

Life Cycle Impact Assessment of an Integrated PVT-BTES-Heat Pump System for a Commercial Swine Farm in Italy

Dimitrios Tyris – Agricultural University of Athens

D. Tyris¹, V. Anestis¹, S. Benni², F. Tinti³, T. Bartzanas¹, D. Manolakos¹

¹ Department of Natural Resources Development and Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural University of Athens, Athens, Greece

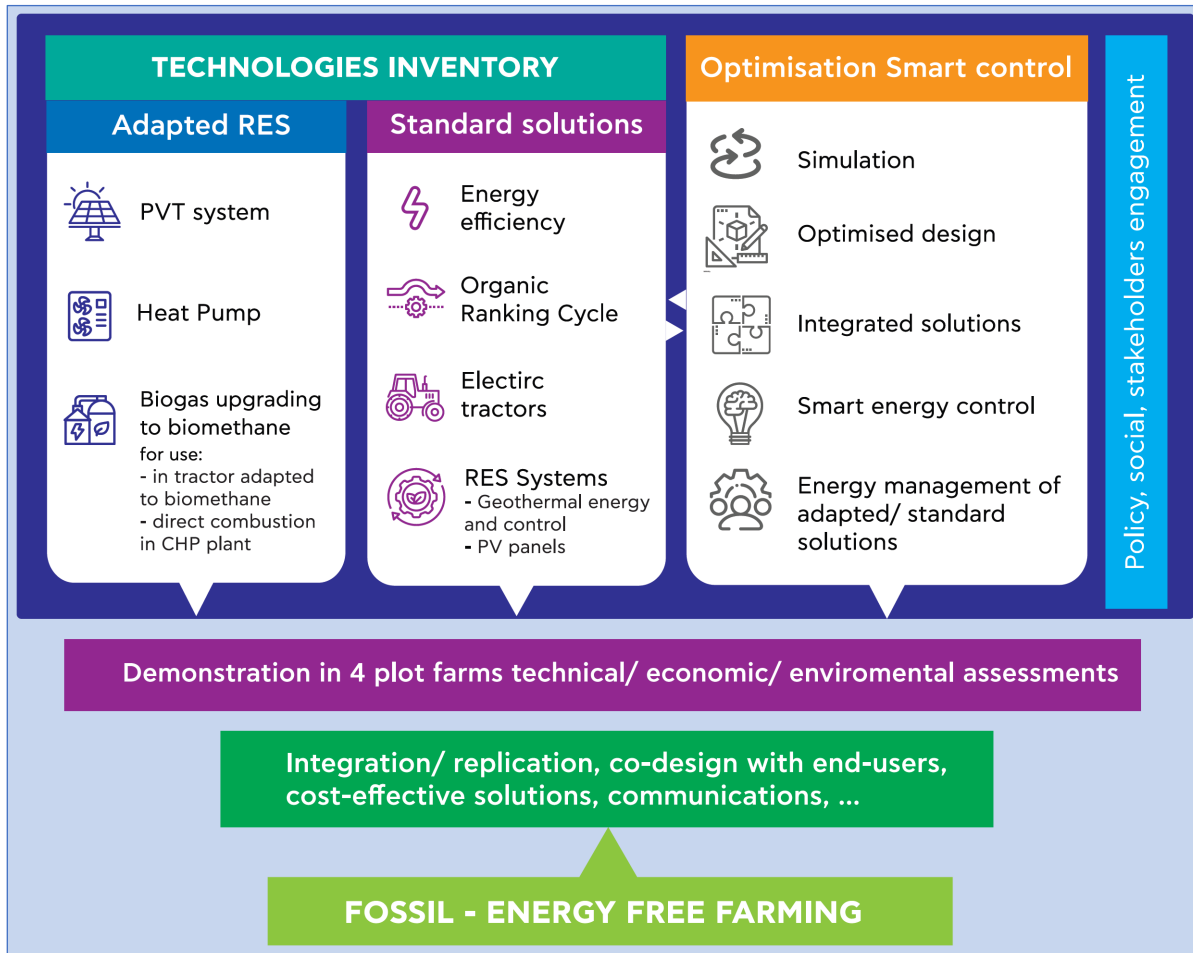
² Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy

³ Department of Civil, Chemical, Environmental, and Materials Engineering, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy

75th EAAP Annual Meeting
Tuesday, 3 September 2024

Introduction (1/2)

RES4LIVE Proposed Solutions



- Replacement of fossil energy use, utilizing Renewable Energy Sources (RES)

Environmental Impact Assessment of RES Systems in Livestock Production

- Ensure the transition to renewable energy is both effective and sustainable
- Evaluate trade-offs so that the RES implementations have a net positive impact.
- Stakeholders can devise strategies that promote sustainability
- Insights into a less-studied area of the literature

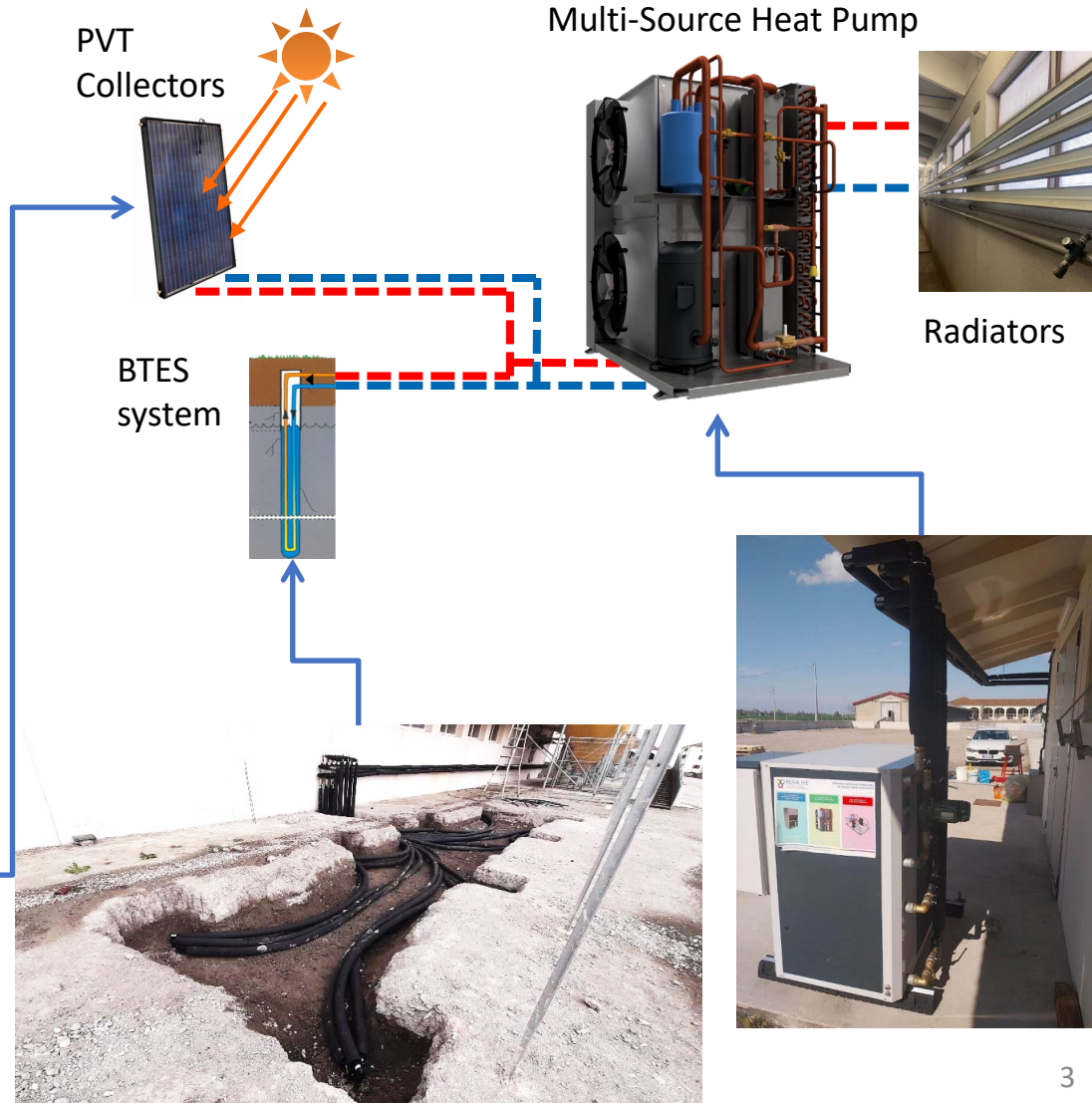
Introduction (2/2)

Case Study

- GOLINELLI pig farm Modena province (northern Italy)
- Consists of a farrowing, a nursery, a gestation and a hog barn with gestation sector

Interventions in nursery barn (13,500 weaners annually)

- Multi-Source Heat pump (HP)
- Photovoltaic-Thermal Collectors (PVT)
- Borehole Thermal Energy Storage (BTES) system
- Smart control



GOLINELLI
AZIENDA AGRICOLA



RES4LIVE

ENERGY SMART LIVESTOCK FARMING
TOWARDS ZERO FOSSIL FUEL CONSUMPTION

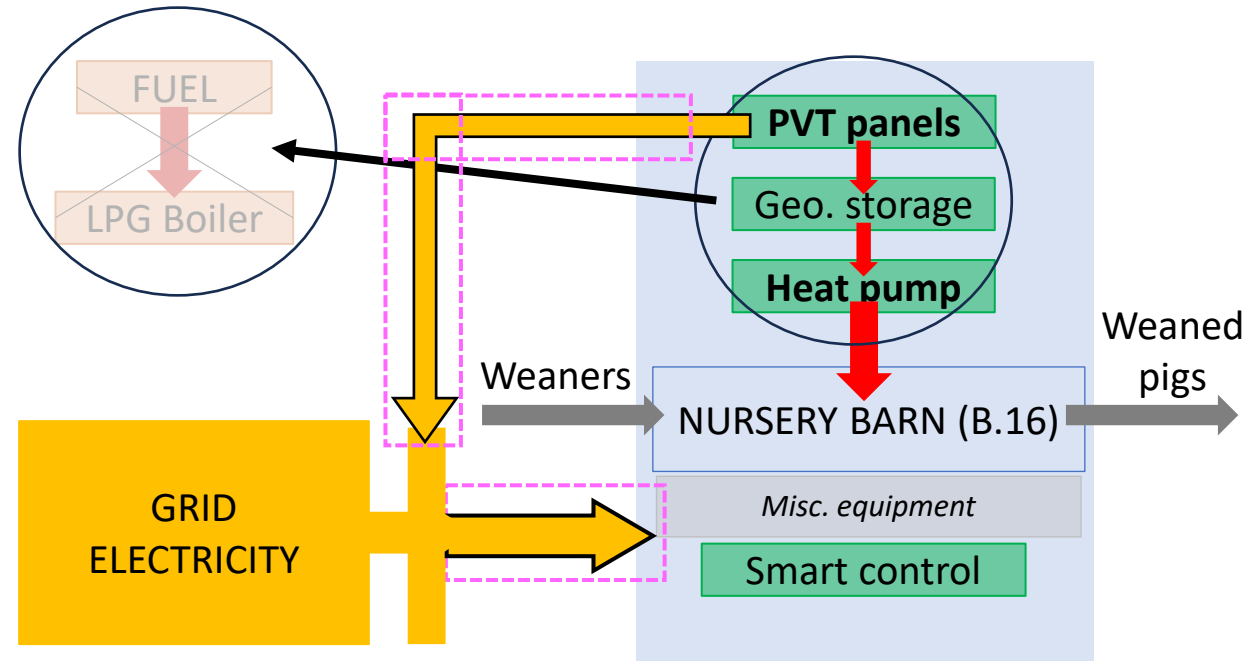
Objectives (1/1)

- Assess the **environmental performance** an **innovative energy system** deployed at a commercial swine farm in Italy
- Applying the **Environmental Life Cycle Assessment (eLCA) methodology**
- **Highly focused on the integrated RES system components:**
 - Multi-Source HP
 - BTES
 - PVT system
- Estimate the environmental performance using **indicators in accordance with EU-PEF 3.1 method**

Materials and Methods (1/3)

System Boundaries and Functional Unit

- Cradle-to-farm-gate eLCA with functional unit 1 kg of weaned piglets at the gate of the nursery barn.
- The inventory created for each system to assess the environmental impact contributions of:
 - i. Raw materials extraction and transformation
 - ii. Assembly
 - iii. Transportation and installation to the farm



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

Materials and Methods (2/3)

Modelling Approach

- Development of the **LCA models in SimaPro software** (version 9.5PhD)
- Use of **attributinal modeling approach** to estimate the environmental burden of the integrated RES system per kg of weaned piglets
- Elaboration of a detailed Bill of Materials (BoM) and relevant data processing for inventorying the RES technologies installed on GOLINELLI farm.



Materials and Methods (3/3)

Development of LCA Models – BOM-based Inventory Analysis for RES Technologies

Heat Pump

Resources

Materials/fuels

Reinforcing steel {GLO}| market for reinforcing steel | Cut-off, U

Metal working, average for steel product manufacturing {RER}| metal working, average for steel product manufacturing | Cut-off, U

Cast iron {GLO}| market for cast iron | Cut-off, U

Steel, chromium steel 18/8 {GLO}| market for steel, chromium steel 18/8 | Cut-off, U

Polyphenylene sulfide {GLO}| market for polyphenylene sulfide | Cut-off, U

Steel, unalloyed {GLO}| market for steel, unalloyed | Cut-off, U

Refrigerant R134a {GLO}| market for refrigerant R134a | Cut-off, U

Refrigerant R125 {GLO-CN}| market for refrigerant R125 | Cut-off, U

Refrigerant R32 {GLO-CN}| market for refrigerant R32 | Cut-off, U

Lubricating oil {RoW}| market for lubricating oil | Cut-off, U

65 kg	Housing of heat pump
65 kg	Housing of heat pump
48.8 kg	Digital Scroll Compressor
10.37 kg	Digital Scroll Compressor
1.22 kg	Digital Scroll Compressor
0.61 kg	Digital Scroll Compressor
3.64 kg	Digital Scroll Compressor
1.75 kg	Digital Scroll Compressor
2.24 kg	Digital Scroll Compressor
3.175 kg	Digital Scroll Compressor

Electricity/heat

Electricity, medium voltage {IT}| market for electricity, medium voltage | Cut-off, U

Electricity, medium voltage {IT}| market for electricity, medium voltage | Cut-off, U

Electricity, medium voltage {IT}| market for electricity, medium voltage | Cut-off, U

Heat, district or industrial, natural gas {Europe without Switzerland}| heat production, natural gas, at industrial furnace >100kW | Cut-off, U

83.76 kWh	For digital scroll compressor
5.833 MJ	For evaporator (HEX)
0.709 MJ	For evaporator (HEX)
5.833 MJ	For evaporator (HEX)

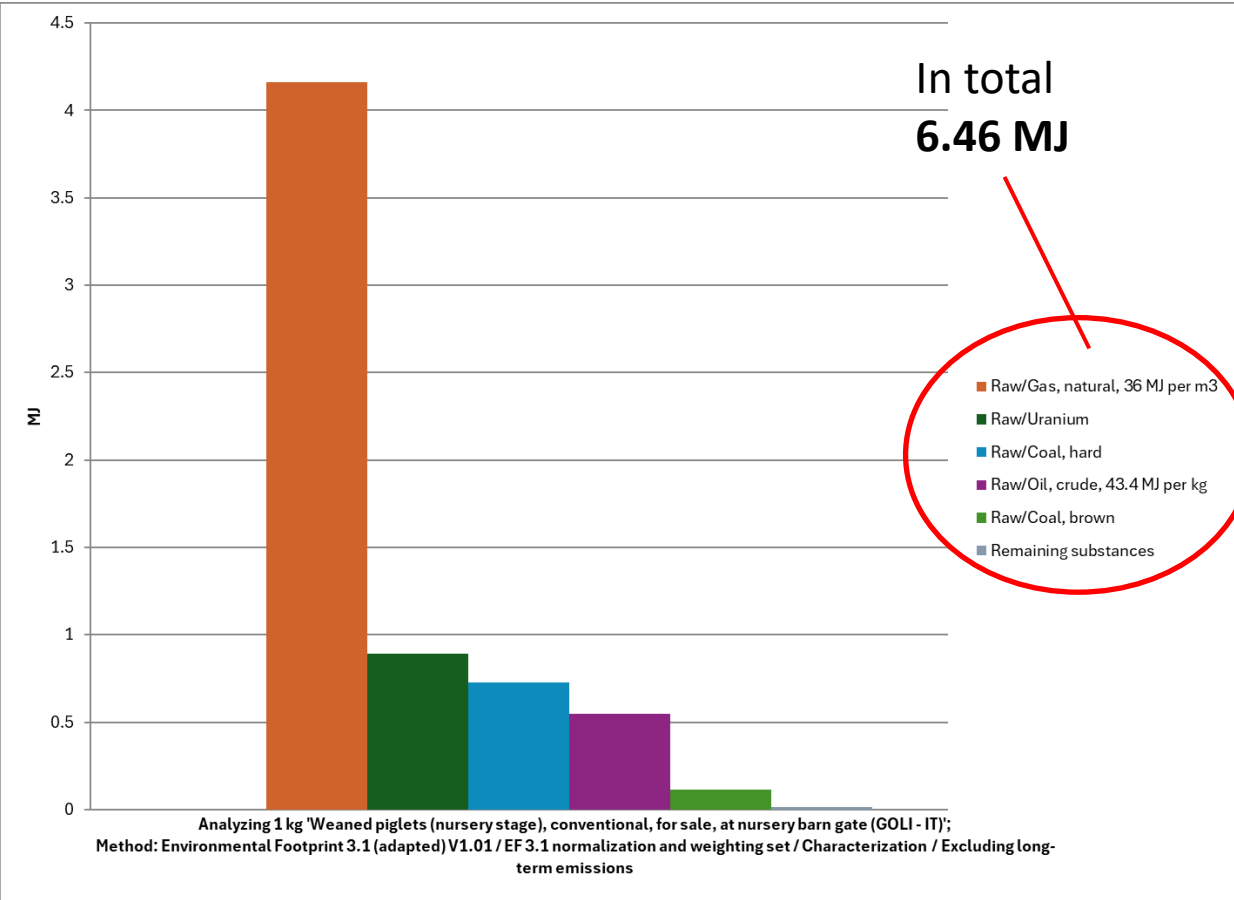
Data sources, for both materials and processes

1. Technology developers
2. Manufacturers
3. PhD theses/ journal articles

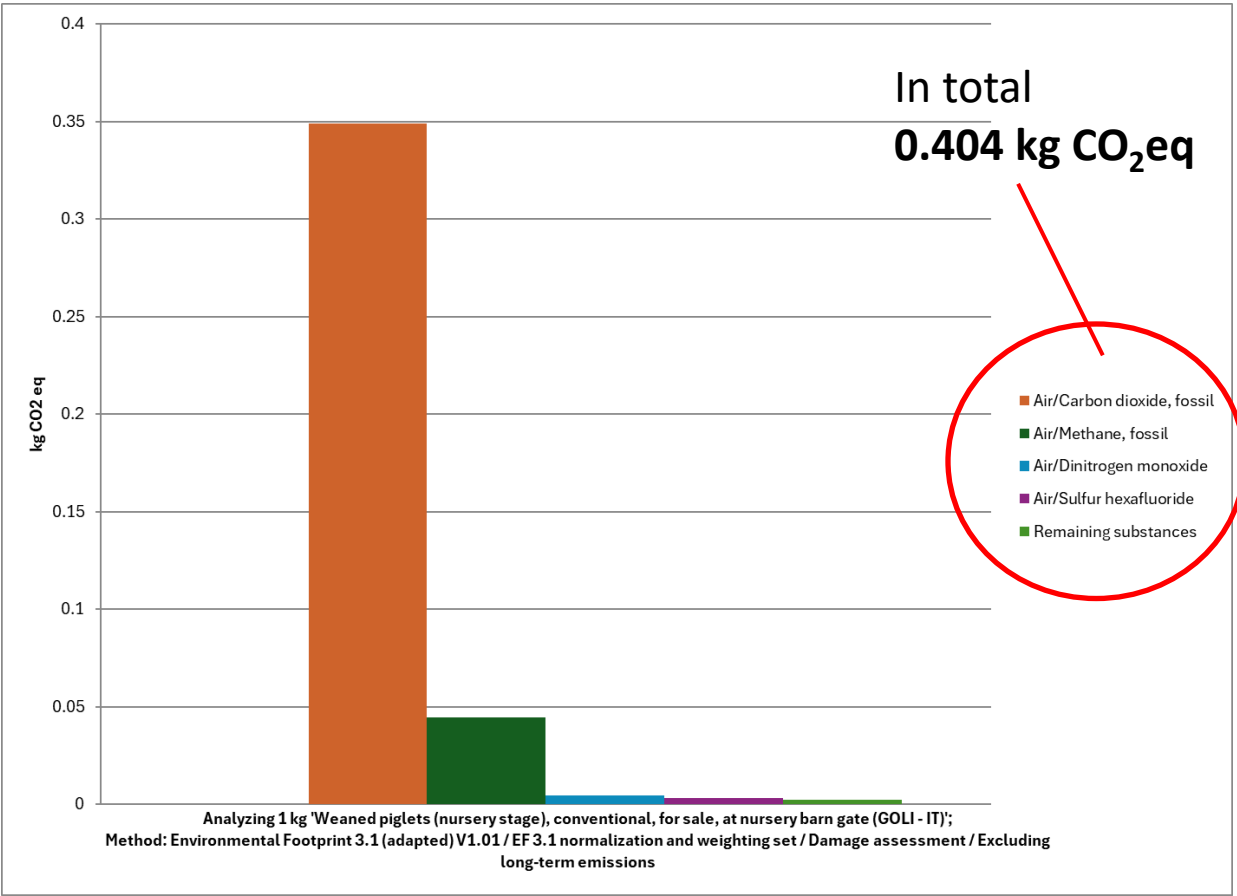
Results (1/4)

e-LCA Results before Interventions - Electricity

Impacts in terms of Resource Use, Fossil (RUF) and Climate Change (CC) - Annual per kg of weaned piglets



RUF due to electricity input - before

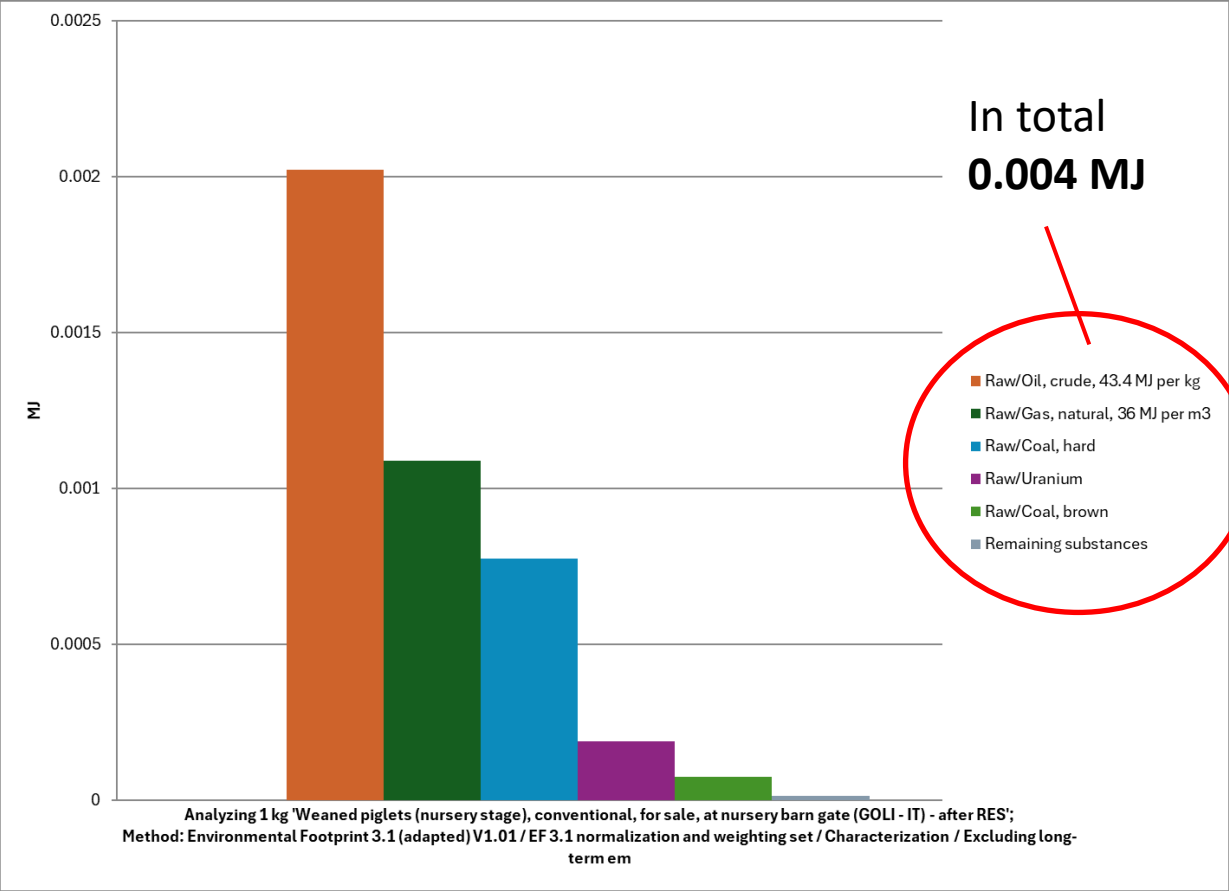


GHG emissions due to electricity input - before

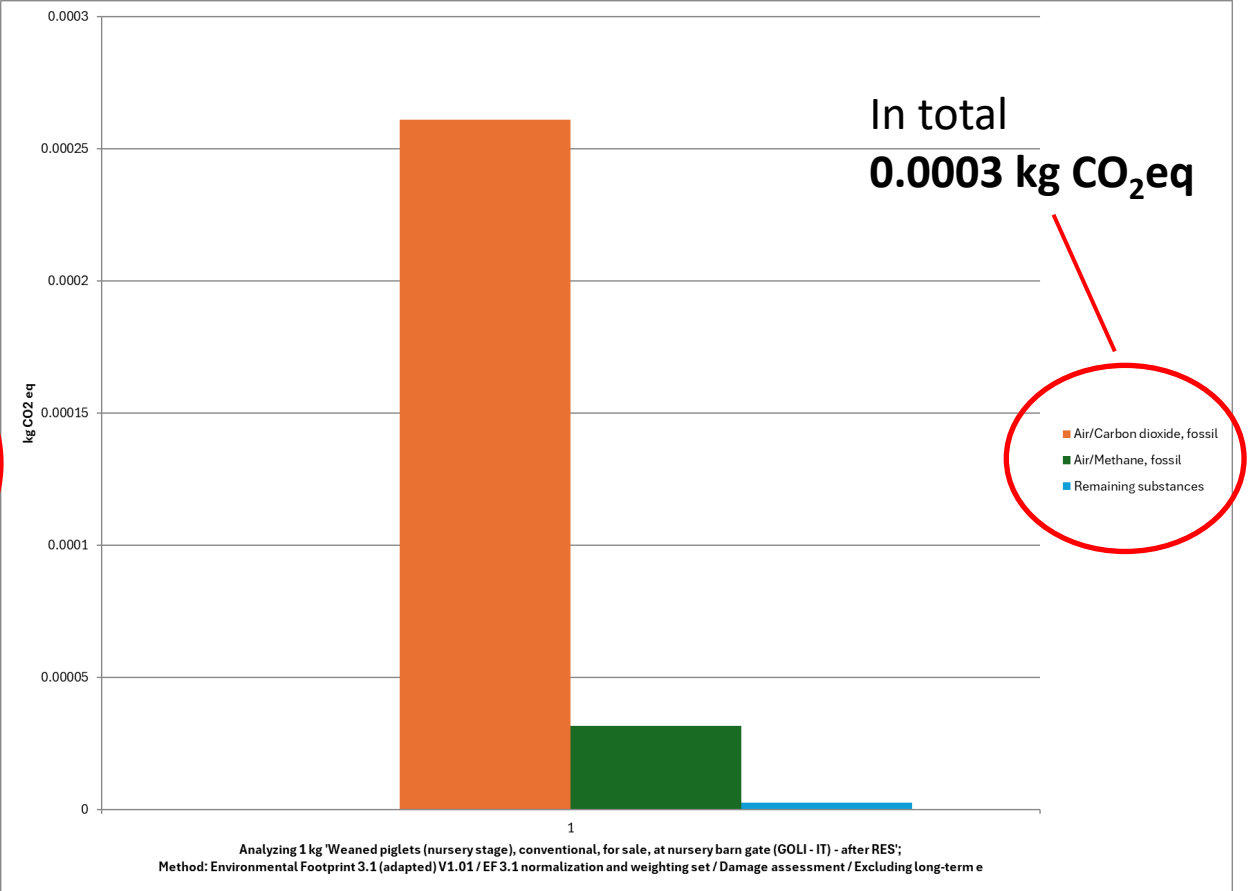
Results (2/4)

e-LCA Results for the Installed RES Technologies – Borehole Thermal Energy Storage

Impacts in terms of Resource Use, Fossil (RUF) and Climate Change (CC) - Annual per kg of weaned piglets



RUF – BTES input

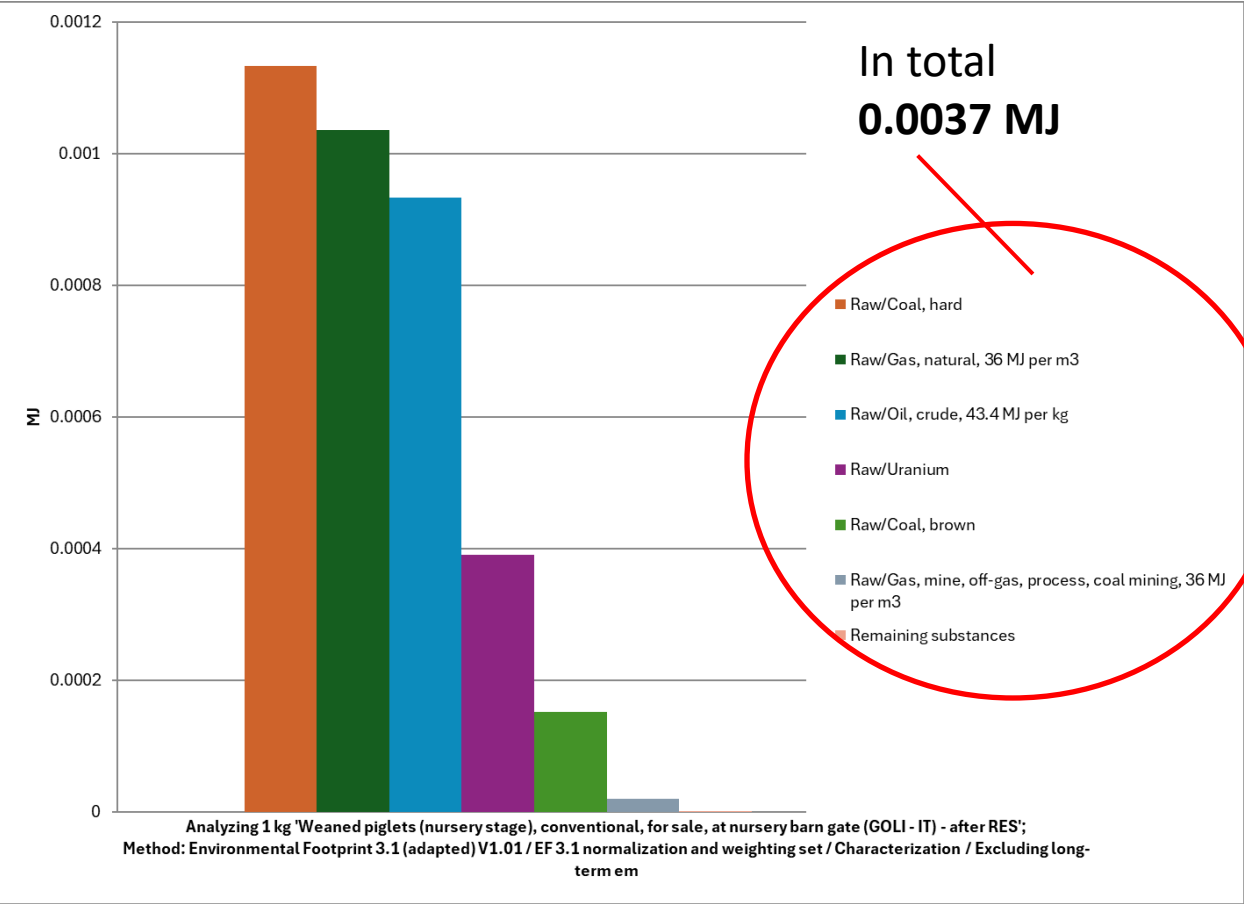


GHG emissions – BTES input

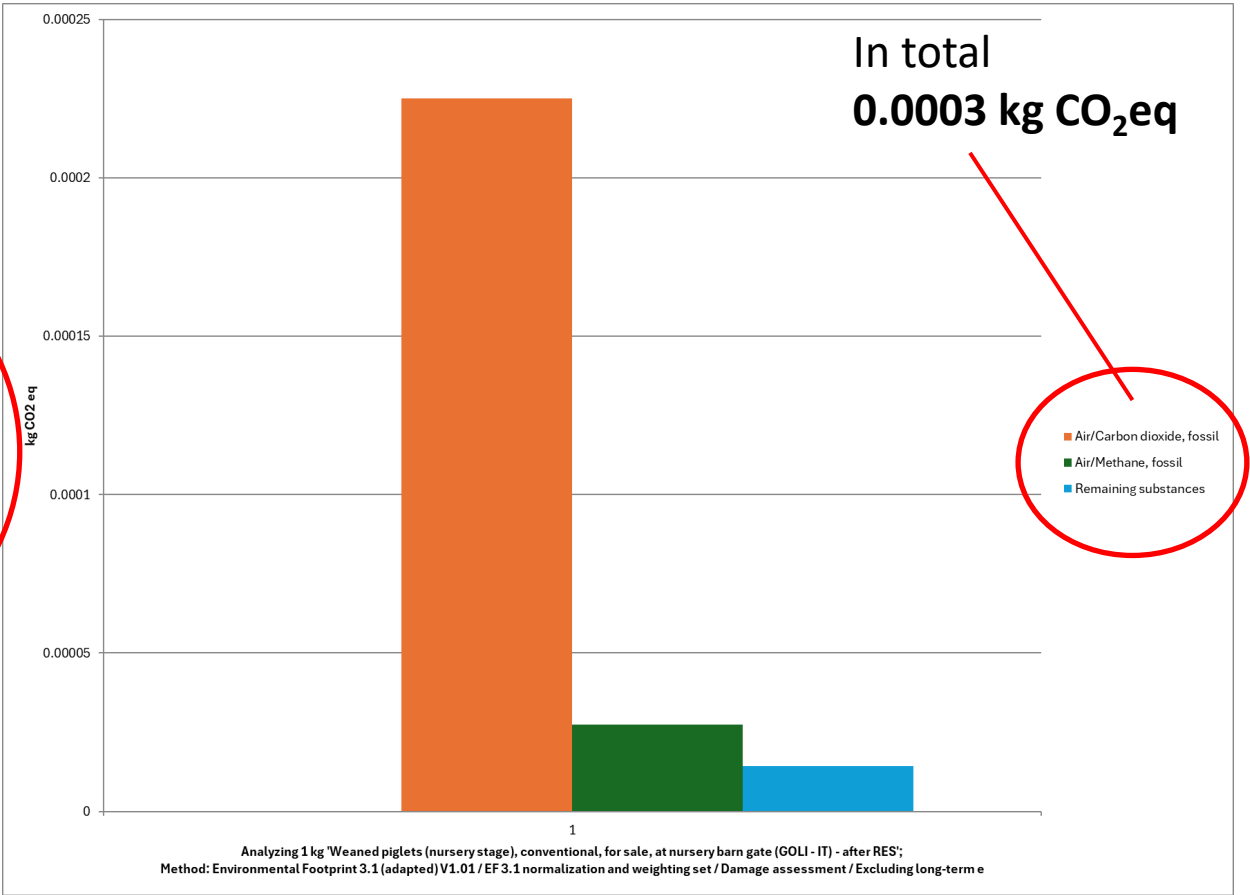
Results (3/4)

e-LCA Results for the Installed RES Technologies – Multi-Source Heat Pump

Impacts in terms of Resource Use, Fossil (RUF) and Climate Change (CC) - Annual per kg of weaned piglets



RUF – HP input

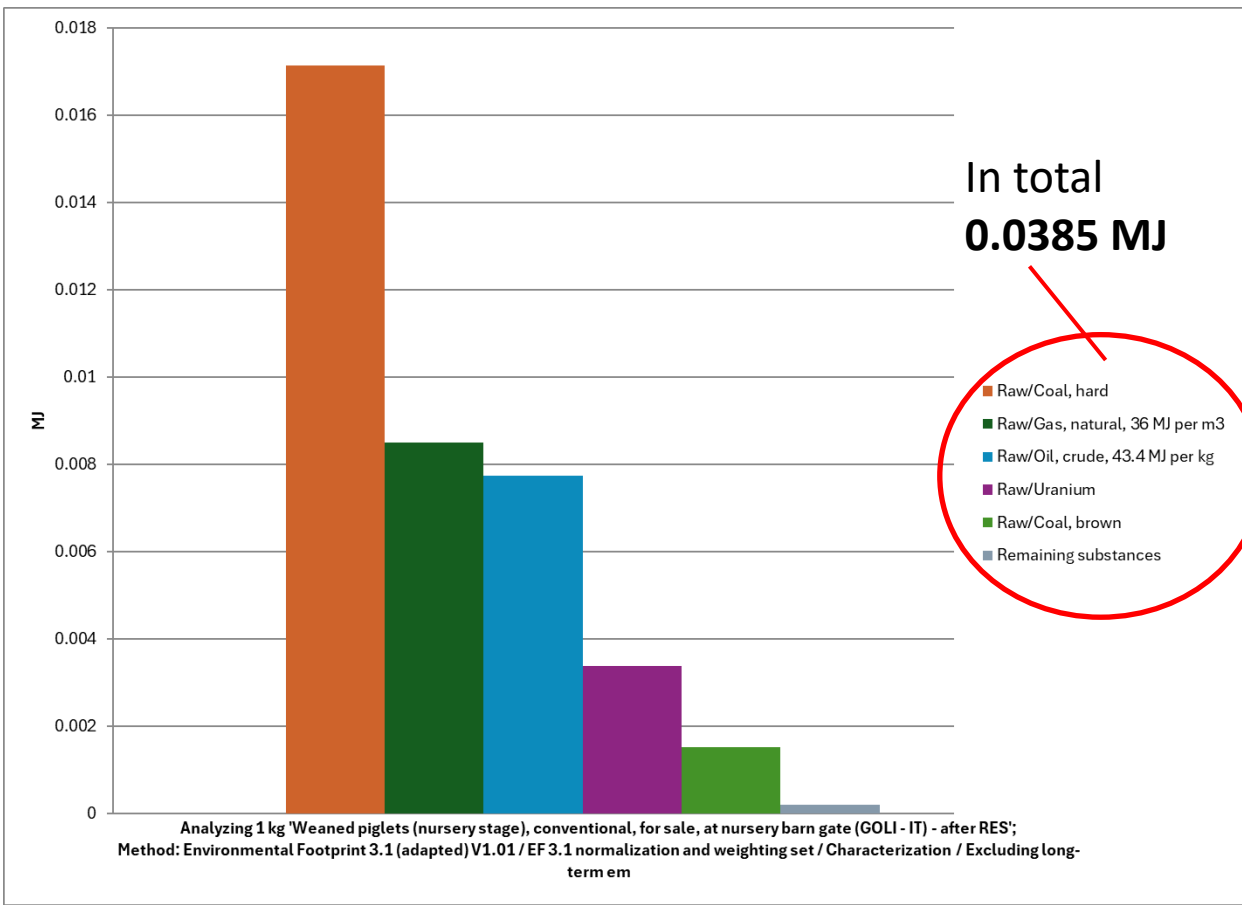


GHG emissions – HP input

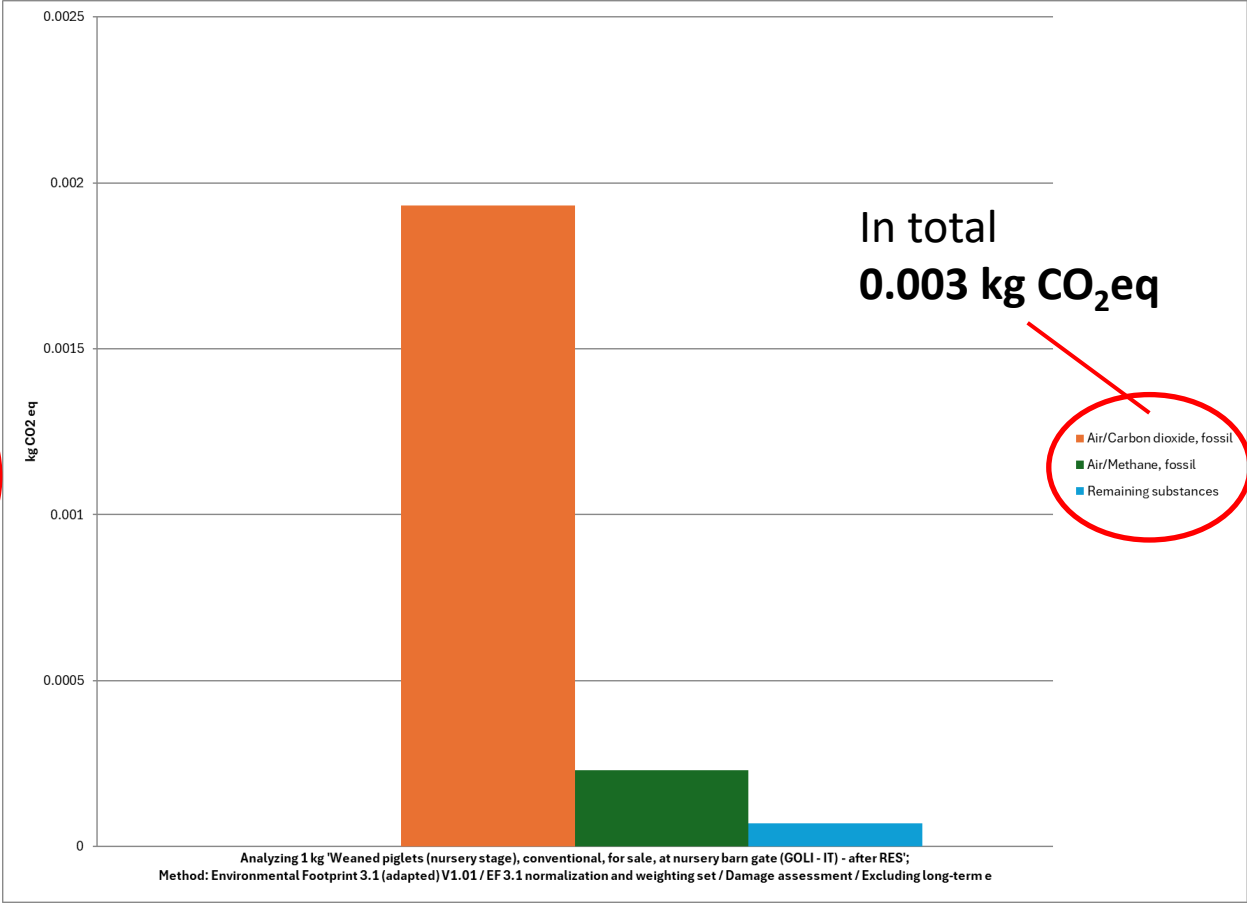
Results (4/4)

e-LCA Results for the Installed RES Technologies – PVT System

Impacts in terms of Resource Use, Fossil (RUF) and Climate Change (CC) - Annual per kg of weaned piglets



RUF – PVT input



GHG emissions – PVT input

Conclusions (1/2)

The **use of fossil fuels (RUF)** and **climate change (CC)** were identified within the impact categories connected with higher indicator estimates per kg of weaned piglets at the farm gate for all technologies:

Technology	Impact Category	Component (Contribution)
BTES	RUF	High-density polyethylene (33%)
	CC	Cement (23%)
HP	RUF	Aluminium (24%)
	CC	Aluminium (26.4)
PVT	RUF	Solar panels and mounting system (69%)
	CC	Solar panels and mounting system (68.6%)

Conclusions (2/2)

- The RES equipment contributes very low to the annual environmental footprint of weaned piglet at the nursery barn gate in comparison to the GHG emissions from the electricity input before the installation of these technologies
- These results will be used to investigate the potential environmental performance improvement of weaned piglet production which is associated with the installation and operation of this integrated RES system



RES4LIVE

ENERGY SMART LIVESTOCK FARMING
TOWARDS ZERO FOSSIL FUEL CONSUMPTION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Dimitrios Tyris

dtyris@aua.gr

Vasileios Anestis

Stefano Benni

Francesco Tinti

Thomas Bartzanas

Dimitris Manolakos