

International Geothermal Association

Activities' Report - Year 2020

Delegate/ Adele Manzella

1. Introduction

The International Geothermal Association (IGA) is the leading global platform on geothermal energy. With its four pillars, Visibility, Sustainability, Partnerships and Authority, it is committed to pushing geothermal as a gamechanger for achieving Sustainable Development Goal #7, providing affordable, clean, baseload energy for all. The IGA connects the Global Geothermal Community, serving as a hub for networking opportunities to promote and support global geothermal development. With industry partners, the IGA sets standards, matures the technology agenda, and nurtures entrepreneurs engaged in clean technology.

The main mission of the association is to encourage, facilitate and promote the development of geothermal resources, as well as innovative research in geothermal technologies, through visible and integrated position and representation of geothermal power, heat, geo-exchange, cooling and other uses of geothermal resources.

IGA provides geothermal education in terms of the best practices and unbiased benefits of developing the utilization of Earth's energy for direct use, heat and power generation. It offers financial support to educational geothermal events, especially in countries with emerging geothermal markets. IGA encourages and promotes the coordination of activities related to worldwide research and application of geothermal resources, including conferences, workshops, congresses etc.

IGA collaborates with its renewable partners through the REN Alliance, 100% renewables platform and REN21. Together with these partners, it conducts political dialogues in such areas as sustainability assessment, carbon funds, green policies and other related fields. IGA has consultative status at the United Nations, special observer status to the Green Climate Fund, works closely with IRENA (International Renewable Energy Agency) – Global Geothermal Alliance (GGA), the International Energy Agency Geothermal Implementation Agreement (IEA – GIA) and is a partner in the World Bank ESMAP programme.

IGA has about 5000 members worldwide, with 30 affiliated organizations.

2. Main activities carried on by IGA during 2020 relevant for Italy and for CNR

IGA has been mainly working on the promotion of geothermal energy technologies by:

- participating in the leading global activities related to energy planning using renewable energy sources: Global Renewable Energy Forum (August 2020); a podcast series on the Energy Transition in The Netherlands on February 2020), IRENA 10th Annual Assembly on January 2020;
- the collection and organisation of geothermal production data. Data from the country updates organized in the frame of the World Geothermal Congress have been organized. The data are also a base for contributing to the REN21 Renewables 2020-Global Status
- organizing events: *A global geothermal perspective with additional insights from New Zealand* (webinar, January 10, 2020); *Geothermal: State of play* (webinar, March 11, 2020); *IT 101 (not only) for Geothermalists* (webinar, April 8, 2020) and helping to organise the virtual event of the World Geothermal Conference on April 2020; *#StayEngaged week: the geothermal online event* from 2-4 June 2020; *Enabling greater geothermal economics through applications and Technology* (webinar, July 8, 2020)
- education and training by developing training material for shallow geothermal technologies (Vocational Education and Training of the GSS-VET Project);
- the re-organization of the World Geothermal Congress (WGC) 2020 which could not be held due to the pandemic situation and has been postponed to 2021.

The activity has been slowed down by the pandemic situation. The new Board of Directors started its term on May 2020; only online meetings have been held, reducing the activity to a minimum. The main activity was

the re-organization of the World Geothermal Conference and the launching of activities to revise terms, define reporting standards, and improve harmonization and consistency of geothermal production data. The Education&Information Committee launched the organization of two working group of experts to set the correct terms and re-organise the content and publication of the world geothermal database.

3. Activities carried on by Adele Manzella within IGA during 2020 and impact on the Italian scientific community

The CNR delegate began her term in the IGA Board in May 2020. She is the only representative of Italy. The activities were very restricted to those proposed by the Secretariat. They were mainly dedicated to reorganising the association, also given the experience of having a main co-organised event such as the World Geothermal Congress postponed after the main costs have been exposed.

From a technical point of view, the main contribution has been launching the review of terms and harmonising the geothermal production data.

4. Evaluation of the participation in terms of benefits and membership cost

This activity is significant for CNR, which manages the Italian geothermal database and information platform: a harmonization with the global database is strategic. CNR already collaborated with IGA in the past, organizing the platform for the publication of the IGA data; re-establishing the collaboration would be beneficial both for CNR, in terms of visibility, and for IGA for utilizing the most sophisticated tools developed by the scientific community.

The cost of membership is not currently supported by CNR.

5. Evaluation of Italians' attendance and how to improve interest and involvement

After many years of active participation, it is since 2004 that CNR has not participate in the IGA Board. However, it collaborated on specific topics such as participating in joint projects for communication activities and social engagement, promoting geothermal energy and, mainly, the database. The reviewed Italian participation in the IGA Board is re-establishing the contacts beyond the European borders (as in Europe, CNR is already very active). This networking duty is particularly hard in the pandemic situation and is taking more time than foreseen. When re-established, IGA contacts will represent important channels for scientific cooperation with many important countries of geothermal development.

6. Italian experts with important roles within IGA or within related Commissions and Programs (if known)

Adele Manzella participates in the Education&Training Commission and the ByLaws Commission. For the moment, she is the only Italian participant. She is helping to establish working groups involving colleagues from the University of Pisa (Paolo Conti, an energy engineer) and from Enel Green Power. A collaboration will be proposed with Massimo Verdoya, University of Genoa, who is also President of the International Heat Flow Commission, which is not directly linked to IGA, but coordination would be very valuable.

7. If IGA with CNR Commission, short summary about the 2020 CNR Commission activities

8. Notes (if any)

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9. Conclusions

The CNR delegate is working on establishing a worldwide collaboration in the geothermal sector. The involvement of other colleagues of CNR has to be launched on topics that will depend on the expanding interests of IGA.