

INNOVA Észak - Alföld Regional Development  
and Innovation Agency

# CLUSTHERM NEWSLETTER 3.

<http://www.clustherm.eu>

## CLUSTHERM closing conference in Debrecen

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Starting date of the  
project: 01. 05. 2008.

Closing date of the  
project: 30. 04. 2010.

The project closing conference of CLUSTHERM "Creating a Central European Thermal Water Research Cluster" was held on 16th of April 2010 in Debrecen, Hungary.

In the project participating regions were expected to give their results on thermal water utilisation, a joint action plan and recommendations for decision makers on regional, national and European levels.

In the closing conference more than 10 presenters were invited to hold presentations in relevant topics. Beside others Jean-David Malo DG Research Head of Unit accepted the invitation however due to the volcanic activity in Ice-

land he held his presentation through video conference.

In the video conference Jean-David Malo emphasised that the Regions of Knowledge (RoK) programme responds to a need to increase the overall capacity of regional players to foster science and technology-based economic development. He added that some changes were introduced in 2009 for instance the mentoring became a compulsory activity. He also stressed that in the following year the sustainable transport will play a significant role in the RoK programme.

The attendees heard presentations in different topics such as Styrian Thermal Water



Utilization, Recommendations by CLUSTHERM regions, Thermal Waste Water Management.

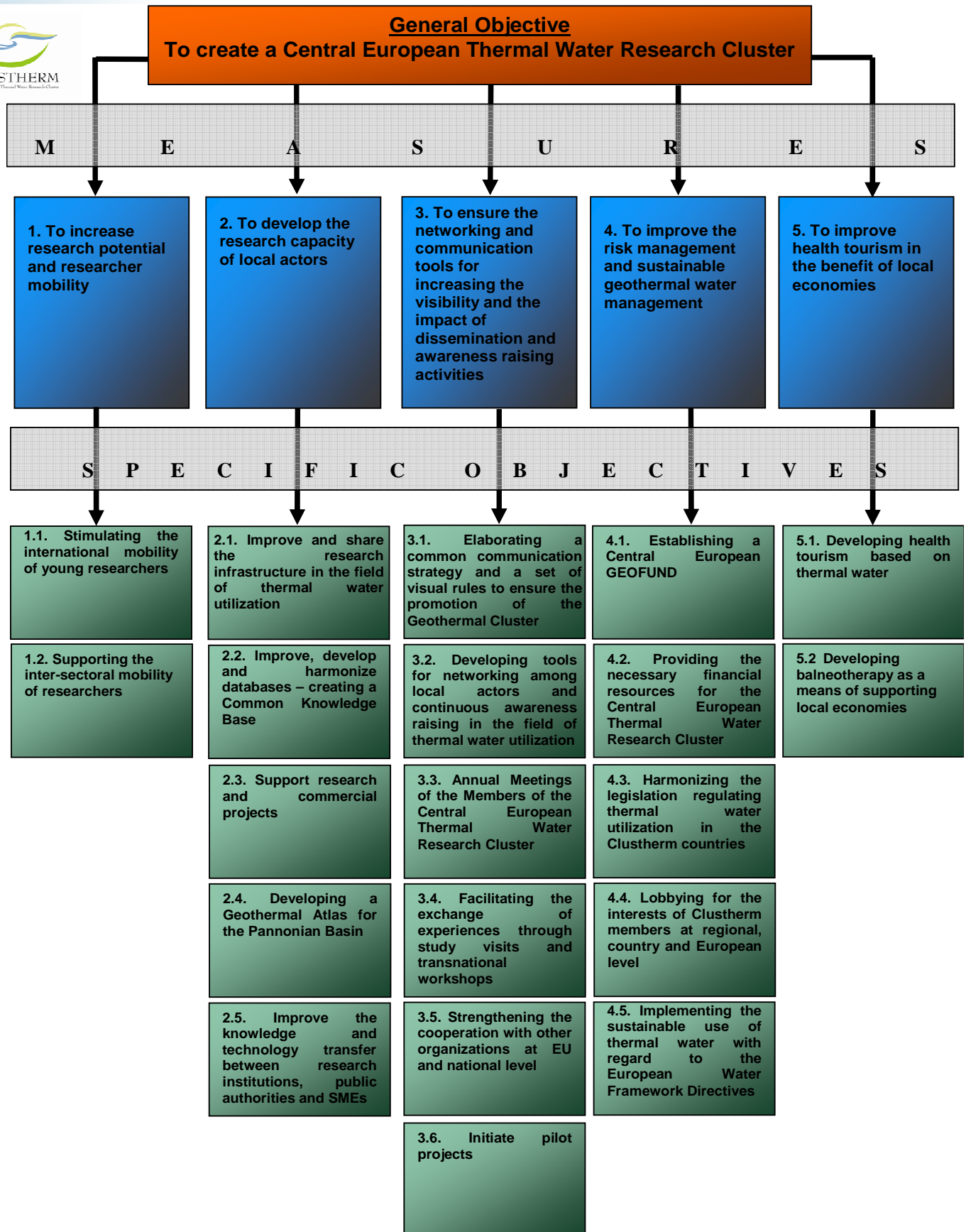
During the conference there were accompanying events such as photo gallery about the "The spas of old times", poster session related to thermal water research and gallery about products based on thermal and medical water.

### Pictures from the closing conference



Project is financed by the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for Research and Technological Development





In order to achieve the main objective of establishing the Cluster, to make it functional and to overcome the problems, the Clustherm team has come up with the **Joint Action Plan (JAP)**. The organizational chart above depicts the main objectives of the JAP.

# RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CLUSTHERM WORKING GROUP



The present Newsletter collects the most important topics (formulated as recommendations) that were touched during the implementation of the project. The recommendation is based on the common work of CLUSTHERM working group.

## 1.1. RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED AT EUROPEAN LEVEL

- 1.1.1 Launching horizontal actions to promote synergies among the different European institutions and instruments
- 1.1.2 Targeting EU funding for different development stages of research driven clusters and for improving the performance of their performance
- 1.1.3 Creation of a cooperation matrix across Europe
- 1.1.4 Increase the research potential and the mobility of researchers
- 1.1.5 Improve the risk management and sustainable geothermal water management

## 1.2. RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED EITHER AT EU OR NATIONAL LEVEL

- 1.2.1 Development of links between the national and regional research and development programmes and elements of European framework programmes
- 1.2.2 Launching of actions to improve the organization of networks (and other factors affecting to the absorptive capacities of cluster actors).

## 1.3. RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED AT NATIONAL LEVEL (SPECIFIC TO THE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY SECTOR)

- 1.3.1. Care should be taken to ensure that the research results in thermal energy utilisation become accessible for local communities in rural areas
- 1.3.2 Hydro geological database should be created for the whole Pannonian basin.

## 1.4. RECOMMENDATIONS THAT CAN BE IMPLEMENTED EITHER AT NATIONAL OR REGIONAL LEVEL

- 1.4.1 Creating of strategy processes and policy platforms bringing together relevant policy making parties from the national and local levels
- 1.4.2 Developing regional strategies and measures for the identification and enhancement of strengths and capacities at the regional level in the field of renewable energy utilization
- 1.4.3 Raising awareness on the benefits and challenges of research intensive clusters
- 1.4.4 Evaluation, foresight and benchmarking exercises
- 1.4.5 Initiatives on education, lifelong learning, entrepreneurship and spin-offs
- 1.4.6 Development of the research capacity of local actors

## 1.5. RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED AT REGIONAL LEVEL (SPECIFIC TO THE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY SECTOR)

- 1.5.1 Good examples of pilot projects should be disseminated in order to increase the awareness of local actors about the potential benefits of using thermal energy.
- 1.5.2 Improve health tourism in the benefit of local economies



## Work Teams of CLUSTHERM Cluster

After preparing a Joint Action Plan, CLUSTHERM project partners established the CLUSTHERM cluster for implement future action based on the Joint Action Plan and recommendations. In the following section further information is given regarding the organizational structure of the CLUSTHERM Cluster with a special focus of work teams and the tasks of their leaders. The CLUSTHERM Cluster has diverse activities, and therefore four work teams are in charge of operative tasks:

- **Energy Work Team**
- **Geology, Hydro-Geology and Reservoir Management Work Team**
- **Environmental Protection and Chemistry Work Team**
- **Health and Balneology (Tourism) Work Team**

### Tasks of the leaders of work teams

- work out the strategy of the CLUSTHERM Cluster jointly, with special respect to the work teams;
- frame and manage the tasks to be performed within the framework of the given work team, and report in relation to the same to the Governing Cabinet twice a year and to the General Meeting once a year;
- make proposals in relation to the annual membership fees to be paid by the members of the CLUSTHERM Cluster;
- coordinate the work connected with the grant applications prepared by the CLUSTHERM Cluster;
- provide for appropriate management in relation to successful applications;
- support the cluster management organization in the performance of the professional tasks associated with the Cluster, and the provision of services to the members of the Cluster, and
- contribute actively to the exploration of new scopes of activities in Hungary, Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the other countries of the EU and the world.
- report to the cluster management and the General Meeting in relation to their work during the year.

The Organizational and operational rules of CLUSTHERM cluster is available on the CLUSTTHERM webpage in English.

### Founders of CLUSTHERM Cluster

- INNOVA Észak – Alföld Regional Development and Innovation Agency Nonprofit Ltd.
- University of Debrecen Faculty of Science and Technology
- University of Debrecen Centre for Agricultural Sciences and Applied Economics Sciences
- VITUKI Environmental Protection and Water Management Research Institute Nonprofit Ltd.
- Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar
- North-West Regional Development Agency
- University of Oradea
- SC Transgex SA
- Joanneum Research GmbH, Institut für WasserRessourcenManagement
- AQUATERRA Ziviltechniker GmbH
- Waterpool Kompetenznetzwerk Wasserressourcen

### Organizational chart of the leadership of the CLUSTHERM Cluster

