Aims

Project aims:
The aims of the project as defined in the project concept are:

- Participating alpine towns have better knowledge about the challenges of sustainable urban development and about how the transformation of conversion and empty areas and buildings can contribute to attractive and lively towns;
- Participating alpine towns have analysed a present challenge in their urban zone and received ideas, instruments, problem solving methods to tackle these in a sustainable way;
- Participating towns benefit from cross-border alpine exchange of knowledge and experience.

Aims of Idrija:

Idrija’s miners’ houses of 19th Century were nestled on slopes with its front facing the valley, built almost entirely of wood. The roofs were covered with fir boards and very steep. In general, houses were tall, with four floors, and used to inhabit more families, usually up to 16 people. Each house had a small vegetable garden that provided the owner of the house with home-grown vegetables and fodder for a goat or a sheep.

After the Second World War most of miners’ houses were abandoned, demolished or transformed beyond recognition. Only few remain, nestled on slopes around Idrija, waiting for better times. The main challenges the town of Idrija would like to address in the Tour des Villes project are:

- How to involve inhabitants and owners in the processes of revitalisation?
- How to encourage private owners to renovate these houses?
- How to assist owners in renovation with respect to the heritage?
- How to enable good living standards in 19th century wooden houses?
- How to approach the heritage as an inspiration and an added value not as detractor and a barrier?
### Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Tour des Villes in Idrija</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study-visit on 18th and 19th May 2017</td>
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#### Thursday, 18th May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Welcome and introduction to Idrija, its history and its possible future</td>
<td>Town hall</td>
<td>Mayor Bojan Sever, Magdalena Holzer, Matevž Straus</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Short tour of Idrija’s UNESCO heritage</td>
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<td>Tina Bajt (Centre for Idrija Heritage)</td>
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<td>16:00</td>
<td>Idrija’s miners’ houses: once and today (and the future?)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Matevž Straus, Janez Podobnik</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Visits of sites with background information on the project for town</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(architecture, history of the project, ideas and challenges for the town,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>expectations of the population, enterprises, politicians, etc.) and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>presentation of the main challenges.</td>
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<td>18:00</td>
<td>Short break</td>
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<td>19:00</td>
<td><strong>Evening programme</strong></td>
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<td>Dinner at Šturmajce – presentation of traditional food in a renovated</td>
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<td>Tourist Cultural Association Kanomlja</td>
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<td>homestead</td>
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#### Friday, 19th May

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td><strong>Workshop</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Matevž Straus, Janez Podobnik, Magdalena Holzer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(meeting in front of town hall, stop at Idrija Townspeople Apiary on</td>
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<td>the way to the Youth Centre Idrija)</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
<td><strong>Common discussion of the project of the town</strong> (peer-to-peer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Matevž Straus, Janez Podobnik, Magdalena Holzer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>counselling)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>[Youth Centre Idrija]</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td><strong>Summary of results and next steps</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Matevž Straus, Magdalena Holzer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>[Youth Centre Idrija]</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong> [Skafar] and trip home</td>
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<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
<td><strong>OPTIONAL: Visit of the mercury mine – UNESCO World Heritage Site</strong></td>
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