

Position Paper

Defossilization of Dutch industry and society

In recent years, the Top Sector Chemistry has contributed intensively to the development of knowledge and innovation in favor of the climate and circular objectives of 2030 and 2050. Inspired by the agendas of the top sector, important topics such as green hydrogen, circular plastics, critical raw materials and biobased materials get support with extensive public-private consortia and financing programs.

Collaboration is a condition for progress in knowledge and innovation, in order to make the transition from a fossil-driven industry to a climate-neutral industry and circular economy that is as much as possible. That has always been the strength of the Netherlands: jointly arriving at inventive solutions with diverse interests on the table.

The Top Sector Chemistry contributes to this with its connecting role. In order to achieve innovation and make major steps in the energy and raw materials transition, no one can be excluded from collaboration and all parties in the quadruple helix are important and are therefore invited to participate.

At the same time, time pressure on the one hand and the complexity of challenges on the other hand require making clear choices, transparency and analytically critical assessments. For example, the initiatives and calls launched by the Top Sector Chemistry must lead to the participation of private parties that want to make a demonstrable sustainability impact and contribute to the circular economy. In doing so, it must be possible to demonstrate that it can contribute to the transitions and to the design of Dutch industry, economy and society of the future.

The Top Sector Chemistry will continue to take its connecting and motivating role very seriously in the future and see it as an important driver of the change that we as the Netherlands and Europe strive for.