

NATIONAL WASTE POLICY ACTION PLAN

2024



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Acknowledgements

This document has been prepared by the Australian, state and territory governments, with input from the Australian Local Government Association and industry.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Contents

- 1 Introduction**
- 2 Targets**
- 3 Moving towards a circular economy**
- 5 Priorities**
- 7 Target 1:** Ban on export of waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres, commencing in the second half of 2020
- 8 Target 2:** Reduce total waste generated in Australia by 10% per person by 2030
- 9 Target 3:** 80% average resource recovery rate from all waste streams following the waste hierarchy by 2030
- 10 Target 4:** Significantly increase the use of recycled content by governments and industry
- 11 Target 5:** Continued phase out of problematic and unnecessary plastics
- 12 Target 6:** Halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill for disposal by 2030
- 13 Target 7:** Make comprehensive, economy-wide and timely data publicly available to support better consumer, investment and policy decisions
- 14 Implementation**
- 15 Assessing progress and reporting**
- 16 Governance**
- 17 Glossary**

Introduction

We all generate waste and have a role in limiting the amount created and its impacts on the environment. We can do this by reducing waste where possible, consuming differently, recovering as many resources as we can so they can be used for other purposes, and reusing or repurposing items that are too good to throw away.

The 2024 National Waste Policy Action Plan sets out the priorities for investment to assist Australia's waste and resource recovery sector to transition towards a safe circular economy in line with the 2018 National Waste Policy and 2024 National Circular Economy Framework.¹

This second Action Plan is in response to Australia's environment ministers noting that while progress had been made to improve our waste management and resource recovery activities under the 2019 Action Plan, more needed to be done. Ministers requested the Action Plan be strengthened to support Australia's collective efforts towards the 2030 targets.²

The decision by ministers aligns with estimated forecasts that the targets are unlikely to be met under the current arrangements, as evidenced in the 2023 National Waste Policy Action Plan Progress Summary Report.³

Achieving progress against the targets requires us to think differently about what and how we buy, adopting approaches that capture the resources from the items we would normally throw away, allowing them to be reused or repurposed or recycled.

Taking actions and changing our behaviours to avoid waste and improve and move beyond recycling can result in broader environmental benefits such as lowering water use, minimising the extraction of virgin materials such as fossil fuels, and minimising carbon emissions, particularly through better management of organics that will help meet Australia's net zero reduction goals.⁴ It also supports Australia's contribution to global efforts under the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 12 for responsible consumption and production.⁵

Many urban areas of Australia are fast running out of suitable landfill spaces. Reducing the rate at which we generate waste will help to alleviate pressure on these sites.

This Action Plan builds on the work delivered under the 2019 Action Plan⁶ to accelerate Australia's efforts against 7 ambitious targets, by focussing efforts higher up the waste management hierarchy in 3 priority areas:

- Government legislation, regulation, policies, standards and guidelines
- Investment in infrastructure, procurement and funding support
- Market development and support through innovation, reducing barriers and generating demand.

Specific initiatives that will support these priority areas are set out in government implementation plans that focus on the waste material types and waste streams where the greatest gains are needed to meet the targets.

Progress against the targets will be reported annually so that we can monitor our progress and ensure that the actions taken remain relevant.

1 Commonwealth of Australia, [2018 National Waste Policy: less waste more resources](#), prepared by the Australian Government, state and territory governments and the Australian Local Government Association, DCCEEW website, 2018, accessed 21 May 2024.

2 DCCEEW, [Environment Ministers' Meetings Communiqués - DCCEEW](#), for meetings 21 October 2022 and 21 June 2024, accessed 15 July 2024.

3 DCCEEW, [2023 National Waste Policy Action Plan Progress Summary Report](#), 2024, accessed 9 September 2024.

4 DCCEEW, [Net Zero - DCCEEW](#), 2024, accessed 21 May 2024.

5 United Nations Department of Economic and Environment Affairs, [THE 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development \(un.org\)](#), 2023, accessed 17 September 2024.

6 DCCEEW, [National Waste Policy Action Plan](#), 2019, accessed 21 May 2024.

A light blue graphic of a target with concentric circles and an arrow hitting the bullseye, positioned on the left side of the page.

Targets

- 1** Ban on export of waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres, commencing in the second half of 2020
- 2** Reduce total waste generated in Australia by 10% per person by 2030
- 3** 80% average resource recovery rate from all waste streams following the waste hierarchy by 2030
- 4** Significantly increase the use of recycled content by governments and industry
- 5** Continued phase out of problematic and unnecessary plastics
- 6** Halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill for disposal by 2030
- 7** Make comprehensive, economy-wide and timely data publicly available to support better consumer, investment and policy decisions

Moving towards a circular economy

The strategic direction for improved waste management, resource recovery and reuse in Australia is guided by the National Waste Policy.⁷

The waste and resource recovery sectors are important enablers of Australia's transition to a circular economy. The Policy and Action Plan align with the priorities set out in the National Circular Economy Framework and contribute specifically to the framework's 80% resource recovery target.

The Policy also supports Australia's engagement in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 12 on responsible consumption and production.⁸

The Policy recognises the value of resources and embodied energy in materials and products that

have been traditionally disposed. It also acknowledges the economic opportunity and growing desire to see materials that may otherwise be wasted, recaptured and recirculated in our economy in support of circular economy principles.

The waste management hierarchy provides a guide to support decisions on waste, from the most preferred approach of waste avoidance to the least preferred option of disposal. This leads us to view materials that would be otherwise disposed of as important commodities that can be used for the same or alternative purposes.

Avoiding, reducing, reusing, recycling and recovering waste support circular economy principles. Collectively, actions in these areas will minimise waste and improve environmental, social and economic outcomes for Australia.

⁷ DCCEEW, 2018 National Waste Policy: *Less waste, more resources*.

⁸ United Nations Department of Economic and Environment Affairs, [THE 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development \(un.org\)](#), 2023, accessed 17 September 2024.



National Waste Policy circular economy principles

1. Avoid waste, including prioritising waste avoidance and designing it out
2. Improve resource recovery
3. Increase use of recycled material and build demand and markets for recycled products
4. Better manage material flows to benefit human health, the environment and the economy
5. Improve information to support innovation, guide investment and enable informed consumer decisions.

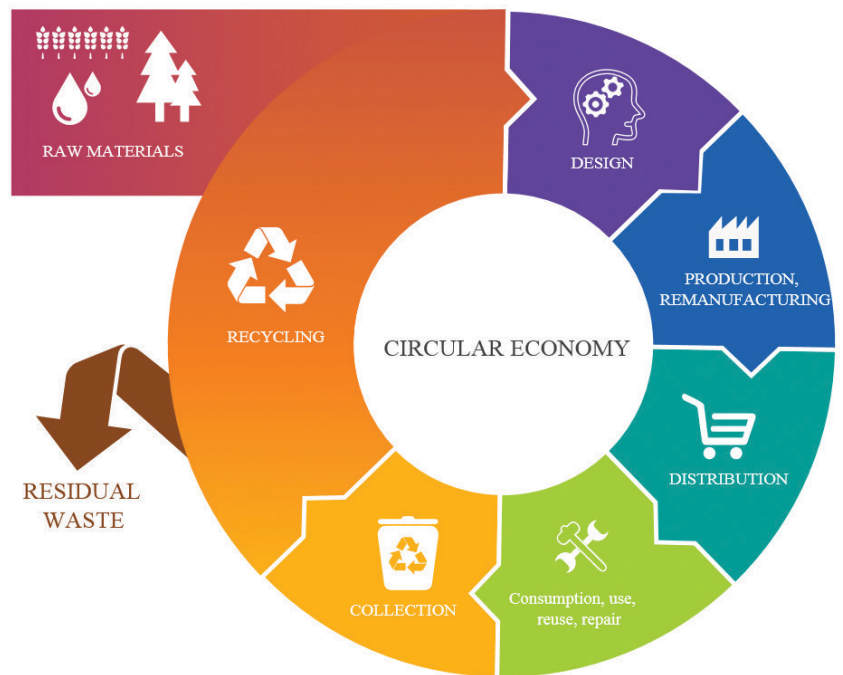
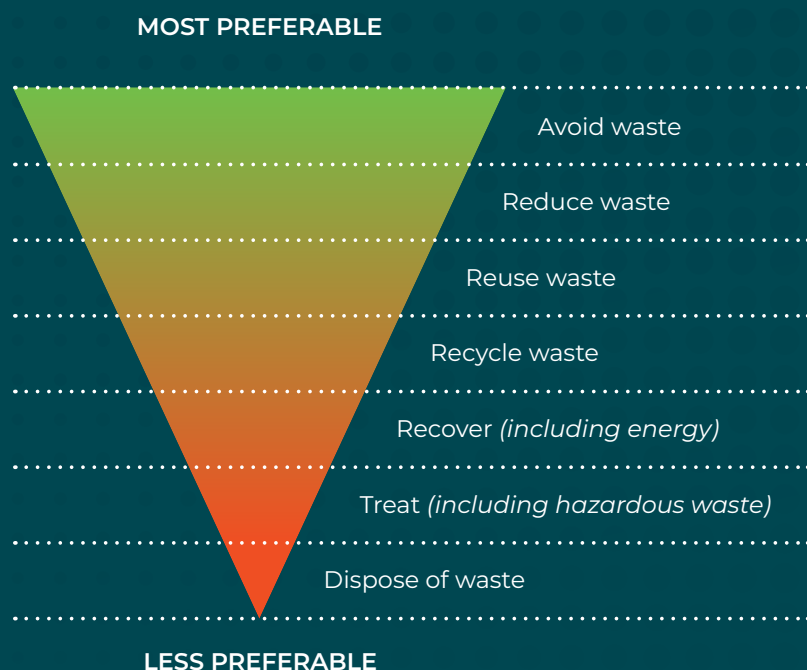


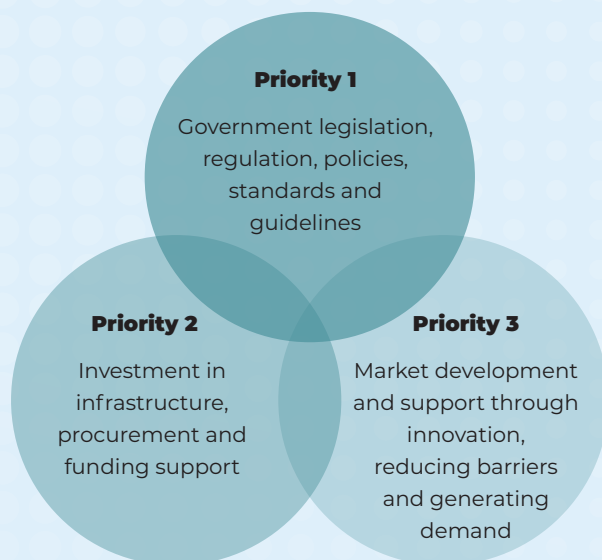
Image: Representation of a circular economy as it applies to resource use with permission of the European Union.

Waste management hierarchy



Priorities

This second Action Plan seeks to collectively advance Australia's progress towards the 7 targets, established in 2019. To achieve this, it has a focus in 3 priority areas:



Concentrating on these areas acknowledges a maturing in the waste and resource recovery sectors and the need for more targeted interventions further up the waste management hierarchy.

To further ensure the greatest shift towards the targets, the actions supported will focus on the following waste materials, as identified through forecasted national data:

- organics (food and garden)
- building and demolition
- ash
- hazardous waste
- paper and cardboard
- timber.

Although improvements in all waste streams is important, the construction and demolition stream will be a priority for Target 2. Targets 3 and 6 will focus primarily on the commercial and industrial and municipal solid waste streams.

The work progressed under this Action Plan includes, and is in addition to, other priority work being undertaken collectively by governments as directed by Australia's environment ministers. The work prioritised by Ministers is in response to concerns raised by the industry and the community, and seeks to address emerging problematic waste streams, such as photovoltaics, batteries or products containing chemicals of concern.⁹ Not all of the work prioritised by Ministers supports the greatest shifts against the targets and therefore progression by governments may be in addition to the work under the Action Plan.

Environment Ministers' priorities

- New national packaging regulations that establish packaging design requirements to improve recyclability, set minimum recycled content thresholds, and ensure packaging placed on the market is free from harmful chemicals.
- Harmonising action, including definitions to support the phase out of problematic single-use plastic and improved kerbside collections, including a pathway for future soft plastics collection.
- Harmonisation of container deposit schemes across jurisdictions to ensure consistent recycling strategies, including for eligible containers, refund amounts, and community education.
- A framework to accelerate product stewardship and to better coordinate work across governments on potential policy and regulatory options for problematic products including tyres, batteries and solvents.
- Develop stronger end markets for recycled products.



PRIORITY 1

Government legislation, regulation, policies, standards and guidelines

Governments can lead or drive change through developing specifications, standards and/or regulatory measures to achieve the desired outcome.

Areas of change to be supported include facilitation or promotion of reuse schemes, product stewardship, use of recycled materials, regulating the use of chemicals of concern, and prioritisation of circular economy practices.

Improved alignment of activities and implementation across governments also simplifies requirements for industry and business sectors and makes it easier for business and the community to play its part.



PRIORITY 2

Investment in infrastructure, procurement and funding support

Governments can target their investment opportunities to support improved circular economy outcomes.

Opportunities exist to promote circular design of products (i.e. to design out waste, design for durability, reparability and recyclability, and encouraging innovation) through sustainable procurement. Increasing the amount of goods and infrastructure containing recycled materials, also supports our transition towards a circular economy and helps to grow the recycling and reprocessing industry.

Governments may also facilitate business investment or provide funding that supports infrastructure development, technical improvement, waste and resource recovery management processes, and innovation.



PRIORITY 3

Market development and support through innovation, reducing barriers and generating demand

Governments can encourage and support market development by reducing barriers to using recycled materials and enabling product or process development.

Strong end markets for recycled materials are an essential part of the circular economy. By building and strengthening markets for repair and reuse, and for recycled materials, we can ensure that materials stay in the economy for longer.

Government support for innovation seeks to drive changes in the supply chain while working with industry to resolve challenges.

Target 1:

Ban on export of waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres, commencing in the second half of 2020

Outcome

For Australia to be responsible for managing its own waste and to build our capacity to turn materials that would normally be disposed into high-value, recycled commodities for remanufacture and reuse.

Meeting the target

Now that the waste export regulations for all identified materials and products are in place, we need to continue to build Australia's capacity to turn these materials into high-value, recycled products that people want and need.

Measuring success

Progress against the target will be monitored by observing changes to:

- the volume of regulated material exported
- additional infrastructure processing capacity
- expanded opportunities for recycled material markets.

Our progress



Legislation to regulate the export of Australia's waste is now in place for:

- unprocessed glass from 1 January 2021
- unprocessed mixed plastic from 1 July 2021
- unprocessed tyres from 1 December 2021
- unprocessed single polymer plastic from 1 July 2022
- unprocessed paper and cardboard from 1 July 2024



Australia has over 7,100 non-hazardous waste and resource recovery facilities¹⁰



267,700 tonnes of plastic was reprocessed in Australia in 2022¹¹

Over the next 5 years, Australia's planned plastic reprocessing capacity is expected to reach 822,400 tonnes¹²

¹⁰ Blue Environment, [Australian waste and resource recovery infrastructure database 2022](#), prepared for DCCEEW, Australian Government, accessed 6 September 2024.

¹¹ Blue Environment, [Australian Plastic Flows and Fates Study 2021-22 National Report](#), 2024, accessed 6 September 2024.

¹² Blue Environment, *Australian Plastic Flows and Fates Study 2021-22 - National Report*.



Target 2:

Reduce total waste generated in Australia by 10% per person by 2030

Outcome

We use fewer materials and use products for longer. The amount of materials and products we throw away is reduced and our resources are used more efficiently, decreasing the demand for virgin materials, reducing pressure on our recovery infrastructure and reducing negative impacts on our environment.

Meeting the target

Achieving this target requires us to rethink how we can avoid generating waste. This includes changing our behaviours to consider our purchasing decisions and ownership models, changing the way we design products, and encouraging product repair and reuse.

The greatest gains to be made against this target are in the construction and demolition waste stream, with a focus on building and demolition and hazardous waste. The construction and demolition waste stream is forecast to generate around 42 million tonnes of waste, equivalent to 1.51 tonnes of waste per person by 2030.

Additional gains can be made in the commercial and industrial and municipal solid waste streams for organics, ash, hazardous wastes, and to a lesser extent paper and cardboard.

Measuring success

Progress against the target will be monitored by observing changes to:

- the amount of waste generated per person
- materials and products managed higher up the waste management hierarchy, including reuse
- product design for longevity, reusability and repairability
- attitudes and practices to reduce waste and improve resource recovery.

Our progress

2030

2.58 tonnes per capita



The amount of total waste generated by each person needs to reduce by 300kg to meet the target

2022-23

2.88 tonnes per capita¹³

2020-21

2.93 tonnes per capita¹³

2016-17

2.87 tonnes per capita¹³

¹³ Blue Environment, *National Waste and Resource Recovery Report 2024*, 2024, prepared for DCCEEW, Australian Government.

Image: Copyright Department of Environment - Photographer Ben Holmes Photography



Target 3:

80% average resource recovery rate from all waste streams following the waste hierarchy by 2030

Outcome

Resources in products are effectively captured and are kept circulating through the economy at their highest value for longer.

Meeting the target

Being able to safely recover materials so they can be used again means we send less resources to landfill and that virgin materials don't need to be used. Limiting what is sent to landfill also has broader environmental benefits.

Achieving this target will require action across the economy. This may include changing industry and consumer behaviours, and designing products without chemicals of concern that are also more durable, have reuse, repair and recyclability in mind, and use fewer virgin materials. Increasing the uptake of product stewardship approaches, and changes to legislation that can better support safe resource recovery, may also be needed.

Building and improving our collection, sorting, processing and remanufacturing infrastructure and logistics will help us maximise the useful life of materials and keep them in circulation for longer. Having better quality recycled materials could also assist in the development of safe and viable end markets for products that use recycled content.

The construction and demolition waste stream is tracking well for this target. The greatest gains can be made by focussing actions that address organics, paper and cardboard in the municipal solid waste stream, and organics, ash and hazardous waste for the commercial and industrial waste stream.

Measuring success

Progress against the target will be monitored by observing changes to:

- the amount of resources recovered
- infrastructure processing capacity
- attitudes and practices to reduce waste and improve resource recovery
- access to recycling services and facilities
- recycled material markets
- materials recovered under product stewardship arrangements.

Our progress

2030 	80% of resources are recovered from the total waste generated About 11 million tonnes of additional materials will need to be recovered to meet the target
2022-23	66% of resources were recovered ¹⁴
2020-21	63% of resources were recovered ¹⁴
2016-17	61% of resources were recovered ¹⁴

Target 4:

Significantly increase the use of recycled content by governments and industry

Outcome

Government and industry procurements shift market behaviours to procure products at scale, giving consideration to longevity and the amount of recycled content contained in products.

Meeting the target

Governments and industry are well placed to encourage the purchasing and use of products that have recycled content through their procurement policies and processes.

Increasing the uptake of recycled content helps reduce the use of virgin resources and allows materials to be reused for new products, buildings and infrastructure.

For recycled materials to be suitable for reuse, manufacturers and other users need to be satisfied that the recycled material is certified or of a suitable quality and the supply is reliable.

Governments and industry have a role in providing credible information that supports purchasing decisions and improves consumer confidence in products containing recycled materials.

Measuring success

Progress against the target will be monitored by observing changes to:

- the uptake of sustainable procurement
- products and materials purchased containing recycled content
- attitudes and practices to reduce waste and improve resource recovery
- the amount of recycled content used in products.

Our progress



4 governments have whole of government sustainable procurement policies in place



A National Framework for Recycled Content Traceability is available to support business decisions on using recycled content



Target 5:

Continued phase out of problematic and unnecessary plastics

Outcome

Problematic and unnecessary plastics, including those that contain chemicals of concern, are no longer used.

Meeting the target

Australia has been successful in reducing single-use plastics such as lightweight plastic bags, straws, plastic utensils, expanded polystyrene food containers and microbeads in personal health care products.

Sustained efforts to address problematic and unnecessary plastics are needed.

We all need to continue to avoid or stop using plastics that we can't manage effectively.

Finding viable alternatives to single-use plastics, and designing plastics that are more durable and can be easily recovered and recycled, is also important.

Improving mechanisms that make it easier for us to collect, sort and manufacture plastics responsibly will help to appropriately capture, reuse and repurpose plastics so they are not causing harm to the environment.

Measuring success

Progress against the target will be monitored by observing changes to:

- the quantity of problematic and unnecessary plastics placed on the market
- plastics consumption
- plastics recycling and recovery
- national standards to reduce the impact of industrial chemicals contained in plastics on the environment
- plastic litter leaking into the environment.

Our progress



Plastics recovery has increased from 291,000 tonnes (2016–17) to 412,500 tonnes (2021–22)¹⁵



Plastics consumption has increased since 2016–17 from around 2.9 million tonnes to 3.9 million tonnes in 2021–22¹⁶



All governments have lightweight plastic shopping bag bans in place, and have progressed bans on other single-use and problematic plastics¹⁷

¹⁵ Blue Environment, *Australian Plastics Flows and Fates Study 2021–22 – National Report*. Recovery is for recycling and energy recovery.

¹⁶ Blue Environment, *Australian Plastics Flows and Fates Study 2021–22 – National Report*.

¹⁷ DCCEEW, *2023 National Waste Policy Action Plan Progress Summary Report*.



Target 6:

Halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill for disposal by 2030

Outcome

Organic materials are diverted from landfill for other beneficial purposes and to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Meeting the target

Many opportunities exist for us to address organic waste. Food waste can be avoided by buying only what we need, or by diverting quality and edible food to other purposes, such as food rescue or animal feed.

Other opportunities to reduce food waste are throughout the supply chain at the transport, wholesale and retail stages, and in hospitality.

Food waste, food and beverage processing waste, garden waste and other organic materials can be processed into quality recycled organic products, such as compost and potting mix, to be used for beneficial purposes.

Avoiding contamination of organic waste streams is essential to ensure that quality recycled organic products can be made. Infrastructure with the capacity to adequately service all areas of Australia, and predictable, long-term support of markets is also important.

Improvements in how we manage food and garden organics and timber are where the greatest gains can be made under this target.

Measuring success

Progress against the target will be monitored by observing changes to:

- organic waste sent to landfill
- organic resource recovery and markets
- organic collection services
- organics processing capacity and access
- emissions from organic waste in landfill.

Our progress

2030 	2.8 million tonnes 2.6 million tonnes of organic waste needs to be diverted from landfill to meet the target
2022-23	5.4 million tonnes deposited in landfill ¹⁸
2020-21	5.9 million tonnes deposited in landfill ¹⁸
2016-17	5.7 million tonnes deposited in landfill ¹⁸

¹⁸ Blue Environment, *National Waste and Resource Recovery Report 2024*. This figure relates to core organic wastes, which includes primarily food organics, garden organics, timber and biosolids.



Target 7:

Make comprehensive, economy-wide and timely data publicly available to support better consumer, investment and policy decisions

Outcome

The quality and timeliness of waste and resource recovery data and information has improved, and more information is made available to inform decisions.

Meeting the target

Australia has improved the availability of high-quality waste and resource recovery information. More current and detailed information is now required to support the ongoing transition to a circular economy.

High quality data and reporting will inform better decision making to help to reduce investment risks and the better management of wastes.

Data collection and reporting on the flow of materials through the waste system, including disposal and recycling rates, can be enhanced by bringing together existing data, producing more detailed analysis and reducing the amount of time before data is released.

Measuring success

Progress against the target will be monitored by observing changes to:

- data providers aligned to the national standards for waste data and reporting
- timeliness of data reporting
- improved data access from non-government sources.

Our progress



National Waste data viewer



Australian (non-hazardous) Waste and Resource recovery Infrastructure database



Waste Export data viewer



Organics Kerbside Collections Services data viewer



Recycling Modernisation Fund data viewer



Implementation

The management of Australia's waste and the recovery of resources that may otherwise be disposed in landfill is a collective responsibility for all Australians.

Collaboration between governments, industries, businesses, the community and individuals is necessary, to enable everyone to play their part.

The Australian, state and territory governments share responsibility for the implementation of the Action Plan and are collectively accountable for the outcomes and targets. This approach reflects the roles and responsibilities of governments in waste management and resource recovery.

To support the delivery of the Action Plan, each government will commit to an implementation plan. These plans will set out specific commitments and how they support the targets, including timeframes for delivery.

Engagement with industry representative bodies and other relevant stakeholders will be undertaken as needed to share information, test ideas, and identify future opportunities for collaboration and improvement.

Industry, business and non-government organisations are encouraged to identify the actions they are taking to support the priorities.



The **Australian Government** contributes where: a coordinated approach helps to address issues impacting on multiple governments, a national policy or regulation is needed, national-scale information is needed, and there are international obligations.



State and territory governments are primarily responsible for, and best placed to manage and regulate, domestic waste and make critical decisions on resource recovery and recycling policies.



Local governments work within the legislative frameworks established by the states and territories. They interact directly with the community and have a significant role in organising waste collection and processing.



Industry and businesses are at the forefront of innovation and invest in processing waste and options to reduce waste, including improved product design.



Community and individuals proactively undertake on-the-ground actions at the local level to reduce waste and find alternatives for reuse.

Assessing progress and reporting

Progress against the targets will be monitored in accordance with a monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement framework.

The framework will identify measures for monitoring progress. Quantitative measures will be measured against baseline figures for the 2016–17 financial year reported in the most recent National Waste and Resource Recovery Report or other relevant data sources.

Progress in the delivery of government implementation plans will be monitored by each jurisdiction.

Public reporting

The Australian Government will provide a national report on progress against the targets on behalf of all governments.

The Australian Government and state and territory governments will report annually on the actions identified in their implementation plans.

The reports will be made accessible on the Australian Government website dedicated to the Action Plan.

Reviews

A review of the Action Plan priorities, performance against the targets, effectiveness of the monitoring, evaluation, reporting and governance will be undertaken every two years. This will ensure the priorities and actions being undertaken remain relevant to support progress towards achieving the targets.

The government implementation plans will be reviewed in line with the biennial review process but may be updated at any time by governments to ensure they remain effective.



Governance

Implementation of the Action Plan will be overseen by a body that includes representatives from each Australian government. The body will monitor the performance of the Action Plan, and provide advice and report to Environment Ministers on the progress against the targets and areas for improvement.

Any changes to the scope of the targets or the priorities of the Action Plan will be considered by Environment Ministers.



Glossary

Business sector	This sector includes manufacturers, wholesalers, importers and retailers, both in Australia and overseas, that generate waste in Australia as part of their business processes.
Chemicals of concern	Concern is a measure of the potential consequences of a chemical substance being used in Australia. Concern includes consideration of the risk to the environment, the inherent hazard characteristics of a chemical substance, and relevant social and economic impacts for a chemical's use.
Circular economy	Looking beyond the current take-make-waste extractive industrial model, a circular economy aims to redefine growth, focusing on positive society-wide benefits. It entails gradually decoupling economic activity from the consumption of finite resources; and designing waste and pollution out of the system. It is based on three principles: design out waste and pollution; keep products and materials in use (ideally at their highest and best value); and regenerate natural systems.
Commercial and industrial (C&I) waste	Waste that is produced by institutions and businesses, including offices, schools, restaurants, retail and wholesale businesses, and industries such as manufacturing. Also includes waste from primary and secondary production, such as mining and minerals processing.
Construction and demolition (C&D) waste	Waste produced by demolition and building activities, including road and rail construction and maintenance and excavation of land associated with construction activities. Consistent with ANZSIC Division E.
Energy recovery	Processes through which wastes are collected, sorted and processed to recover energy in usable form, for example process heat, steam or in electricity generation.
Food waste	Food that does not reach the consumer or reaches the consumer but is thrown away.
Hazardous waste	Waste that has any of the characteristics mentioned in Annex III to the Basel Convention and wastes covered by paragraph 1(a) of Article 1 of the Basel Convention. Also includes household waste, residues arising from the incineration of household waste, and plastic wastes, including mixtures of wastes, covered by Annex II to the Basel Convention. Waste that cannot be imported to or exported from Australia without a permit under the <i>Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989</i>; and wastes within an Australian jurisdiction that are regulated within that jurisdiction as requiring particularly high levels of control.
Material	Matter from which a product is made, e.g. paper, plastic, metal etc.
Material flows	The way materials pass through production, distribution and use processes in an economy.

Municipal solid waste (MSW)	Waste produced by households or collected by, or on behalf of, a municipal council. Includes waste from street bins, street sweeping, litter and dumping clean ups, aquatic litter traps, municipal parks and gardens, street tree pruning, council facility operations (consistent with ANZSIC Group 753), transfer stations (other than waste readily identifiable as arising from commercial operations). Excludes waste collected by, or on behalf of, a municipal council from businesses, or from road works undertaken by, or on behalf of, a municipal council.
Organic waste	Waste that is derived from biotic processes. Includes food, garden organics, wood and biosolids. Typically excludes paper and cardboard, textiles, natural latex-based rubber, leather and nappies. Excludes plastics and synthetic rubber.
Product	An article or substance that is manufactured or refined for sale.
Product stewardship	All parties in the supply chain of a product taking responsibility for the lifecycle impacts, flows and fates of products or materials they produce, including through design and at the end of their useful life. This may be through voluntary arrangements, mandatory arrangements or arrangements shared between industry and government.
Recycled content	For products: Consistent with AS 14021:2018 and ISO 14021:2016, the proportion, by mass, of recycled material in a product. Recycled content can be: 1. Pre-consumer material, which is material discarded from manufacturing processes, excluding materials (such as offcuts, rework, regrind and scrap) used in the same manufacturing processes that created them. 2. Post-consumer material is material generated by households or other end users when a product has reached end-of-use. For construction / civil engineering: the proportion, by mass of recycled material in a structure/project that is material that has been recovered from previous use or recovered from waste or would have been otherwise disposed of as waste, in lieu of new primary material.
Recycling	Activities through which wastes are collected, sorted, reprocessed (including through composting), and/or converted into raw materials for use in a production system, excluding for energy.
Repair	Altering a product or material to correct damage or fault, maintaining its use. This may be applied to products or materials before or after they have become waste.
Reprocessing	Processes of recovered materials to make raw materials for use in making new products or direct use.
Resource	Virgin or recovered materials.
Resource recovery	Activities through which wastes are collected, sorted, processed (including through composting), and/or converted into raw materials for use in a production system.
Reuse	Reallocation of products or materials to a new owner or purpose without reprocessing or remanufacture, but potentially with some repair (for example, repair of pallets for resale, tyre retreading).

