

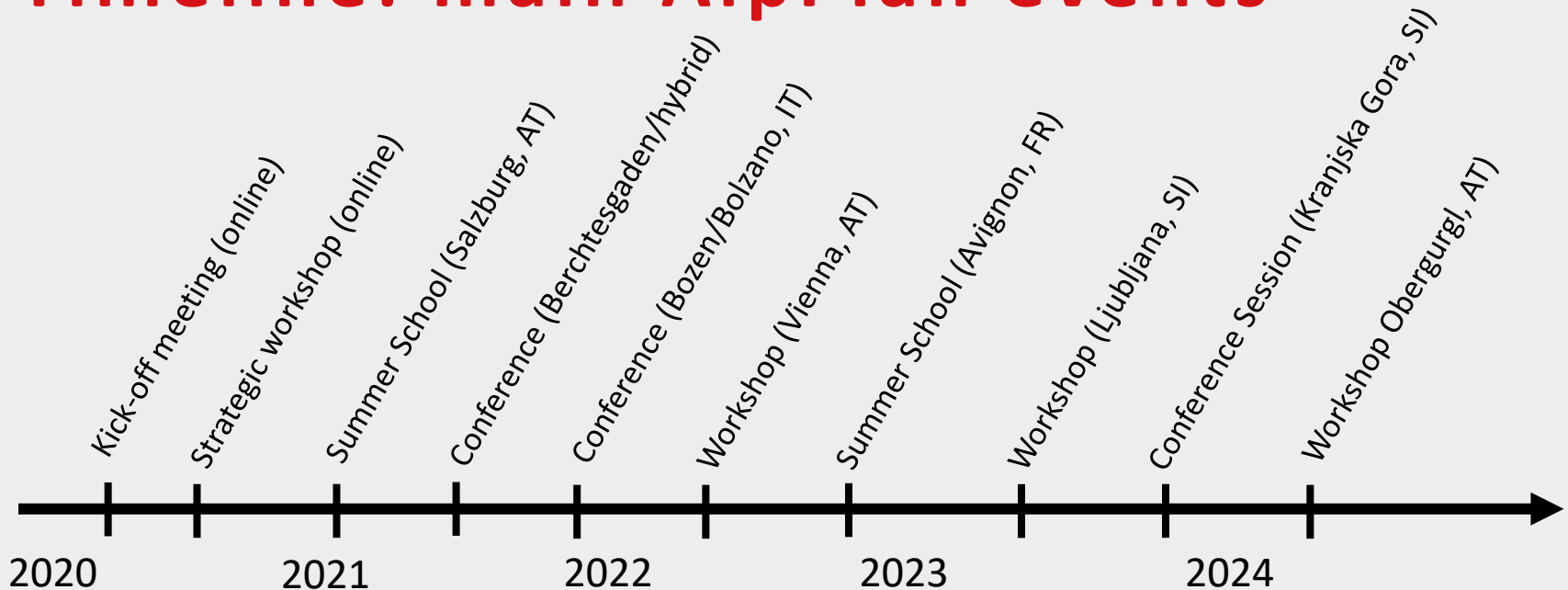
PlanToConnect/AlpPlan workshop

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General objectives of *AlpPlan*

- Contributing to **sustainable territorial development** from an ecological, economic and social perspective
- Promoting **cooperation and coordination** in the field of spatial planning in the Alpine region, especially from a **cross-border** and cross sectoral perspective
- Bringing together **both scientific expertise and practice-oriented application** to generate a benefit for the members
> by offering a platform for an Alpine wide independent and open exchange

Timeline: main AlpPlan events



Alpine spatial planning: needed more than ever

Current example: implementation of EU RED III

- Designation of Renewable Acceleration Areas (in which EIA and other environmental procedures might be neglected after SEA)
- Optional designation of areas for grid and storage infrastructure
- General measures: overriding public interest of renewable energies
- Cross-sectoral coordination with Nature Restoration Law as a major challenge

Without Geography we would be nowhere!

- **Since the 1960s:** Mass Tourism Development to one of the world's leading winter sports destinations > ***"Diamonds of the Alps"***
- **1955-1959:** Completion of the Timmelsjoch High Alpine Road (2474m asl) as a transit route between Gurgler- (Tyrol/AT) and Passeier Valley (South Tyrol/IT)
- **1931:** Emergency landing of Auguste Piccard on the Gurgler Ferner brought international recognition
- **1911: Gurgl Ski Club:** Initial tourist development with ski areas and accommodation facilities
- **1250: First documented mention – Obergurgl = highest church village** of Austria (1927m asl), Ötztal Alps of Tyrol

Alpine Research Center

Present Day:

A significant branch of the **University of Innsbruck**: hosts conferences, field trips, students' courses, and lectures

More than 26,000 overnight stays per year

Facilities:

Lecture hall, library, and laboratories for around 80 scientists and students from Austria and abroad

First water supply system for Obergurgl and a meteorological weather station

1951: Establishment of the Alpine Research Center and the Federal Sports Center by Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Burger

1950: Transfer of vacant customs houses to the University of Innsbruck

Customs Houses

- **During World War II:**
 - Construction of 4 customs houses in Obergurgl
 - Arranged as customs courtyards and prominently located above the village
 - Used for administrative offices, and seamless border security
- **1919:** South Tyrol becomes part of Italy; old connections were interrupted by new border demarcation
- Local farmers began using 'secret' mountain paths, initiating **smuggling**:
 - **To Austria:** wine
 - **To Italy:** tobacco and cigarette paper; salt and sheep

