

Press release | July 2022

CROWD THERMAL launches Beta-version of its services empowering the European public to participate in the development of geothermal projects

Brussels | July 2022 | The Horizon 2020 funded CROWD THERMAL project launches its set of core services for communities of citizens, geothermal project developers and local authorities with a view to facilitating the involvement of citizens in the development of geothermal energy projects.

The mission of the EU-funded CROWD THERMAL project is to empower society to directly participate in the development of geothermal projects, with the help of alternative financing schemes and social engagement tools. The project team now launches the Beta-version of its set of services with regards to alternative financing, social engagement and risk mitigation for geothermal projects. These services encompass **environmental studies, economic aspects, financial risk mitigation and social acceptance considerations.**

The core services will assist the geothermal sector, contributing thus to an **accelerated market development** in Europe and **supporting the European Union's 2030 climate and energy targets** as well as the new **REpowerEU plan**, which aims at a greater strategic independence of Europe's energy supply. Geothermal energy is indeed readily available 24 hours per day as inexhaustible heat from within the earth, that can be tapped in the form of hot water or steam.

The following services have been set up for **communities of citizens, geothermal project developers and local authorities:**



Directional well drilling in Szeged, one of the CROWD THERMAL case studies. Credit: SZETAV Ltd.

Service	For whom	What?
Decision tree	Project developers & Local authorities	Offering a workflow with questions on social, environmental, financial, and risk mitigation factors to help you identify appropriate strategies for your project.
Interactive guide to integrated finance in geothermal energy	Community investors & Project developers	A self-assessment with regards to the financial and risk mitigation framework to consider in developing a geothermal project, according to the profile of your community.
Toolbox for risk-evaluation and mitigation	Project developers	Parameters to help you perform a complete economic modelling of geothermal projects, with or without community funding.
Implementation framework for community-based geothermal development	Community investors & Project developers	Five fundamental aspects to consider for any geothermal energy project developed by a community of citizens.



Information Catalogue for self-learning	Community investors & Geothermal professionals	Offering in-depth information on anything related to the CROWD THERMAL pillars: community financing, social aspects, risk mitigation, and geothermal energy.
FAQ	Community investors	Answers to all your questions around community financing for geothermal projects, social engagement strategies, risk mitigation, and geothermal energy.
Meta-database of geothermal projects	Community investors & Project developers & Local authorities	Your platform of geothermal projects that are potentially suitable for alternative financing schemes.

The Beta-versions of all core services are available publicly via the CROWD THERMAL website: <https://www.crowdthermalproject.eu/crowdthermal-core-services/>

The objective being to turn CROWD THERMAL into a **one-stop-shop for enquiries about empowerment in geothermal projects through community funding**, the project team is seeking feedback on its service proposition and welcomes constructive user opinions via a dedicated [survey](#).

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