

Stimulating the implementation of circular economy in business practice

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The NSW Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy

Increase recycling rates by 2021

- ***Commercial and industrial waste to 70%***
- ***Construction and demolition waste to 80%***

NSW EPA Circular Economy

Keeping valuable resources out of landfill by funding industrial ecology projects.

What is industrial ecology?

“Industrial ecology is trying to mirror natural ecology and design industrial systems so that we design waste out of the process. That is the ultimate goal.”

Understanding circular economy in commercial, industrial, construction and demolition

- **Great achievements so far**
- **The time is right**
- **Many materials and markets still untouched**
- **Innovation takes time**
- **Opportunity awaits!**

The Circulate Program

Development of industrial ecology relationships between NSW organisations to divert materials from landfill

- June 2014 to June 2015
- 6 projects, \$1,623,965

- Diverted over 20,000t of materials from landfill

- August 2015 to June 2017
- 11 projects, \$1,336,307

- Diverted over 30,000t of materials from landfill

The Circulate Program – Round 2

Building Operational Waste
Sydney

Timber
Hunter

**Packaging & Logistics/ Building
Operational Waste**
Hunter

Mixed Plastics
Murray

Food Waste Collection Trial
Hunter

Timber
Sydney

Food Supply Chain
Sydney

**Building Products
Manufacturing**
Sydney

Mixed Plastics
Hunter

Timber
South East



Circulate Case Study: Timber



Case Study: Timber

Sydney

Target: 7,480 tonnes

Funding: \$143,225

Hunter

Target: 8,000 tonnes

Funding: \$153,000





Circulate Case Study: Organics



Case Study: Organics



- **NSW Central Coast**
- **Limited options for food waste recovery**
- **Facilitator used existing relationships**
- **One trial established, ‘Fresh Food for fodder’**
- **Contamination, specific foods only**
- **Concept proven, then replicated**

Case Study: Organics



The Civil Construction Market Program Pilot

NSW Government's C&D recycling target
of 80% by 2021

- **\$75,000 awarded to Cardno in partnership with Southern Materials Advisory in the Illawarra**
- **Trialled 2 methodologies to divert 6,000t mudstone and sandstone spoil from landfill**



Circulate Round 3 – Overcoming barriers

Circulate now funds a project based model, including:



Benefits

- **Collaboration**
- **Corporate social responsibility**
- **Internal understanding of waste compositions**
- **Awareness raising**
- **Social enterprise and community involvement**

“We have to also factor in corporate responsibility – even if it cost almost as much as general waste but it was a better outcome overall, then it’s still worth it”

Waste Less, Recycle More

Information session and webinar – Thursday 5th July 2018

Update on the EPA's response to the China National Sword policy

- **Product Improvement Program**

Identify new uses and markets for recyclable materials

- **Circulate Program, Round 3**

Innovative, industrial ecology projects

- **Civil Construction Market Program, Round 1**

Innovative, industrial ecology projects targeting C&D waste



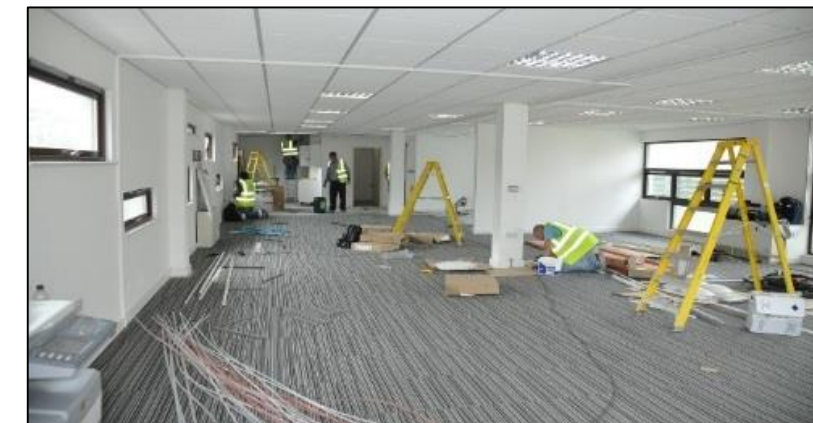
infrastructure.grants@epa.nsw.gov.au

Final Observations

The possibilities are endless



“We want to be part of the solution, not the problem”



Thank you and further information

For more information please contact:

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