1. PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY

Summary of the context and overall objectives of the project (For the final period, include the conclusions of the action)

Europe is a leading continent in geoscience, subsurface engineering, subsurface resources production engineering. These competencies include geology & geophysics, geomodeling, drilling, well operations & services, well equipments design and manufacturing, reservoir management, dynamic reservoir modelling, production engineering, etc. and all connected competencies such as associated HQSE, environmental services, specialized software development, etc. These competencies historically developed mostly around the oil & gas industry, but also the geothermal energy industry and the geological storage industry, with a variable but overall limited level of integration between the 3 industries. A number of international professional & industry associations such as EAGE (European Association of Geoscientists & Engineers, headquartered in Houten, The Netherlands), IGA (International Geothermal Association, headquartered in Bochum, Germany), GeoTHERM expo and congress in Offenburg, Germany, and EGEC (the European Geothermal Energy Council, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium) are very active in circulating ideas, skills and technologies between industry professionals as well as between industry and academia, through congresses, conferences and workshops. However, there has not been yet any initiative to build a transnational cluster, specifically aimed at increasing SMEs performance & competitiveness, in all industries concerned by the use of subsurface for energy. The overarching purpose of the GEO-ENERGY EUROPE project is to create a European Strategic Cluster Partnership (ESCP) with a focus on the sustainable use of the subsurface for energy, or "Geo-Energy", as well as to develop, and propose an implementation roadmap for, a joint internationalisation strategy to help this ESCP go international (ESCP-4i), as encouraged by the COSME call for projects "Clusters Go International" (COS-CLUSINT-2016-03-01), and more specifically Strand 1a of the call. Building such a strategic partnership would help create a sort of European label for export opportunities and cooperation in know-how and technology transfer with third countries. As reflected in the consortium composition, made of 4 clusters in applied geoscience or geo-energy at large and 4 business network organisations specialized in geothermal energy, the 2 years program will primarily target the planned networking activities, cross-sectorial skill and technology transfers, market studies and strategic planning towards the promotion of the emerging deep geothermal energy industry, in line with the European and most national energy transition goals. The metacluster will however be designed in the most agile and open way, so as to further allow a broadening of its scope towards other emerging sectors (e.g. geological storage of CO2 and energy) and promote partnerships with targeted markets or with other sectors.

Work performed from the beginning of the project to the end of the period covered by the report and main results achieved so far (For the final period please include an overview of the results and their exploitation and dissemination)

The project period allowed a good mapping of skills, products and services of all partners member SMEs and the identification of complementarities and/or cross-sectorial technology, as well as skill transfer opportunities to consolidate the value chain.
Based on this, partners developed a joint internationalisation strategy to access prioritized third country markets (Canada, Kenya, Chile) and designed an implementation roadmap to facilitate the internationalisation of SME members.

GEE cluster defined a visual identity, implemented a website (www.geoenergyeurope.com) and the Partnership Agreement formalized the involvement of the partners on a long-term basis, with a view to expand in geographic and thematic scope.

Progress beyond the state of the art, expected results until the end of the project and potential impacts (including the socio-economic impact and the wider societal implications of the project so far)

During the project, three webinars were organized to disseminate key findings useful for SME members to go international.
Key contacts have also been established, leading to cooperation agreements and cross-sectorial cooperation.
The main highlights are the signature of 3 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with the European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC), the Canadian GEothermal Association (CanGEA) and the Geothermal Association of Kenya (GAK).

Address (URL) of the project's public website

https://www.geoenergyeurope.com/

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