

Appendix 6 : Scenario "Take the rains and green growth"

Context: green growth
Global Trends: A1B
Climate: A1B
Population CH: 9.5 Mio
Migration within CH: Migration to Agglomeration
Accessibility of mountain regions: High Increase
Tourism Development: Exploitive
Natural Resource Management: Exploitive
Environmental Awareness: Technical Solutions
Consumption Patterns: Global Production
Economic Growth: High Increase
Agricultural Markets: Decline in prices
Wood Prices : Stable Prices
Energy Consumption: Stable Consumption
Technol. Innovation in Agriculture: High Innovation Rate
Energy Policy: New Priorities
Nature Conservation : Reduction
Climate Policy: Low Emission Reduction Aims
Spat Planning Policy: Laisser-Faire
Agricultural Policy: Liberalization
The Visp region: take the reins
Marked local consequences of climate change
Preserved environmental quality
Increase in regionally specific construction and settlement quality
High level protection policy
Moderate restrictive planning and zoning activities
Extension of nature protection measures
Strong support of enterprises for local goods
Intensification of agriculture
Intensification of forestry
Increase of renewables
Structural change in tourism and high investment
Expansion of the destination management
Governed shrinking of third sector (winter tourism)
Higher budget
Care for locational advantage
Small demographic fluctuations (increase or decrease by up to 15%)
Improved quality of life
Increasing attractiveness for residents
High importance of local identity
Fusion of the communities Visp, Baltschieder and Visperterminen

Storyline– take the rains and green growth

The international climate policy is committed to strict reduction efforts. Nevertheless, the consequences of the unavoidable global climate change in the Visp region are strong, since climate change at the cantonal and community levels is not a priority. This results in a large glacier reduction, an increased frequency of rock falls and landslides, heavy precipitation in winter and heat waves, drought and fire (+10%) in summer. Despite these adverse conditions, the Visp region takes the reins on the future development and initiates several positive developments. First, in response to the strong demand for sustainable tourism in Switzerland, the region diversifies its strategy and develops alongside its strong top destination tourism in Saas-Fee several forms of summer tourism, such as sustainable tourism and agrotourism, with rigorous quality standards. The climate advantage compared to other Alpine regions pays out and favors the top destination tourism with its unique glacier experiences. This allows the preservation of the visitor numbers and the tax revenue. Second, the region promotes the renewable energy industry and invests heavily in the further development of hydropower and solar systems. Third, in agriculture and forestry attempts are pushed forward to couple national and local subsidies to expand the value chain and produce marketable products. This is facilitated by higher world prices for agricultural and forestry products. The cooperation between and within the communities and the residents' identification with the region are very high. This allows smaller communities to pool their existing strengths; the municipalities of the city of Visp, Baltschieder and Visperterminen are merged. The population leaves small side valleys as the risk of natural disasters is too high. As a consequence, population pressure intensifies in the main valley and small fluctuations in population occur.