Around 40 percent of the energy consumption in Europe is used for the construction, renovation and demolition of buildings. Municipalities in the Alps and other mountain regions in Europe have already shown that the construction and occupancy of houses is possible with significantly less energy. Now they present their experiences in Idrija.

The goal of the workshop is to discuss the strategies and regulations that govern building construction. What kind of general framework needs to be set up by a municipality in order to build with the lowest energy consumption possible? Who needs to be involved in this process? How does successful cooperation within the region work?

Different approaches are possible. Through presentations in the marketplace, people from different alpine countries involved in strategies or their implementation will present their experiences, share their know-how and engage with participants.

Registration and further information: www.alpenstaedte.org/en/current-topics/events/4984
The project «MountEE – sustainable building in mountain regions» supports municipalities in the Alps, the Pyrenees and in Sweden achieving Near Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standards and in becoming front runners. In six regions 25 to 30 public buildings will be built or renovated – sustainably and energy efficiently. Numerous local and regional stakeholders are involved in the project. The key to successful, sustainable building projects is a holistic and structured approach, from the idea, to planning and, finally, the end use. Regionally adapted service packages can now help municipalities to keep track of the various aspects. Experts such as building ecologists and environmental consultants assist the local authorities throughout the entire building process, providing advice on matters such as energy conservation, ecological building materials and quality assurance.

MountEE is being supported by the European Union within the programme «Intelligent Energy Europa» for three years.

www.mountee.eu
**MARKETPLACE OF IDEAS**

**Advice and assistance services for municipalities and social housing organisations, Friuli Venezia Giulia/I**
The toolkit «Advice and assistance services for municipalities and social housing organisations» was developed by the Regional Agency for Sustainable Construction within the MountEE project. It has been tested on pilot buildings under refurbishment or construction in the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region. The toolkit is divided into seven modules. Angela Sanchini from the Regional Agency for Sustainable Construction of Friuli Venezia Giulia/I will share the experience gained during the MountEE project.

**The Green Integrated Economy Model of Šentrupert/SI**
The municipality of Šentrupert developed its own «Green Integrated Economy Model». It is characterised by sustainable public buildings, low energy input from renewable sources and support for the local economy. A wooden low-energy kindergarten, built with local materials, heating and electricity production from wooden chips, waste-heat usage and a wood-processing centre are some of the implemented measures. Rupert Gole, mayor and architect of Šentrupert shows how sustainable buildings and energy use can be integrated in a wider strategy for communities.

**Low carbon strategy of the Upper Soča Valley/SI**
Energy-efficient refurbishment of buildings is just a small piece in the mosaic of sustainable building construction, but a great opportunity for local communities to act as example for others. The five Slovene municipalities of Bovec, Kobarid, Tolmin, Cerkno and Idrija have worked together under the coordination of the Upper Soča Valley Development Centre to develop a low carbon strategy for their region. In this, sustainable construction has an important role to play. Miro Kristan, project manager at the Soča Valley Development Centre shows measures municipalities can take in the field of spatial and energy planning, as well as sustainable buildings and the use of local materials.

**Sustainable energy action plans and local authorities, Joint Research Centre of the European Commission**
A Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) is the key document in which signatories of the Covenant of Mayors outline how they intend to reach their CO₂ reduction target by 2020. An expert from the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission will share present activities and measures local authorities can take within the SEAPs in order to reduce their energy use in their territories.
MARKETPLACE OF IDEAS

Renovation of the Cultural Centre Malraux in Chambery/F
The town of Chambery aims to be a leader in sustainable refurbishment and adopted the Agenda 21 in 2011. Since 2012, the municipality applies sustainability criteria for each of its building projects (construction or refurbishment) with the help of the manual «Construire, aménager et réhabiliter durable» («build, plan and retrofit sustainably»), developed by the city of Chambery itself. Séverine Letheule, from the town of Chambery, will explain the aims and concept of this manual and present the example of the cultural centre Malraux, which will - supported by experts of the MountEE project - be refurbished according to environmental and quality criteria.

Multifunctional Community Centre Rinka, Solčava/SI
In 2013 the Rinka Community Centre was awarded third place among more than 400 submitted projects at Constructive Alps – an international competition for sustainable construction and renovation in the Alps. The Centre for Sustainable Development was built with regional wood. It serves as an information point for tourism and sustainability projects of the region and also sells regional products to visitors.

EXCURSIONS «DISCOVER IDRIJA»

Exploring Idrija’s transformation from the capital of mercury to a smart city
Idrija, «Alpine Town of the Year 2011», invites you to discover two of their characteristic places. The former capital of mercury developed during the last years into a city with clean high tech industry, taking measures and steps towards more sustainability and climate protection.

No. 1: «Intelligent building» of Kolektor
Kolektor is an international high-tech company with its headquarters in Idrija working in the fields of building construction, energy and industrial technology. The biggest employer of Idrija and its surroundings contributes with clean production and jobs to Idrija’s low unemployment rate and quality of life. What are measures a headoffice of a global company takes in the field of sustainability and energy efficiency? What does the «intelligent building» of the marketing and development centre of Kolektor look like? Which renewable energy sources, heating and lighting systems are used in the building?
EXCURSIONS «DISCOVER IDRIJA»

No. 2: Anthony’s shaft at the Idrija mercury mine
The former second biggest mercury mine in the world, today also recognised as UNESCO World Heritage site, still characterises Idrija. The mine has always had a big impact on the town’s life and its people. It used to stand for air pollution, sickness and hard work. The excursion to the mine will lead about 400 m below the surface and give an idea about past work and life in the mine. Today it is a good example of how a former polluter site can be transformed into a touristic centre in a sustainable way.

TWO ALPINE TOWNS IN CONCERT

The Idrija Miners’ Brass Band and the Chambéry Tétras-Lyre Orchestra together in concert on 18th October in Idrija. Venue: Blue Hall (Modra dvorana), Lapajnetova ulica 48, Idrija, beginning at 7:00 p.m. More information under: www.alpenstaedte.org/en/current-topics/events/4988

Excursions are free of charge, hosted by Idrija, «Alpine Town of the Year 2011». Please register at www.alpenstaedte.org/en/registration

Language: English with simultaneous translation to Slovenian

INFORMATION

Registration:
www.alpenstaedte.org/en/registration
Registration deadline: 10th of October
The number of participants is limited to 50 persons.

Languages:
English with simultaneous translation to Slovenian

Venue:
Municipal Museum Idrija, Prelovčeva 9, 5280 Idrija, Slovenia

Participation fee:
Participation in the workshop is free. A contribution of 20 EUR towards catering costs is to be paid at the reception in Idrija. Checks or credit cards are not accepted. Travel and accommodation costs will be met by participants.

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Further information:
www.alpenstaedte.org
www.mountee.eu
www.cipra.org

The workshop is organized by CIPRA International and the «Alpine Town of the Year» association with the support of the town of Idrija «Alpine Town of the Year 2011» and the project MountEE supported by the European Union within the programme «Intelligent Energy Europe».

Slight changes of the programme might occur.
Idrija is a town situated in western Slovenia between the Alps and the Slovenian karst region. It is notable for its mercury mining history. Several buildings such as shops as well as miners’ living quarters, a miners’ theatre and infrastructure are witnesses of active mining times not so long ago. Idrija is one of the few places in the world where mercury occurs in both its elemental liquid state and as cinnabar (mercury sulphide) ore. Nowadays the mines are no longer being active. Since 2012 it has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In 2011 Idrija received the title «Alpine Town of the Year», because it established a «Geopark» (an area with exceptional natural features in which the local inhabitants join efforts to protect nature and provide for rural development), expanded their cycling network and built decentralized wastewater treatment plants. Furthermore, Idrija has the necessary enthusiasm to include its 12’000 inhabitants in issues concerning the Alps.

www.idrija.si
www.geopark-idrija.si

ALPINE TOWN OF THE YEAR

The «Alpine Town of the Year» association is a network of towns, which have all been awarded the title of «Alpine Town of the Year». The award commends an Alpine town for its particular commitment to the implementation of sustainable development in the Alps following the Alpine Convention and is presented by an international jury. At present 14 Alpine towns in six states were awarded this title.

One of the primary goals of the network is the exchange of knowledge within municipalities amongst others about building and renovating. These towns overcome geographical and linguistic boarders to learn from one another. There is a lot of experience in the network. For example Sonthofen, «Alpine Town of the Year 2005» renovated an school house in a sustainable way by making it more energy efficient. Now the school saves 90 percent of the general energy demand and has 83 percent less CO₂ emission. Bolzano, «Alpine Town of the Year 2009» puts an effort to become a climate-neutral city via expansion of the bicycle routes and renovation or expansion of old houses rather than building new ones.

www.alpenstaedte.org/en
COMING TO IDRIJA

The town of Idrija offers a bicycle rental service. There is no train station in Idrija. The closest one is Most na Soči, about 39km away.

**Bus:** Idrija is easily reached by bus, leaving from Ljubljana nearly every hour. The bus station and the ticket office are located in front of the main entrance of the central train station of Ljubljana.

**Train:** Ljubljana is reachable by train from Zürich/CH, Salzburg/A, Munich/D (direct connections), Venice/I or Udine/I (by bus to Villach/A, and from there by train to Ljubljana).

**Car:** Travel along the Ljubljana-Koper expressway and take the exit to Logatec. The distance between Logatec and Idrija is approximately 30km.

**Carpooling for the event:** www.roadsharing.com

Further information:
www.vozni-red.si/bus (sl/en)
www.dolina-soce.com (de)
www.oebb.at (de/en)

LODGING AND ACCOMMODATION IN IDRIJA

Information on accommodation possibilities is available on the website of the Idrija tourist office.

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