

Project Life

SUSTAINHUTS

Sustainable mountain huts in Europe:
Toward zero emissions

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Introduction

- Goals of the Life SustainHuts project
- Selected mountain huts
- Mass and energy balance of mountain huts
- Environmental impact assessment
- Towards sustainable operation of mountain huts
- Conclusions: zero emissions?



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LIFE15 CCA/ES/000058

Sustainable Mountain Huts In Europe

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↓8 t/a CO₂



↓0,5 t/a NO_x



↓20%

Execution of demo-sites

04

Implementation
Actions

Energy



↓20% Fuel

Life cycle
environ

Replicabili

07

Guidelines and methodologies
SUSTAINHUTS

Mountain huts

Location, altitude



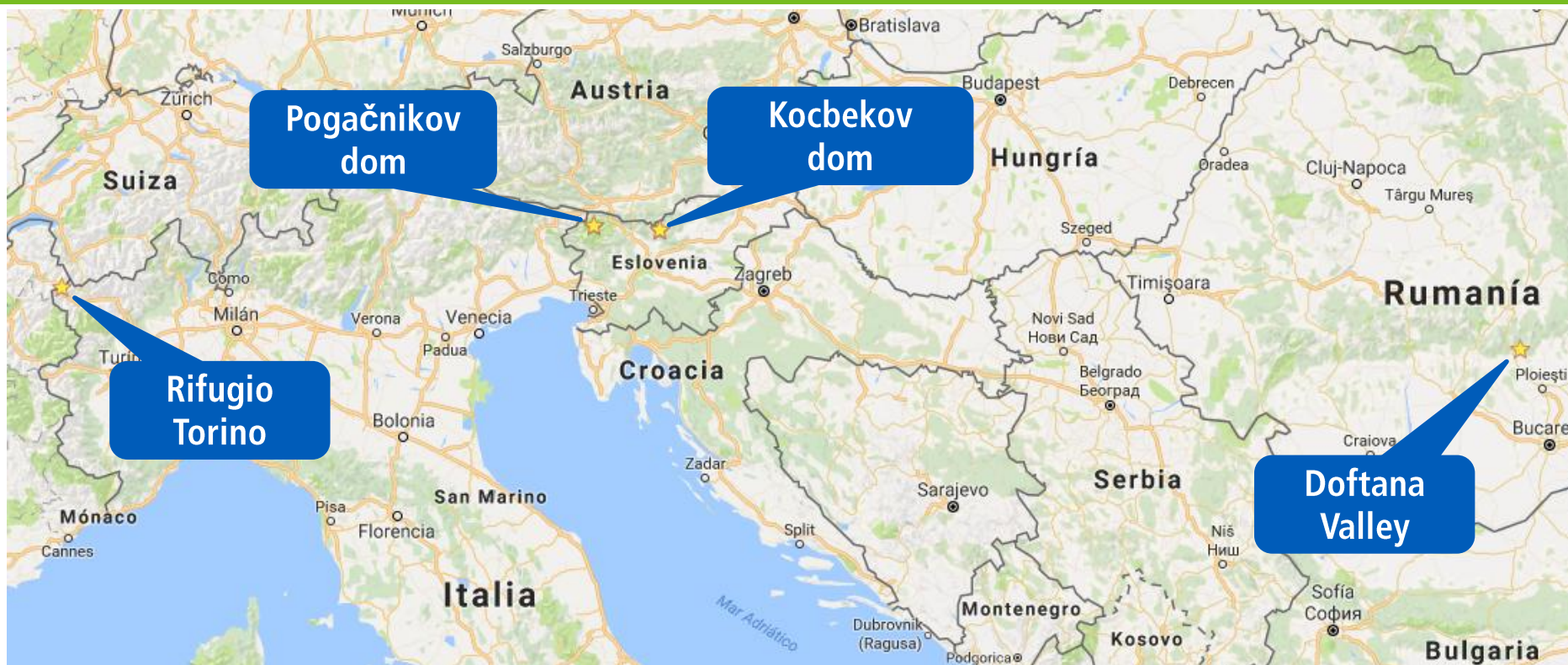
Lizara
The Lizara hut, inaugurated on June 22, 2003, is located at the end of the...
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Torino
Torino Hut is a high mountain hut in north western Italy. Located on the border with France, it is about...
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Valley
This demo-site involves a mountain hut located in Dofana Valley, Mountain Carpathian Mountain at...
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Mass and Energy balance

Electricity, Heat in transport

Electricity generation



Hut	location	altitude, m	PV	Electricity grid	Fossil fuels	Batteries	micro Hydropower
Bachimania	Pyrenees, Spain	2200	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Lizara		1540	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Llauset		2425	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Estos		1890	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Refugio Torino	Alps, Italy	3350	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Pogacnikov Dom	Alps, Slovenia	2050	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Kocbekov dom		1808	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗

- **(Too)big share of fossil fuels!**
- Electricity grid: Refugio Torino
- High possibility of photovoltaics
- 2 case studies micro hydropower
- (Still) without hydrogen technologies



Heat

(domestic hot water and heating)

Hut	Location	Altitude, m	Stove	Other
Bachimania	Pyrenees, Spain	2200	✓ (diesel)	✓(electric heater)
Lizara		1540	✓ (firewood, NG)	✓(solar thermal collectors for hot water)
Llauset		2425	✓ (Firewood, pellets)	✗
Estos		1890	✗	✓ (diesel water heater)
Refugio Torino	Alps, Italy	3350	✓ (pellets)	✓ (electric water heater, gasoline water heater)
Pogačnikov Dom	Alps, Slovenia	2050	✓ (Firewood)	✓ (stove)
Kocbekov dom		1808	✓ (Firewood)	✓ (stove)

- Main fuel for heating: **firewood and pellets**
- **Fossil fuels and electricity for heating**
- Solar thermal collectors just in one case!



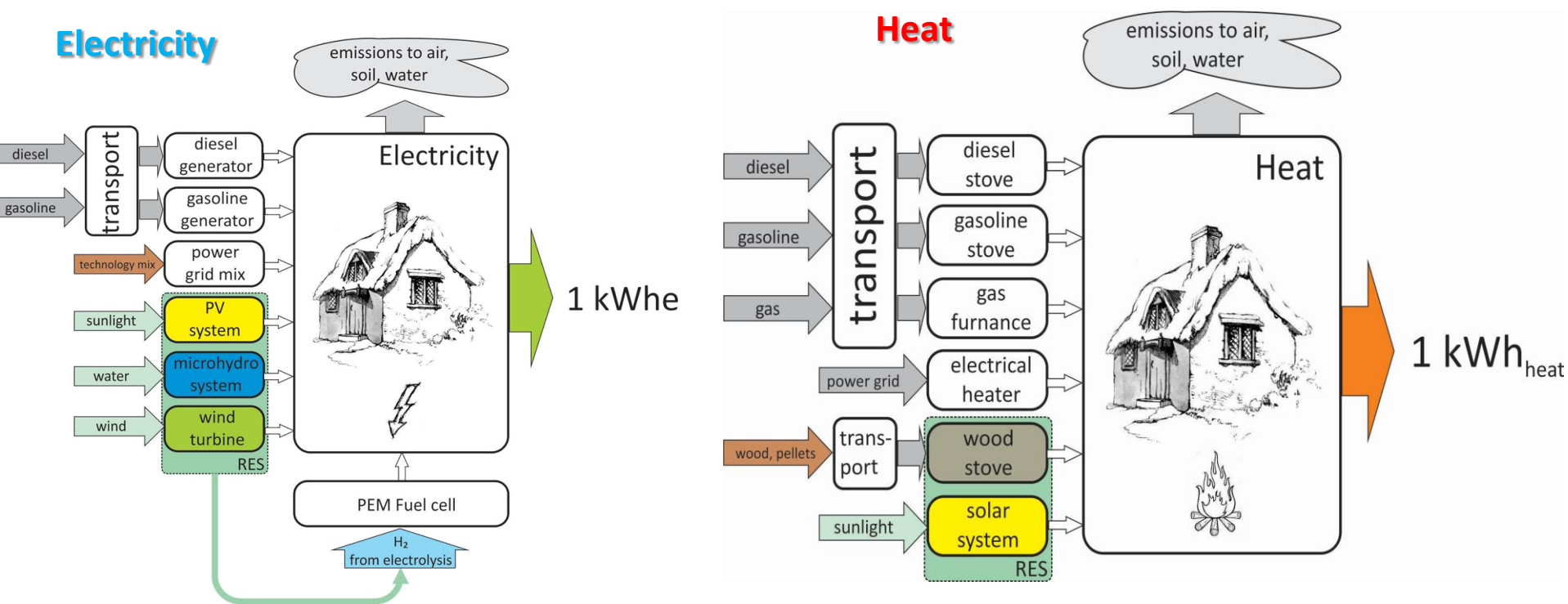
Transportation and supplying

- Staff
- Food
- Water
- Energy sources
- Waste
- Other (maintenance, material...)



Evaluation of environmental impact

LCA – Life Cycle Assessment of mountain huts



Important parameters

- Operation time in year
- Number of visits in year
- The size of mountain hut
- Options for improvements

Comparison of results

- **Relatively** between huts according to the functional unit 1 kWh
- **Absolutely** according to the individual hut before and after the investment

Methodology/Environmental indicators

- CML2011
- Environmental indicators (12 midpoint)
- Gabi Thinkstep
- Ecoinvent in Gabi professional

GLOBAL

- Global Warming Potential (GWP, kg CO₂- eq.)
- Abiotic Depletion Potential (ADP, kg Antimona (Sb) - eq.)
- Ozone Layer Depletion Potential (ODP, kg R11 - eq.)

REGIONAL

- Acidification Potential (AP, kg SO₂ - eq.)
- Freshwater Aquatic Eco-Toxicity Potential (FAETP, kg DCB - eq.)

LOCAL

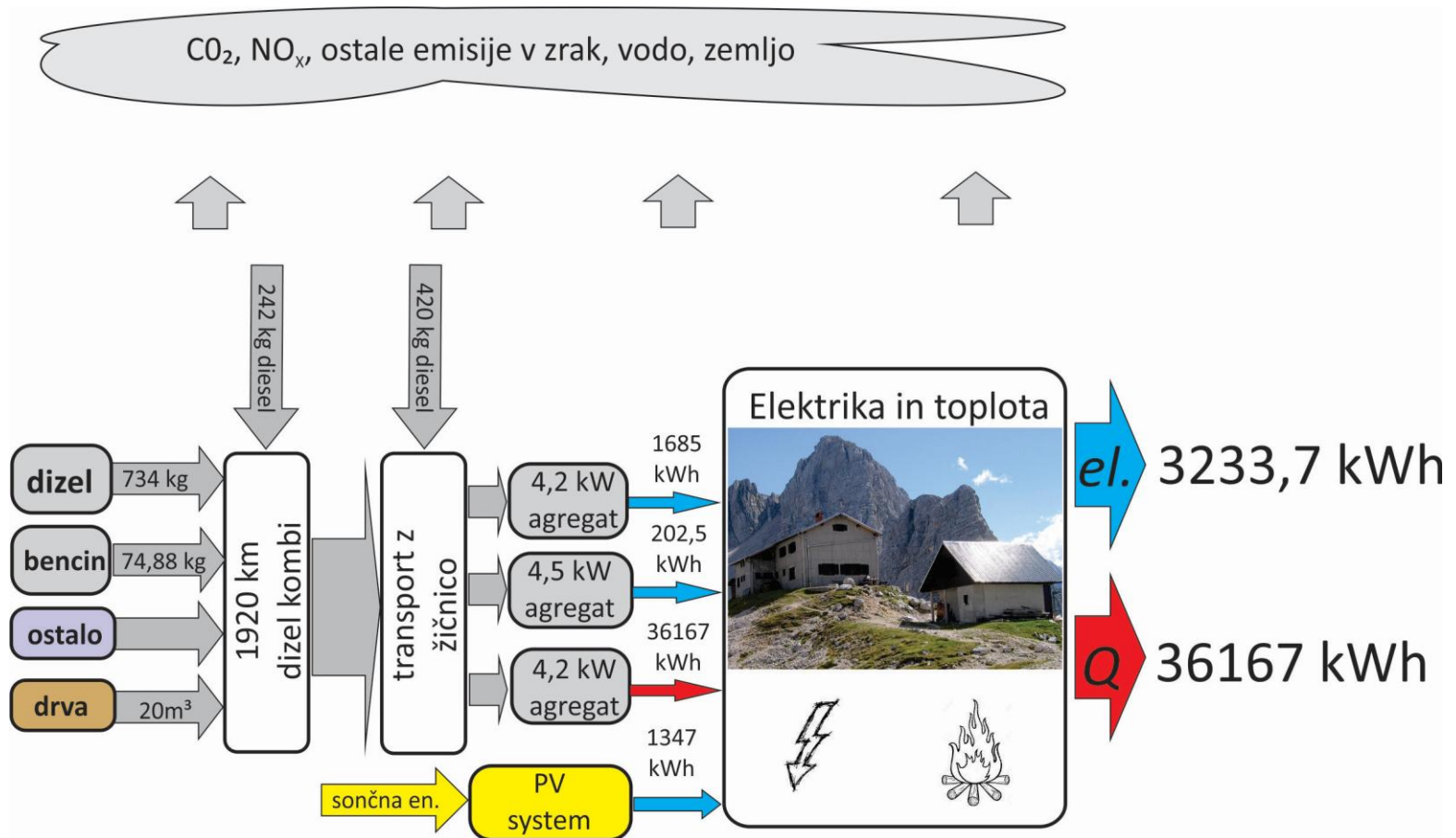
- Eutrophication Potential (EP, kg PO₄- eq.)
- Photochemical Ozone Creation Potential (POPC, kg Etilen - eq.)
- Human Toxicity Potential (HTP, kg DCB - eq.)

CML 2001 (ang. Centre of Environmental Studies; University of Leiden, EU)

LCI	IMPACT CATEGORIES		FACTORS	LCIA
Emissions to air				
CO ₂	1.3 kg	GWP	1.3 kg CO ₂ * 1	160.3 kg CO ₂ Eq.
CO	3 kg		3 kg CO * 3	
CH ₄	6 kg		6 kg CH ₄ * 25	
SO ₂	0.001 kg	AP	0.001 kg SO ₂ * 1	0.849 kg SO ₂ Eq.
NO _x	0.08 kg		0.08 kg NO _x * 0.7	
HCl	0.9 kg		0.9 kg HCl * 0.88	
Emissions to water				
PO ₄	2 kg	EP	0.08 kg NO _x * 0.13	2.043 kg PO ₄ Eq.
NH ₃	0.1 kg		2kg PO ₄ * 1 0.1 kg NH ₃ * 0.33	
CLASSIFICATION		CHARACTERISATION		



Pogačnikov dom na Kriških podih



- ❑ Diesel generator → 2,64 kg/l (3,162 kg/kg) CO₂
- ❑ Diesel generator → 2,392 kg/l (3,189 kg/kg) CO₂
- ❑ LPG → 3,027 kg/kg de CO₂
- ❑ Helicopter → 7 kg/min CO₂

4678 kg / year



CO₂

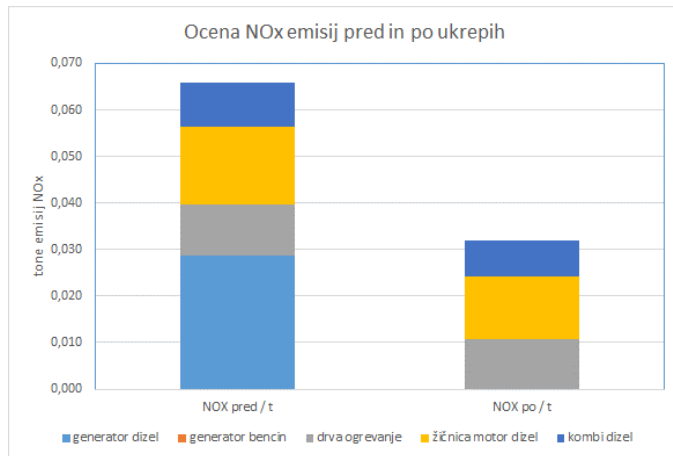
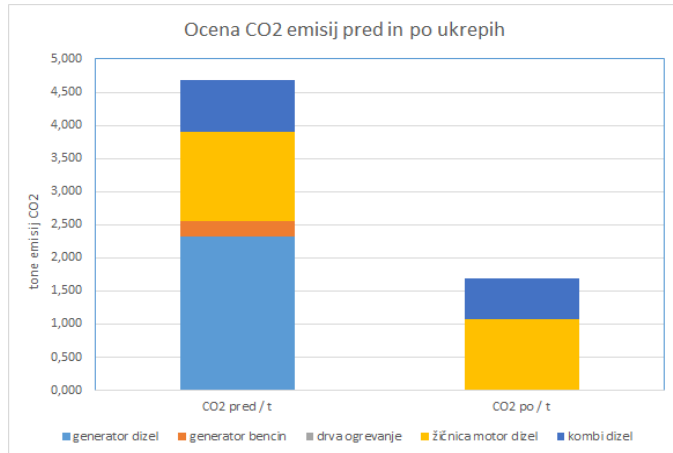


65,9 kg / year



NO_x

Estimated emissions according to:



- Installation of 5.5 kW PV
- Non-operational diesel and petrol generators
- Transport optimization (20 % reduction in consumption: less fuel, optimization)

4678 kg / year



1694 kg / year

65,9 kg / year



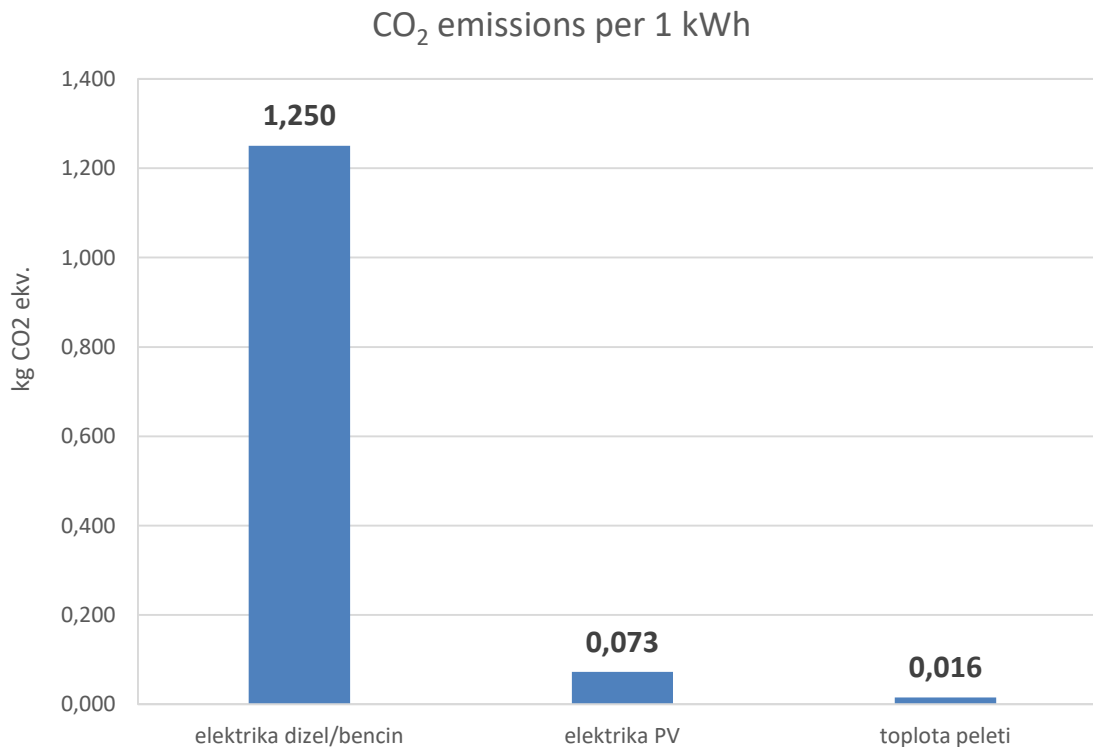
31,83 kg / year



CO₂

NO_x

Results of in-depth LCA analysis



- Emissions are also present at
- Electricity production from PV
 - Heat from pellets
- Reasons?

Conclusions – Toward zero emissions?

A zero environmental impact can be achieved in the case of mountain huts, not just with technological measures, but also should be considered:

- to manage a hut economically by owners,
- cooperation of users of mountain huts – mountaineers (consumption (electricity/heat), waste, etc.)



Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

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Development Centre
for Hydrogen Technologies

