

Welcome



Dear Reader,

Welcome to another year of the the European Energy Efficiency Fund's (eeef) activities which we would like to review with you in this report.

The European Union (EU) has set ambitious climate and energy goals. This includes the goal of achieving a 27% increase in energy efficiency by 2030, which will be reviewed in 2020 with an ultimate goal of 30% in mind. This report provides examples on how EU measures can contribute to this goal. It shows us that having a dedicated energy efficiency financial instrument can be seen to work. Indeed, the European Energy Efficiency Fund (eeef or the Fund) has achieved some solid results: since 2011, the € 115.0 m provided by eeef to projects across the EU has saved almost 100,000 tonnes of CO₂e equivalent emissions (tCO₂e). It has had a transformative effect, for example, by supporting the renovation of public buildings in order to both reduce their energy consumption beyond minimum standards and to produce energy from renewable sources.

Energy efficiency should be at the heart of all our energy policies. Therefore, when the EU launched its Energy Union Framework Strategy in February 2015, not only was energy efficiency one of the five key dimensions, it was also embedded in every other dimension – from the internal market, to research, to innovation and competitiveness, and to energy security.

Yet beyond this, eeef shows us that financial instruments which improve access to financing and incentivise private sustainable energy investment can help us achieve our goals.

I am confident that eeef will continue to lead by example in the next twelve months and help us to be as ambitious as we need to be.

Mechthild Wörsdörfer
Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board