GEOTHERMAL ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NORTH WEST INDIAN HIMALAYAS

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Development of the geothermal resources has the potential to supply the region with electric power, heat and cold which will increase industrial efficiency and productivity in sectors such as agriculture, food processing, tourism and mining. Still this resource in India is ignored and presently used for bathing and cooking only. An Indian-Norwegian Programme for Research Cooperation (INDNOR) has been established to promote collaboration on research and research funding between India and Norway. Present paper highlights the findings of the pre project Agneyodgara (Indor) 2011-12 "Sustainable Development of Geothermal Energy in NW Indian Himalayas" funded through INDNOR Programme. Geothermal experts from India, Norway and Iceland participate in areas for long-term research cooperation includes exploration and development of geothermal resources, geothermal plant technology, water quality, impact on the society and the environment and capacity building.