



Launching of GEO-ENERGY EUROPE project – Brussels, February 22, 2018

POLE AVENIA is proud to announce the launching of the GEO-ENERGY EUROPE project. Funded under the “Clusters Go International” call, which is part of the European Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME) program, the project will consist in creating a transnational cluster specifically aimed at increasing the performance & competitiveness of European SMEs in all industries concerned by the use of subsurface for energy, or "geo-energy", on transnational (EU) and world markets.

The GEO-ENERGY EUROPE project officially started on January 1, 2018 for a duration of 2 years, and involves 8 partners from 7 EU and COSME participating countries: POLE AVENIA (coordinator) and GEODEEP in France, EGENC in Belgium, GEOPLAT in Spain, GEOENERGY CELLE in Germany, CAPES in Hungary, JESDER in Turkey and GEOSCIENCE IRELAND.

As reflected by the consortium composition, made of 4 clusters in applied geoscience or geo-energy at large and 4 business network organizations specialized in geothermal energy, the funded 2 years program will primarily target its networking activities, cross-sectorial skill & technology transfers, market studies and strategic planning towards the promotion and industrial take-off of the emerging deep geothermal energy industry for district and industrial heating and power generation, in line with the European and most national energy transition goals.

The GEO-ENERGY EUROPE partners all met in a plenary form for the first time at EGENC's premises in Brussels on February 21, 2018 (see photo), following an official *Clusters Go International* program kick-off at the Executive Agency for SMEs (EASME) on February 20, and in the mark of the European Commission's Industry Days, on February 21-23.



In parallel, on that very day of February 21, a partnering event was organized by the European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) to build bridges and favor cross-pollination between all ESCP-4i partnerships from the first and second waves of “Clusters Go International” calls. Jean-Louis Olivet, president of POLE AVENIA, was there to represent the GEO-ENERGY EUROPE project and receive the *European Strategic Cluster Partnership – Going International* (ESCP-4i) label from the hands of Anti Peltomäki, deputy director general at the EU Commission / DG GROW (picture)



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