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Information activities of the EEA FM Project "Capacity Building of the Key Stakeholders in the Area of Geothermal Energy" during the VIII Polish Geothermal Congress 2023:

Congress poster session, 29 – 30 November 2023

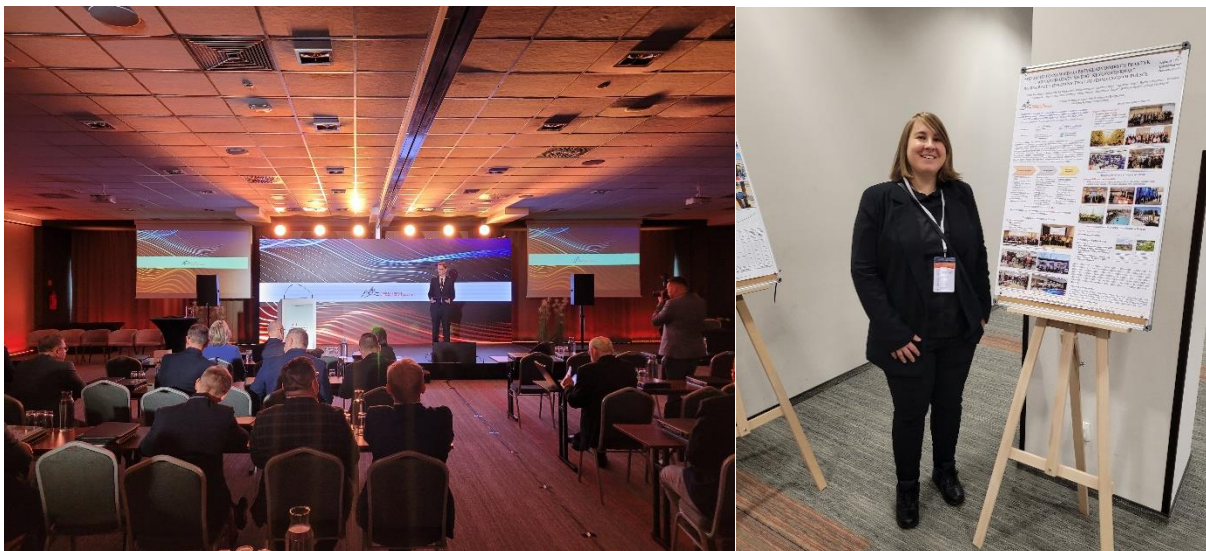
International Workshop "Geothermal Heating in Iceland and Poland – Exchange of Experiences and Proposals", 30 November 2023

The multiple activities of the EEA FM Project "Capacity Building of the Key Stakeholders in the Area of Geothermal Energy" (KeyGeothermal) continue. Most recently, they took place on 29-30 November 2023 in Krakow during the VIII Polish Geothermal Congress (PGC) – the main cyclical event of the geothermal branch in Poland. The project was presented during the poster session of the Congress and International Workshop.

Below, we present more details about these events.

Poster session at the VIII Polish Geothermal Congress

The KeyGeothermal project was presented during the poster session of the Congress on 29 and 30 November 2023. Its topic and achievements to date, as well as grants from the EEA FM, have attracted significant interest from Congress participants. Ms Magdalena Tyszer (MEERI PAS), who presented the Project on behalf of the authors' team, provided a lot of detailed information and answered numerous questions. An extended abstract entitled: "Specialised Knowledge and Examples of Good Practices – the Contribution of the EEA FM "Keygeothermal" Project to the Development of Geothermal Heating in Poland" (authors: B. Kępińska, A. Kasztelewicz, M. Miecznik, L. Pająk, B. Bielec, W. Bujakowski, B. Petursson, K. Pierzchała, B. Tomaszewska, M. Tyszer) was also prepared. It was included in the Book of Extended Abstracts of the VIII PGC in Polish and English.



The Congress programme, poster, and extended abstract published in the Book of Extended Abstracts of the VIII OKG are available at keygeothermal.pl

International Workshop "Geothermal Heating in Iceland and Poland - Exchange of Experiences and Ideas", 30 November 2023

The Workshop took place on 30 November 2023 as one of the Congress plenary events, with over 50 people participating. The Workshop aimed to disseminate selected topics covered by the Project, which are vital and valuable also to a broader group of people and entities involved in the research and

development of geothermal energy in Poland. Many of those interested parties were represented during the Congress.

The Workshop opened with a letter from HE Mr. Hannes Heimisson, the ambassador of Iceland to Poland, addressed to the participants and entitled "The Prospects for Icelandic-Polish Cooperation in the Field of Geothermal Energy and Energy." The letter was read by Aleksandra Kasztelewicz (MEERI PAS). The letter read, among other things, such words: „*Today's Workshop, focused on geothermal heating in Iceland and Poland, provides a valuable platform for discussions and collaboration to optimize geothermal energy and district heating. This collaborative effort can contribute not only to mitigating climate change but also enhancing energy security and economic benefits in Poland (...) There are tremendous opportunities for cooperation between our two nations in renewable energy, environmental initiatives, and climate action. We see this cooperation as not only growing but also having the potential to expand further*”.

The Workshop's topics included the presentation of the Project's main activities and results so far, which were discussed by Beata Kępińska – Project Manager from MEERI PAS. Her presentation was followed by an indication of several main conclusions for Poland resulting from the long-term operation of geothermal heating in Iceland delivered by Óskar P. Einarsson from the National Energy Authority of Iceland (NEA), and then a proposal for Geothermal Resource Parks – as one of the methods of comprehensive, innovative and attractive use of geothermal resources on the example of Iceland was introduced by Baldur Petursson from NEA. Subsequently, a presentation was delivered by Leszek Pająk from MEERI PAS on the U4Gecalc tool for the economic and ecological assessment of the effects of end users' thermal upgrade activities in the geothermal heating system. He also pointed out the synergy and added value of the EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Regional Cooperation projects. Prof. Pająk also conducted the Workshop, which ended with a discussion with the participants.

The Workshop Program, the text of the letter, and the papers presented are available at keygeothermal.pl



The Project presentation as a poster and the International Workshop during the VIII Polish Geothermal Congress 2023 were important events of the EEA KeyGeothermal Project, contributing to a broader popularisation of its subject and the results achieved so far. They also helped develop knowledge and acceptance of geothermal energy in accordance with the objectives of the EEA FM Environment, Energy and Climate Change Programme, under which the KeyGeothermal Project is implemented. The Project was also promoted using a roll-up and information leaflets distributed to all participants with Congress materials.

Beata Kępińska, Aleksandra Kasztelewicz (IGSMiE PAN)

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