

## **EIB and EU to improve energy efficiency and renovate teaching facilities and dormitories of Ukrainian universities**

- **Six Ukrainian universities will carry out a comprehensive energy-efficient modernisation of the majority of their buildings with the support of EUR 49 mln investments of the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the ESP grant in the amount of EUR 10 mln.**
- **The Project will help ensure comfortable conditions for students and academic staff, reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 19,200 tons or 48%, decrease energy consumption by 44% and save more than EUR 3.5 mln annually.**
- **The complex thermal refurbishment of higher education establishments in Ukraine is implemented in the framework of the Ukraine Higher Education Project. In total, 20 universities will participate in the two phases of the Project.**

*European Investment Bank (EIB) is investing **EUR 120 mln** in a **comprehensive thermal refurbishment of six Ukrainian universities** in the framework of the Ukraine Higher Education Project, which is an integral part of the joint EIB and EU support provided to Ukraine in the field of energy efficiency. The Project is also co-financed by the Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (Nefco) in the amount of EUR 30 mln.*

About **EUR 49 mln** will be invested in the **six state higher education establishments in Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Lviv, Poltava, Sumy and Vinnytsia**. On July 26, 2021, they signed the contracts with Gopa Infra (Germany), which was selected as Design and Supervision Consultant in the framework of the Project implementation. In addition, these universities will receive the **grant funding** in the amount of **EUR 10 mln** through the Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership (E5P) Fund. The main partner of the Project is the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

Chernihiv Polytechnic National University, Lviv Polytechnic National University, National Technical University “Kharkiv Polytechnic Institute”, National University “Yuri Kondratiuk Poltava Polytechnic”, Sumy State University and Vinnytsia National Technical University actively participate in the **Phase I of the Ukraine Higher Education Project** to improve their teaching and research facilities and dormitories. They will soon be joined by eight more higher education establishments, which were selected on a competitive basis to take part in the Phase II of the Project. It is an important step on the way to advancing energy efficiency and climate change adaptation in the higher education sector in Ukraine. The implementation of thermal modernisation works at the Phase I universities is expected to start in the fall of 2022.

The investments in the **comprehensive energy efficient refurbishment of 86 buildings** will help significantly reduce heating and electricity costs, provide comfortable studying and living conditions for students and allocate the saved funds in the development of technical infrastructure and research facilities of the participating universities. At the same time, they will get more than **19,200 tons or 48%** of annual greenhouse gases (**GHG**) **emission reduction, decrease of energy consumption** by almost **44%** and over **EUR 3.5 mln of annual budget savings** as compared to baseline consumption.

**Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine Serhiy Shkarlet** said: *“Thanks to the cooperation with the European Investment Bank and with the support of the European Union, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine is launching a comprehensive modernisation of the infrastructure of higher education establishments. It will help improve studying, working, hygienic and sanitary conditions at the universities, enhance the quality of educational process, expand opportunities for academic and research activities, reduce operational costs and achieve significant savings. In addition, energy-efficient, environmentally responsible and climate-resilient universities will contribute to the transition to green economy and sustainable development of local communities and the whole country.”*

**Head of the EIB Resident Representation for Ukraine Jean-Erik de Zagon** said: *“Ukrainian youth is the future of the country and needs to be provided with high-quality education as well as with a comfortable environment for learning. A comprehensive thermal refurbishment of Ukrainian universities presents significant opportunities for higher education facilities to attract new students and to reduce utility, operation, and maintenance costs. It also contributes to the green transition of the education sector. It is certainly good news for students, teachers and the environment.”*

**Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine Rémi Duflot** said: *“The EU strongly supports energy-efficiency oriented transformation in all sectors of the Ukrainian economy. This project targets universities and higher-education facilities with investments in thermal insulation, modern heating, ventilation and lighting systems. Apart from its direct result in terms of energy saved and emissions avoided, it also brings about social benefits by providing comfortable, efficient, and environmentally and climate friendly facilities for students and faculty. We look forward to a quick and smooth implementation of the new designs in practice.”*

### **Background information**

**European Investment Bank (EIB)** is the long-term lending institution of the European Union owned by its Member States. It makes long-term finance available for sound investment in order to contribute towards EU policy goals. The EIB has worked with Ukraine since 2007. Ukraine has been the main recipient country of EIB support in the Eastern Neighbourhood, accounting for more than 60% of EIB lending activity in this region. The Bank focuses on social and economic infrastructure, transport and connectivity, local private sector development, energy efficiency, climate action, and innovation. Today, the EIB is one of the largest investors in Ukraine with signed projects of about EUR 7 bn. In the last year, the Bank increased investments to EUR 1.1 Bn, which is more than any other international financial institution.

**Ukraine Higher Education Project**, which aims to refurbish teaching, research and supporting facilities of selected universities in Ukraine, is a part of the joint European Investment Bank (EIB) and European Union (EU) financial support provided to Ukraine in the field of energy efficiency under the delegation agreement. The Project provides for improving energy efficiency of the universities' buildings, reducing their running costs, increasing the quality of teaching, learning, academic, research and residential facilities.

**Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership (E5P)** is a multi-donor and multi-IFI support fund created thanks to an initiative of the Swedish Presidency of the European Union in 2009. The E5P fund for Ukraine totals EUR 137.5 mln representing pledges made by the European Union, as the largest contributor, Sweden as the largest bilateral contributor to the fund, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, United States, Denmark, Poland, Finland, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Ireland and Slovakia. Ukraine is also a donor to the E5P with EUR 20 mln. The E5P grants are used alongside the IFI loans to support municipal infrastructure investments that will boost Ukraine's energy efficiency, while also having a beneficial impact on the environment and combating climate change.

**The Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (Nefco)** is an international financial institution that finances small and medium-sized green projects with the aim to demonstrate new technologies or solutions with scale-up potential. Ukraine Higher Education Project is co-financed by Nefco with EUR 30 mln loan to Ukraine, signed in December 2017. The project's objective is to achieve energy efficiency and energy savings supported by reduction of GHG emissions in the universities while improving the quality of teaching, learning space social and academic research facilities and reducing the operating costs of the universities. The five sub-projects in five universities – Dragomanov NPU, Kyiv (DNPU), Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University, Ivano-Frankivsk, Uzhhorod National University and Kyiv National University of Civil Engineering and Architecture (KNUBA) – worth about EUR 25 mln, are at the moment in various phases of implementation.

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