

INNOVA Észak–Alföld Regional Development and Innovation Agency

CLUSTHERM NEWSLETTER

Coordinator: **CLUSTHERM Creating a Central European Thermal Water Research Cluster**

INNOVA Észak–Alföld Regional Development and Innovation Agency

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The CLUSTHERM project aims to set up a new research driven cluster in Central Europe on thermal water utilization that will develop the capacity of Central Europe's rural economies rich in thermal water to access and benefit from research on the exploitation. Central Europe's underdeveloped, rural areas have been facing great challenges due to their geographical handicaps and economic structural problems, although they possess an unexploited natural treasure: the thermal water. The overall concept of the CLUSTHERM project is to enable the regional actors to bring the geothermal R&D achievements to the ground of local services and products. The CLUSTHERM concept is linked to the research and development policy, the energy policy and the rural development policy of the European Union, participating countries and regions.



Logo of CLUSTHERM project

The strategic objective of CLUSTHERM is:

To set up a new research driven cluster in Central Europe on thermal water utilization that will strengthen the research potential of the participating regions.

The direct objectives are:

- analyse the RTD development and the needs of geothermal energy utilisation
- promote synergies and catalyse links between regional, research and business actors involved in thermal water utilization (vertical clustering)
- foster the transnational and cross-border co-operations between the regional actors of the participating regions on the field of thermal water utilization (horizontal clustering)
- develop and enhance transnational mutual learning through information exchange possibilities of regional stakeholders in creating research driven clusters and to disseminate good policy practices and benchmarking activities
- develop joint action plan and research strategy among the participating regions to increase the regional economic competitiveness through concentrated use of natural resources.



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



Partners in the CLUSTHERM project

| Partner (Regions or countries or- szágok) | Public, national, regional or local authority | Research entity (experienced in the field) | Enterprises | Other expert organizations |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| Észak-Alföld (Hungary) | INNOVA Észak Alföld Re- gional Development and Inno- vation Agency (coordinator) http://www.innova.eszakalfold.hu | “VITUKI” Environmental Protection and Water Man- agement Research Institu- tion (VITUKI) http://www.vituki.hu | Central Geo Ltd. (CG) http:// www.centralgeo. hu | Észak - Alföld Re- gional Thermal Inno- vation Pbo. (EARTI Pbo.) |
| Dél – Alföld (Hungary) | South Great Plain Regional De- velopment Agency (DARFU) http://www.darfu.hu | - | - | South Great Plain Sustainable Environ- ment Foundation (DAFKA) http://www.dafka.hu |
| North – West Romania (Romania) | North—West Regional Development Agency (NORTH-WEST RDA) http://www.nord-vest.ro/ | University of Oradea (UOR) http://www.uoradea.ro | SC Transgex SA (TGX) http://transgex. rdsor.ro | - |
| Vukovar (Croatia) | Vukovar Srijem County (VSC) http://www.vukovar.hr | Hrvoje Pozar Energy Insti- tute (EIHP) http://www.eihp.hr | - | - |
| Styria (Austria) | ICS Internationalisierungcenter Steiermark Gmbh (STYRIA) http://www.steiermark.at | - | - | - |

Events



Kick—Off Meeting Szeged; Hungary; 05. 05. 2008.

In this meeting all partner made a presentation about their organization and the partners discussed the Work Packages; tasks, deliverables and financial things related to CLUSTHERM project. This meeting was chaired by INNOVA. It was a successful 2—days Meeting.



Scientific Board Meeting Vinkovci; Croatia 14. 10. 2008.

" Each region is represented in the Scientific Board with one member. The SB is chaired by the work package leader. /VITUKI/" It was the first meeting of the Scientific Board. In this meeting the Scientific Board negotiated about the Methodology of csientific work related to CLUSTHERM project



Project Management Unit Meeting; Vinkovci; Croatia 14. 10. 2008.

In this meeting the project managers negotiated the work of Scientific Board related to State of the Art and Benchmarking Study; the structure of the CLUSTHERM home page, the method of pre—financing; the deliverables and the suggested work plan for the Working Group members.

Next events:

Partnership Building Seminar; Debrecen; Hungary; 04.—05. 02. 2009.

Project Management Unit Meeting; Oradea; Romani; 26. 03. 2009.