



## PRESS RELEASE

### LDK Consultants

June 2009

#### **LDK Consultants has been awarded two regional energy contracts by the EC external Cooperation Programmes (Europeaid)**

LDK Consultants was recently assigned, following international bids, two significant regional energy projects in the Newly Independent States (NIS). Both projects are part of the INOGATE Programme, which is a trailblazer for energy co-operation in the European Union's eastern neighbourhood. INOGATE originally aimed at promoting the regional integration of pipeline systems and facilitating oil and gas transport within the NIS countries and onwards to EU markets, though its scope has now been extended to cover issues in relation to electricity, renewable energy and energy efficiency. In addition, the programme encourages private investments and support from international funding organisations.

The project under the title Strengthening of the INOGATE Technical Secretariat (ITS) in support of the Baku Initiative was assigned to LDK Consultants, as leader of an international joint venture. The project, to be completed by 2012, has a total budget of 2,934,000€ and intends to promote the exchange of experiences among INOGATE partner countries, and with the EU, as well as develop partnerships with relevant energy stakeholders and improve coordination and development of INOGATE activities. It also aims to increase information flow and the accessibility to relevant information sources, as well as to provide targeted assistance to catalyse country reforms.

Furthermore, LDK Consultants, as partner in an international joint venture, was assigned the project of provision of Support to Energy Market Integration and Sustainable Energy in the NIS (SEMISE). The project, also to be completed by 2012, is an integral part of INOGATE activities and has an overall budget of 5,670,000€. Pursuant to the Ministerial Declaration at the Baku Initiative and the subsequent Energy Road Map agreed in Astana in 2006, the SEMISE project has a mandate to assist the INOGATE countries in the process of Energy Markets Convergence in the sectors of electricity, oil & gas, as well as to support energy investments in cooperation with IFI's, such as the WB, EIB and EBRD, which are active in the region. It also aims to promote the development of sustainable energy policies and provide assistance to the partner countries in their implementation.