



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre for Theoretical Physics



**Workshop on "Physics for Renewable Energy"  
October 17 - 29, 2005**

301/1679-29

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**"Geothermal Energy  
Clean & Renewable Power from the Earth"**

**F. Batini  
ENEL  
Rome, Italy**

***THE ABDUS SALAM  
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS  
WORKSHOP ON "Physics for Renewable Energy"***

**GEOHERMAL ENERGY**

**CLEAN AND RENEWABLE POWER FROM THE EARTH**

**Fausto Batini**

**Enel – International department**

**Roma – Italy**

**Trieste, October 27th 2005**

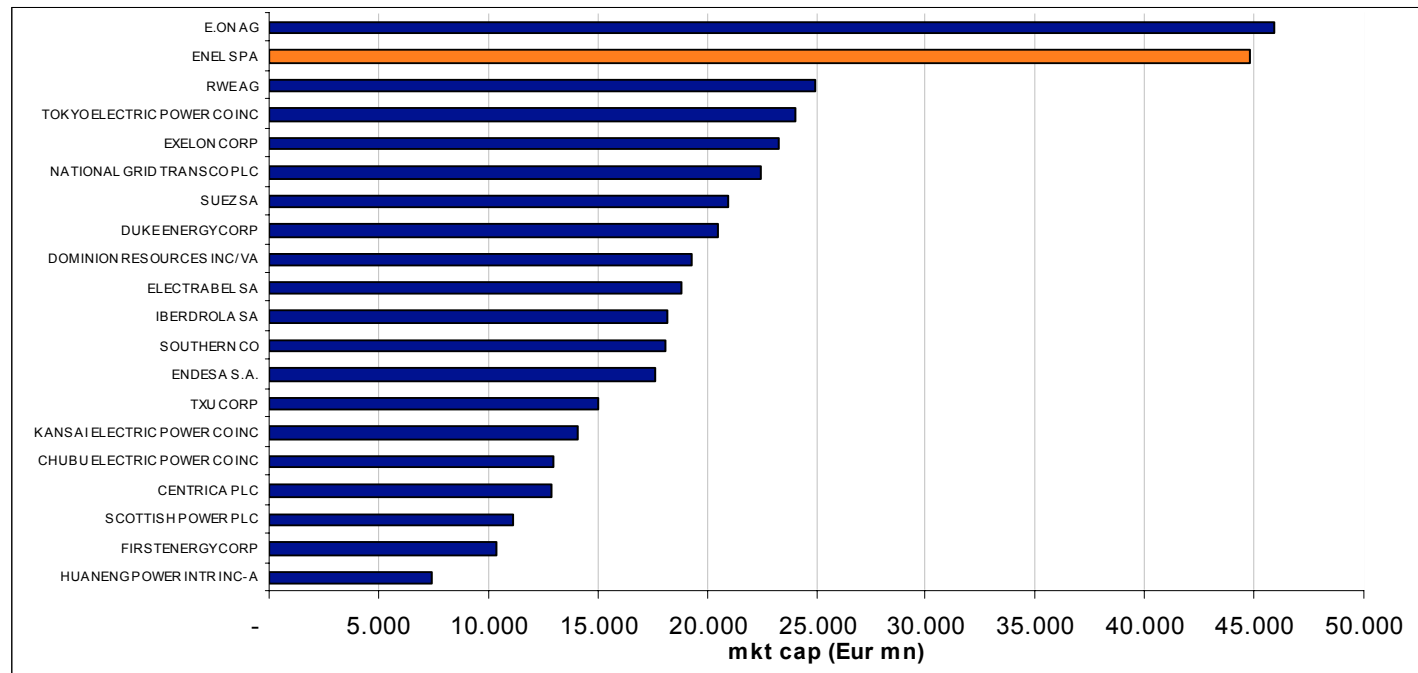
# Content

- 1. Basic concepts**
  - Heat sources
  - Geothermal systems and technologies
  - Exploration & production process
- 2. The geothermal industry worldwide**
  - Electric energy generation
  - Direct use application
- 3. Drivers & barriers for the geothermal energy growth**
  - Technological challenges
  - Economic and environmental sustainability
- 4. Conclusions**

# Enel company profile

# Enel s.p.a.

- The principal electricity operator in Italy with the leading position in the generation, transmission\*, distribution and sale of electricity
  - Strong presence in the gas market
  - One of the world largest operators in the energy sector
- Market capitalization as of April 18<sup>th</sup> 2005**



Source: Bloomberg

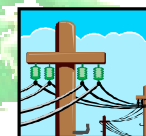
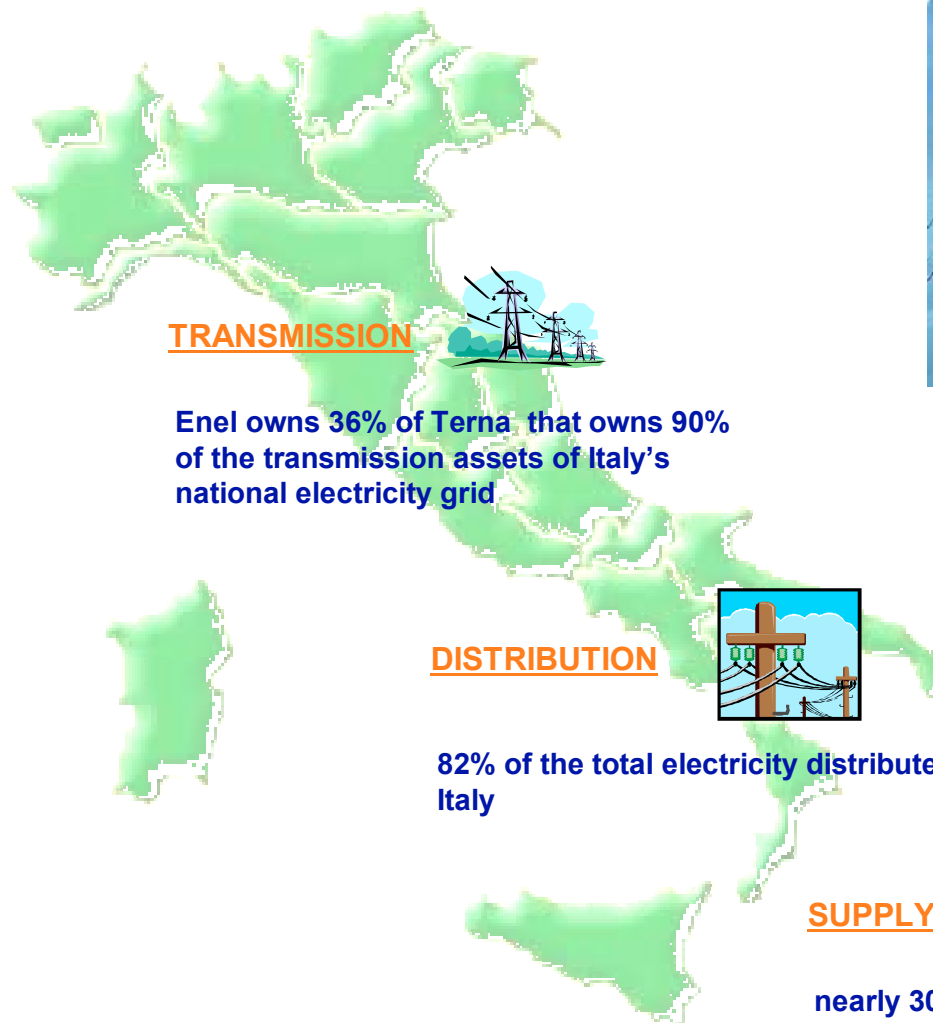
\* Enel owns 36,14% of the share capital of Terna and has already signed an agreement for the sale of up to 30% of the company

# Enel in the Italian Electricity Sector

## GENERATION 42,047 MW



- 26,837 MW Thermal
- 14,318 MW Hydroelectric
- 642 MW Geothermal
- 250 MW Wind and other renewable



Data as of December 31st 2004

# Enel in the world

## Europe: 4.005 MW and 2 million customers

### SPAIN

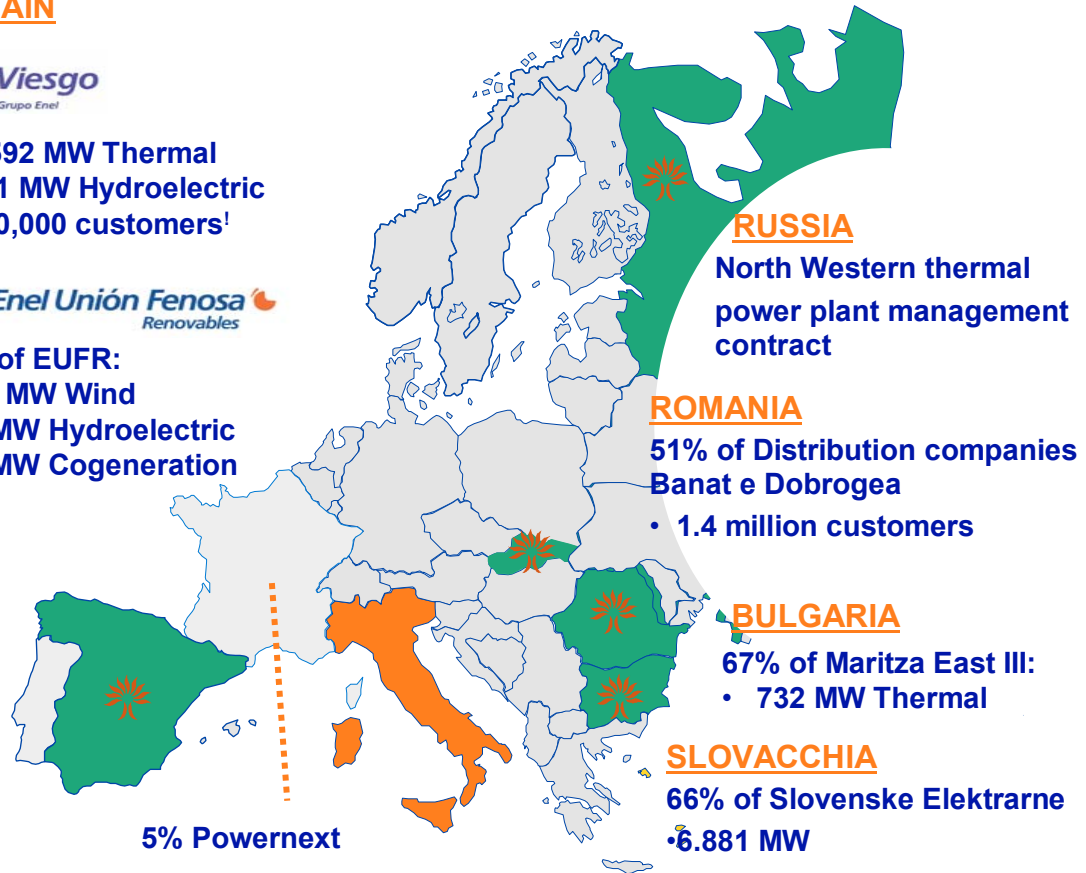


- 1.592 MW Thermal
- 671 MW Hydroelectric
- 600,000 customers!



- 80% of EUFR:
- 294 MW Wind
  - 89 MW Hydroelectric
  - 62 MW Cogeneration

5% Powernext



Data as of Aprile 15 1<sup>th</sup> 2004  
1 – On the regulated market

## North and Latin America 565 MW



- 286 MW Hydroelectric
- 67 MW Wind
- 21 MW Biomass and Biogas



- 171 MW Hydroelectric
- 20 MW Wind



# Economic and Financial results

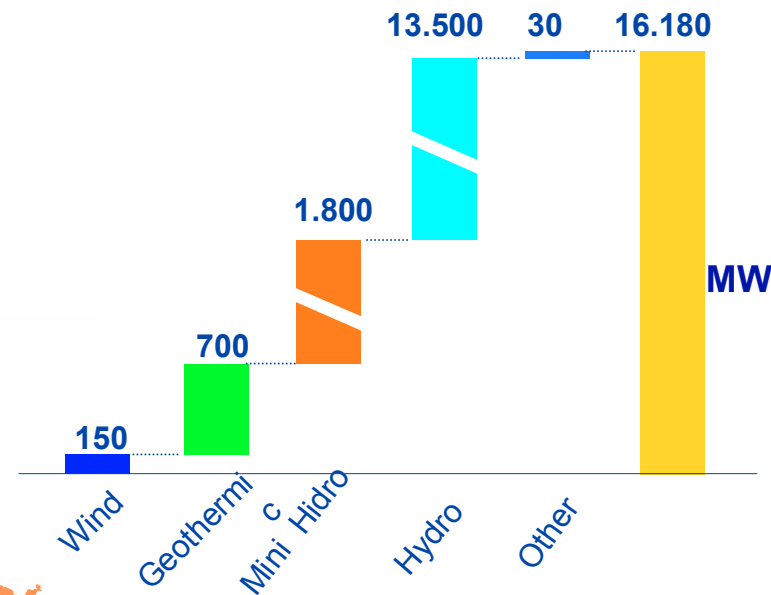
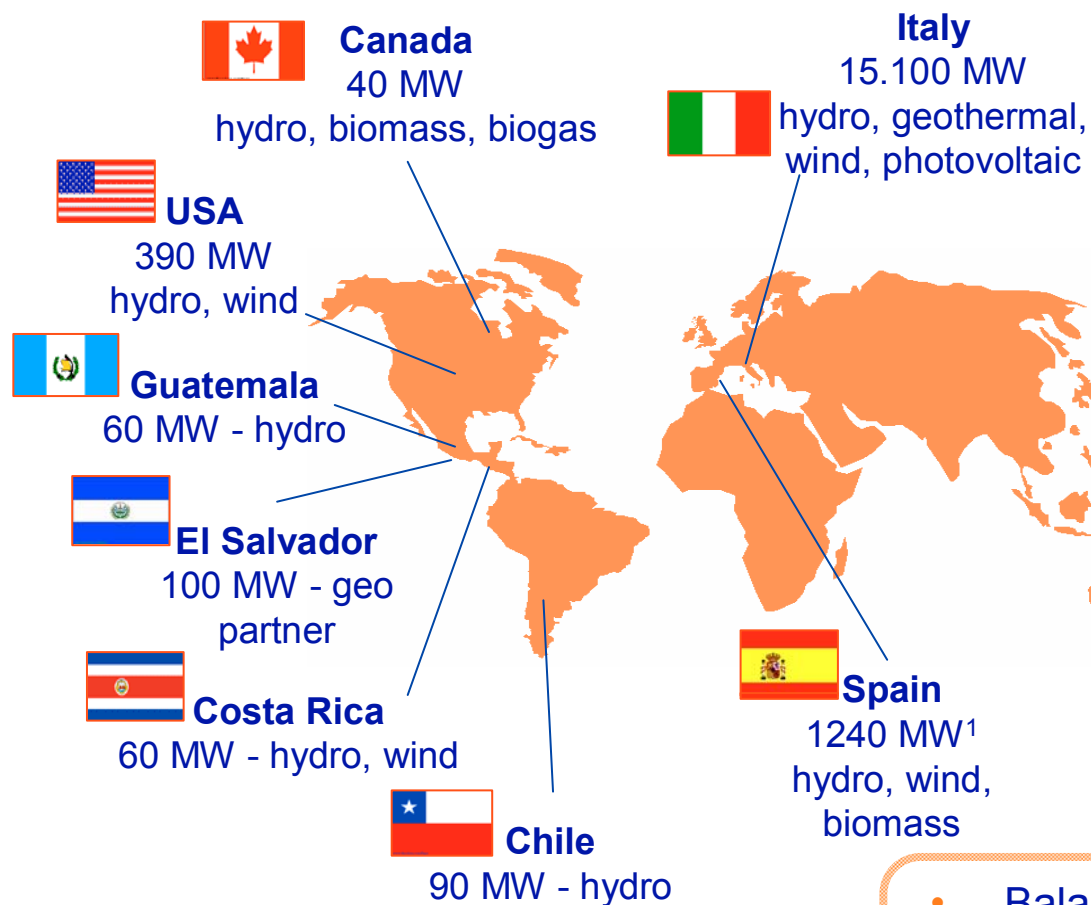
Millions €

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Revenues</b>	25.109	28.781	29.977	31.317	36.489
<b>EBIT</b>	4.753	3.478	2.880	4.732	6.325
<b>Net income</b>	2.188	4.226	2.008	2.509	2.706
<b>Current assets</b>	9.456	11.902	14.464	14.520	16.902
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	35.744	35.004	37.533	37.155	36.459
<b>Equity</b>	18.312	20.966	20.772	21.124	19.847
<b>Short-term Debt</b>	6.406	7.107	8.371	8.643	6.419
<b>Long-term Debt</b>	7.984	16.072	17.172	18.005	20.241

Headcount @ 31/12/2004 61.898



# Enel's worldwide renewables portfolio



<sup>1</sup> including plants in partnership

- Balancing overall portfolio
- Enhancing technical leadership in geothermal
- Developing JI & CDM projects abroad to meet Kyoto targets in Italy

# Content

## 1. Basic concepts

- Heat sources
- Geothermal systems and technologies
- Exploration & production process

## 2. The geothermal industry worldwide

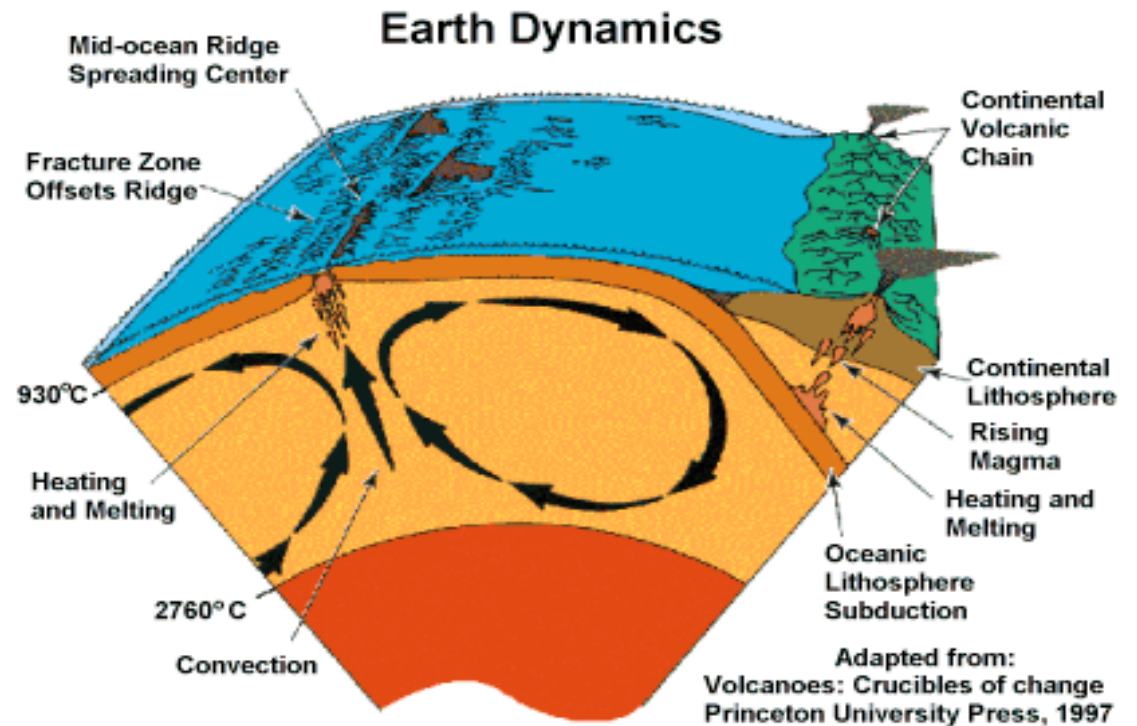
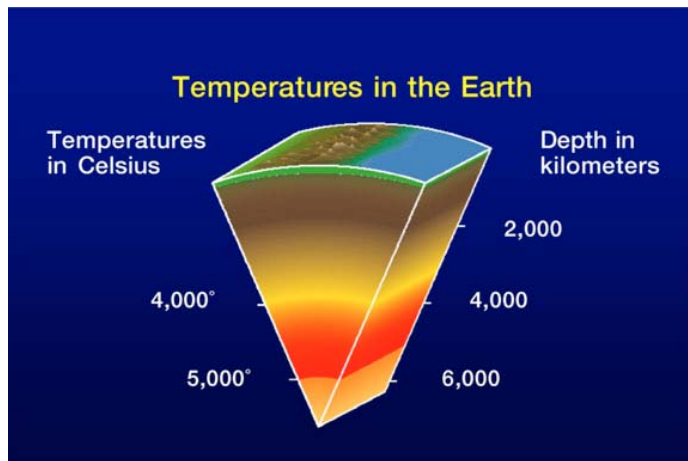
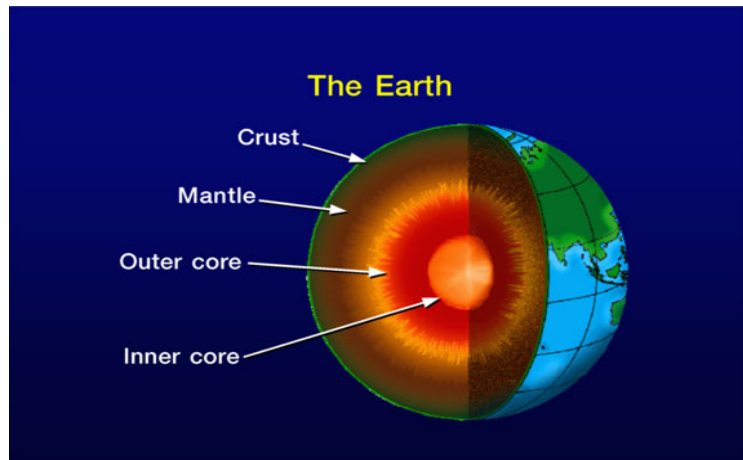
- Electric energy generation
- Direct use application

## 3. Drivers & barriers for the geothermal energy growth

- Technological challenges
- Economic and environmental sustainability

## 4. Conclusions

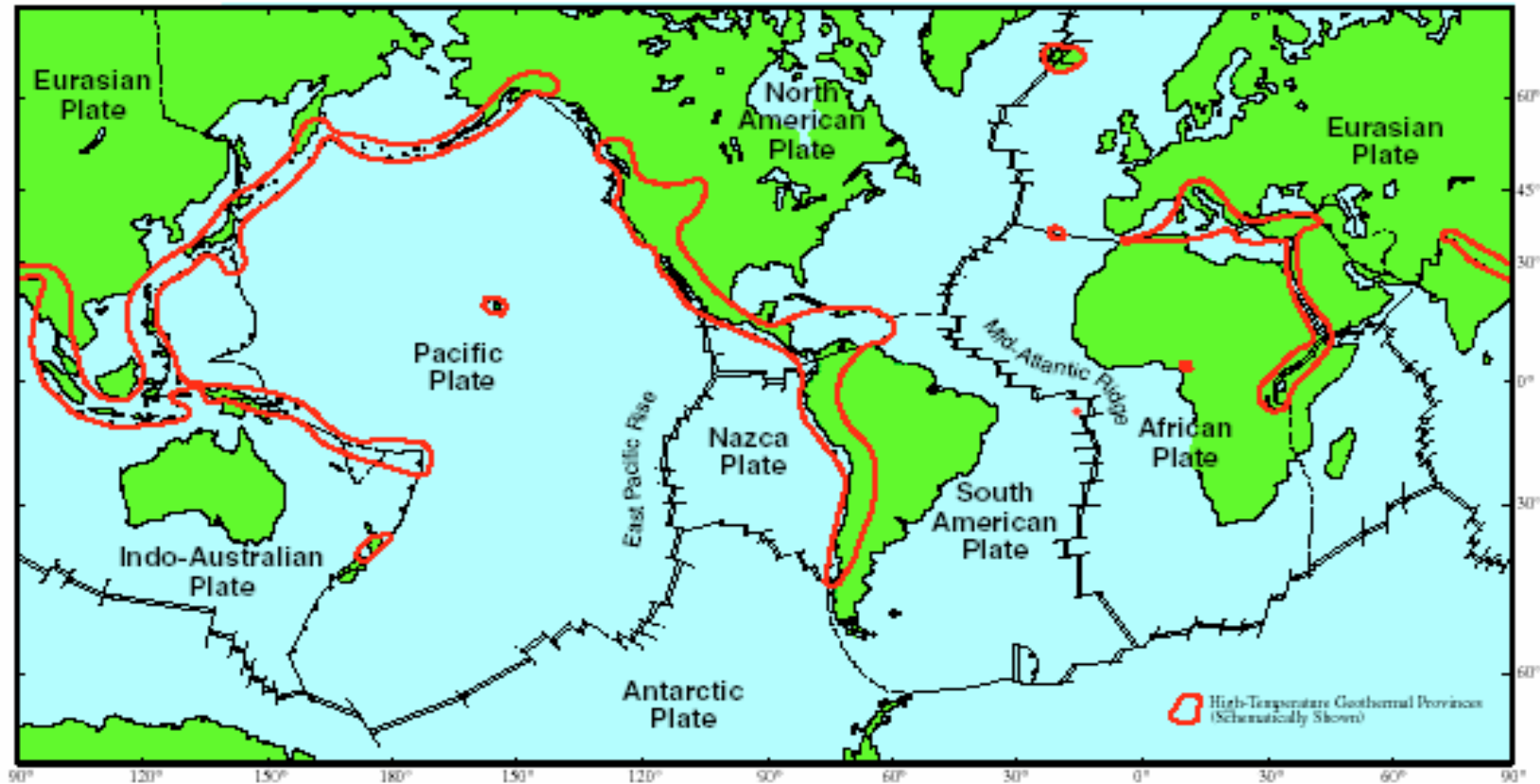
# Heat sources



A mean heat flux at the earth's surface of around 16 kilowatts of heat energy per square kilometre which is dissipated to the atmosphere and space.

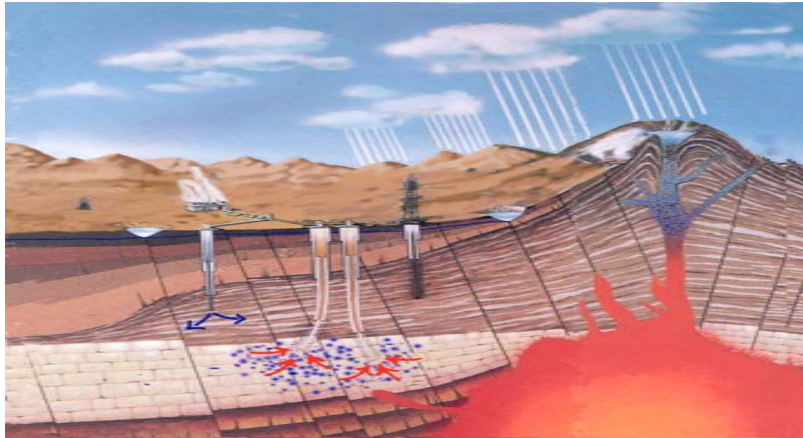
# Geothermal areas worldwide

This heat flux tends to be strongest along tectonic plate boundaries where volcanic activity transports high temperature material to near the surface.



**However, even in parts of the world far from plate boundaries, there can still exist areas of higher than average natural heat flow.**

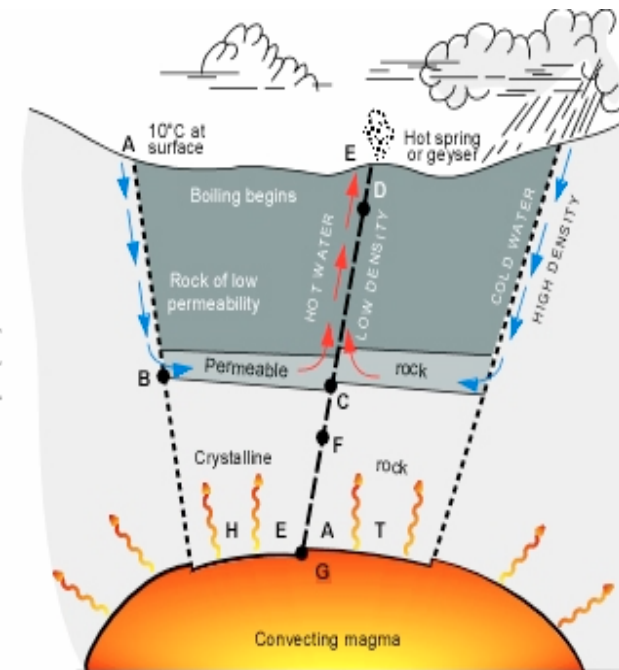
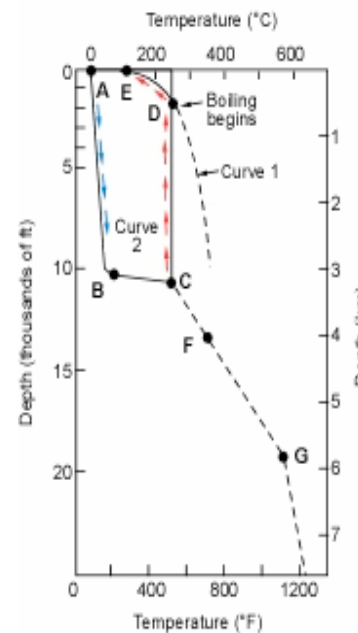
# Geothermal systems



- **Heat source** : magmatic body molten or partially molten at depth < 8-10 km
- **Reservoir** : Porous & fractured rocks
- **Fluid**: meteoric and magmatic water
- **Sealing**: impervious rocks

Temperature gradient in the earth  $33^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{km}$

Temperature gradient in the geothermal areas  
>  $100^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{km}$

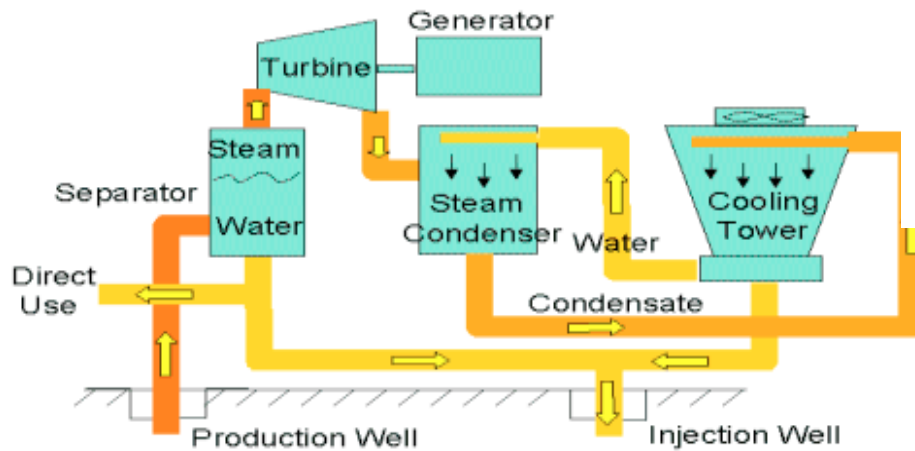


# Geothermal systems and energy conversion

Reservoir Temperature	Reservoir Fluid	Common Use	Technology commonly chosen
High Temperature >220°C (>430°F).	Water or Steam	Power Generation  Direct Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Flash Steam</li> <li>▪ Combined (Flash and Binary) Cycle</li> <li>▪ Heat Exchangers</li> <li>▪ Heat Pumps</li> </ul>
Intermediate Temperature 100-220°C (212 - 390°F).	Water	Power Generation  Direct Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Binary Cycle</li> <li>▪ Direct Fluid Use</li> <li>▪ Heat Exchangers</li> <li>▪ Heat Pumps</li> </ul>
Low Temperature 50-150°C (120-300°F).	Water	Direct Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Direct Fluid Use</li> <li>▪ Heat Exchangers</li> <li>▪ Heat Pumps</li> </ul>

# Electric energy generation

## Single Flash Power Plant

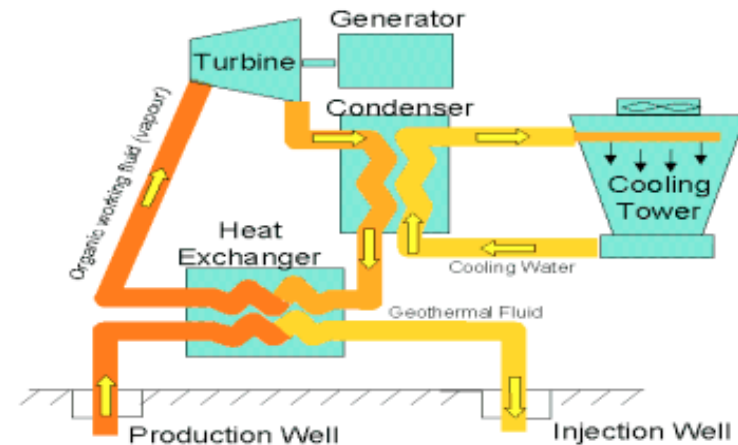


**NAMEPLATE CAPACITY : 2 - 10 MW**

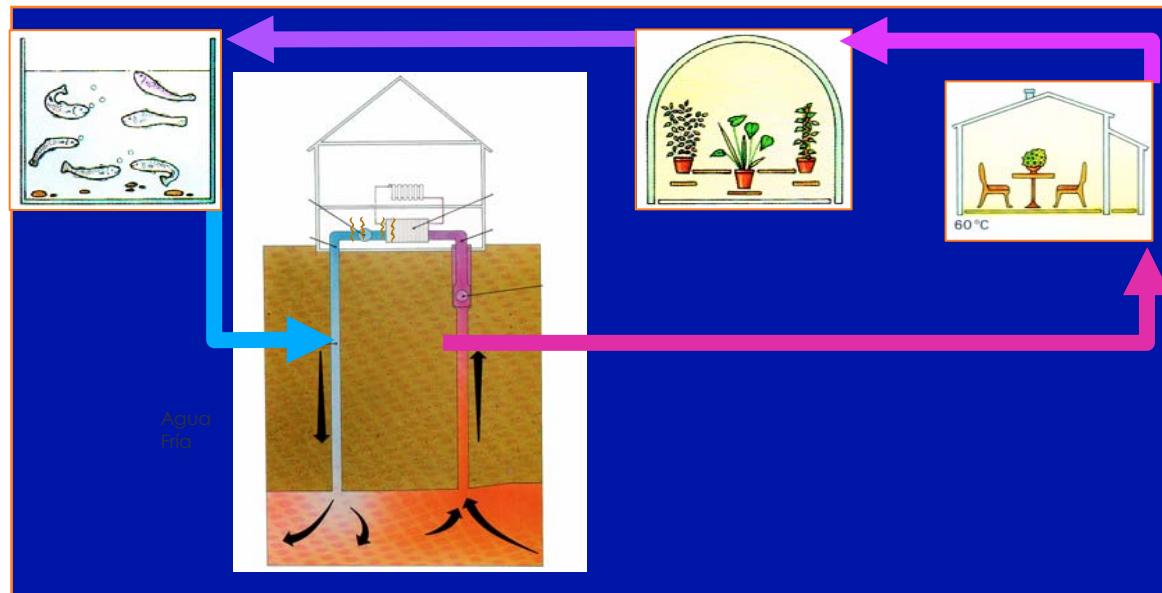
**This is the most common type of geothermal power unit.**

**NAMEPLATE CAPACITY : 5 -60 MW**

## Binary Cycle Power Plant



# Direct use of geothermal heat



## Principal uses (minimum temperature, °C):

- Heating buildings (50°)
- Greenhouse heating (35°)
- Processing agricultural/forest products (100°)
- Heating fishponds (35°)
- Spas and baths (35°)
- Mineral water (no requirement)
- Processing mineral/chemical products (120°)



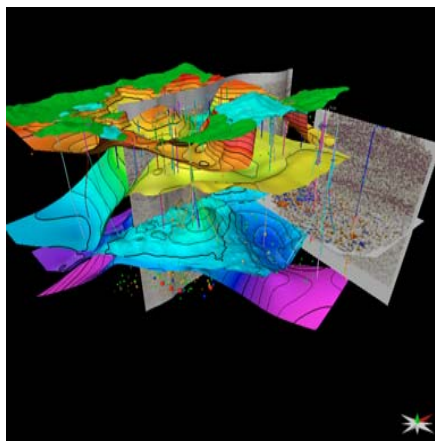
# Geothermal exploration & production process

**RESOURCE  
EXPLORATION  
& ASSESSMENT**

**DRILLING**

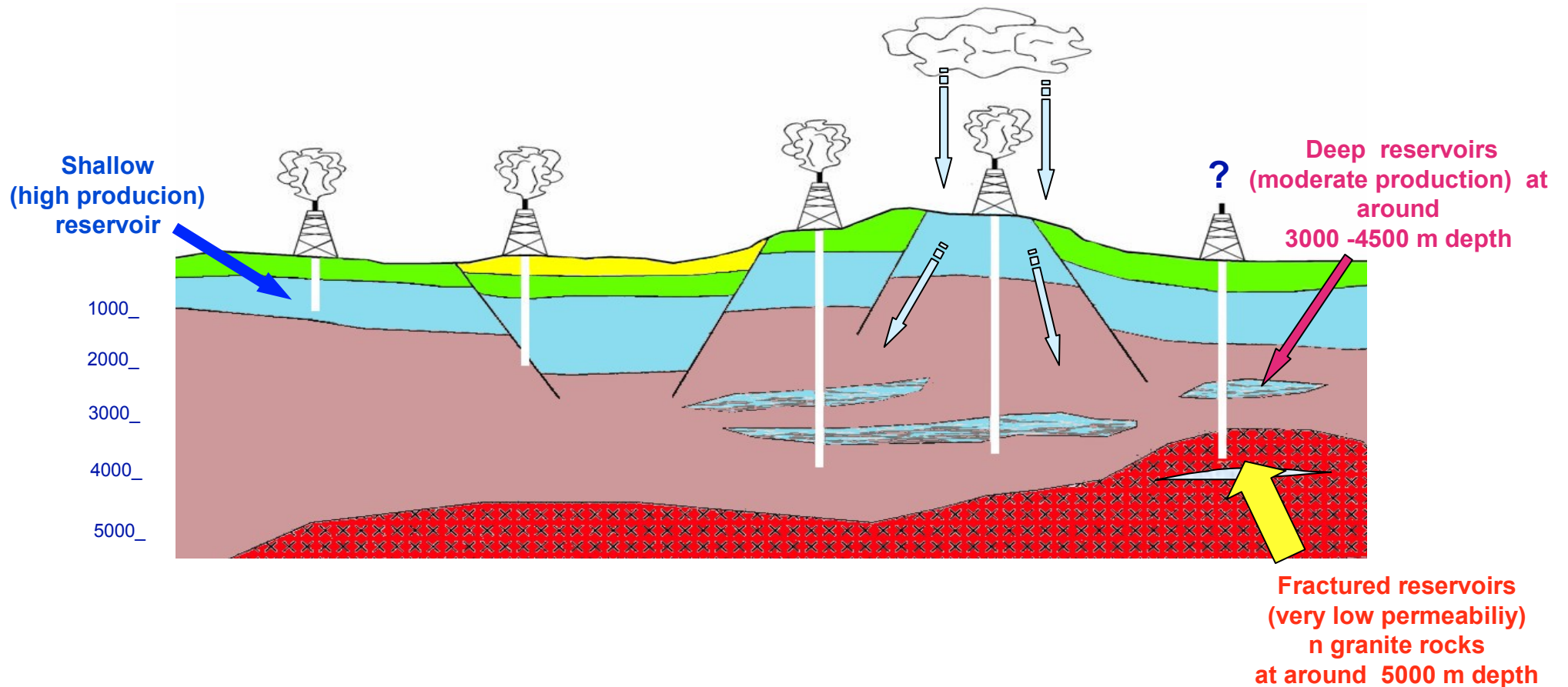
**ENGINEERING  
& CONSTRUCTION**

**OPERATION &  
MAINTANANCE**



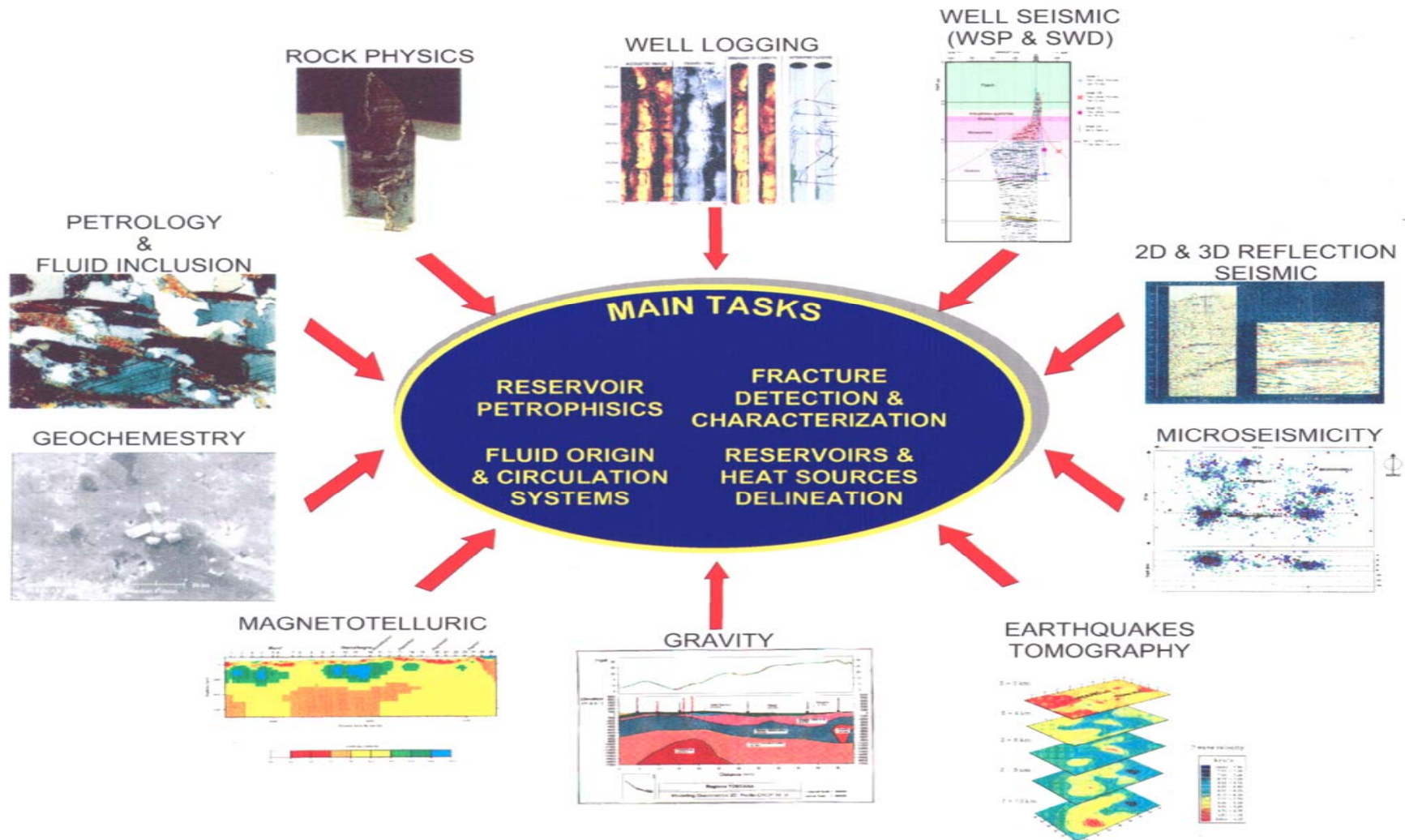
# Geothermal exploration

## Delineation of geothermal system and drilling target definition



**Reservoir permeability controlled by fracture systems**

# Exploration & resource assessment

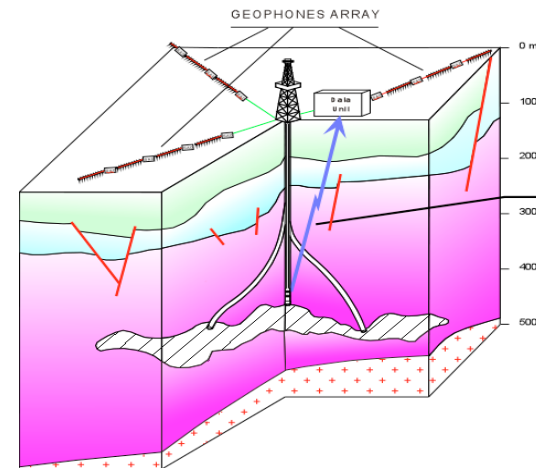
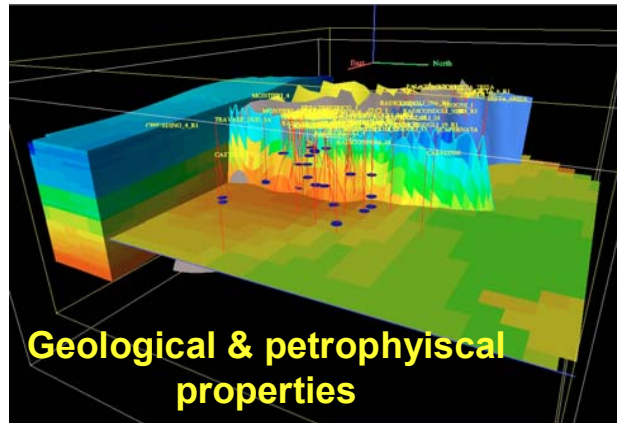


## MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH AND INTEGRATED INTERPRETATION

# Exploration & resource assessment

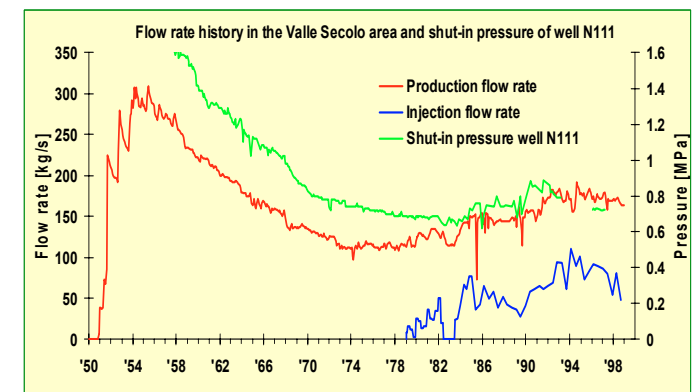
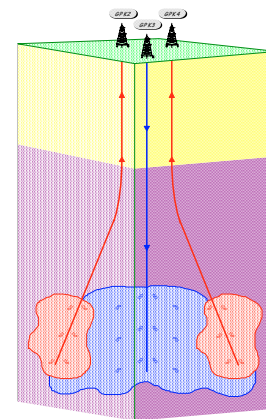
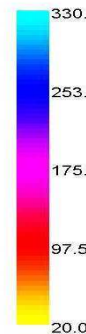
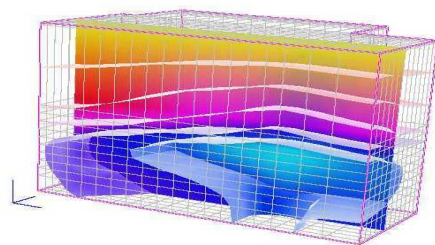
Predictive geothermal model ...

for better definition of drilling targets

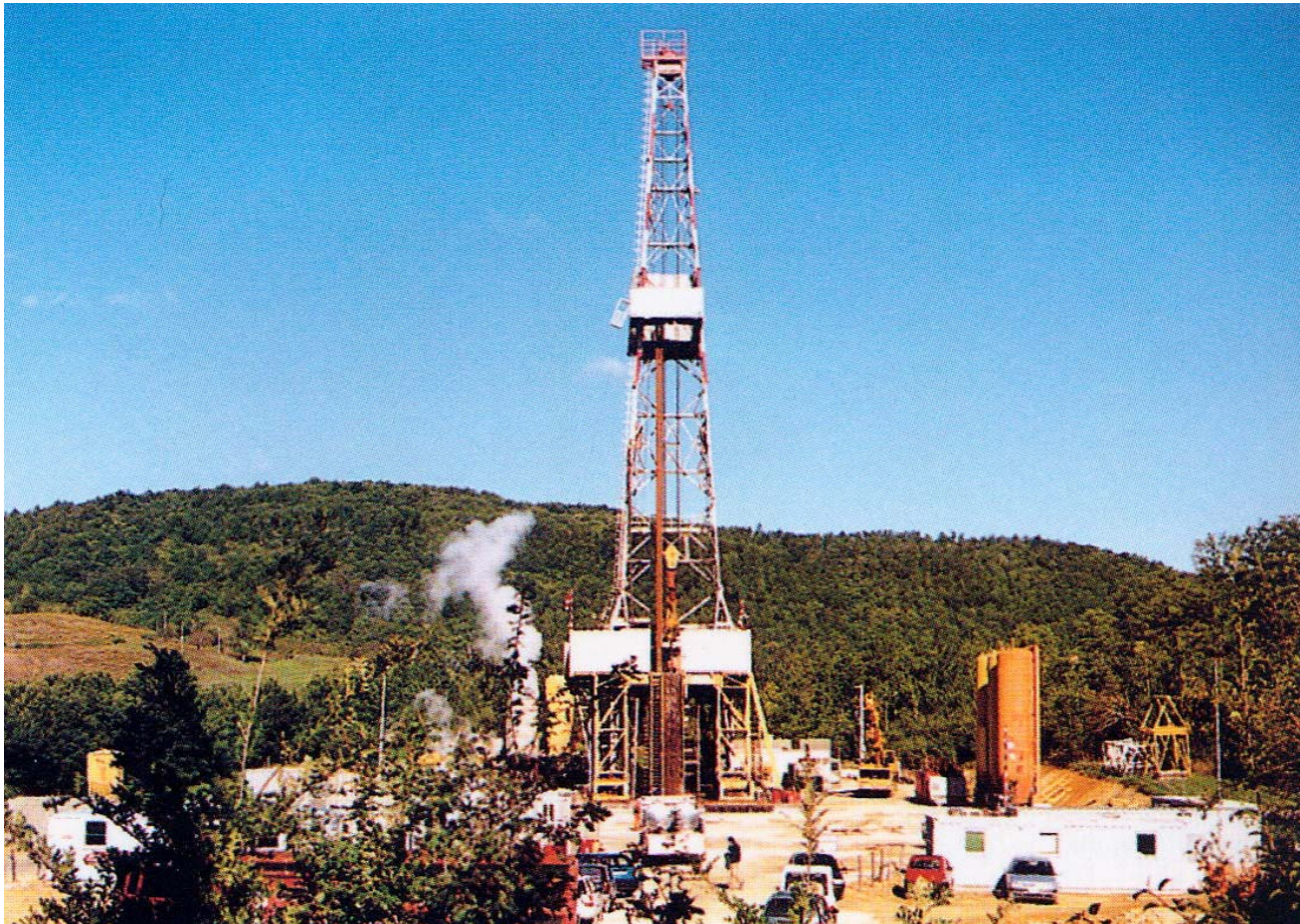


Fluido-dynamic model

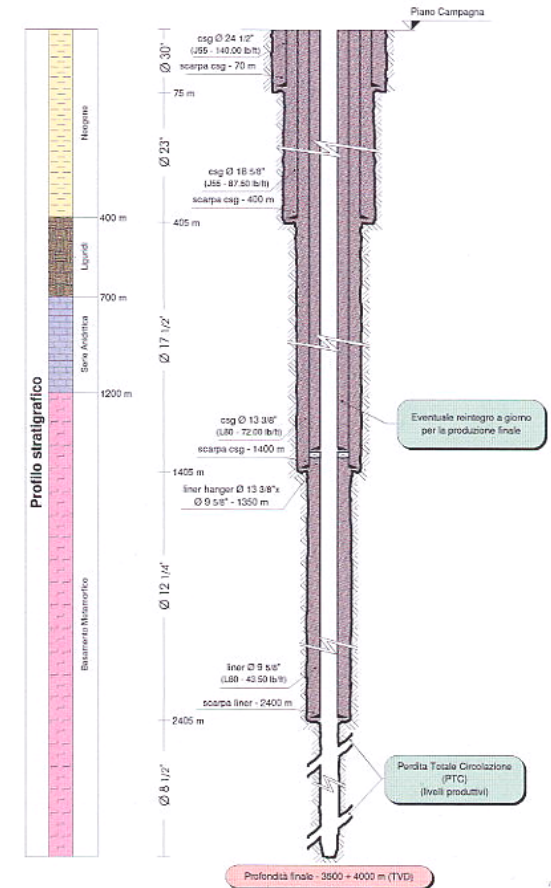
...for optimization of the reservoir management



# Drilling



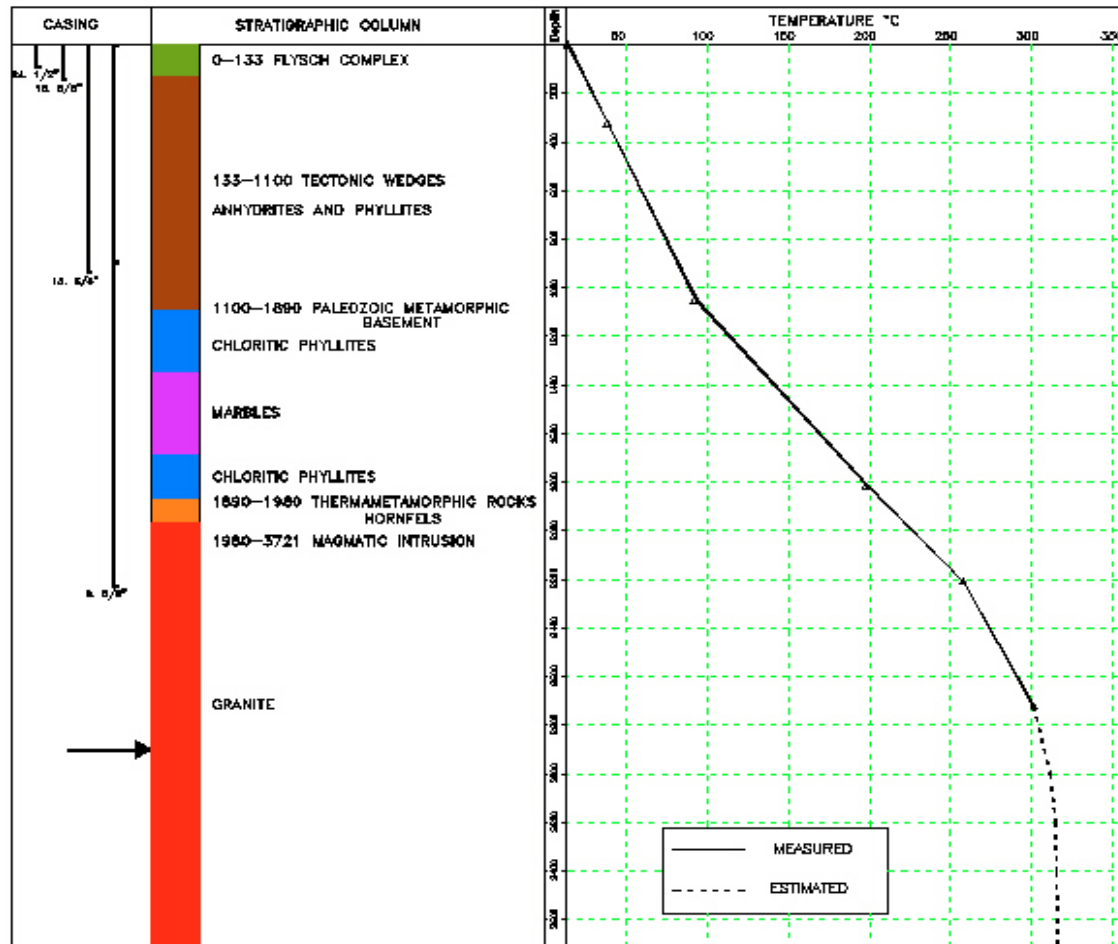
## Well design



Depth: up to 5200m

# Drilling

## Montieri 1 well (Tuscany – Italy)



**Well production : over 240 tonnes/h of steam**

# Design & construction of the power systems

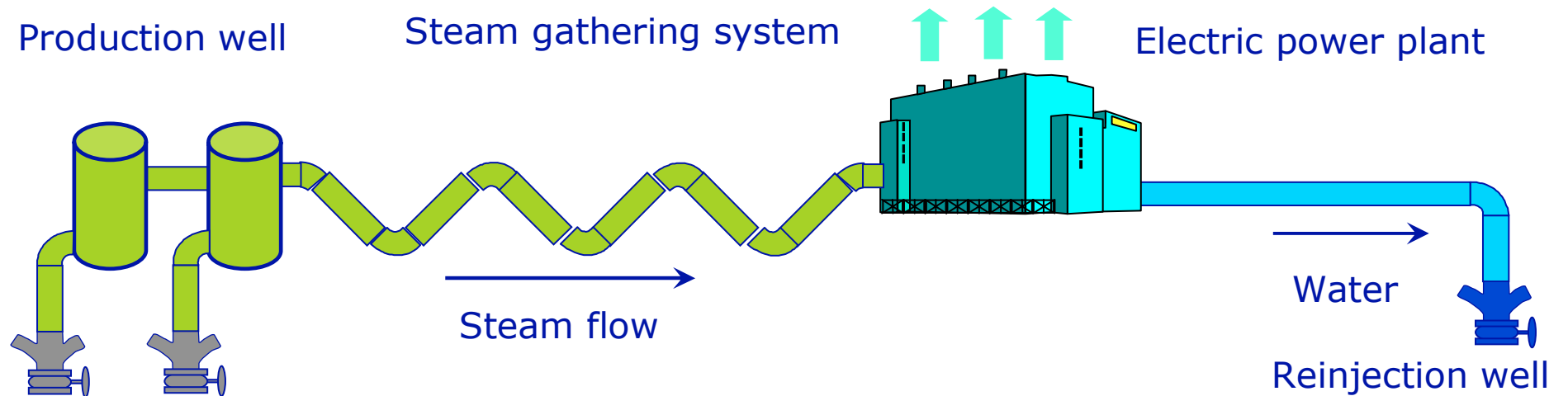


**Steam pipeline  
(length range :1-10 km)**

**2 Power plants  
20 MW each one**



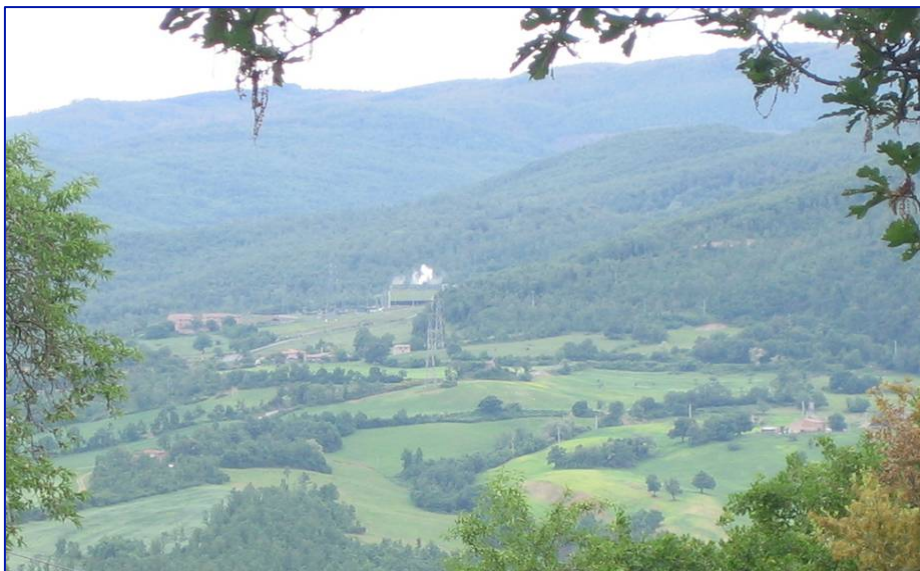
# Field and power plant O & M



**Integrated management of geothermal resources for production optimization**



# Environmental sustainability



**Architectural solutions to minimize the visual impact**

## Reduction of gas emission

**AMIS** (process for H<sub>2</sub>S and Hg removal)

### Abatement

✓ Hg	>90%
✓ H <sub>2</sub> S	70-80%



# Geo-heat supply in Italy



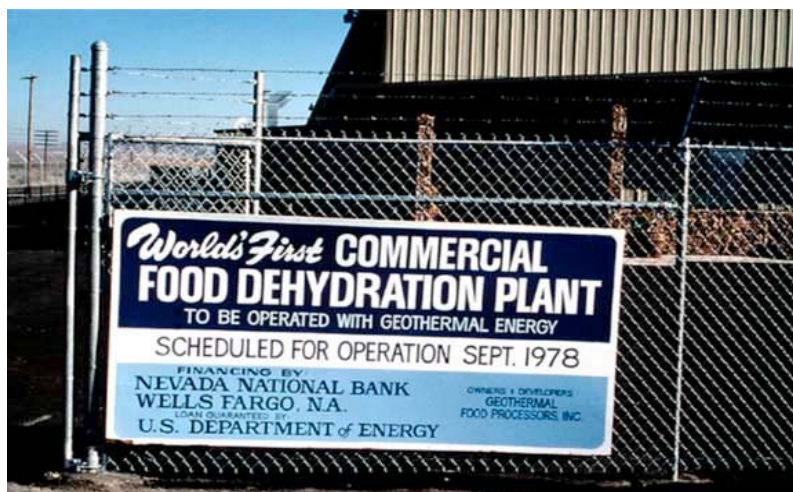
**DISTRICT HEATING**



**GREEN HOUSES**



# Geo-heat supply -



Credit, Warren

A fish farm in Colorado.

# Content

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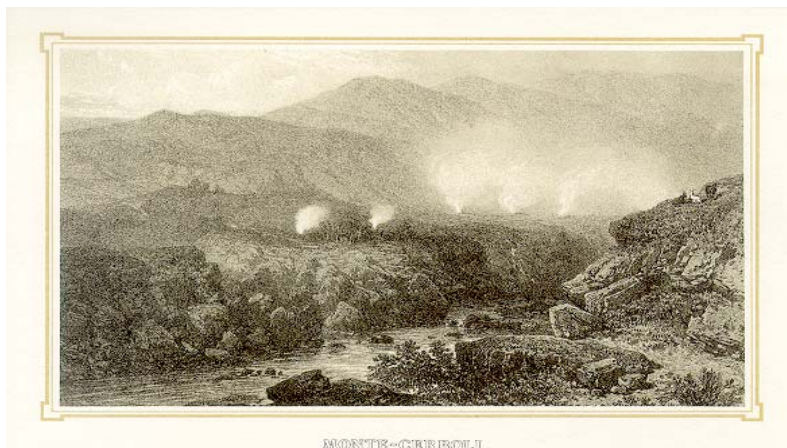
## 3. Drivers & barriers for the geothermal energy growth

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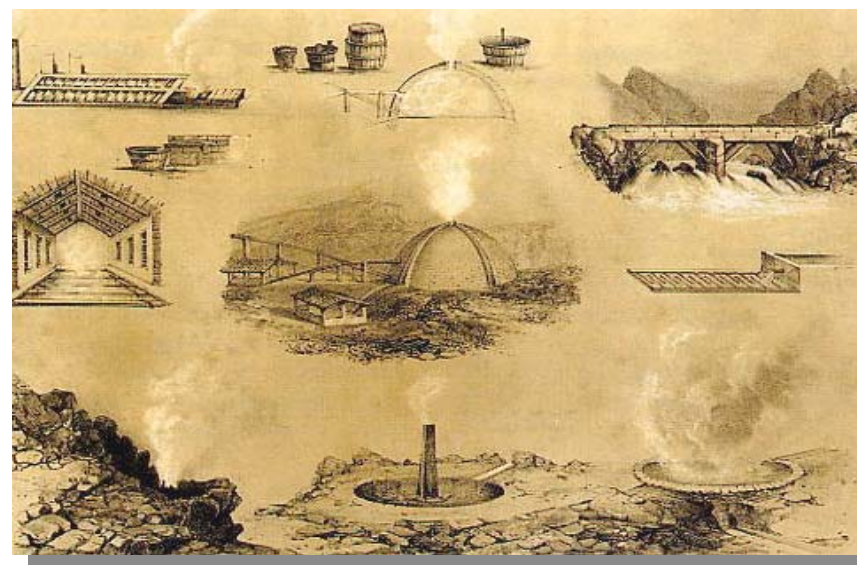
# The dawn of geothermal industry in Italy

Once upon a time at Larderello (Italy)...



...at the underworld watchdog site...

... in the early 1800 with boric salts production and direct uses of steam



# The dawn of geothermal industry in Italy

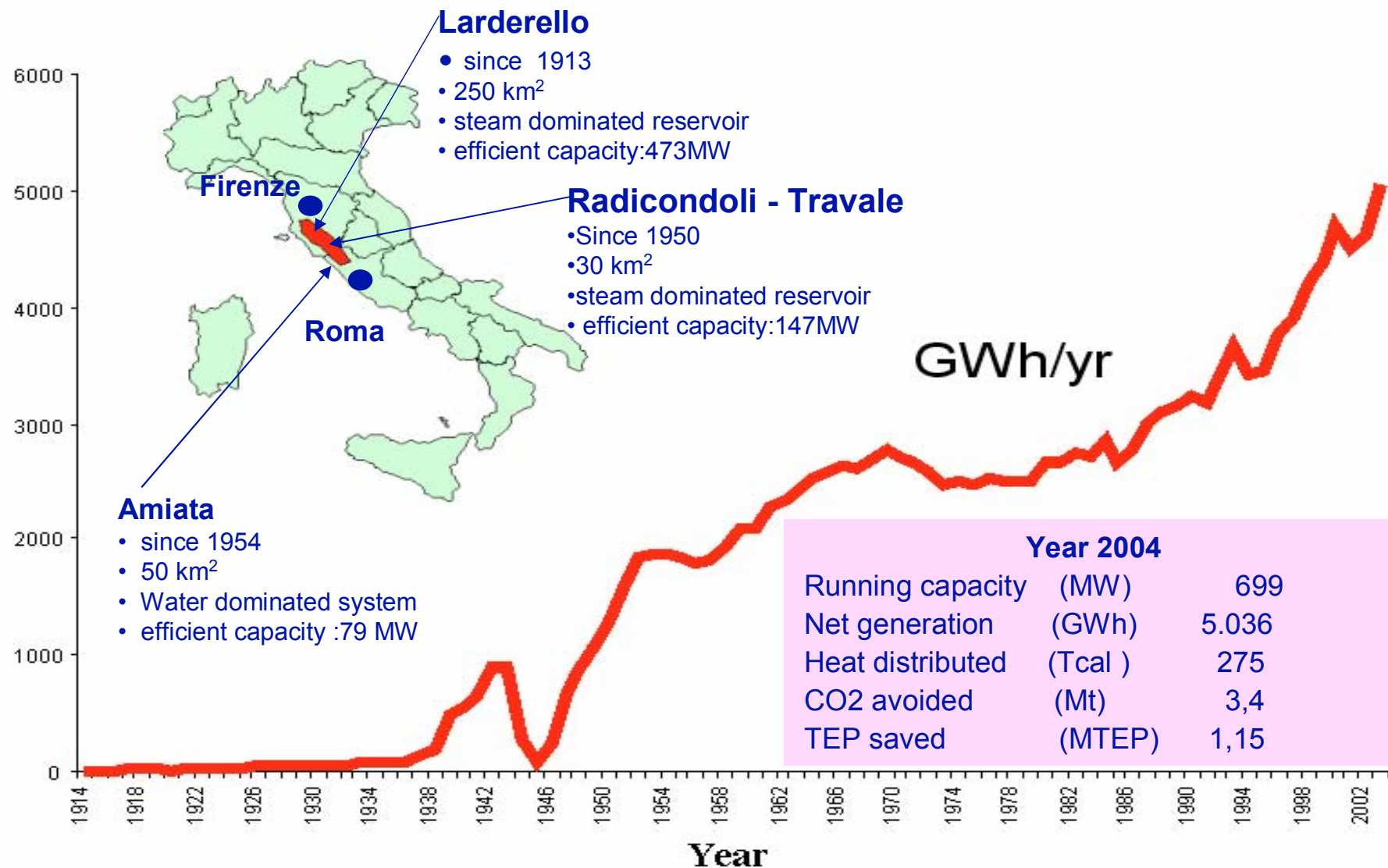


... in 1827 the first approach to explore the hell ...

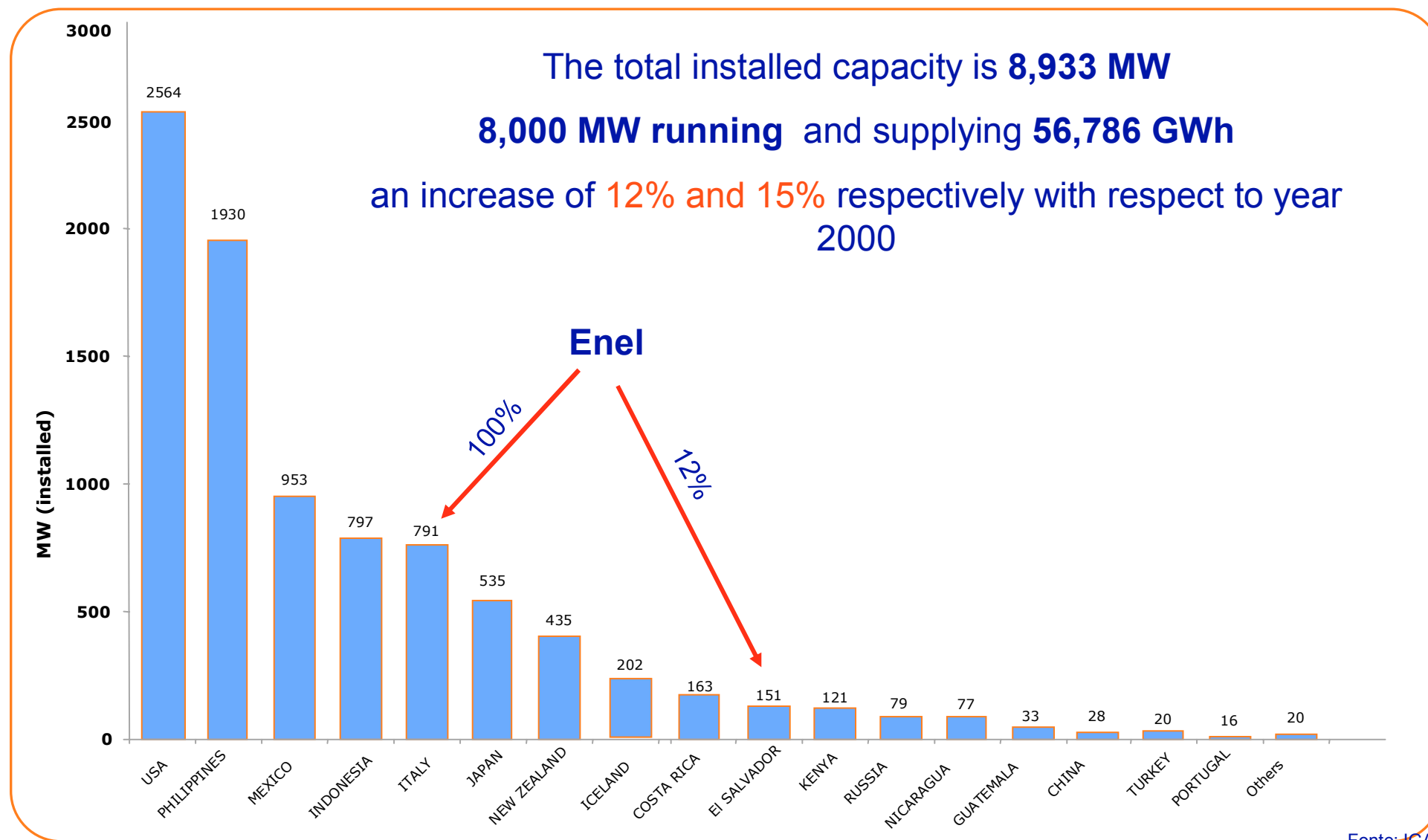
... in 1904 the first experiment of electric energy generation



# Geothermal highlights in Italy

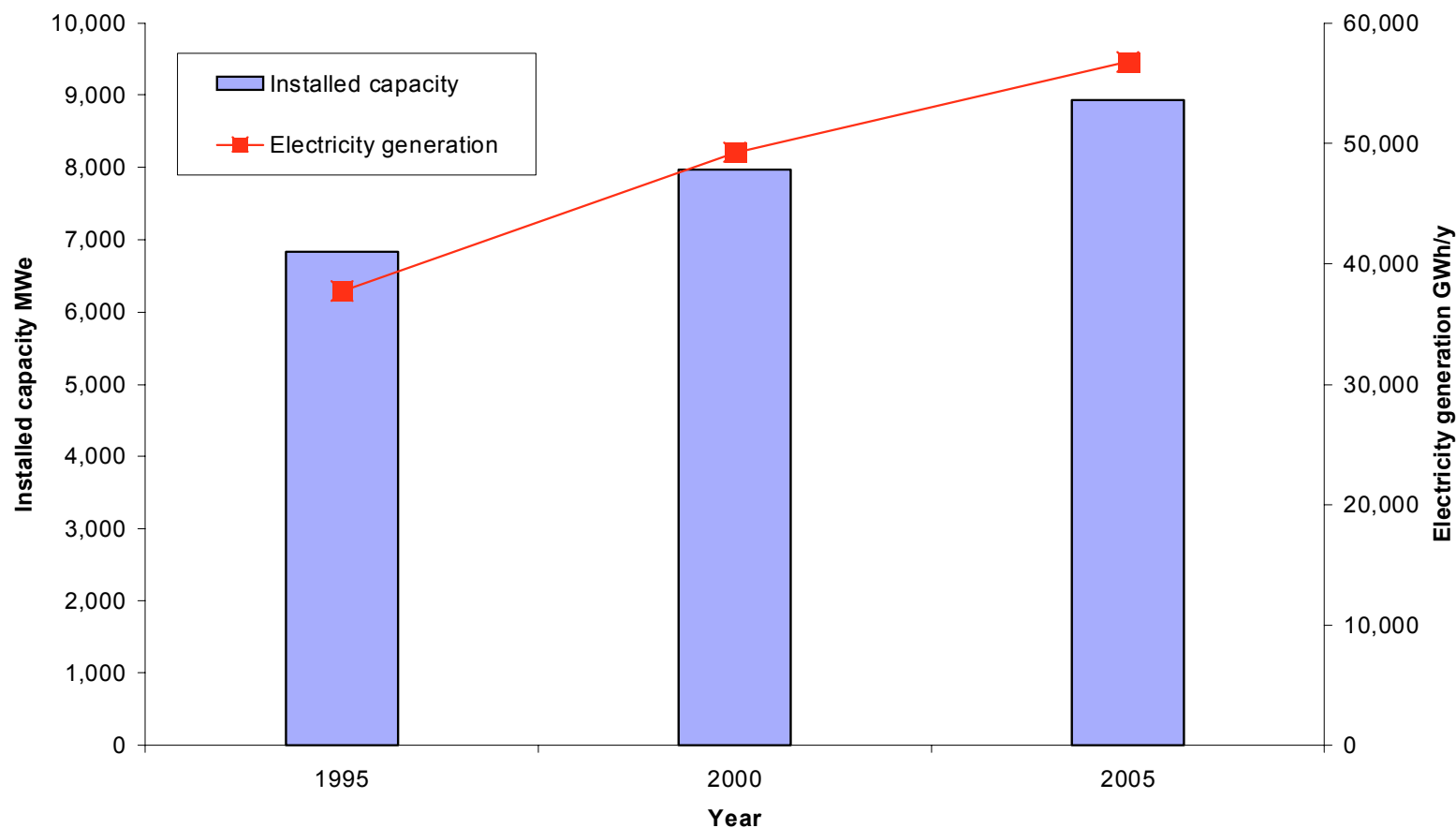


# Geothermal Energy Worldwide – Ytd 2004



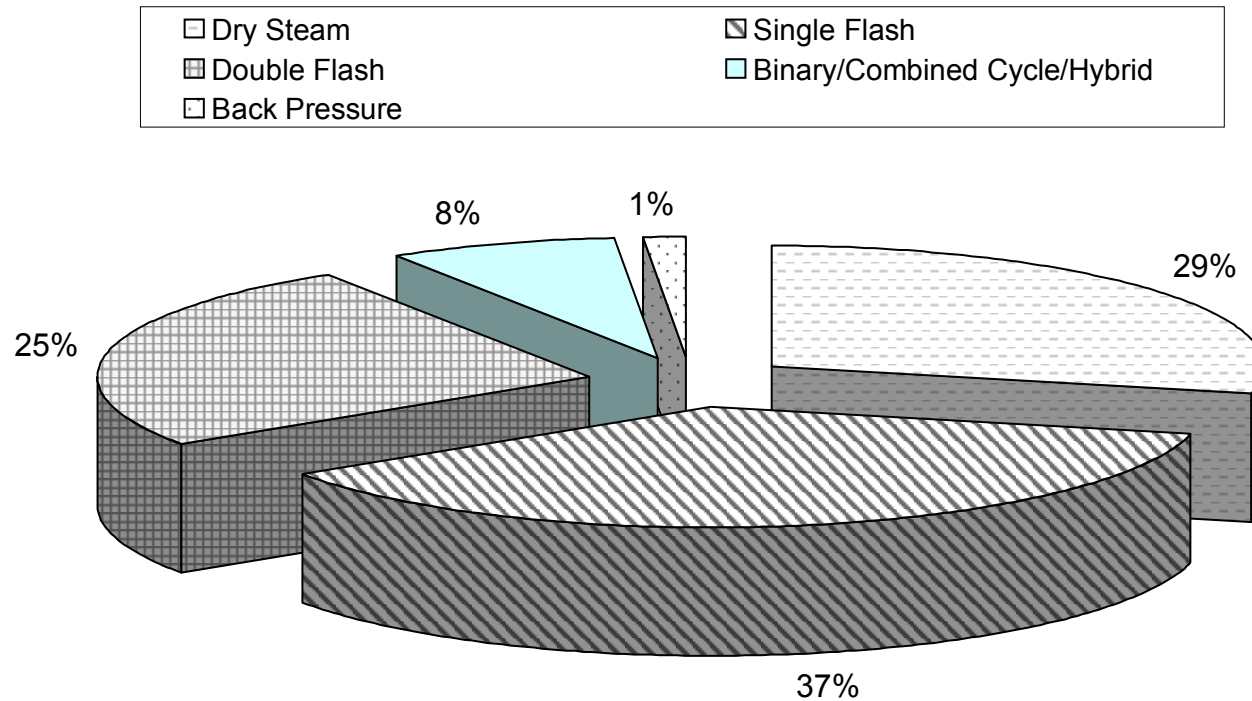


## Geothermal growth



- The trend has not improved since 2000, increasing by 960 MW, **only 190 MW per year.**
- The geothermal contributes for 0,4% on world electricity as in year 2000**

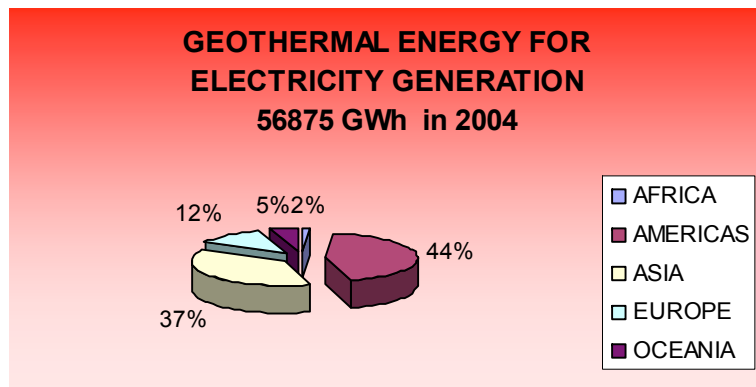
# Installed capacity



•2/3 of the total installed capacity are for dry steam and single flash units

•Binary units are increasing, but with a lower value of capacity per unit.

# Energy saving & pollution avoided



## Electric use

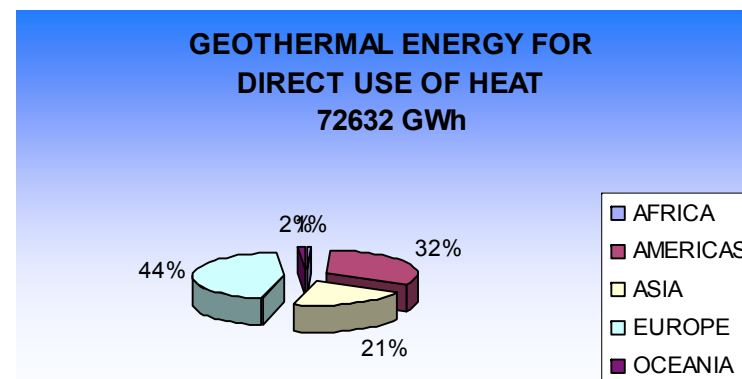
• **Energy saving (\*)** of fuel oil per year 96,6 million barrels or 14,5 millions tonnes

• **Carbon pollution avoided** (millions tonnes year) 3 (natural gas) or 13 (oil) or 15 (coal)

## Direct uses

• **Energy saving (\*)** of fuel oil per year 123,4 million barrels or 18,5 millions tonnes

• **Carbon pollution avoided** (millions tonnes year) 4 (natural gas) or 16 (oil) or 18 (coal)



(\*) generating electricity with 0,35 efficiency factor

**Total energy saving of fuel oil per year over 220 million barrels**

**Total carbon pollution avoided per year over 39 (oil) million tonnes**

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# Drivers & barriers for geothermal growth

## Drivers

- ✓ Great number of areas with an interesting geothermal potential
- ✓ Electrical energy demand growing within the next years
- ✓ Base load capacity, renewable and domestic energy
- ✓ Employment opportunity

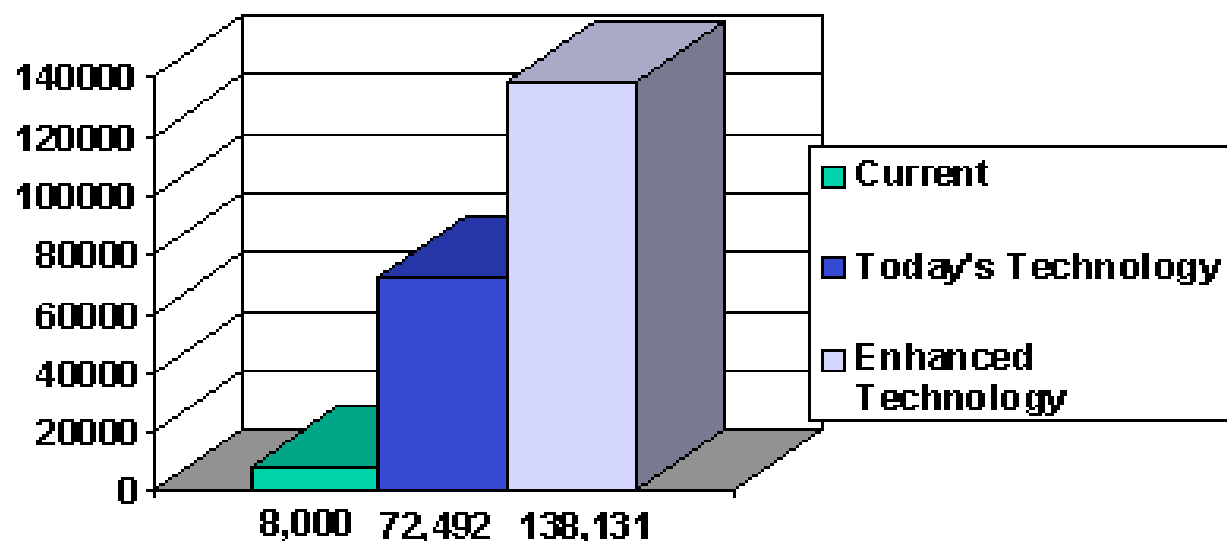
## Barriers

- Technological challenges for deep seated resources
- Economic . High development cost (logistics, transmission, exploration risk in “green field” project
- Environmental - adverse impacts in some areas
- Regulatory / market / political risks

# Geothermal energy

## World Geothermal Potential

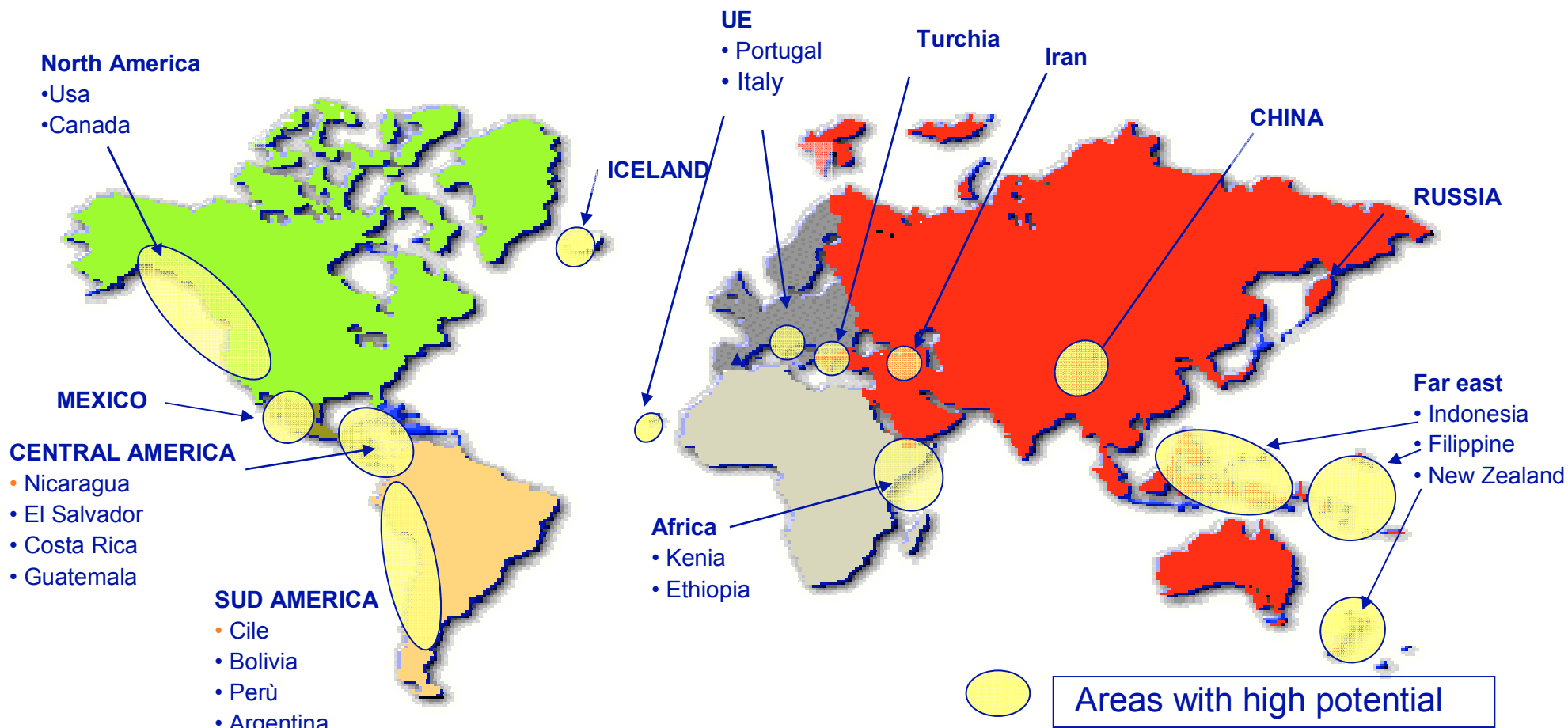
Megawatts of Electrical Capacity



... up to 72.500 MW exploitable with existing technologies while future technologies will allow the exploitation of up to 140.000 MW ...

Source: World Bank

# Geothermal energy worldwide development



8900 MW (running) forecast to year 2010

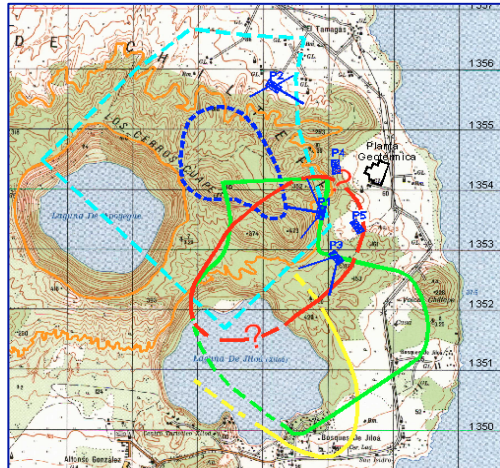
# Technological challenges

**Current efforts are focused on:**

- **Identifying Resources development and opportunities**
  - Resources Assessment
  - Exploration and Drilling
- **Optimizing Resource Utilization and Management**
  - Resource Management
  - Generation Technologies
- **Investigating Applications that Increase**
  - system reliability
  - environmental compatibility



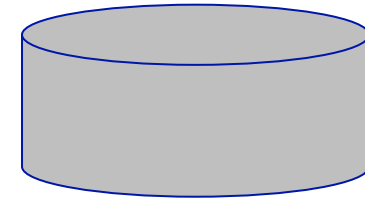
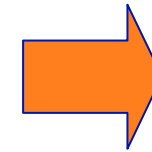
# Resources assessment



## Volumetric Estimation

### Input parameters

- Reservoir extension
- Reservoir thickness
- Fluids temperature
- Rocks porosity ( $\Phi$ )

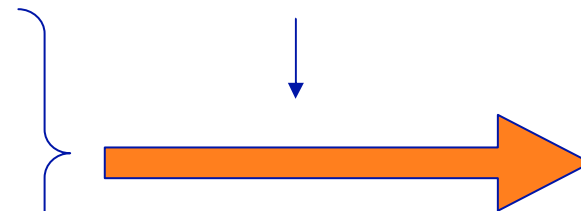


Thermal energy within a specific volume (single block)

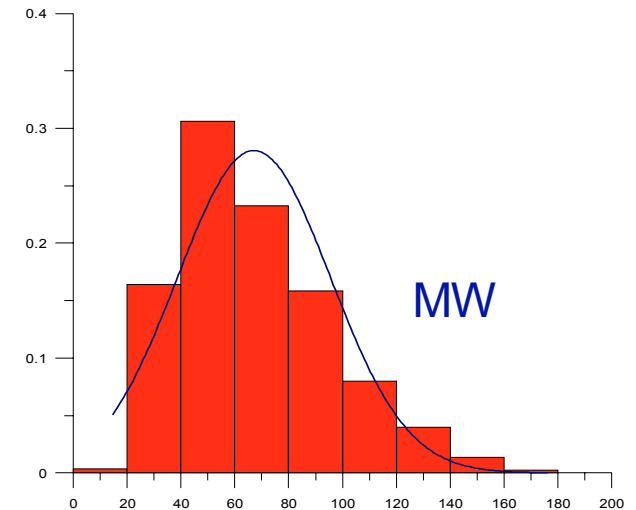
Recovery Factor =  $1.25 \Phi$   
(literature)

Monte Carlo Simulation

Input parameters randomly sampled between min – max



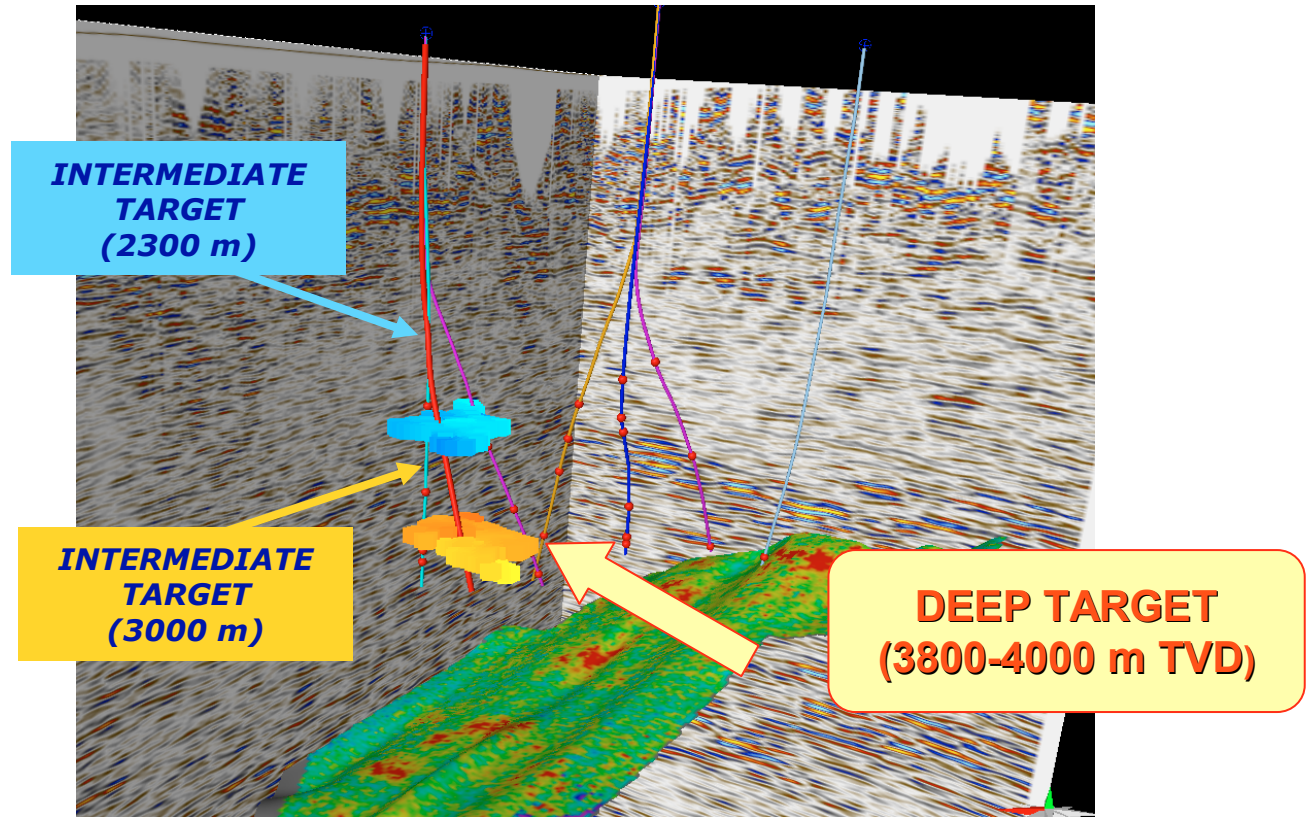
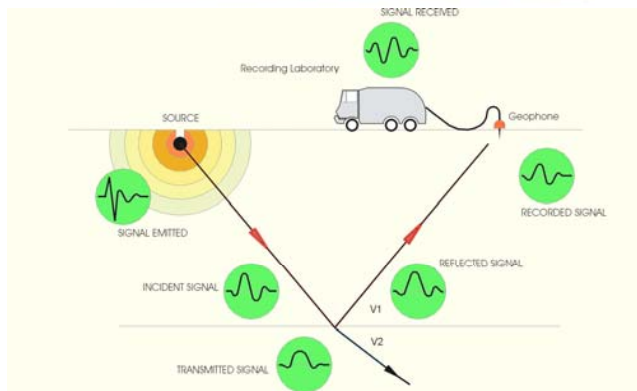
“n” years project life



**More accuracy is requested for investment valuation**

# Exploration & drilling technology

3D seismic is applied for target location of deep wells



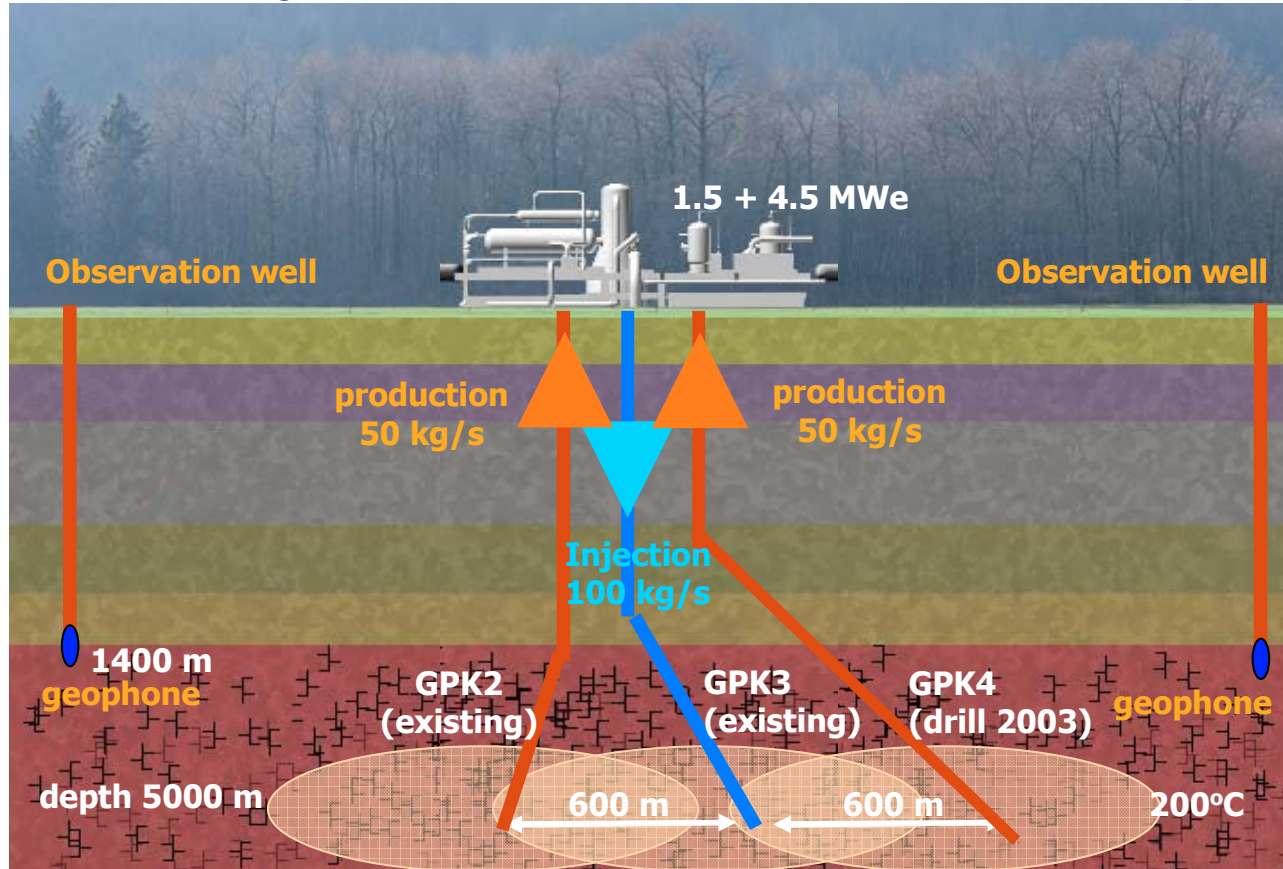
**OIL & GAS TECHNOLOGICAL KNOW-HOW TO BE APPLIED**

# Optimizing Resource Management

SUBJECT	ANALYSIS	MITIGATION	CHECK
<b>Permeability</b>	Hydrogeology, Reservoir modeling	Well acidification, stimulation, etc.	Well production tests
<b>Temperature</b>	Geological/geophysical model, geochemistry	<b>Nothing</b>	Temperature log, Well production tests
<b>High gas content</b>	Geochemistry	Abatement for some gases, reinjection	Fluid geochemistry, O&M
<b>Cold water ingress</b>	Hydrogeology, Reservoir modeling	- Reinjection management, - <b>Nothing</b> (natural recharge)	O&M
<b>Scaling</b>	Geochemistry	P-T operation management, inhibitor, pipe cleaning, etc	O&M
<b>Corrosion</b>	Geochemistry	Inhibitor	O&M
<b>Self sealing</b>	Geochemistry	Well acidification	Production monitoring, Geochemical monitor.
<b>Volcanic hazard</b>	Volcanology	- <b>Nothing</b> -Civil works	O&M
<b>Seismic hazard</b>	Seismology	Civil works Reinjection management	O&M
<b>Subsidence</b>	Geophysical model, Reservoir modeling,	<b>Nothing</b>	Topographic monitoring

# Heat mining

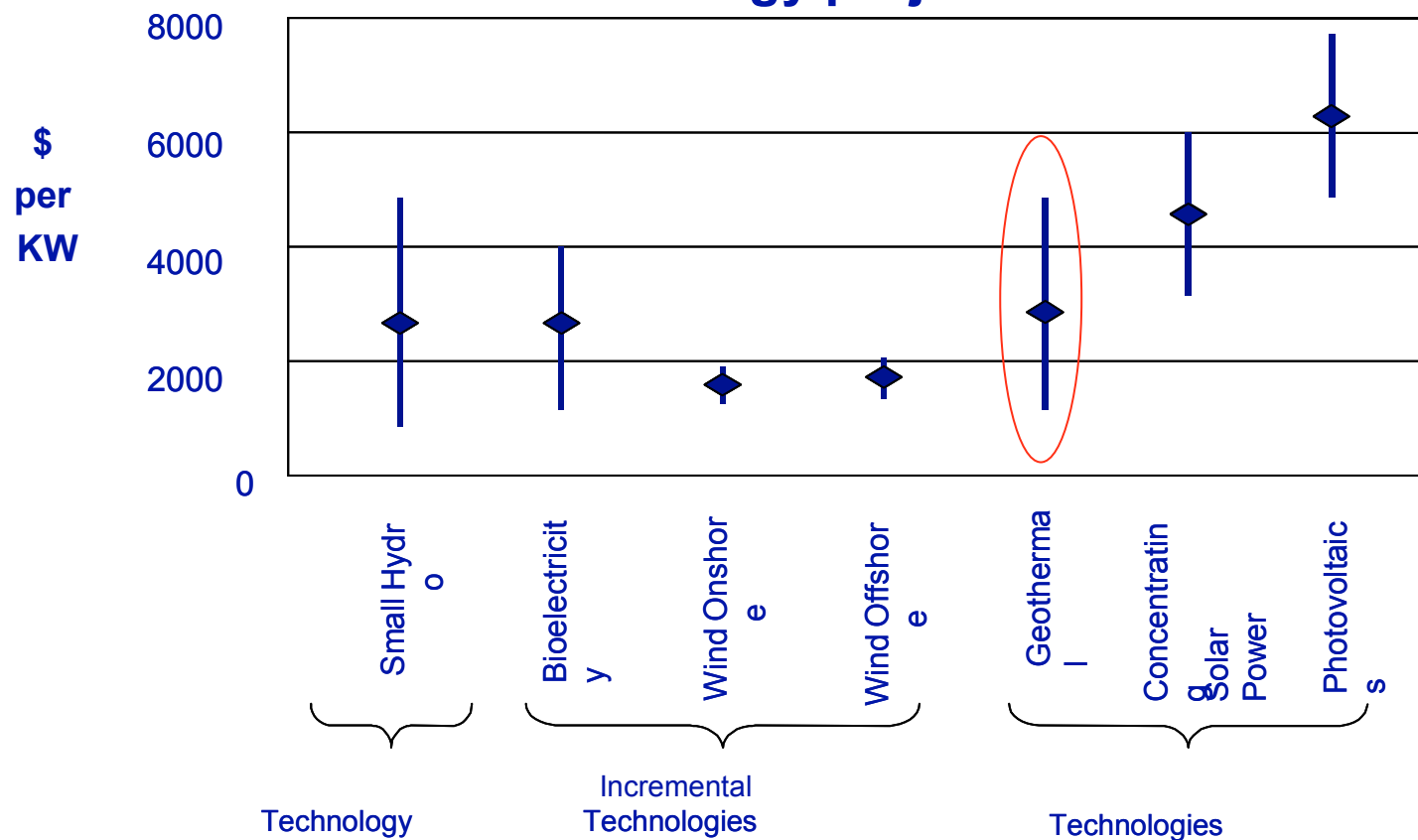
## HDR Project at Soultz : the Pilot Plant concept



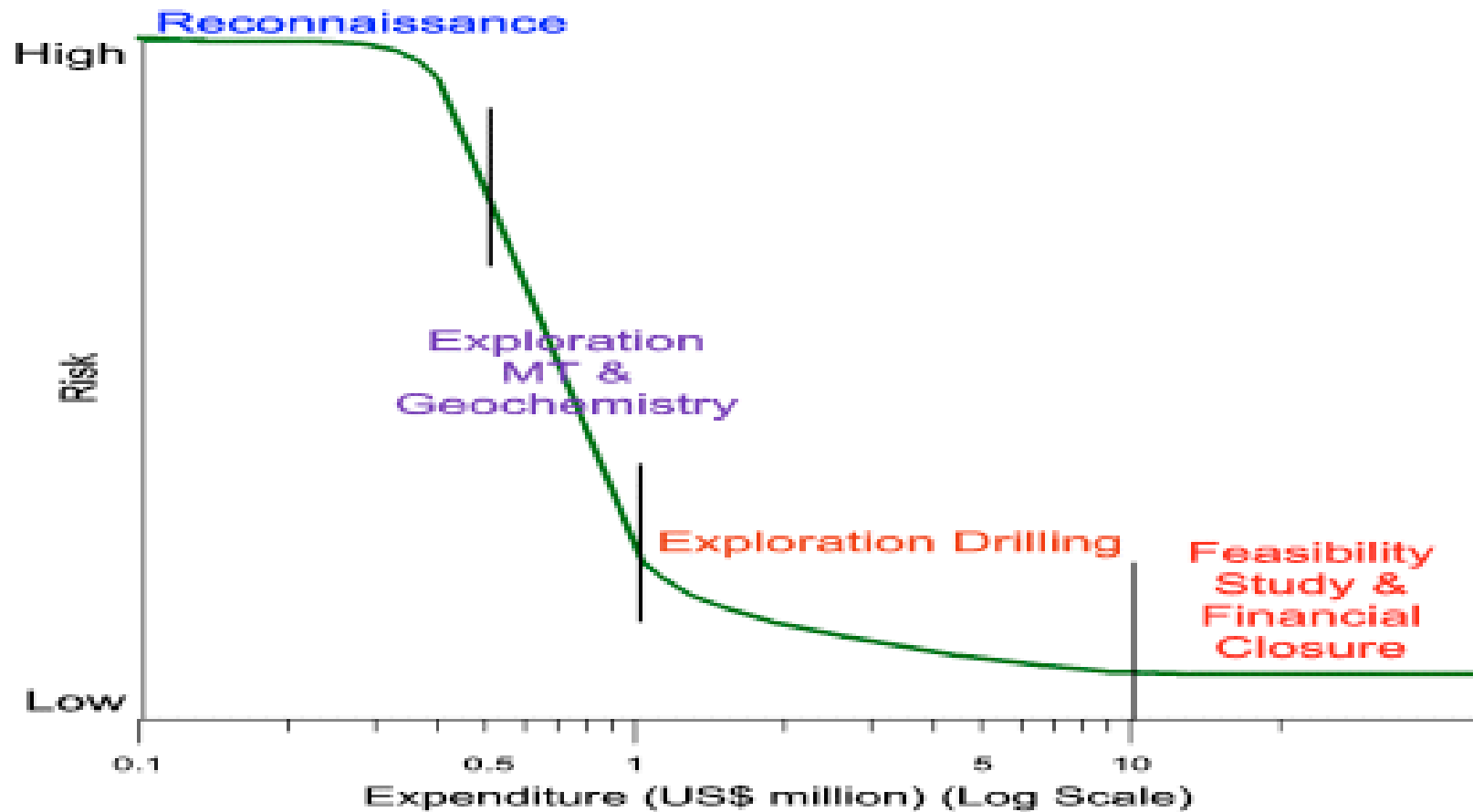
**Develop advanced technology to use the huge thermal energy amount contained in the earth crust**

# Economic challenges

## Comparison of investment expenditures for different renewable energy project



# Expenditures & risks of a geothermal project



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# Conclusions

**Geothermal energy, like other renewable energy sources (RES), plays an important role to:**

- ✓ **complement existing energy production systems**
- ✓ **tackle climate change**
- ✓ **contribute to an overall strategy of sustainable development**
- ✓ **reduce dependence on energy imports, thereby ensuring sustainable security of energy supply**
- ✓ **have a positive impact on regional development and employment**



# Tanks for your attention

For any further information please contact me  
at the following e-mail address:

**[fausto.batini@enel.it](mailto:fausto.batini@enel.it)**

# Enel's worldwide geothermal development

**Enel was the first geothermal operator worldwide...**



.... in 1921 at EL Tatio in the North of Chile  
Mr.Tocchi of the Larderello S.p.A. performed the first geothermal exploration including the drilling of two shallow wells.

Enel carried out geothermal exploration in more than 15 countries, mostly in the framework of co-operation and know-how transfer programs



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## El Salvador → Strategic partnership with LaGeo

achieved through international bid  
(114 MW geothermal in operation)



### New project under development (50 MW)

- Geo - scientific studies to define the integrated model of the geothermal system
- Drilling of 12 wells at 1500 - 2500 meters
- Steam gathering system
- 2 new units for electric energy generation
  - Berlin 40 MW (operation in 2006)
  - Cuyanausul 10 MW (operation in 2007)



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Chile



Strategic partnership with ENAP  
EMPRESA NACIONAL GEOTERMICA S.A.  
(51% ENEL and 49% ENAP)

has been established for the exploration and development of Calabozo and Chillan geothermal concessions

