



## **Local Government of Kistelek participation at geothermal workshop – HU03-0001-Bilat-A-2017**

### **Professional report – Local Government of Kistelek**

The delegation of Local Government of Kistelek attended a geothermal workshop for local governments, which was organised from 18-22 of September in Iceland. Thanks to the successful renewable energy programme our experts and decision maker (Sándor Nagy, Péter Kácsor, János Domonics) had the opportunity to travel to this Island with fascinating resources. Delegates of nine other local governments from Hungary (Bonyhád, Budapest, Kaposvár, Nyíregyháza, Szarvas, Szeged, Veresegyház, Csongrád, Miskolc) participated in the program with us.

The workshop was financed by the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism 2009-2014, under the Fund for bilateral relations at the Renewable Energy (HU03) Programme (134.900 Euros, the grant rate is 100%).

The Ministry of National Development of Hungary was the so-called Programme Operator of the renewable energy programme and the National Energy Authority of Iceland (Orkustofnun) was the Donor Partner of the three-day workshop.

Geothermal energy has been used in Kistelek for more than ten years. Geothermal energy is currently used mainly in bath and space heating, but there is a great potential of utmost importance in district heating utilization, such as heating of private buildings, greenhouses as well as in power generation, which have not been sufficiently exploited yet. With the help of the workshop we had the chance to learn more about geothermal management and the sustainable use of geothermal energy. We were able to gain new knowledge about new technologies, innovation, raising awareness of important aspects of geothermal development. The best starting point for networking and long-term cooperation was this conference.

The presentations were held at the centre of National Energy Authority of Iceland (Orkustofnun). There were presentations about for example utilization of the geothermal water, regulatory framework analyses, comparison between Iceland and Hungary, financial support to geothermal sector, cost structure of geothermal district heating, difficulties of reinjection, sustainable management of geothermal resources; monitoring, modelling and reinjection. The presentations by Icelandic companies were also informative and useful. It was striking to see the enormous energy resources of this country.



In Iceland, the first priority is space heating followed by greenhouses, spa but more and more cheap geothermal energy used for snow melting and other industrial purposes (for example: fish farming and aluminium industry).

They have an exact data base about resources of other countries including Hungary. Much smaller country than Hungary has been able to create a regulatory framework without unnecessary constraints and relatively simple institutional structure. This conditions are attractive to private investment and financing, which are very important to start exploitations and production and reinjection wells.

To sum up, our delegation participated in a well organised, carefully selected workshop. We can benefit from good practises, practical information at local governmental level.