

New Nomads
Short-term opportunities for long-term local effect



SHARING A VISION ON A REGIONAL SCALE: SHARING
RESOURCES ON AN INTERCOMMUNAL SCALE.

La Corrèze is a territory of 5,857 km² where public transport is lacking and where the car is still the most frequent form of transport. In such a territory it is vital to develop a sharing strategy of services and equipment.

The three sites are too far apart to imagine an efficient cooperation in such terms and this is why intercommunal partnerships are much more relevant in organising the sharing of resources and places.

Nevertheless, the challenge is similar: how to develop the village ecosystem? Defining a process to answer that question is what Turenne, Argentat and Ussel can help each other with.

This project proposes a vision of experiences and ideas at a large scale while maintaining and exploring the diversity of Corrèze’s landscapes.

The focus for the region is the protection of the environment with an aim to stop urban sprawl by returning focus to the village centres. In order to make this migration happen our approach is to re-introduce a specific local activity at a small scale to strengthen the opportunities of ‘rurality’. We invite a target population to join and help create the spark: *The New Nomads*.

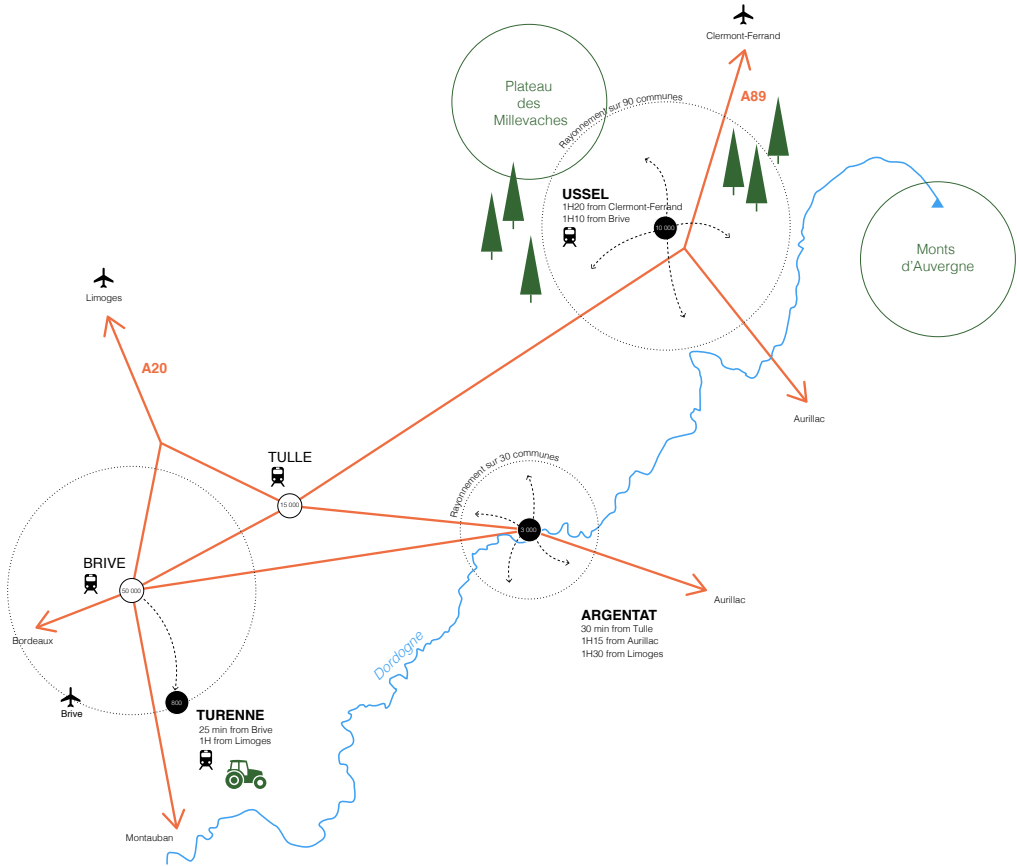
SPECIFIC POTENTIAL :

Each of the three projects has been developed in accordance with its strategic position in the region:

The Station Hamlet of Turenne: situated at the foot of the famous castle and only 15 minutes away from the airport, the site can rely on a very short-term programme. Its geographical situation is also the perfect setting for agriculture activities.

Argentat : taking advantage of a beautiful river landscape, the intercommunality of Argentat has the potential to become a popular destination. By focusing on the amazing quality of life, it can turn its geographical position into an advantage.

Ussel : being a larger centre, the intercommunality of Ussel can strengthen itself around its resources and in turn create a new, sustainable kind of industry.



USSEL :
Proposed Opportunity (1 year – 3 years): Educational
Woodworking Hub.



ARGENTAT:
Proposed Opportunity (6 months – 1 year): Art & artisanal
residency in collaboration with the elderly.



TURENNE :
Proposed Opportunity (1 to 3 weeks): Development
of sustainable tourism based on the discovery of an
ecosystem, on a commitment to respect the environment
and on local cooperation.

The potential of Rurality:

The different components of the territory are often looked at with a hierarchical vision. Even the names we give them reveal this organisational approach. Indeed the word ‘rural’ describes a territory by what it is not: ‘*rural*’ is what is not urban’. Nevertheless, these territories have qualities and specificities that would today be praised by many people; especially a young population less settled in a particular place and often living in undesirable, large cities.

Who are the New Nomads?

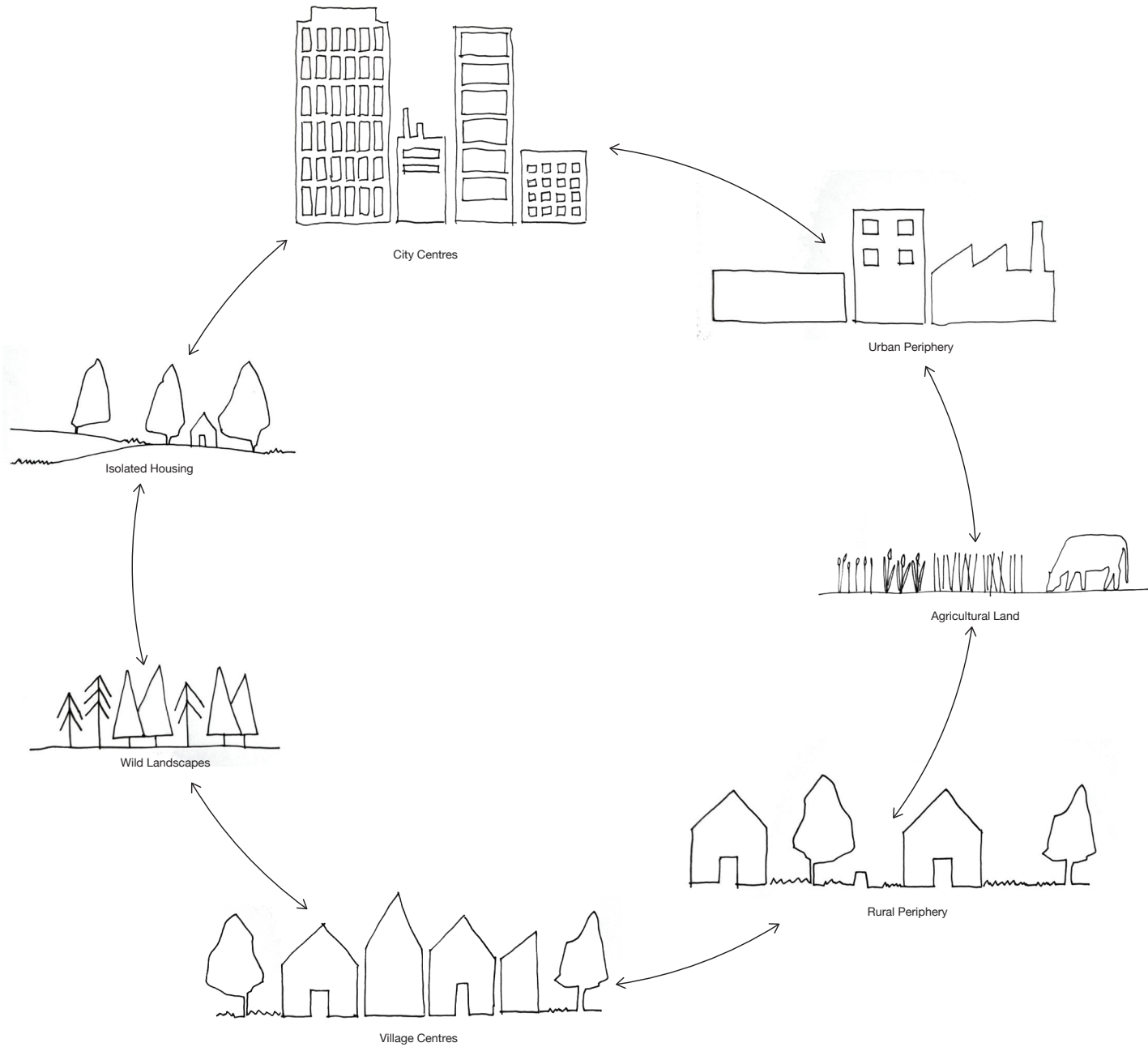
The *New Nomads* are often frustrated by the lack of space and the financial cost of living in busy urban hubs that do not accommodate their creative freedom - room to invent, explore and become independent. Whilst it is rare that they commit to settling down in the periphery (or in rural territories), there is a growing demand for short-term residencies; taking a break and returning to a more natural way of life or developing a personal project.

Program of short-term opportunities :

It is essential to look at the different territories as components of a global ecosystem and to provide a possibility for exchanges between them while keeping their differences alive.

The goal of the project is to create a short-term opportunity program (from 1 week to 3 years) to settle in a village within the context of a personal project.

Village centres regroup the necessary and essential qualities to become the adequate territory for those exchanges: lower land price, calm environment, space, services and shops in close vicinity and social proximity. The village centre is no longer seen as ‘not urban enough’ or ‘not isolated enough’, but rather as a place where both the advantages of rural and urban territories are realised.



Ambitious and Responsible:

Being aware of the modesty of resources and means should imply a focus on reducing risks; however without taking any risk there is no possibility for change. The proposed projects rely on a balanced approach to risk-taking, introducing changes in a phased manner in order to be able to address problems if something doesn't work.

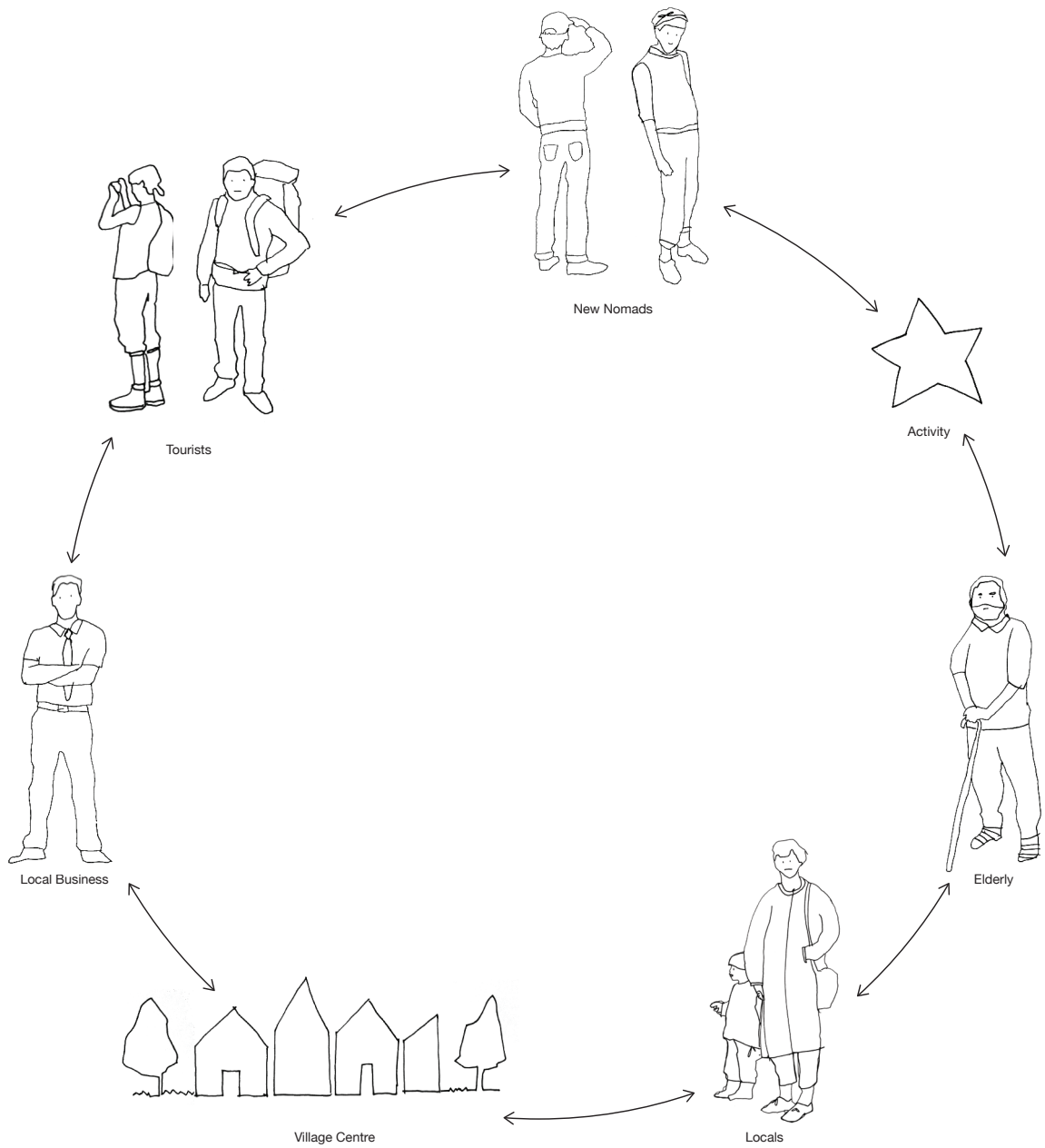
Resilient architecture:

In order for the built environment to be resilient, the proposed interventions are a reaction to the site rather than the programme. The projects rely as much as possible on existing structures and when new buildings are required they are designed around the 'genius loci' of the area, making them specific but open to a wide variety of uses.

Developing local ecosystems:

The project is based financially and socially on the local ecosystem. Instead of tourism detached from the local life, the *New Nomads* Programme adds a population and an activity component to the existing organisation in order to reboot it. Local businesses, residents of all ages, tourists, *New Nomads* and architects develop a sharing strategy involving resources, knowledge, funds, services and time.

The focus on youth in this programme is only seen as the beginning. Instead of a straightforward reply to the problem of an ageing population - developing a concept around it (something which only deals with the effects rather than the reasons) - the idea is to stimulate young people in order to stimulate the villages. The spark created by this change is an opportunity to trigger positive chain reactions that can lead to a renewal of the village centres. A rediscovery of the social ecosystem.



Phase 1 : ALLOTMENT GARDENS

1 : The local residents of Turenne's station hamlet start organising organic allotment gardens in their backyards.

2 & 3 : The *New Nomads* are hosted by the locals and discover organic farming by giving time and energy to working on the gardens.

Phase 2 : THE STATION TABLE

Renovation of the derelict train station of Turenne hamlet. The project happens in stages and is funded thanks to a crowd-funding operation advertised directly on site and a larger scale through the short-term opportunities programme.

4 : The *New Nomads* and the local residents use the excess production of the allotment to prepare meals at the Station TABLE.

5 : The local businesses (*Salers Gentaine* for example) and producers participate in the renovation of the Station. In exchange they can sell their products on site.

6 : Turenne's Tourists are invited to share the table with the *New Nomads* and the locals.

Phase 3 : HAMLET HOUSES

7 : *New Nomads* wanting to settle and new residents interested in being part of this project start building their homes on the site.

8 : Development of responsible and sustainable eco-tourism providing quality accommodation and sharing knowledge on agriculture.



Phase 1 : GARDEN

1 : Creation of elderly housing units.
Elderly people can then share their house with a *New Nomad* in exchange for services.
The *New Nomads* are involved in the Short Term Opportunity Programme but are also encouraged to use their free time to focus on personal projects.

2,3&4 : Elderly people, *New Nomads* and local residents build and take care of the public garden and can enjoy their time together in this shared pocket of nature.

Phase 2 : HOUSE OF FRANCONNIE

5 : *New Nomads* renovate the House of Franconnie and transform it into an artistic centre where local residents and themselves can exhibit art pieces.

6 : Local Residents and tourists can visit the House of Franconnie and if they wish, make financial contributions to its re-development.

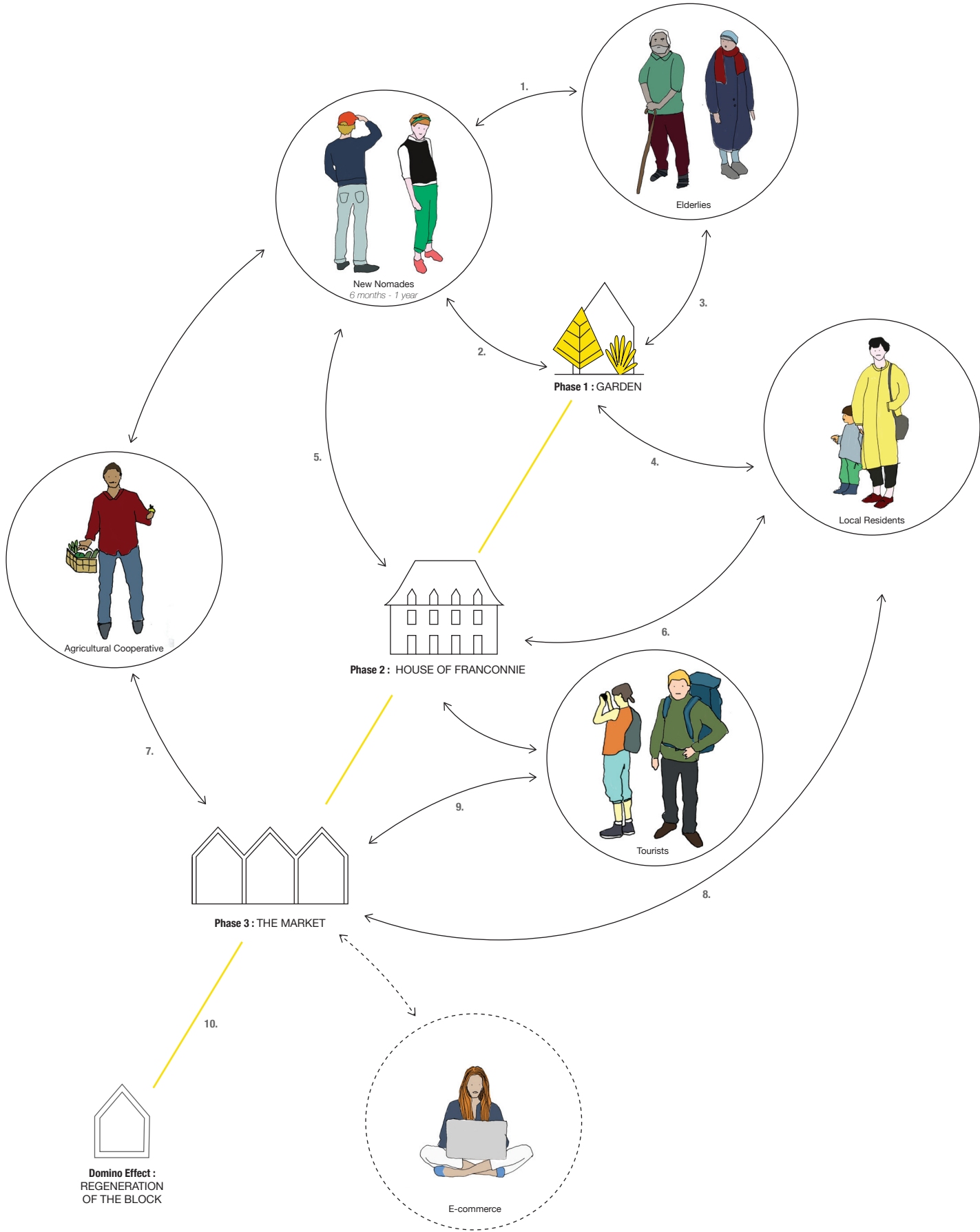
Phase 3 : THE MARKET

7 : The *New Nomads* help build the Market which is being funded by Agricultural Cooperatives and people aiming to get a working (desk) space. The Market will become a physical market for agricultural products and ‘artisanat’, as well as a business hub for locals wishing to start selling their merchandise online.

8 & 9 : Elderly people, local residents, and tourists can visit the Market to buy local products or to participate in the many events and activities organised.

Positive Domino Effect :

10 : By reinvigorating the block, the programme will bring a new dynamism to the area and people will start renovating vacant houses and rediscovering the potential of the village centre.



Ussel:
Wood Fairground

Phase 1 : WOODWORKING WORKSHOP

The first part of the project consists of renovating the long hall to create a Woodworking Workshop. This project is funded in partnership between local wood actors, future local members, the *New Nomad's* community and the intercommunal group of Ussel. It is a school where teaching is learnt through real projects. Students attain knowledge, Businesses create jobs and the town centre sees a redevelopment of its buildings.

1 : Local Wood Actors provide knowledge and guidance to the students of the Workshop. They benefit from an open access to all new technologies and from the help of their students for a certain amount of hours per month.

2 : The *New Nomads* attend the woodworking school and benefit from professional training. They occupy the lower part of the Brownfield in exchange for taking care of its renovation.

3 : During out-of-hours, the workshop is open to Local Members Makers.

4 : A *Fablab* truck run by the Members Makers brings digital fabrication to the whole intercommunal group.

Phase 2 : THE WOOD FAIRGROUND

5 : *New Nomads* transform the large hall into a wood fairground where they can exhibit and sell their production. They also help in renovating the third hall with the aim of turning it into a cafeteria and basketball field.

6 : By paying their membership Local Members visitors support the school and in exchange they have the possibility to use the building for private events.

7 : Tourists are welcome to visit the fairground and to attend any public events.

8 : E-consumers are connected to the wood fairground E-WoodFair and can purchase wooden objects while supporting ethical and local action.

Phase 3 : BROWNFIELD REGERENATION

9 : Locals invest in a participative housing complex with a basement dedicated to elderly people and a top section open to everone else.

10 : The *New Nomads* help build the wooden houses.

