

1.8 EU Rulebook for Investment in Energy Performance of Buildings

Renovation of public buildings is an essential contribution to greening our planet. The European Commission is contributing via a revised financial and regulatory framework to encourage these investments at the local level across Europe.

Energy performance contracts in the public sector offer a practical solution to make public buildings and other public infrastructure more energy efficient, as the initial investment can be covered by a private partner and repaid by guaranteed energy savings. However, costs and accounting can be complicated for public authorities, and the decisions to enter into an Energy Performance Contract need careful consideration.

Some national **governments have been withholding much-needed energy saving measures**, due to uncertainties about whether they will add to their national deficit and debt figures. They **need guidance** to allow them to take an informed decision on whether or not to enter into an Energy Performance Contract.

There is therefore significant potential to **boost the market** for energy performance contract providers, **including small and medium-sized companies** across all Member States and regions.

40%
of Europe's energy
consumption is from
the building sector



30% = **3x more**
more energy efficiency investment



II ➔ *What is the European Commission doing next?*

At the request of Member States, the European Commission has worked with National Statistical Institutes through its statistical office Eurostat to reflect on the most appropriate recording of these contracts in government accounts.

To stimulate investment, Eurostat is releasing a revised guidance note on the **recording of energy performance contracts in government accounts**. This clarifies the statistical recording of such contracts, including the circumstances in which they can be recorded **off government balance sheets**. This will make it easier for municipalities to use energy performance contracts **to make hospitals, schools or social housing more energy efficient**, with **no negative impact on public deficit and debt**.



Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis and
Commissioner Marianne Thyssen

