



# RES4LIVE

ENERGY SMART LIVESTOCK FARMING  
TOWARDS ZERO FOSSIL FUEL CONSUMPTION



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No.101000785

# Golinelli Farm, Italy (Unibo)

Type something

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# Italian Pilot farm



**GOLINELLI**  
AZIENDA AGRICOLA



**RES4LIVE**  
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# Pig farm

- 500 sows; 2500 weaners
- Variable number of hogs
- De-fossilization of nursery barn
- Retrofitting of hog barn



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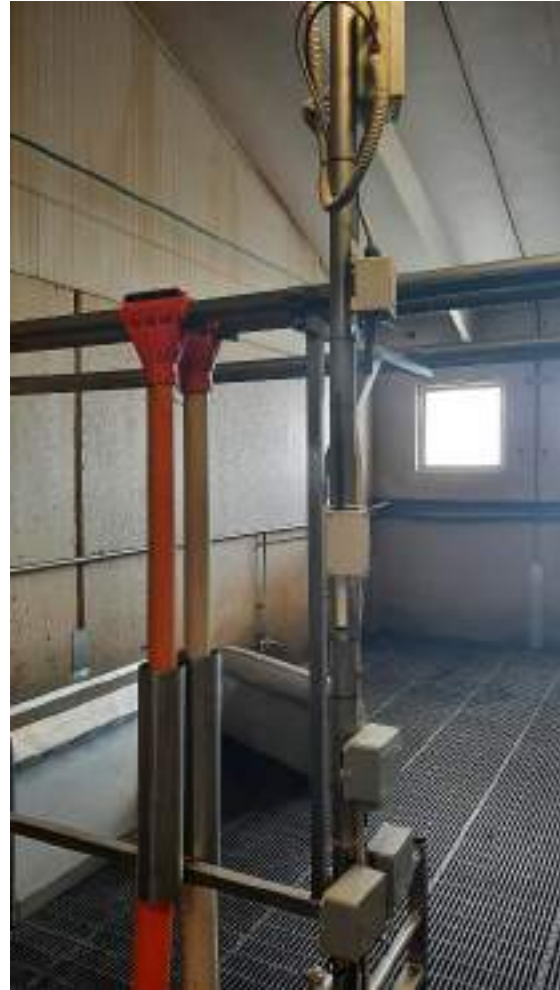
# SMART MONITORING SYSTEMS

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# Sensors network



16/09/2024

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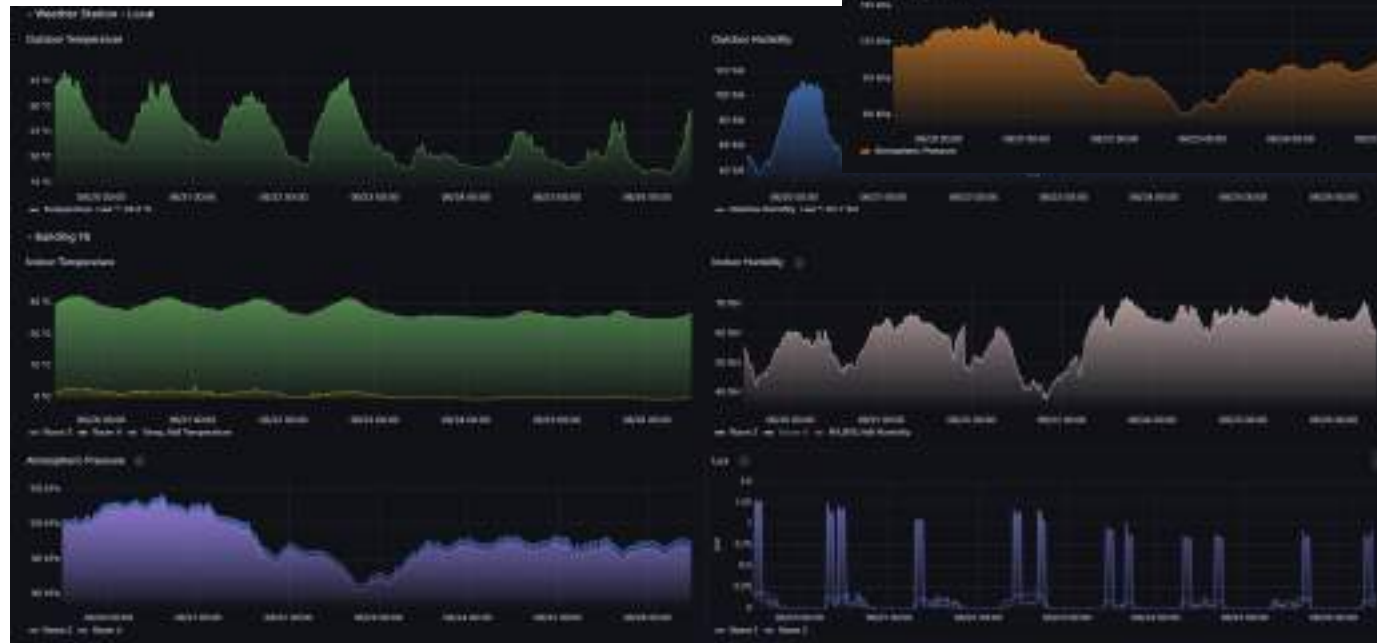
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# Monitoring of environmental conditions and energy usages



# Dashboard for data analysis





# ENERGY RETROFITTING OF OLDER PIG BARN

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# INITIAL STATE



- **34 windows of 2.8 m x 0.8 m, with steel single-layer frames and 4 mm thick glass surfaces.**
- **thermal transmittance assessed 5.9 W/m<sup>2</sup>K**

# Retrofitting hog barn

- windows with frame in tubular stainless steel
- transparent infill in 16mm thick double chamber alveolar polycarbonate
- thermal transmittance of  $2 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$  ( $\approx 1/3$ )
- 6 gearmotors with limit switch for the mechanical opening

Type something



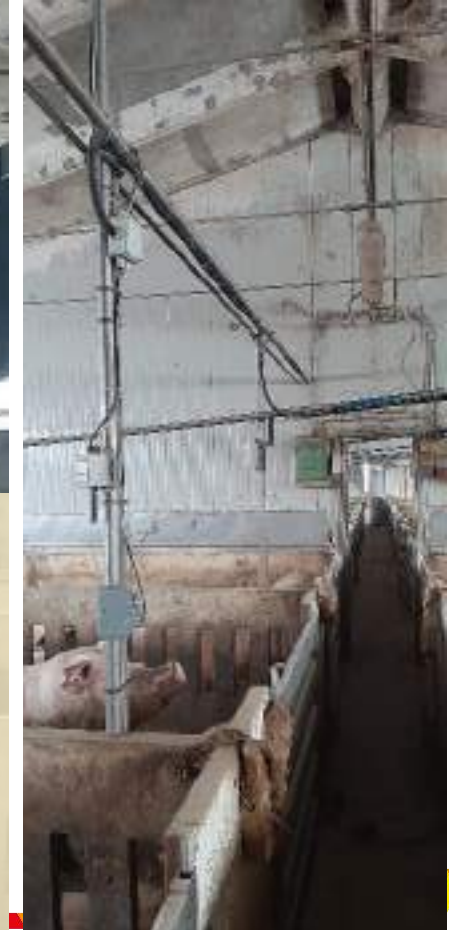
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon programme under grant agreement No.101



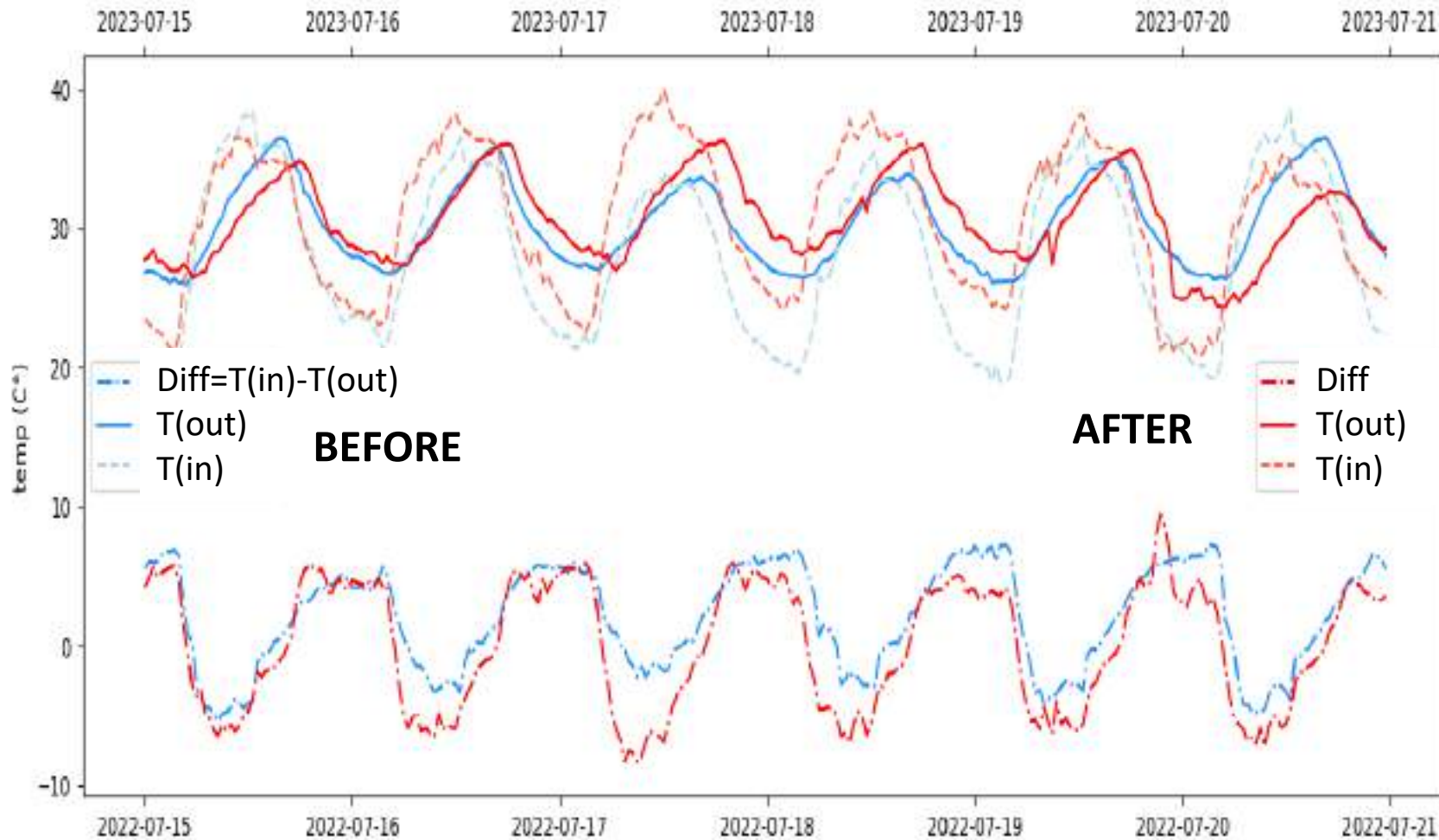
# Smart monitoring and automation control



- environmental sensors and actuators
- automatic openings based on temperature and air quality parameters.

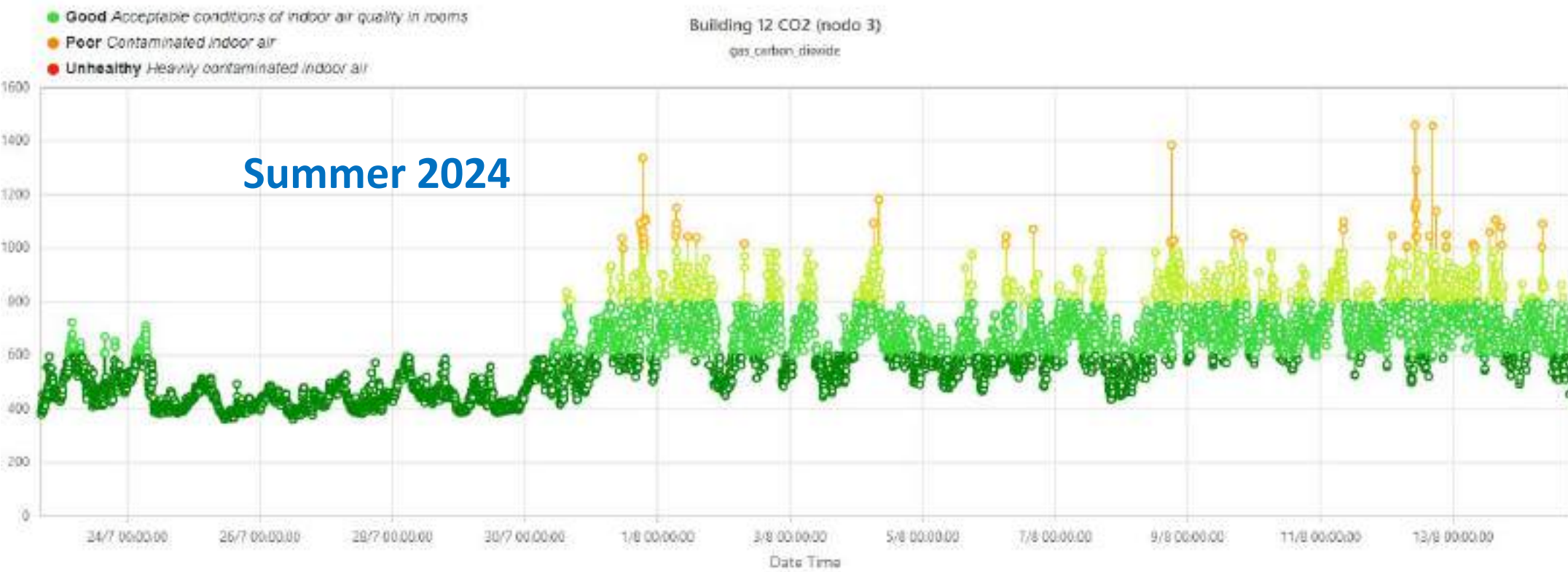
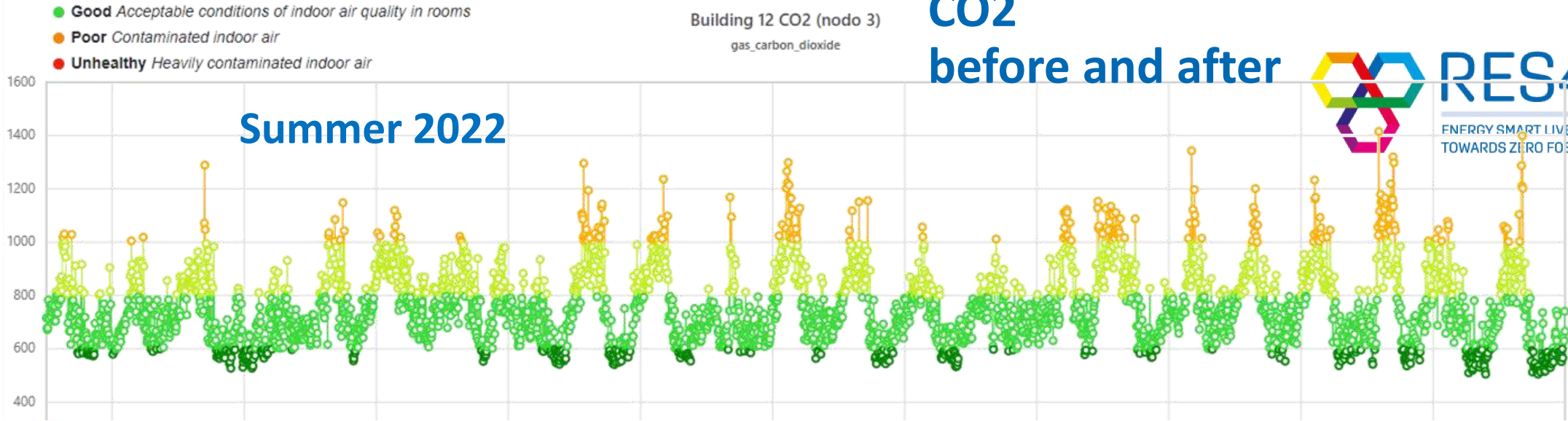


# Effect of retrofitting on indoor temperature



- **August 2022:**  
 $\Delta\text{THI}(\text{in-out}) = +1.94$   
(daily avg)
- **August 2023:**  
 $\Delta\text{THI}(\text{in-out}) = -2.38$
- **Reduction of daily avg indoor THI = -4.32**

# CO2 before and after



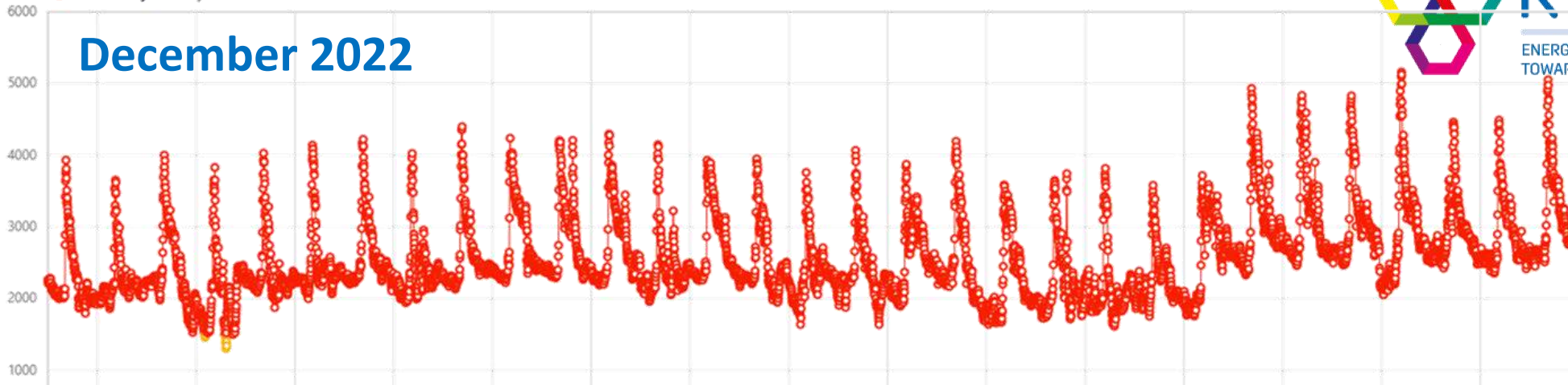
# CO2 before and after



- Good Acceptable conditions of indoor air quality in rooms
- Poor Contaminated indoor air
- Unhealthy Heavily contaminated indoor air

Building 12 CO2 (nodo 3)  
gas\_carbon\_dioxide

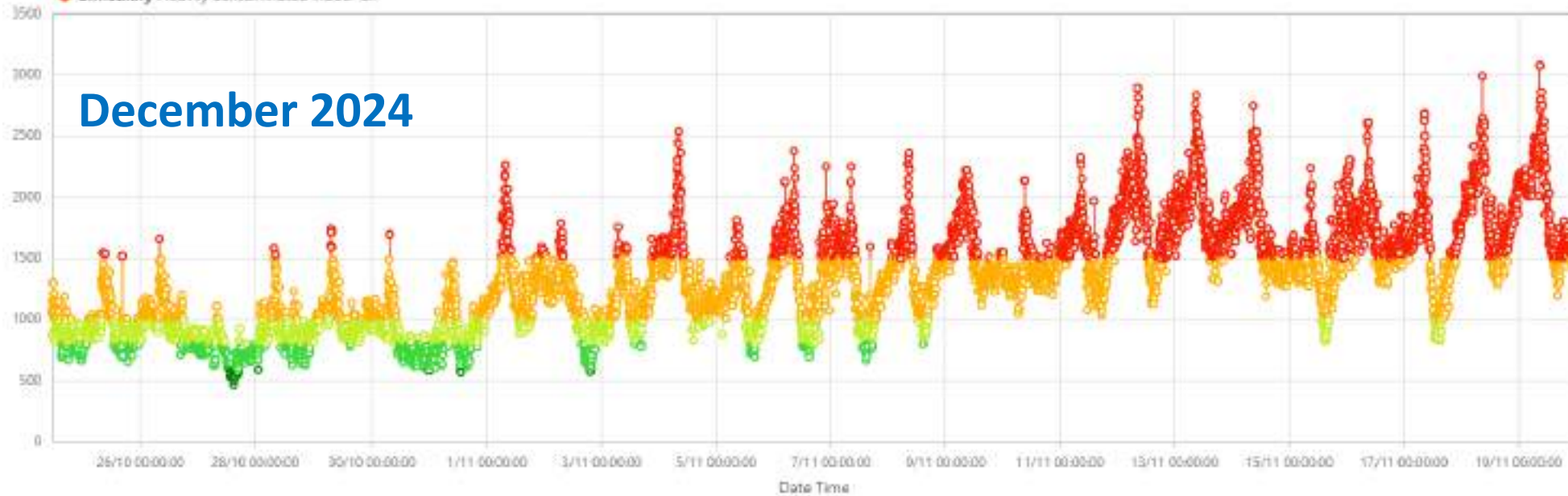
## December 2022



- Good Acceptable conditions of indoor air quality in rooms
- Poor Contaminated indoor air
- Unhealthy Heavily contaminated indoor air

Building 12 CO2 (nodo 3)  
gas\_carbon\_dioxide

## December 2024



# INTEGRATED RES SYSTEM: PVT-BTES-DSHP

Type something

## in nursery barn (high energy demand)

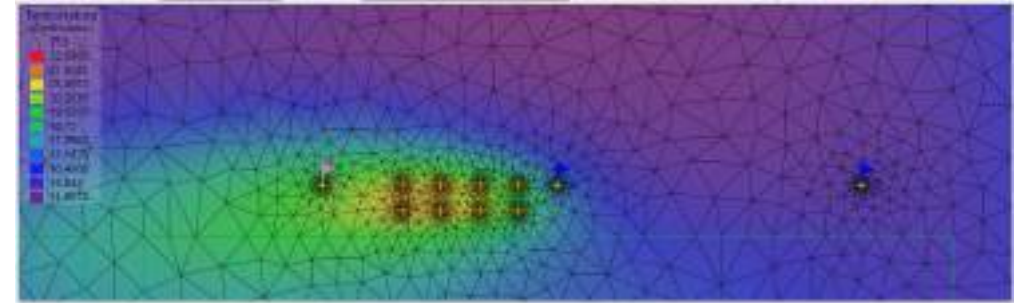
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# Integrated RES system



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# BTES field



- The area is fully accessible
- The connections can be inspected
- UNIBO keeps on measuring underground T, every m up to 25m

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# PVT installation and setup by MG (April 2023)



- a 35kW medium temperature heat pump,
- a 24 Samster-SunPro 320W PVT system accompanied with a solar station, to provide electricity ( $7.68 \text{ kW}_{el}$ ) and thermal energy ( $24 \text{ kW}_{th}$ )
- a smart control system.



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# Heat pump connected to geothermal storage



- East side



- NE corner



- NW corner

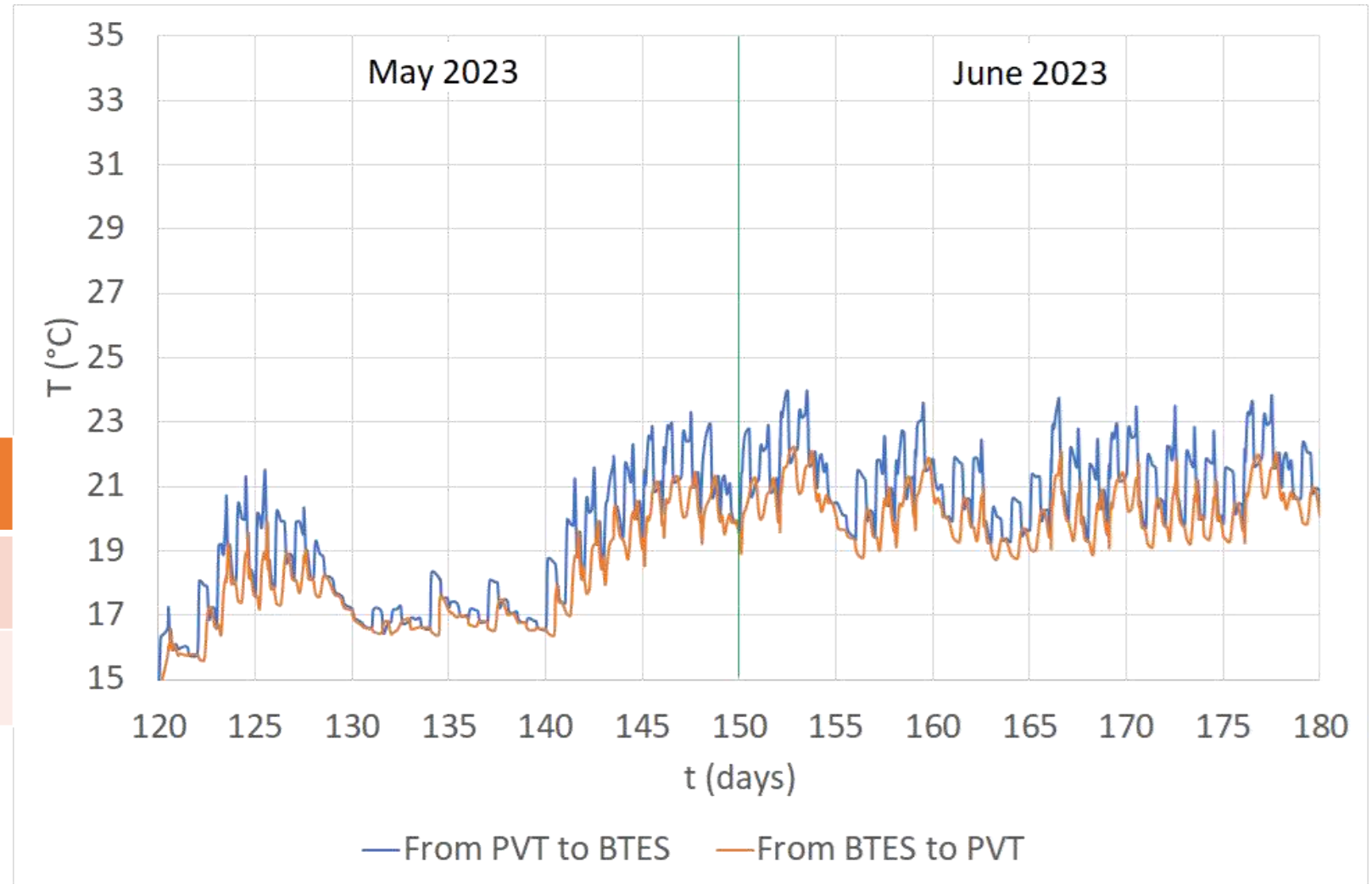
- Heat pump on the West side



## Energy data analysis: numerical modelling

- Numerical temperature curves of the whole BHE array, in injection mode
- Based on energy data measured

Month	Energy (kWh)
May	1807.23
June	2220.27



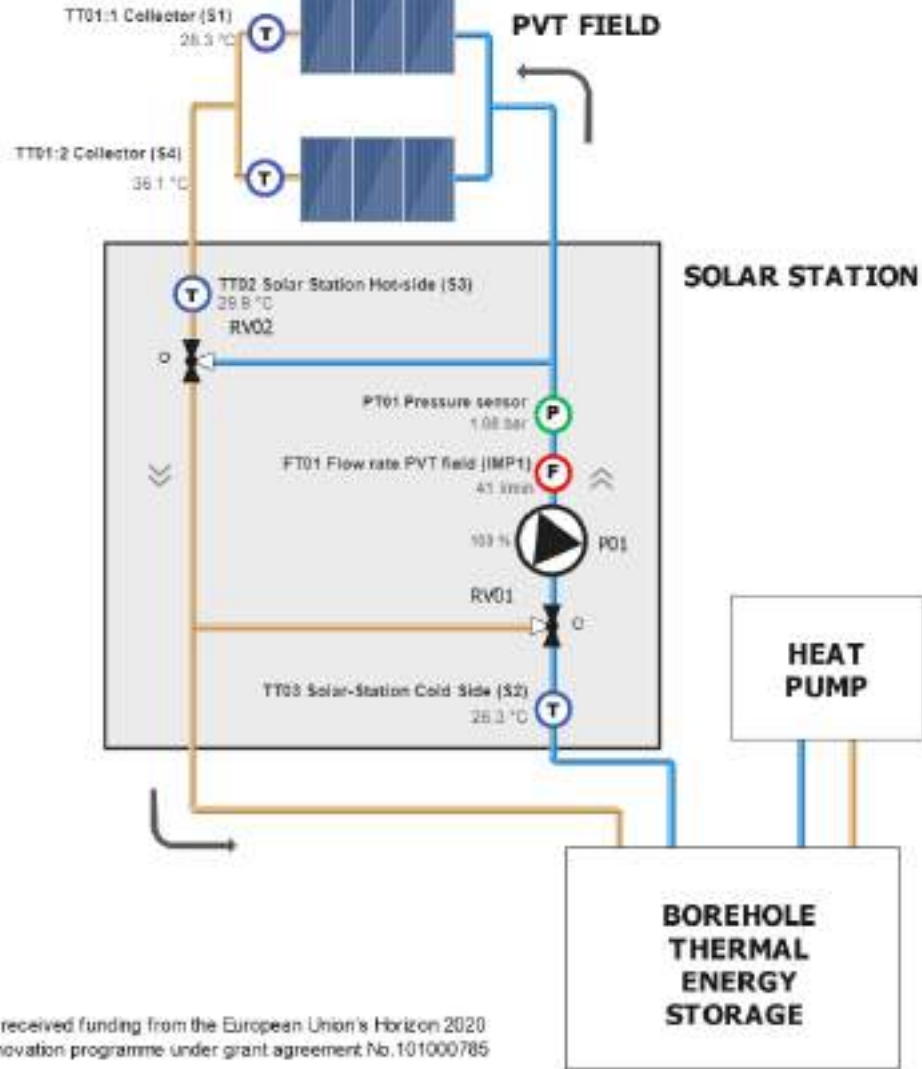
# Process Diagram



Powered by RESOL  
VBus.net  
Online Status ✔  
06.09.2024 12:37:23

Humidity 82 %  
Pressure 1010 hPa  
Wind 3.1 m/s

TT15 Ambient Temperature (S5) 36.2 °C  
YT01 Irradiance sensor (CS10) 753 W/m<sup>2</sup>



Heat transfer fluid (Hot)	
Heat transfer fluid (Cold)	
Pressure sensor	
Temperature sensor	
Irradiance sensor	
Flow sensor	

Power 9.8 kW  
Heat quantity today 30 kWh  
Heat quantity week 288 kWh  
Heat quantity month 0.4 MWh

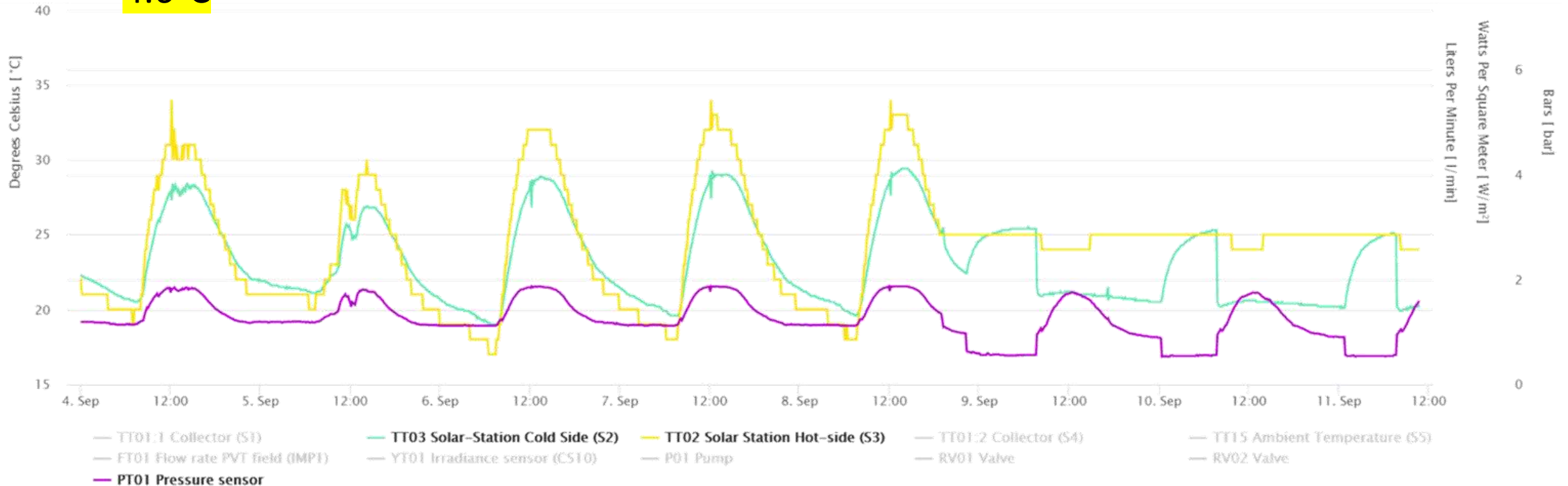


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# Measurement of boreholes temperature

- Average Temperature in 30m borehole in March 2023: **15.9°C** (before installation)
- Average Temperature in 30m boreholes on 10 Sep 2023: **20.5 °C**
- Increase in TC temperature due to solar heat injection from May to August 2023: **4.6°C**





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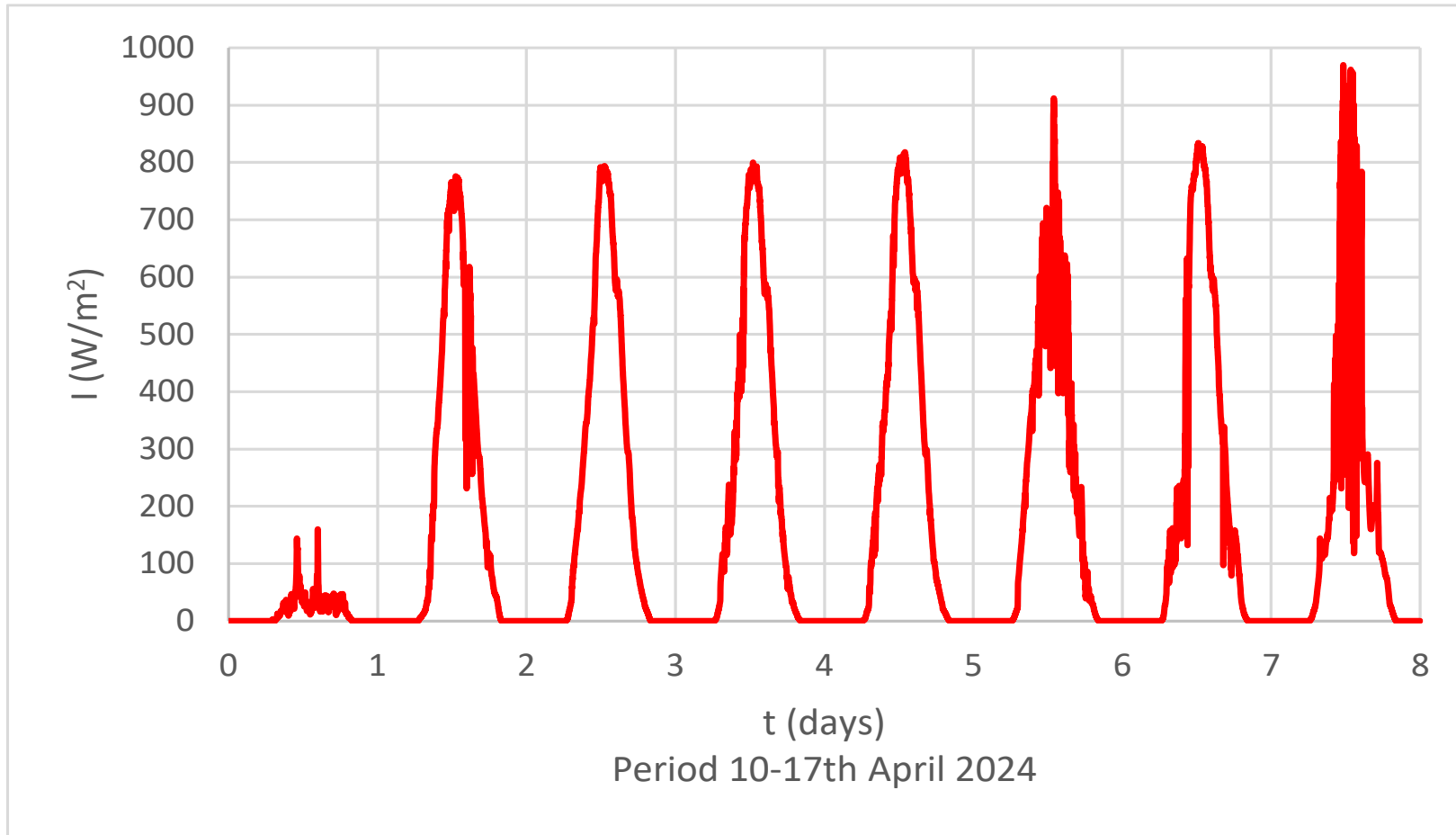
## Energy storage in the ground from PVT: 10-17 April 2024



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- BTES System performance – Irradiance

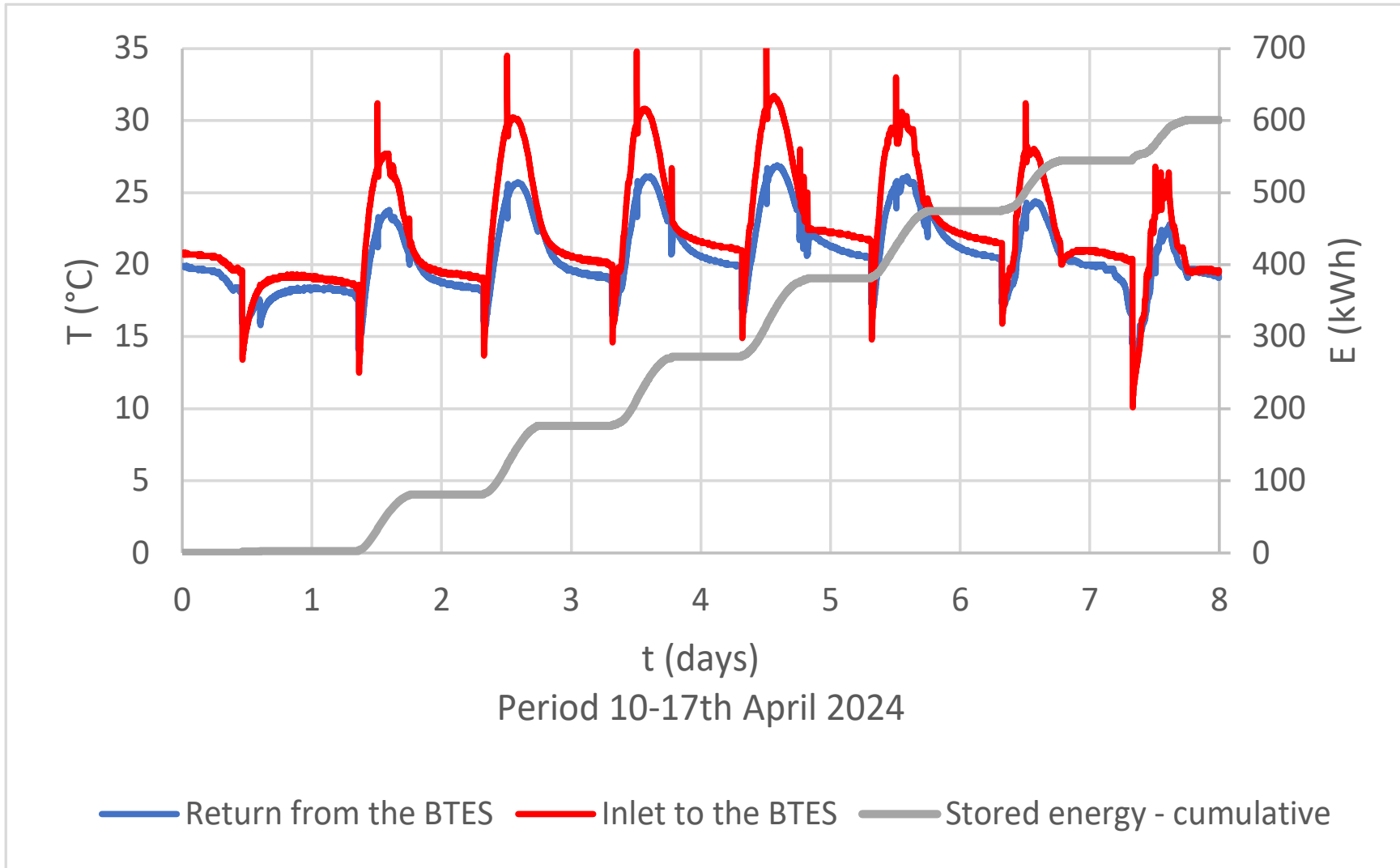


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# BTES System performance – temperature and heat injected



Energy stored: 600 kWh





# RES4LIVE

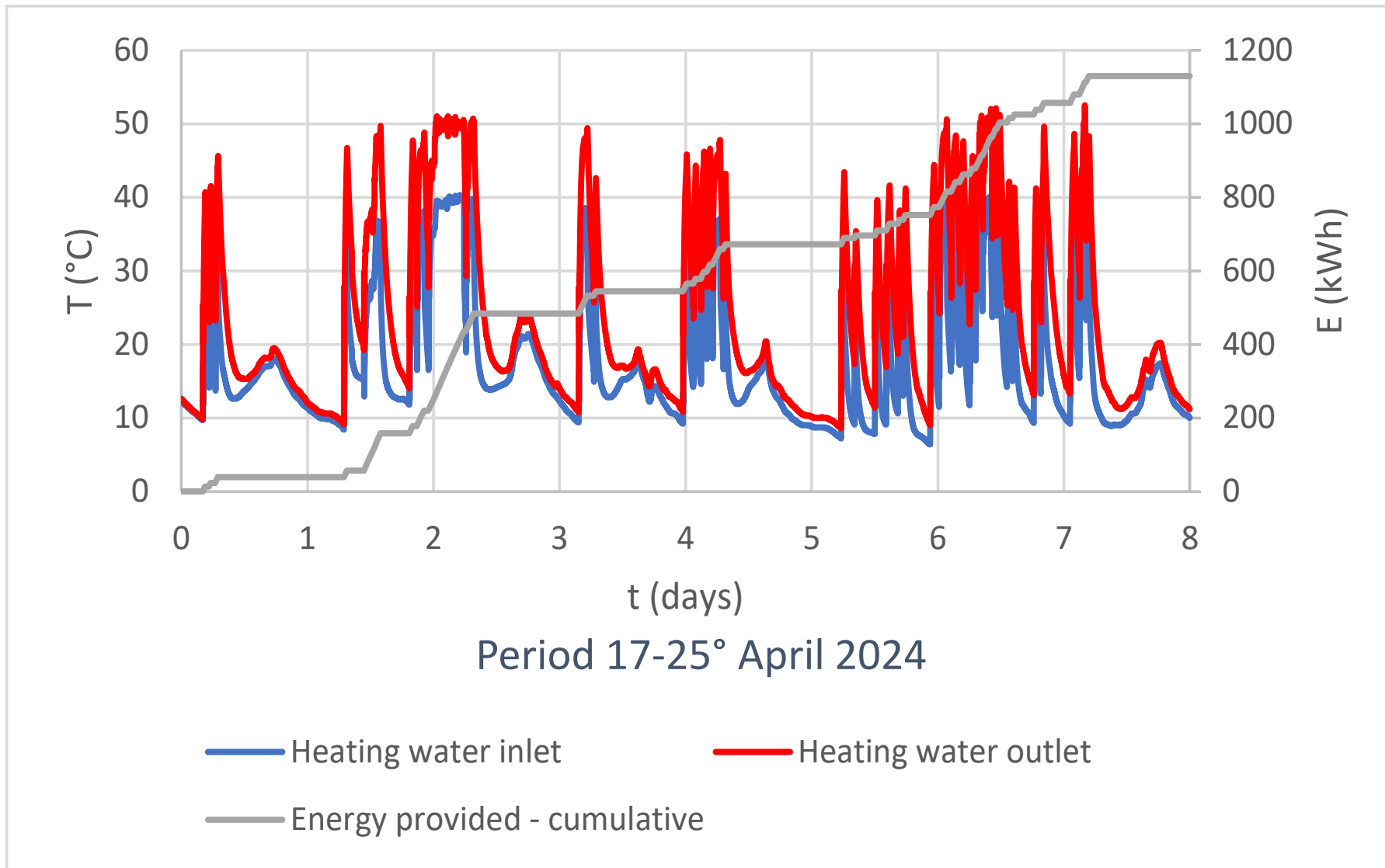
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## Energy provided to the hallway: 17-25 April 2024



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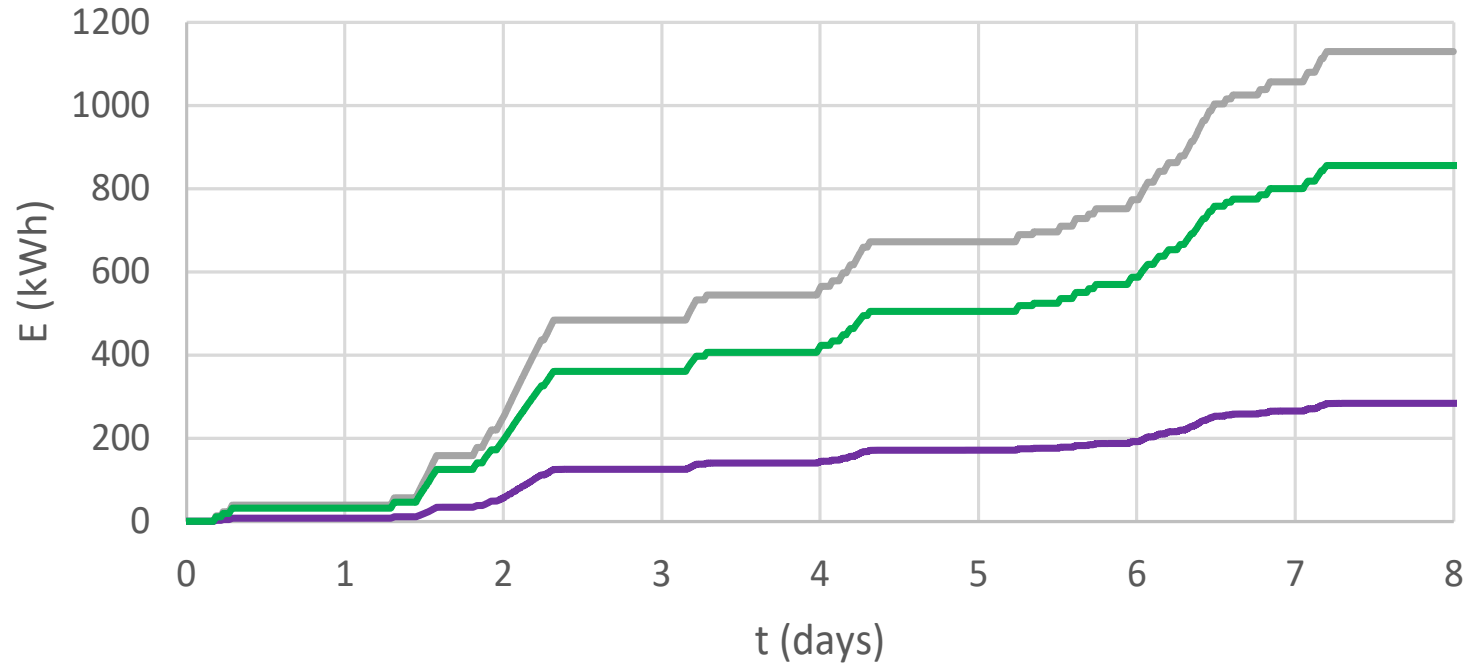
# System performance – temperature and heat provided



Energy provided: 1100 kWh



## • System performance – Cumulative energy



Period 17-25th April 2024

— Energy provided - cumulative    — Energy absorbed - cumulative  
— Energy extracted - cumulative

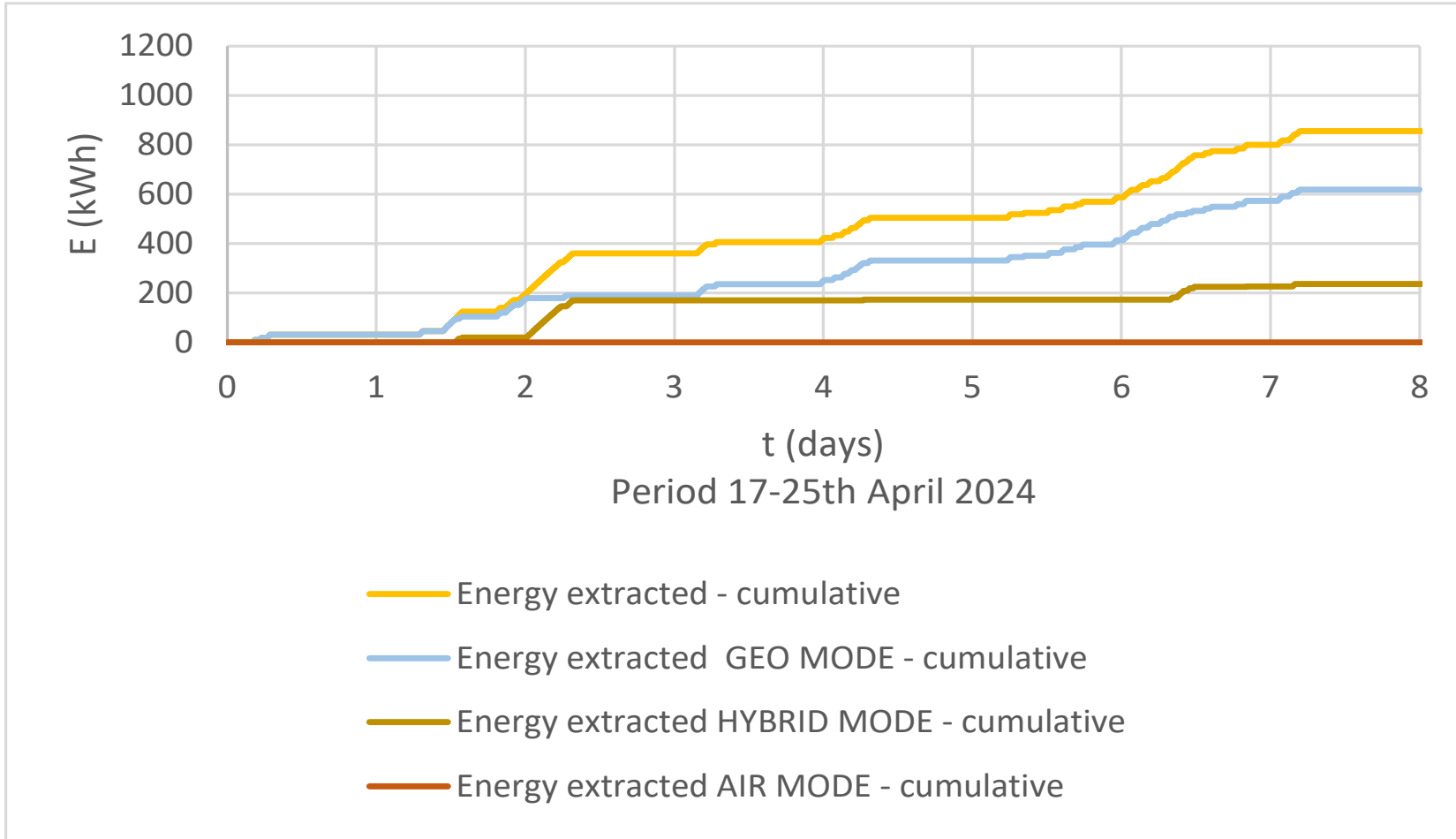
Energy provided: 1100 kWh

Energy absorbed: 250 kWh

Energy extracted: 850 kWh



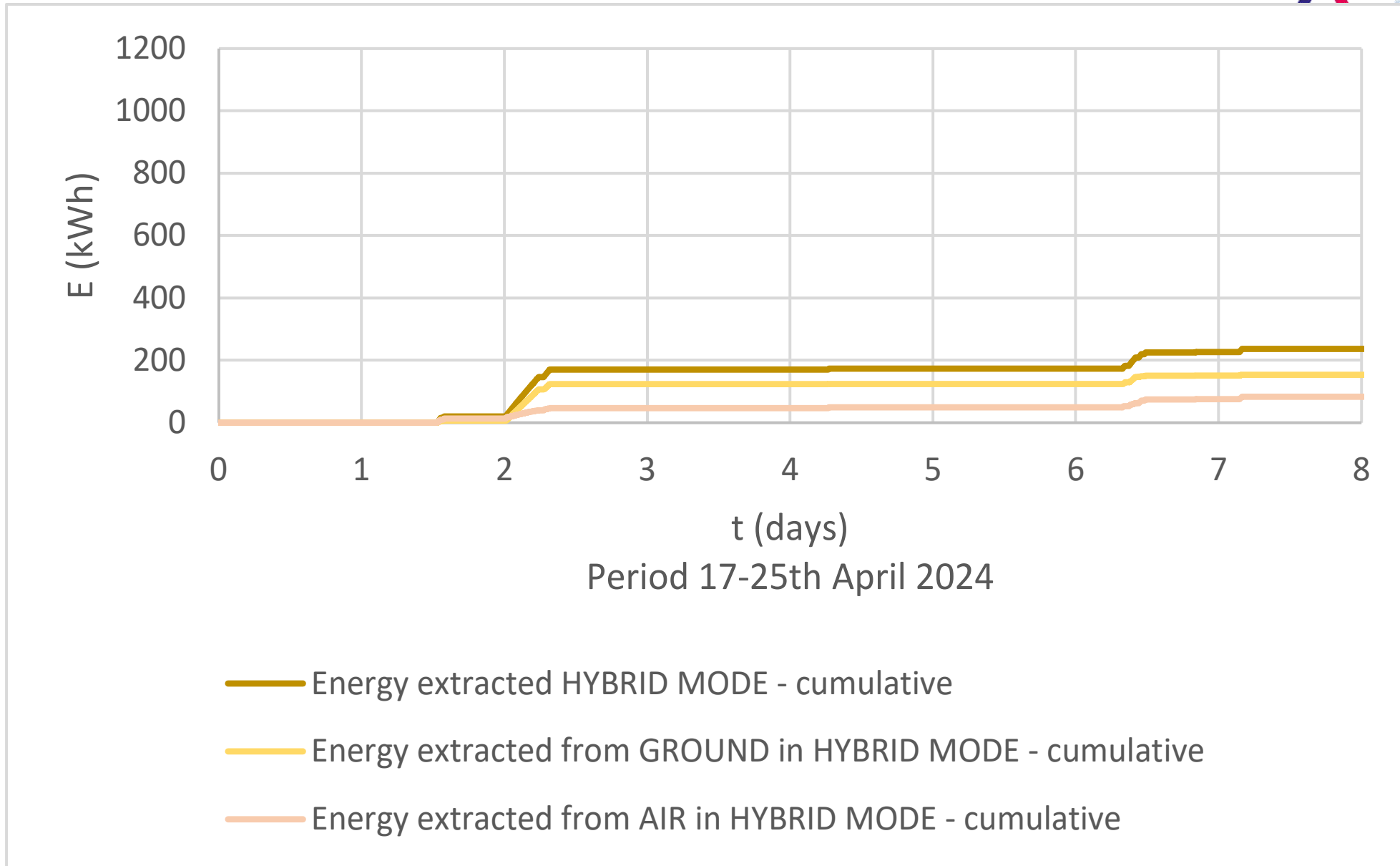
- System performance – Energy sources



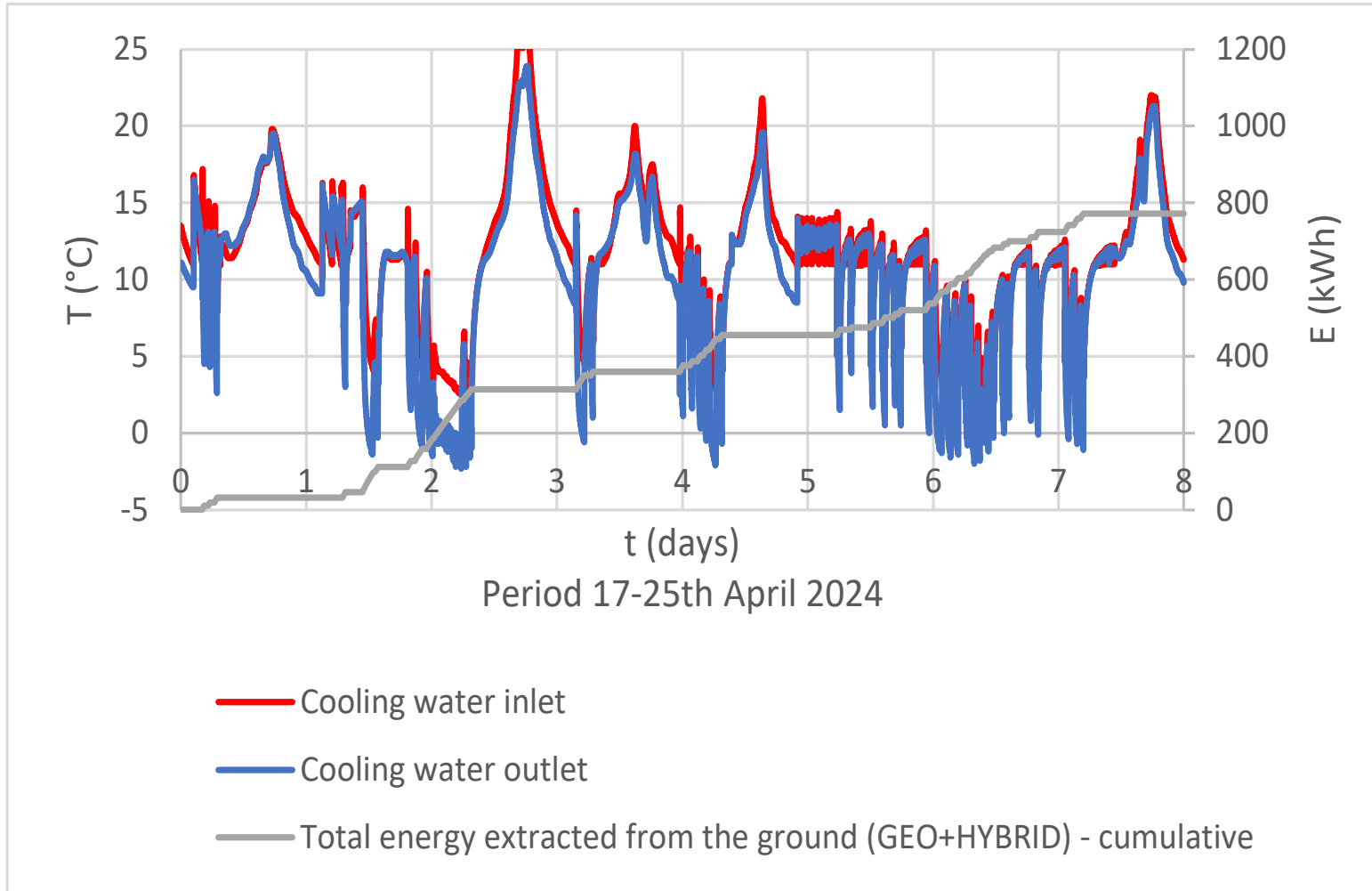
	Average COP
<b>GROUND mode</b>	4.67
<b>AIR mode</b>	No activation
<b>HYBRID mode</b>	3.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	4.34



- System performance – Energy sources in hybrid mode



- System performance – Extracted geothermal water



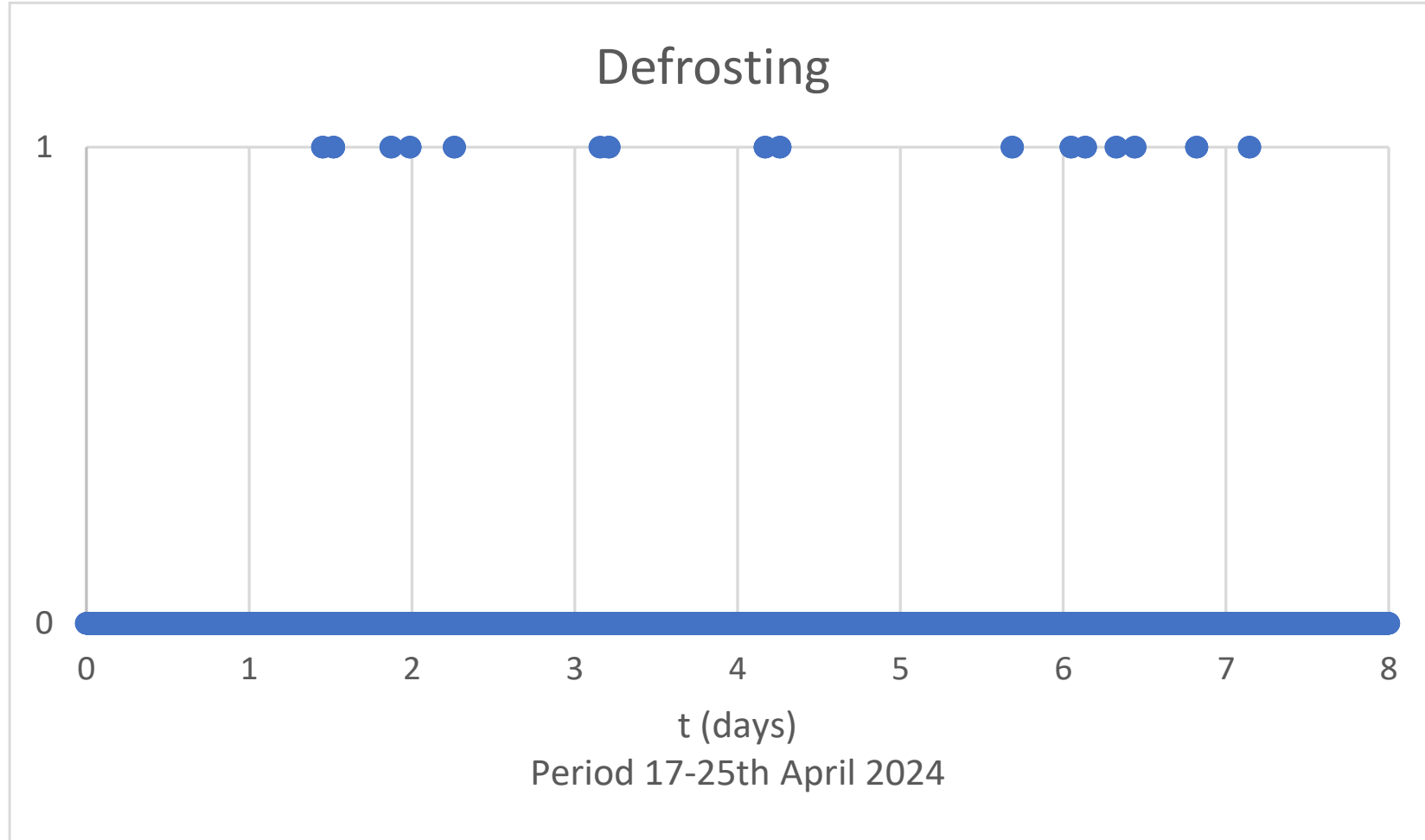
Total energy extracted from the ground: 800 kWh

Minimum temperature: -2°C





- System performance – Need of defrosting

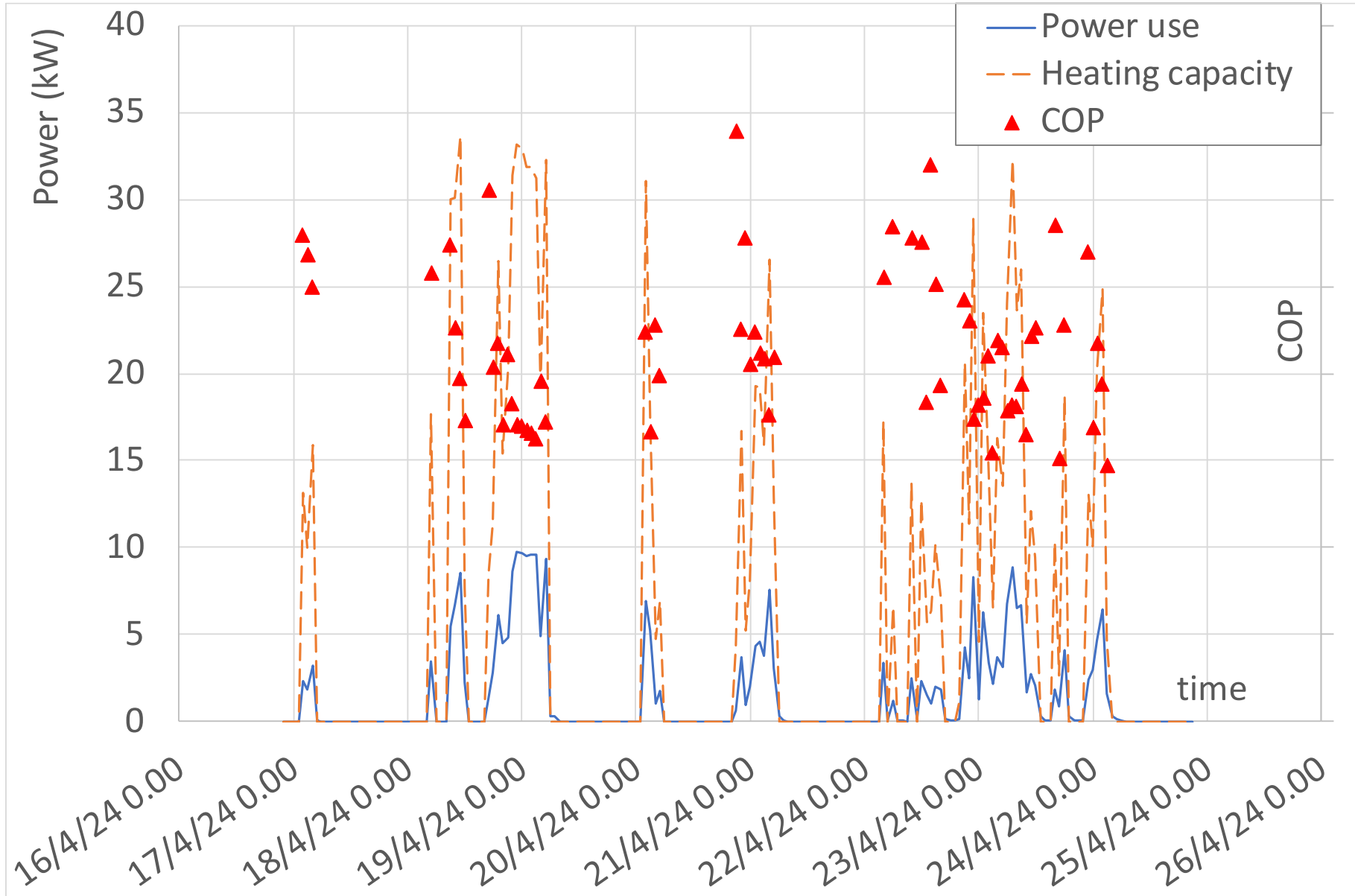


Defrosting: 8.3% use of fans

Total SPF: 4.02.



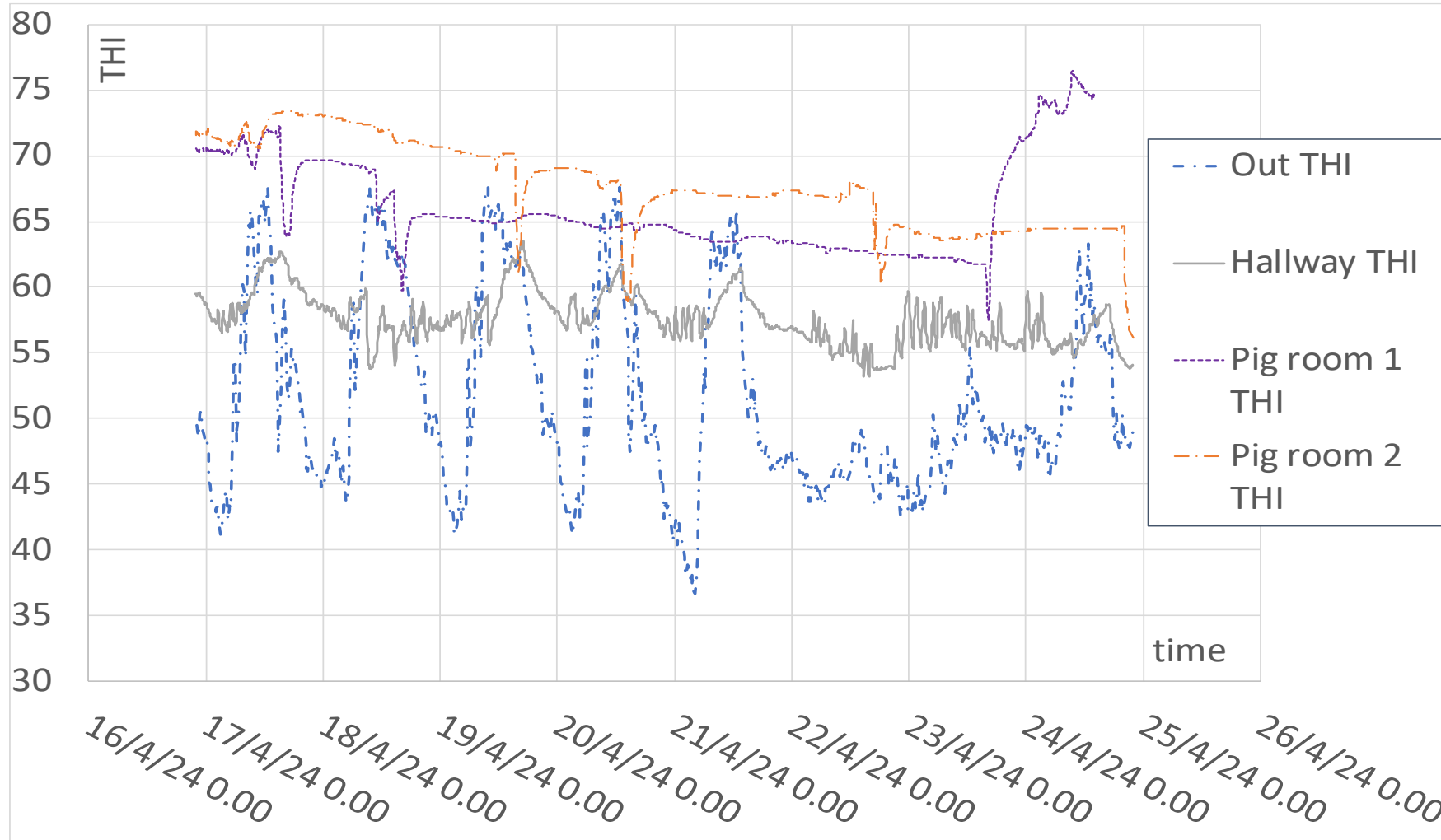
- System performance



- Average COP = 4.3**



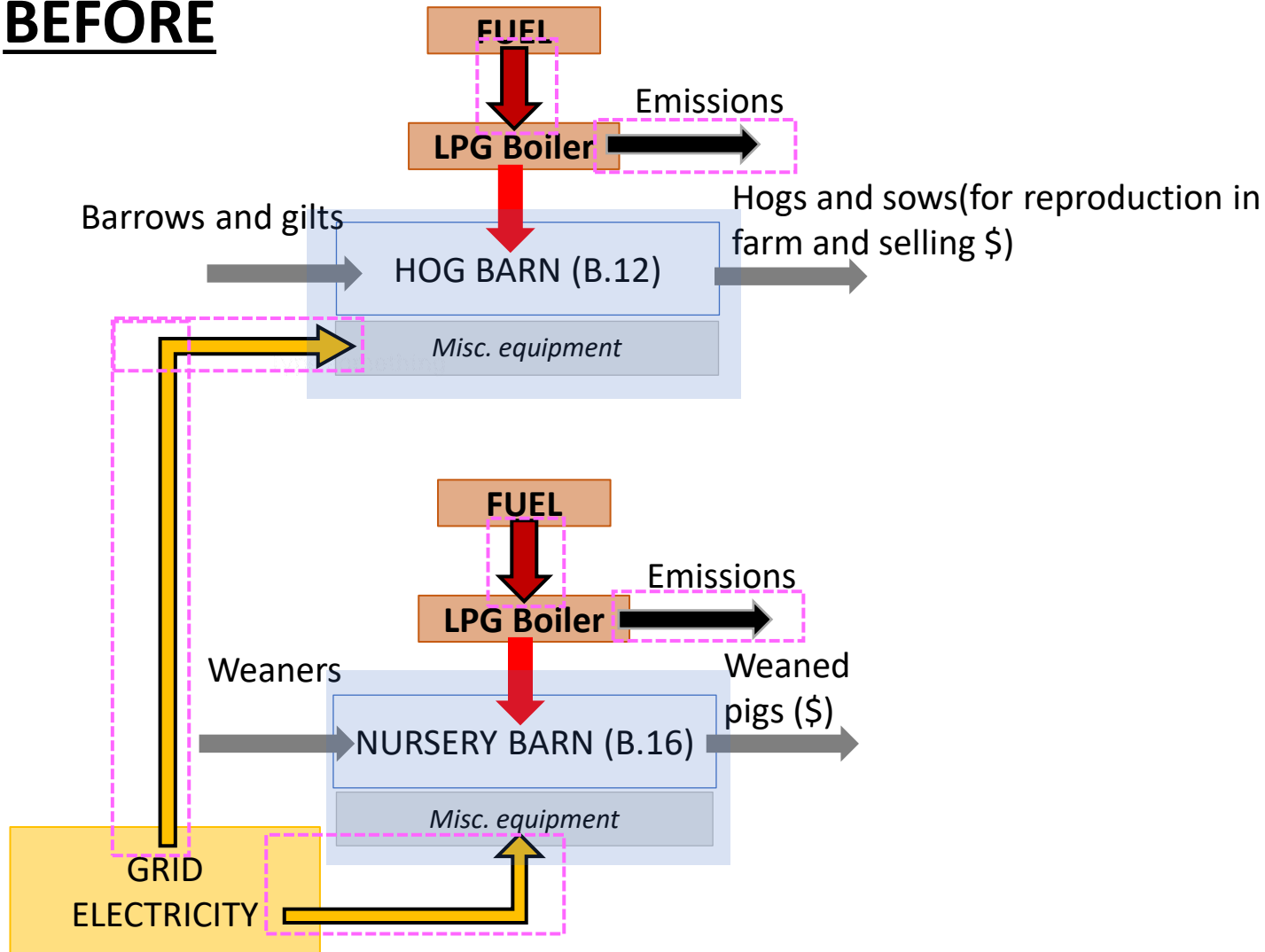
- **THI measured in the monitored indoor spaces and outside the barn**



- The heating system developed proved effective also for the control of humidity conditions in cold season, as it is witnessed by the THI trends in the weaners' rooms, that is substantially kept between 60 and 75.

## 2. GOLINELLI // Swine – Italy (1)

### BEFORE



### Legend

1. System boundaries

2. New (RES) system

3. Existing equipment (or a part of it)

4. Product flow

5. Electrical energy flow

6. Thermal energy

7. Electrical energy flow of interest (consumed or produced by our systems)

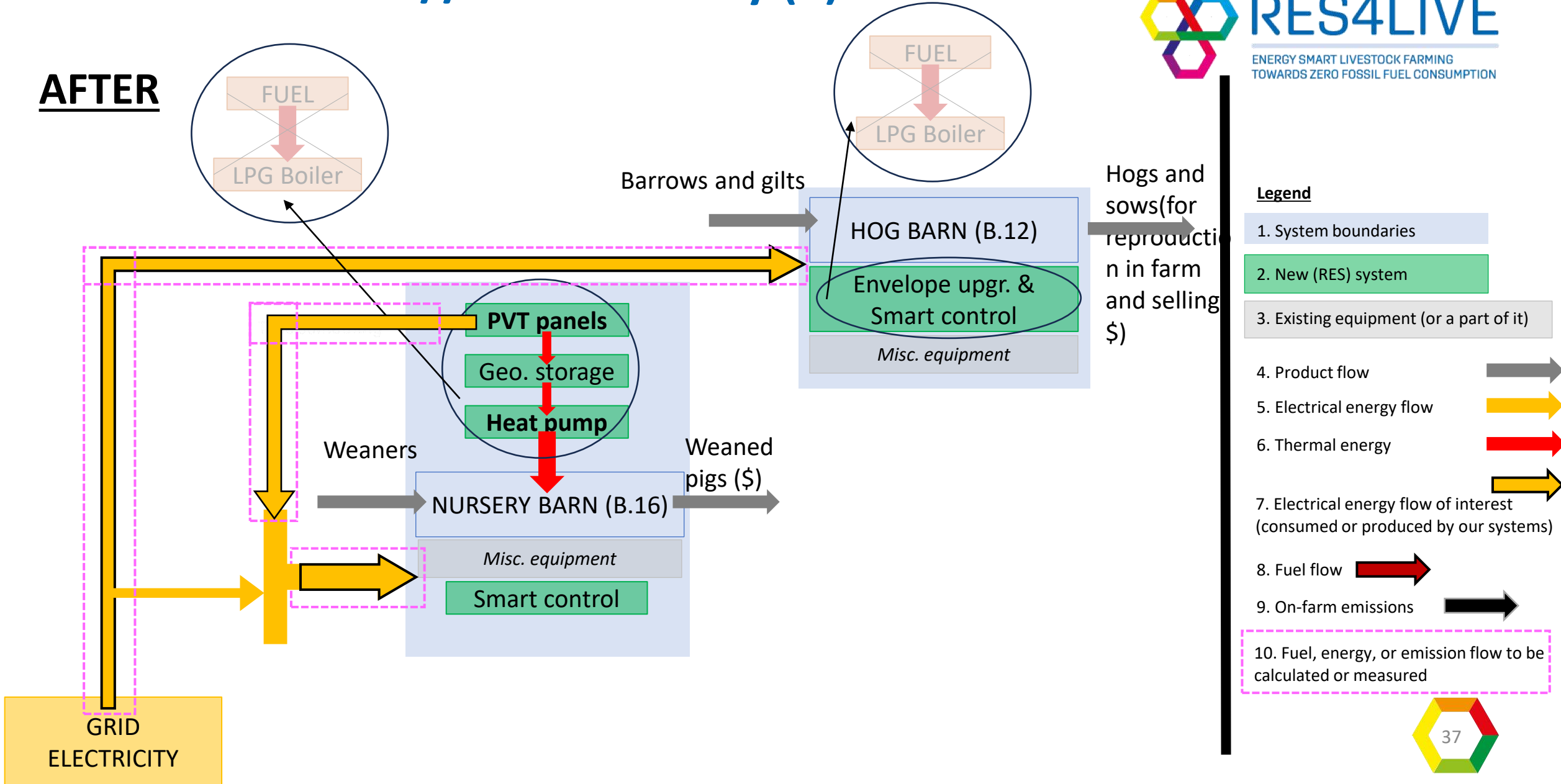
8. Fuel flow

9. On-farm emissions

10. Fuel, energy, or emission flow to be calculated or measured

## 2. GOLINELLI // Swine – Italy (2)

**AFTER**



# Publications and presentations

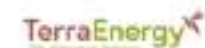
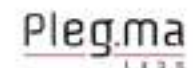


- S. Benni, C.A. Perez Garcia, M. Bovo, A. Barbaresi, F. Tinti, P. Tassinari, D. Torreggiani. **A Renewable Energy Based Solution for Heating Livestock Buildings: Design and Realization of a Case Study**. The 6th CIGR International Conference 2024, May 19 - 23, 2024, Jeju International Convention Center (ICC JEJU), Jeju, Korea
- Murali, D., Acosta-Pazmiño, I.P., Loris, A., García, A.C., Benni, S., Tinti, F., Gomes, J. **Experimental assessment of a solar photovoltaic-thermal system in a livestock farm in Italy** (2024) Solar Energy Advances, 4, art. no. 100051.
- Benni, S., Tinti, F., Bovo, M., Barbaresi, A., Torreggiani, D., Tassinari, P. **An Integrated Renewable Energy Plant with Smart Monitoring System for Sustainable Farming** (2023) 2023 IEEE International Workshop on Metrology for Agriculture and Forestry, MetroAgriFor 2023 - Proceedings, pp. 547-552.
- Tinti F., Tassinari P., Rapti D., Benni S., 2023. **Development of a pilot borehole storage system of solar thermal energy: modelling, design and installation**, Sustainability, 15 (9), art. no. 7432, DOI: 10.3390/su15097432.
- S. Benni, M. Ceccarelli, A. Barbaresi, M. Bovo, F. Tinti, M. Agrusti; P. Tassinari, D. Torreggiani, **A pilot system to replace fossil energy with renewable sources in pig barns**, in: Biosystems Engineering Towards the Green Deal, 2022, pp. 163 - 163 (BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING TOWARDS THE GREEN DEAL. Improving the resilience of agriculture, forestry and food systems in the post-Covid era, Palermo, 19-22/09/2022)
- S. Benni, A. Barbaresi, F. Tinti, M. Bovo, D. Torreggiani, E. Santolini, P. Tassinari, **Decarbonizing livestock structures: retrofit of a pig barn using renewable sources**, in: Proceedings of the XX CIGR World Congress: Sustainable Agricultural Production - Water, land, Energy and Food, 2022, pp. 1 - 2 (The XX CIGR World Congress 2022 - Sustainable Agricultural Production, Kyoto, 5-9 Dec 2022)
- F. Tinti, D. Rapti, R. Caputo, C. A. Perez Garcia, M. Ceccarelli, E. Santolini, S. Benni, **Investigations and modelling for a practical application of borehole thermal energy storage**, in: Geosciences for a Sustainable Future - Proceedings, 2022, pp. 1 - 1 (Geosciences for a Sustainable Future, Torino, 19-21 Sep 2022)





Thank you!



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