**Why an African-Based Geothermal Centre of Excellence?**

Presently 600+ MW of installed geothermal capacity with expected 1,550+ MW increase by 2022, requiring a substantial increase in African geothermal expertise. Need for more expertise, state-of-art lab facilities, equipment, and hardware/software to achieve African sustainable geothermal development goals. Over US$2.5 Billion in donor financing allocated to East Africa geothermal development; stakeholders need to collaborate efforts with regard to building capacity in the region.

Various Local, regional and continental Geothermal Forums recognized the AGCE to be a Vehicle to ensure the development of skilled manpower for sustainable Geothermal development in the continent.

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**Background Work**

**Skill gap Analysis**

**Objectives:**
- Define the needs and expectations of countries in Capacity building
- Provide background information to the Feasibility study for setting up the AGCE
- Setting the scientific and technological development agenda

**Feasibility study (supported by MFA-ICEDIA) for establishment of the AGCE** that defined:
- Rational for setting up the Center of Excellence
- Center’s Vision, Mission and Goal
- Required Curriculum Framework
- Required Facility for the Center (e.g. Laboratory and geoscientific equipment)
- Institutional Structure and administration framework
- Estimated budget

Representatives from 13 African Nations
As per the decision made during the Steering Committee meeting, UN Environment held follow up meetings and discussions with AUC, Kenyan Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, KenGen, GDC and MFA-ICEIDA on Legalization, interim phase and establishment of AGCE.

UN Environment in collaboration with other partners organized a Stakeholders Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, on 12 - 13 August 2015

Objective: To Validate the skill gap analysis report and feasibility study for establishment of AGCE

Key consensus points from the Validation Workshop

- Regional Relevance: Align the Center with the regional needs and requirements
- Regional Ownership: The Center will have all African Players on Board
- Build on Existing Initiatives: Utilize the existing facilities and initiatives without re-inventing the wheel

Outcome of the Stakeholders workshop

- The Center to be hosted by the Government of Kenya, and it will be based at GDC with a satellite campus at KENGEN.
- The SC to be established that comprises: AUC (Chair), UN Environment, two representatives from countries (Djibouti, Rwanda), GDC, KENGEN, MoEP, and UNU-GTP.
- AUC, UN Environment and other development partners to continue facilitating the institutional support to the realization of the AGCE.

Follow-up from the Stakeholders Workshop

Engagement and coordination of Regional Capacity building and hands on experience using existing facilities and initiatives under the framework of Center of Excellence
Organized First Steering Committee (SC) Meeting of AGCE, 8 March 2016, Kigali, Rwanda

Decisions made at the SC meeting:
• The Centre to be legally constituted under the Kenyan Law and recognized by AUC as Regional Centre of Excellence. The Kenyan Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MoEP) in consultation with the Kenyan Attorney General to facilitate this.
• UN Environment in collaboration with AUC, GDC, KenGen and MFA-ICEIDA to come up with a proposal to set up an “interim project office” of the AGCE till the center gets its full establishment.
• Meanwhile, to continue to use the existing facilities of GDC and KenGen to satisfy the urgent need of capacity building and hands-on training from African Countries.

Next Steps:
• Set up the interim project office for the Center of Excellence - to support and build the capacity of African countries under the framework of AGCE.
• Constitute the Center of excellence under Kenyan law and work on full establishment and operation of the Center.
• Mobilize resources, for the Center of Excellence, from various donors and partners.