


ALPSTAR Initial Conference on 27th October 2011
in Chambéry / France

Alpine Towns towards Climate Neutrality



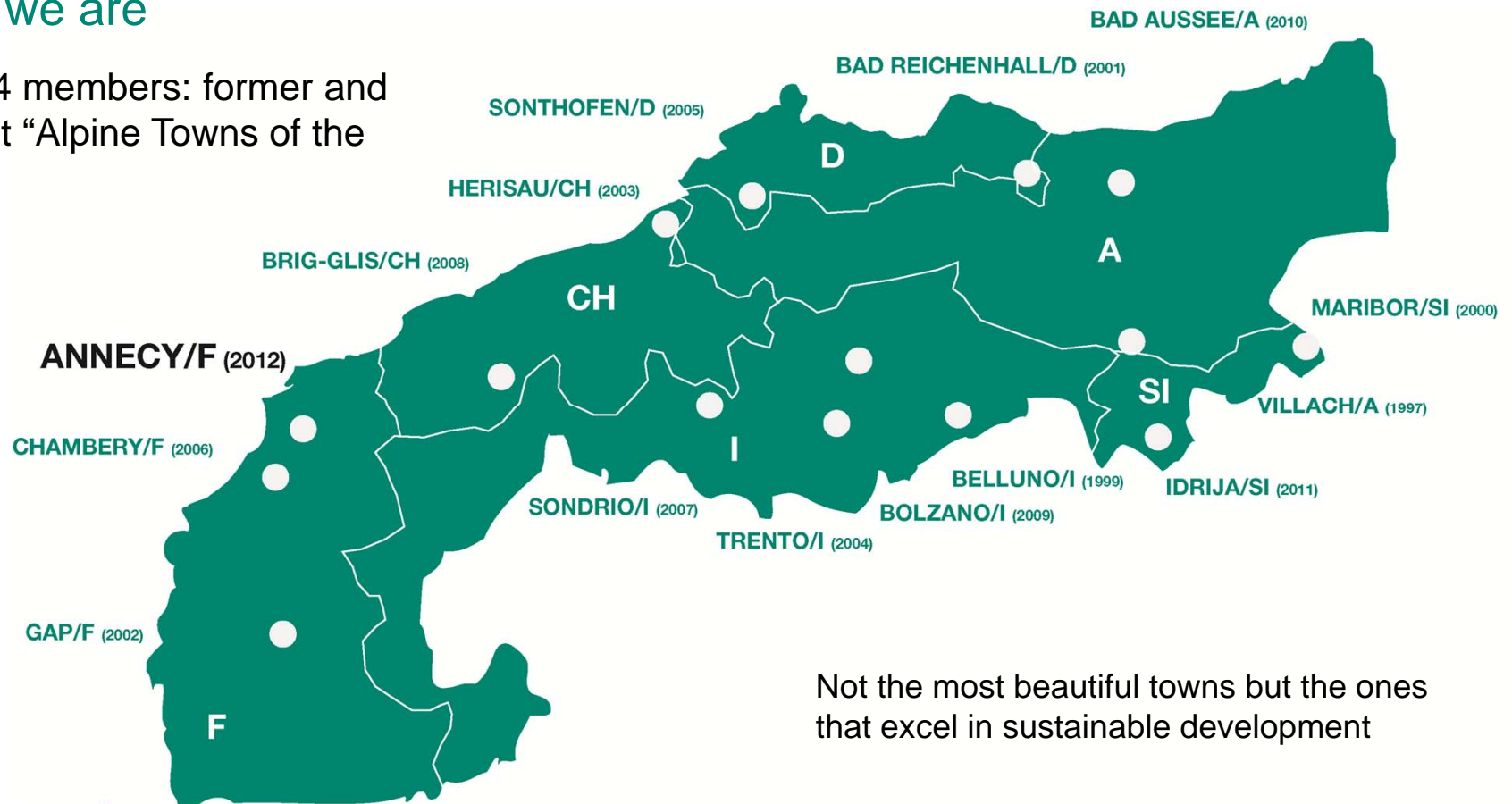
Hubert Buhl, President of the “Alpine Town of the Year” Association



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Who we are

The 14 members: former and current “Alpine Towns of the Year”




Not the most beautiful towns but the ones that excel in sustainable development

Who we are

The 5 goals of the Alpine Towns

- To strengthen awareness of the Alps
- To involve the population
- To consolidate ties with the region
- To shape a sustainable future
- To develop co-operation




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- In the Alps 2/3 of the population lives in towns
 - Concentration of people, values and infrastructure
 - Therefore, Alpine towns have a high responsibility for the Alpine Region.



No Alpine town can overlook a strategic and practical climate policy!



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“Alpine Towns of the Year” are the driving force for climate protection and energy efficiency

Measures in the cities and municipalities have a direct impact by acting locally

- ➔ Participation and involvement of citizens
- ➔ Local benefit and value
- ➔ Urban land use planning as a planning for the future



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Sonthofen / Germany:

- “European Energy Award“
- Biomass cogeneration plants for approx. 800 households, industrial enterprises and hospitals
- Energy management in all municipal buildings
- General refurbishment of the grammar school and childcare center to passive house standards



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Brig-Glis / CH:

- Certified “Energy City”
- Energy guidelines together with the neighboring town for approx. 20 000 inhabitants
- Construction of a geothermal heating network that will completely replace heating oil in 25 years
- Process energy from an incineration plant replaces natural gas

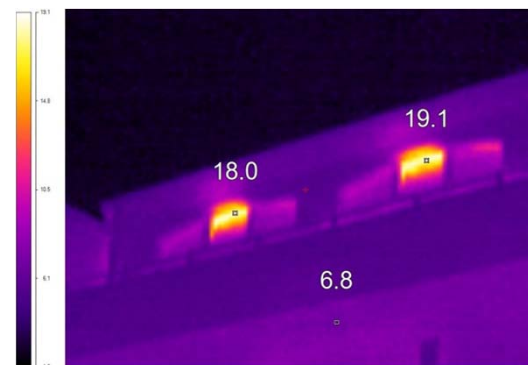


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Idrija / Slovenia:

- Sustainable payment strategy 2010
- Local energy concept
- Reduction of the light pollution
- Geo-park and extension of the network of cycle paths




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Conclusion

- A few examples show what potential cities have
- The Association “Alpine Town of the Year” is a valuable network for strategic climate policy in the municipalities
- Towns will benefit from innovation, experience and exchange
- Towns are the key factor for implementing a global climate policy



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*The label “Alpine Town of the Year” is not only an award,
but also a challenge for a sustainable climate policy.*



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