

PARTNERS

- ▶ Province of Ferrara, Italy (Lead Partner)
- ▶ Centre for Renewable Energy Resources and Saving, Greece
- ▶ Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, Bulgaria
- ▶ ENEREA Észak-Alföld Regional Energy Agency, Hungary
- ▶ Reading Borough Council, UK
- ▶ SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden, Sweden
- ▶ 'Energy Centre' Energy Efficiency, Environment and Energy Information Agency, Hungary
- ▶ KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden
- ▶ Emilia Romagna Region, Italy
- ▶ Institute of Geology at Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia
- ▶ VITO Flemish Institute for Technology Research, Belgium
- ▶ Geological Survey of Slovenia, Slovenia



European Regional Development Fund 2007-2013 European Territorial Cooperation Interregional Cooperation Programme INTERREG IVC

INTERREG IVC provides funding for interregional cooperation, its aim is to promote exchange and transfer of knowledge and best practices across Europe. It is implemented under the European Community's territorial cooperation objective and financed through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The overall objective of the INTERREG IVC Programme is to improve the effectiveness of regional policies and instruments. A project builds on the exchange of experiences among partners who are ideally responsible for the development of their local and regional policies.

www.geopower-i4c.eu

CONTACT

Marco Meggiolaro, project co-ordinator
Phone: +39 049 80 43 311
Fax: +39 049 80 43 328
marco.meggiolaro@eurisnet.it



Geothermal energy to address energy performance strategies in residential and industrial buildings





promoting the switch to green energy both in residential and industrial sectors

BACKGROUND

Geothermal energy is one of the most environmental-friendly & cost-effective energy resources in use and has the potential to help mitigate global warming if widely deployed in place of fossil fuel. Recent technological progress, the variability of the cost and the difficult of oil & gas supply, the need to reduce the use of fossil fuels to cut pollution and our reliance on supplies from foreign countries have made the exploitation of geothermal energy, especially low-enthalpy power generation utilizing GCHP (Ground Coupled Heat Pumps) an attractive and viable alternative.

Technological advances have dramatically expanded the range and size of viable resources, especially for applications such as home heating and cooling, opening a potential for widespread exploitation (e.g. GE application to curb energy consumption of industries and SMEs).

The GEO.POWER partners, being aware of energy challenges, decided to develop a capitalization project on geothermal energy under the IVC Programme's environmental sub-theme on the energy and sustainable transport, to fill their legislation gaps and in that way actively contribute to the EU "20-20-20" objective as well as to international climate agreements like Kyoto and Copenhagen protocols.

OBJECTIVES

The general objective of the 2-year GEO.POWER project is exchange best practices related to low enthalpy energy supply and - after a technical and cost/benefit assessment to evaluate the potential of reproducibility - to prepare the ground to the transfer some of the selected best practices within the Mainstreaming Programmes of the regions participating into the project by addressing applications mainly during the current programming period 07-13 as well as in the future regional framework instruments.

ACTIVITIES

This will be achieved through the development of one action plan per each involved region where technical guidelines, potential regional legislation and financing schemes will be transferred to the Managing Authority / Intermediate Body responsible of the EU Structural Funds mainstreaming programmes: according to these action plans, every MA could subsequently shape their political endorsement and address call for the concession of grants or negotiating procedures between local authorities and public-private stakeholders for spreading GCHP (Ground Coupled Heat Pumps) within its administrative boundaries.

RESULTS

At present the EU policy framework clearly promotes renewable energy sources although unlike in the area of RES electricity, the sector of renewable heating and cooling (especially regarding the GE) is not subject to dedicated EU legislation. This policy hole is jeopardising the chances of the EU to reach its overall target for renewable energies, as recently stated by the Commission. The GEO.POWER partners by developing their local action plans and capitalising knowledge to be later disseminated into regional operative programmes, would like to trigger in this manner the issue of a EU Directive to promote heating and cooling from renewables including it in the European legislation.