

Circular Australia Taskforce Membership, Partnerships & Education Programs

**FINANCE & INVESTMENT
INDUSTRY
PRECINCTS & INFRASTRUCTURE
WATER**

JUNE 2025

Circular Australia Taskforces

Circular Australia has built a national network of committed experts and organisations working to transition Australia to a circular economy by 2035.

Our nationally-leading circular economy taskforces are key to achieving this mission, bringing together cross-sector experts and innovators in finance, research, government, industry & infrastructure to drive reform, build evidence base and activate new markets.

The Circular Economy presents a \$26B productivity opportunity to 2035 for the nation. Australia's Circular Economy Framework sets an ambitious target to double the circularity rate by 2035, by shrinking our material footprint by 10%, safely recovering 80% of wasted resources and lifting material productivity by 30%.

To realise this opportunity and targets, organisations, governments and consumers must embrace circularity in business models and approaches - designing out waste, keeping materials in the economy for as long as possible at their highest value, while regenerating natural systems.

Collaboration and co-design between industry, government and research is the way to build a circular pathway for Australia. The circular economy is a systems transition - not one business or sector can do it on their own.

Circular Australia's taskforces are playing an important role in transitioning organisations to circularity, through evidence, projects, education, training, events and collaboration.

The federal government has now established Australia's Circular Economy Framework to double Australia's circularity rate by 2035. Becoming a member of Circular Australia allows your organisation to be at the forefront of this new economic future for Australia, to embrace best practice, showcase your projects and thought leadership.

Circular Australia's taskforces are helping to build new circular markets for products and services, establish circular precincts, educate and train workforces and Boards, enable circular water solutions, and ensure lenders and investors prioritise circular economy.

Benefits and Opportunities

Circular Australia Taskforce Membership positions you and your organisation in a unique thought leadership and networking programme with other key CE stakeholders, across industry, government and academia.

Taskforce meetings

A schedule of meetings to set the Australian circular economy agenda for 2035 including key speakers and insights, roadmaps, reforms, projects and market building programs.

Event program

Member-only program of events and workshops, with opportunity to provide input into emerging circular economy policy and industry insights.

Insights and information

Early access to research, reports, newsletters and alerts with relevant information and insight for circular economy in your sector.

Informing policy

Members contribute to the design and delivery of the taskforce Terms of Reference (ToR). Taskforce objectives are designed to assist in the 2035 target and provide important industry input to national policy formation.

Business Development

A key priority of Circular Australia is to support organisations to achieve their circular economy outcomes - with pitches, project collaborations, case studies and opportunities to secure partners and grow new circular economy markets.

Networking and connectivity

Connection and visibility among Circular Australia partners in Government, research and industry.

Partner Recognition

Listed in partner directory on the Circular Australia website, with additional comms opportunities to promote achievements, case studies and events.

Education

Discounted access to leading circular economy accelerators, activators, corporate training and skills and capability-building programs, and partnered programs.



[Check out our
Partners](#)

Taskforce Management

Circular Australia Taskforces led by honorary Co-Chairs are removing barriers and activating new opportunities and outcomes across Australia's economic sectors.

Co-Chairs are appointed by Circular Australia. They are outstanding leaders in industry, government and research. Their expertise and deep commitment is essential to Australia transitioning to a circular economy and has helped problem-solve, remove barriers and activate new opportunities across Australia's key economic sectors in partnership with taskforce members and community of practice.

Led by Circular Australia's Communications & Engagement Manager and CEO, the Taskforces meet quarterly and set ambitious agendas to transition Australia to a circular economy by 2035.



Lisa McLean

Managing Director & CEO, Circular Australia

Lisa McLean is a circular economy and zero-carbon business transformation leader and Managing Director, CEO of Circular Australia, a national independent NFP leading the transition to a zero-carbon circular economy in Australia. She has been successfully advising industry and governments in developing new policy frameworks and regulations that bring about market change to enable the circular zero-carbon economy over the past 20 years. This work has covered the supply chains, infrastructure, energy, water, waste and mobility sectors in the UK and Australia.



Emma Lundaahl

Communications & Engagement Manager

As Communications and Engagement Manager, Emma leads the delivery of communications across Circular Australia's network, sharing resources, insights, and opportunities that support awareness and action, ensuring members stay connected, informed, and engaged. She also drives the annual engagement strategy to deepen collaboration and activate meaningful participation across the network.

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT TASKFORCE CO-CHAIRS:



Jillian Reid

Head of Sustainable Investment, Mercer

Jillian has more than 25 years' experience in financial services, across investment consulting and funds management, specialising in responsible / sustainable investment since 2011 and primarily climate change since 2014. Her current interest is in systemic connections across issues and circular economy solutions, and she co-authored a 2022 paper on the circular economy for investors with the Investor Group on Climate Change. She is currently a Partner and Head of Sustainable Investment, Investment Management for Mercer in the Pacific.



PRECINCTS & INFRASTRUCTURE TASKFORCE CO-CHAIRS:

Jenni Phillipe

Associate, Circular Economy, Aurecon

Jenni is actively enabling circular practices on projects for clients and across Aurecon. She is a system thinker dedicated to working collectively to build a regenerative future, community and economy in Australia - helping to lead organisations to prioritise the circular economy.



Ed Steane

Director Cities Revitalisation, NSW Transport

Ed is a passionate advocate for the role circular economy can play in growing cities more sustainably, efficiently and equitably. He has worked across all three levels of government leading sustainability and infrastructure strategy and planning. Ed is focussed on governance in achieving sustainable precincts and infrastructure.

INDUSTRY TASKFORCE CO-CHAIRS:



Leanne Griffin

Australasia Circular Economy Service Leader, Arup

Leanne Griffin is Australasia's Circular Economy Service Leader at Arup, bringing extensive expertise in complex engagement, social impact, and sustainable practices. With a diverse background spanning recycled materials, circular economy strategies, water recycling, and social housing, she excels in project and people management.



Adrian Jones

Co-Founder at BlockTexx

Adrian is Co-Founder at BlockTexx - a world leading chemical textile recycling and resource recovery business, where we have developed a patent pending technology that diverts textiles and clothing away from landfill and accelerates the global textile recycling industry. This process uses our patent pending S.O.F.T.™ technology.

WATER TASKFORCE CO-CHAIRS



Dr Nicola Nelson

Head of International & Industry Programs

Nicola has over 20 years' experience managing complex science, research and development programs for industry and government. She has worked across multiple industry sectors including agribusiness, health, biotechnology, creative industries and for over 15 years in the water industry. Nicola has had a long-term involvement in assessing the impacts of climate change on infrastructure, business operations and community for the water industry.



Nerina Di Lorenzo

Director Cities Revitalisation, NSW Transport

Dr Di Lorenzo is the Managing Director of Melbourne Water, which provides drinking water, treats wastewater, and manages catchments in the greater Melbourne region. She holds extensive experience in the water and local government sectors, including as CEO of Merri-bek City Council for five years, preceded by holding infrastructure executive portfolios. Dr Di Lorenzo commenced her early career in the oil industry working on the platforms in Bass Strait.



Finance & Investment Taskforce

The Circular Australia Finance & Investment Taskforce was established to build a strong understanding of circular economy business models, assets and investment opportunities.

It works to develop and communicate guidance and tools to evidence economic benefits and enable finance sector participants to accelerate the linear to circular transition in lending and investment decisions. risk modelling practice, develop finance and investment solutions suited to circular economy systems and It also advocates for the necessary conditions to enable best circular practice.

The Finance and Investment taskforce does this in collaboration with peak finance and investment industry groups. Active membership includes some of Australia's leading financial and investment institutions and organisations.

Project work & focus

This taskforce focuses on integrating the circular economy into relevant processes and decisions in the finance and investment sector, such as:

- Building a strong understanding of circular economy business models, assets and investment opportunities
- Embedding circular economy principles into risk modelling practices
- Developing finance and investment solutions suited to circular economy systems

Deliverables

- Lender and Investor guides on circular economy
- Accelerators on global best practice circular economy integration
- Definitions and new metric standards to be incorporated in the evolving Australian Taxonomy and banking and investment practices
- Events with industry leaders, stakeholders in circular finance and investment to build knowledge and best practice in key areas.
- Annual insights reports, to synthesise the best practise examples, capital allocation developments and discussion topics addressed during quarterly meetings and ad hoc workshops.
- Global insights and knowledge sharing



[Check out our Partners](#)



[Read our Circular Research & Guides](#)



Industry Taskforce

The Circular Australia Industry Taskforce is working to remove industry and regulatory barriers to allow for faster adoption of circular practices.

Circular economy is a systems transition that requires a cross sectoral approach to reform. Not one business or organisation can make the transition to a circular economy on its own. The industry taskforce brings together some of Australia's most prominent industry players to identify the often complex challenges and understand the benefits and best practice approaches of transitioning to a circular economy.

This collaborative space is core to assisting in business development opportunities and the activation and scaling of new circular supply chains, products and services. Enabling markets for circular economy need to be established and this collaborative environment inspires action from key government agencies and industry while facilitating effective cross-sector discussion towards supportive circular economy policy, market settings and business practices.

Project work & focus

- Circular market opportunities
 - Development of evidence base and analysis into circular markets
 - Spotlight on secondary resource markets
 - Value-chain mapping
- Project development opportunities
- Project collaborations and case studies
- International best practice
- Opportunities for partnerships to grow new circular economy markets
- Policy and harmonisation considerations explored with key spotlights
- Circular Fiscal/ Taxation Policy
 - Development of evidence and case studies on why fiscal policy and taxation policy does not support circular economy.
 - Australian and international case studies including best practice from California, USA
- Identifying pathways to achieve a circular economy by 2035



[Check out our Partners Page](#)



[Read our Circular Markets Report](#)



Precincts & Infrastructure Taskforce

The Circular Australia Precincts & Infrastructure Taskforce was established to broaden the knowledge and understanding of the application of the CE in precincts and infrastructure, and help organisations embed those principles more broadly into everything they do.

The Taskforce is working in the early stages of place and infrastructure planning to design circular precincts. Bringing together some of Australia's leading industry and government agencies, it is identifying and sharing best practice on the integration of the circular economy in infrastructure and precinct development. Taskforce meetings regularly showcase expert speakers from the built environment, precinct/community design and planning sectors.

Precincts & Infrastructure Taskforce Mission

To achieve the transition to an Australian circular economy by 2030 and unlock the \$2 trillion economic opportunity for precincts and infrastructure by working with industry, government and research to:

- Influence national precincts & infrastructure agendas
- Embed circular principles into daily practices
- Lead precincts and infrastructure best practice

Scope

The design, construction, delivery, procurement and supply chains for infrastructure and precinct projects, including:

- Metrics
- CE definitions
- Disclosure and minimisation of Scope 3 emissions
- Alternative circular business models such as 'shared infrastructure' and 'as a service' solutions
- Design tools and circular precincts

Project work & focus

- Development of the Circular Resilient Infrastructure Playbook
- Public report release
- Opportunities to embed circularity through partnerships with peak bodies



[Check out our Partners Page](#)



[Read Circular Precincts Report](#)



Water Taskforce

The transition to a circular economy requires the collaboration of diverse sectors, with the aim of creating sustainable systems that eliminate waste, enhance the regeneration of natural resources, and build resilient industries.

The Circular Water Taskforce - in partnership with the Australian Water Association (AWA) - brings together stakeholders from the water sector to promote the adoption of circular principles. These principles focus on the sustainable management of water resources, reducing water waste, and creating closed-loop systems for water use across industries and communities.

Taskforce Objectives

The Circular Water Taskforce aims to accelerate the integration of circular economy principles within Australia's water sector by fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing among industry leaders, government bodies, and research institutions. The Taskforce's purpose is to:

1. Influence national water management policies and practices to align with circular economy objectives.
2. Provide/Inform a "State of Play" regarding the progress of the water sector in embedding circular water management practices, including the efficient use, reuse, and regeneration of water resources.
3. Advocate for and create awareness and use of national frameworks and funding opportunities (incentives, grant schemes etc) that will enhance implementation and longer-term financial sustainability of circular economy solutions.
4. Identify and advocate for cross-sector opportunities for water reuse where water is a critical commodity (eg other utility sectors, agriculture, food, manufacturing and mining) in urban and regional contexts.
5. Align Circular Water objectives with those of the other Circular Australia Taskforces to ensure a holistic approach to planning and implementation of circular economy principles across Australia.

The Taskforce will work closely with the broader circular economy framework, ensuring that water management is central to the objectives of waste elimination, material circulation, and ecological regeneration.

Tracking Success

Circular Australia tracks the success of its Taskforce Membership and Circular Leaders Partnerships, to ensure our national network has organisations actively committed to a circular economy transition.

Taskforce Member Evaluation

Taskforce Membership falls into two categories Circular Member and Circular Leader. Each has a series of value propositions spelt out on page

Incoming members are assessed based on suitability to our Taskforce focus areas, and their demonstrated commitment to circular economy.

While we seek to work with circular trailblazers and early adopters, our Taskforces additionally serve as a supportive environment for organisations that are early in their CE journey and looking to gain insight and network connections.

Circular Leaders Evaluation

The Circular Australia Board is requiring strong circular outputs from its Circular Leaders Program, which includes:

Preventing greenwashing:

Partners are recognised as Circular Leaders once project work is completed and the goals set out in the project scoping agreement are achieved.

Executive and/or Board buy-in:

Partners need Executive and or Board buy-in to approve and execute circular projects.

Sectoral Leadership:

Partners are sectoral leaders and willing to lead by example. CA works with a select number of circular leaders.

Publicly shared outputs:

Partners agree to share the outputs of projects in publicly available materials/ analysis and reports to assist in sectoral transitions to a circular economy.

Project Partnership Evaluation

Evaluation of projects are made against the agreed project outcomes.

Fee Structure

Organisations can choose the membership program that best suits their budget, capacity and availability to participate. We want to enable an accessible program that well-represents Australia's circular economy landscape.

FEE BREAKDOWN

Partnership fees

(Per annum, excludes GST)

Circular Member \$1,000

- Use of the CA logo
- Right to attend taskforce meetings of one selected taskforce
- Online networking & collaboration opportunities
- Access to Members only resources
- Directory listing
- Access to knowledge and learning from best practices and events

 [Join As A Circular Member](#)



Circular Leader \$5,000

Circular Member benefits, plus:

- Member discounts for events
- Pre-release access to CA reports and project results
- Discussion Leader opportunities at conferences
- Promotional partnership with CA to support member's news and achievements
- Taskforce leadership opportunities
- Invitation to represent taskforce at external stakeholder engagements
- Ability to input into taskforce projects
- Access to CA event sponsorship opportunities
- Ability to join Industry and Precincts and Infrastructure Taskforce

 [Join As A Circular Leader](#)



Contact us to explore more extensive partnership opportunities with Circular Australia, including Circular Accelerators, Education & Training and the Circular Leaders Program outlined on the pages below.

Circular Education & Training

Circular Australia runs nationally-leading education and training programs, modules and accelerators for organisations, industries and individuals.

Training programs

Circular Australia's education and training programs are designed to equip individuals and organisations with the knowledge, skills and capacity building to transition their operations to embrace more circular approaches and outcomes.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programs

Circular Australia works with leading industry bodies to develop structured learning activities that professionals undertake to maintain, improve, and broaden their knowledge, skills, and competence throughout their career - with a circular economy focus.

Schools Program

Circular Australia is working to activate circular economy in partnership with leading primary and secondary schools, to create the next generation of circular leaders and unlock circular economy innovation and action.

Accelerators & Workshops

Leveraging Circular Australia's leading guidance and evidence base, these accelerators and workshops cover all aspects of the circular economy, including principles, strategies, metrics, best practice and practical applications across key sectors. Circular Australia accelerators & workshops include:

- **Precincts & Infrastructure**
 - Activating local and regional circular economy precincts and hubs
- **Finance & Investment**
 - Activating local and regional circular economy precincts and hubs
- **Market Activation**
 - Focus on secondary resource market value chain and market activation
- **Circular Economy guidance for policy-makers**
 - Guidance for government organisations and policy-makers on integrating CE
- **Net Zero, Agriculture & Mining**
 - How to integrate circular economy and create pathways for transition within industries.

Jo Taranto

Educator in Residence
Circular Australia

Lisa McLean

Managing Director & CEO
Circular Australia



Circular Leaders Program

Circular Australia's Circular Economy leadership partnership program has been created for organisations to expand their circular economy influence and business opportunities across Australia.

Circular Australia's Circular Leaders Program is available to organisations committed to leading the transition to a circular economy.

A Circular Leader represents the highest tier of partnership in our network. It applies to a cohort of organisations already market leaders who are looking to drive circular economy outcomes. This Circular Australia partnership is designed to accelerate the pace of change, influence and transition the business and sector.

No one organisation or government can achieve the circular economy transition on its own; Circular Australia exists to help Australia's sectors transition to the new zero-carbon, zero-waste economy.

Circular Australia's mission is to accelerate the transition to a circular economy by removing barriers to scale. Our approach is to partner with sectoral leaders to support their work, which in turn drives genuine sectoral reform, increasing the viability and take up of circular products, practices and services.

Partnership costs

Circular Leaders must invest a minimum of \$25,000 plus GST. This includes Lead Circular Member Membership of Circular Australia taskforces for \$5,000 + GST, allowing access to all taskforces, policy input and benefits outlined on page 10 above. Circular Leaders will work with Circular Australia to highlight/solve a sectoral barrier to the implementation of a circular economy.

Please **[contact us](#)** to learn more.

Circular Precinct Activation

Circular Australia helps establish circular precincts by bringing together leading government, industry and research organisations in key economic development precincts to activate regional circular economies.

STEP 1: Develop a local Circular Economy Activator all day workshop with networking and strategic partnership development

\$20,000

Travel, venue not included

- Ensure participation of leading experts and organisations
- Teach circular economy principles, policy, metrics, business models and approaches.
- Identify bespoke economic and program opportunities for circularity
- Identify barriers and leverage opportunities to connect circularity to economic development

STEP 2: Establish a Steering Committee to co-design strategy for long-term outcomes

\$22,000/yr x 3 yrs

- Secure a leadership group from attendees to create SteerCo to co-design a regional/precinct circular strategy for legacy programs.

STEP 3: Economic analysis, research, education and project activation

Project funding to be secured once scoped

- Projects, research and education programs to be scoped by the Steerco
- Funding contributions secured from government, industry and research.

Led by Circular Australia team including:

Lisa McLean

Managing Director & CEO
Circular Australia

