

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Launch of Code of Conduct in order to support transparency on European energy service markets

**A European Code of Conduct for Energy Performance Contracting (EPC) is launched in order to support high-quality EPC energy services and transparency on European energy service markets. The Code of Conduct, which has been developed within the Intelligent Energy Europe project TransparensE, defines the basic values and principles that are considered fundamental for the successful preparation and implementation of EPC projects.**

An initial survey within the TransparensE project has shown that there is a lack of transparency within the energy efficiency markets in Europe and many potential clients have poor knowledge and understanding of EPC and its potential to generate energy saving.

"We expect that the Code of Conduct will effectively address the issue of lack of transparency on the market and improve the understanding, awareness and quality of EPC" says *Jana Szomolányiová*, coordinator of the TransparensE project.

The Code, which has been developed within the Intelligent Energy Europe project TransparensE in cooperation with inter alia European ESCO associations, EPC providers and clients, defines the basic values (i.e. efficiency, professionalism and transparency) and principles that are considered fundamental for the successful preparation and implementation of EPC projects.

"The Code of Conduct reflects the values and principles which our members consider essential to the development of high-quality energy efficiency services markets in Europe" says Valérie Plainemaison, EFIEES (European Federation of Intelligent Energy Efficiency Services) Secretary General.

The Code will expectantly serve as a harmonised European quality standard for EPC projects and increase potential clients awareness and understanding of EPC.

EPC providers who become signatories of the EPC Code undertake to conduct EPC projects in compliance with the EPC Code. The EPC Code is a voluntary commitment of the EPC providers and is not legally binding.

More information on the European Code of Conduct for Energy Performance Contracting and how to become a signatory is available on the TransparensE website <http://www.transparensE.eu/eu/epc-code-of-conduct/epc-code-of-conduct>

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**Energy Performance Contracting (EPC)** can provide substantial energy savings using the principle of repaying the investments directly from the saved energy costs. EPC allows facility owners to upgrade inefficient assets as the Energy Service Company (ESCO) takes the technical risk and guarantees savings. A typical EPC project includes the following elements: *Turnkey service* – The ESCO provides all of the services required to design and implement a comprehensive energy saving project at the customer facility, from initial energy audit to long-term measurement and verification of savings. *Comprehensive measures* – The ESCO tailors a comprehensive set of measures to fit the needs of a particular facility. *Project savings guarantee* – The ESCO guarantees the achievement of the contractually agreed level of savings and is obligated to compensate savings shortfalls if occurred over the life of the contract.

**TransparensE** is funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Commission and aims at supporting the development of a trustworthy EPC market. It brings together 20 European partners and has a budget of million 2.1 million €. Main target groups are existing and potential EPC providers and their clients.

