

## **Call for Experts: International Geothermal Commission for Standards (IGCS)**

### *Setting the Global Benchmark for Geothermal Excellence*

The International Geothermal Association (IGA), in collaboration with Sinopec, is establishing the *International Geothermal Commission for Standards (IGCS)* - a global expert body dedicated to developing harmonized geothermal standards that will strengthen confidence, comparability, and investment across the sector.

The IGCS is chaired by Dr. Guo (Sinopec) and vice-chaired by Dr. Marit Brommer (IGA). Together, they will unite leading scientific, industrial, and regulatory expertise to deliver globally accepted reference standards and practices for the geothermal industry.

Its initial 2025–2027 Work Programme will focus on:

1. Geothermal Energy Terminology (Glossary 1.0) – to be launched at the *World Geothermal Congress 2026 in Calgary*
2. Geothermal Resources Evaluation
3. Ground Source Heat Pump Projects
4. Geothermal Power Generation
5. Geothermal Heating and Cooling Systems

### **Call for Experts (2025–2027 Term)**

We invite qualified experts from around the world to join the IGCS and contribute to the development of these landmark standards.

We seek individuals with proven experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Geothermal resource assessment and classification (UNFC/UNRMS familiarity an asset)
- Subsurface and drilling engineering
- Direct use and ground-source heat pump systems
- Power generation and plant performance benchmarking
- Geothermal heating and cooling applications (district heating, integrated urban systems, industrial use)
- Sustainability assessment and ESG integration

- Policy, regulation, or standards development
- Finance and market design experts

#### Eligibility and Selection

- Applicants should have at least 10 years of relevant experience in geothermal energy or related sectors.
- Membership will reflect balanced representation across regions, disciplines, and sectors (industry, academia, policy, finance).
- Members serve in a personal capacity and contribute to drafting, reviewing, and validating technical documents.

#### Timeline

- Application deadline: *31 October 2025*
- Notification of selected experts: *early November 2025*
- Official Kick-off Meeting: *26–27 November 2025, Beijing (hosted by Sinopec)*  
*Virtual presence is possible as well.*

#### How to Apply

Please send your Expression of Interest (EOI) to [iga@worldgeothermal.org](mailto:iga@worldgeothermal.org) including:

- Short CV (max. 3 pages)
- Motivation statement (max. 500 words)
- Area(s) of expertise and preferred working group(s)

## IGCS 2025–2027 Work Priorities & Structure

### Phase One – Geothermal Energy Terminology

- Objective: Develop *Glossary 1.0*, to be launched under the Chairmanship of Dr. Guo at the World Geothermal Congress 2026 in Calgary (June 8, 2026).
- Purpose: This glossary will serve as the foundation for all subsequent standards and recommended practices, providing a clear and shared language for industry, regulators, policymakers, financiers, and scientists.

### Step Two – Sequencing of Remaining Priorities

Following successful completion and formal approval of the Glossary, the Committee will advance sequentially to develop three recommended practices:

#### 1. **Geothermal Resources Evaluation**

Establishes common methodologies for classification, assessment, and reporting of geothermal resources and reserves.

Includes standards for **environmental, social, and governance (ESG)** performance and **financial disclosure metrics** to improve comparability for investors, lenders, and policymakers.

#### 2. **Ground Source Heat Pump Projects**

Defines technical, environmental, and performance standards for shallow geothermal systems and geoexchange applications.

Addresses efficiency, monitoring, and permitting requirements for urban and building-scale deployment.

#### 3. **Geothermal Power Generation**

Provides guidance on plant performance, efficiency benchmarks, and sustainability metrics for electricity generation from geothermal sources.

Integrates lifecycle assessment, carbon accounting, and financial resilience metrics.

#### 4. **Geothermal Heating and Cooling Systems**

Establishes design, operational, and policy frameworks for geothermal district heating and cooling networks across residential, commercial, and industrial sectors. Includes integration with energy markets, tariff structures, and regulatory and financing mechanisms that enable large-scale deployment.

Encourages harmonization of standards to accelerate adoption in urban, regional, and cross-border contexts.

## Implementation Timeline (Indicative 2025–2027)

- **Pre-Kickoff Coordination:** *September–November 2025*  
Virtual preparatory meetings, nomination of experts, and circulation of draft terms of reference.
- **Official Kick-off Meeting:** *26–27 November 2025 (Beijing, hosted by Sinopec)*  
Formal establishment of working groups and endorsement of the 2025–2027 work programme.
- **Glossary 1.0 Launch:** *June 8 2026 (World Geothermal Congress, Calgary)*  
Public release of the foundational terminology standard under the Chairmanship of Dr. Guo.
- **Annual Committee Meeting:** *June 2026 (Calgary)*  
Review of progress and approval of the Geothermal Resources Evaluation working draft.
- **Mid-Term Review:** *end 2026 (location TBD)*  
Consolidation of work on Power Generation, Ground Source Heat Pumps, and Heating & Cooling standards; roadmap for adoption and translation.
- **Global Peer Review and Alignment Phase:** *mid 2027*  
Consultation with international bodies (API, UNECE, UNFC/UNRMS secretariat, IEA GIA) and regional regulators; preparation of Final Draft Standards Series 1.0.
- **Edition Launch:** *end of 2027*  
Publication of the first full suite of IGCS geothermal standards and presentation of the 2027–2029 Work Programme.

## Committee Composition

- Total Experts: 30
- China (Sinopec and affiliates): 7 experts
- Global Members: 23 experts under recruitment from academia, industry, and policy institutions
- Leadership:
  - *Chair:* Dr. Guo Xusheng (Sinopec)
  - *Vice Chair:* Dr. Marit Brommer (IGA)