

# DARLINGe

Danube Region Leading  
Geothermal Energy

ERDF: 1 612 249,99 €

IPA: 534 646,60 €

DARLINGe project is co-funded by  
European Union funds (ERDF and IPA)  
under Grant Agreement no  
DTP1-099-3.2

## CONTACT US

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This project is supported by the Danube Transnational  
Programme funded under the European Regional  
Development Fund and co-funded by Hungary.



## WHAT WE DO

Geothermal energy is a local, baseload and flexible renewable energy source, which can significantly contribute to the diversification of a given energy mix and protect against volatile and rising fossil fuel prices. The increasing utilization of geothermal resources can provide economic development opportunities for countries through taxes, royalties, technology export and jobs.

The DARLINGe project aims to contribute to energy security and energy efficiency in the Danube Region by enhancing the efficient use of deep and still untapped geothermal resources in the heating sector.

The project area covers the central and southeastern part of the Danube Region, about 95,000 km<sup>2</sup> with three cross-border pilot areas.

## TOOLS

DARLINGe will establish a market-replicable tool-box consisting of

1. an independent, indicator-based benchmark system assessing current thermal water utilizations, such as their thermal and utilization efficiency, operational issues (scaling, corrosion, gas content), sustainability of use (rate of reinjection, indicators on over-exploitation), monitoring, etc.
2. a decision tree to support geothermal project developers step-by-step from initial stages of formulating a project idea through various stages of exploration, licensing, development and operation
3. a geological risk mitigation scheme to maximize the success rate of a geothermal well reaching the expected yield and temperature.

The applicability of these tools will be tested in the pilot areas.

DARLINGe will establish a comprehensive web-portal: the Danube Region Geothermal Information Platform (DRGIP), which will consist of a web-based decision support and information tool.

## STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS

Based on a comprehensive analysis of the state-of-play of geothermal energy utilization in the project area, a joint transnational strategy will be formulated to identify measures and provide recommendations for the enhanced use of geothermal energy in the heating sector in the Danube Region.

Outcomes of the pilot actions (testing of the tool-box methods) will be incorporated into the Danube Region Geothermal Action Plan, which will then transfer the visions of the Strategy into specific actions with timelines and responsibilities.

## STAKEHOLDERS, TRAINING

Engaging stakeholders from all partner countries representing the entire geothermal value-chain is a key objective of DARLINGe. A Transnational Stakeholder Forum representing the key-players of the geothermal sector assists the project work via individual consultancy and regular meetings.

Knowledge transfer of the developed tools, strategies and action plans to stakeholders will be provided through national training courses in each partner country and site visits on the pilot areas. The results achieved will be disseminated to a wider public in Europe through public national promotion events and a Final Event.

