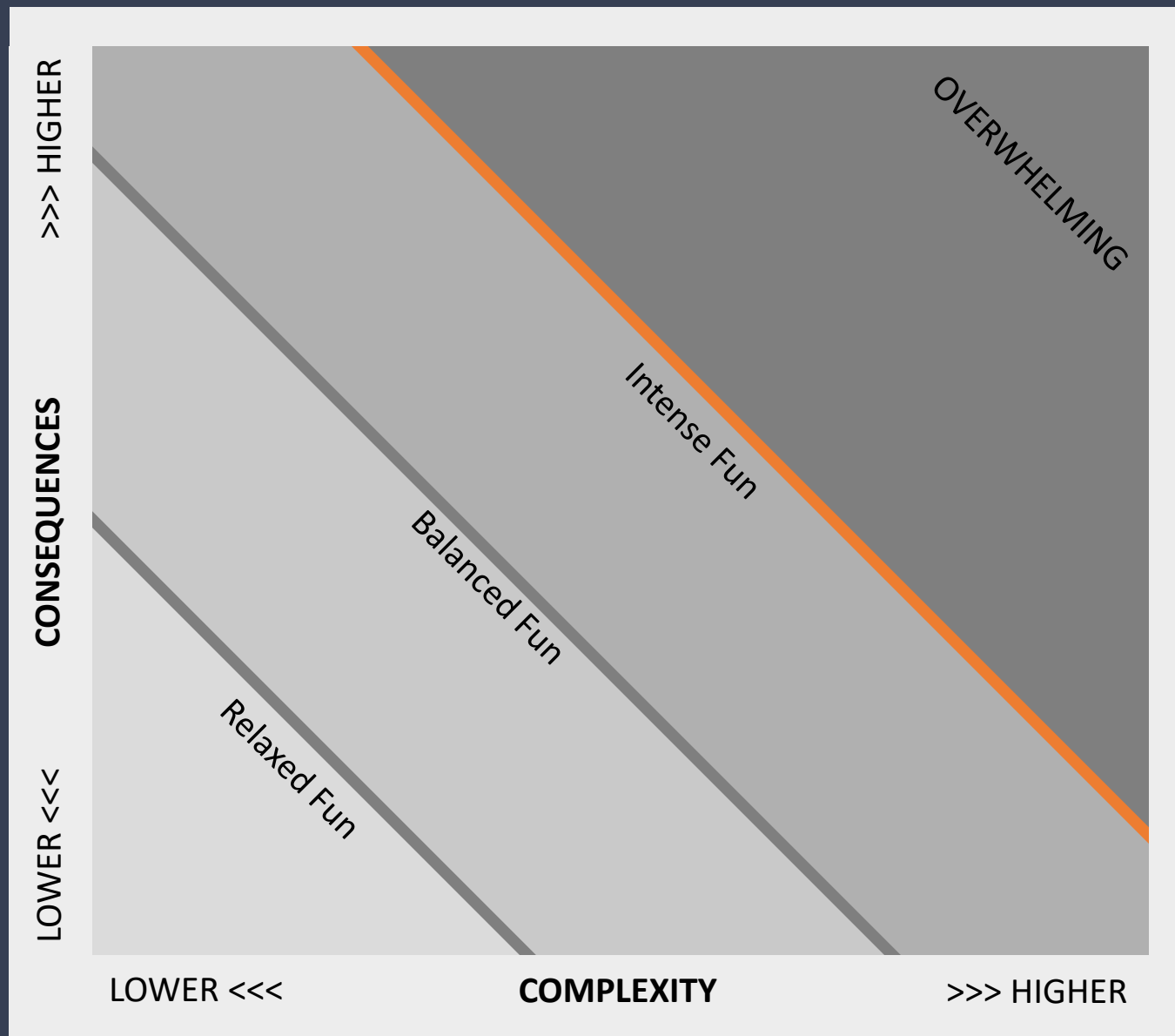
>>> HIGHER

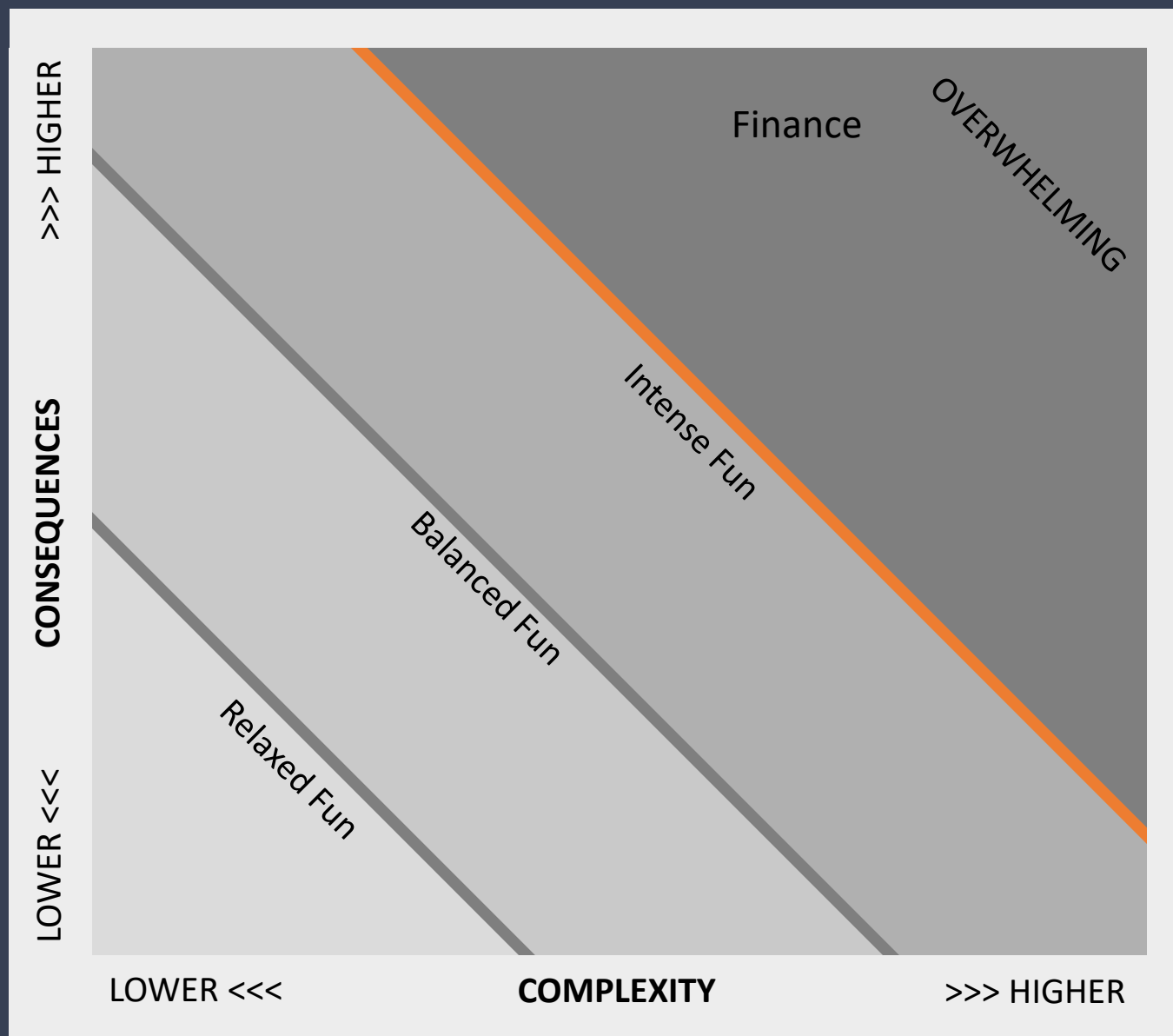


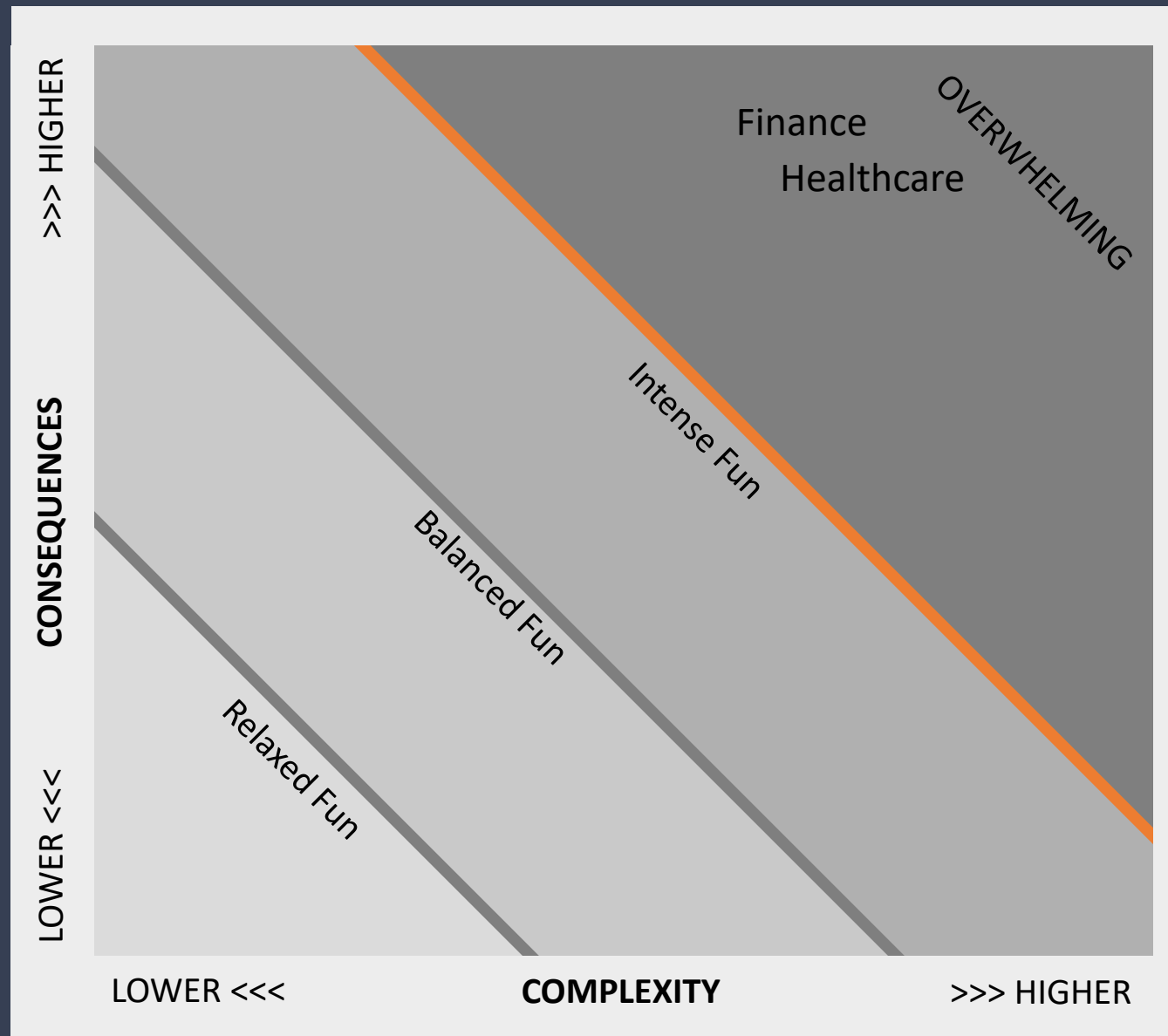


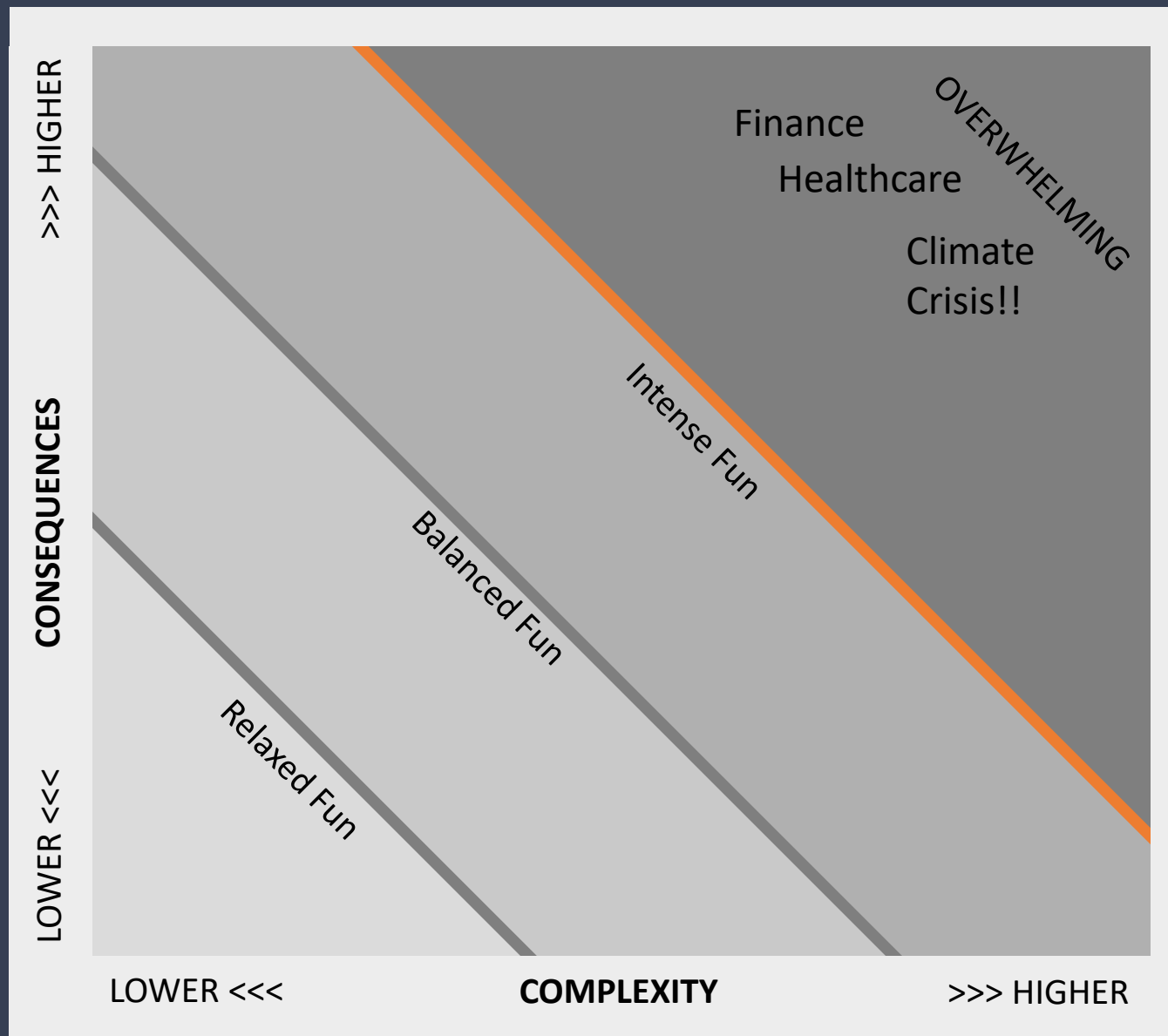


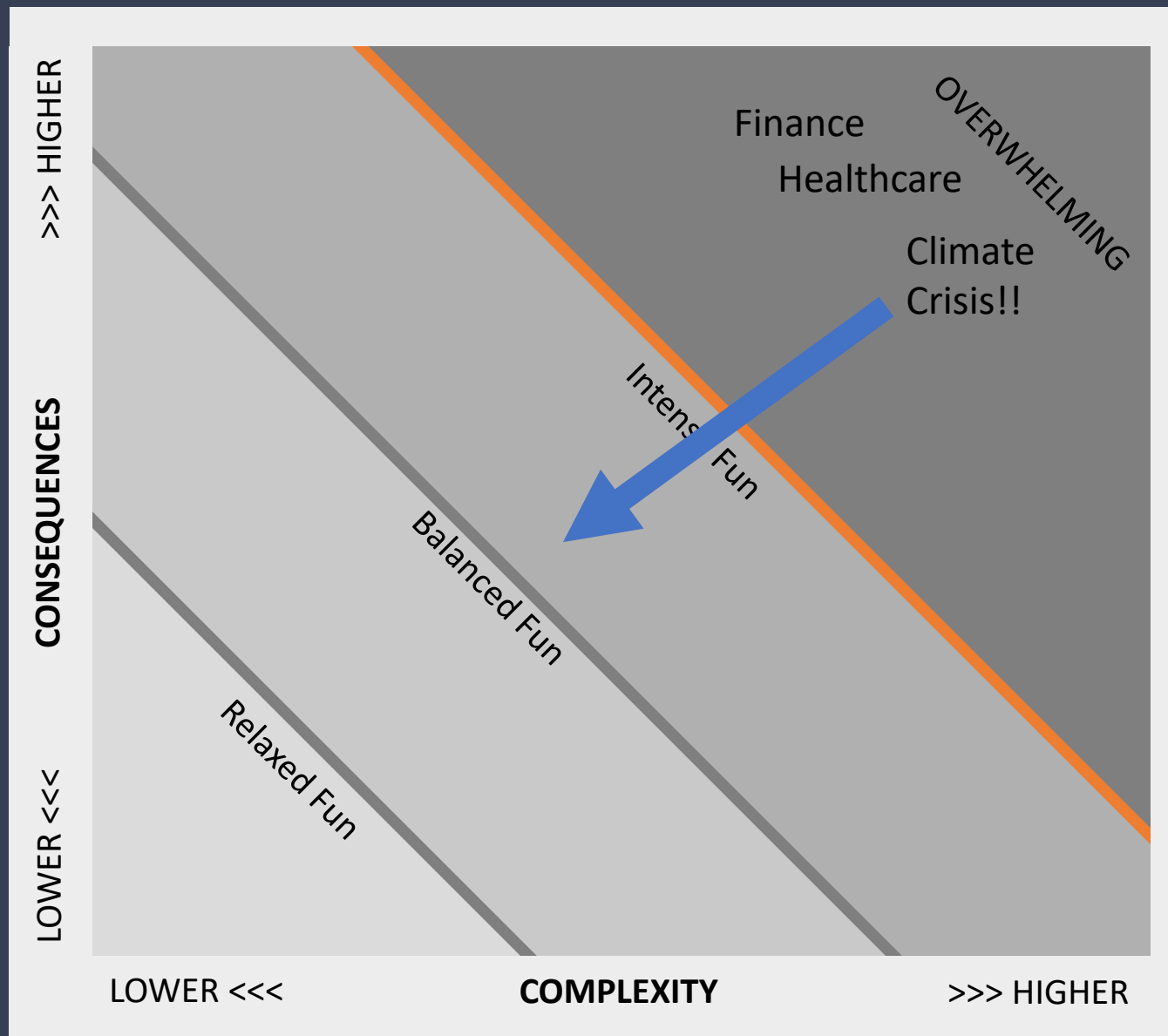


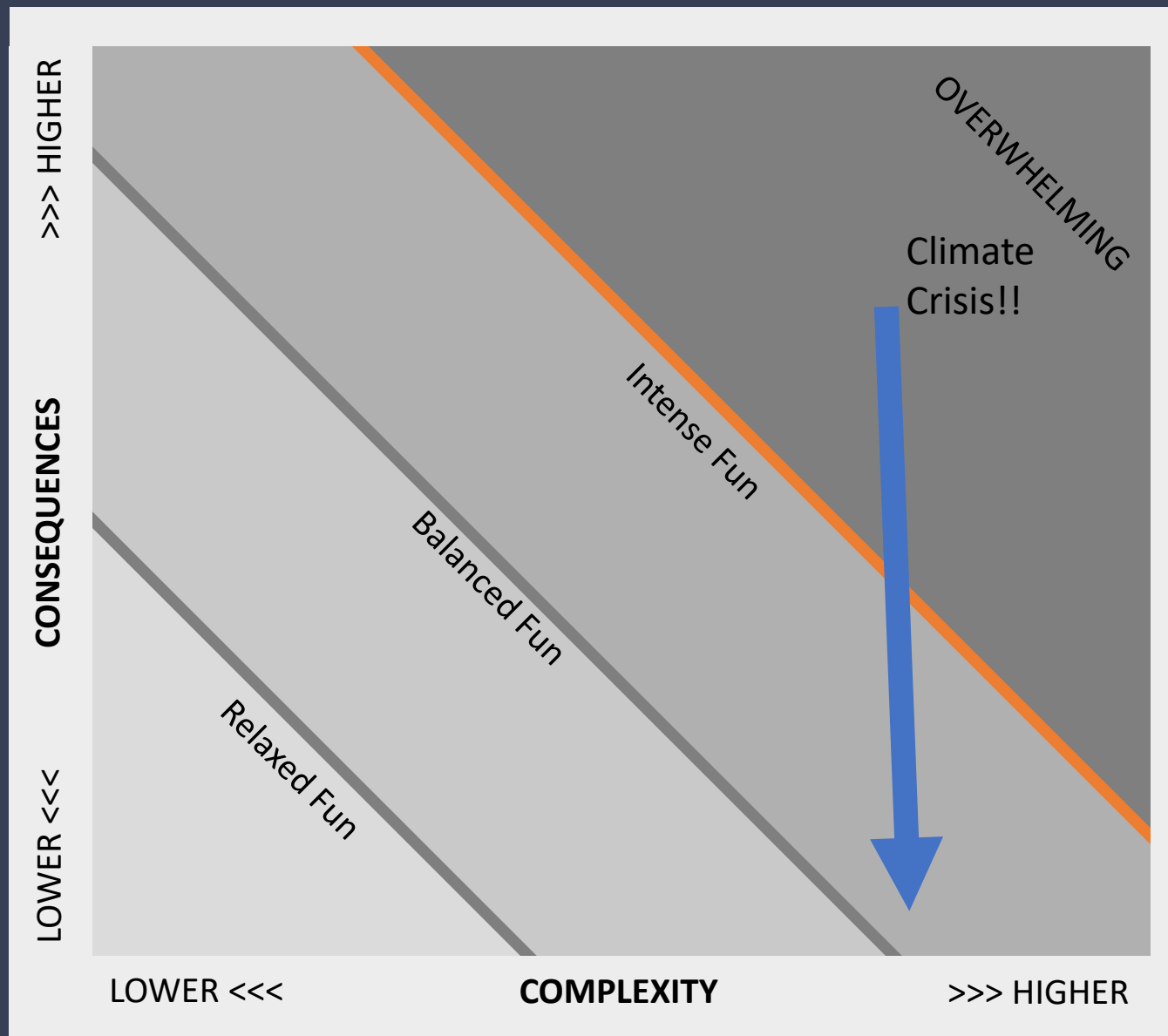


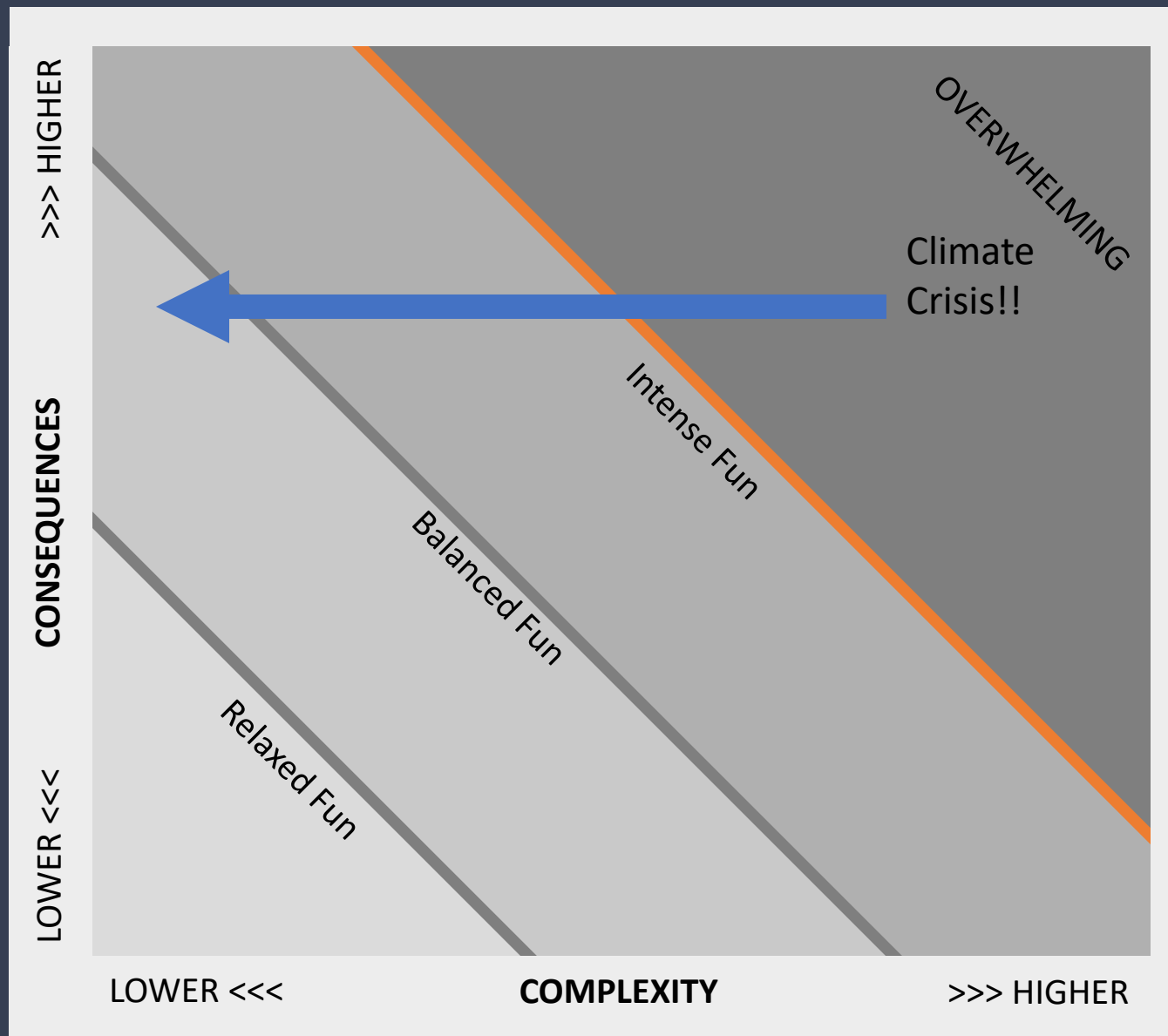


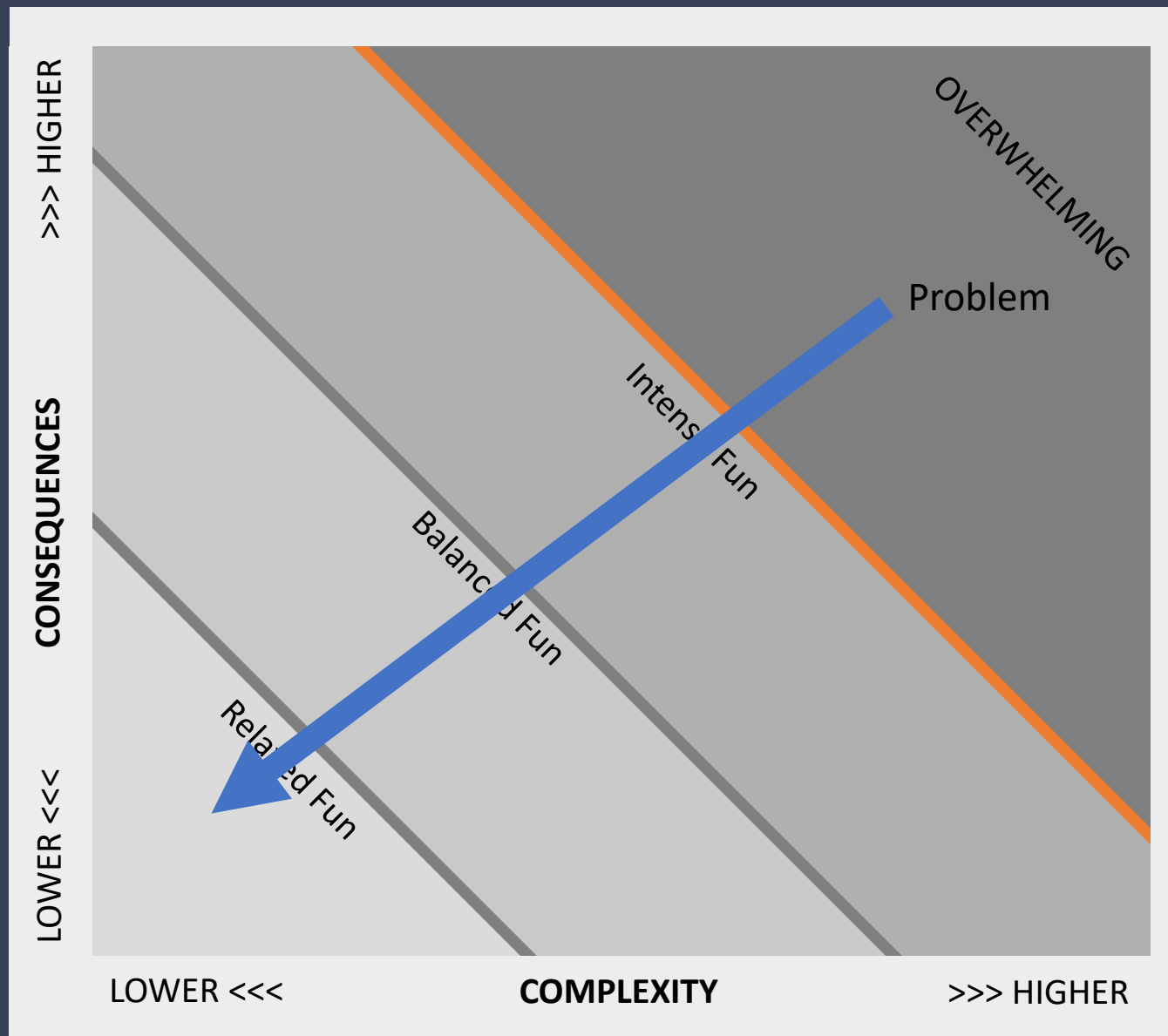












Connect Emotionally: Review

- Avoid overwhelming feelings
- Consider complexity and consequences in your designs
- Foster hope, optimism, confidence

Consider:

- How might you tune the complexity and consequences in your game to keep players feeling empowered rather than overwhelmed, even as you guide them to face large, potentially scary real-world issues?

CONSIDERATIONS

FRAMING

CONTEXT

TRUST

EMOTIONS

5

CONSIDERATIONS



IDENTITY



MARVEL STUDIOS

AVENGERS

ENDGAME

Disneyland
Park

Baby Names

Get the lowdown on thousands of baby names right here – including meanings, origins, namesakes, celebrity babies, and Disney characters who share the same name. Not sure where to start? Browse our full collection of baby girl names and baby boy names, or check out some Disney-themed baby name articles to help get you inspired.

Browse By Origin

African

Arabic

Celtic

Chinese

Czech

Danish

Dutch

Egyptian

English

Finnish

French

German

Greek

Hebrew

Hungarian

Browse By Theme

Animal

Bird

Color

Contemporary

Flower

Fruit

Green

Literary

Nature

Place

O'REILLY®

BADASS

Making
Users
Awesome

KATHY SIERRA

















Shape identity in games:

1. Connect in-game identity to a real-world identity
2. Actual gameplay experience ties to real-world identity behaviors
3. Provide the player's in-game identity with a real-world identity



TraKid BECOME AN EXPLORER

**ADVENTURE IS CLOSER THAN
YOU THINK**

Earn the trust of your favorite animals
and learn their secrets! With the TraKid
Explorer Band, kids become heroic
explorers on this family-friendly
expedition through the zoo.



CONSIDERATIONS

FRAMING






CONTEXT

TRUST

EMOTIONS

IDENTITY

CONSIDER:

-  1. What are you trying to say?
-  2. Who are you trying to say this to?
-  3. Why should they trust you?
-  4. How do you want them to feel?
-  5. Who might they become?

You are transformational game
designers too.

THANK YOU!

NEXT PART

IN PRACTICE
PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Agree on:

- Your specific topic
- Your theory of change
- Your impact statement (How will players be different)
- How your game will bring about that impact.

YOUR PITCH WORKSHEET

Topic

Genre

Audience

Title

Impact Statement

Related Systems /Features

Player Impact Stories

Summary



March 20-24, 2023
San Francisco, CA



Adrienne Arsht-
Rockefeller Foundation
Resilience Center



Atlantic Council



igda[®]
Climate SIG

Use Your **Game Developer Superpowers** to Fight the **Climate Crisis**

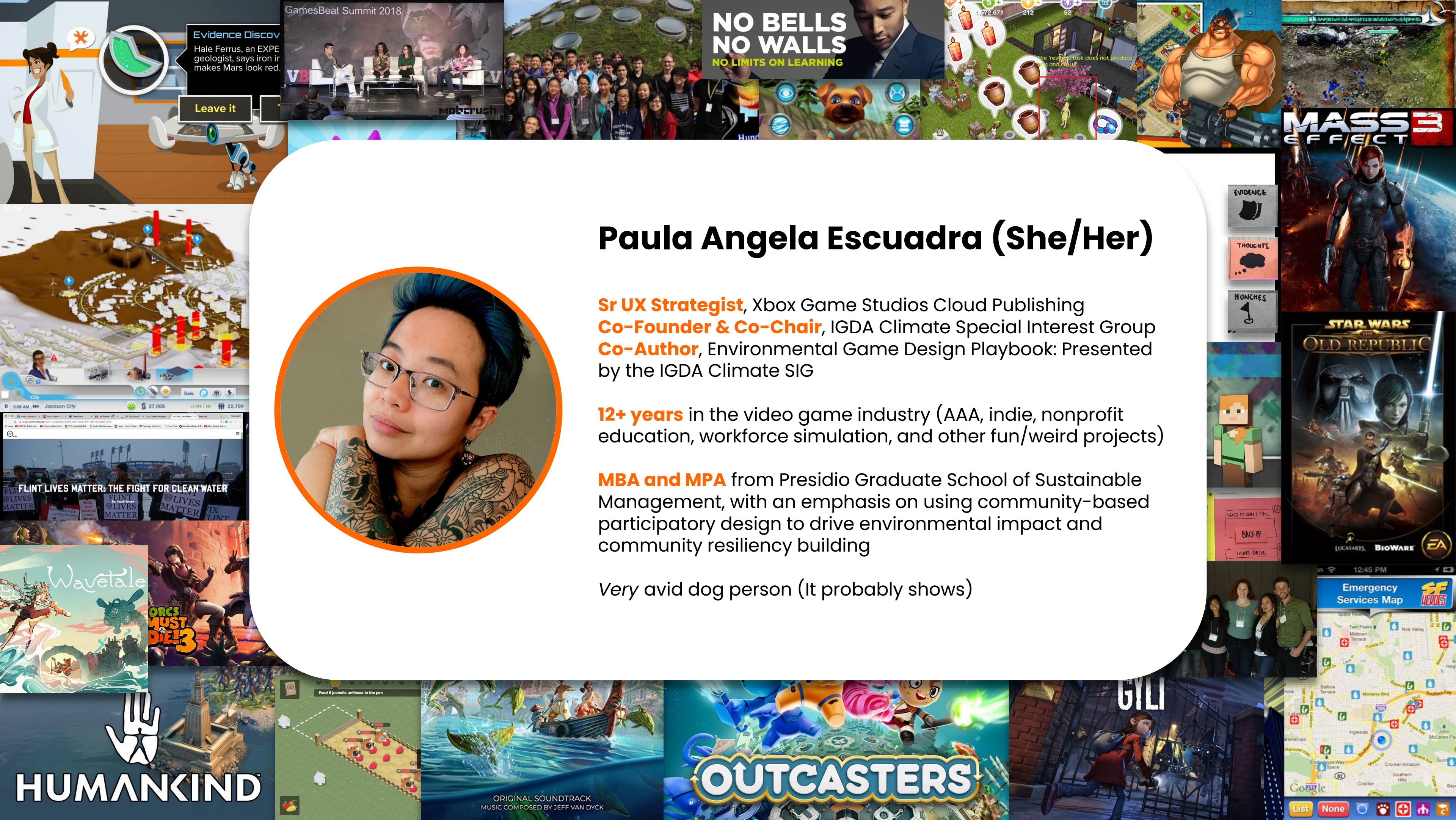
5

LET'S BUILD A
THEORY OF ACTION

Paula ESCUADRA

#GDC23





***“All models are wrong,
but some are useful.”***

George E. P. Box

Appreciation

(Fun, Interest in Continued Play, Advocacy)

Appreciation

(Fun, Interest in Continued Play, Advocacy)

Player Needs Fulfillment

(Emotional Responses, Psychological Needs)

Core Gameplay Elements

(What, Why, How)

Prior Knowledge

(Existing Mental Models,
Genre/Mechanics-Based Heuristics)

Appreciation
(Fun, Interest in Continued Play, Advocacy)

Player Needs Fulfillment
(Emotional Responses, Psychological Needs)

Core Gameplay Elements
(What, Why, How)

Prior Knowledge
(Existing Mental Models,
Genre/Mechanics-Based Heuristics)



*What are players' existing expectations
about how a given system works?*

Appreciation
(Fun, Interest in Continued Play, Advocacy)

Player Needs Fulfillment
(Emotional Responses, Psychological Needs)

Core Gameplay Elements
(What, Why, How)

Prior Knowledge
(Existing Mental Models,
Genre/Mechanics-Based Heuristics)

*What are players' **existing expectations** about how a given system works?*

*Do players understand **what** to do, **why** they have to do it, and **how** they can do it – all in a way they **connect** with and can **access**?*

Appreciation
(Fun, Interest in Continued Play, Advocacy)

Player Needs Fulfillment
(Emotional Responses, Psychological Needs)

Core Gameplay Elements
(What, Why, How)

Prior Knowledge
(Existing Mental Models,
Genre/Mechanics-Based Heuristics)

What do they
experience?

What are players' existing **expectations**
about how a given system works?

Do players
understand **what** to
do, **why** they have to
do it, and **how** they
can do it – all in a
way they **connect**
with and can **access**?

Appreciation
(Fun, Interest in Continued Play, Advocacy)

Player Needs Fulfillment
(Emotional Responses, Psychological Needs)

Core Gameplay Elements
(What, Why, How)

Prior Knowledge
(Existing Mental Models,
Genre/Mechanics-Based Heuristics)

What are players' existing **expectations**
about how a given system works?

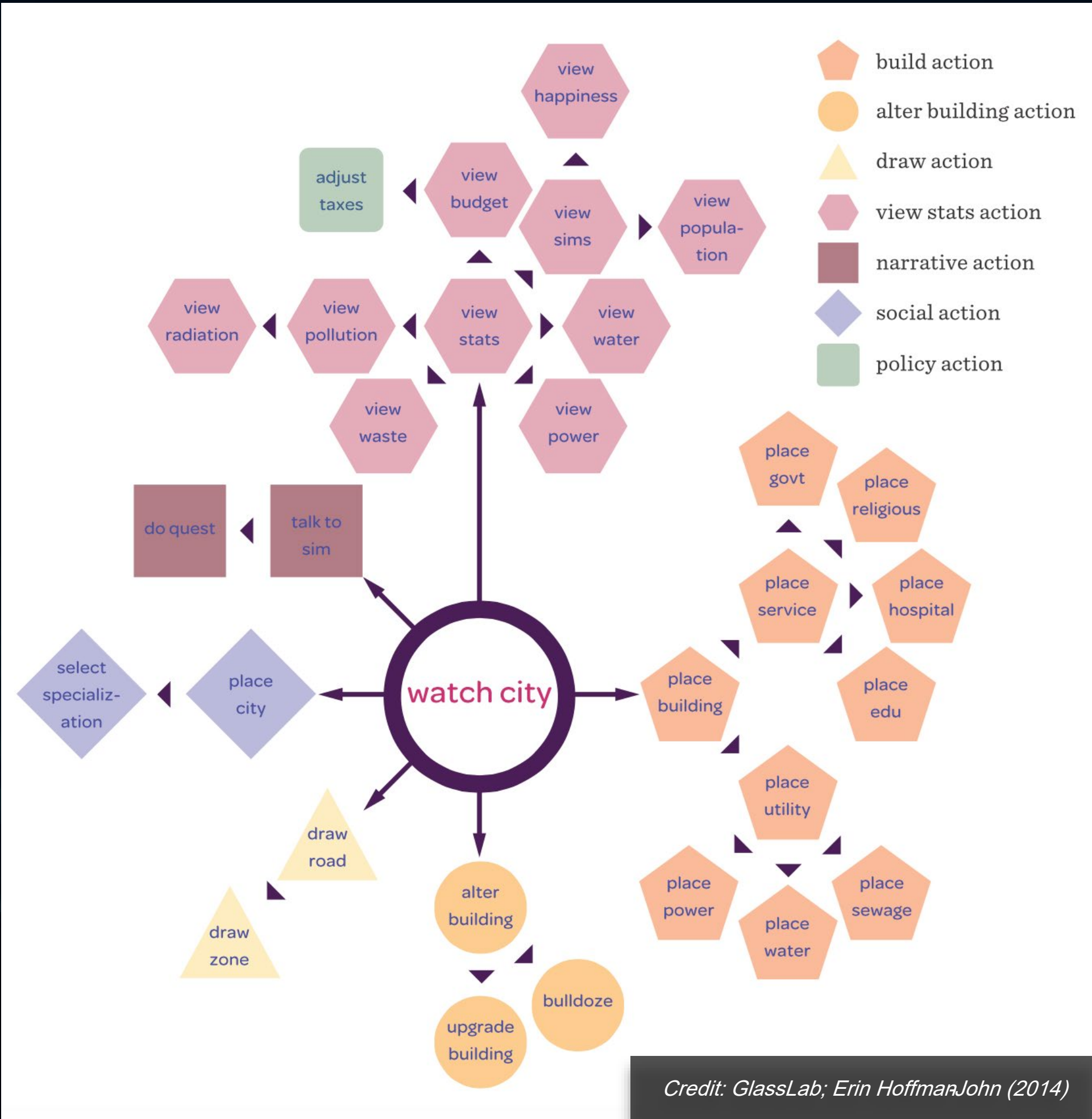
Do players feel it is
worthwhile?



Do players
understand **what** to
do, **why** they have to
do it, and **how** they
can do it – all in a
way they **connect**
with and can **access**?

What do they
experience?





Credit: GlassLab; Erin HoffmanJohn (2014)

📌 Pinned Tweet



🌲 Jack - blm 🌲
@failuagain



1. Exactly 5 years ago today, I visited my first fire lookout after playing Firewatch by [@camposanto](#). 5 years later, I've visited 239 different towers and am preparing for a career in conservation. I'm going to talk about how this game changed my life.



8:57 PM · Feb 28, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

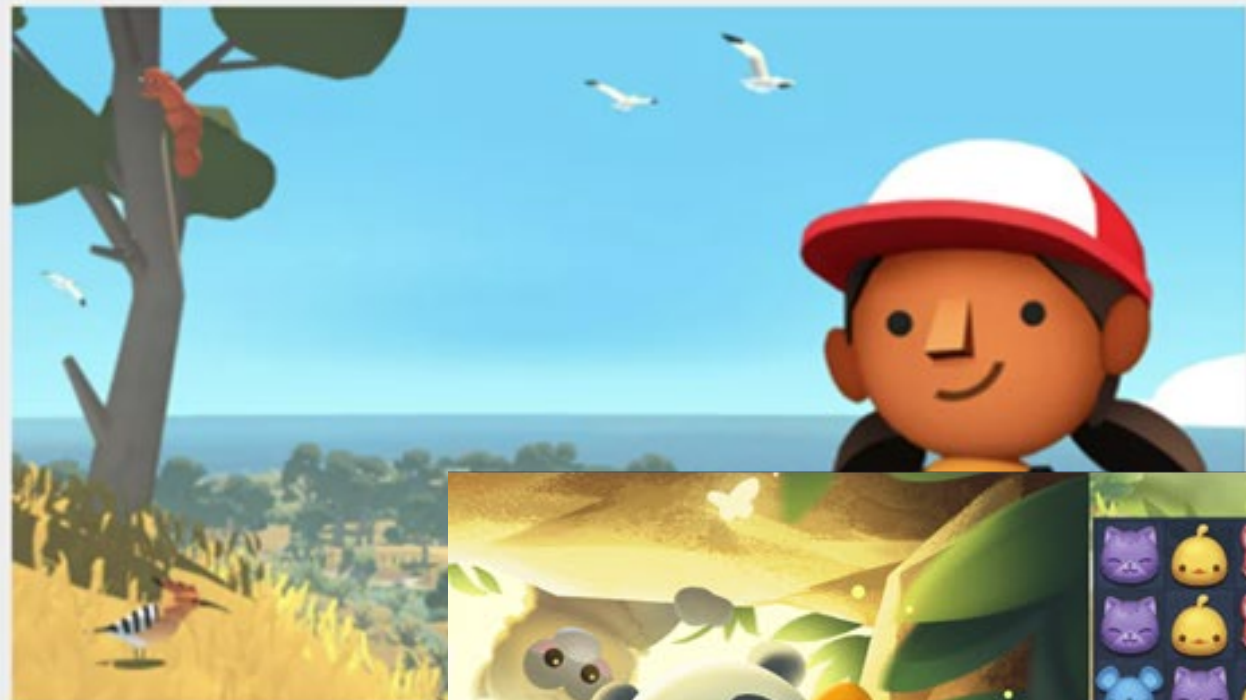
2,730 Retweets 436 Quote Tweets 20.9K Likes

Alba: A Wildlife Adventure dev reveals one million trees have been planted thanks to game sales

By [Hirun Cryer](#) published December 03, 2021

And they're not even done yet

[f](#) [t](#) [p](#) [r](#) [m](#) | [COMMENTS](#)



(Image credit: UsTwo Games)



[BACK TO CATALOG](#)



SUSTAINABILITY CITY

BY MINECRAFT → [SEE MORE BY MINECRAFT](#)

★★★★☆ 55745 Ratings

Unlock this item for FREE

Explore a sustainable neighborhood in Minecraft! Investigate sustainable water treatment, responsible forestry, clean power generation, energy efficiency, waste disposal, and recycling. Visit each area to learn more about the path to sustainability!

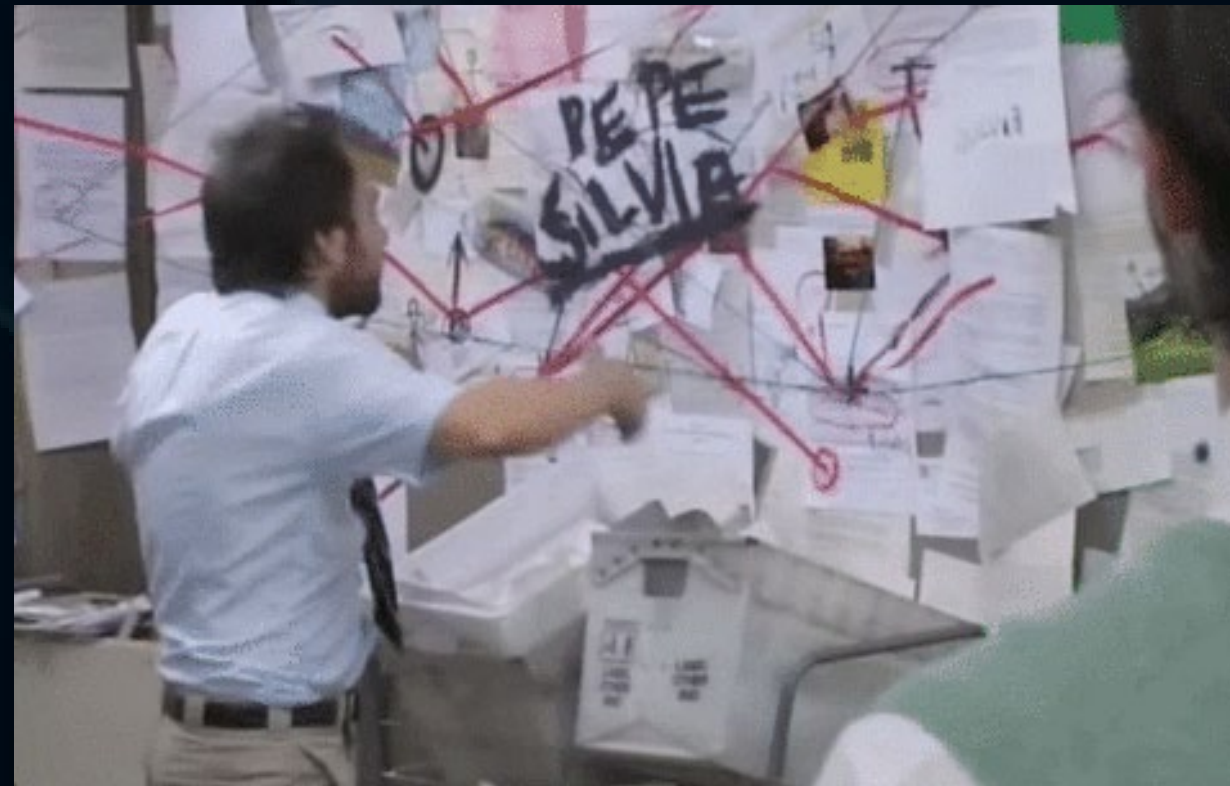
Open up the Marketplace on your Minecrafting device and download.

[GET THIS ITEM](#)

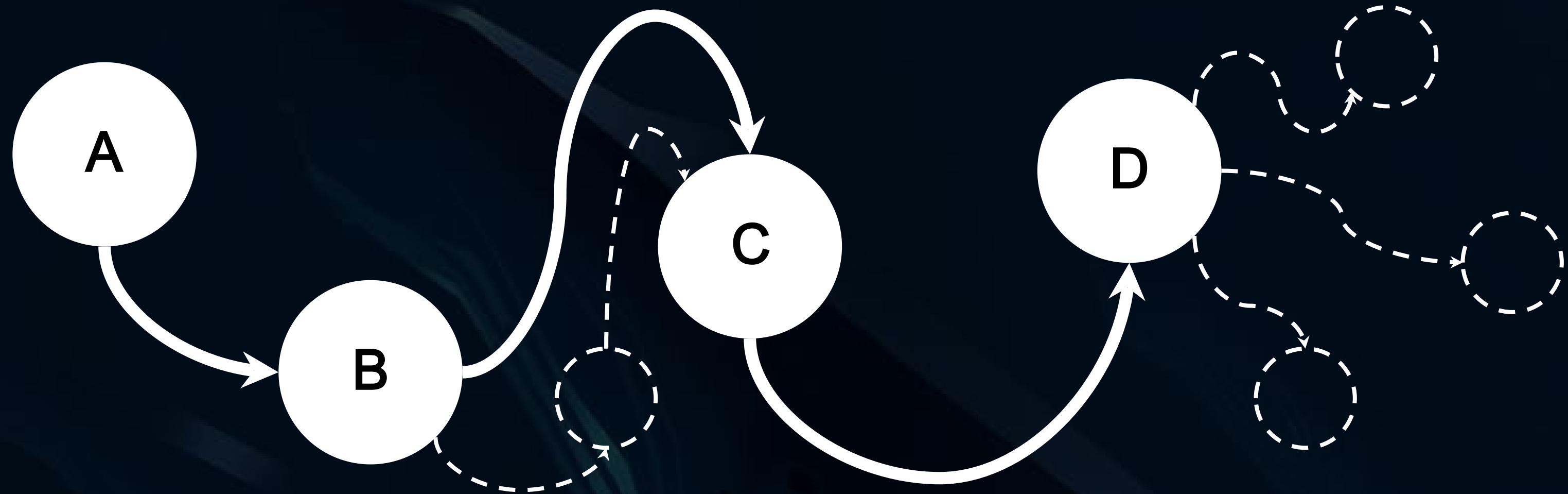
[Don't own the game yet?](#)

[Get it for Windows 10 or your mobile device.](#)





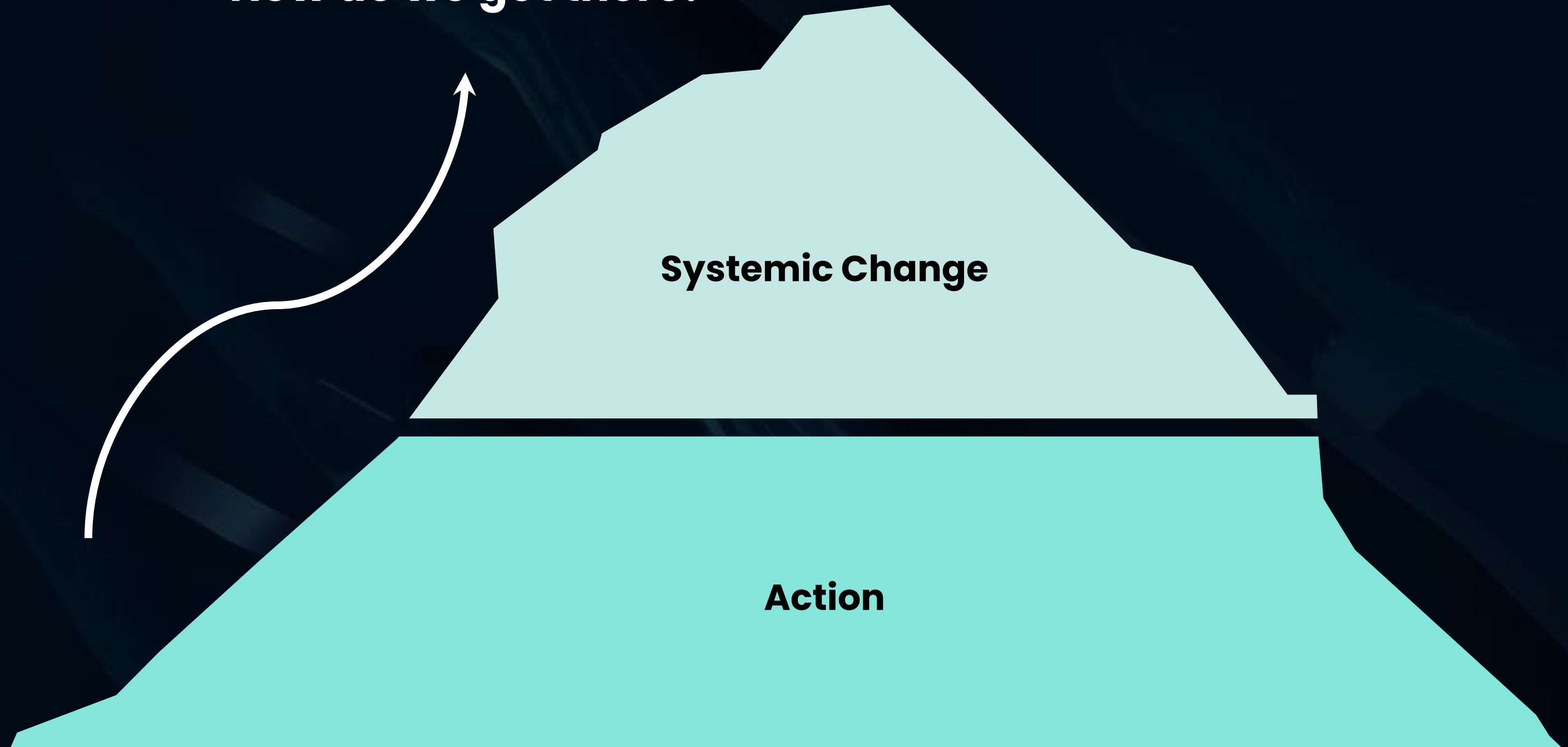
What is the path to ***behavioral transference?***



Let's build a *theory of action* .

- A working, living, ever-evolving set of hypotheses about which activities will generate what desired outcomes , and why they occur .
- A mental roadmap that shows the relationships between our interventions (gameplay) and intended results (real-world outcomes).

**Individual and collective action
can create systemic change.
How do we get there?**



**The process of
transformative change
often feels like a black box.**

**Systemic
Change**

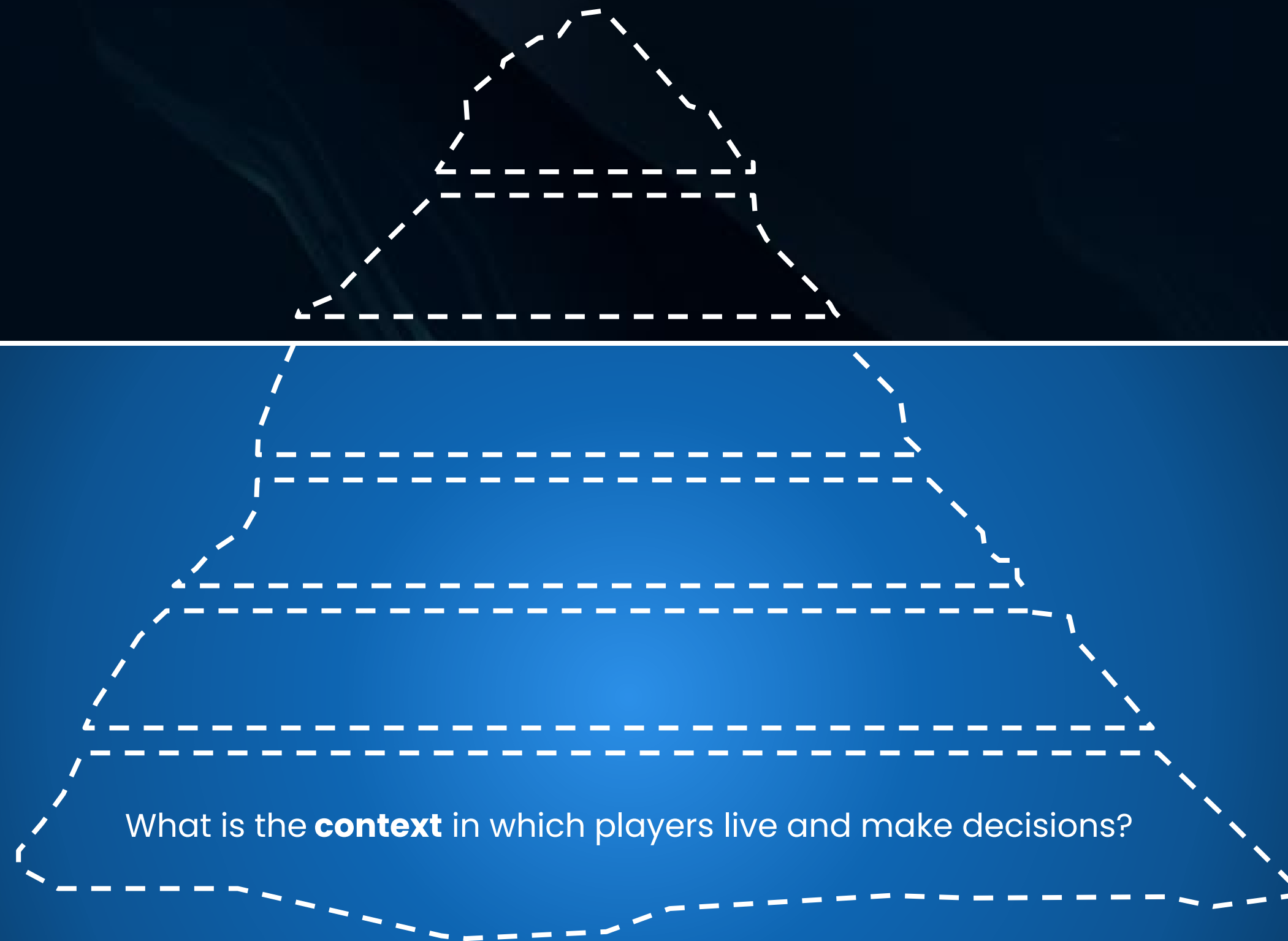
Action

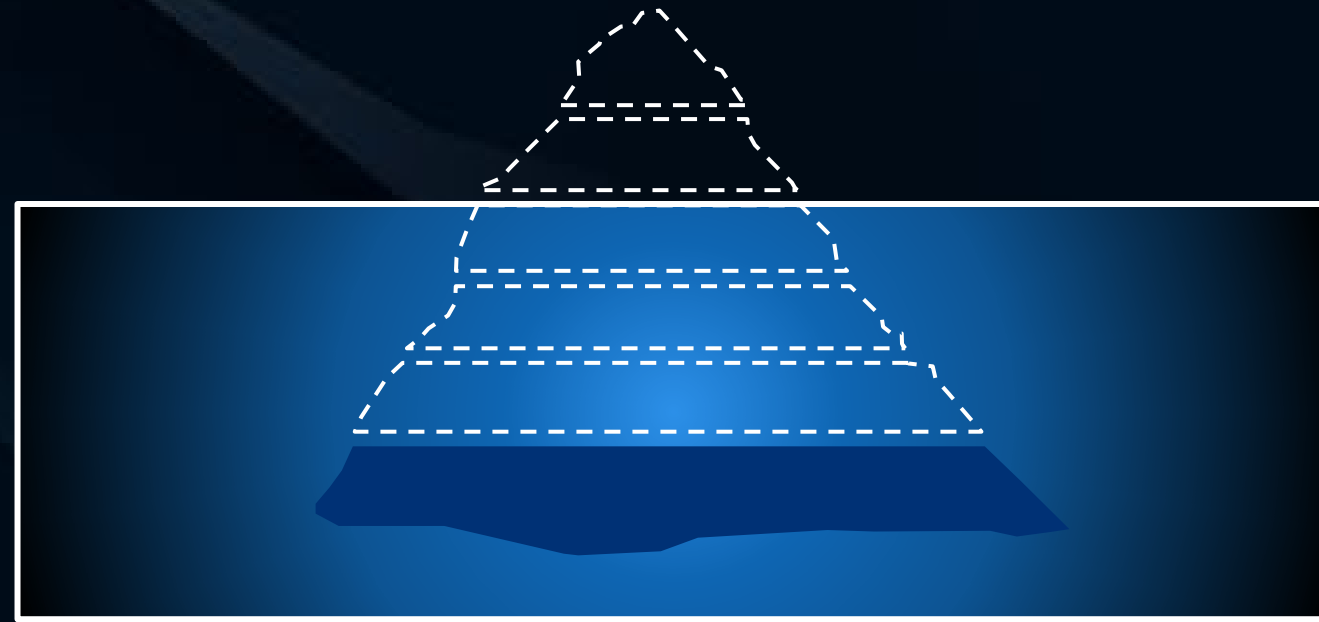
?



What can a theory of action look like?





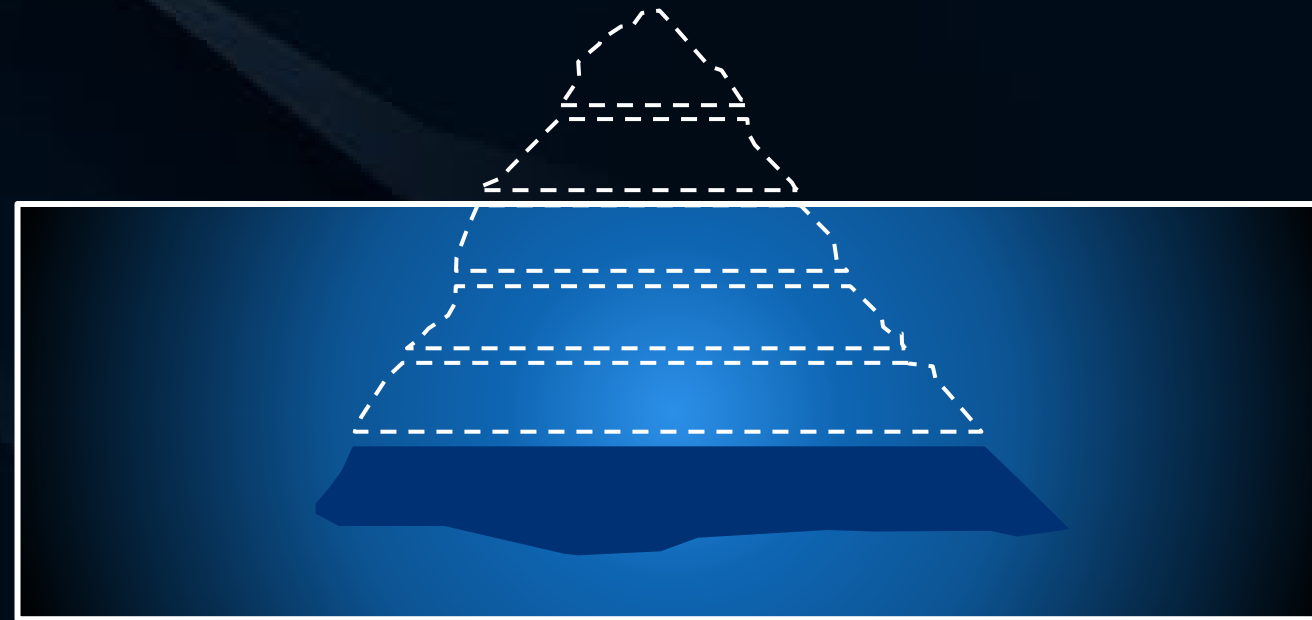


Define your baseline.

To build a strong foundation upon which climate action can eventually occur...

Understand the **context** in which your players will be experiencing your game.

What may they need for your game's climate action(s) to be physically, cognitively, and psychologically **accessible**?



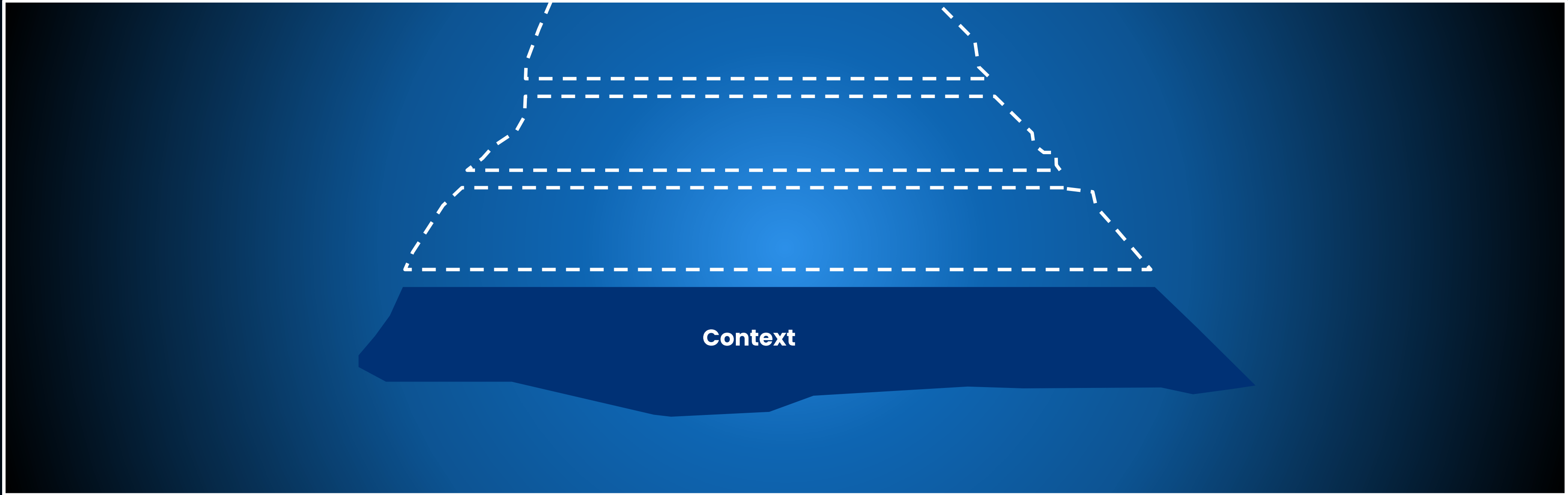
BREAKOUT (15 MINUTES)

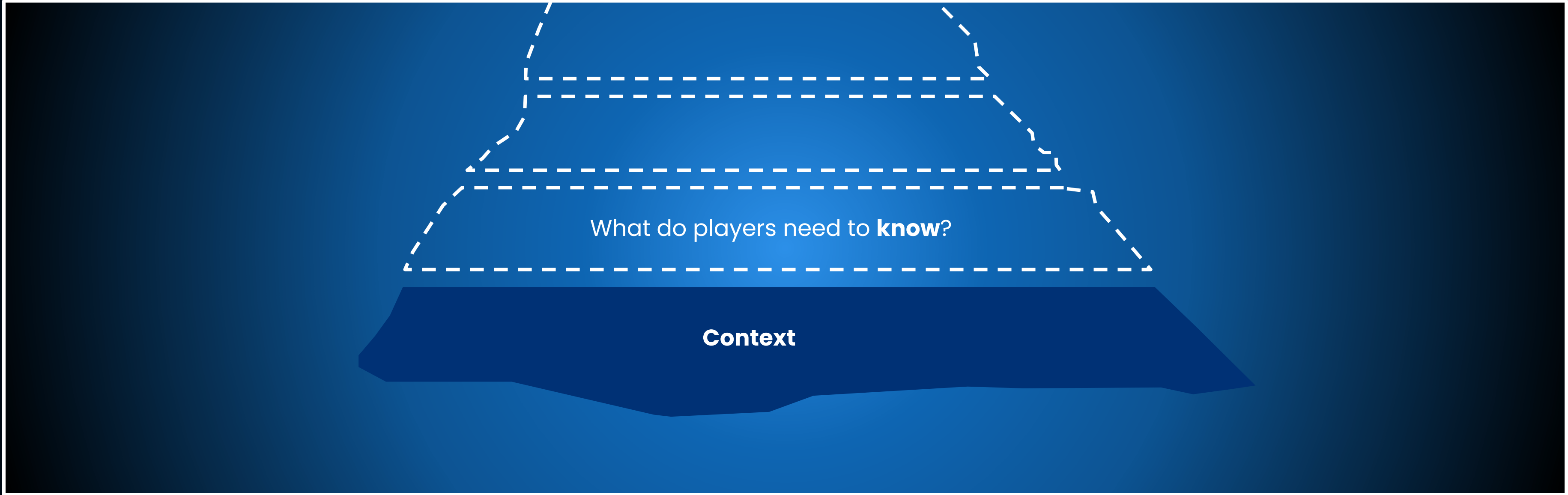
**WHAT MOTIVATES YOUR PLAYERS TO
GO INTO (AND STAY IN) YOUR GAME?**

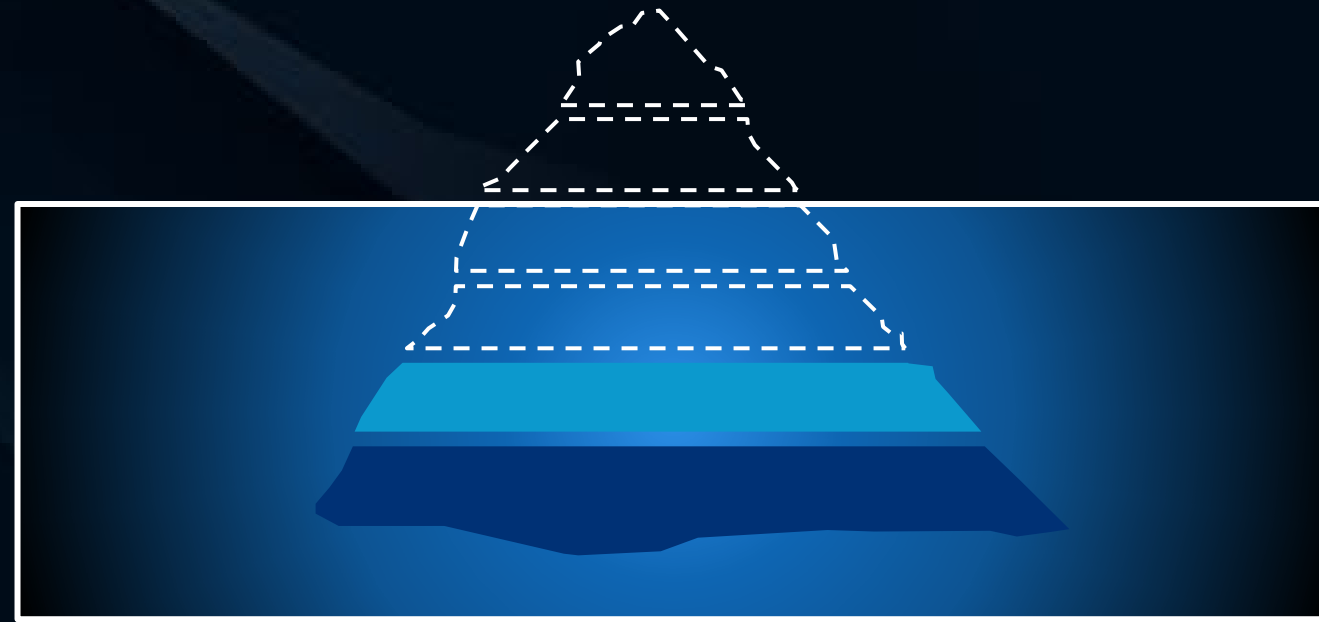
(Tip: Start with the core loop first!)

**WHERE MAY THEY LIVE?
WHAT MAY THEY HAVE ACCESS TO?**

**WHAT MAY CREATE BARRIERS TO
REAL-WORLD ACTION
DURING OR AFTER GAMEPLAY?**



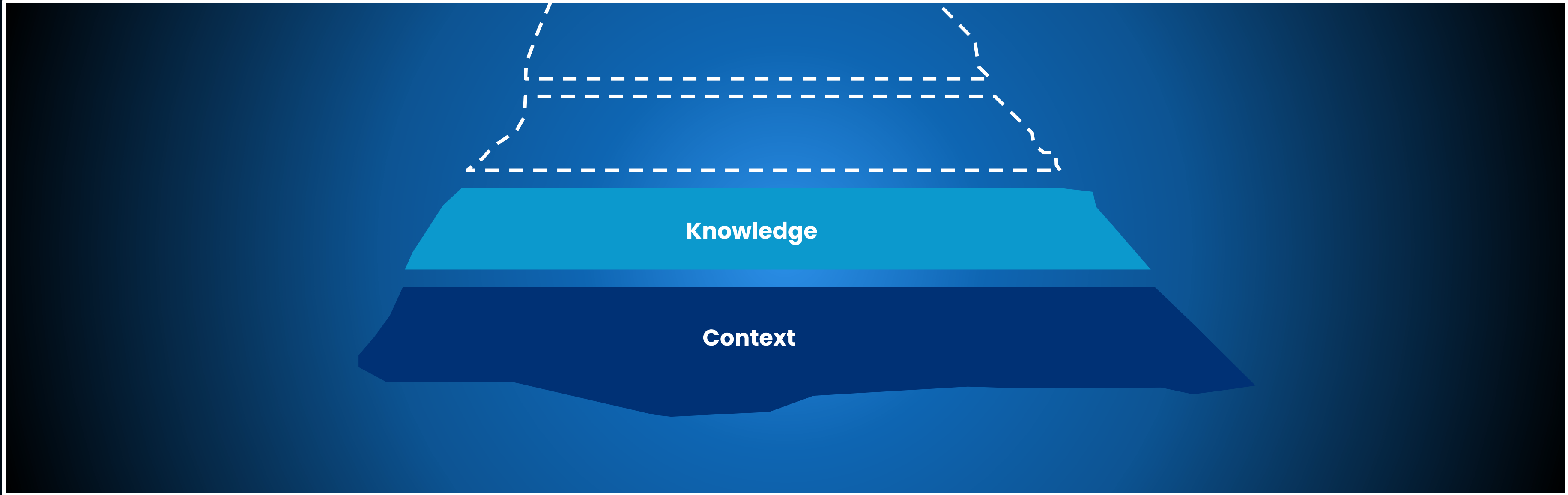




*"I am **aware** the climate crisis is real.
I **understand** why it is happening.
I **know** how to help."*

Build knowledge.

Once aware a problem exists, we can gain **knowledge** to understand how it was created, what factors contributed to its current condition, and what solutions are.





What do players need to **feel**?

Knowledge

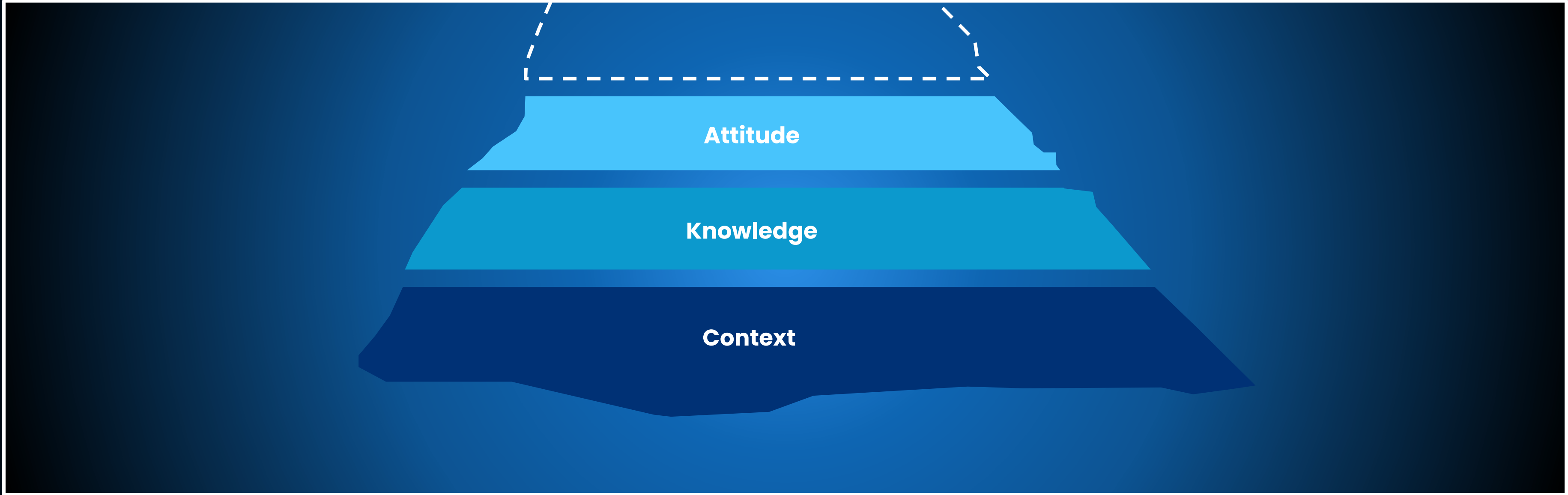
Context

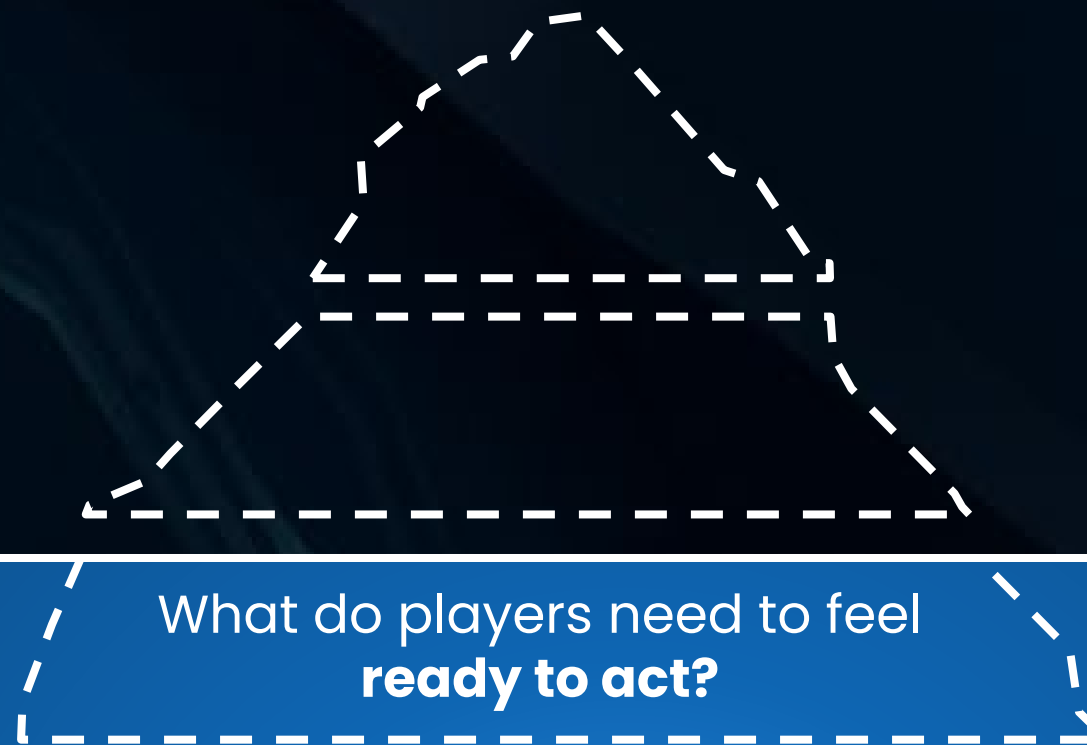


**Inspire a pro-
environmental
attitude.**

*"I **care** about this problem and feel it is
important to me personally."*

How we **define our relationship** with our
environment and communities plays a
direct role in our willingness to act.

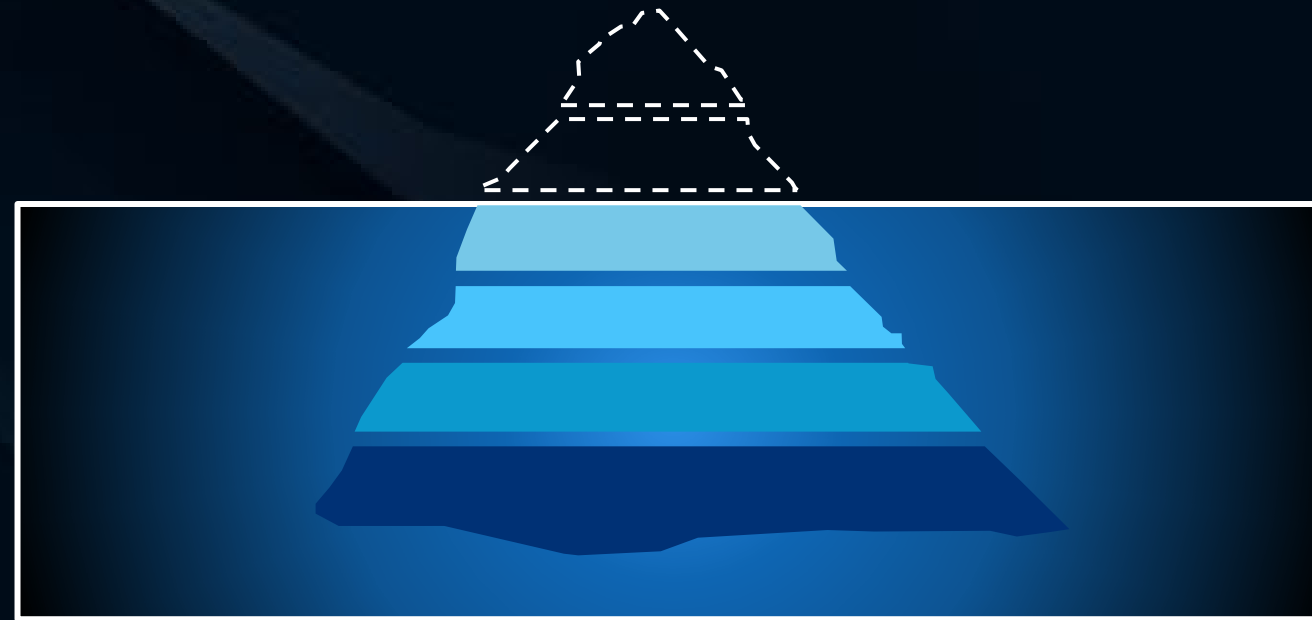




Attitude

Knowledge

Context



*"I have **confidence** in **knowing** what I/we **can do** to solve a specific problem."*

Support self-efficacy.

With knowledge, we can develop an understanding of how to **effectively act upon** an opportunity that can help solve the problem(s) we see.



Self-Efficacy

Attitude

Knowledge

Context

**“If you want to tackle sustainability,
you need more than science and tech
because we’ve had those for years.**

**What we really need to do is
change hearts and minds.”**

Maria Sayans
ustwo games’ CEO

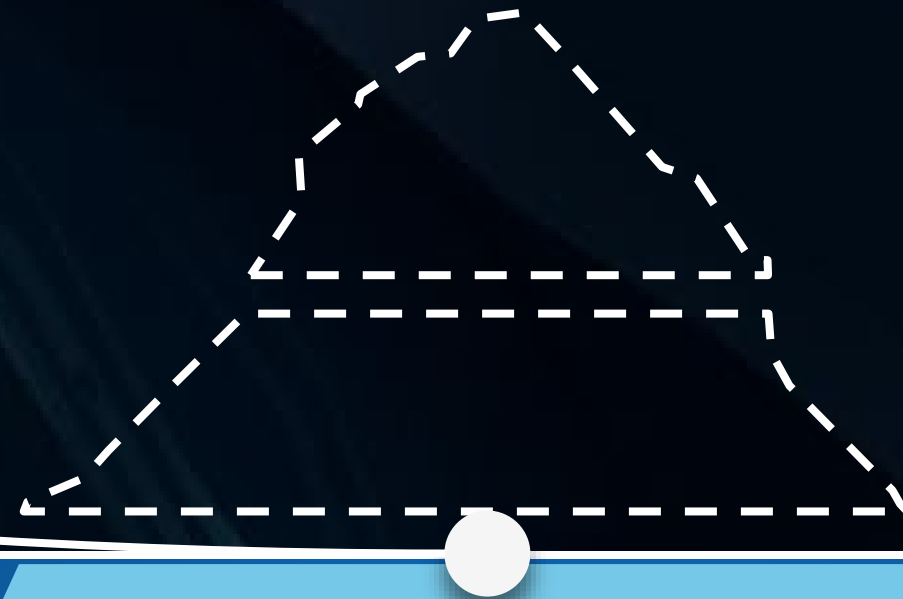


**Build (and sustain)
hope.**

*"I am **willing to persevere** because it is **important enough** to do so."*

With knowledge, we can develop an understanding of how to **effectively act upon** an opportunity that can help solve the problem(s) we see.

Hope!

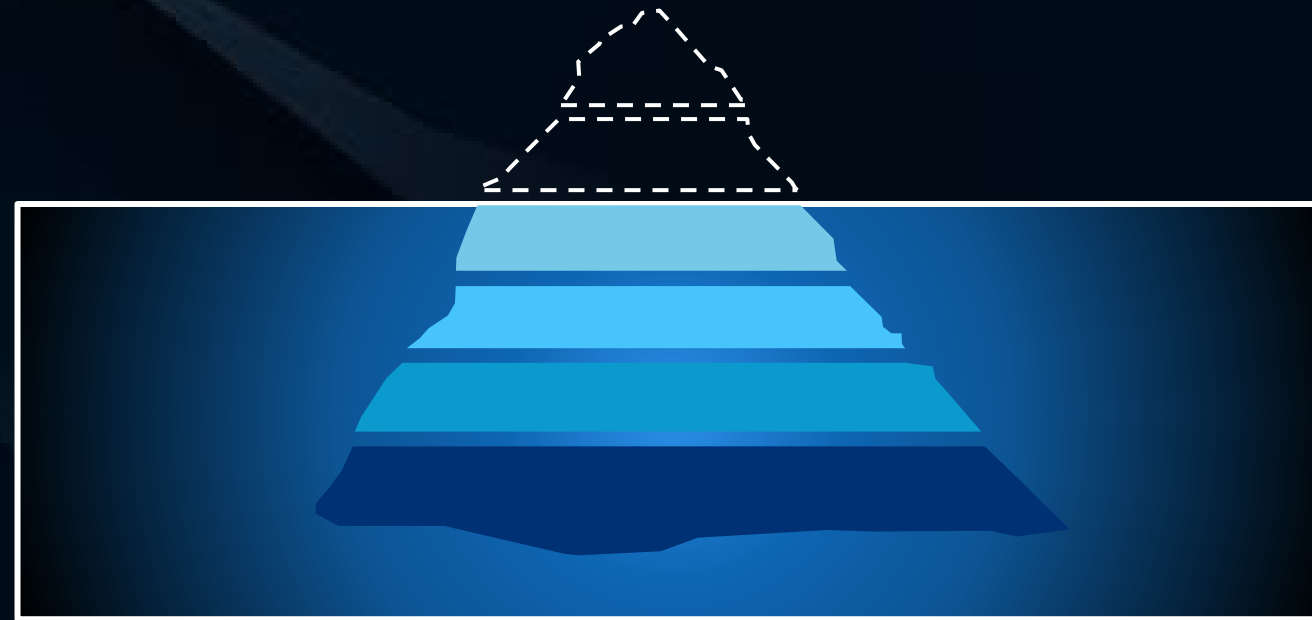


Self-Efficacy

Attitude

Knowledge

Context



BREAKOUT (20 MINUTES)

If we wanted players to come away with 1-2 key pieces of knowledge about the problem or opportunity, what may that be?

What emotions or feelings may the game create?

What skill(s) may players come away with as a result of the knowledge and experience they gain?

How may these game elements prepare players for real-world action?

Hope!

How can players **act** -
individually or **together**?

Self-Efficacy

Attitude

Knowledge

Context



*"I am now acting as an **individual** or as **part of a community** to **act in service** of people and the environment."*

Unlock action.

Players **act upon their intention** and/or the **call(s) to action** that a game or initiative provides. Players may engage their peer groups and/or communities to join and/or start their own climate journeys.

Hope!



Action



Self-Efficacy

Attitude

Knowledge

Context

Hope!

What would it look like
to have a solution be adopted
in such a way that it becomes
normalized and **expected**?

Action

Self-Efficacy

Attitude

Knowledge

Context





*“The solution is **proven valid, normalized, and implemented-at-scale** in our community, organization, and/or industry.”*

Drive systemic change.

Broader communities and industries can drive **systemic adoption** of sustainable practices and pro-environmental behaviors. Over the long-term, these behaviors become **normative** parts of our sociocultural systems.

Appreciation
(Fun, Interest in Continued Play, Advocacy)

Player Needs Fulfillment
(Emotional Responses, Psychological Needs)

Core Gameplay Elements
(What, Why, How)

Prior Knowledge
(Existing Mental Models,
Genre/Mechanics-Based Heuristics)

What are players' existing **expectations**
about how a given system works?

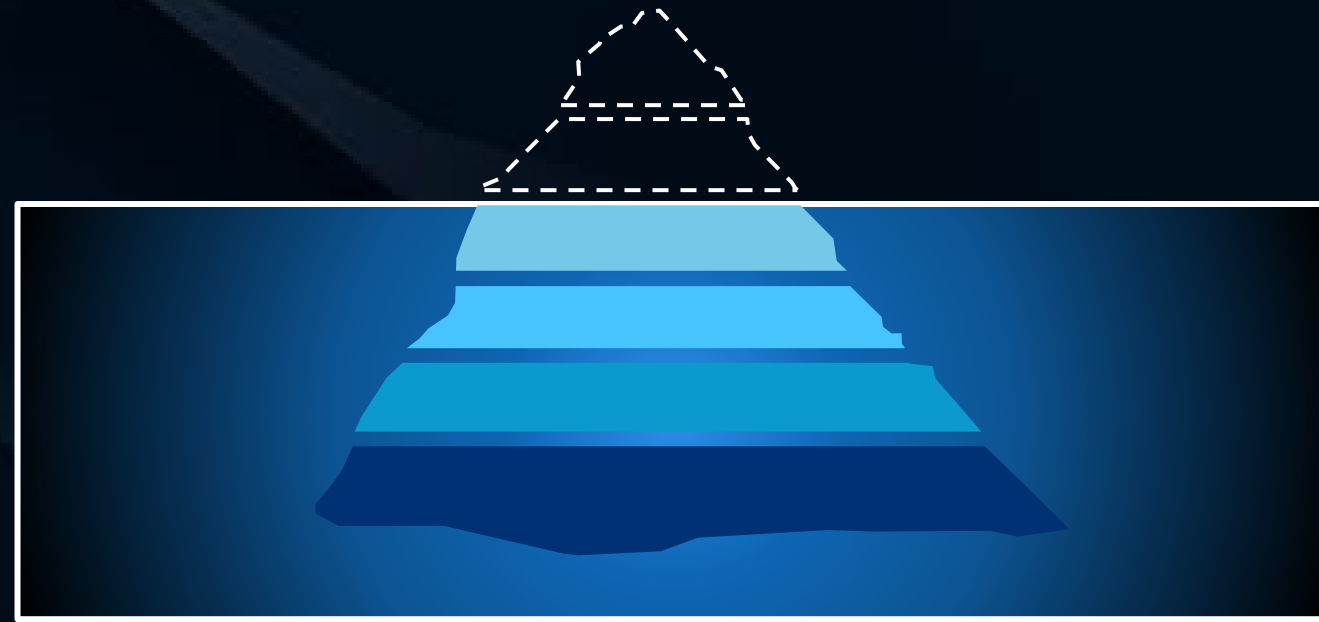
Do players feel it is
worthwhile?



Do players
understand **what** to
do, **why** they have to
do it, and **how** they
can do it – all in a
way they **connect**
with and can **access**?

What do they
experience?





CONSTRUCT YOUR HYPOTHESIS (15 MINUTES)

*"[Game] is a [genre] focused on [goal].
By [core loop], players unlock [outcome]."*

We have a
theory of action!

Hope!

How, then, do we
measure progress?

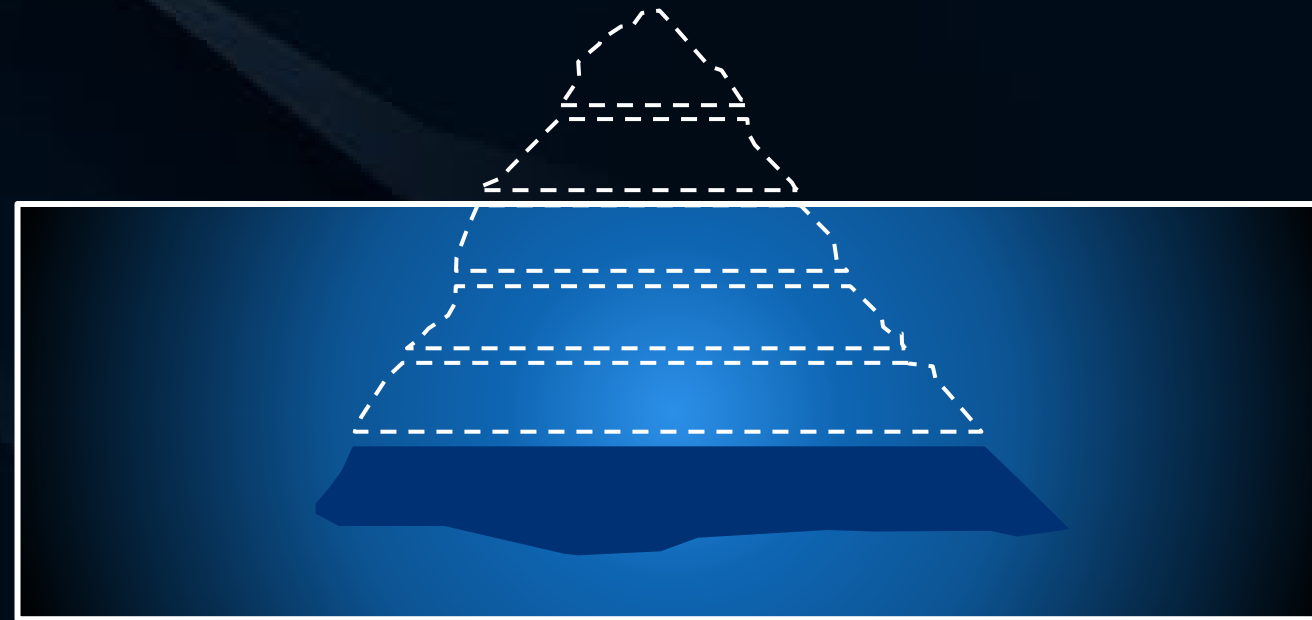


PLEASE NOTE:

Due to time constraints, this will not be a deep dive into research methodologies and mixed method best practices.

Please leverage this as a **starting point** for discussion on what questions are on your mind, and what you may eventually want to measure.

If you're interested in a deeper conversation ,
please feel free to chat with us in the breakout or after this session! :)



Define your baseline

If you were to explain climate change to a friend, what would you tell them?

Build awareness

(Pre/Post) If you were to explain whether fossil fuels do or do not contribute to climate change to a friend, how would you do so?

Build knowledge

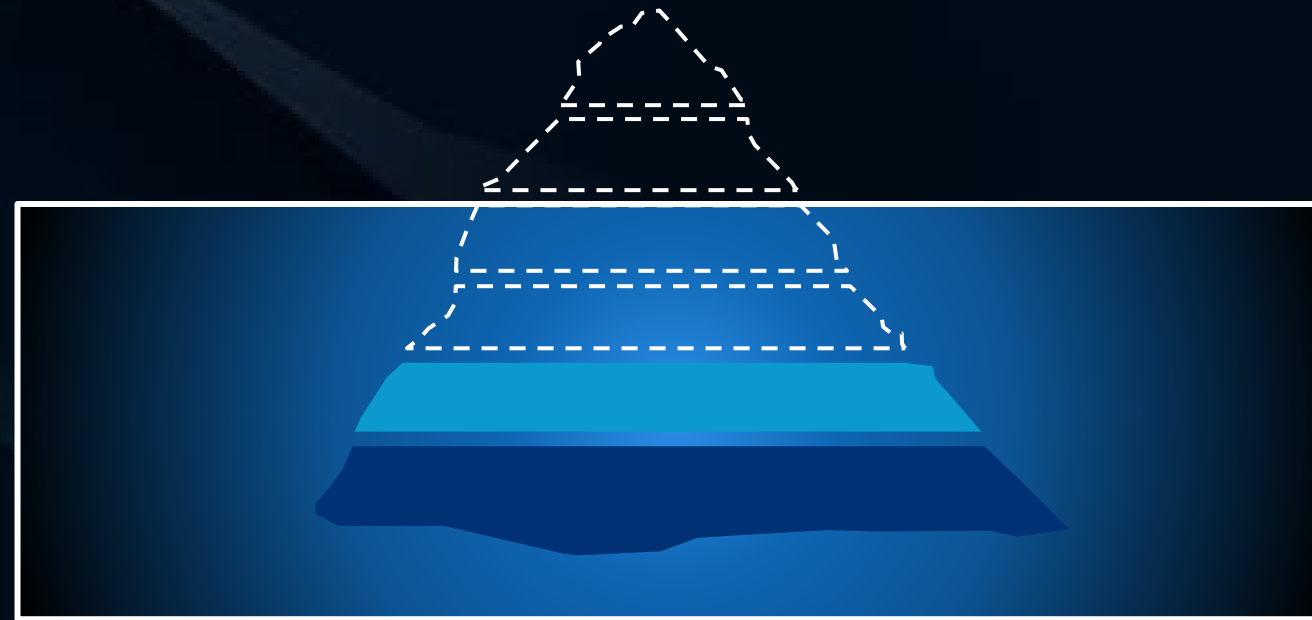
(Post-Test) Please describe how pollution does or does not affect how and where you live, in your own words.

Support self- efficacy

Please rate your response to the following statement: *"I have a clear idea of an action I can take to help solve [problem]."*

Spark action

In-Game Actions
Volunteer Sign-Ups
Pledges to Call Policymakers



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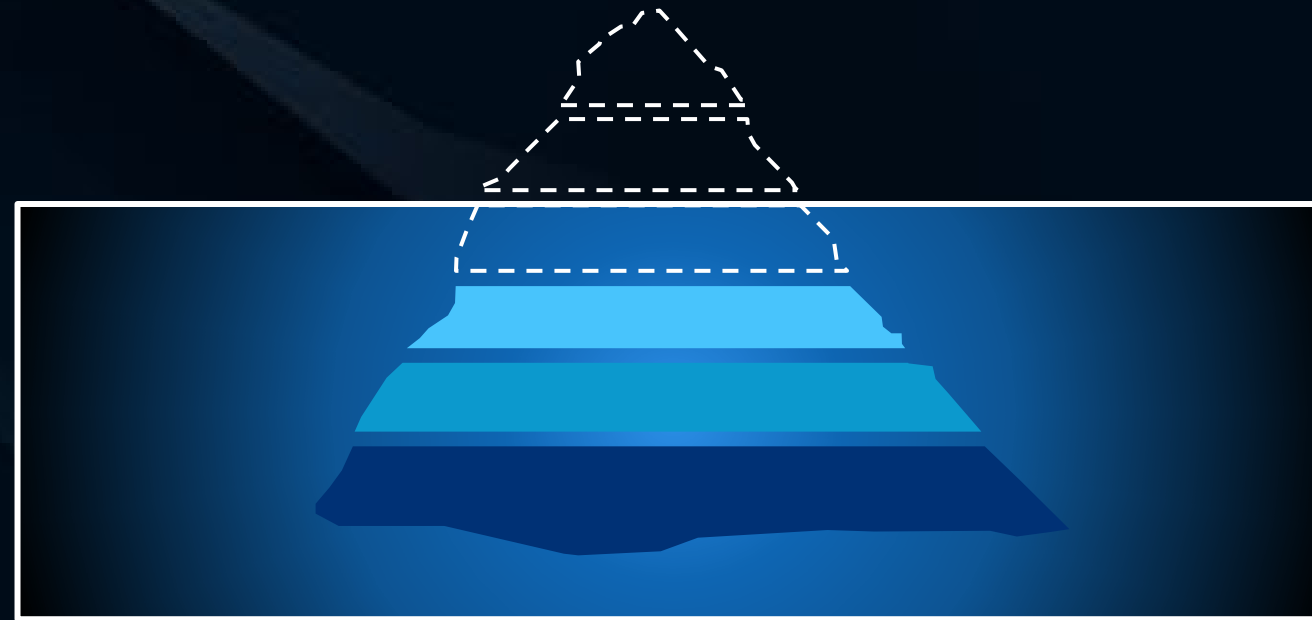
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Volunteer Sign-Ups
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Build knowledge

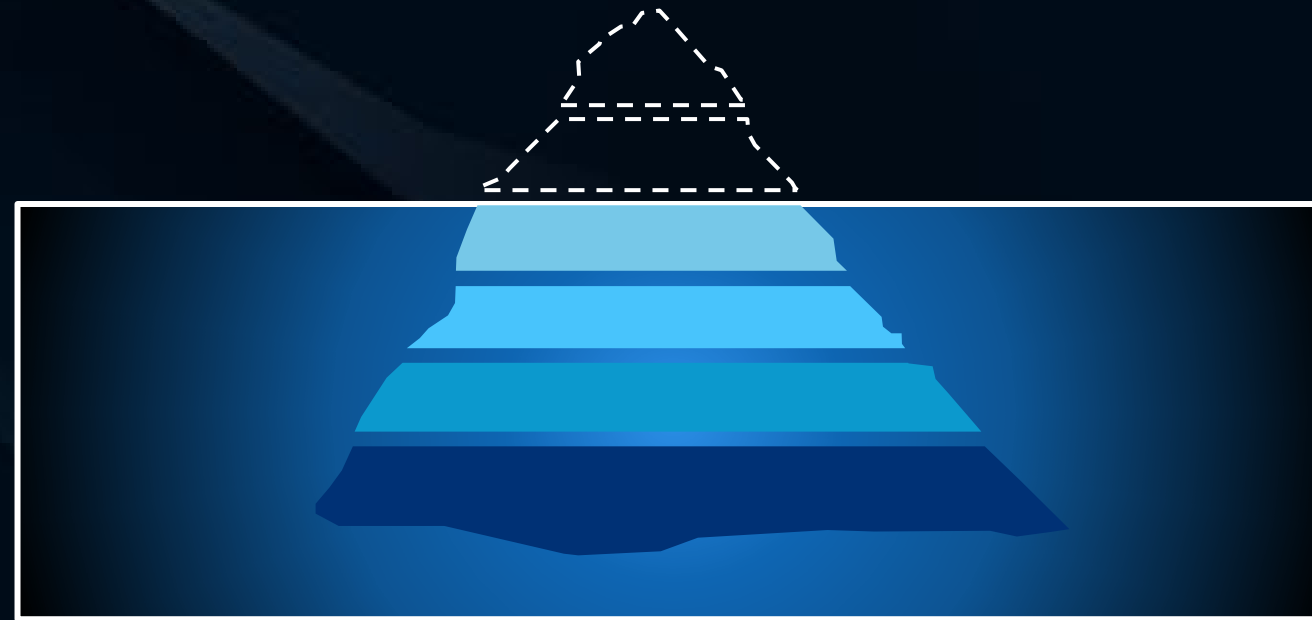
(Post-Test) Please describe how pollution does or does not affect how and where you live, in your own words.

Support self- efficacy

Please rate your response to the following statement: *"I have a clear idea of an action I can take to help solve [problem]."*

Spark action

In-Game Actions
Volunteer Sign-Ups
Pledges to Call Policymakers



Define your baseline

If you were to explain climate change to a friend, what would you tell them?

Build awareness

(Pre/Post) If you were to explain whether fossil fuels do or do not contribute to climate change to a friend, how would you do so?

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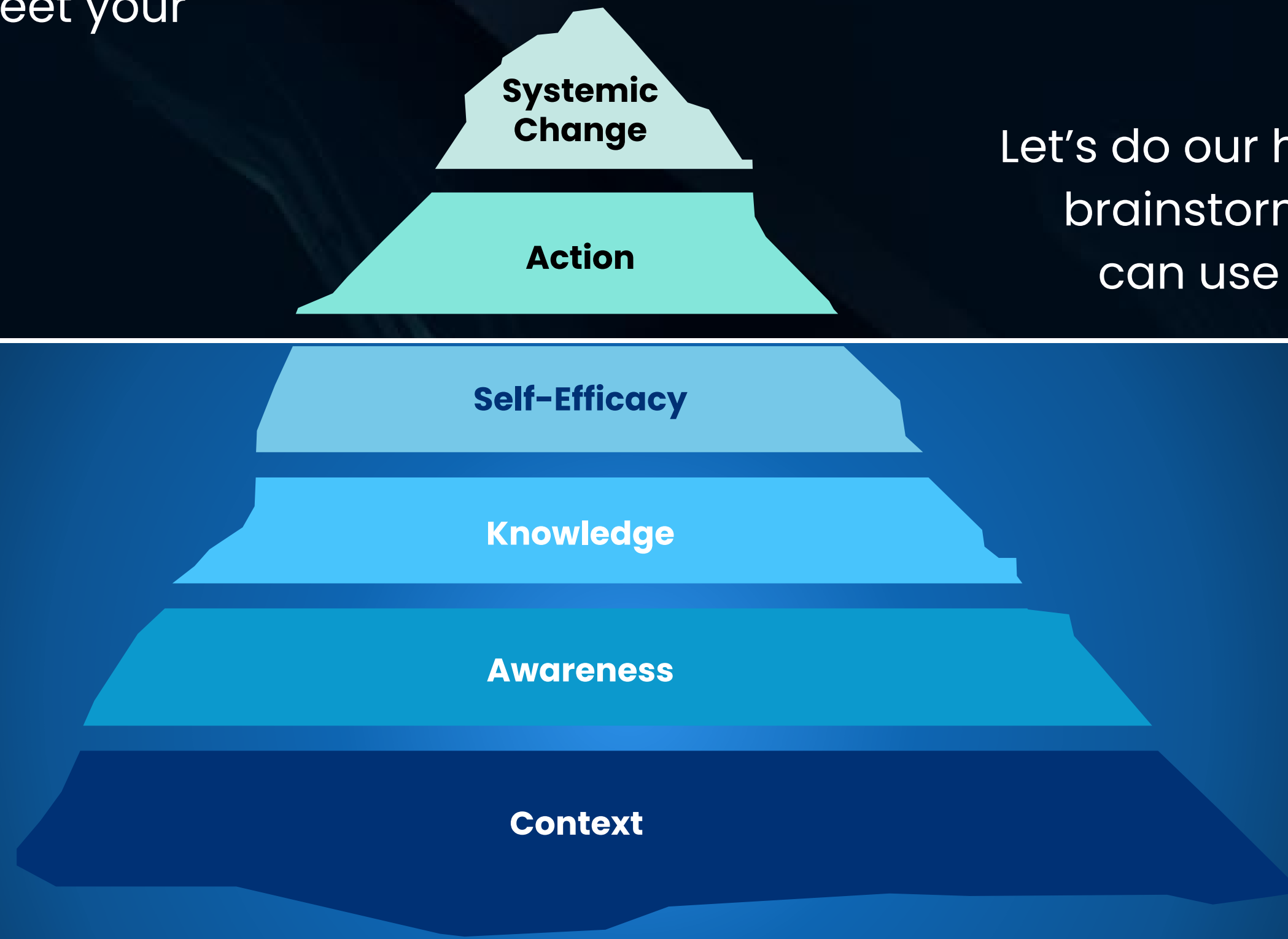
Spark action

In-Game Actions
Volunteer Sign-Ups
Pledges to Call
Local policy
makers

In short, there are many ways to define and modify a theory of action to meet your needs and priorities.

<https://tinyurl.com/EGDPworkshopguide>

Let's do our hands-on activity to brainstorm the questions you can use to create your own!



THANK YOU!

NEXT PART

IT'S MONDAY, BUT THERE'S ALWAYS TIME FOR A
DANCE BREAK

ARCHIVE