

INNOVA Észak - Alföld Regional Development
and Innovation Agency

CLUSTHERM NEWSLETTER 2.

<http://www.clustherm.eu>

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

Duration: 24 month

CLUSTHERM Creating a Central European Thermal Water Research Cluster

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.

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.

Event: Partnership Building Seminar on 04. - 05. 02. 2009.

Partnership building seminar was organized for working group members related to Joint Learning platform work package with the help of work package leader called DAFKA South Great Plain Sustainable Environment Foundation. The working group consists of 15 members: 3 experts per each region: one in energy, one in chemistry and one in geology. We have one additional member in this group; the work package leader of WP1. They help the scientific work and project development. The aim of this training was to learn to work in international environment, partnership building, communication skills and common project development. The working group will serve as a potential basis for the Central European Thermal Water Research Cluster. During the seminar the representatives of 5 regions made 15 minutes long presentations about thermal resources in their region, the use of thermal resources, the major research areas and results and the most important organisations are involved. Based on common problems and possibilities they determined three possible cooperation areas in the participating regions: removal of salt, master plan and monitoring guideline.



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





Current status of Work Packages

Project management /WPO/



3rd Project Management Unit meeting in Oradea
26. 03. 2009.

In the CLUSTHERM project we manage the project implementation with the help of the project management unit and steering committee. In both units each partner is represented by one member. The main task of the project management unit is to ensure the continuous follow up and monitoring of the project. We organized 3 project management unit

meetings in the first period; we will have 2 meetings in the second period. In these meetings we conciliated about the methodologies related to scientific work, about the project home page, communication and financial issues and deliverables. On the third project management meeting we discussed the possible structure and cooperation areas of the

establishing structure. The steering committee is the high level decision making body in the project. The 2 steering committee meetings will be held in the second year of the project.

Work Package Leader:
INNOVA Észak — Alföld Regional Development and Innovation Agency (HU)

Scientific coordination /WP1/



3rd Project Management Unit meeting in Oradea
26. 03. 2009.

At the beginning of the CLUSTHERM project we established a Scientific Board. Each region is represented in the Scientific Board with one member, and the meetings of them are chaired by VITUKI Environmental Protection and Water Management Research Institution. Main tasks of the Scientific Board are to define and validate the methodologies of the

scientific work and supervise and monitor the quality of the work from scientific point of view carried out and of the work package results. They had one meeting in Vinkovci on 13.10.2008 to discuss the methodologies of the scientific work. The result of the meeting is the accepted methodology for preparing the State of the Art and benchmarking studies. In the second period they will validate the

State of the Art and benchmarking studies and the action plan.

Work Package Leader:
VITUKI Environmental Protection and Water Management Research Institution. (HU)

Analysis and need assessment /WP2/



1st Scientific Board meeting in Vinkovci, in Croatia
on 13. 10. 2008.

An analysis of the relevant EU, national and regional policies, framework conditions, actions and scientific excellence will be made for all **participant regions** which will create a background for the benchmarking study.

All partners have important

role in this task to ensure the background documents, databases and experiences. The structured availability of the information will be the responsibility of the work package leader. Analysing the documents, databases will be fulfilled in the second period of the project.

The Scientific work is subcontracted to Aquaterra GmbH. that works in Graz, in Austria.

Work Package Leader:
ICS Internationalisierungszentrum Steiermark GmbH (AT)

Joint Learning Platform /WP3/

In order to help the scientific work and project development we established the Working Group related to Joint Learning platform work package with the help of work package leader called DAFKA South Great Plain Sustainable Environment Foundation. The working group consists of 15 members: 3 experts per each region: one in energy, one in chemistry and one in geology. We have one additional

member in this group; the work package leader of WP1. For the working group members a partnership building seminar was organized in February 2009. The aim of this training was to learn to work in an international environment, partnership building, communication skills and common project development. The working group will serve as a potential basis for the Central European Thermal

Water Research Cluster. In the second period they will have a study visit to changing experiences and learning clustering. The members will give recommendations for the joint action plan.

Work Package Leader: DAFKA South Great Plain Sustainable Environment Foundation (HU).



Presentations by the participating region on thermal water resources
Debrecen, in Hungary
04.— 05. 02. 2009.

Joint Action Plan /WP4/

The objectives of this work package are to develop trans-national concerted actions and joint initiatives, to improve integration, to define a joint action plan and to identify areas requiring complementary and mutually reinforcing actions.

This task involves the development of a joint action

plan, and the development of joint initiatives of a Central European Thermal Water Research Cluster.

The action plan will pay special attention to the integrity of defined actions into the Regional Operational Programmes and the relevant Sectoral Operative Programmes.

This action plan will be the basis for the future cluster cooperation's.

Work Package Leader: The North—West Regional Development Agency (RO) who has excellent knowledge in preparing action plan.



Partnership building seminar in
Debrecen, in Hungary
04.— 05. 02. 2009.

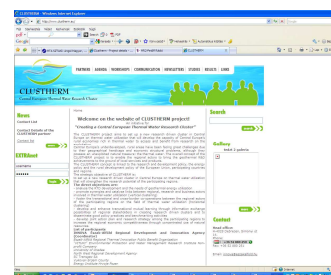
Dissemination and awareness raising /WP5/

The exploitation of the project results is ensured by the High Level Commission of the CLUSTHERM project, where policy makers are represented from national and regional levels and experts from the European Commission as well (DG Research; DG Enterprise and Industry; DG Energy and Transport; DG Environ-

ment). They will meet one time during the duration of the project, on the final conference. We made a project homepage and digital newsletters to disseminate the project activities and the importance of thermal water utilization. We will establish a new research-driven thermal cluster based on the experiences of our Styrian

partner and moreover we will finalise our work in a final publication in the end of the project and we are going to disseminate the results in a final conference.

Work Package Leader: INNOVA Észak — Alföld Regional Development and Innovation Agency (HU)



CLUSTHERM web page

Partners



**INNOVA Észak Alföld Regional
Development and Innovation Agency
(coordinator)**

<http://www.innova.eszakalfold.hu>



**Észak - Alföld Regional
Thermal Innovation Pbo.**



**South Great Plain Regional
Development Agency**
<http://www.darfu.hu>



**South Great Plain Sustainable
Environment Foundation**
<http://www.dafka.hu>



**North—West Regional
Development Agency**
<http://www.nord-vest.ro/>



Central Geo Ltd.
<http://www.centralgeo.hu>



Vukovar Srijem County
<http://www.vukovarsko-srijemska-zupanija.hr/>



SC Transgex SA
<http://transgex.rdsor.ro>



**ICS Internationalisierungscenter
Steiermark GmbH**
<http://www.ic-steiermark.at>



University of Oradea
<http://www.uoradea.ro>



**“VITUKI” Environmental Protection and
Water Management Research Institution**
<http://www.vituki.hu>



Hrvoje Pozar Energy Institute
<http://www.eihp.hr>

Synergies related to CLUSTHERM project

European Geothermal Energy Council

CLUSTHERM have a strong connection, communication and common work with the EGEC European Geothermal Energy Council located in Brussels in order to ensure the better implementation, synergies and dissemination of the project. We invited Mr Philippe Dumas from the EGEC for the 3rd Project Management Unit meeting which was held in Oradea on 26. 03. 2009. in order to introduce this organization to the

Észak - Alföld Thermal Cluster

CLUSTHERM also have a good connection with the regional Thermal Cluster in the Eszak – Alföld Region. This existing cluster mainly deal with thermal bath and balneology utilization. The members in this cluster are local municipalities, thermal spa's and entrepreneurs from the Észak - Alföld Region.
The Thermal Cluster will join to the regional workshops of CLUSTHERM project.

Proposed events:

Regional workshops in every participating region; 10. 2009.
Working Group meeting; Oradea; Romania; 11. 2009.
Scientific Board meeting; Oradea, Romania; 01. 2010.
Final conference; Debrecen, Hungary; 16. 04. 2010.



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