

# Unifying efforts: Setting standards and best practice for ending plastic waste

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Australia's National Science Agency



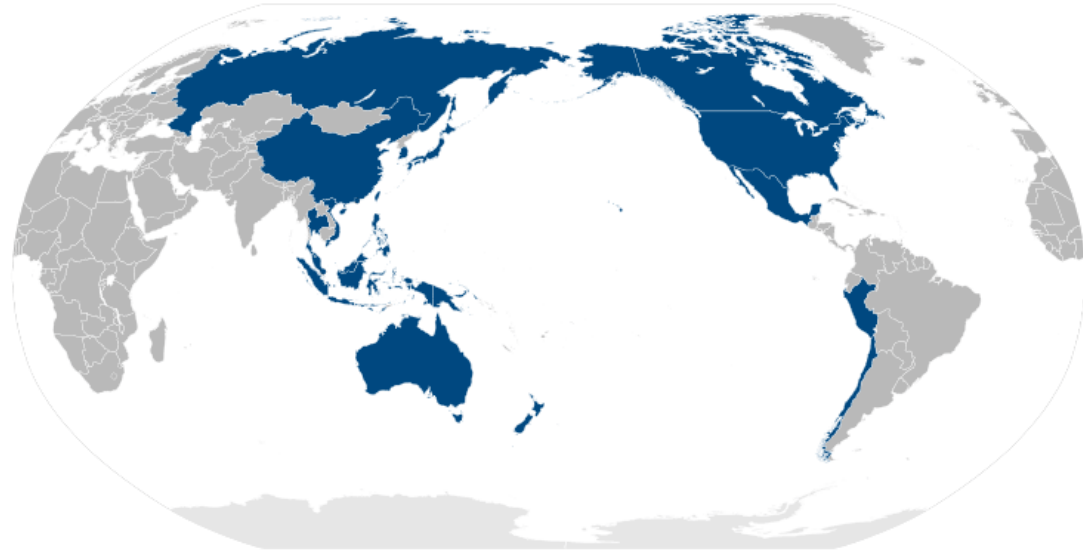


I would like to begin by acknowledging the Wurundjeri and Bunurong Peoples as the Traditional Owners of the land that we're meeting on today, and pay my respect to their Elders past and present.



# International cooperation is key to the circular economy transition

- Australia: deeply interconnected in the global value chain
  - In 2019, Australia exported 1,459 MT or 45% of total material inflow
  - Imports most of its consumer goods
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) region accounted for 78% of Australia's two-way trade in 2021
- Standards are key to international cooperation and driving system changes



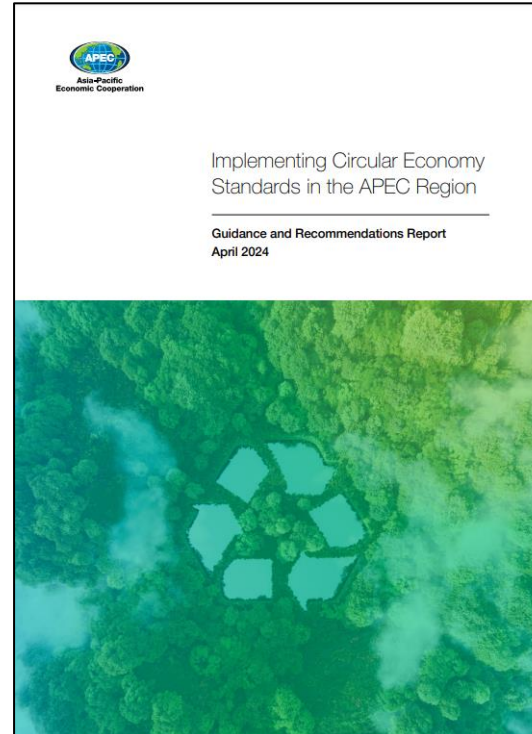
# The APEC circular economy standards project

## The problem

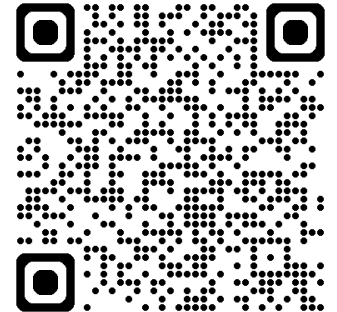
- Variable progress in the adoption of circular economy standards

## The project

- Increase the **uptake of circular economy standards** and **participation** in the circular economy in the **APEC region**
- DFAT funded
- Collaboration between Standards Australia and CSIRO
- Ending Plastic Waste Mission and Circular Economy for Missions Initiative



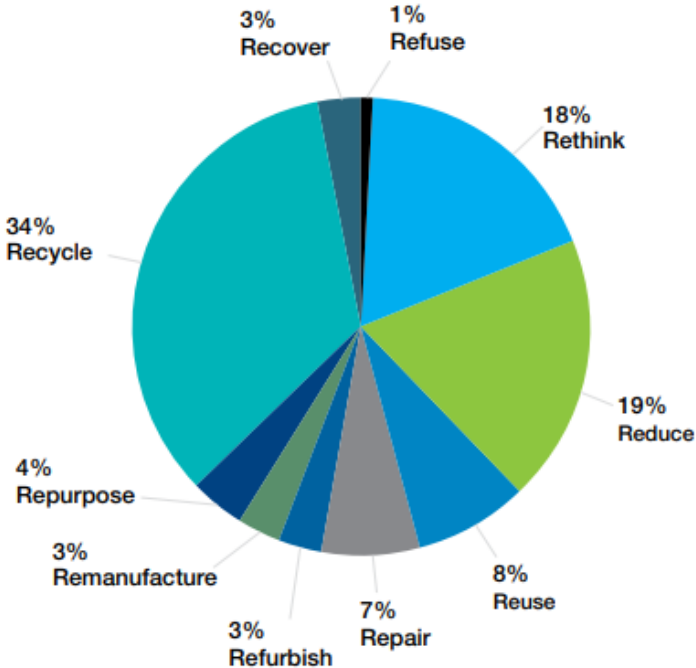
*Access the report:*





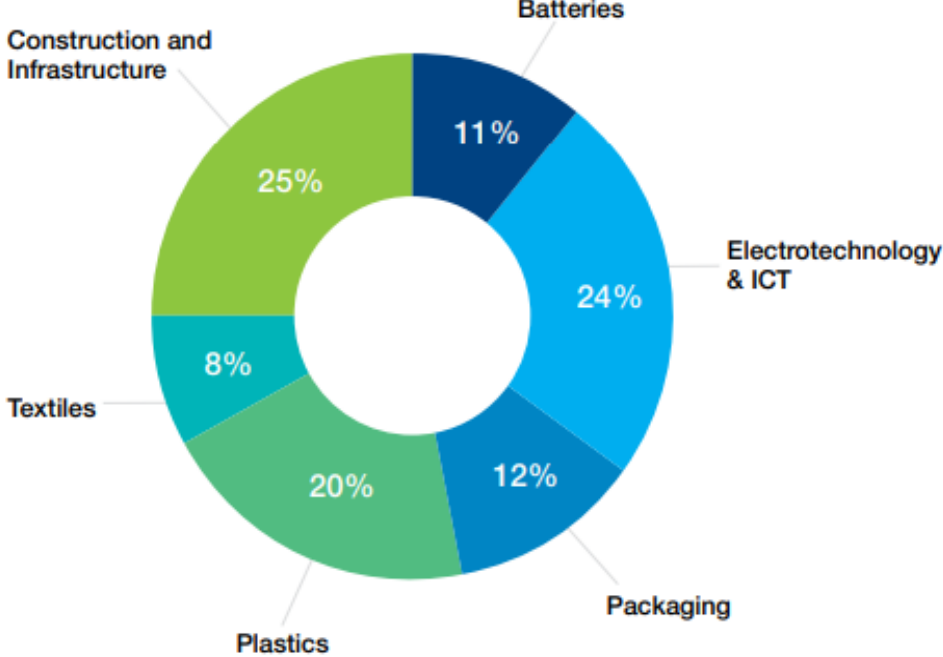
# Key findings from the report

Figure 2. Circular economy related standards categorised by the 9R strategy



Source: Prepared by analysing dataset from DIN, DKE, VDI (2023).

Figure 3. Circular economy related standards by product or sector



Source: Prepared by analysing dataset from DIN, DKE, VDI (2023).

# How can standards **enable** the CE transition?

## Design

- Set foundational definitions and principles
- Embed CE principles in product design

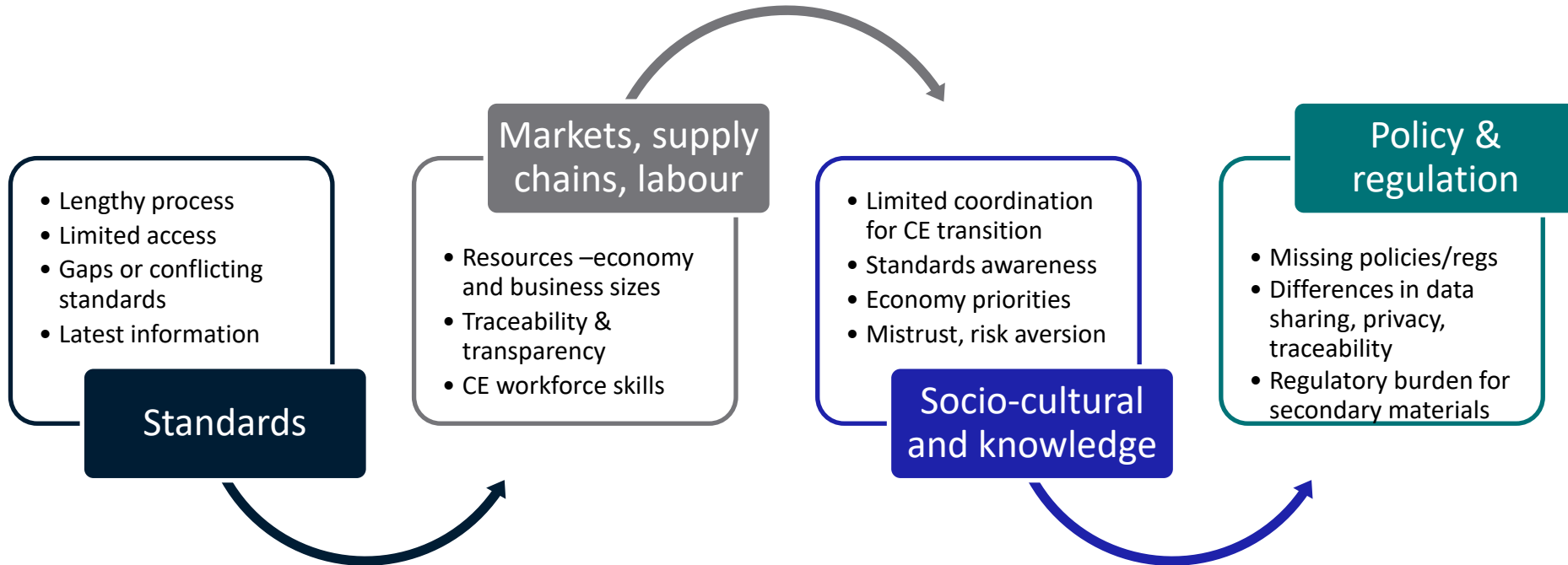
## Operations

- Ensure product minimum quality and safety
- Enhance enabling technologies

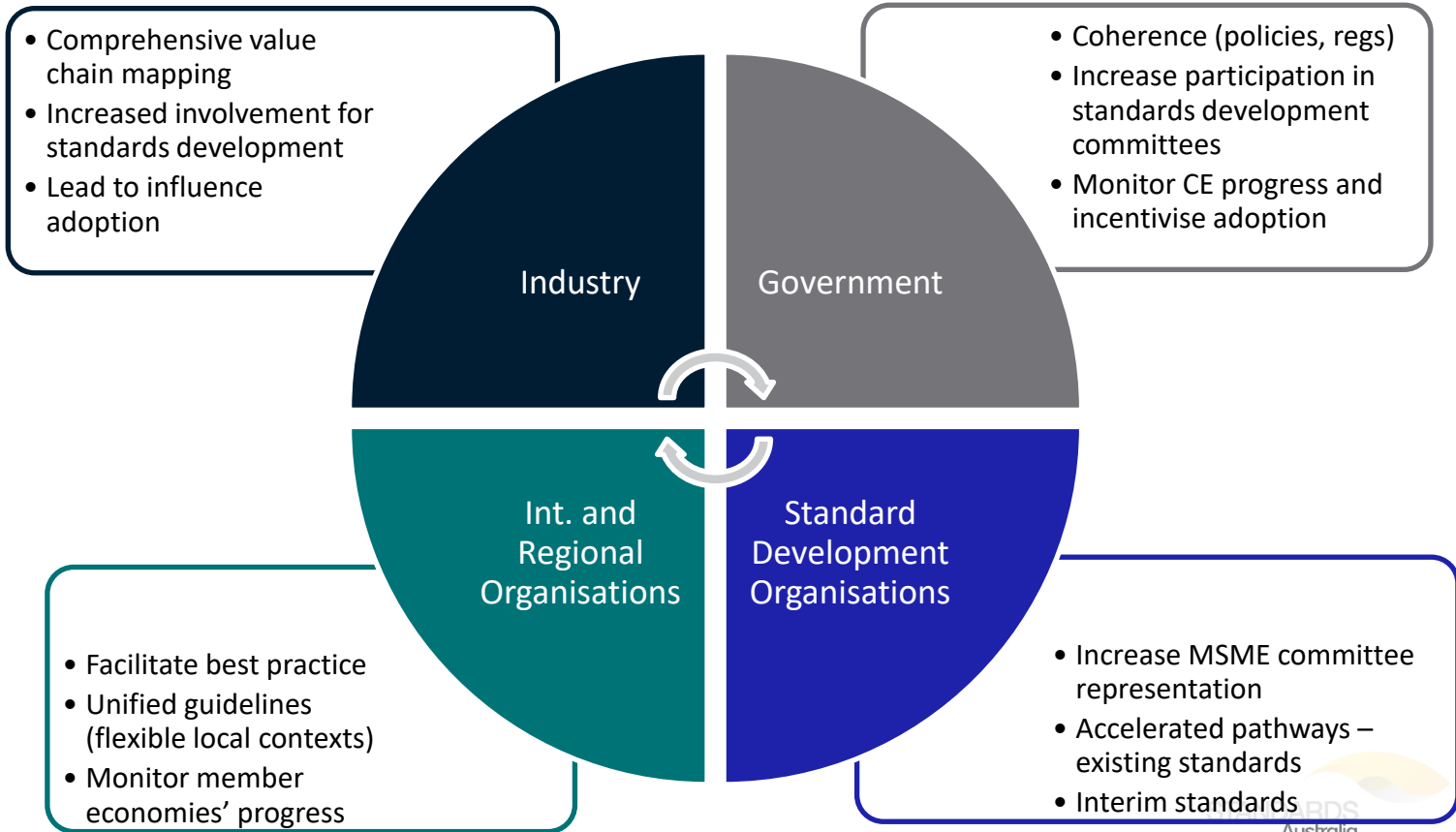
## Markets

- Create/strengthen markets
- Provide market access for producers
- Build and maintain consumer trust

# Barriers for CE standards uptake



# Recommendations for increasing CE standards uptake







# Thank you from the project team!

