INFORMATION ACCESS AND UTILIZATION FOR CAPACITY BUILDING IN GEOTHERMAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT - A CASE FOR THE PROPOSED AFRICA GEOTHERMAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

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BACKGROUND

• A Centre of Excellence has been proposed to be established in Nakuru, Kenya to bridge the gap of human resources skills

• Policy development and planning for sustainable geothermal energy development and coherent geothermal reservoir management demands information on the best practices.

• Need for integrated information has increased demand for organizational infrastructure and dissemination of data and information.
BACKGROUND Cont’d

• Aspects of information access and utilization ought to be incorporated in the master plan.

• Access to and utilization of information helps identify sustainable opportunities and development solutions that are within stakeholders reach.

• A number of initiatives have been made on information exchange such as ARGeo facility, geothermal database, conference and workshops that provides forum for information exchange.
PROBLEM STATEMENT AND JUSTIFICATION

• Capacity building in the geothermal energy subsector has been growing with a very slow pace.

• The conversion of tacit knowledge to explicit knowledge and vice versa has been a challenge in the geothermal energy subsector.

• Though the proposed geothermal centre of excellence is work in progress, the aspects of information access and utilization at the policy levels ought to be discussed.
PROBLEM STATEMENT AND JUSTIFICATION
Cont’d

• The study unfolds critical areas of information access and utilization that can further enhance teaching and learning in the proposed AGCE.

• The role of information management and its provision for capacity building has not been addressed in various forums by stakeholders in geothermal energy subsector.

• The paper investigates the role and ways of information access and utilization for capacity building in geothermal energy development taking a case of the proposed AGCE
GOALS OF THE STUDY

• To establish whether provision of information services for the proposed AGCE can aid in capacity building

• To determine the preferred sources and channels of information for capacity building in the proposed AGCE.

• To determine the likely challenges of information access and utilization in capacity building in the proposed AGCE

• To provide recommendations and way forward for improving information access and utilization for capacity building in the proposed AGCE
## METHODOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sampling technique</th>
<th>Purposive sampling</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sample size</strong></td>
<td>40 respondents sampled from diverse disciplines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Justification of Locale</strong></td>
<td>GDC Kenya – This is the proposed company that will host the AGCE.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Instruments</strong></td>
<td>Questionnaires and document analysis.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Response rate</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
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FINDINGS

Need for enhancing information access and utilization for capacity building in the proposed AGCE

It is therefore deduced that;

• Availability of information resources can encourage independent study

• Adequate access to information resources can enhance teaching and learning

• Information access and utilization is so pertinent in capacity building in the proposed AGCE
FINDINGS Cont’d

Perception of ARGeo facility as a source of information for capacity building in the proposed AGCE

- It provides an enabling environment for tapping tacit knowledge
- It provides a firm foundation for information exchange
FINDINGS Cont’d

Workshops and conference in fast-tracking capacity building in the proposed AGCE

- Platform for tapping tacit and explicit knowledge
- Helps learn from current lessons and years of valuable experience in development and applications of geothermal energy and technology
- Forum for network and cooperation, partnerships, and business relationships in the field of geothermal energy development
FINDINGS Cont’d

Geothermal Database in capacity building for the proposed AGCE

- Allows better sharing of information, ideas and experiences
- A good source of information for referencing purposes
FINDINGS Cont’d
Availability of online database and electronic libraries value addition for capacity building

- Provide access to resources across a wide spectrum of topics and subject areas
- Forms the backbone of any training and learning
FINDINGS Cont’d

Likely challenges of information access and utilization for capacity building in the proposed AGCE

- Non availability of currents sources of information,
- High cost of acquiring materials,
- Internet information overload,
- Inadequate reading time
- Poor internet connectivity
CONCLUSIONS

• The study provides the stakeholders with vital information to be considered in the implementation process.

• In order to provide the skills and train actors in the geothermal industry for them to perform effectively, access to information and knowledge utilization is inevitable.

• Limited attention has been accorded in relation to access and utilization of information as a tangible product.
RECOMMENDATIONS

• More attention should be accorded in relation to information access and its utilization as a tangible product

• Enhance access to information and knowledge utilization

• More studies on information access and utilization to be undertaken in relation to capacity building in the proposed AGCE
“There is no worse form of human rights violation than to be deprived of the ability to think, create and communicate in freedom”.

END