



Smart Villages Concept and
LEADER methodology

It is not about yes, but...

It is about yes, and...



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In Austria we are on the way, but...

- ▶ (political) Masterplan for Rural Areas with several priorities - **but no deal how to implement the Masterplan**
- ▶ The competences for regional development are bundled in one ministry **but there are much more programmes, initiatives**
- ▶ Austria is a federal state, so federal governments (9) have a coordination function, **but are free to decide**
- ▶ The discussion process of stakeholders has just started in the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning, **but is leaded by people from administration bodies**

We already have ideas and scenarios, **but we do not have a final decision**

Yes, but....

The convenient way to change nothing

Yes, and....

LEADER in Austria is acting, not just reacting - also regarding Smart Villages

How to get from yes, but to yes, and

- ▶ (political) Masterplan for Rural Areas with several priorities - ~~but no deal how to implement the Masterplan~~

and the LEADER approach and Smart Villages concept are the best ways to implement this plan and to bring it to action

- ▶ The competences for regional development are bundled in one ministry
- ~~but there are much more programmes, initiatives~~ and therefore we also bundle the competences on regional level with a one stop shop system for different funds and for further national and European initiatives (=> LAG becomes multi-issue and multi-funded development agency)

How to get from yes, but to yes, and

- ▶ One common strategy which focuses on Smart concepts is also a strong political argument...

LDS (Local CLLD/LEADER Development Strategy) is the common agreed, central, strategic framework with included governance model)

- ▶ The discussion process of stakeholders has just started in the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning, ~~but is leaded by people from administration bodies~~ and LAGs are active members of this conference, because we established a good network

The example of the Austrian province Tyrol (8 LAGs)

- ▶ LEADER/CLLD multifonds and one-stop shop system on LAG level
- ▶ implemented with one MA and one lead fund (EAFRD)
- ▶ Integration Smart Village concept in the LDS of LEADER/CLLD areas in 2021+ as a separate action field
 - ▶ Avoiding double structures on all levels
 - ▶ Using synergies which will support LEADER and Smart Villages
 - ▶ Motivation and development of trust
 - ▶ Coherent strategy: Smart Village - Smart Specialisation - Smart region (LDS)- Smart rural-urban linkage - Smart City concept => national strategy
 - ▶ Call system within LEADER for SV actions
- ▶ Smart Village is a new motivation tool for LAGs to discover other action fields and topics in the region

~~But~~/AND, it is a lot of coordination

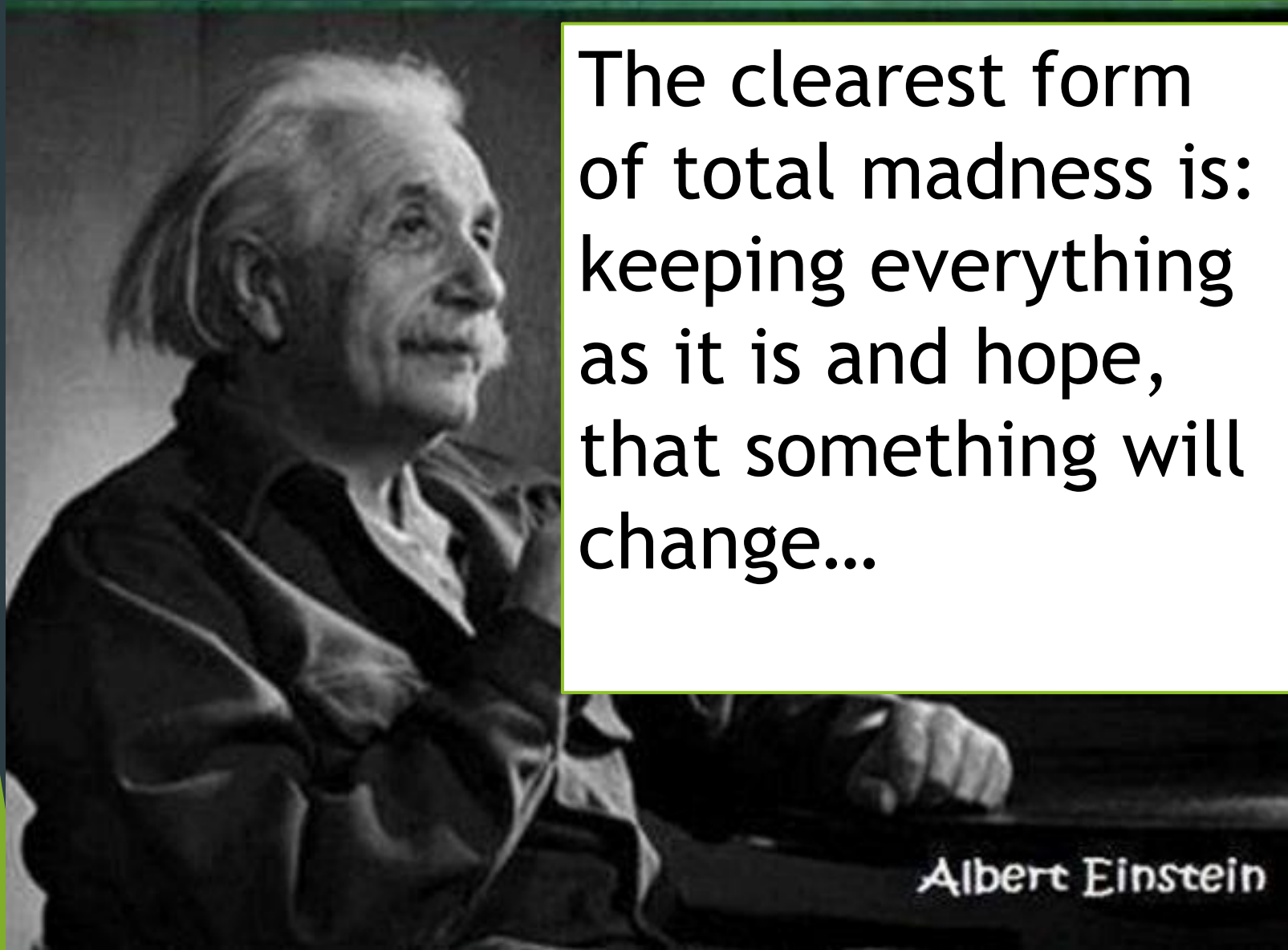
~~But~~/AND, it needs trust among all levels

~~But~~/AND, not everybody likes changes

~~But~~/AND there must be an agreed governance model

Yes, AND it is the best way for integral development!

Let's work on it



The clearest form
of total madness is:
keeping everything
as it is and hope,
that something will
change...

Albert Einstein

Thank you