

#### Appendix 4: Scenario "Retirement residence and environmental sustainability"

<b>Context: local sustainability</b>
Global Trends: B2
Climate: B1*
Population CH: 7.5 Mio
Migration within CH: Regional Centres
Accessibility of mountain regions: No Increase
Tourism Development: Sustainable
Natural Resource Management: Sustainable
Environmental Awareness: Low-Tech Solutions
Consumption Patterns: Regional Products
Economic Growth: Moderate Increase
Agricultural Markets: High Increase in prices
Wood Prices : Increase in Prices
Energy Consumption: Stable Consumption
Technol. Innovation in Agriculture: Low Innovation Rate
Energy Policy: 2000-Watt Society
Nature Conservation : Extension
Climate Policy: Strong Reduction
Spat Planning Policy: Restrictive
Agricultural Policy: Greening
<b>The Visp region: retirement residence</b>
Low local consequences of climate change
High environmental quality
Boom in second homes in Saas-Fee and Saas-Valley
High level protection policy
Very restrictive planning and zoning activities
Extension of nature protection measures
No support of enterprises for local goods
Integrated agriculture
Integrated forest management
Status quo of renewables
Moderate change and investment
Stagnation of destination management
Governed shrinking of third sector (winter tourism)
Higher budget
Loss of locational advantages
Large inflows of non-residents (more than 15%)
Improve the quality of life
Increasing attractiveness for residents
Low importance of local identity
Fusion of the communities Visp, Baltschieder and Visperterminen

### **Storyline – retirement residence and environmental sustainability**

Climate change is appropriately addressed by both mitigation strategies at an international level and by adequate regional, anticipatory adaptation strategies and is a rather minor problem for the Visp region. Due to still rising temperatures (globally: +1.4 – 3.8 °C) and high competition with other skiing areas, the region has decided to reduce the offers for winter tourism in a planned manner, such as by using compensations for the abandonments of skiing areas in lower elevations. Following the general trend in Switzerland, a regionally typical, ecologically sustainable solution is aimed for. The new strategy is characterized by: (i) the diversification of offerings in tourism, such as sustainable tourism, agrotourism, mountain-biking, hiking, summer tourism, alpine wellness and cultural tourism, as well as (ii) the settlement of pensioners, like in Florida in the USA. Encouraged by the greening of federal policy, the regional spatial planning and policy fully acknowledges landscape beauty, ecologically oriented agriculture/forestry and recreation quality. This strategy helps in increasing the number of tourists and augmenting the economic revenue. To satisfy the need for different activities that may enhance the capabilities and health of the pensioners and to offer services for elderly care and assisted accommodation, the region invests in suitable infrastructure. In addition, the contingent for secondary homes is softened to meet the high demand e.g. in Saas-Fee. Therefore, a large number of holiday homes is built. This results in an increase in real estate prices and higher revenue in the building industry. Federal agriculture policy is greening, but the innovation rate remains low. Agriculture primarily serves the maintenance of the cultural landscape and a partnership with agrotourism is enforced. The merging of the city of Visp, Baltschieder and Visperterminen helps in securing the financial margin of the communities.