

Cooperation Agreement
between
the Government of Iceland and the Government of the Russian Federation
in the field of geothermal energy

The Government of Iceland and the Government of the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

- confirming the desire to strengthen and develop bilateral cooperation in the field of geothermal energy on the principles of equality and mutual benefit;
- aiming to expand economic, scientific and technical cooperation in the field of geothermal energy;
- considering the Parties' interest in cooperation in energy efficiency, development and increasing usage of renewable energy sources;
- confirming the Parties' commitment to securing the safety and protection of the environment;
- taking into account the Declaration on the basic principles of relations between the Republic of Iceland and the Russian Federation signed in Moscow on December 19, 1994;

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties shall exercise cooperation in the field of geothermal energy in accordance with the international law and national legislation of the States of the Parties on the basis of the following principles:

- provision of sovereign rights of the State of each Party regarding its geothermal resources;
- enhancing a non-discriminatory access to international geothermal energy markets and development of their competitive nature;
- transparency of all segments of the international geothermal energy market;
- promotion and protection of investments in the geothermal energy sector of the States of the Parties;
- providing on a non-discriminatory basis access to technologies and participation in transfer of technologies on a reimbursable basis;
- securing of technological reliability of all infrastructural elements of renewable energy sources;
- assistance in realization of infrastructural projects of high importance for global and regional energy security.

Article 2

Cooperation in the framework of the present Agreement shall be carried out in accordance with the international law and national legislation of the States of the Parties in the following forms:

- realization of joint projects in the field of geothermal electricity generation on the territory of Iceland and the Russian Federation, as well as in third countries;
- construction of electricity generating facilities on the basis of geothermal energy sources, as well as of respective infrastructure, management of such facilities;
- participation in project development in the field of geothermal energy (management, exploration, design, infrastructure, construction and operation);
- development of partnership relations between scientific research organizations, technological centers and industrial enterprises of both States, including development and realization of joint research programs and cooperation programs;

- development of Icelandic-Russian partnership through information exchanges between universities, technological centers, project bureaus and industrial enterprises on ecologically clean technologies and know-how in the field of geothermal energy in accordance with the national legislation of the States of the Parties;

- joint seminars, symposiums and industrial exhibitions concerning geothermal energy using the capacities of state-owned and private institutions of higher education, research institutes and chambers of trade and commerce of both States;

- cooperation in training, education and skills development of human resources in the field of geothermal energy;

- other forms of cooperation, which could be agreed between the Parties in written form in addition to the present Agreement.

By mutual consent and in accordance with their States' legislation, the Parties can invite interested organizations of third countries to participate in joint projects in the framework of the current Agreement.

Article 3

The Competent Bodies responsible for implementation of the present Agreement are:

- from the Icelandic side – Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism of Iceland;

- from the Russian side – Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation.

In case of change of their respective Competent Bodies the Parties shall without delay inform each other in written form through diplomatic channels.

Article 4

The Parties shall create a working group, chaired by the representatives of the Competent Bodies of the Parties.

The working group may conduct its work by means of electronic communication.

The working group meetings shall be held as needed on an alternative basis in Iceland and the Russian Federation with the aim of providing a proper planning and dynamic development of cooperation as a subject-matter of this Agreement.

The working group can develop a cooperation program for realization of specific arrangements in the framework of the present Agreement.

Article 5

The present Agreement does not limit the rights of Icelandic and Russian natural and legal persons to establish trade and economic as well as scientific and technical links in the field of geothermal energy in accordance with the legislation of the States of the Parties.

Cooperation in the field of geothermal energy is carried out by Icelandic and Russian organizations on the basis of agreements (contracts) signed by them, where cooperation, rights and obligations of parties to such agreements (contracts), financial and other conditions of cooperation in compliance with the legislation of the States of the Parties are determined.

The Parties do not bear responsibility for the obligations of the parties of projects which are carried out in the framework of the present Agreement.

Article 6

The present Agreement does not affect the rights and obligations of each Party arising from other international agreements, which Iceland and/or the Russian Federation are parties to.

Article 7

Differences between the Parties arising in relation to the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled amicably by mutual consultations.

Article 8

The present Agreement can be amended by consent of the Parties presented in writing.

Article 9

The present Agreement is concluded for a period of five years and enters into force on the date of signature.

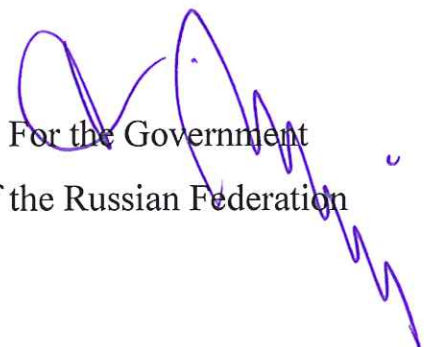
The present Agreement shall be automatically extended for consecutive five-year periods unless either Party notifies the other in writing through diplomatic channels of its intention to terminate it at least six months before the respective five-year period expires.

Termination of the present Agreement does not affect the obligations of the Parties regarding programs and projects, which have been launched under the Agreement but not yet completed at the time of its termination unless the Parties decide otherwise.

Signed in Moscow on 24 October 2011, in two originals, each in the Icelandic, Russian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation of the provisions of the Agreement, the English text shall prevail.



For the Government
of Iceland



For the Government
of the Russian Federation

