Note from Coordinator

Dear EERA Geothermal members,

I hope you are all staying well during these challenging times.

I very much appreciated the opportunity to meet many of you during our Steering Committee meeting and workshop on the revision of the Deep Geothermal Implementation Plan in Potsdam in February. The workshop clearly demonstrated the broad and crucial expertise that EERA Geothermal gathers. Thanks to the EERA working group consisting of Philippe Calcagno (chair), Kristian Bär and Michele Contini, who have integrated all the input from the workshop and prepared the feedback from EERA Geothermal on the consultation on the Implementation plan. You can read more about the workshop in our newsletter.

I would also like to use this opportunity to welcome University of Geneva as new Associate Partner to EERA Geothermal. We will have a good chance to get to know them better as they have agreed to host our next Steering Committee Meeting.

Inga Berre

Joint Programme Geothermal Coordinator

For comments or input to the newsletter contact:
*Torill (*torill.eidsvaag@uib.no)

Workshop on revision of the revision of the Deep Geothermal Implementation Plan

Deep Geothermal IWG and EERA Geothermal members are involved in the forthcoming revision of the IWG Plan. A group led by Inga Berre was set up in the Deep Geothermal IWG to suggest revisions of the Deep Geothermal IP.

The group has prepared a draft version of the IP plan which is circulated for an open consultation in the spring 2020. EERA Geothermal got a head start working on the document with a workshop held just before the Steering Committee meeting. The workshop provided thorough feedback on the draft Implementation Plan from the EERA Geothermal members. Based on the input given at the workshop, a group consisting of Philippe Calcagno, BRGM; Michele Contini, SSSA and Kristian Bär, TUDA, have prepared the EERA Geothermal feedback on the Implementation Plan. Due to the Covid-10 outbreak the Deep Geothermal IWG Support Unit has been a little delayed in launching the open consultation of the Implementation Plan, but it is expected to be available in May.

Picture (left): David Bruhn presents a summary from the group discussions about the Deep Geothermal Implementation Plan**. Picture (right):** Inga Berre summarizes the workshop and illustrates the next steps in the process. Photo credit: Torill Eidsvaag

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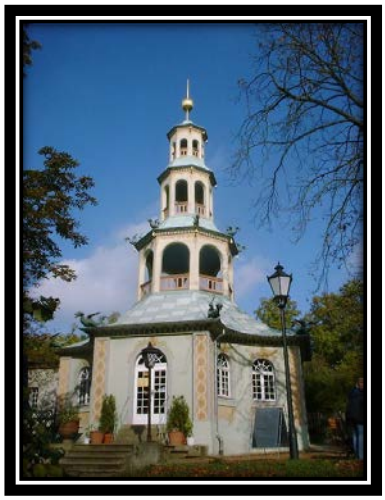
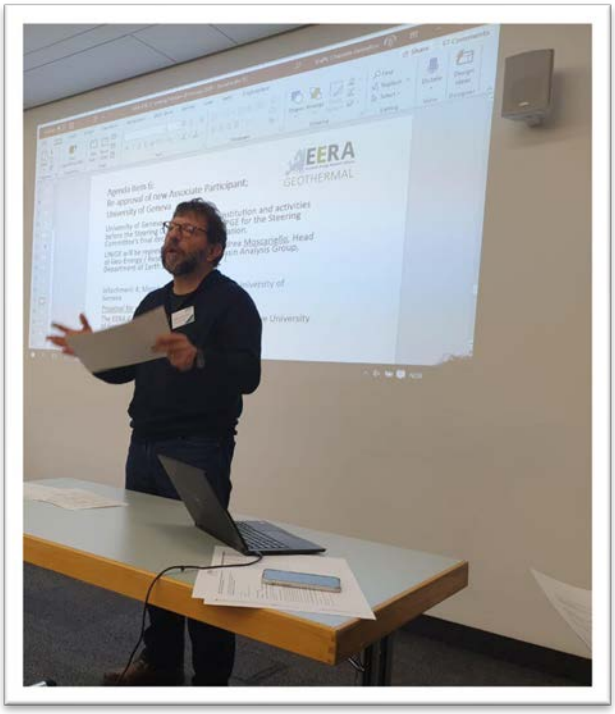
EERA Geothermal Steering Committee meeting 20 February 2020



The EERA Geothermal Steering Committee meeting was held on 20 February 2020. At the meeting 15 out of 28 Full Participants were represented. In addition, one Associate Participant was present at the meeting. The meeting was held in the premises of GFZ German Research Centre for Geoscience, Building H, Rooms VR2+3, in Potsdam Germany. The day before the Steering Committee meeting EERA Geothermal organized a member dinner at the Dragon House Restaurant in Potsdam. Thanks to David Bruhn, Katrin Kieling and Angela Spalek at GFZ Potsdam for organizing a great event for us.

Picture: Prior to the SC meeting EERA Geothermal members met for a dinner at Restaurant Drachenhaus in Potsdam. The restaurant is normally closed in the winter season but opened exclusively for EERA Geothermal. Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons.

EERA Geothermal welcomes University of Geneva as an Associate participant



The University of Geneva (UNIGE) was re-approved as an Associate participant on the SC meeting. UNIGE has a very composite group working with several different aspects of geothermal energy, both within geosciences, economics and social sciences. Research activities at UNIGE are related to four of the eight subprogrammes of EERA Geothermal:

- Subprogramme 1: Assessment of Geothermal Resources
- Subprogramme 2: Exploration of Geothermal Reservoirs
- Subprogramme 5: Energy Conversion Systems
- Subprogramme 7: Sustainability, Environment and Regulatory Framework

Picture: Professor Andrea Moscariello presents the University of Geneva at the SC meeting in Potsdam, Germany. Photo credit: Torill Eidsvaag

EERA Geothermal looks forward to collaborating with UNIGE.

PRE-LEAP-RE – An EU-AU geothermal success story

Background information

This EU-AU geothermal initiative started with the PRE-LEAP RE Project (preparing a long-term cooperation EU-AU in the renewable energy sector). The Project goal was to prepare a European Joint Programme (EJP) in order to set the foundation for future collaborative African Union-European Union activities in the field of renewable energy (RE). EERA Geothermal has been involved within the European Energy Research Alliance-EERA framework (EERA being a PRE-LEAP-RE project partner).

Isabella Nardini, IEG Fraunhofer, has been the coordinator for the geothermal initiatives in the PRE-LEAP-RE project. She updated the EERA Geothermal SC meeting on the process:

"After having actively participated to the development of roadmaps and workshops, we submitted Eight draft proposals on geothermal energy. Six of them were pre-selected with the suggestion to merge them as much possible in order to decrease competition within the same sector. So two main proposals GAA - Geothermal Atlas for Africa and GV - Geothermal Village were submitted on January 3rd and both of them were then selected, together with six proposals on other renewables (biogas, biomass, mini-grids and stand-alone systems), to be part of the master proposal EJP. The evaluation process is scheduled for July-September 2020 and the project should start on January 2021. This project is an excellent starting point of a long-term cooperation in the renewable energy sector between Europe and Africa".

The geothermal projects that received funding were:

- GAA – Geothermal Atlas of Africa
  - The objective of this project is to define the origin of low to high enthalpy geothermal resources for the development of African electricity production, plus a range of direct heat/cold use applications and water use. The project has 10 EU (7 from EERA geothermal) and 12 AU partners.
- GV - Geothermal villages

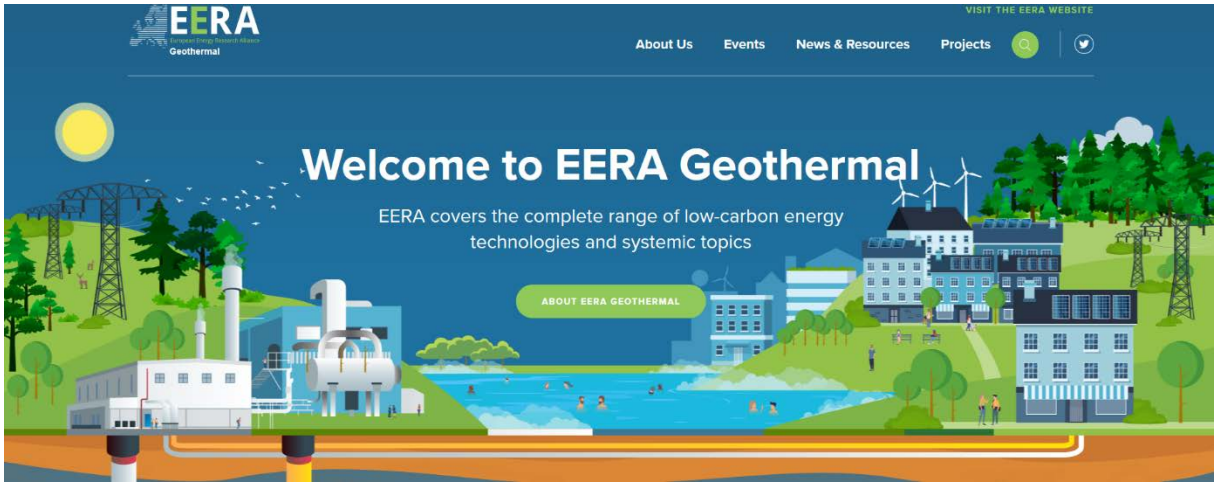
- The main objective of this project is to introduce geothermal stand-alone electric and thermal energy systems off-grid to African communities. The project has 7 EU (5 from EERA Geothermal) and 7 AU partners, plus 6 subcontractors.

For EERA Geothermal the PRE-LEAP-RE is a success story, not only for synergy among the EU partners but also for cooperation worldwide, in this case with African continent.

Florian Wellmann part of working group preparing JP on Digitalization for energy

Florian Wellmann, RWTH Aachen University, sub-programme coordinator for SP8 Computing and Data Management, has been elected part of a working group writing the Description of Work for the new EERA transversal Joint Programme on Digitalization for energy. The new JP will have overlapping activities with existing JPs.

Launching of the EERA Geothermal website and Twitter account



Picture: Sceenshot of the EERA Geothermal website.

On 31 March 2020 EERA Geothermal launched our new website. The website currently contains information about our members and ongoing geothermal projects, in addition to resources like newsletters and annual reports. Thanks to Olga Suminska-Ebersoldt from the Deep Geothermal IWP Support Unit at KIT for her work with creating the structure of the website and adding the geothermal projects. The aim of the website is to showcase the activities of EERA Geothermal's members, but also to show geothermal activities in Europe that are not directly linked to EERA Geothermal. Please contact Torill Eidsvaag (torill.eidsvaag@uib.no) if you have comments or suggestions for the website.

EERA Geothermal is also on Twitter under the name @EERA _Geothermal, so please follow us there and send suggestions for relevant things to share to Torill Eidsvaag or tag @EERA_Geothermal in your posts.

Picture: Background illustration for the new EERA Geothermal website.