



Geothermal Energy: the future of Europe

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Geothermal energy could be in the future one of the main contributors mainly for heating and cooling but also for the production of electricity in Europe !

Geothermal energy is becoming all around Europe one of the most interesting sources of renewable energy for the future in the sense of heating and cooling, but also in the field of electric power production. Energy policy and climate protection topped the agenda at the Spring Council in Brussels this March where EU heads of state and government committed to a binding target for 20% renewables by 2020.

Last week the European Geothermal Congress 2007 took place in Unterhaching (Germany). Professionals from the field did meet for 3 days and discussed the geothermal energy issues in Europe. A special focus was on the issue of geothermal heating and cooling during the EGEC Business seminar, where presentation were oriented mainly on the steps how to increase the production of geothermal energy on markets in Europe and to reach the goals set forth in the relevant action plan.

Currently in Europe the production of heating and cooling in the field of geothermal energy amounted to around 2,4 Mtoe. Expectation and prediction of EGEC for the future aims at 4 Mtoe in 2010 and 8 Mtoe in 2020. To achieve these numbers, the relevant infrastructure, support in the matter of a suitable legislative background, huge investments in projects and in R&D, training of people in the geothermal field, and also improved cooperation between the stakeholders is required.

The goal of EGEC is to raise the awareness of all people all around Europe about the possibilities of geothermal energy use, and to make a positive impact on politicians, stakeholders, investors and end-users in order to improve the visibility of geothermal energy in everyday communication.

Do not forget: The earth will not send you an invoice.