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- one of the most prestigious international environmental awards as the best environmental project in Greece in 2008.

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The project GROUNDHIT aims at improving the cost-effectiveness, competitiveness and market penetration of ground coupled heat pumps. The [Ground Coupled Heat Pumps](#) are a reliable and environmentally friendly technology that utilises the soil temperature, which is near-constant irrespective of the external weather conditions, and provides buildings with efficient heating, cooling and warm water.

>> Geothermal Heat Pumps, or Ground Coupled Heat Pumps (GCHP), are systems combining a heat pump with a ground heat exchanger or fed by ground water from a well. They use the earth as a heat source when operating in heating mode, with a fluid as the media transferring the heat from the earth to the evaporator of the heat pump, utilizing in that way geothermal energy. In the cooling mode, they use the earth as a heat sink. Use of geothermal heat pumps in Europe is limited to operation for heating mainly, corresponding to only a tiny fraction of total residential heating demand.

>> From all over the world, projects are showcased that conserve and protect our resources or that employ renewable energy.

>> The goal is to present successful sustainable projects to a broad audience. Each year some 800 projects and initiatives from all over the world are submitted to compete for the award in the

categories Earth, Fire, Water, Air and Youth.

The ENERGY GLOBE AWARD is awarded annually & has the following structure:

- National: in over 100 nations, e.g., ENERGY GLOBE Award Greece
- International: World ENERGY GLOBE Award for Sustainability

PARTNERS from Greece

[Centre for Renewable Energy Sources \(CRES\) - Greece - COORDINATOR](#)

[Centre for Research and Technology – Hellas \(CERTH\) / Chemical Process
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