

## // Approach and aims of AlpHouse

The Alpine Space comprises unique natural and cultural landscapes, which over the course of centuries have produced a wide range of characteristic building types. These have emerged out of an adaption to the climatic and geographic conditions, and they nowadays form an important element of the attractiveness of the Alpine Space as a space for living and recreation.

If we want to preserve this cultural heritage and to use it in the future, we must bring it into alignment with the ecologic challenges and the needs of people of today. To this end a comprehensive approach is needed, looking at the renovation of buildings from a broad perspective. We have to understand the principles of traditional alpine architecture, integrate them in current construction, and develop them further. In this way traditional architecture can be combined with state of the art technologies and present requirements for energy efficiency.

*AlpHouse* aims at promoting this farseeing approach to house renovations in the Alpine Space. The project explores and collects the necessary knowledge and skills in the various regions and passes them on to local players - craftsmen, architects, planners and decision makers in politics and administration. They will be integrated into the implementation of the project and get access to networks and training offers. Thereby they can develop individual local solutions oriented towards a common transnational quality level.

## // Pilot Regions



[www.AlpHouse.eu](http://www.AlpHouse.eu)

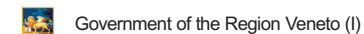
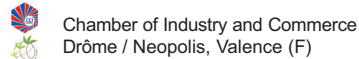


## // Transnational Lead

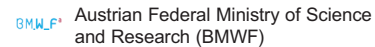
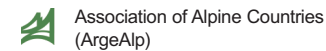


## // Project Partners

BAU Akademie Building Academy Salzburg (A)



## // AlpHouse is funded by:



AlpHouse.eu  
tradition | competence | innovation



## AlpHouse Alpine building culture and energy-efficiency

Competence development of local craft companies in the area of energy-efficient renovation of traditional alpine old buildings and settlements







## // Strengthening the competitiveness of local craft enterprises and architects

The project *AlpHouse* aims at stimulating the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises (SME) in the Alpine Space. It supports local enterprises in the sectors of crafts, architecture, and planning so that they can meet the rising demand for adequate renovations of alpine buildings. These have to measure up to present requirements regarding energy efficiency and appropriateness of building culture according to the cultural areas of the Alpine Space.

*AlpHouse* strives to equip these enterprises and their employees with the competencies necessary to perform house renovations at the highest technical, architectural and ecological level, simultaneously taking into account cost effectiveness and customer service. In this way the local enterprises can capitalize on their traditional strengths and increase their innovative energy.

## // Optimizing energy efficiency and ecologic sustainability

*AlpHouse* provides information and tools for the target groups general public, house builders, and decisions makers in local and regional bodies. These services will help them to orient on the market, determine their planning goals and come to skilled decisions. Thus well informed partners will meet at renovations and interact in an efficient way. Additionally impulses for regional and national coordination as well as for public funding will be given.

In order to facilitate the exchange of knowledge on renovations, *AlpHouse* fosters the implementation of networks - e.g. of crafts enterprises, architects, and research institutes - and performs public events centred on practical questions. By these activities fundamental research findings, traditional techniques, and current practical experience can be circulated at short distance.

## // Renovating alpine buildings at highest quality level

Renovations performed according to the *AlpHouse* quality criteria are oriented towards two central aims:

- **Preservation and development of the cultural heritage** of the Alpine Space, as represented by vernacular architecture, traditional settlement structures, regional materials and crafts techniques.
- **Optimization of energy efficiency and overall life-cycle costs** of buildings and settlements, achieved by applying state-of-the-art technologies and detailed knowledge on ecology and local conditions.

The linkage of these two aims is a challenging task: According to building type, usage, and location factors individual solutions have to be found, which allow the integration of modern standardized technologies without destroying the unique characters of alpine buildings.

## // Preserving cultural heritage

How the aims of *AlpHouse* can be realized, is shown by model projects currently being formed in eight pilot regions spread over four alpine countries (Austria, France, Germany, and Italy). In these regions different typical buildings are selected - historical examples of architecture as well as buildings from the 20th century stock.

These pilot objects will be analysed in conjunction with the pilot regions regarding architecture, energy, and settlement geography. Then recommendations will be given for an optimal renovation on the *AlpHouse* quality level and by making use of regional incentives. Local pilot enterprises will be involved, which will get the necessary know-how by the qualification modules and information services developed by *AlpHouse*. Building sites thereby also serve as learning sites where knowledge is extracted and model solutions for future renovations are developed.

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