SUSTAINABILITY AND BUSINESS: HOW BELGIAN COMPANIES CAN ACCELERATE SDG PROGRESS THROUGH INNOVATION, LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY

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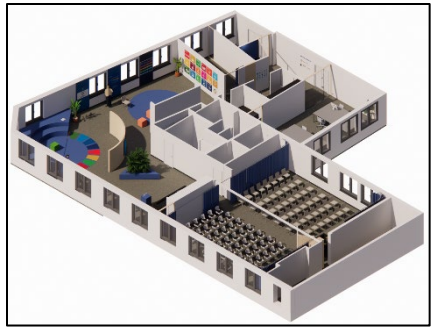
CAPACITY BUILDING ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PEACE AND SECURITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

PCA2030 Trajectory :
Become SDG-Proof!

NEW: Training Centre :
Lectures, workshops & conferences,



SDG Forum Belgium:
Co-organiser of this yearly event

Micro-Credential Sustainability Coordinator (NL & EN)
Lecturer at HOGENT

Working Visits :
Global reach

Learning Networks :
Flemish Agencies, HEI,
ESG Frontrunners &
SDG Ambassador Community

UN Specific Days :
Human Rights Day, UN Day, etc.

United Nations Association Belgium Flanders :
Cooperation

cifal
Flanders

OUR SPEAKERS

Pascaline Mbida

International Organization for Migration

Christophe Yvetot

UN Industrial Development Organization

Muriel Sacré

BESIX

Griet Cattaert

United Nations Global Compact

Steven Beckers

Bopro

Yves Peiffer

Elep

- How can we better connect industrial innovation, circular design, and technology transfer to help Belgian companies transition to greener, resource-efficient production?

- What collaborations with UN organisations, such as UNIDO or pilot initiatives could help companies like yours close material loops and scale circular practices beyond national borders?

- How does the UN Global Compact support Belgian companies in applying the Ten Principles to strengthen responsible sourcing, transparency, and due diligence across their value chains?

- How are Belgian companies, such as yours, translating the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact into concrete actions that make supply chains not only compliant, but also fair and transparent?

- How can large and internationally active companies, such as BESIX, further engage with or support IOM's efforts on ethical recruitment and labour mobility pathways, helping to create fair and sustainable solutions that also respond to Belgium's skills needs?

- How can large international companies like BESIX, operating through complex subcontracting chains, engage with IOM to strengthen ethical recruitment and fair labour practices, ensuring that all workers across their projects benefit from safe, transparent, and inclusive employment opportunities?

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- What is the biggest challenge your organisation faces in advancing the SDGs — and where do you see the greatest opportunities to work together across sectors to overcome them?

Pascaline Mbida

Project Assistant

https://belgium.iom.int/

Ms. Pascaline Mbida holds a degree in computer science and has extensive experience in the social sector. She possesses solid expertise in human-centred service design and in facilitating the integration of migrants into the labour market. Since 2024, Ms. Mbida has been serving with the International Organization for Migration at the country office for Belgium and Luxembourg, within the Labour Migration and Social Inclusion Unit. She also serves as one of the office's focal points for migration and climate-related matters.

Christophe Yvetot

Representative to the European Union

UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Progress by innovation

https://www.unido.org/

Christophe Yvetot is a United Nations diplomat with over 25 years of experience in mobilizing governments, the private sector and civil society for clean industrialization and jobs at global level. After teaching at the University René Descartes in Paris, he has served in leading roles in the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

As UNIDO Representative in Brussels, he leads UNIDO's strategic cooperation with EU institutions. He has particularly contributed to the negotiation of partnerships and agreement with the European Union that benefit around 120 countries around the world for the promotion and implementation of the circular economy approach, the cleaning and decarbonization of industrial production and related jobs. He also promotes the digital transition through Industry 4.0 and the use of AI in manufacturing to build efficient, climate-resilient industrial systems and enhance global competitiveness.

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Muriel Sacré

Sustainability & ESG Senior Officer

BESIX

https://www.besix.com/nl

Muriel Sacré, Senior Sustainability & ESG Officer at BESIX Group, brings over 15 years of experience embedding ESG principles into business strategy. She drives initiatives aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), fostering resilient and responsible growth.

BESIX Group has been a committed member of the UN Global Compact since 2016 and actively supports the SDGs since 2017. Recognized as an SDG Pioneer, BESIX is now preparing its trajectory to become an SDG Champion with the support of CIFAL Flanders, of which it has been a member since 2023.

Muriel's expertise spans stakeholder engagement, sustainability reporting, and integrating ESG across complex business environments.

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Steven Beckers

Circular Economy Expert & Developer

bopro

https://www.bopro.be/nl

Steven, architect for some 40 years in Belgium, Switzerland, UK, France is Pioneer of Positive Impact Circular Economy and Cradle to Cradle (C2C) in Architecture, Urban Planning and Construction.

Lecturer & trainer in Circular Economy at Green Building Council and universities.

Steven develops practical and viable solutions combining multiple aspects to generate positive impacts.

He is convinced that there are more benefits in developing links between innovative solutions than in each separately, taking advantage of economies of scale, avoiding redundancy and waste while preserving local resources and labour.

As Bopro Independant Senior Expert, Steven advises on practical circular solutions based on realistic but innovative combinations and tools inspired by the UN SDGs.

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Griet Cattaert

Regional Head for Western Europe and North America

United Nations Global Compact

https://unglobalcompact.org/

Griet Cattaert is the Regional Head for Western Europe and North America at the UN Global Compact.

In this role, she coordinates collaboration with Country Networks in the region and promotes coordination, cooperation, and strategic partnerships with key stakeholders — including businesses, governments, the EU, the UN, and civil society.

Previously, she worked at the UN Global Compact headquarters in New York, where she served as Head of Labour Rights, coordinating UNGC's work on labor rights and decent work.

Before that, Griet was active at the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva, New York, and Brussels, where she worked since 2006 on responsible business conduct, social protection, and migration.

She also worked as a CSR Manager at JBC, Belgium's largest fashion retailer, and began her career as a researcher at KU Leuven, conducting policy research on socio-economic topics.

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Yves Peiffer

Managing Director

https://www.elep.be/

Yves Peiffer is owner of the SME "Elep" , manufacturing envelopes and labels, located in the north of Belgium.

Yves is M Eng of the Military Academy Brussels and Master in Ind. Mgt (KULeuven) and holds a MBA of Vlerick Leuven.

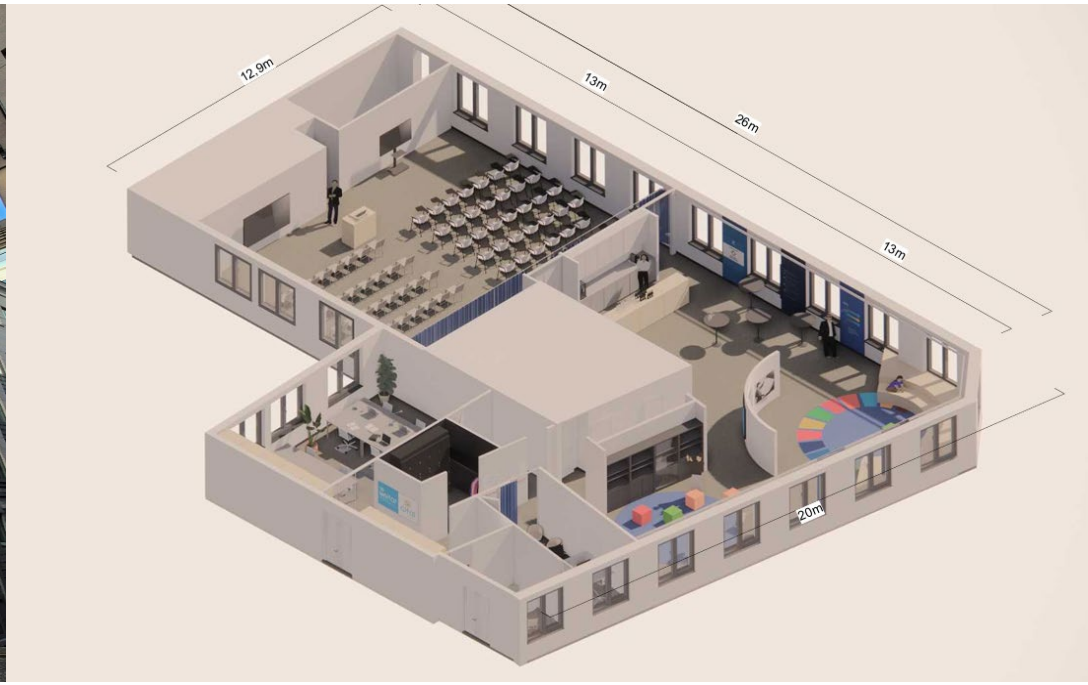
After a carrier in the Belgian Air Force, he took over the company Elep in 1993 from a Dutch group.

With a long history in sustainability, Elep is one of the 4 first SDG Ambassadors worldwide. It shares and promotes the SDG values in business.

CIFAL FLANDERS 2.0

NEW OFFICE & TRAINING CENTRE AT VOKA IN BRUSSELS

Flanders' Chamber of Commerce and Industry



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