PROJECT PROGRESS

Glass sector

The use of glass in manufacturing, building, and consumption processes continues to be widespread due to its lightweight properties and high-quality glazing. Furthermore, glass is a 100% recyclable material, contributing to the circular economy principles of a sustainable society. The purpose of the report is to provide an overview of the current state of the glass sector in Europe, including information on its energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions profile. The report covers various subsectors or products within the glass industry, detailing their production processes and energy consumption.

The available information highlights the use of high-temperature melting furnaces as one of the heat-intensive processes, accounting for 1% of the total industrial energy share. Most furnaces are fueled by natural gas, fuel oil, or electricity. The report emphasizes the importance of gradually transitioning to electricity and hydrogen as it becomes available to achieve net zero emissions. Glass manufacturing companies are energy-intensive industries, and energy costs have a significant impact on their operations. Given the sector's interlinkages with other industrial sectors, it has both economic and strategic importance for Europe.



Figure.1 Potential route to net zero by 2050 (Source: Glass sector NetZero strategy)

 \bigcirc

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N.952936.