



FÉDÉRATION EUROPÉENNE DES GÉOLOGUES
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS
FEDERACIÓN EUROPEA DE GEÓLOGOS

GEONEWS OCTOBER 2008

Info and news from EFG, European Legislation Process, events and funding related to the Panel of Experts and EFG members:

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1. EFG PROJECT



Geo-Education
for a sustainable geothermal
heating and cooling market

➤ **GEOTRAINET – “GEO-EDUCATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE GEOTHERMAL HEATING AND COOLING MARKET”**

The European Federation of Geologists is the Co-ordinator in a large group of partners which has made a successful application to the European Commission, “Intelligent Energy – Europe” Programme, for a grant to run a project. The aim of the project “Geo-Education for a sustainable geothermal heating and cooling market”, GEOTRAINET, is to develop the training of professionals involved in Ground Source Heat Pump installations (GSHP). The project is focused on two target groups: designers (planning, including geologists) and drillers (who make the boreholes and insert the tubes). The availability of relevant geological data for planning will also be addressed, in cooperation with Geological Surveys in some countries. The project includes the creation of an EU-wide certification scheme for both planners and installers of GSHP. Another project activity will be the definition and development assistance for the necessary EU-wide technical standards.

Visible results of the project will be the curricula, learning tools, manuals, an e-learning platform for the designers and the trainers, and several courses to be launched during the project duration. The goal, however, is to cooperate with the relevant professional associations, teaching institutions, etc. in order to establish a training and education framework going farther and lasting longer than the project – and providing the human resources necessary to sustain a sound and healthy growth of the GSHP market in Europe.

On 1 October the kick-off meeting of the GEOTRAINET Project took place on Brussels, Belgium. The group of partners comprises: European organizations (EFG and EGEC), research centres (Arsenal Research in Austria and BRGM in France), and some groups and universities active in training and education (GT Skills in Ireland, Romanian Geoexchange Society, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia in Spain, University of Lund in Sweden, and Newcastle University in UK).

The duration of the project will be 30 months from 1 September 2008

2. EFG WORKSHOP

➤ EFG WORKSHOP ON THE 33RD INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS IN OSLO

The agenda and presentations from the EFG Workshop "Issues for geologists in 21st century - mitigation of man's influence and serving society's needs" on 9 August are now available on the EFG Web (Geology and Society). Click on the next link to see it:

<http://www.eurogeologists.de/cms/index.php?page=153#33IGC>

Official Website: <http://www.33igc.org/>

➤ FLAGSTAFF DECLARATION ON THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIC CONFERENCE

The Presidents and/or representatives of the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG), European Federation of Geologists (EFG), Canadian Council of Professional Geologists (CCPG), Institute of Geologists of Ireland (IGI), Geological Society of London (GS) and Ilustre Colegio Oficial de Geólogos (ICOG) have signed the *Flagstaff Declaration*. [Click this link to see the document](#)

Official Website: <http://www.aipg.org/2008/AIPG-AHS-3IPGC.htm>

3. GENERAL NEWS

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANET EARTH (IYPE)



EFG offers some documents and a calendar of events on our website: www.eurogeologists.eu.

To send more information about the IYPE or add events, contact:

jorge.garcia@naturalsciences.be

Events of IYPE

| DATE | TITLE | PLACE | INFORMATION |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 - 5 Oct | "Days of Great Collections" | Romania | www.geology.ro |
| 2 Oct | Seminar - Aurora Borealis Project / Polar Consortium Initiative | Dublin, Ireland | www.planeteearth.ie www.eri-aurora-borealis.eu |
| 2 Oct | Planet Erde 2008 - Planet Earth | Aachen, Germany | www.planeterde.de |

Events of 7th Framework Programme of Research

➤ The Directorate of DG Research organized an **Information Day** on an Environmental Theme, on the **7FP Activity 6.3 – Environmental Technologies**. This event provided information on the various topics of the next call for proposals in the activity area related to Environmental

Technologies, within the Environment (including Climate Change) theme. You can see all the presentations on this website:

http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/rtd/eesd/watkeact/library?l=/environmental_technologi_2&vm=detailed&sb=Title

➤ The Directorate General for Research are organizing an **Information day** on topics open in the Work Programme 2009 under the sub-activity 6.4.2. "**Forecasting methods and assessment tools for sustainable development**". Researchers interested in the development of tools for impact assessment, economic assessment of biodiversity and brokerage activities between scientists and policy makers are particularly invited to attend. Brussels, Belgium. 15 – 16 October. More information: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/environment/events_en.html

Other events

➤ **5th European Committee for Standardization (CEN) StandarDays**. Open info days on European Standardization Brussels, Belgium. 23 – 24 October. A two-day training session aimed at newcomers to European standardization, as well as those who would like to understand the CEN system better. CEN StandarDays are organized twice a year. More information: www.cen.eu/cenorm/aboutus/standarddays/sd5.asp

➤ **2nd International Symposium on the Geology of the Black Sea Region**. Ankara, Turkey. 5 – 9 October. The Symposium on the Geology of the Black Sea Region aims to discuss the earth science related problems of the region and provide a forum for the presentation of new geological studies and geodynamic models. More information: www.mta.gov.tr/isgb/

➤ **3rd International Symposium 'Coleoid Cephalopods through time'**. Luxembourg, Luxembourg. 8 – 11 October. As for many other groups of organisms, exchange of information between coleoid cephalopod workers from different fields is crucial for modern, multidisciplinary research projects. More information: www.symposium.lu/coleoids/

➤ **GeObMag**, Surlari National Geomagnetic Observatory Bucharest, Romania. 16 – 18 October. The main topics of the Symposium and Workshop will be the practical and theoretical problems associated with observations of the natural geomagnetic field at geomagnetic observatories. More information: <http://www.geology.ro/conferinte/geobmag2008/>

➤ **Subsurface sediment remobilization and fluid flow in sedimentary basins**. London, United Kingdom. 21 – 22 October. This conference aims to bring together scientists from a variety of disciplines (geologists, geophysicists, geochemists) from both academic and industrial communities to present and discuss the state-of-the-art understanding of subsurface sediment remobilization and fluid flow in sedimentary basins. More information: <http://geolsoclive.soukdev.com/webdav/site/GSL/shared/pdfs/events/programme/Programme%20as%20at%20040908.pdf>

➤ **Gravitational Collapse at Continental Margins: Products and Processes**. London, United Kingdom. 28 – 29 October. Large-scale gravitational collapse is an important but poorly understood mode of deformation and mass transport at continental margins. More information: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/www.geolsoc.org.uk/events/listings/page2857.html>

Call for proposals

➤ On 3 September 2008, the **Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)** published some calls for proposals, among them on the Energy theme (FP7-ENERGY-2009-1 and FP7-ENERGY-2009-

2) and the Environmental (including climate change) theme (FP7-ENV-2009-1) classified in two different specific programmes:

- Collaborative projects, which support research projects carried out by consortia with participants from different countries, aiming at developing new knowledge, new technology, products, demonstration activities or common resources for research. Projects can range from small or medium-scale focused research actions to large-scale integrating projects for achieving a defined objective.
- Coordination and support actions, which support activities aimed at coordinating or supporting research activities and policies (networking, exchanges, trans-national access to research infrastructures, studies, conferences, etc.). These actions may also be implemented by means other than calls for proposals.

Below you can find information of this call in relation to each topic.

➤ **ERC Starting Grants.** The European Research Council (ERC) is the first European funding body set up to support investigator-driven frontier research. ERC supports early career independent researchers of any nationality with:

- a scientific track record showing great promise
- a ground breaking research proposal
- 3-8 years experience since completion of PhD
- a host organization based in an EU Member State, an Associated Country, or being an International European Interest Organization.

Submission deadlines:

- 29 October 2008. Physical Sciences and Engineering
- 10 December 2008. Life Sciences

More information: <http://erc.europa.eu/>

4. GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

FP7-ENERGY-2009-1

Publication Date: 03 September 2008

Budget: € 83 000 000

Deadlines: 25 November 2008 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)
01 April 2009 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time) - 2nd deadline (for 2-stage procedure)

Specific Programme(s): Cooperation

Activity Energy.2: Renewable Electricity Generation

- Area Energy.2.4: Geothermal

Topic ENERGY.2009.2.4.1: Understanding and mitigation of induced seismicity associated with geothermal field development

More information about this call:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=148

FP7-ENERGY-2009-2

Publication Date: 03 September 2008

Budget: € 100 000 000

Deadline: 29 April 2009 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Specific Programme(s): Cooperation

Activity Energy.4: Renewables For Heating And Cooling

- Area Energy.4.5: Cross-Cutting Issues

Topic ENERGY.2009.4.5.1: Hybrid systems based on solar thermal heating / cooling, backed up by biomass or geothermal to compensate heat load intermittence

More information about this call:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=149

Legislation

➤ **Directive on the promotion of the use of renewable energy sources**

On 11/09/2008, the relevant committee of the European Parliament voted on the amendments to the Directive. The vote in the ITRE committee (Industry, Research, Energy) was the last step in the parliamentary process before the final vote in the Parliament, expected later this year. In the committee, the legal and technical details have been adjusted and approved, and after the vote 11/09/08 no further changes are expected to be made before the final vote.

EFG has supported some of the EGENC amendment in relation to the Geothermal energy. EP ITRE Committee agreed to adopt the following definition: *“Geothermal energy” means the energy stored in form of heat beneath the surface of solid earth.* With that definition and the inclusion of “geothermal energy” in the list of “energy from renewable sources” in art. 2, all the various kinds of geothermal energy use, deep and shallow, for electricity, heat and cold, are covered by the directive.

Another important point that the EFG supported was the accreditation of installers (art. 13 and annex IV), which in geothermal energy only makes sense for the mass market of geothermal heat pumps. The RES Directive, as it stands now after the end of the discussion process in the committees of the European Parliament, has been much improved compared to the first draft released by the European Commission in January.

Events

➤ The Geothermal Association of Ireland (GAI) 10th Anniversary Conference ‘**Geothermal Resources in Ireland - Commercial Opportunities**’. Kilkenny, Ireland. 5 November. More information:

<http://www.geothermalassociation.ie/index.cfm/fuseaction/news.content/id/2FAECF07-E414-4F71-9B29CEB87AF2038E>

➤ **Second Regional Energy Forum.** Budapest, Hungary. 7 – 8 October. This event aims to promote a productive and positive dialogue on the global energy challenges facing Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). In doing so, we seek to highlight concrete solutions and promote a more unified, collaborative approach and a common vision for the region’s future. More information: www.energycee.org

➤ **Renewable Heating & Cooling, Developing the market for RE-HC technology deployment.** Brussels, Belgium. 16 – 17 October. As EU member states take steps to meet stringent 2020 renewable energy targets, Andris Piebalgs, European Commissioner for Energy, Directorate-General Energy and Transport will address the state of play for heating and cooling within the Renewable Energy Directive at the 2nd annual Renewable Heating & Cooling Congress. This event has been specifically designed to draw the attention of all market actors, including policy makers, on how to exploit the potential of renewable heating & cooling. More information: <http://greenpower.msgfocus.com/q/12hDlphpSmPpq/wv>

➤ **First Congress in Geothermal Energy in Buildings and Industry.** Madrid, Spain. 15 – 16 October. This event aims to be a forum for dialogue between scientific and technical research

centres, universities, governments and industries of geothermal energy, interested in the different thematic areas related to this renewable energy source, widely developed in other countries Europeans, by analyzing the application procedures, equipment available in the market and adapting to current regulations. More information:

<http://www.fenercom.com/geoener/>

Publications

➤ **European Geothermal Energy Council (EGEC) members information on the Turmes report on the Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources, as adopted by the Industry Committee of the European Parliament.** On 11 September, the relevant committee of the European Parliament voted on the amendments to the Directive. The vote in the ITRE committee (Industry, Research, Energy) was the last step in the parliamentary process before the final vote in the Parliament, expected later this year. Through several position papers, contact to relevant MEPs, participation in workshops and meetings, and in particular through the cooperation with our umbrella organization, EREC, EGEC has been able to voice the wishes as well as the concerns of the geothermal industry. For geothermal energy, we now can see positive results on most issues. More information: <http://www.egec.org/EGEC%20information%20letter%20on%20ITRE%20vote.pdf>

➤ **Members of European Parliament (MEP) give major boost to renewables industry.** The Parliament's Industry Committee has almost unanimously backed EU legislation that paves the way for massive investment in renewables. EU countries are set to back the main elements of the vote, according to Green MEP Claude Turmes, who shepherded the file through Parliament. More information: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/energy/meps-give-major-boost-renewables-industry/article-175296>

5. CO₂ SEQUESTRATION

➤ EFG JOINS ZEP'S TASKFORCE ON TECHNOLOGY – FIRST MEETING REPORT

Invitation to become involved in the EFG Panel of Experts (PE) on CO₂ Geological Storage.

The European Technology Platform for Zero Emission Fossil Fuel Power Plants (ZEP) is the main advisory group for the EU on Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS). First contacts between EFG and ZEP were established on the EU-Sustainable Energy Week earlier this year, resulting in the joining of EFG as a member of the Task Force Technology (TTech). TTech meets 3 to 4 times each year in different locations throughout Europe, the lastest on 3 September in Brussels. This group alone counts over 70 members. Information on past meetings, members and published documents can be found on www.zero-emissionplatform.eu/website/organisation/ttech.html. Tech counts different subgroups that are dedicated to capture technologies, transport and storage. As the power sector is strongly represented in ZEP, mostly capture technologies relevant to this sector are discussed. Oil and gas companies, geological surveys, and now also EFG make sure that storage aspects are well considered.

One of the main activities of ZEP is to advise on topics during the preparation of EU Framework Programme (FP) calls. Currently they are evaluating what the response is to calls open under FP7, as it is evident that their credibility as a stakeholder advisor group depends on the quality and quantity of the response to these calls.

In relation to these advisory tasks, ZEP also reports on the technical status and outlooks of CCS. Currently, two reports are being prepared by the consultancy company McKinsey. The first report is privately funded by a few members of ZEP, but will probably be released in its integrity to its members. The topic of this report is 'Why CCS?'

The second report is in its entirety sponsored by ZEP, and will deal with how to finance demonstration projects. The problem with the first demonstration projects is that they will cost two to three times more, which seems to put early investors in an undesirable position.

An intervention by Niels-Peter Christensen (GEUS) shed some doubts on whether geological storage is sufficiently addressed in the two McKinsey studies. The remark by Christensen was emphasized by Tore Torp (StatoilHydro), with a short intervention showing that the current priority lists for CCS development (first considering the capture plant, storage only getting second line attention) is not justified, having already resulted in fatal conflicts during project development. (Note that my personal experience, and no doubt that of other EFG professionals, shows that geological storage is indeed the last item to be considered when developing a CCS project.)

Next on TTEch's to-do list are an inventory of national funded R&D, pilot and demonstration projects on CCS, and an updated overview of generic cost data. These will be discussed further during the next meeting on 4 November 2008 in Berlin.

Following the increasing activities in the field of CCS, it is necessary to strengthen EFG's expert group. We therefore call upon EFG members that are actively working on CCS, or planning to extend their activities to this field. Please contact the EFG Office to become involved as an expert in the EFG PE on CO₂ Geological Storage. efgbrussels@gmail.com

New PE on CO₂ Geological Storage, coordinator: Dr Kris Piessens, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences – Geological Survey of Belgium

FP7-ENERGY-2009-1

Publication Date: 03 September 2008

Budget: € 83 000 000

Deadlines: 25 November 2008 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

01 April 2009 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time) - 2nd deadline (for 2-stage procedure)

Specific Programme(s): Cooperation

Activity Energy.5: CO₂ Capture And Storage Technologies For Zero Emission Power Generation

- Area Energy.5.1: CO₂ Capture

Topic ENERGY.2009.5.1.1: Innovative capture techniques

- Area Energy.5.2: CO₂ Storage

Topic ENERGY.2009.5.2.1: Safe and reliable geological storage of CO₂

Topic ENERGY.2009.5.2.2: Towards an infrastructure for CO₂ transport and storage

More information about this call:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=148

FP7-ENERGY-2009-2

Publication Date: 03 September 2008

Budget: € 100 000 000

Deadline: 29 April 2009 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Specific Programme(s): Cooperation

Activity Energy.6: Clean Coal Technologies

- Area Energy.6.1: Conversion Technologies For Zero Emission Power Generation

Topic ENERGY.2009.6.1.1: Efficiency increases in existing and new build pulverised coal power plants with a view to CCS.

More information about this call:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=149

Events

➤ **Carbon Capture & Storage. Showcasing the opportunities and necessity for CO₂ storage.** Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. 28 – 29 October. A two-day high level, indepth information-rich congress will bring together key experts from the CCS global developments and showcase the opportunities and necessity for successful CO₂ storage. Cost effective CCS is essential for the future viability and sustainability of the power generation industry. More information: www.greenpowerconferences.com/carbonmarkets/carbon_capture.html

Legislation

➤ **Geological storage of carbon dioxide.** The European Parliament Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee (ENVI Committee) will consider the amendments to the draft report on the geological storage of carbon dioxide (Chris Davies, ALDE, United Kingdom). The objective of the proposal is to enable environmentally-safe capture and geological storage of carbon dioxide in the EU in such a way that carbon dioxide cannot contribute to global warming. It is proposed that carbon dioxide capture and storage will be regulated under Directive 96/61/EC (IPPC-Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) and that both carbon dioxide capture and pipeline transport will be regulated under Directive 85/337/EEC (EIA-Environmental Impact Assessment). More information about the Directive on the geological storage of carbon dioxide:

http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail_dossier_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=196656

➤ **Cropland management techniques for carbon storage.** The Kyoto protocol of 1997 recognizes cropland management as a carbon sequestration strategy which may help to mitigate climate change. Under the protocol, ratified by the EU in 2002, member states are obliged to reduce the sum of their emissions of greenhouse gases to 5 per cent below their 1990 levels. Appropriate cropland management may help member countries meet the overall EU emissions targets. More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/121na1.pdf>

➤ **Supporting early demonstration of sustainable power generation from fossil fuels.** The European Parliament Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee (ENVI Committee) will consider the draft opinion on supporting early demonstration of sustainable power generation from fossil fuels (Guyla Hegyi, PSE, Hungary). Complementing the Commission proposal for a Directive on Geological Storage of CO₂ (CCS), the present Communication highlights the need to finance demonstration projects for CCS. Wide-scale application of CCS in power plants can be commercially feasible in 10-15 years, enabling CCS by 2020 or soon after to stand on its own feet in an Emissions Trading Scheme as an instrument for the elimination of CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels in power generation. The draft opinion of MEP Hegyi includes a number of sceptical reflections on CCS and proposes to finance CCS research by the power sector and other users. More information on the communication: http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail_dossier_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=196653

➤ **EU considers industries exposed to 'carbon leakage'.** The European Commission is drawing up a methodology to determine which industries could obtain free emission rights when the EU's carbon market is re-launched in 2013. Aluminium, steel, iron and cement producers are likely to benefit from exemptions. More information: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-change/eu-considers-industries-exposed-carbon-leakage/article-175583>

➤ **EU nears agreement on funding CO2 capture.** The European Parliament is getting closer to secure funding for emerging technology to capture and store the carbon dioxide emissions of heavy-polluting coal-fired power plants, in an agreement that could bolster the EU's leadership in the fight against global warming. More information: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-change/eu-nears-agreement-funding-co2-capture/article-175620>

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

FP7-ENV-2009-1

Publication Date: 03 September 2008

Budget: € 193 500 000

Deadline: 08 January 2009 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Specific Programme(s): Cooperation

Activity 6.1. Climate change, pollution and risks

- Sub-activity 6.1.1. Pressures on environment and climate

ENV.2009.1.1.1.1.1 Climate dynamics and abrupt changes – analysis of the palaeorecord.

ENV.2009.1.1.6.3 Climate change impacts on the marine environment: research results and public perception

Activity 6.2. Sustainable management of resources

- Sub-activity 6.2.2. Management of marine environments

ENV.2009.2.2.1.4 Integrated Coastal Zone Management

ENV.2009.2.2.1.6 Contribution of sub-seafloor sampling programmes to European deep-sea research

Activity 6.4. Earth observation and assessment tools for sustainable development

- Sub-activity 6.4.1. Earth and ocean observation systems and monitoring methods for the environment and sustainable development

ENV.2009.4.1.1.1 Contribution to observing systems for seismogenic hazards

ENV.2009.4.1.2.1 Further structuring the European approach to Earth Observation

ENV.2009.4.1.3.1 Contribution to observing systems for environment and health monitoring and modelling

ENV.2009.4.1.3.2 Earth observation in support of a sustainable exploitation of mineral resources

ENV.2009.4.1.4.1 Action in the domain of earth observation to support capacity building in GEO

More information about this call:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=142

7. NATURAL HAZARDS

FP7-ENV-2009-1

Publication Date: 03 September 2008

Budget: € 193 500 000

Deadline: 08 January 2009 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Specific Programme(s): Cooperation

Activity 6.1. Climate change, pollution and risks

-Sub-activity 6.1.3. Natural hazards

ENV.2009.1.3.2.1 Costs of natural hazards

ENV.2009.1.3.2.2 Vulnerability assessment of buildings, lifelines systems and networks related to earthquakes

ENV.2009.1.3.3.1 Risk, prevention and management of urban floods e Project

Activity 6.3. Environmental technologies

- Sub-activity 6.3.1. Environmental technologies for observation, simulation, prevention, mitigation, adaptation, remediation and restoration of the natural and man-made environment

ENV.2009.3.1.2.1 Construction technologies for mitigating the impacts of soil sealing on soil functions and services, including mitigation of flood risk

ENV.2009.3.1.5.1 Technologies for improved safety of the built environment in relation to flood events

-Sub-Activity 6.3.2 Protection, conservation and enhancement of cultural heritage, including human habitat

Area 6.3.2.1 Assessment and conservation in cultural heritage

ENV.2009.3.2.1.1 Technologies for protecting cultural heritage assets from risks and damages resulting from extreme events, especially in the case of earthquakes

Activity 6.4. Earth observation and assessment tools for sustainable development

- Sub-activity 6.4.1. Earth and ocean observation systems and monitoring methods for the environment and sustainable development

ENV.2009.4.1.1.1 Contribution to observing systems for seismogenic hazards

More information about this call:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=142

Events

➤ The Second United Nations International UN-SPIDER Bonn Workshop: "**Disaster Management and Space Technology - Bridging the Gap**". Bonn, Germany. 13 – 15 October. The aim of this event is to promote the access and use of space-based technologies and solutions for disaster management and emergency response within relevant communities. More information: www.unspider.org/

Publications

➤ **When seconds matter: improving early earthquake detection.** Earthquakes are a serious threat for many European countries, particularly those around the Mediterranean Sea. A new system¹ has the potential to add vital seconds to earthquake warnings, giving extra time for action to be taken. Early warning systems can play an important role in reducing the negative impact of these catastrophic events on densely populated areas and in mitigating the damage to strategic structures and lifelines. More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/121na2.pdf>

8. HYDROGEOLOGY

FP7-ENV-2009-1

Publication Date: 03 September 2008

Budget: € 193 500 000

Deadline: 08 January 2009 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Specific Programme(s): Cooperation

Activity 6.1. Climate change, pollution and risks

- Sub-activity 6.1.1. Pressures on environment and climate

ENV.2009.1.1.5.2 Climate-induced changes in water resources in southern Europe and neighbouring countries as a threat to security

Activity 6.3 Environmental technologies

-Sub-Activity 6.3.1 Environmental technologies for observation, simulation, prevention, mitigation, adaptation, remediation and restoration of the natural and man-made environment.

Area 6.3.1.1 Water

ENV.2009.3.1.1.1 Adaptation of water supply and sanitation systems to cope with climate change

More information about this call:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=142

Events

➤ **IV International Symposium on Transboundary Waters Management.** Thessaloniki, Greece. 15 – 18 October. Scarcity leads to increasing competition among users. Cooperative arrangements, based on a multi-disciplinary approach integrating scientific, social, economic and institutional components, are crucial in order to jointly develop, manage and protect transboundary waters, to avoid conflict, to optimize the sustainable utilization of these resources and to ensure water security. More information:

http://www.inweb.gr/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=241&Itemid=146

➤ **5th International Conference on Marine Waste Water Discharges and Coastal Environment (MWWD).** Dubrovnik, Croatia. 26 October – 1 November. We are also continuing to expand the range of topics to all subjects related to the coastal environment, and we are confident that MWWD will become the focus of our community dedicated to the "health" of our seas. More information: http://www.mwwd.org/site/page.asp?dsy_id=3241

➤ **36th Congress of IAH: Integrating Groundwater Science and Human Well-being.** Toyama City, Japan. 26 October – 1 November. Over the years the IAH Congress has been a major forum for IAH members and provided many opportunities for experts to exchange their ideas and knowledge on diversified groundwater issues. We in IAH Japan are committed to ensuring the Congress in Toyama continues this tradition and is a fruitful experience for all the participants. More information: <http://www.lni.co.jp/iah2008/>

Publications

➤ **Environmental quality standards in the field of water policy.** The European Parliament Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee (ENVI Committee) will adopt a corrigendum to the report on Environmental quality standards in the field of water policy (Anne Laperrouze, ALDE, France), adopted at second reading on 17 June 2008 in agreement with the Council. The corrigendum is of a technical nature and does not change the result of the vote in plenary. The first part is related to comitology. It introduces a specific "comitology article" to replace a reference to a comitology article in the Water Framework Directive; the other articles are adapted accordingly. The second part modifies the common position (not amended by the vote in 2nd reading) introducing a general reference instead of a specific one since the final decision referred to in the annex is not yet adopted. More information about the Directive: http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail_dossier_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=194497

➤ **Commission seeks to boost oceanic research.** The EU executive wants to promote more coordinated research on sea and ocean resources in a bid to "reconcile" the competitiveness of

Europe's maritime industries and the protection of marine ecosystems. More information: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/environment/commission-seeks-boost-oceanic-research/article-175106>

9. SOIL PROTECTION AND GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE

FP7-ENV-2009-1

Publication Date: 03 September 2008

Budget: € 193 500 000

Deadline: 08 January 2009 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Specific Programme(s): Cooperation

Activity 6.2. Sustainable management of resources

- Sub-activity 6.2.1. Conservation and sustainable management of natural and man-made resources and biodiversity

ENV.2009.2.1.3.1 Soil processes and modelling

ENV.2009.2.1.3.2 Desertification process and land degradation

Activity 6.3 Environmental technologies

-Sub-Activity 6.3.1 Environmental technologies for observation, simulation, prevention, mitigation, adaptation, remediation and restoration of the natural and man-made environment.

Area 6.3.1.2 Soil

ENV.2009.3.1.2.1 Construction Technologies for mitigating the impacts of soil sealing on soil functions and services, including mitigation of flood risk

-Sub-activity 6.3.2. Protection, conservation and enhancement of cultural heritage, including human habitat

ENV.2009.3.2.1.1 Technologies for protecting cultural heritage assets from risks and damages resulting from extreme events, especially in the case of earthquakes

ENV.2009.3.2.1.2 Technologies for protecting cultural heritage assets from risks and damages resulting from extreme events, especially in the case of fires and storms

More information about this call:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=142

Events

➤ **5th International ProGEO Symposium on Conservation of the Geological Heritage and ProGEO Working Group 1 Annual Meeting.** Rab Island, Croatia. 1 – 5 October. The Organizing Committee has the pleasure to welcome all professionals and students whose work/research is dedicated or related to Nature conservation, geoparks, geotourism, life-learning programmes, education, management, sustainable development, land-use planning and decision-making to participate in this event. More information: <http://www.progeo-croatia.hr/rab-symposium2008/>

➤ **MEDCOAST & Black Sea Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) 08.** Akyaka, Turkey. 14 – 18 October. Second International Conference / Workshop on the State-of-the-Art of ICM in the Mediterranean & the Black Sea: Immediate Needs for Research, Education/Training & Implementation. More information: <http://www.medcoast.org.tr/icm08/main.html>

10. MINERALS

FP7-ENV-2009-1

Publication Date: 03 September 2008

Budget: € 193 500 000

Deadline: 08 January 2009 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Specific Programme(s): Cooperation

Activity 6.4. Earth observation and assessment tools for sustainable development

- Sub-activity 6.4.1. Earth and ocean observation systems and monitoring methods for the environment and sustainable development

ENV.2009.4.1.3.2 Earth observation in support of a sustainable exploitation of mineral resources

More information about this call:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=142

11. OIL AND GAS

Events

➤ **American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) meeting: The North Sea After 40 Years.** Oslo, Norway. 5 – 7 October. The aim of the conference is to pose the question: After more than 40 years of varied upstream activity in the North Sea petroleum province, what are the key learnings to take forward into the future? More information: www.aapg.org/oslo

12. ENGINEERING GEOLOGY

Events

➤ **Off-Shore Site investigation practice and Techniques.** London, United Kingdom. 15 October. An evening meeting with the aim of giving an illustrated industry update, to be broken down into four sets of roughly 20-25mins per set. More information:

<http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/groups/specialist/engineering/pid/4321;jsessionid=030D0A3331D434EF0670D4B7C86CCB22>

13. JOB OPORTUNITIES

↳ **HYDROGEOLOGIST**

Job Title: Research on Groundwater flow and solute transport modelling

Location: Lisbon, Portugal

Job description: We are looking for candidates for a 5-year Post-Doctoral Research position in groundwater flow and solute transport modelling, at the Geosystems Centre, Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon, starting January 2009. More information can be found on the website <http://cvrm.ist.utl.pt> (click on "EDITAL"). If you are interested in this position, the country and/or the salary (around 42000 euro per year), please apply by sending your CV and statement of purpose to cvrm@ist.utl.pt.

More information: <http://cvrm.ist.utl.pt>. *Contact:* cvrm@ist.utl.pt

↳ **GEOLOGIST**

Job Title: Technical Advisor

Location: Montreal, Canada

Job description: The Canadian GeoExchange Coalition – Canada’s industry association for GeoExchange™ technology – is seeking a technical advisor who is deeply interested in green energy and innovation.

More information:

http://www.geo-exchange.ca/en/UserAttachments/flex527_CGC%20Job%20Posting%20Technical%20Advisor.pdf

↳ **HYDROGEOLOGIST**

Job Title: Natural Resources Specialist III/ Water Quality

Location: Bellingham, Washington

Job description: The Water Resource Specialist III is the lead technical staff person for the Water Resources Division’s Water Quality Program and is responsible for a number of activities including the development and implementation of water quality standards and related programs including wellhead protection, storm water management, and wetland management.

More information: <http://www.gethydrologyjobs.com/natural-resources-specialist-iii-water-quality-bellingham-washington-76695.htm>

↳ **GEOLOGIST**

Job Title: GeoExchange System Auditors

Location: Canada

Job description: The Canadian GeoExchange Coalition (CGC) – Canada’s industry association for GeoExchange™ technology – is seeking to expand its list of professionals who can act as geoexchange system auditors. Auditors are currently hired by the CGC, on an ad-hoc basis, to perform site audits in the context of the CGC Global GeoExchange Quality Program.

More information:

http://www.geo-exchange.ca/en/UserAttachments/flex529_CGC%20Job%20Posting%20-%20System%20Auditors.pdf

↳ **HYDROGEOLOGIST**

Job Title: Associate/Full Professor

Location: Nicosia, Cyprus

Job description: We are seeking a qualified individual for a faculty position at the Associate or Full Professor level for the Water Research Division of our Centre.

More information:

<http://www.gethydrologyjobs.com/associate-full-professor-nicosia-76338.htm>

Click the next link to see more job opportunities in the field of Hydrogeology:

<http://www.hydrology-jobs.com/>