Directives on Swiss Resource and Waste Management 2030

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The enclosed directives have been developed collectively by different organizations from business, private and public disposal industry, society and the public authorities within the scope of the resource trialogue. They are trend-setting for the further development of the Swiss waste and resource management.

The directives

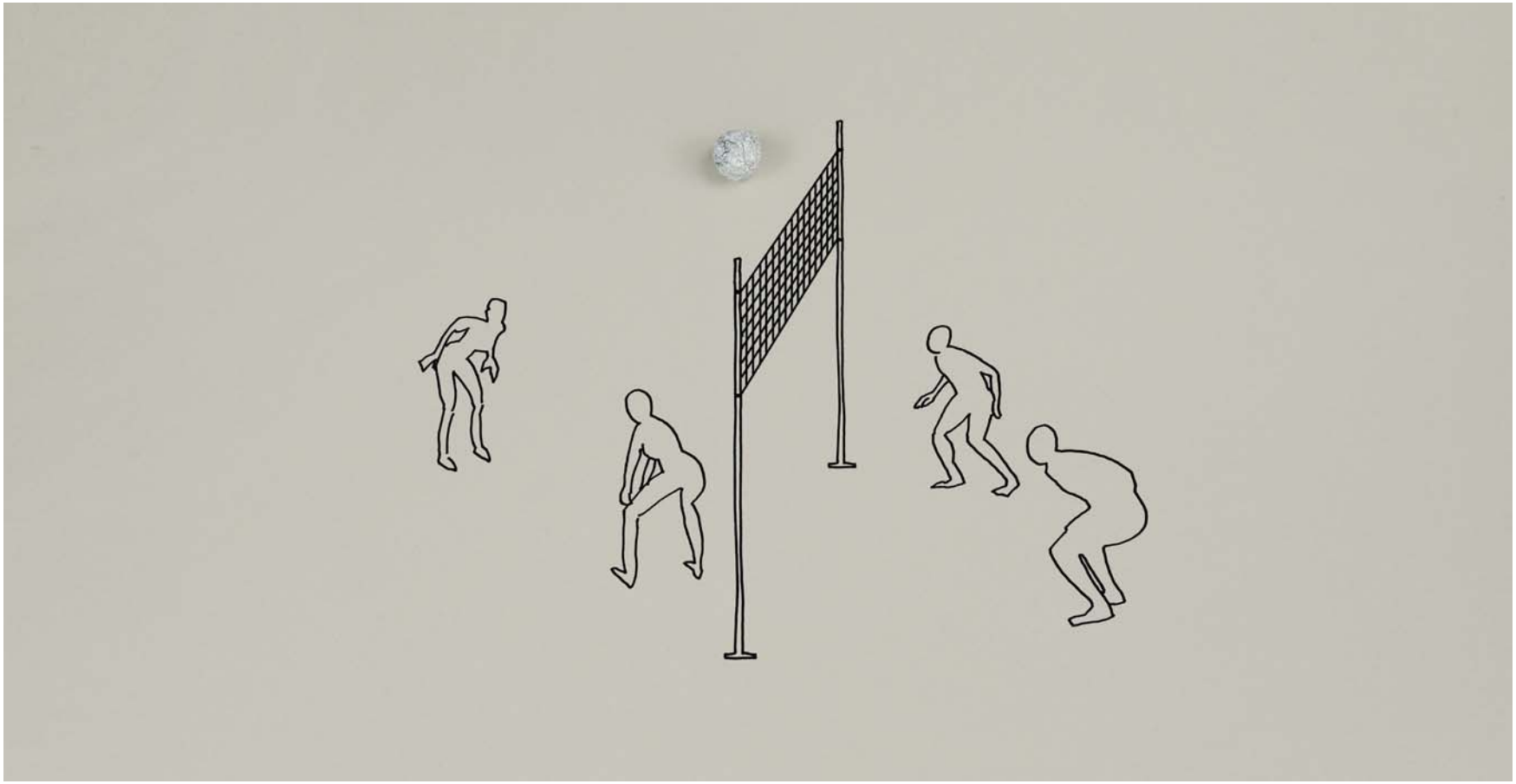
- are intended for politics, business, public authorities (federal, cantonal and municipal level), society as well as research.
- are designed to be a guide for the stakeholders when using resources from primary as well as secondary sources.
- outline a potential way to improve the integration of present-day waste management in the future resource management.
- should show how the responsible stakeholders can optimize their resource management.

1. Business and society act autonomously and of their own free will.

Personal responsibility

- They are committed to using resources carefully in the spirit of personal responsibility.
- The state plays a subsidiary role in the area of waste disposal and only takes on any tasks which the private sector cannot fulfill just as well and as efficiently.
- If the state needs to intervene in Swiss resource and waste management, it does so in accordance with clear and verifiable criteria. The state monitors developments in a proactive manner, intervening where necessary in a coordinating or moderating capacity and, in principle ensures safe disposal by appropriate means.

2. Fair competition between the market participants is sought when recycling waste.



Fair competition

- The same reliable framework conditions apply for all private and state market players.
- The required recycling processes are guaranteed at all times despite fluctuating raw material prices.
- The legislator lays the foundations for the environmentally sound disposal of non-recyclable waste where necessary.

3. Waste generation is avoided whenever possible.

Waste prevention

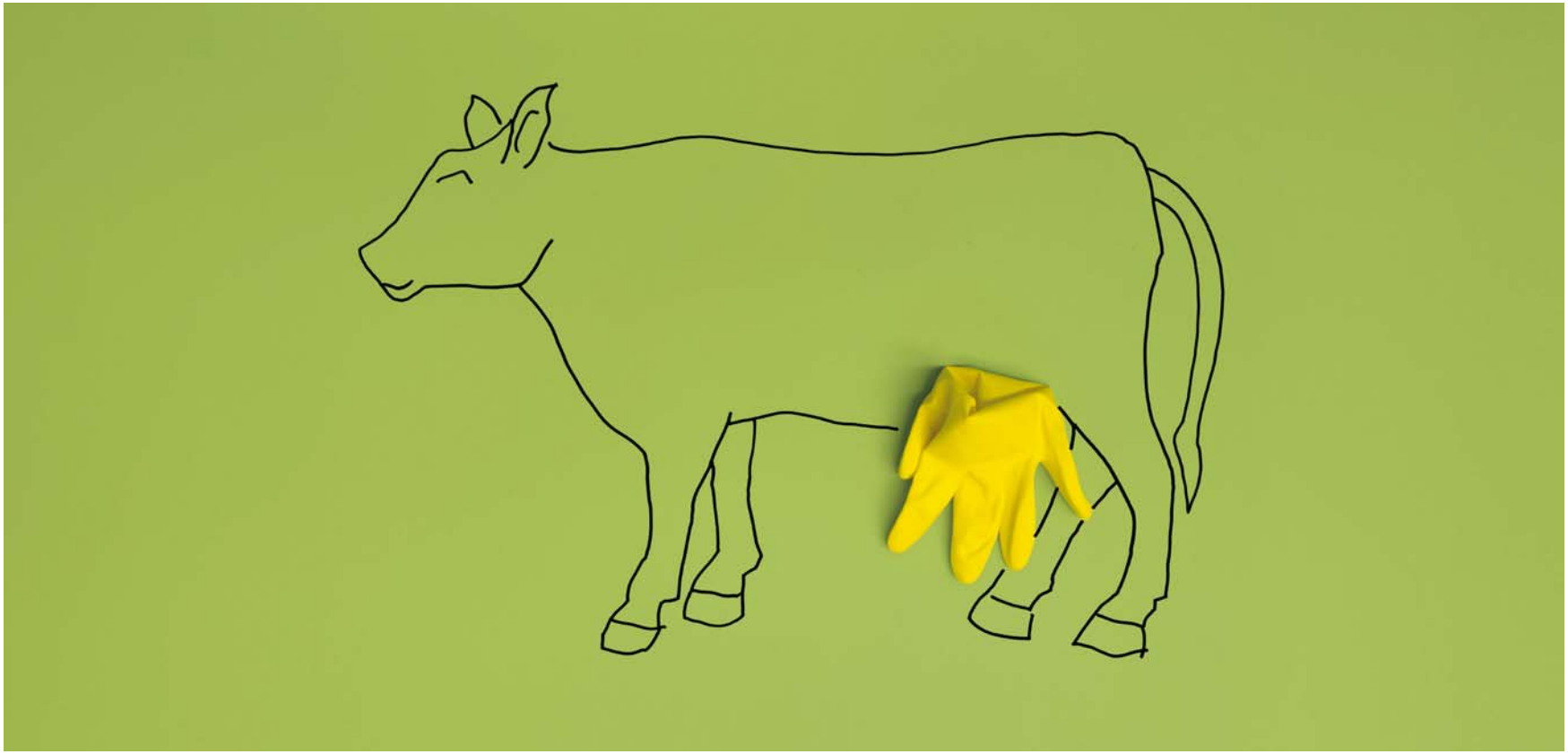
- The goal is to decouple waste generation from the GDP growth.
- Disincentives which cause preventable rubbish are removed.
- Waste prevention must not increase the overall environmental impact.

4. Raw materials circulate optimally in cycles.

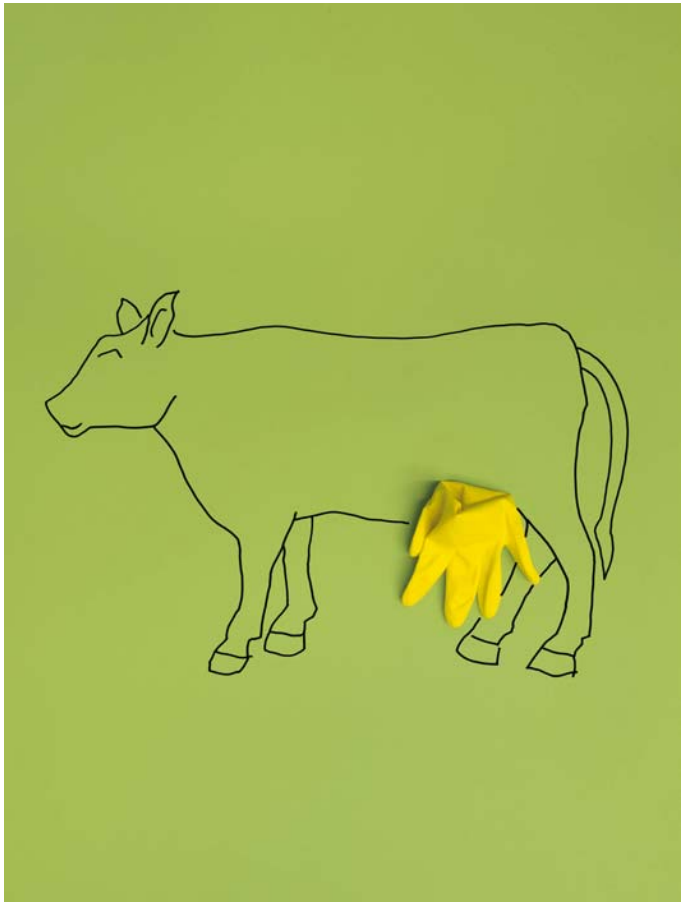
Circular economy

- The circular economy is optimized primarily through the close cooperation of all involved parties.
- Harmful substances are extracted from the cycle.
- If the cycle cannot be closed, cascade utilization should be the goal.
- Production development in the sense of an eco design is a key factor for an optimum circular economy.

5. Producers, consumers and other parties are responsible for the environmental impact of products throughout the entire life cycle.



Responsibility



- Every participant bears the responsibility for his area in the life cycle of a product. This requires good coordination.
- Producers ensure that their products can be sustainably recycled or landfilled. They provide retailers and consumers with the required information to do so.
- Recycling systems guarantee optimum recycling where appropriate.
- Voluntary industry solutions must be checked for relevant material flows which can be concluded.
- Consumers are responsible for ensuring that products are used and disposed correctly.

6. Primary and secondary raw materials in Switzerland are managed sustainably.

Primary and secondary raw materials

- Demolition materials are treated and returned to the cycle.
- Standard-compliant mineral building materials are manufactured from primary and secondary sources.
- Secondary raw materials are preferred over primary raw materials in principle as long as this promotes sustainability.
- The construction standards support the use of the highest possible amounts of secondary construction materials in construction products.
- As the principal, the public authorities are seeking to use secondary construction materials.

7. Measures to prevent or recycle waste are prioritized with respect to their ecological and economical efficiency and effectiveness.

Efficiency and effectiveness

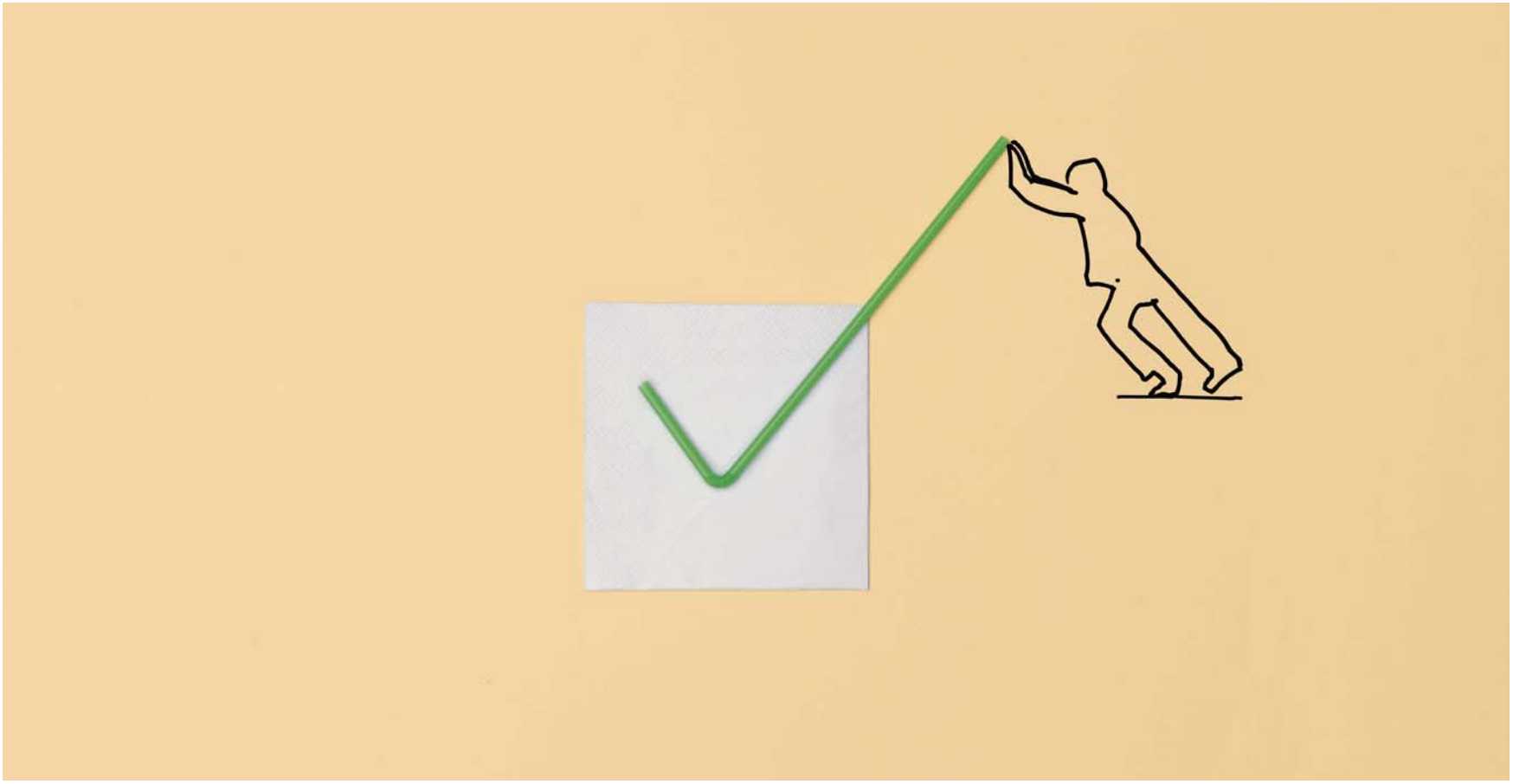
- New cost-effective measures are introduced in priority where they achieve the maximum ecological effect for the lowest possible cost.
- Measures which have already been introduced are periodically examined for efficiency and effectiveness, and adjusted where necessary.
- Recycling orients itself to the ecological and economic optimum and not to recycling quotas.

8. Transparency in the financial and material flows forms the basis for optimization of the disposal systems.

Transparency

- Financing is carried out in accordance with the cost coverage principle and is cause-related.
- Financing and guidance levies are shown separately.
- Operators of systems which are financed through levies disclose their material and financial flows.

9. High standards are maintained for the recycling and treatment of waste.



Standards

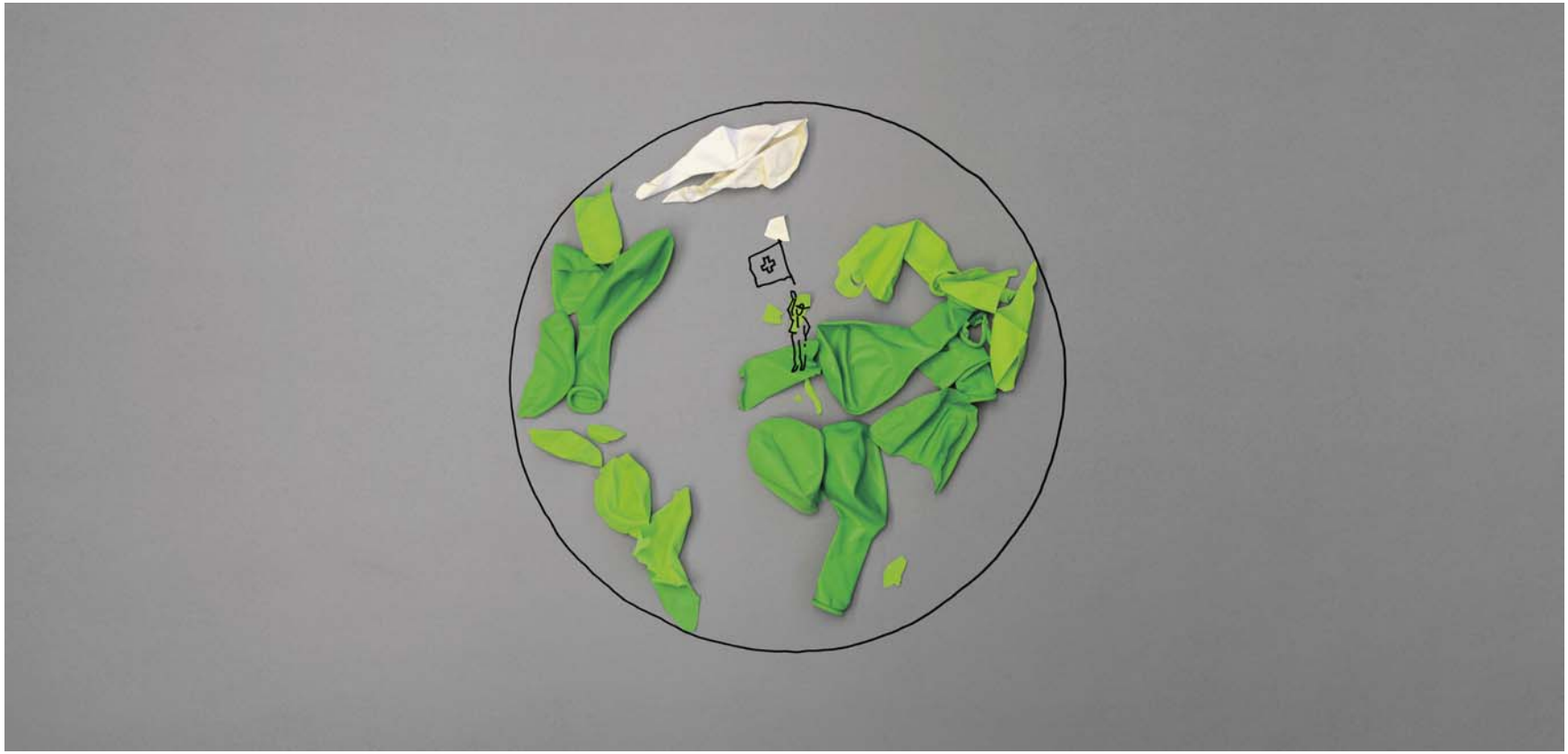
- Waste is recycled and treated while minimizing any harmful and undesirable effects.
- Disposal systems are developing in line with the recognized state-of-the-art in the industry.
- Similar standards to those in Switzerland must be maintained when disposing of Swiss waste abroad.
- Energetic recycling should take place primarily in Switzerland.

10. The design and further development of the disposal systems aim to optimize costs, environmental benefits and customer-friendliness.

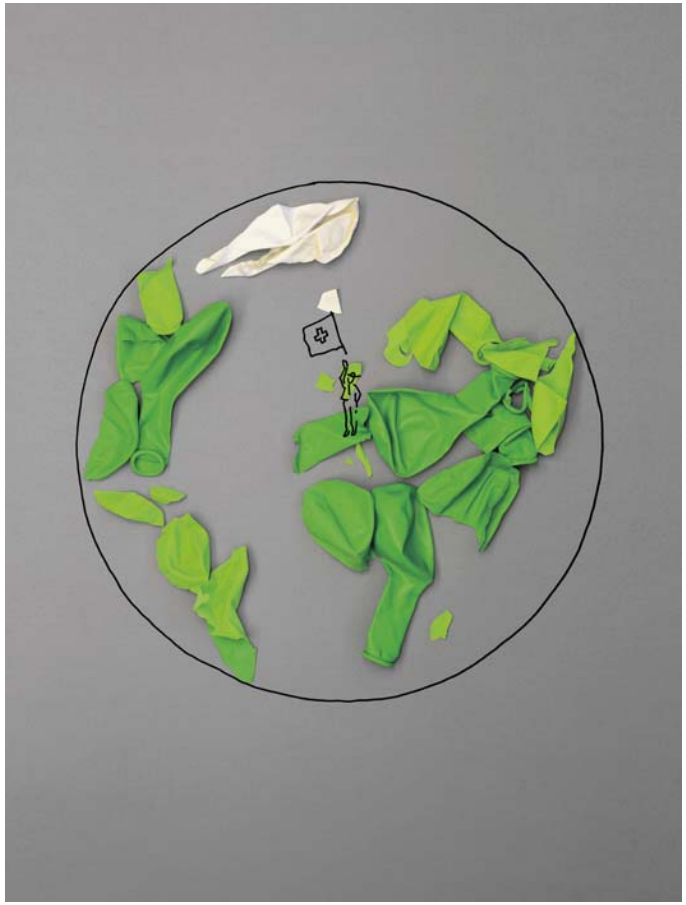
Optimizing

- Disposal systems are designed in such a way that a large amount of the waste can be recycled in an ecologically appropriate manner at a low cost.
- Disposal systems throughout Switzerland are designed to be easy to understand and practical for those handing over the waste.
- Disposal systems complement each other. Nearby countries will be considered where necessary and appropriate.
- Sufficient communication, information and sensitization are important success factors for a well-functioning disposal system.

11. Thanks to innovation and cutting-edge technologies, Swiss resource and waste management is having a huge impact around the world.



Global impact



- Switzerland exports the technologies developed in its resource and waste management.
- Concepts, knowledge and technologies from Swiss resource and waste management are playing their part in solving global challenges.
- The state is campaigning for optimum framework conditions to realize innovative pilot projects.

Published by organizations participating in the resource trialogue

- FOEN [Swiss Federal Office for the Environment]
- cemsuisse [Association of the Swiss Cement Industry]
- economisuisse [Swiss Business Federation]
- ASAC [Association of the Swiss Aggregate and Concrete Industry]
- IG DHS
- KVU [Swiss Conference of Cantonal Environmental Services]
- OKI [Swiss Organization for Management of Municipal Infrastructure]
- Baustoffrecycling Schweiz arv [Construction Materials Recycling Switzerland]
- PUSCH | WWF Switzerland | Cosedec
- Swiss Recycling
- VBSA [Swiss Association of Waste Treatment Plant Operators]
- Host and organizer: Canton of Aargau