



## EIT InnoEnergy welcomes former Polish Minister and Industry Executive, Mikołaj Budzanowski, as its new Board Member and CEO for Central Europe

*The leading global energy investor and pioneer in industrial scale-ups expands its leadership team to accelerate the energy transition in Central Europe.*

**Kraków, 07 December 2024:** [EIT InnoEnergy](#), the leading innovation engine in sustainable energy, supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology ([EIT](#)), a body of the European Union, announces the appointment of Mikołaj Budzanowski as its new Board Member and CEO of EIT InnoEnergy Central Europe. Effective January 2025, this strategic appointment is set to enhance the organisation's impact on the growth of cleantech across Central Europe, driving significant advancements towards sustainable industrial practices.

Budzanowski, one of Poland's foremost experts in industrial transformation, is a strong leader with extensive experience in the energy sector and industrial innovation in Central Europe. He joins InnoEnergy following recent roles as Chief Innovation Officer at Boryszew S.A. and Chief Executive Officer at Boryszew Green Energy, where he spearheaded investments in new technologies and hard-to-abate industries.

His previous tenure as Poland's Minister of State Treasury, along with various strategic roles within government, equips him with unique insights and capabilities to drive InnoEnergy's key projects in Central Europe. Since its April 2024 launch by InnoEnergy, Budzanowski has also served on the Board of Directors at Repono, a pan-European storage owner and operator.

Diego Pavia, CEO of EIT InnoEnergy, commented on the appointment: "Mikołaj's rich background in driving governmental and private sector energy and industrial initiatives across the world, not only in Europe, makes him the ideal leader to propel our Central European operations and contribute to InnoEnergy's Vision 2030 in his position of Executive Board member. Mikołaj is a doer, bringing transformational initiatives to successful execution, which is a key binomial in Europe's industrial transformation. He is a rare hybrid profile combining public administration and private industrial experience, at the highest levels, and with outstanding results in both environments".

Mikołaj Budzanowski expressed his enthusiasm about his new role, continuing: "Central Europe is ripe with potential as we navigate the crucial shift from traditional energy sources to renewables. The urgency of our mission to transition to a sustainable energy system has never been more critical. I look forward to leveraging my experience to foster collaboration and innovation across Central Europe, accelerating our path to a net-zero economy."



The appointment follows [investment from leading Polish industrial group, Boryszew S.A. in October 2024](#), marking the completion of InnoEnergy's private placement and top up round. InnoEnergy's continued commitment to the Central European market is reflected in its strong local portfolio and its ongoing efforts to drive sustainable and innovative energy solutions across the region since 2010.

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## About EIT InnoEnergy

[EIT InnoEnergy](#) operates at the centre of the energy transition and is the leading innovation engine in sustainable energy. It brings the technology, business model innovation and skills required to accelerate the green deal, progress towards Europe's decarbonisation and re-industrialisation goals, whilst also improving energy security.

Recognised as Europe's top Cleantech and Blue Economy venture capital firm and investor in 2023 by [Startup Genome](#), one of Europe's top 10 most active deeptech investors by [Sifted](#) in 2023 and the most active investor in the energy sector in 2022 by [Pitchbook](#), InnoEnergy backs innovations across a range of areas. These include energy storage, transport and mobility, renewables, energy efficiency, hard to abate industries, smart grids and sustainable buildings and cities.

InnoEnergy has a portfolio of more than 200 companies, which are estimated to generate €110 billion in revenue and save 2.1G tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e accumulatively by 2030. Collectively, these companies have raised more than €25 billion in investment to date.

InnoEnergy is the driving force behind three strategic European initiatives which include the [European Battery Alliance](#) (EBA), [the European Green Hydrogen Acceleration Center](#) (EGHAC) and the [European Solar Photovoltaic Industry Alliance](#) (ESIA).

InnoEnergy was established in 2010 and is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology ([EIT](#)), a body of the European Union. Since its inception, InnoEnergy has screened more than 7,000 start-ups, launched more than 300 products to market and overseen its portfolio companies filing 370+ patents. Today, InnoEnergy has a trusted ecosystem of 1200+ partners and 39 shareholders and a 200+ strong team with offices across Europe and in Boston, US.

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