



G Ł Ó W N Y  
I N S T Y T U T  
G Ó R N I C T W A

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Katowice (Poland), April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues,

It is my great pleasure to invite you to participate in a workshop titled **Best Practices in Coal Mine Methane Drainage and Utilization**, which is scheduled to take place on **7-9 June, 2017** in **Katowice, Poland**.

Please see attached a draft agenda of the event. Please note, that it is still being finalized and therefore subject to change.

The workshop will be organized on the occasion of opening of the **International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane (ICE-CMM)**, which is conceived as a non-profit entity **established and operating under the auspices of, and in close collaboration with, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and its Group of Experts on CMM**.

The principal role of the Centre will be to actively support the Group of Experts on CMM in its capacity-building activities through dissemination of best practices for (1) economically viable methane abatement and utilisation, (2) socially acceptable underground coal mine practices, and (3) environmentally responsible methane management.

Polish founders of ICE-CMM are: [Central Mining Institute from Katowice](#) (Polish acronym: GIG), [Polish Oil and Gas Company](#) (PGNiG), [Polish Geological Institute National Research Institute](#) (PIG PIB), [Oil and Gas Institute National Research Institute](#) (INiG PIB).

The Centre will be located at the premises of Central Mining Institute.

Apart from its **technical part** focused on presentation of best practices in coal mine methane drainage and use, the workshop will also provide its participants with an opportunity to engage in an open discussion within the framework of the **International CMM Forum**.

The aim of the latter is to provide a convenient platform for exchange of experiences and opinions among the participants, at the same time allowing the hosts to identify particular issues related to CMM recovery and utilisation that require special attention and assistance of such expert institutions as ICE-CMM. Open discussion among invitees from different parts of the World, will also help to determine which states and coal basins should constitute the main focus of capacity-building activities offered by ICE-CMM and the UNECE Group of Experts.

The workshop is addressed to international and local mining community in general, and to practitioners operating in the field of CMM in particular. All parties either professionally engaged or simply interested in effective CMM capture and utilisation, including **coal producers, energy producers, regulators and decision-makers, scientific institutions and universities, as well as academicians and students** are warmly welcome to join us in **Katowice on June 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**.

Please note that due to the official character of the opening of ICE-CMM, the event is also expected to be attended by high representatives of the Polish Government, UNECE, and the European Commission.

**Participation in the workshop is free of charge.**

In order to **register** for the workshop, please fill in the registration form enclosed on the last page of the attached agenda, and return it to [lszolysek@gig.eu](mailto:lszolysek@gig.eu) or [jskiba@gig.eu](mailto:jskiba@gig.eu)

**It is kindly requested that you confirm your participation by Friday, 12 May.**


Upon receiving your confirmation, we will provide you shortly with a detailed logistical information regarding the event.

Should you need any further information about the workshop, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Szoltysek ([lszolysek@gig.eu](mailto:lszolysek@gig.eu)) or Mr Skiba ([jskiba@gig.eu](mailto:jskiba@gig.eu)).

In order to learn more about ICE-CMM please visit [UNECE site devoted to it](#).

I am looking forward to seeing you soon in Katowice.

With kind regards,

  
**Jacek Skiba Ph.D.Eng**

Head of Organizing Committee