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New demonstration sites, findings, and best practice reports

With three new test sites on board, an extensive knowledge exchange at the 4th General Assembly, and two additional best practice reports online, the year started already exciting for DESTRESS. The near future also looks promising: at least three stimulations will be performed this year in Mezöberény, Soultz-sous-Forêts, and Geldinganes.

News and Progress



4th General Assembly in Strasbourg

From 18 to 20 February 2019, DESTRESS project members met in Strasbourg, France, for the 4th General Assembly. The event was hosted by the University of Strasbourg. The programme included a workshop on the M5.4 earthquake in Pohang, South Korea, on the first day of the meeting where participants discussed results and lessons learned. A short summary of this day will be made available in the upcoming weeks on the project website. On the second and third day, more than 50 project members presented achievements, current challenges, and discussed open questions. In the spotlight were further the upcoming activities at our new test sites in Iceland, Hungary, France, and the Netherlands.





New Demonstration Sites

With the acceptance of the last amendment by the European Commission, we can now officially welcome our new demonstration sites:

In Switzerland, research activities will be conducted in the "Bedretto Underground Laboratory for Geosciences", replacing the former site in Haut-Sorne. This brand-new research facility starts operating in summer 2019.

In addition, activities at the two other new demonstration sites in Mezöberény (Hungary) and Geldinganes (Iceland), are now in planning and will soon start.



Site Visit in Soultz-sous-Forêts and Rittershoffen

On Wednesday 20th of February 2019, after the Destress General Assembly at Strasbourg University, a group of Korean scientists from the Seoul National University visited the geothermal plants of Northern Alsace producing electricity (Soultz-sous-Forêts) or heat (Rittershoffen). Many explanations were given about the history of the geothermal project, the evolution of the geothermal concept, exploitation challenges, and future developments. After a lot of research and development efforts, the two geothermal plants are now producing with an availability of more than 90%. In the coming months, an innovative chemical stimulation programme will be carried out in the Soultz reinjection well GPK-4 in the framework of DESTRESS.



DESTRESS at EGPD 2019

The European Geothermal PhD Day (EGPD) 2019 was held from 25 to 27 February 2019 at the Helmholtz-Centre Potsdam. The event intends to connect PhD researchers from all over Europe working in the field of geothermal energy. This year, 57 young scientists and several guests from various research fields came together to share knowledge and experiences on this promising energy resource.

The conference programme included several keynote lectures from experienced researchers and academics about recent scientific and technical developments in geothermal energy, as well as socio-economic aspects, a poster session and a conference dinner at the City Centre of Potsdam.

Furthermore, the EGPD included a tour around the geothermal underground laboratory and power plant at Groß Schönebeck, Germany, one of the demonstration sites of the DESTRESS project. The excursion was made possible by the DESTRESS consortium and supported by several researchers involved in the project providing informative presentations about the site history and giving a guided tour around the geothermal site. More information can be accessed on this [website](#).





10th EGPD
European Geothermal PhD Day
25 - 27 February 2019

Excursion to the geothermal site
Groß Schönebeck, Germany



New Best Practice Reports on Induced Seismicity and Stimulation Techniques

Two best practice reports were released since the last external newsletter. Both are available on the [project website](#).

1. Induced Seismicity

Among the different societal impacts of industrial activities related to the exploitation of geo-resources, one that recently caused particular public concern is the "Induced seismicity". With this term we usually denote the seismic activity directly or indirectly caused by such industrial operations. The first observations of the induced seismicity phenomenon date back to the beginning of the twentieth century, in relation to coal mining operations. In general, every industrial activity that alters the stress state within the Earth's crust might induce or trigger earthquakes. The most common operations related to induced seismicity besides wastewater disposal are underground mining, water reservoir impoundment, oil and gas production, geothermal energy exploitation, and natural gas storage operations.

[Read more](#)

2. Hydraulic, chemical and thermal stimulation

Stimulation in general is a method to enhance well productivity or injectivity

within different types of reservoirs ranging from sediments like sandstones and limestones to crystalline rocks like granites and basaltic rocks. Based on the type of reservoir with its individual environment hydraulic, thermal or chemical stimulations are performed. Stimulation treatments were developed for the petroleum industry to enhance oil and gas recovery, but were adapted to geothermal reservoir developments in recent years to enhance the extraction of heat.

[Read more](#)

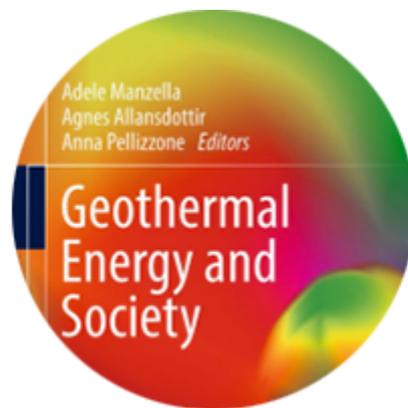
Did You Know...

...that geothermal energy has been in use for a long time?

For thousands of years, humans have enjoyed geothermal energy in the form of hot springs. A stone pool was discovered on Lisan Mountain, China. It is considered to be the oldest spa in the world as it was built in the 3rd century BC.

(Source: ThinkGeoEnergy)

Miscellaneous



DESTRESS researchers contribute to new book on *Geothermal Energy and Society*

Researchers from DESTRESS WP 3.3. have contributed to *Geothermal Energy and Society* edited by Adele Manzella, Agnes Allansdottir and Anna Pellizzone. It is the first book to comprehensively address the societal aspects of harnessing geothermal resources for a wide range of uses and at an international scale. The book combines conceptual and methodological chapters with empirical case studies from across the world.

The chapter on France written by Phillippe Chavot et al. focuses on how uneven regional development and the nature of geothermal energy projects influence public responses. In the chapter on Switzerland, Olivier Ejderyan, Franziska Ruef and Michael Stauffacher review different geothermal projects in Switzerland and highlight the dynamic nature of their social context.

The book can be accessed online [here](#).



DESTRESS at EGC 2019

DESTRESS will be present at the European Geothermal Congress 2019 from 11 to 14 June 2019 in The Hague, The Netherlands. The event brings together the entire European geothermal sector and attracts many from outside the continent. A combination of events for different stakeholders including a scientific conference, an exhibition, training courses, site visits, and networking events will be hosted. DESTRESS will share a booth with other EU projects in order to inform the public about the project, recent progress, and what is still to come in the project's last year. Find more information on the [conference website](#).

Services

Conferences

20. - 21.03.2019 in Bandung, Indonesia

8th International Geothermal Workshop

[More information](#)

28.03.2019 in Frankfurt, Germany

IGC Invest Geothermal

[More information](#)

07. - 12.04.2019 in Vienna, Austria

EGU General Assembly 2019

[More information](#)

03. - 06.06.2019 in London, United Kingdom

81st EAGE Conference & Exhibition 2019

[More information](#)

11. - 14.06.2019 in The Hague, The Netherlands

European Geothermal Congress 2019

[More information](#)

15. - 18.09.2019 in Palm Springs, USA

GRC Annual Meeting and Expo

[More information](#)



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Demonstration of soft stimulation treatments
of geothermal reservoirs

DESTRESS demonstrates methods of enhanced geothermal systems (EGS). The aim is to expand knowledge and to provide solutions for a more economical, sustainable and environmentally responsible exploitation of underground heat.

This project has received funding from the European Union's
Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme
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The content of this newsletter does not reflect the official opinion of the European Union and its Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA). Responsibility for the information and views expressed here lies entirely with the author(s).

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