



The European Federation of Intelligent Energy Efficiency Services calls for a balanced approach coherent with the “*Energy Efficiency First*” principle in view of the start of the EED and RED trilogue negotiations

[EFIEES](#), representing energy efficiency service companies (EESCs) across Europe, welcomes the upcoming start of interinstitutional negotiations on the [Energy Efficiency Directive](#) (EED) and the [Renewable Energy Sources Directive](#) (RED), underlying the importance of ensuring an ambitious as well as balanced approach for the support of two sides of the same coin on the EU decarbonisation pathway: enhanced energy efficiency and the progressive uptake of renewable energy.

In line with this, **EFIEES calls for the confirmation of the binding nature of the EU energy efficiency and renewable targets**, as recently affirmed by the plenary vote of the European Parliament, recognising the *Energy Efficiency First* principle as not only complementary, but key to the effective development and deployment of renewables in our energy system.

Specifically, regarding the **EED**, EFIEES calls for maintaining the **extension of the 1.5% annual energy savings obligation in Article 7, with no loopholes and both supply-side measures as well as end-use actions included**, to actively contribute to meet this requirement. Efficient district heating on the one hand and energy efficiency services on the other are thus effective tools, which, along with other measures, can play a critical role in helping Member States fulfil their obligations by allowing for energy efficiency improvements to be achieved along the whole energy chain.

With regard to the **RED**, EFIEES welcomes the progress made by both the European Parliament and the Council in the revision of this Directive and, particularly, the new provisions addressing the heating and cooling sector. Among them, EFIEES strongly supports the maintenance of the inclusion of **the efficient recovery of waste heat/cold** along with the recognition of **the role of efficient district heating and cooling networks** as major actors for the decarbonisation of districts and cities, thus pushing for their further development and modernisation.

About EFIEES

The purpose of the *European Federation of Intelligent Energy Efficiency Services* is to promote the activities of Energy Efficiency Services Companies (EESCs) in the European Union. EESCs design and implement practical measures to improve the energy efficiency of their customers by means of long-term contracts. Their objective is to optimise the energy management of end-users.