

# Converting the Chemical Industry into a Circular Economy

## Lecture and Panel discussion

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### **Keynote Title**

"Converting the Chemical Industry into a Circular Economy: Center for the Transformation of Chemistry"

### **Abstract**

Chemistry is ubiquitous in our daily lives. Chemical industry is also one of Germany's largest sectors in terms of revenue. However, the industry is dependent on fossil fuels and generates large amounts of CO<sub>2</sub>, toxic waste and wastewater.

For these reasons, we need to completely rethink our approach for moving forward in this important industry. The [Center for the Transformation of Chemistry](#) (CTC) will strive to transform our society into a circular economy with a chemical industry based on renewable raw materials and recycling as its foundation.

The products and industries affected range from health to energy, fertilizers and consumer products. To establish this sustainable approach to chemistry, the CTC will take a transdisciplinary approach to partnerships with academics, industry and communities. The transfer of scientific knowledge will be regionally anchored by the CTC. In this way, a new place of cutting-edge research will be created in Central Germany, with specialists not only from the region but from around the world.

In September 2022, the Center for the Transformation of Chemistry was one of two concepts that won the ideas competition "Science Creating Prospects for the Region!" organized by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Behind this is a joint initiative of the federal government, the Free State of Saxony and the state of Saxony-Anhalt and has provided funding of €1.25 billion.