

# **GeoSEE Newsletter n.1**

**January 2013**

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Jointly for our common future

## START-UP

### WHY?

It is undoubtedly true that growing concerns on environmental issues, desire of energetic independency and increasing process of energy require the development and utilization of clean and renewable energy sources. A significant contribution to these issues can be offered by geothermal resources and geothermal-derived energy.

Monitoring Committee has confirmed the approval of GeoSEE project application for co-financing by the South East Europe (SEE) Program. Official start date of the project is: 14<sup>th</sup> of December, 2012.

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The GeoSEE project involves 16 partners from 8 countries and will run for 24 months between December 2012 and December 2014. From a technological point of view, GeoSEE intends to demonstrate that innovative and sustainable uses of low-temperature (also called low-enthalpy) geothermal resources (less than 150°C) are possible when they are combined with further renewable sources to provide solutions for heating or cooling and electricity production. These hybrid uses will contribute to making the utilization of lower temperature geothermal fluids more economically viable and reduce business risk thus improving market pull and attracting private investors.

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## ABOUT SOUTH – EAST EUROPE PROGRAMME

The project is funded under the 4<sup>th</sup> call for proposal of the South-East Europe Programme ([www.southeast-europe.net](http://www.southeast-europe.net)). The South East Europe programme is a unique instrument which, in the framework of the Regional Policy's Territorial Cooperation Objective, aims to improve integration and competitiveness in an area which is as complex as it is diverse. The programme is supporting projects developed within four Priority Axes: Innovation, Environment, Accessibility, and Sustainable Growth Areas - in line with the Lisbon and Gothenburg priorities, and is also contributing to the integration process of the non-EU member states.



## PARTNERSHIP

The project includes a well-balanced mixture of partners coming from three main sectors, city or local authorities, research institutions or establishments and local energy agencies. Together we represent varied views across a range of stakeholders and interests providing competent knowledge and experience in the field of energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and geographic intelligence, especially with regards to technological issues and energy infrastructures in South East Europe.

All partners have had previous experiences of participating to EU territorial cooperation projects and have acquired relevant experience in the importance of transnational issues and the added benefits for the resolution of common issues across European Countries. All partners have established strong networks of contacts either at the regional, national or international level.

The partnership is characterized by a strong transnational character, covering eight nations within the South East Europe Programme area, thus ensuring a good geographical and cultural coverage and relevant attention to the issues and needs of a wide range of institutional settings and establishments from South East European Countries.

PARTNER	OFFICIAL NAME	COUNTRY
KSENA	Energy Agency of Savinjska, Saleska and Koroska Region	Slovenia
TESAF	Department of Land, Environment, Agriculture and Forestry - University of Padua	Italy
IGR	Geological Institute of Romania	Romania
UM	University of Maribor – Faculty of Energy Technology	Slovenia
PADUA	Province of Padova	Italy
REAP	Regional Energy Agency of Pazardjik	Bulgaria
SORO	Municipality of Soroksár, XXIII District, Budapest	Hungary
CEV	Veneto Energy Consortium	Italy
REAN	Regional Energy Agency North	Croatia
MF	Faculty of Mechanical Engineering - Belgrade University	Serbia
KOCANI	Municipality of Kocani	Macedonia
PRA	Pazardzhik Regional Administration	Bulgaria
EC	Energy Centre	Hungary
EZS	Energy Industry Chamber of Commerce	Slovenia
KRIZ	City of Krizevci	Croatia
MOL	Municipality of Molve	Croatia

## DID YOU KNOW?

One of the major challenges faced today by countries in South East Europe and beyond is the reduction of energy wastages and the improvement of energy and resource efficiency.

This is necessary if Europe wants to find solutions to the threats posed by its increased dependency on energy imports, dwindling supplies of fossil fuels and soaring carbon dioxide emissions. A fifth of Europe's energy is wasted because of energy inefficiency and wastages.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The general objective of the project is contribution to the rapid development and deployment of more energy efficient and renewable energy technologies in South East Europe and beyond, and in particular of those technologies that allow these countries to harness clean, sustainable and widespread domestic resources.

-  Develop a methodology to analyze and assess in detail the potential to produce electricity from low-temperature geothermal resources in combination with biomass, biogas, heat recovery and solar within the partner countries and beyond.
-  Advance technologies that can be used to integrate low-enthalpy geothermal water with other forms of renewable energy to produce electricity or to implement innovative heating/cooling solutions.
-  Assess the potential of low-enthalpy geothermal resources to increase the efficiency of other renewable energy processes for energy purposes, especially those affected by high production costs such as biomass gasification.
-  Execute process optimizations of the defined integration methodologies in order to scale up and generalize the results of the case study locations to develop a regional model of integrated uses of RES to produce electricity where low-temperature geothermal water is available.
-  Analyze the market penetration of the developed processes in each partner country to demonstrate that low-temperature geothermal resources in combination with other renewable sources can be a nationwide energy resource.
-  Compile a set of guidelines targeting all levels of governance, at European, national and local level, to demonstrate how low-temperature geothermal technologies can be harnessed to improve energy and resource efficiency.
-  Establish the environmental benefits in terms of reduced CO<sub>2</sub> and fuel savings derived from the implementation of the low-temp geothermal integration processes defined by the project
-  Assess the economic and social benefits that could be attained by communities from future implementations of the low-temp geothermal integration processes defined by the project.

**CONTACT US: Energy Agency KSSENA, Titov trg 1, SI-3320 Velenje Slovenia,  
T: +386 3 8961 521, E-mail: geosee@kssena.velenje.eu  
www: www.geosee.eu**

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