



ENGINE COORDINATION ACTION

Meeting of the Executive Group and Steering Committee

Minutes

Date and Time:

February 13, 2008 – 17.00 / 19.00, Meeting of the Executive Group and Steering Committee

Location:

Hotel Meridien Villon

Participants:

- Executive Group Members :

S. Thorhalsson replacing O. Flovenz (ISOR), C. Fouillac (BRGM), E. Huenges (GFZ), P. Ledru (BRGM), A. Manzella (CNR-IGG), M. Monterrosa (LaGeo), L. Rybach (GEOWATT AG), F. Boissier (BRGM)

- Steering Committee:

P. Calcagno (BRGM), A. Genter (EEIG), E. Huenges (GFZ), C. Karytsas (CRES), T. Kohl (GEOWATT), P. Ledru (BRGM), A. Manzella (IGG), S. Thorhalsson (ISOR), J. D. van Wees (TNO)

Agenda

1. Formalities (Welcome/Apologies/Attendance)

C. Fouillac and E. HUenges welcome the participant of this common meeting of the Executive Group and Steering Committee. S. Cloetingh (VUA), E. Elewaut (TNO), M. Kaltschmitt (IE), A. Rudloff (GFZ), J. Maas (Shell), Z. Sarmiento (FEDCO), A. Piontek (EC DG Research) are excused.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Group meeting (20 September 2007)

The minutes are approved.

3. Feed back from the Synthesis and Best Practices presentations

A. Manzella and T. Kohl present a short summary of the working group meeting hold 12 February 2008 (WP3/WP6). Permeability, temperature, stress are the key parameters on which the EGS concept can be built. Research priorities will be defined for each of these parameters. The sustainability of the resource will be another point that will be followed up. The volume of work still to be done for the 1st Chapter of the Best Practice Handbook is evaluated to 20% and will be distributed during the next WP meeting. A. Genter points out that it is difficult to prepare such handbook taking into account the limited experience that is available. C. Fouillac asks for a glossary as the definition of EGS has to be clear for all partners. According to him, EGS should be restricted to reservoirs that have originally a poor permeability. L. Rybach considers that a common format should be prepared for the presentation of the Best Practice Handbook.

S. Thorlsson presents the work recently done in the WP4/WP7. Workshops are considered as successes. Finalising review article must now be put as a priority. E. Huenges explains that the present writing of the chapter 2 must still be improved. A. Genter discusses about the access to all collected information as some partners have prepared contributions that must remain available. Access to bibliographic list is discussed and a unified approach is requested.

C. Fouillac appreciates the presentation of the drilling perspective and especially how the time of drilling is progressively decreasing with experience, showing a learning curve effect. However, he noticed that new methodologies about drilling are not mentioned. According to S. Thorlsson and E. Huenges, possible new technologies in this matter will not be specifically developed as no clear breakthrough are really expected soon. This choice will be justified in the final report.

K. Carytsas reports for WP5/WP8 activities during the workshops and preparation of the Chapter 3 of the Best Practice Handbook. J.D. van Wees confirms that the topic was well focused and that the expert group has worked efficiently. A discussion follows about the form of presentation that can be given to the Best Practice Handbook and peer review publications. Both objectives must be achieved according to the planned deliverables of the project.

J.D. van Wees explains that the risk analysis for WP9 was supposed to be an integration of all identified risks from the different WP. However, the focus has been put on the financial risk which appeared as critical for the development of new research projects. A report has been prepared after the workshop and could be integrated partly within the Best Practice Handbook. The excel sheet will be. The EXCELL spread sheet developed during the Leiden project will be formalised and provided as a deliverable. Several participants are interested to participate to the test. A final meeting will be organised in Pisa in April. A version declined for Decision Support System will also be prepared.

Concerning WP2, P. Calcagno plans to finalise the website at the end of ENGINE so that it remains a source of information. Its shape will have to be rearranged and a proposal will be prepared soon and be submitted to the Steering Committee and Executive Group.

4. Suggestions and recommendations for the achievement of the Coordination Action.

The preparation of the Best Practice Handbook:

- revised version of the 3 chapters, 1 April
- compilation and homogenisation, 30 April
- preparation of the Executive Summary and of a Power Point presentation, 30 April

A sub-contractor for dissemination and communication and preparation of an executive summary of the Best Practice Handbook and Strategy could be contacted in a next future.

5. Perspectives for future R&D networking and development of links with industrial partners

Several milestones are discussed for the next future, marking the achievement of ENGINE objectives:

- A preliminary version of a strategic document is circulating and has received comments from several members of the Steering Committee. A new meeting is planned in Budapest on the 19 March in order to finalise it and to define the content of an executive summary of the Best Practice Handbook.
- There is still a necessity of combining science, politics and economy and to maintain the activity of a Group for promoting EGS. This matter will have to be discussed with the Scientific Officer from the European Commission in March in Brussels.

- The preparation of a project on training and education will be evaluated in the framework of research infrastructures. Thus, the possibility to attach some training facilities with exploration sites like Soultz and Gross Schönebeck can open new perspectives.

6. Diverse questions

L. Rybach asks about the financial aspect of ENGINE that is going to be presented in the second intermediate report. The coordinator of the project gives the following information. For the personnel coordination costs, 71% of the global budget has been spent while expenditures related to the workshop organisation have reached 80%. These numbers are equal or not far from normal rate of use of the initial budget that should be 80% after 2 years of contract. The travel costs have been all spent reaching 99% (before the organisation of the Leiden workshop and Vilnius Final Conference) corresponding to a very large involvement of staff from several partners. The interest of workshop and conferences has attracted a large number of participants while travel and accommodation costs have continuously increased. Moreover, additional preparation, Steering committee and Executive Group meetings have induced higher travel expenses than predicted.

17 partners are in line with original budget prevision having spent about 80% of the budget that is conform to the normal rate for the advancement of the project. 6 partners have exceeded and 4 of them have expressed a need for additional financial support. 12 partners have not used the expected budget available and are far beyond the normal rate of 80%. Few of them have already agreed to deploy a part of their resources for covering expenses of the partners that have expressed a need for additional financial support. It is considered that at the final closure of ENGINE, a financial balance should be reached.

7. Next meeting of the Steering Committee: 19 March 2008, Budapest