



WP6 – Handout for Stakeholders about Focus Groups activities

GRETA

GRETA aims to develop a shared knowledge base for the adoption of Near Surface Geothermal Energy (NSGE) systems in the Alps, considering technical, economic, environmental and social issues deriving also from field observations (Case Studies). The goal is an increase in use of NSGE and thermal storage in the Alps by: providing spatial information of NSGE potential on the base of efficiency criteria considering limitations imposed by regulations; analyzing and ideally harmonizing country-specific regulations and best-practice and summarizing them into guidelines; anchor the NSGE potential in the energy planning of Pilot Areas. The innovation represented by the approach of GRETA is the adaption of a low carbon technology, well-established in lowland areas, to the energy needs of the Alpine environment. The project aims are dedicated to the implementation stage of the policy cycle and to the integration of NSGE into Energy Planning procedures.

WP6

The main goal of WPT6 is to promote knowledge sharing and dialogue with stakeholders involved at different phases and levels in the use of Near Surface Geothermal Energy (NSGE), such as policy makers, public administrations, energy planners, private firms. The WP is based on a cross-cutting approach involving all other WPs, tailoring project actions and outputs to stakeholders' needs. Constant feedback exchange is ensured among project partners, observers and stakeholders in order to assess their needs. For the sake of completeness, final users' opinion, experience and expectations are also collected. All these elements are continuously integrated into project activities and lead into the elaboration of project outputs, including the users' guidelines in this WP. The WPT6 Guidelines, which are based on the results of the technical WPs (T1-4), offer different reading paths to the different targets (i.e. policy makers, energy planners, enterprises). Every PP collaborates with ARPA's Scientific Mediator and with the stakeholders linked to the Case Studies. Every PP is in contact with its own stakeholders and observers, with special focus on point 3 of the following tasks.



WP6, in particular, is involved in:

1. Identification of relevant stakeholders in NSGE, through a stakeholder analysis identifying “who does what” in the geothermal field - **Questionnaire 1**
2. Assessment of the stakeholders’ needs through the definition of a methodology and its implementation via questionnaires and focus groups. Final users opinion and experience is assessed via questionnaires; - **Questionnaire 2; Focus Groups**
3. Inclusion of results of the technical WPs into guidelines: Intermediate drafts of fact-sheets and guidelines by other WPs are revised through critical feedback analysis, taking into account remarks raised by the focus groups. - **Guidelines**
4. Documents are merged and harmonized into a hypertext guideline published online; - **Hypertext**

Assessment of the stakeholders’ needs - Focus Groups

With the Focus Groups GRETA User Interaction completes the Stakeholder Analysis, through the gathering in depth some of the salient issues emerged from Questionnaire 2 as well as for creating collaborative synergies among components of geothermal system in each Pilot Area of GRETA.

During Focus Groups shared opportunities and also needs emerged in questionnaire 2 together with the collecting of possible disinterest from organisations in this field. Sometimes disinterest could be due to the conviction of not having the necessary economic, technical or organisational resources for this type of project or for not seeing feasible collaborations with other organisations, etc.

Usually Focus Groups and World Caffèes are the methods used to deepen emerged issues of needs and opportunities.

Timing

These Focus Groups will take place between January and April 2017 in each of the three Pilot Areas designated by GRETA.

Sessions quantity

There will be one Focus Group per each Pilot Area.

Who can participate

Any organisation in relation to geothermal and who would like to be involved in GRETA outcomes.

Dynamic of Focus Groups

Meetings have an informal atmosphere, basically a large room that one of GRETA Partners will make available. There will be coffee and biscuits for the attendance. There could be 3-6 tables and in each table an issue or topic is discussed. We are in the process of preparing FGs content, but issues or themes could be legal aspects, technical aspects, economic aspects, organisational aspects. Participants are asked to contribute in each table not so much as to provide information from their own organisation but rather to contribute with their knowledge on that issue. This means the information you could provide is anonymous, and your privacy and copyright information assured. We do not request any sensitive information that may harm or inflict your organisation in any way.

Activities in each table take the form of writing in large pieces of paper; voting with post-it on various issues; prioritise topics in scale 1-5; indicate in bullet-points brainstorming of ideas, suggestions, etc.

Members of GRETA will be facilitating and taking note of contributions from participants during the sessions.

After the session GRETA WP6 will be processing the information collected from Focus Groups and participants could have access to the analysis and outcome from it.

Timing of sessions

About 3 hours. As coffees are offered informally within the sessions, there is no need to have breaks in between.

Experience to participate

There is no need to have experience in participating at Focus Groups or World Cafes, as activities are meant to contribute on what you can according to your experience or expertise.

Networking and Knowledge Exchange

Focus Groups are also meant in GRETA as an opportunity for Stakeholders to know other organisations in the fields of geology, economy, commercial or marketing, community actions that are interested in geothermal energy. A particular contribution can be given by the stakeholders already highly influential and concerned, acting as a towing and encouragement for other sectors that in IIM (Interested and Influence Matrix) appear to be less influential but with high interest, thus promoting the consolidation of a potentially suitable system for the development of Near-Surface Geothermal Energy (NSGE) in the Alpine Space after the conclusion of GRETA project. It is, therefore, a good opportunity for Stakeholders to meet potential interested bodies and people who could engage in future projects.

Contact

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