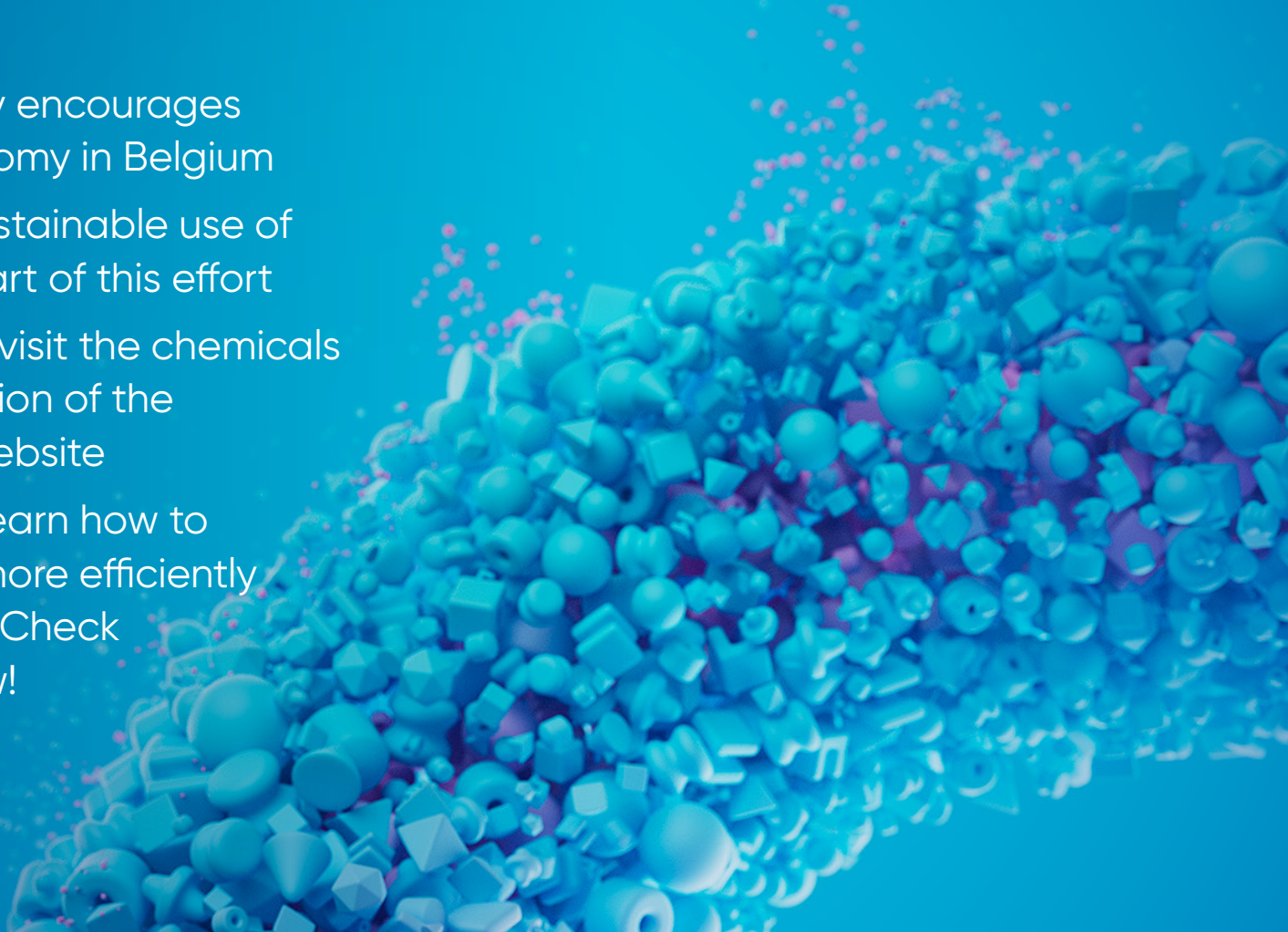


The FPS Economy encourages
the circular economy in Belgium

Promoting the sustainable use of
plastics is also part of this effort

For more details, visit the chemicals
and plastics section of the
Go for Circular website

Do you want to learn how to
handle plastics more efficiently
in your business? Check
out this slideshow!



A WORLD WITHOUT PLASTICS IS UNIMAGINABLE

Plastics are used in many industries, such as:

- medical
- energy
- construction
- transport
- infrastructure
- agri-food
- ...

AND YET WE ASPIRE TO REDUCE THE USE OF PLASTICS AND MAKE IT MORE SUSTAINABLE IN OUR DAILY LIVES

This is essential because:

- Over 460 million tonnes of plastics are produced worldwide annually, which is **twice the amount produced 20 years ago**.
- If current trends continue, plastics production is projected to reach **1,231 million tonnes annually by 2060**.
- Currently, **only 9% of global plastic waste is being recycled**.
- However, with ongoing improvements in production, consumption, and recycling, it is anticipated that **17% of plastic waste will be recycled by 2060**.

EUROPE IS DOING BETTER THAN THE GLOBAL AVERAGE, YET IMPROVEMENTS ARE STILL NECESSARY

- **58.7 million tonnes of plastics** were produced in 2022.
- **18.5% of plastics are recycled** (both pre- and post-consumer), and 1% is biobased.

BELGIUM IS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS IN SHIFTING TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS



40% of plastic waste
in Belgium is recycled.

Source: Fost Plus and Agoria



BUT IT'S CLEAR THAT WE NEED TO STEP UP OUR EFFORTS WORLDWIDE, ACROSS EUROPE, AND IN BELGIUM

The FPS Economy collaborates with numerous policy and industry partners **to increase awareness and provide support for companies** involved in plastics production or use. Our goal is to support and inform companies about:

- **extending the lifespan** of plastic products
- using **recycled or recyclable materials**
- investing in **ecodesign**
- establishing **sustainable partnerships** with the industry and policymakers
- **guiding consumers** towards more sustainable practices for plastic products

• ...

The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of numerous small, colorful geometric shapes (spheres, cubes, triangles) in shades of pink, purple, and teal. These shapes are arranged in dense, flowing trails that create a sense of movement and depth, resembling a particle simulation or a data visualization. The overall color palette is bright and energetic, with a strong emphasis on the pink and purple tones.

THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY IS EQUALLY DRIVEN TO IMPROVE ITS PRACTICES

Therefore, the members of **Plastics Europe** have committed to taking action and measures in the short, medium, and long term.

These goals were outlined in the Plastics Transition Roadmap.



THE GOAL OF THE PLASTICS TRANSITION ROADMAP

“Developing a plan to achieve a 28% reduction in CO₂ emissions throughout the plastics industry by 2030, aiming for net-zero emissions by 2050. Moreover, this puts us on track to have **circular plastics** account for 25% of Europe’s plastics consumption by 2030. By 2050, they need to account for 65% of all plastics consumption.”

HOW DOES THE INDUSTRY INTEND TO ACHIEVE THIS?

By fulfilling three ambitions:

- **Make plastics circular**
- Help to achieve **a net-zero lifecycle**
- Encourage the **sustainable use** of plastics

However, the industry has a clear request for policymakers:

- **Enhance cooperation across the value chain** to speed up progress!

HOW CAN YOU, AS A BUSINESS OWNER, ADDRESS THIS?

While the objectives of the Plastics Transition Roadmap are ambitious, they **offer valuable inspiration** for implementing more **sustainable** practices for plastics in your own business.



MAKING PLASTICS CIRCULAR

Circularity is one of the fastest, most affordable, effective, and reliable methods for reducing CO₂ emissions within the plastics system. Therefore: We aspire to achieve **65% circular plastics by 2050**.

How?

- **Increase plastics reuse** and therefore reduce their disposal
- **Design products** for easy recyclability
- Work with plastics sourced from **biomass, captured CO₂**, or chemical/mechanical **recycling**

Plastics Europe highlights the importance of government support and collaboration within the value chain for achieving these goals.

CONTRIBUTING TO ACHIEVING A NET-ZERO LIFECYCLE

Achieving a **28% reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2030** and **net-zero CO₂ emissions by 2050** can be accomplished by:

- implementing **energy-efficient measures**, such as a more efficient and circular use of resources (see previous slide)
- using **renewable and low-carbon fuel sources** (see previous slide)
- **electrifying** the production process and implementing **CO₂ capture and storage** techniques

ENCOURAGING SUSTAINABLE USE OF PLASTICS

It's essential to ensure that plastics do not have a negative impact on humans and the environment.

How to achieve this?

- Assess **the potential risks of the plastics** you use, considering their impact on both humans and the environment.
- Clearly **communicate** this to partners in the value chain and other interested parties.
- **Collaborate** with suppliers, buyers, and consumers to mitigate leaks and reduce waste.

AND NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

Did this **inspire** you to adopt more sustainable practices regarding plastics in your business?

Read all the tips & tricks in detail in the chemicals and plastics section of **Go for Circular** and on **Plastics Europe**.

