

Meeting with the Polish Minister of Climate and Environment - presentation of the new programme supporting energy efficiency in buildings developed under the FinEERGo-Dom project

On the 13th of September 2021 National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management organised a meeting with the participation of the Minister of Climate and Environment, Michał Kurtyka and the signatories of the Covenant of Mayors. During the event National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management presented a new priority programme: "Renovation with a guarantee of savings EPC Plus", which aims to support energy efficiency investments in buildings under EPC/ESCO formula. Over 100 participants took part in the online event.

Meeting was attended by Minister of Climate and Environment, Michał Kurtyka, Deputy President of the Management Board of the Polish Development Fund Group Bartłomiej Pawlak, Deputy President of the Management Board of the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management Artur Lorkowski, Deputy President of the Polish National Energy Conservation Agency Mariola Zmudzińska, Director of the External Funds Department in NFEP&WM Marta Babicz and Director of the Energy Efficiency Department in NFEP&WM Katarzyna Jastrzemska.

"Achieving climate neutrality requires actions not only in the areas that have been in the centre of attention for years, such as energy and industry, but also in the construction sector. The scale of the investment challenges in this sector in Poland requires decisive and innovative steps, they must be accompanied by innovative financing instruments. That includes an investment model based on EPC (Energy Performance Contract) with the involvement of an ESCO" (Energy Service Company) - stressed Michał Kurtyka, Minister for Climate and Environment.

Outlining the benefits for ESCOs resulting from the proposed financial support offered under the programme, Deputy President of the Polish Development Fund Group, Bartłomiej Pawlak stated: "I am glad that we are undertaking joint work with the National Fund and the Polish National Energy Conservation Agency on innovative instruments financing energy efficiency investments for local governments - thanks to this we can swiftly and courageously meet the challenges that are facing us in the next future".

Deputy President of NFEP&WM Artur Lorkowski confirmed the readiness on the part of National Fund to implement the priority programme, which was initiated within the FinEERGo-Dom project financed by the European Commission under the Horizon 2020 programme. At the same time, he said: "We understand perfectly the importance of implementing the ESCO model in Poland, we are very pleased to be able to cooperate with experienced partners – the Polish National Energy Conservation Agency and the Polish Development Fund Group. This allows us to overcome the main obstacle on the way to increase energy efficiency in residential buildings in Poland, which is to mobilise resources to finance own contribution for the building's owner".

"The Polish National Energy Conservation Agency has extensive experience in both, comprehensive consultancy throughout the entire construction process for local governments, enterprises and b, as building ownerswell as in the actual implementation of investments in the deep thermal modernisation of buildings and the performance of energy audits of buildings. At the stage of pilot investments within the project FinEERGo-Dom, the Agency will play the role of an energy advisor, which will provide great added value to the Programme" - said Deputy President of the Management Board of the Polish National Energy Conservation Agency Mariola Zmudzińska.



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During the meeting, the scope of support provided by NFEP&WM within the framework of the new priority programme "Renovation with guarantee of savings EPC Plus" was discussed in details. It includes the establishment of the mechanism for financing investments based on cooperation between the building owner and the ESCO company, both at the stage of implementing measures improving energy efficiency and on long-term energy management of the retrofited building.

The National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management acts as the National Coordinator of the Covenant of Mayors in Poland.

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