

Discomfort by Design

from existing to exciting innovation patterns

by Lorena García Girón & Mathieu Roy

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ROME, ITALY

Intersection 24

Sidéral

Design with purpose



Lorena García Girón
Design & Innovation Consultant, Founder

We specialize in helping companies and organizations thrive at the intersection of Communication, Design and Innovation.

We harness the power of UX, Visual Design, and Design Thinking, enriched by impactful Storytelling and Creative Strategy to achieve this.

#Design

STOIX

[Co] create virtuous circles



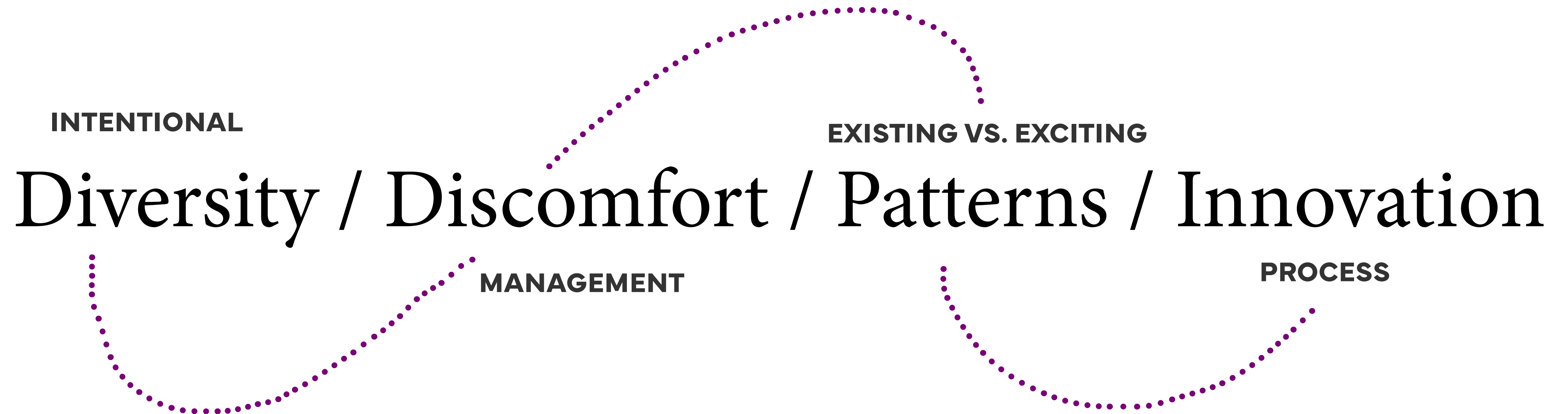
Mathieu Roy MBA CSPO
Innovation Facilitator, Founder

We help organizations [co]create their own virtuous circles of growth, clarity and simplicity.

We do this through an integrated approach of Enterprise Design, Product Management, Business Strategy, Workshop Facilitation and Investment Management.

#Finance

WHAT WE'LL WE TALK ABOUT TODAY?



Look at each other



1. Turn to your neighbour on your right
2. Look at each other for 10 seconds
3. Write down 2-3 characteristics or adjectives to describe them

Look at each other



1. Turn to the same person
2. Look at each other for 60 seconds
3. Write down 2-3 characteristics or adjectives to describe them
4. Write down 1 or 2 things about what you felt during the experience

What was different?

Notice the different data you've gathered through discomfort.

Emotion is data.

 **dis·com·fort**
/diˈskɒmfɔːt/

noun

noun: **discomfort**

- a state of unease, worry, or embarrassment.
"his remarks caused her discomfort"

Similar: embarrassment discomfiture unease uneasiness abashment

- something that makes a person feel physically uncomfortable.

plural noun: **discomforts**

"her neck hurt and her feet ached, but the physical discomforts were the least of her worries"

Similar: inconvenience difficulty bother nuisance vexation drawback

verb

verb: **discomfort**; 3rd person present: **discomforts**; past tense: **discomforted**; past participle:

discomforted; gerund or present participle: **discomforting**

make (someone) feel uneasy, anxious, or embarrassed.

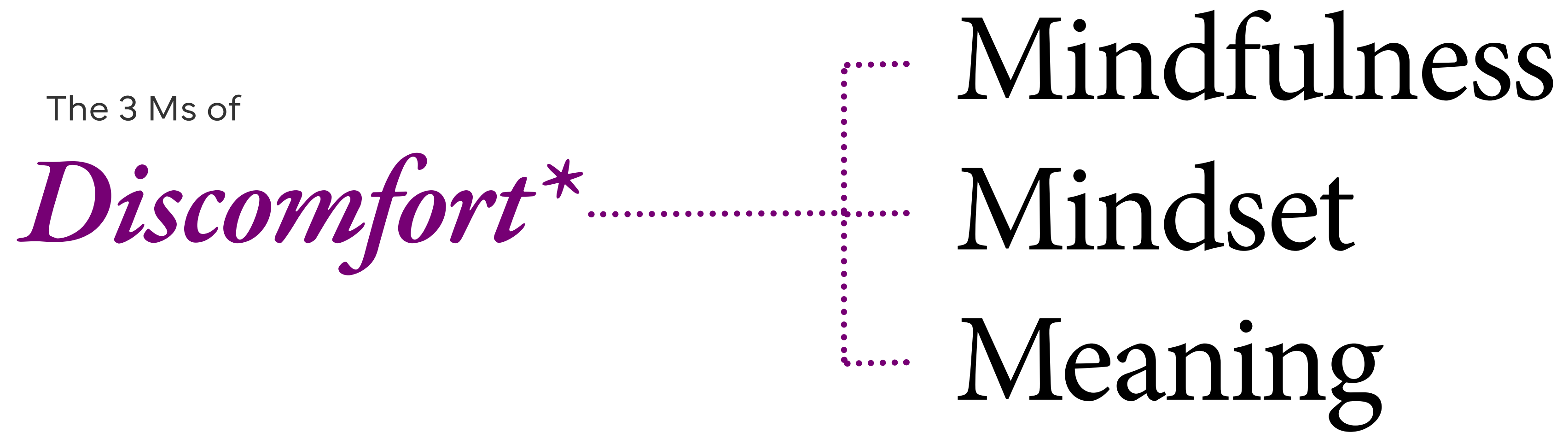
"she liked to discomfort my mother by her remarks"

Similar: discomfit make uneasy make uncomfortable embarrass abash

- make (someone) physically uncomfortable; cause slight pain to.
"I am often discomforted at night by pain in the knee joint"

Something
we try to **avoid**

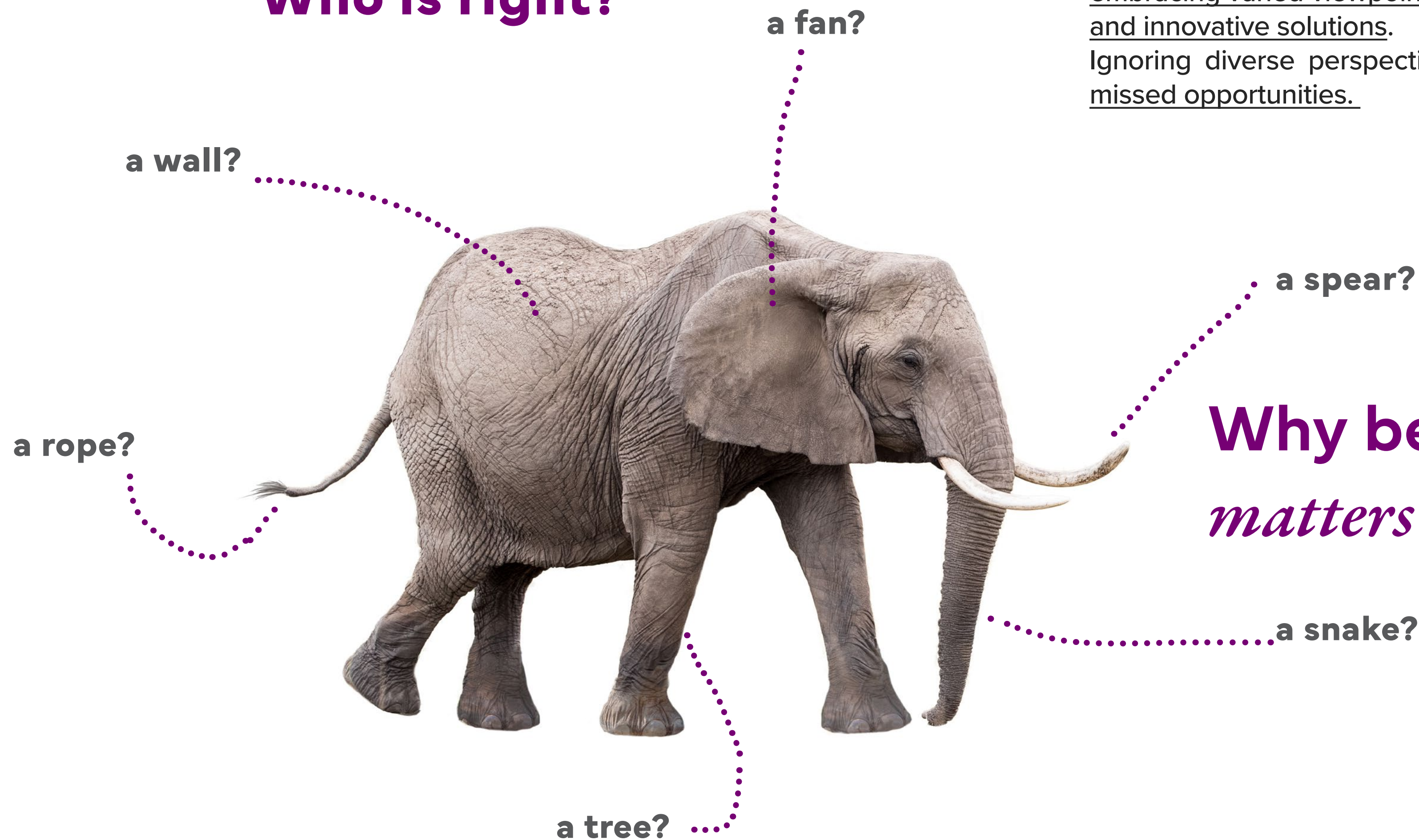
But that when
managed can
become **a key**
aspect for growth
and innovation



*Key elements in managing discomfort according to Amanda Lang in her work "The Beauty of Discomfort".

perspectives

Who is right?



This parable illustrates the power of collaboration and diversity: embracing varied viewpoints leads to deeper understanding and innovative solutions.

Ignoring diverse perspectives **risks** misunderstanding and missed opportunities.

Why being intentional matters

“Discomfort is **inevitable** in **diversity**, but with empathy, it becomes a force for growth and **innovation.**”

#riskaversion

Complex Problems

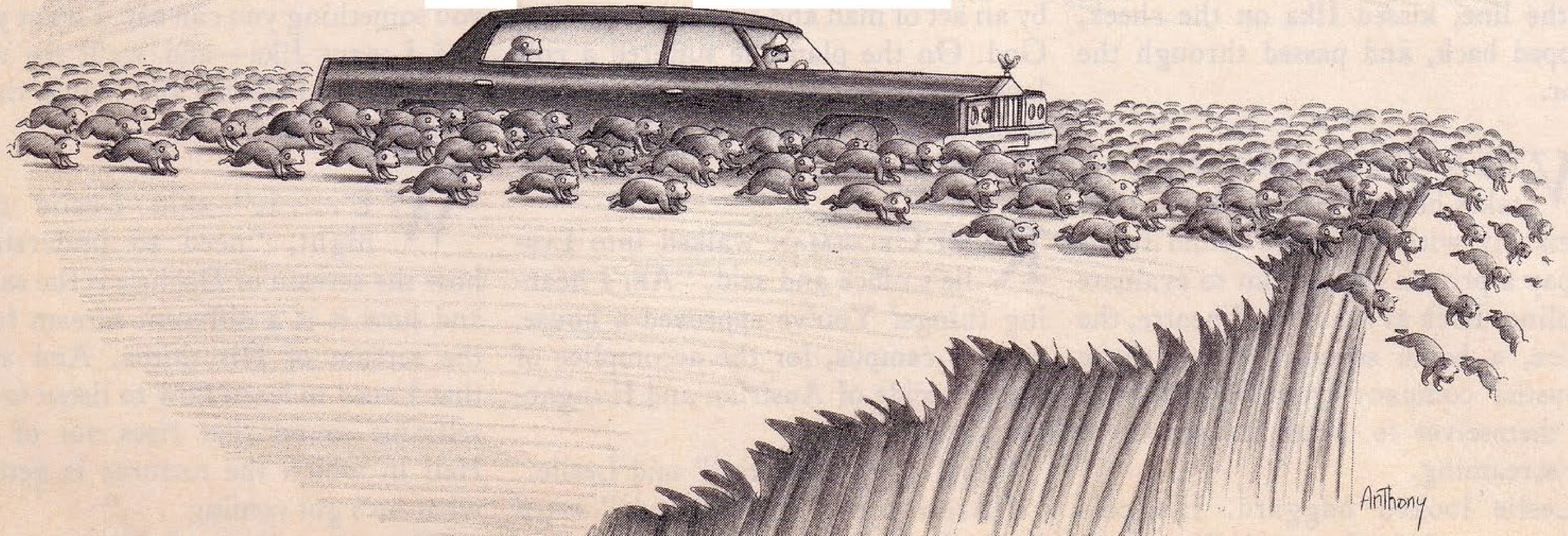
We have to find ways to keep our mental processes from becoming routine
— at least when we want to change or solve a complex problem.

"Comfort is the worst addiction"

-Marcus Aurelius

You

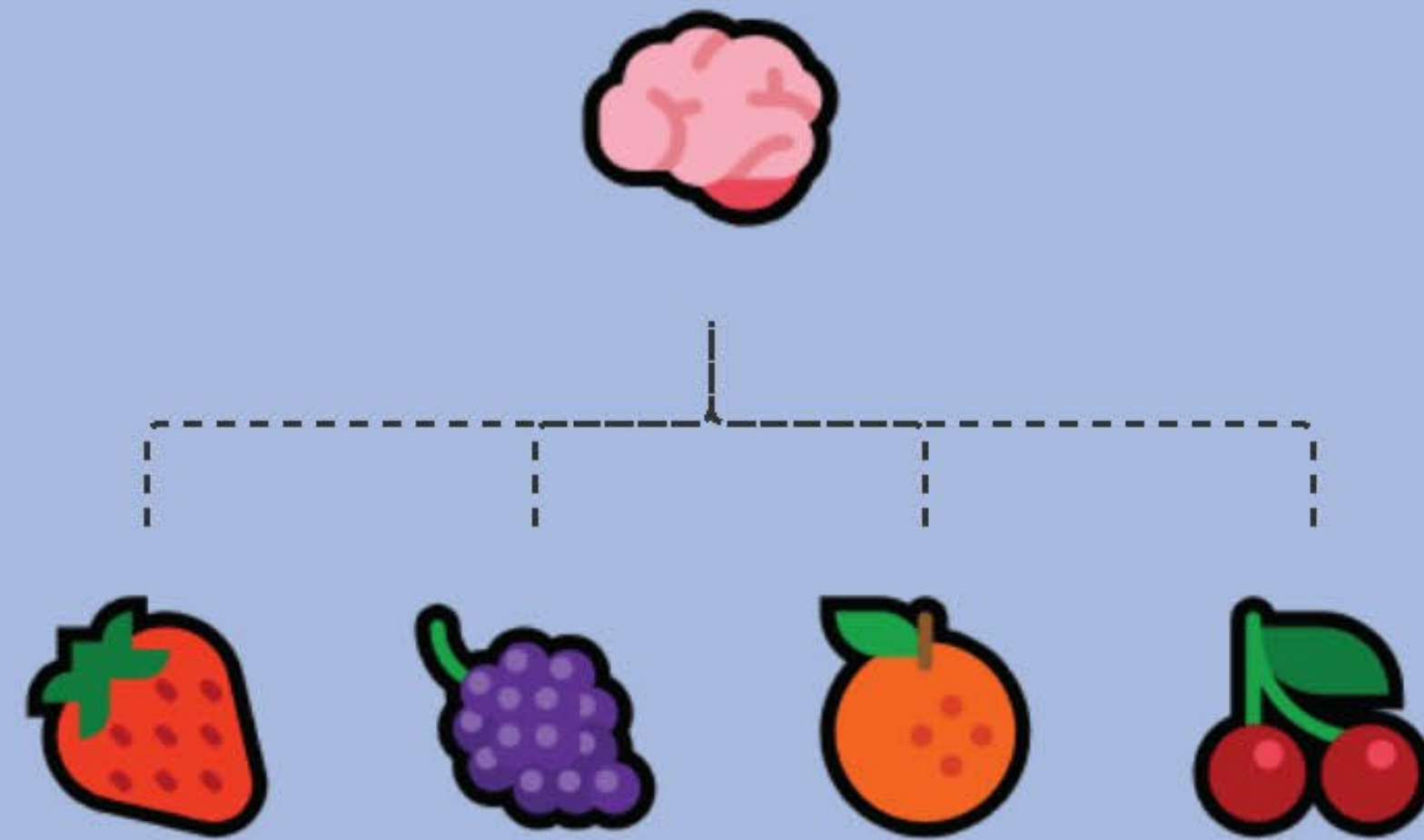
Your Brain



From Satisfactory to Optimal



VS



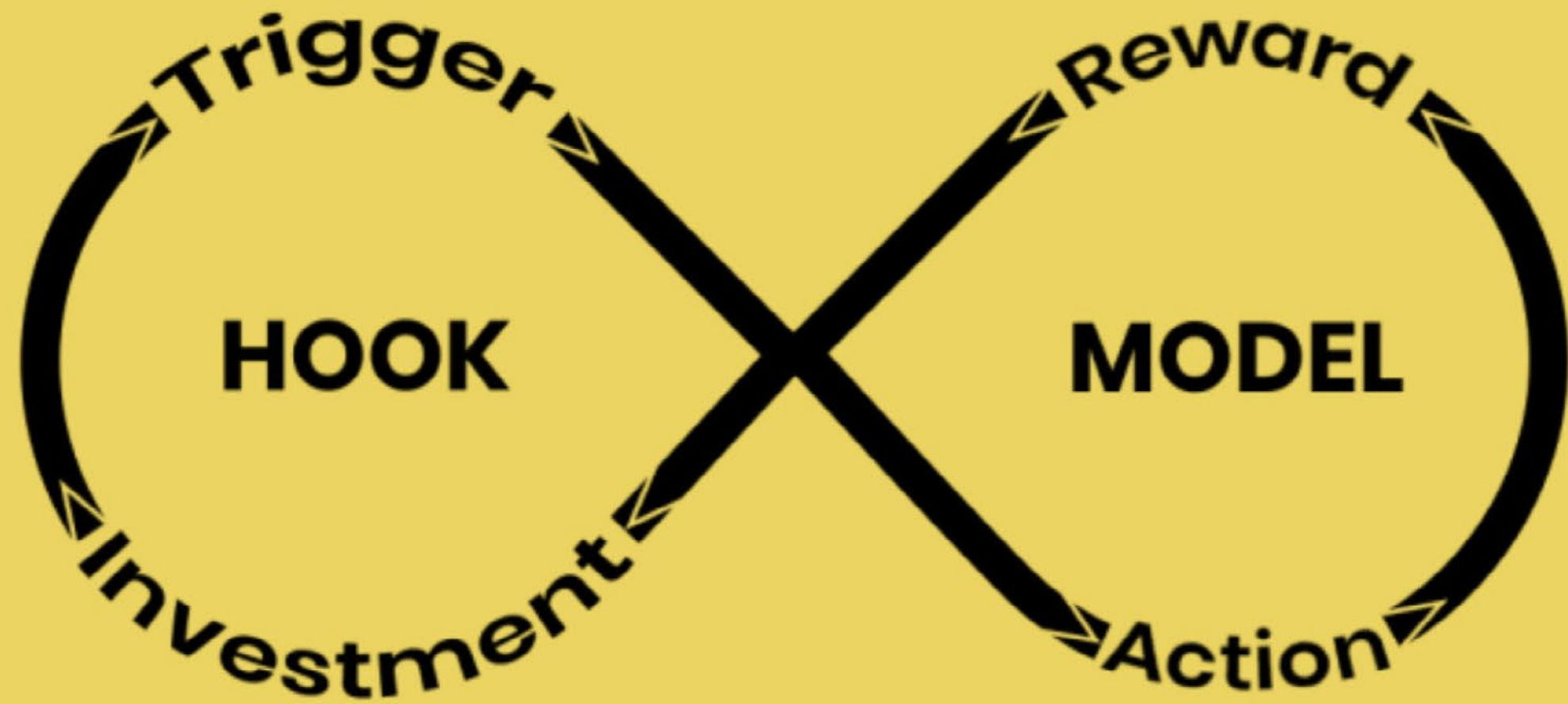
From surviving to thriving

Figure 1: Types of Behavioural Biases

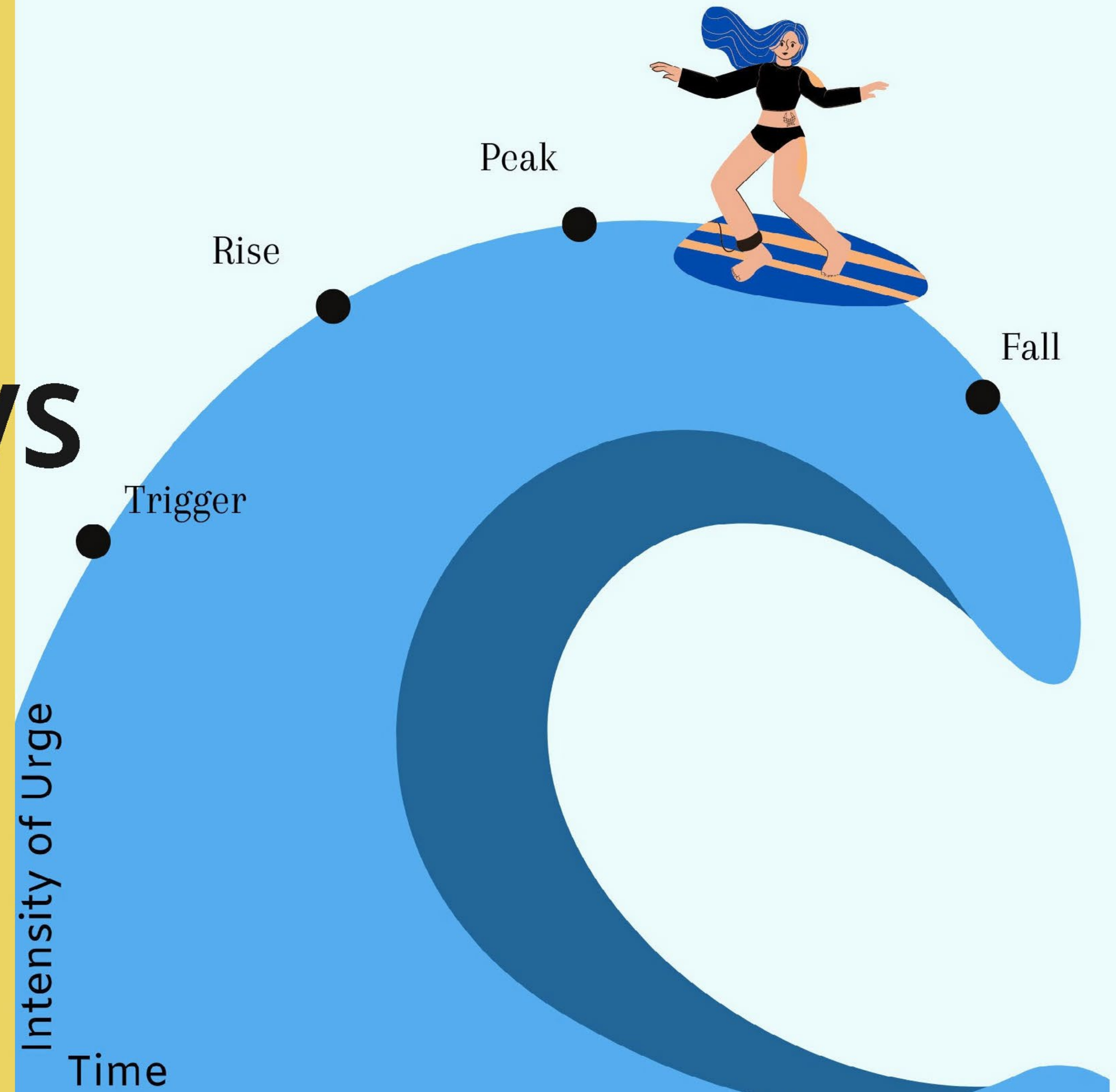
Emotional Biases	Cognitive Biases Beliefs perseverance errors	Information-processing errors
<p>Loss aversion</p> <p>Overconfidence</p> <p>Self-control</p> <p>Status quo</p> <p>Endowment</p> <p>Regret aversion</p>	<p>Conservatism</p> <p>Confirmation</p> <p>Representativeness</p> <p>Illusion of control</p> <p>Hindsight</p>	<p>Anchoring and adjustment</p> <p>Mental accounting</p> <p>Framing</p> <p>Availability</p>

SOURCE  CFA Institute

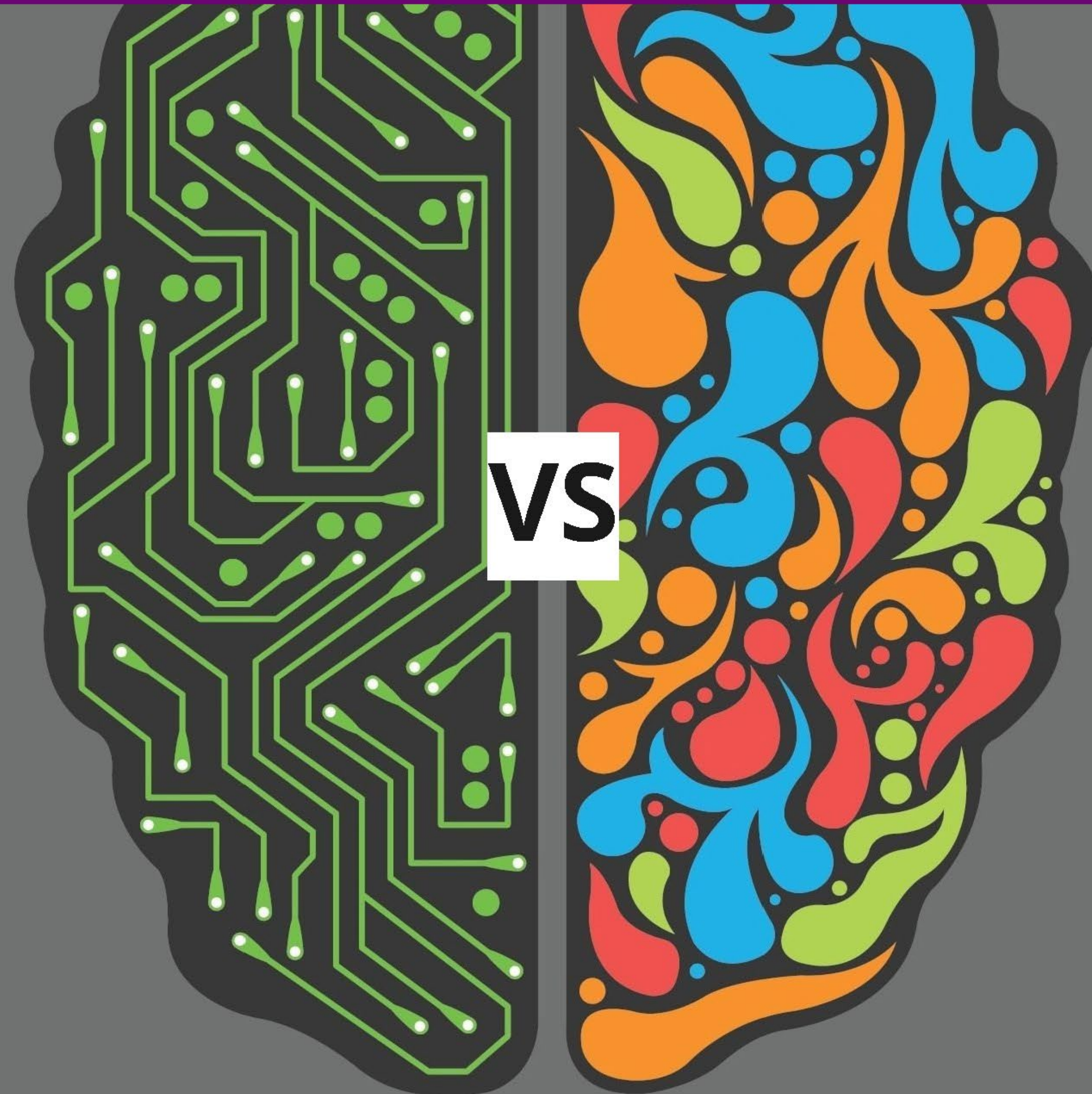
From Responsiveness to Mindfulness



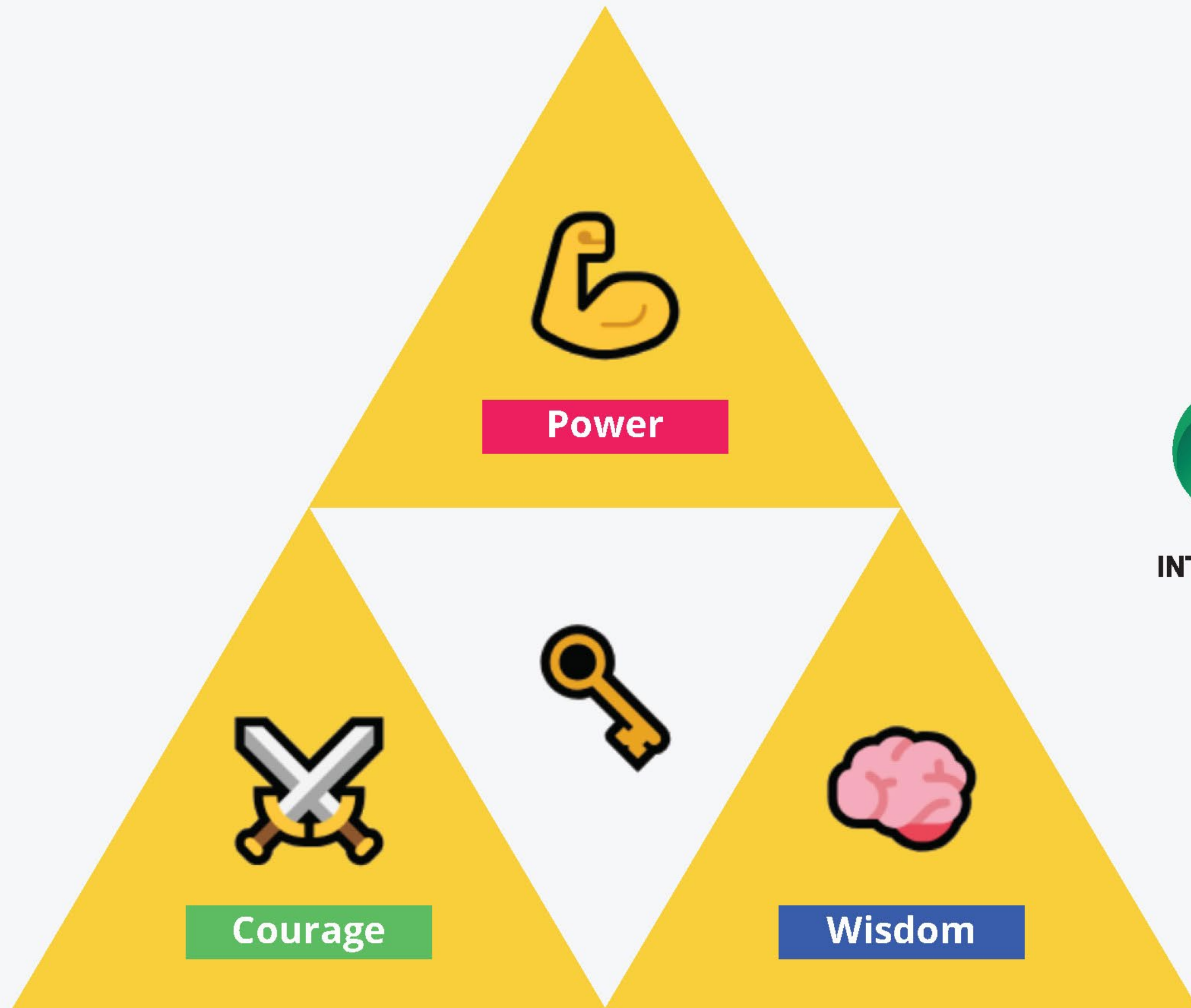
VS



From Brain Bug to Brain Hack



From Vienna to Rome



2023



2024



Discomfort

Stepping out of my comfort zone

TO CONTRIBUTE TO CHANGING THE STATUS QUO

360+ Engineers

I was the only Designer & Woman to take the main stage at the 15th AOC in Tokyo

#courage #vulnerability #discomfort



AUTOSAR is a global partnership of leading companies in the automotive and software industry to develop and establish the **standardized software framework** and **open E/E system architecture** for intelligent mobility.

Collaborative Workshops for Website Redesign

358	20+	4	5	3	1
Partners	Stakeholders	Regions	Languages at work	Companies	Official language
	Engineers Finance Legal Admin Comm Developpers	Europe North America China Japan	German English French Japanese Mandarin	AUTOSAR CoCréa Studio +Pluswerk	English



Foster productive Discomfort

by DESIGN

In diverse teams, **embrace differences** as strengths rather than barriers.

in a nutshell

1 **Intentional Diversity:**
from Silos to Co-creative
Inclusive Collaboration

2 **Shifting perspectives:**
from language barrier
to equalizer

3 **Out of the comfort zone:**
from Conventional to
a Playful Safe Space

4 **Clear Multidisciplinary
Communication:**
from Confusion to Clarity

5 **Going the Extra-Mile:**
from avoiding to embracing
Discomfort

6 **Impact Continuum:**
from data collection
to data stories

01

From Silos to Co-creative Inclusive Collaboration

Intentional Diversity



A human-centered participatory structure to determine a collective choice

Igniting the spark to light the way towards valuable insights (without burning down the house!)

3

Co-creation
Workshop sessions

- Engineering
- Comms
- Finances
- Legal
- Admin

1

Decision making
Workshop Session

- Chair Person
- Exec Board
- Steering Committee
- Head of Admin

/ THE GOLDEN CIRCLE
& STORYTELLING

cocréa

MAY / JUNE 2022

Recap and Results of Creative Workshops by CoCréa Studio

STRUCTURE OF WORKSHOPS:

- Introduction to the notions and overview of goal of each Workshop
- Brainstorming individually and in groups
- Breakout rooms in teams of 2 or 3 to discuss and find common answers
- Writing down answers in post-its
- Naming a spokesperson and explaining answers to the group
- Voting to determine a collective choice

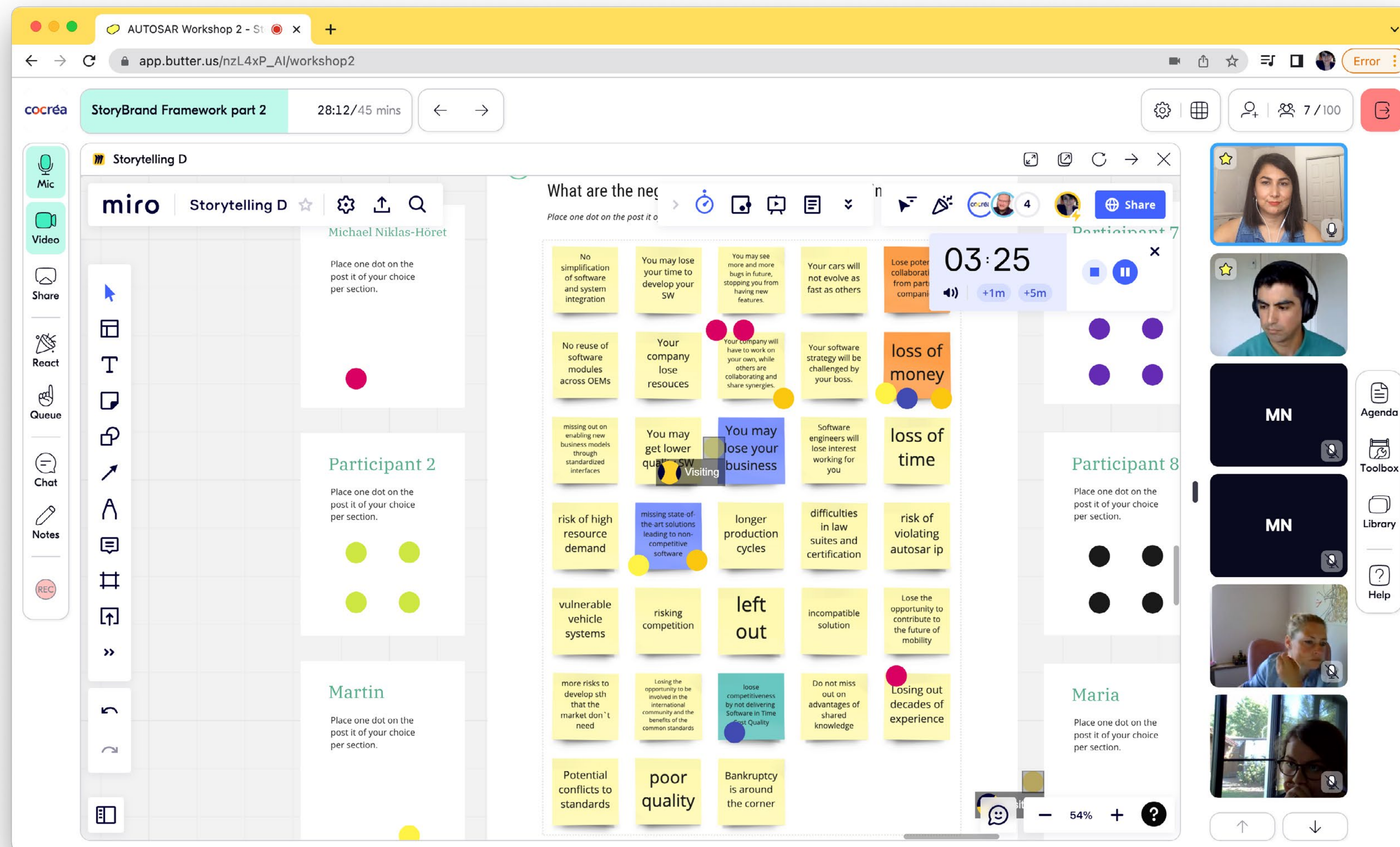
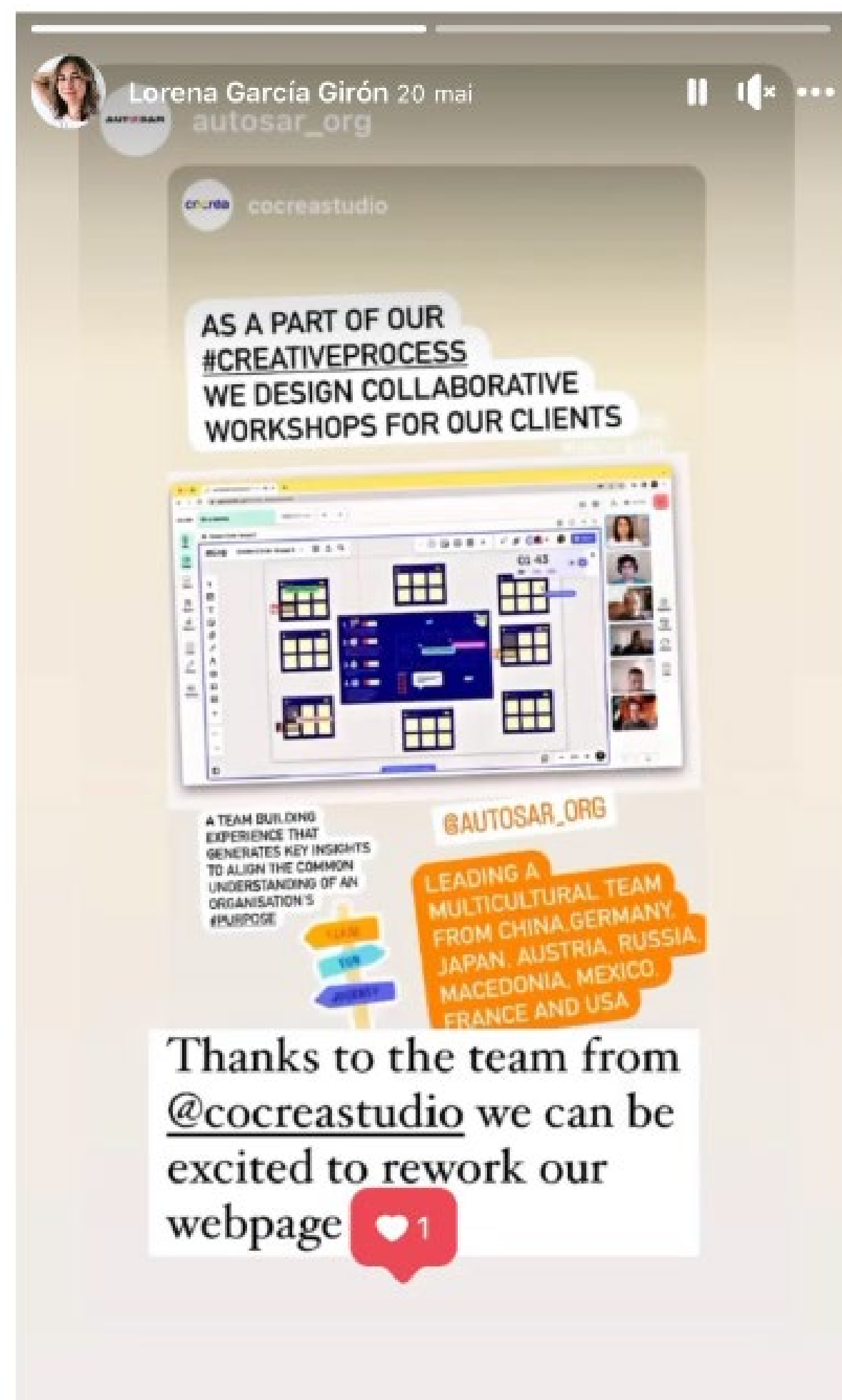
3h Sessions: A,B,C & Decision Making for each Workshop

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 20



Sidéral

Example of session





155 Participants of the 14th AOC held in San Diego, California on May 12th 2023. Photo: Lorena García Girón

02

From barrier to equalizer

Shifting perspectives

Having an accent when we speak means we speak more than one language.

#asset

*A second language for all**

Context of 80% of partner companies where English is not their native language

*Opportunity for equal footing

03

From Conventional to Playful Safe space

Out of the comfort zone

- Intentional Diversity
- Removal of Hierarchies
- Authenticity and Courage
- Play and Rigor
- Humor

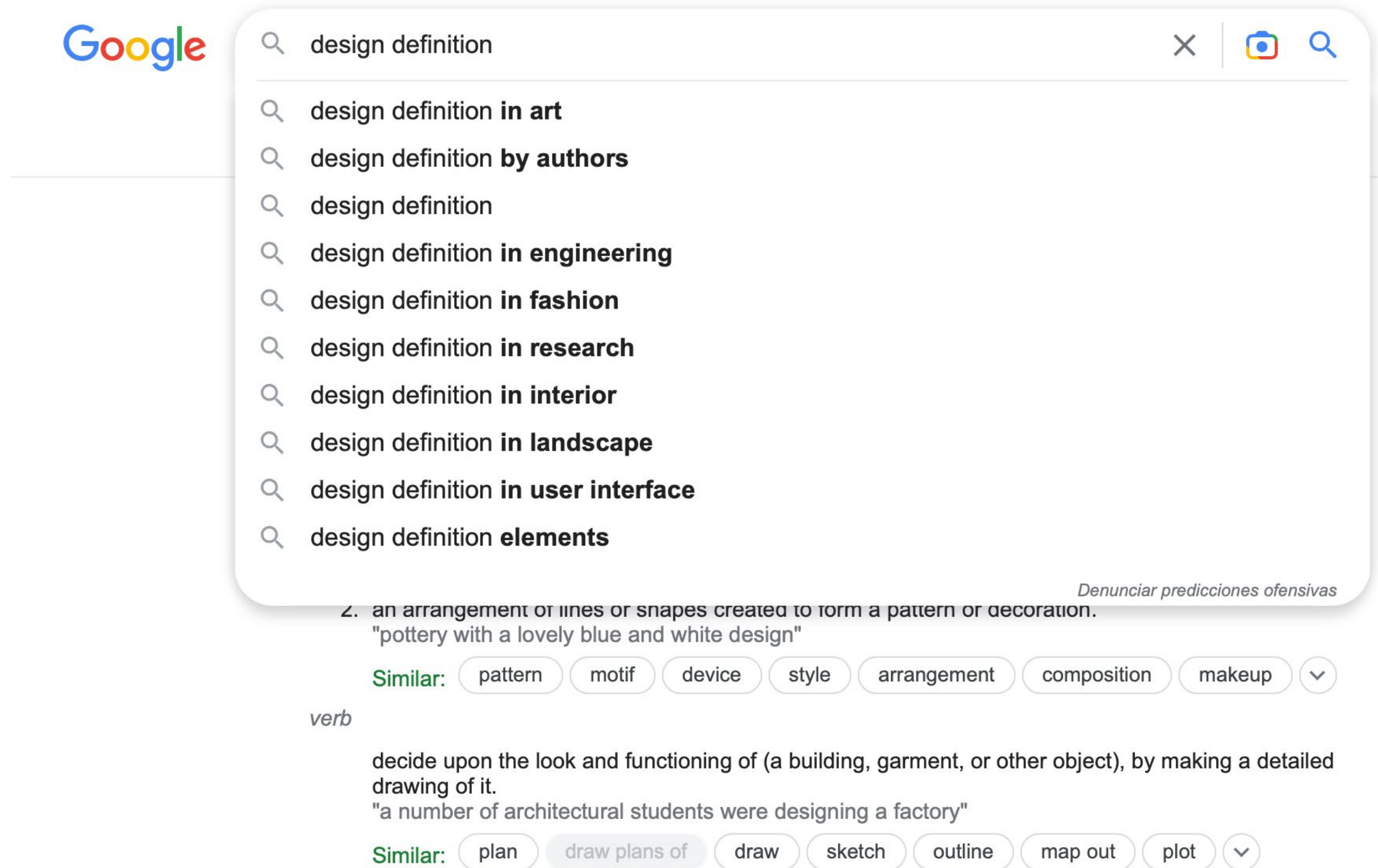


Digital Flyer for inhouse recruitment campaign for the participants of the creative workshops for the redesign of the AUTOSAR website, June 2022.

04

From Confusion to Clarity

Understanding each other is half of the task



Align: Set a course for success

Different perspectives and definitions,
same goal.

contributions from all players in the automotive industry

People understand how they can take advantage of AUTOSAR and / or contribute

technology and innovations

transparency

Central role in the Automotive SW development universe

high acceptance by developers

markets and customer behaviour

getting 3rd parties contacting

Standard is used for SW development worldwide

we are not answering the questions about something already mentioned on the website

Become Leading standard for cars of the future

Easy to use

Accepted by everyone

Single resource of standardization

Used in every car

Plays an essential role in smart cars

ease of application

all possible partners understand why autosar is good for them

Make any car users happy

first choice

Perceived as the most important automotive organization

Becoming the leading Standard in Automotive Safety and Security

Very active community

easy to understand

Highly appreciated

Easy to use any processors

People understand what AUTOSAR does and how it works (concept and content)

Fulfill market needs of today and the future

people understand what autosar offers

getting new companies attracted

raising awareness of AUTOSAR

flexible

speeds up development

clear and understandable

when our main marketing is positive worth of mouth

Who is taking part / community

compatible and consistent ECU software

strong coupling between requirements and implementation

any company which uses AUTOSAR are profitable as well

compelling offer as a basis for ECU software

To become the leading automotive standard software organization with the most important participants in the sector involved, as well as all possible interested companies

practical use in car projects

Make any software easy to port

Speedy specs

used by all car companies

show the th advantages of exchangeability

What does success look like to AUTOSAR?

Write down as many answers as they come to mind.

3 min

Information \neq Communication

“If you confuse, you lose.” - Donald Miller



Photo: express.co.uk 2023

*Storybrand, Donald Miller 2022



Cars, Disney-Pixar Animation Studios 2006

We make cars speak the same language

Simplify your vocabulary

Avoid the curse of knowledge*



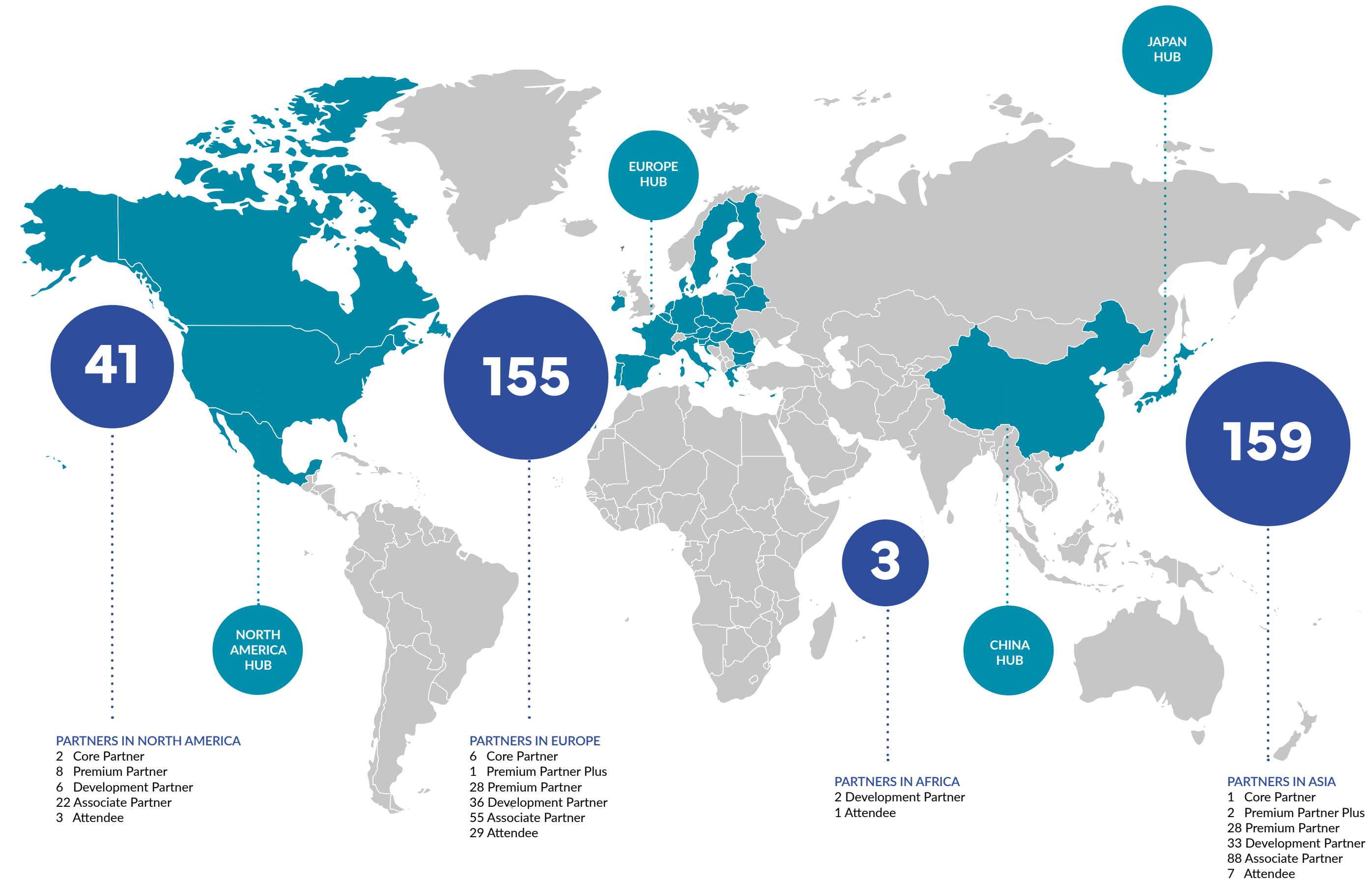
AUTOSAR CORE Partners

Rephrase so that a 10 year old can understand.

05

From Avoiding to Embracing Discomfort

Going the Extra-Mile



Various time zones...

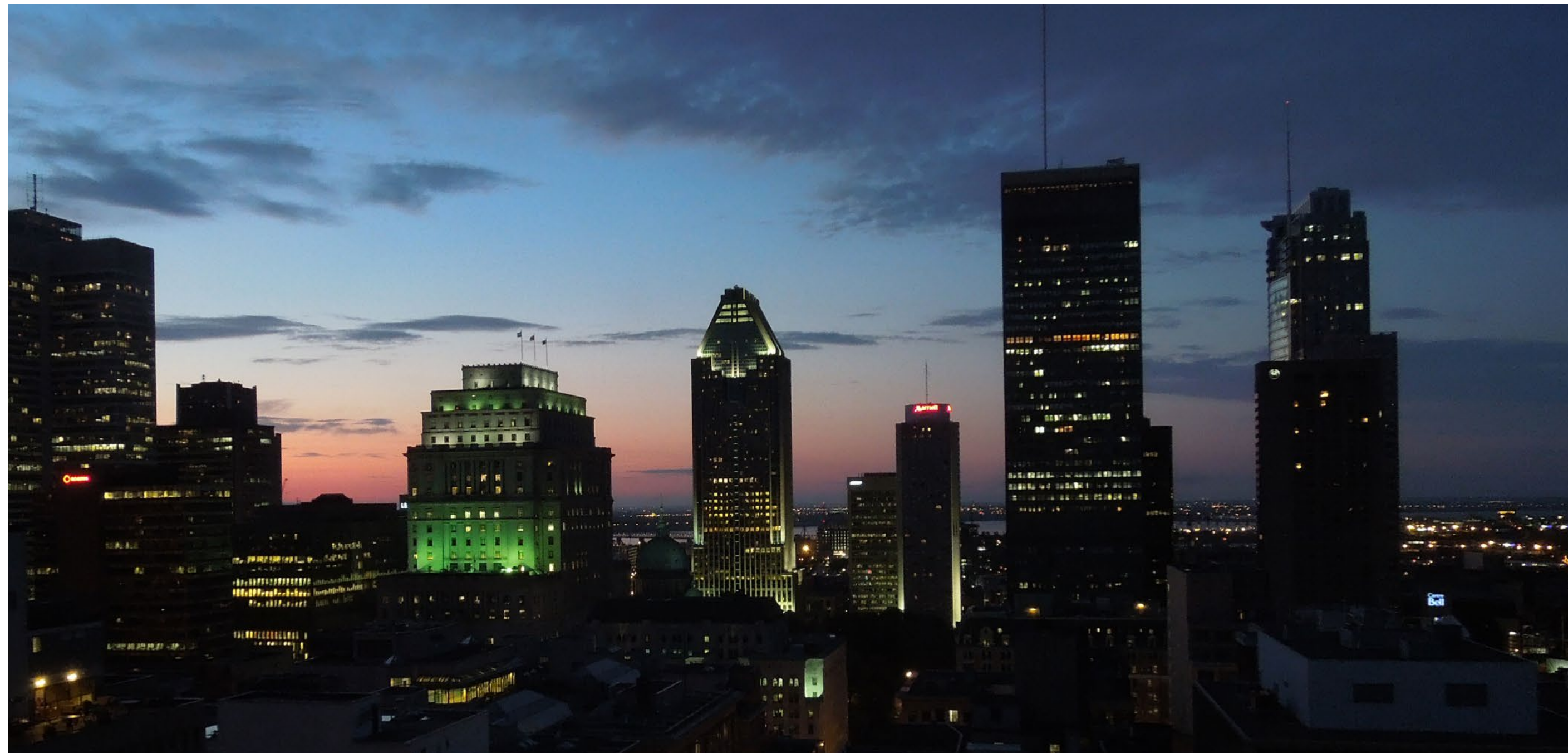


Photo by Stéphane Milot on Unsplash

Factoring in time zone differences requires atypical schedules

Intentional Diversity often requires going the extra-mile

#DATACOLLECTION

2-6am

oops!



06

From data collection to data stories

Impact Continuum



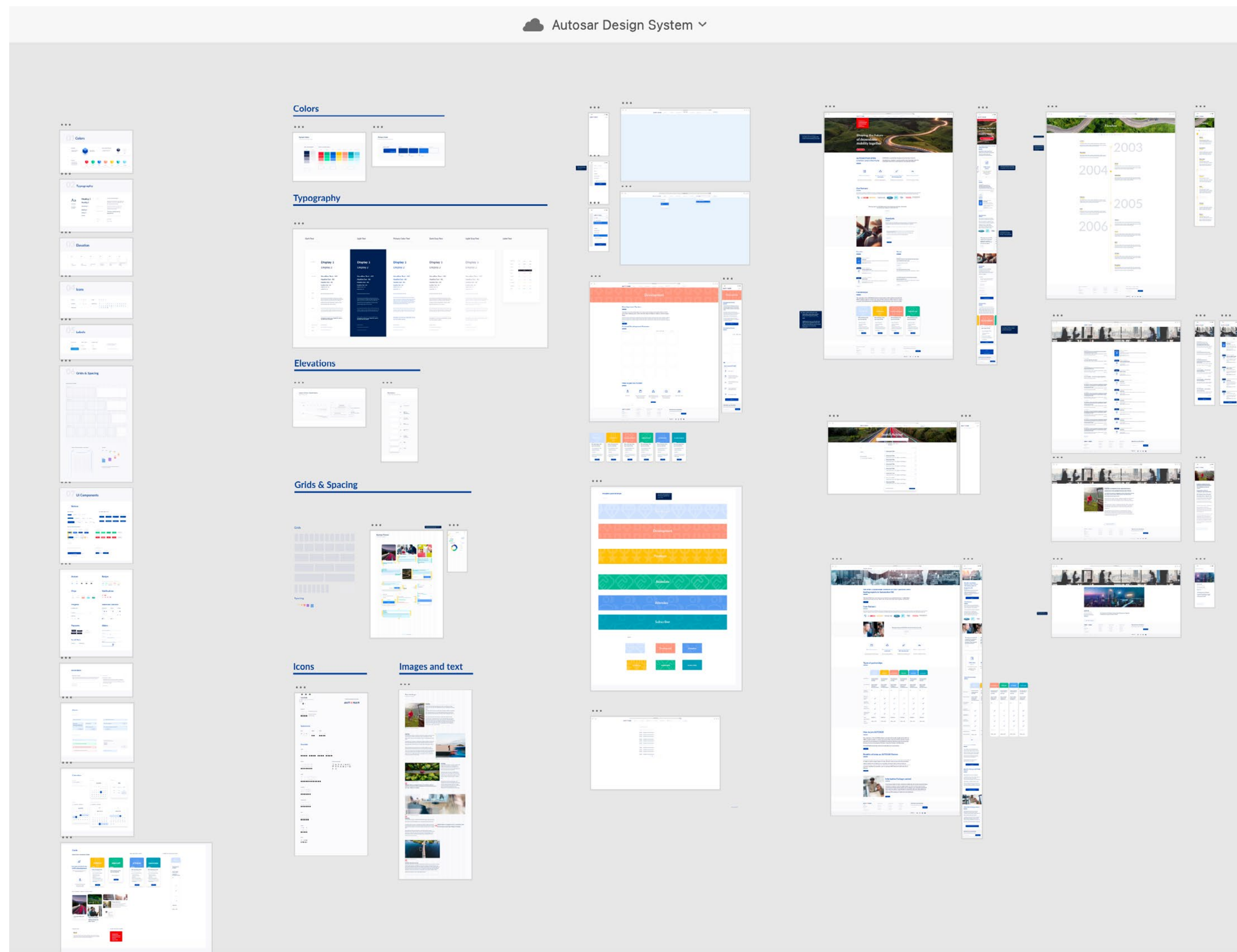
Handoff & Deliverables

We collaborated with a web agency in Munich +Pluswerk , who took over after our presentation of the results to create and launch the AUTOSAR website.

DOCUMENTS

- Recap of all workshops, data, decision making and results
- Digital Communication Guidelines, the Storytelling and Marketing elements translated from our workshops into a wireframe design and guidelines for the website creation.
- The Design System at an atomic level on Adobe XD

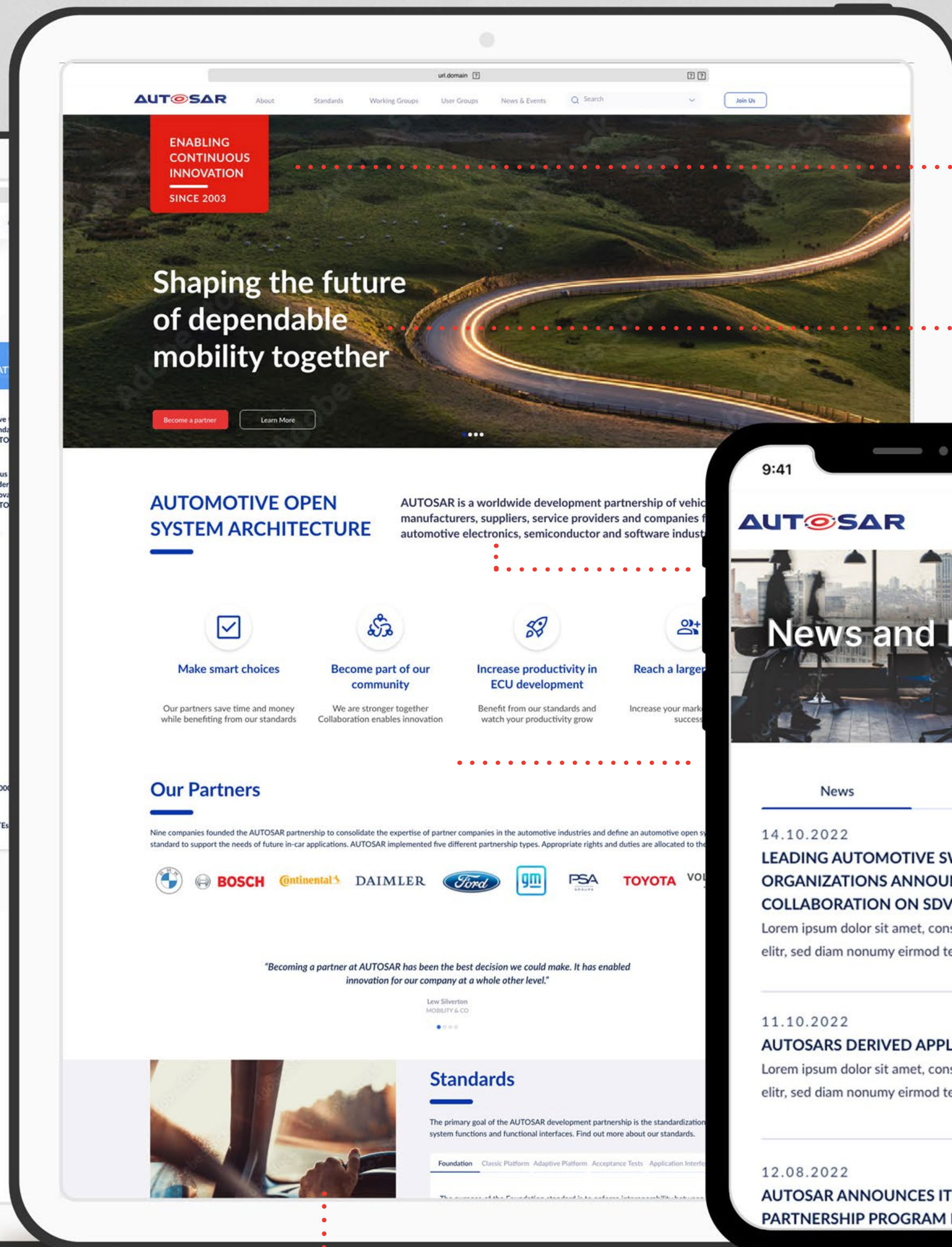
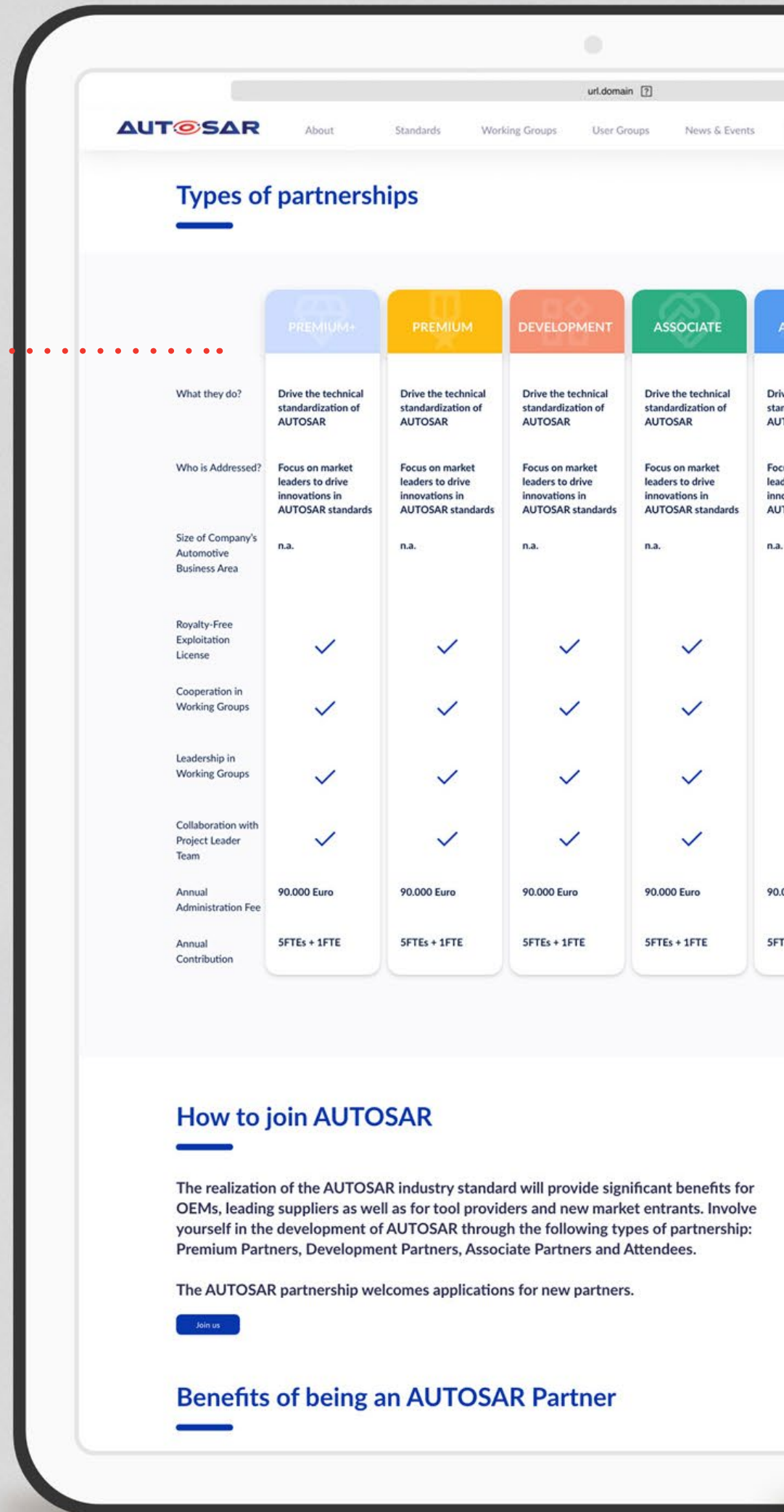
Accessibles on their SVN,
Confluence on the Cloud



Website

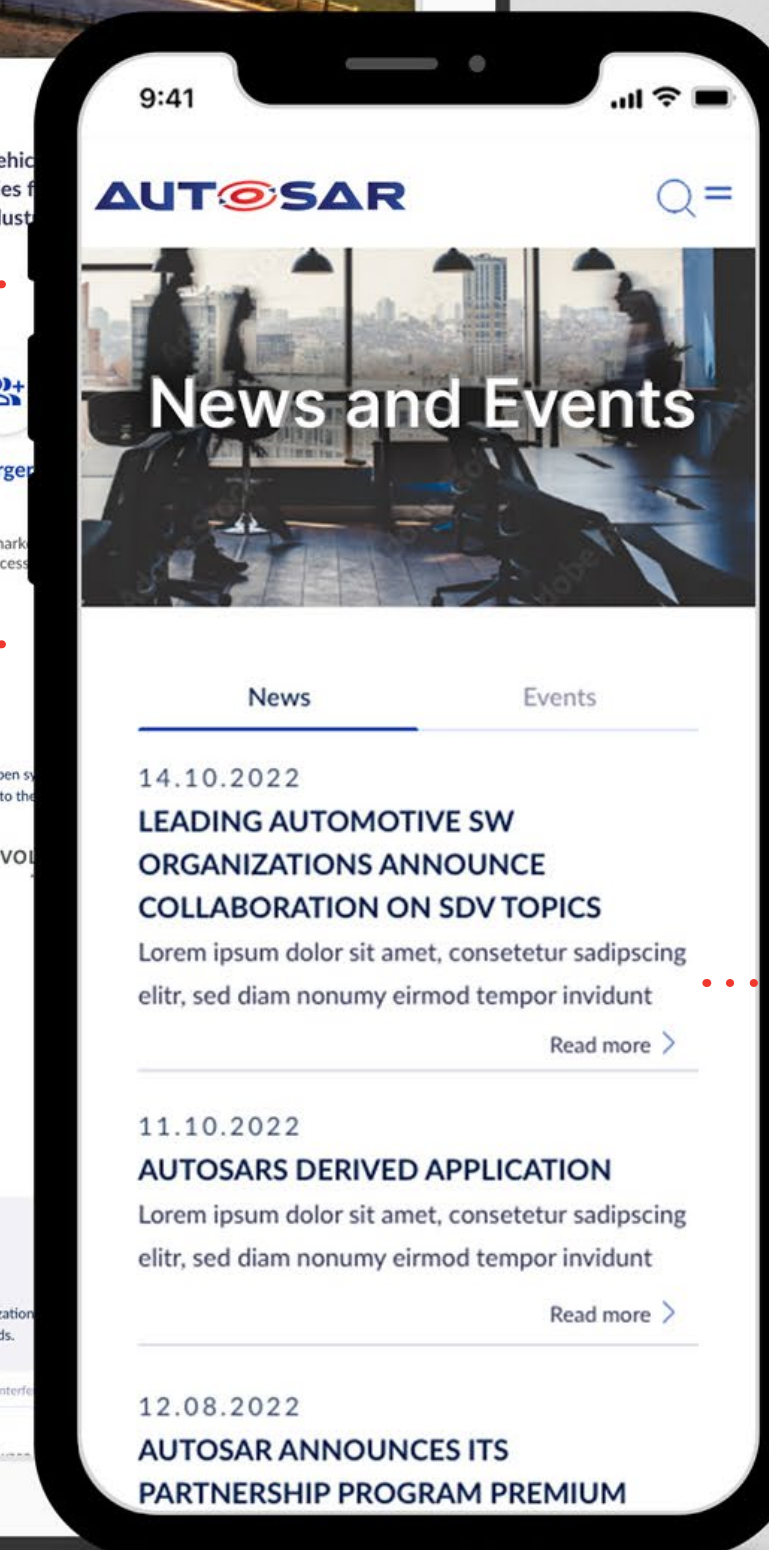
Clear information on types of partnership

And the benefits of becoming a partner from Workshop #2



What AUTOSAR does (Slogan)

The theme created from workshop #1



Accessible Definition of AUTOSAR

4 easy steps (and benefits) of becoming a partner with call to action from workshop #2

Streamline of information access to news and events

Curated images of people in context

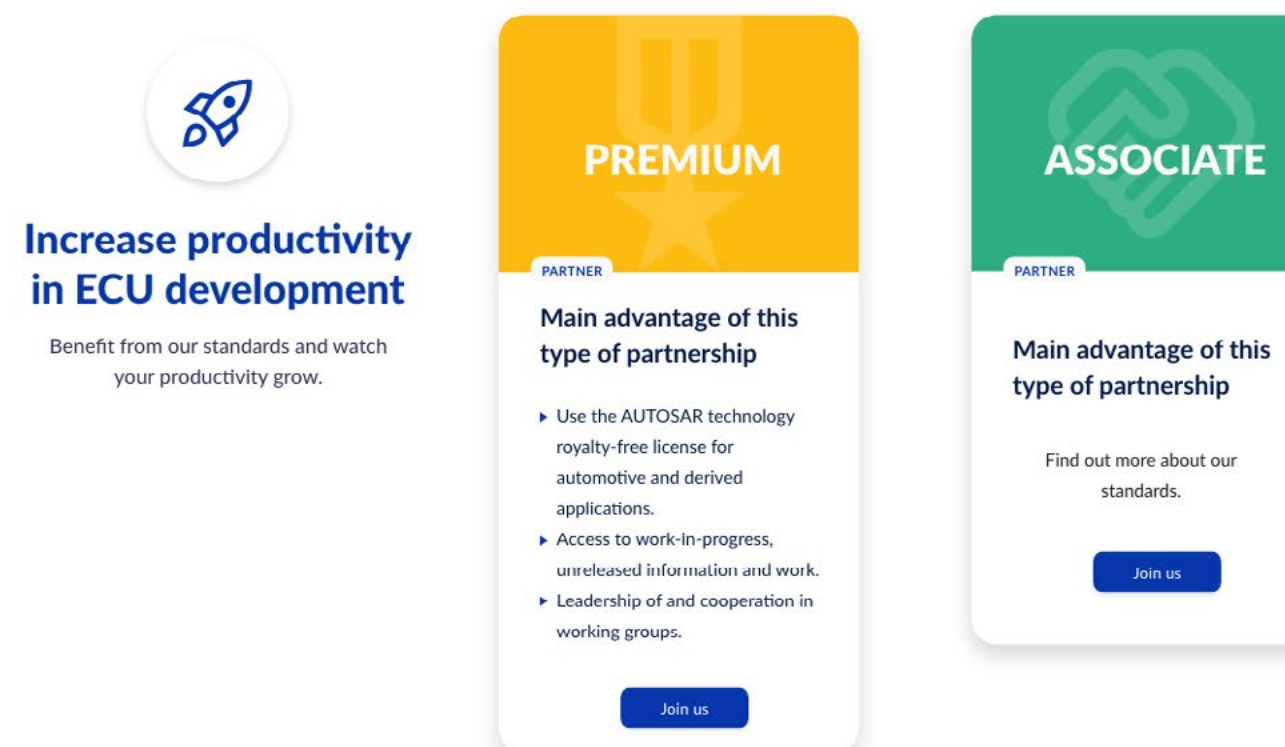
Autosar Website redesign

Enhancing UX/UI to facilitate partnership acquisition and streamline access to information

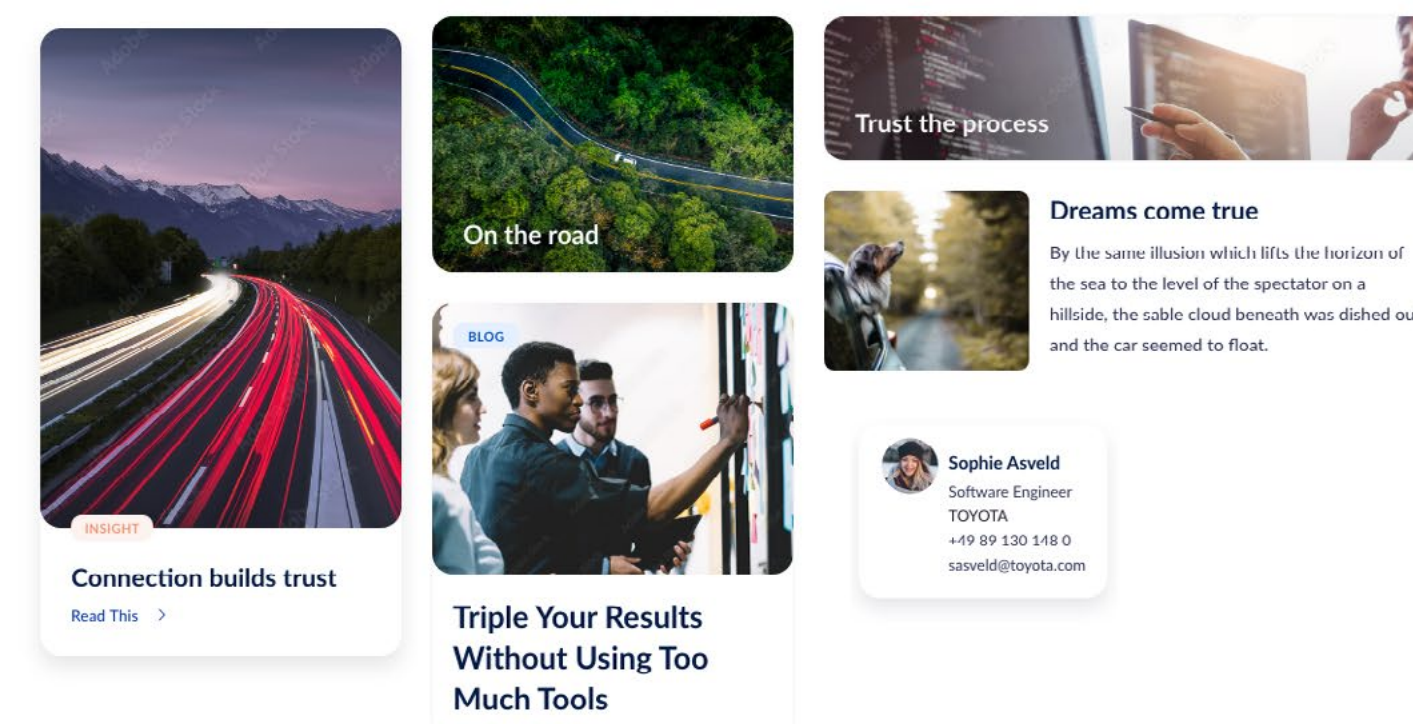
- **Communication:** Simplified understanding of AUTOSAR
- **Enhanced UX** proposition for search engine
- **UI Design:** translating research findings into actionable design proposals through a comprehensive Design System
- **Theme:** Shaping the future of intelligent mobility together
- **Partner acquisition:**
 - 4 step plan with clear Calls to Action to become a partner
 - Concise Benefits of becoming a partner
- **Visual Design :**
 - Information Architecture
 - Curated imagery of people (humanizing AUTOSAR)
 - Curated imagery of roads ("We're on the road" concept)

Impact

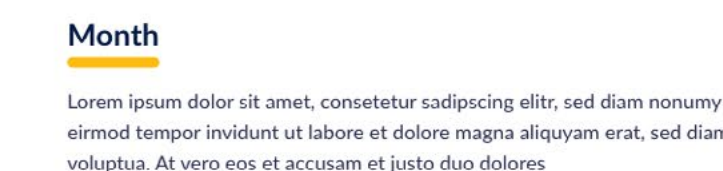
BENEFITS CARD & COMPARISON TEASERS



BLOG THUMBNAIL, PRODUCT & PROFILE CARDS



TIMELINE CARD



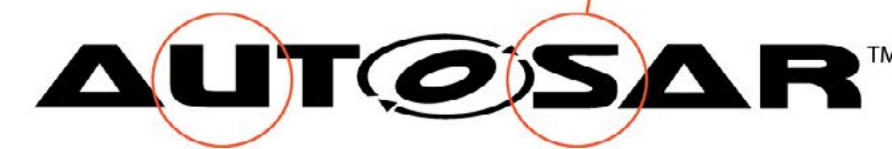
SLOGAN OVER PHOTO BANNER





PROCESS

Refreshing the logo (20 years later)



1

TYPOGRAPHY UPDATE

Anisette Std ExBold

AUTOSAR

Transformation to adapt the main characteristics of the original typography in the letters A and U as well as the angles in the letter S.



2

SYMBOL UPDATE



Two different axis and lack of consistency in the tracing of forms



A single axis and consistency in all the tracing of forms



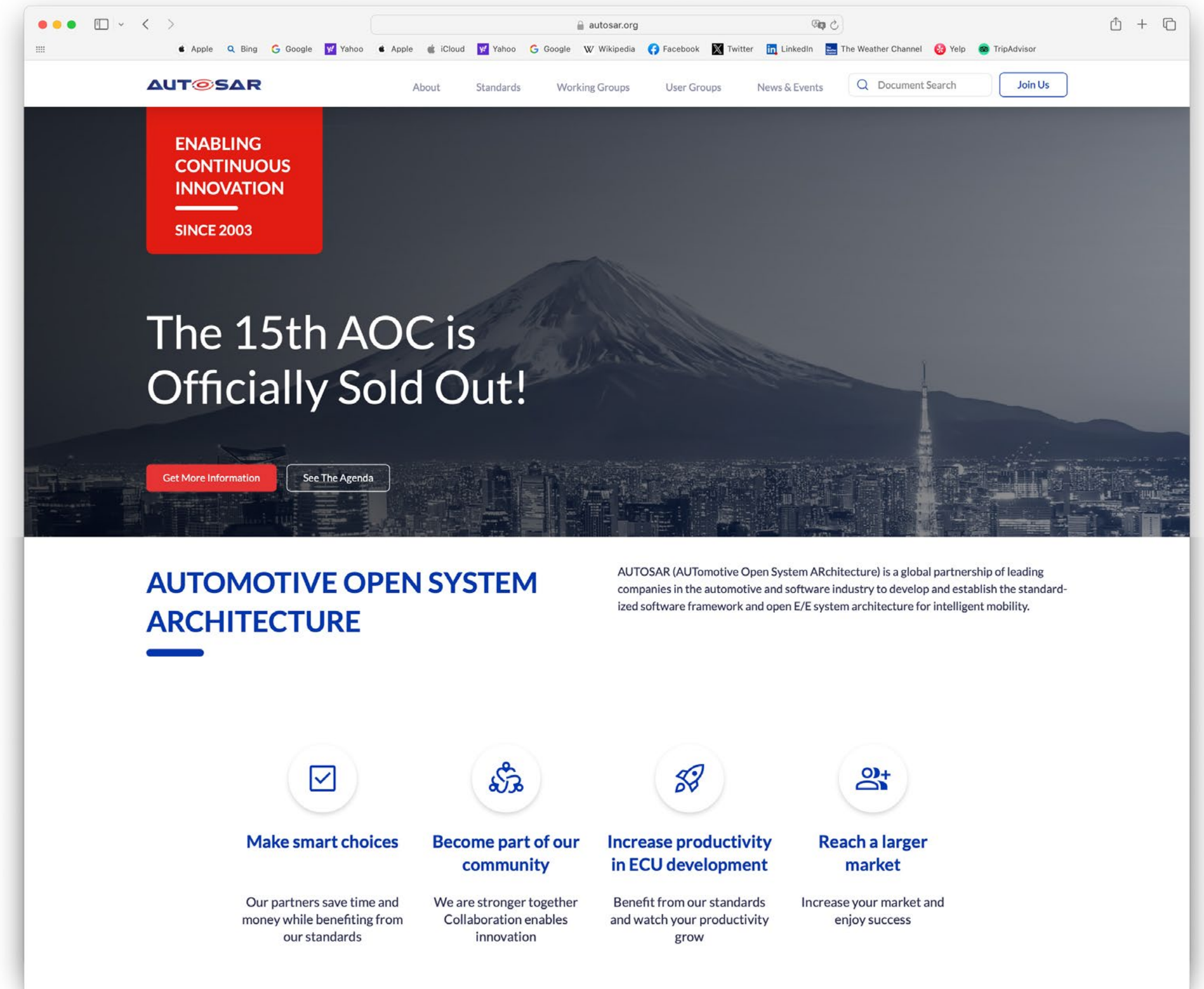
The human eye can spot inconsistencies

Further Impact



Ripple effect

From 155 participants in 2023 to 366 participants in 2024



Data revealed that people were missing from AUTOSAR communication materials, so we changed it.

A clear call to action in a simple 4 step plan with the benefits at first glance in the landing page.

Conclusion

Diversity drives Innovation, and reduces risk, providing the understanding that enables the design of more impactful solutions

#intentional

#innovation

From Existing to Exciting Dynamics



Courage
Daring
Nerve
Chivalry



Hard Work
Patience
Loyalty
Honesty

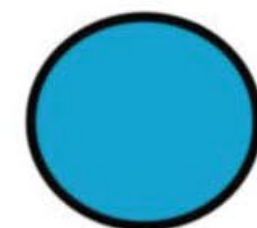
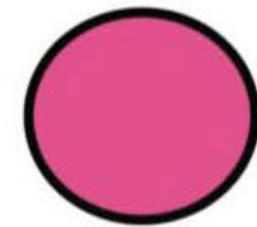
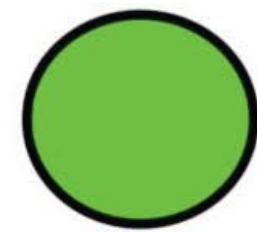
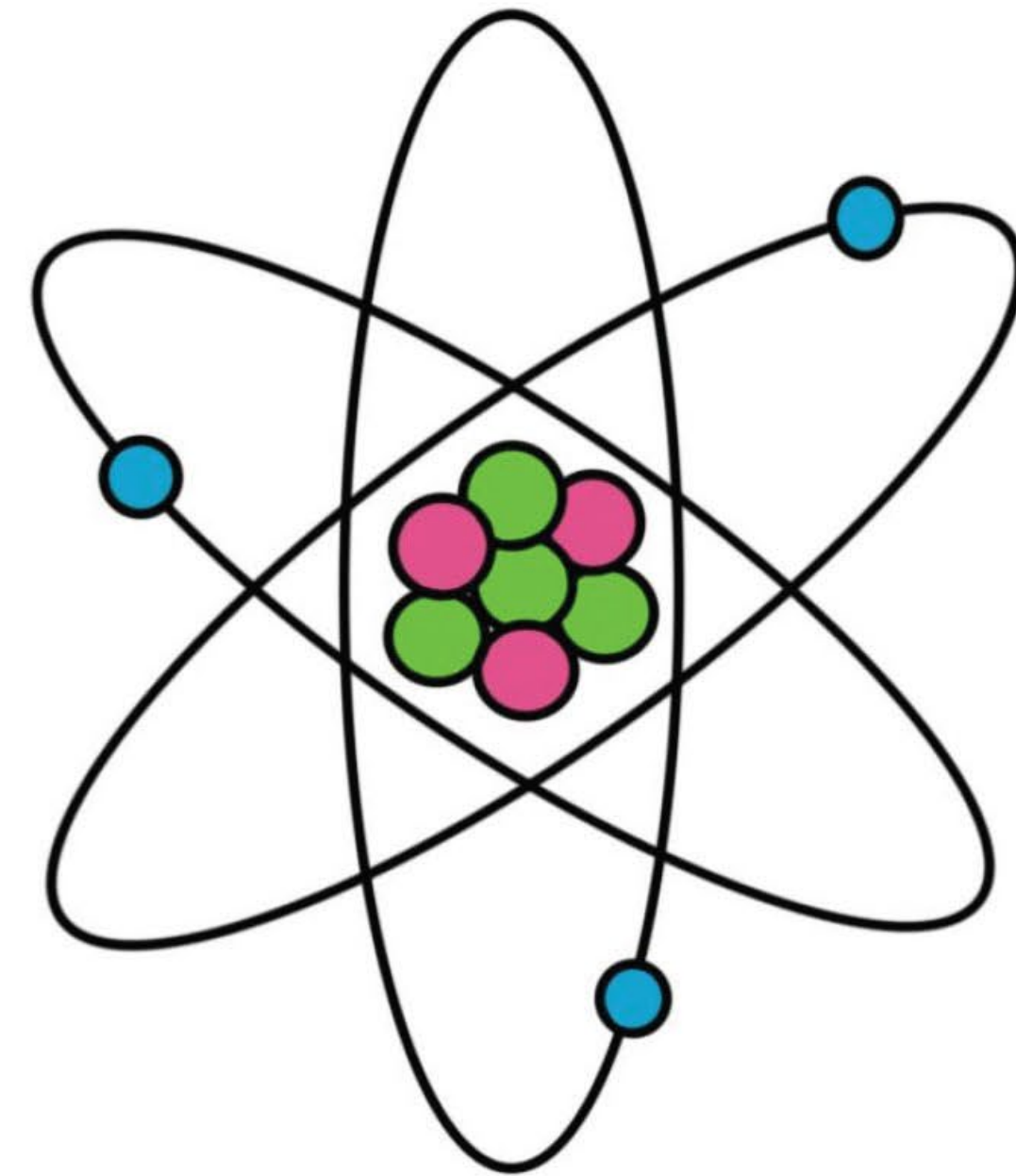


Intelligence
Knowledge
Wit
Observation

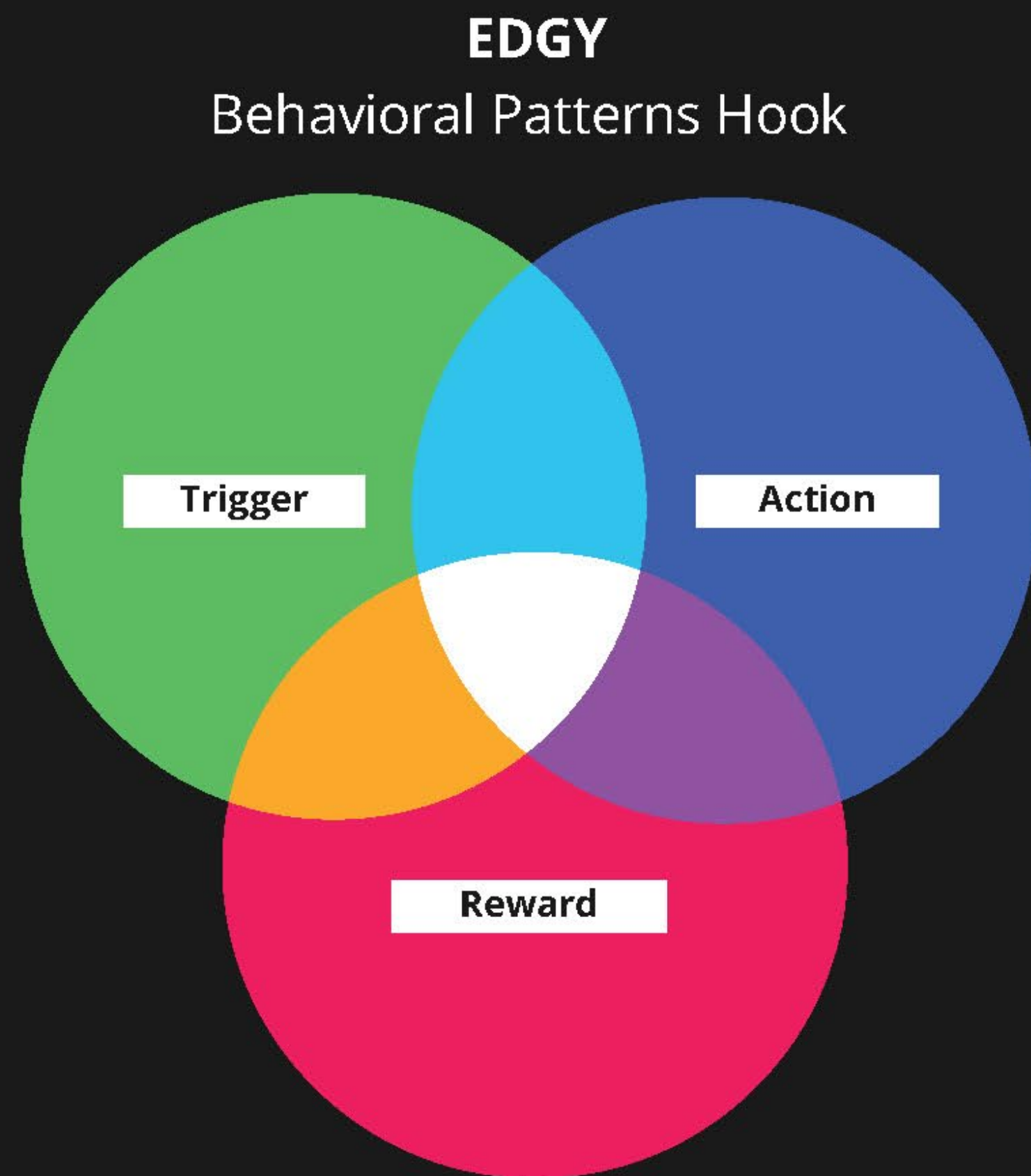


Ambition
Cunning
Cleverness
Resourceful

VS



Part 1: Comfort Zone



Remove existing pattern



Create exciting pattern



Move from existing to exciting pattern :)



Instructions

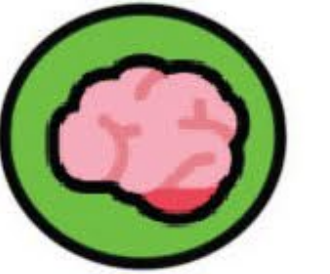
EDGY

Behavioral Patterns Hook



Step 1 [2 min]

Pick your comfort zone 🎨



Role-playing

Step 2 [3 min]

Create team with 3 different profiles



Connection

Step 3 [15 min]

Solve the case with a 3-facet solution



Collaboration

Example

All metrics are down: student **engagement, revenue, grades** are down 3 years in a row. A new "fresh" approach is voted.



Remove
Trigger

New Consultant aka the "**strategist**"



Transform
Action

Senior Staff aka the "**analyst**"



Create
Reward

Potential Student aka the "**beneficiary**"

Example

All metrics are down: student **engagement, revenue, grades** are down 3 years in a row. A new "fresh" approach is voted.



Remove
Trigger

New Consultant

Stop the "University is for Elite Society" stigma



Transform
Action

Senior Staff

Improve the Financing Programs accessibility



Create
Reward

Potential Student

Start a Community Sponsoring School project

*Optional: Facets + Intersections

All metrics are down: student **engagement, revenue, grades** are down 3 years in a row. A new "fresh" approach is voted.



Remove
Trigger

Stop the *"University is for Elite Society"* stigma

Organization: Community Development Expert



Transform
Action

Improve the Financing Programs accessibility

Product: New Optional Course



Create
Reward

Start a Community Sponsoring School project

Brand: the Higher Stakes Initiative

GO 🏁 [20 min]

All metrics are down: student **engagement**, **revenue**, **grades** are down 3 years in a row. A new "fresh" approach is voted.



Remove
Trigger

New Consultant aka the "**strategist**"



Transform
Action

Senior Staff aka the "**analyst**"



Create
Reward

Potential Student aka the "**beneficiary**"

Part 2: Discomfort Zone

All metrics are down: student **engagement, revenue, grades** are down 3 years in a row. A new "fresh" approach is voted.



Transform
Trigger

Potential Student aka the "game-changer"



Create
Action

New Consultant aka the "architect"



Remove
Reward

Senior Staff aka the "slasher"

Example

All metrics are down: student **engagement, revenue, grades** are down 3 years in a row. A new "fresh" approach is voted.



Transform
Trigger

Potential Student

Shift competitive mindset into a cooperative one



Create
Action

New Consultant

Craft new "team coaching" training material



Remove
Reward

Senior Staff

Ban individual awards for school projects

GO [15 min]

All metrics are down: student **engagement, revenue, grades** are down 3 years in a row. A new "fresh" approach is voted.



Transform
Trigger

Potential Student aka the "**game-changer**"



Create
Action

New Consultant aka the "**architect**"



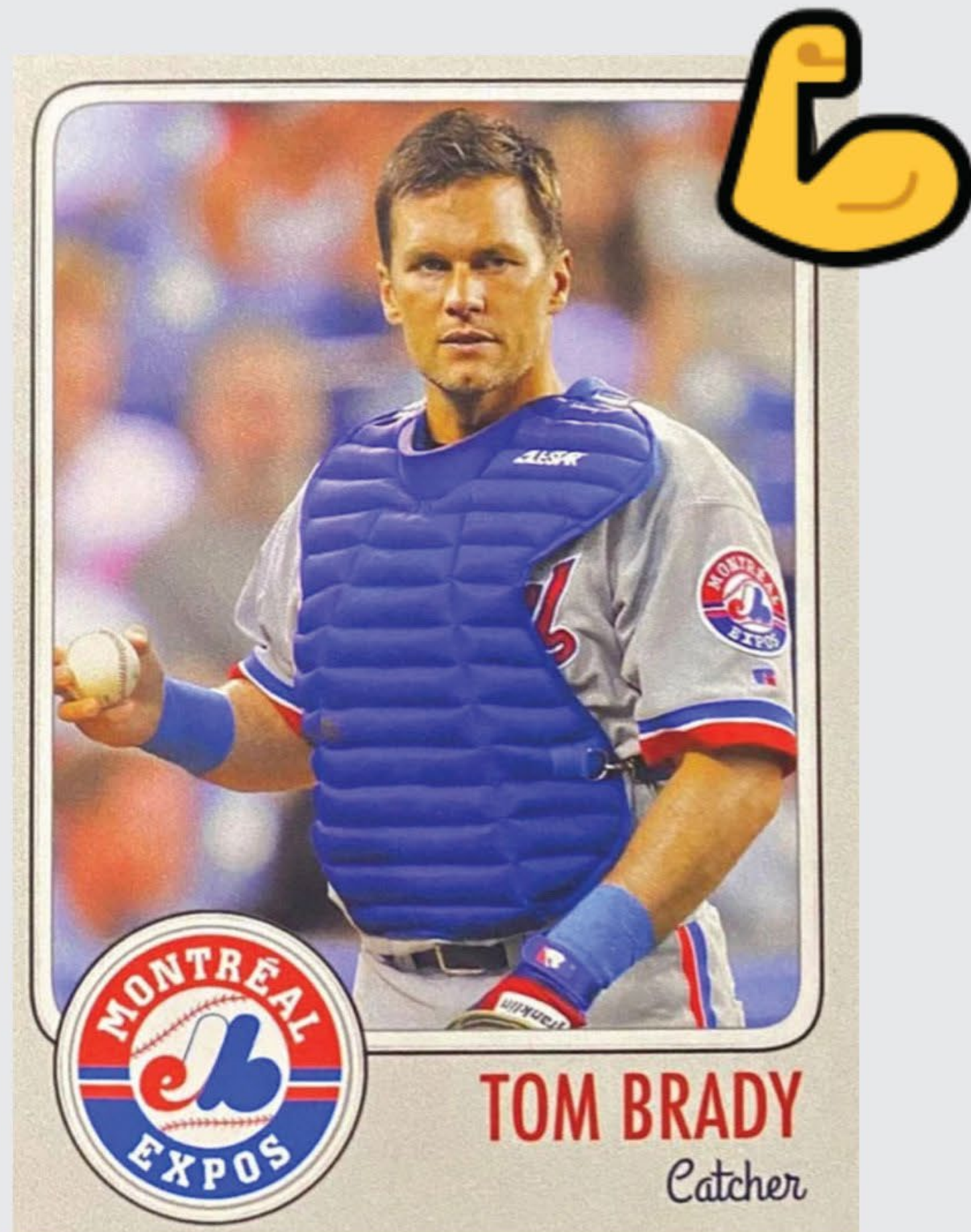
Remove
Reward

Senior Staff aka the "**slasher**"

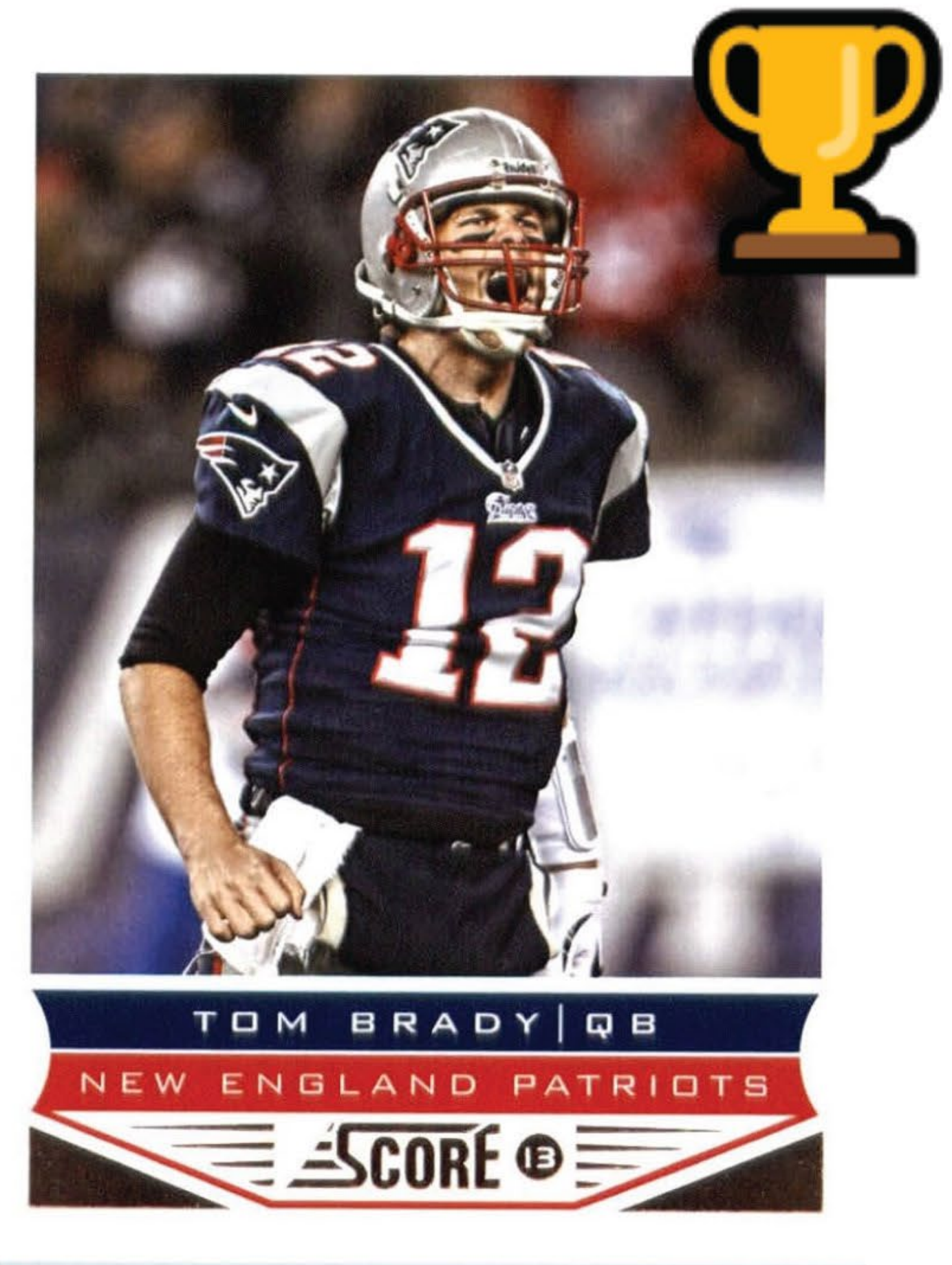
"A change in perspective is worth 80 IQ points"

- Alan Kay, Pioneer of Computer Graphics

From Predictable to Incredible Patterns



VS



“Lead with courage and empathy,
and **discomfort** will no longer be
an obstacle but an **opportunity**.”

Are you facing a similar challenge?

Reach out !

(don't be shy)

Sidéral x **STOIX**

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