Context of the study

The team Plastics of OVAM wants to have a vision text and action plan 2019-2024 for plastics. For the elaboration of this text, OVAM requested support to identify and analyze the current post-consumer plastic recycling landscape in Flanders.

Following tasks were done:

1. Definition of plastic recycling value chain
2. Exploration of current plastic recycling landscape with a focus on a selected type of polymer: POLYOLEFIN

Policy context

Three important policy changes in the near future may influence the plastic recycling landscape:

1. Import ban of China for (highly) polluted plastic waste, including foils - by the end of 2017
2. Sorting mixed plastics from residual waste (2018) will increase the amount of collected mixed plastics for recycling.

Potential of POLYOLEFIN recycling

Based on the available information and on interviews with key persons involved in plastic recycling (Plarebel and Feder-plast), polyolefins are considered as the type of plastic with the highest potential for recycling in Flanders. Poly-olefins is still a market in evo-lution due to policy decisions with room for changes.

Furthermore, the whole value chain of this material is available in Flanders and this can lead to opportunities. See map for locations.