

Using recycled and recyclable products: Influencing stakeholders through circular economy practices

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The industry has been hesitant to use products with recycled content in construction projects more extensively. It is important to gain stakeholders' confidence and adequately inform them to consider using products with recycled and recyclable content by developing a range of adequate strategies, guidelines, and policies. This project will identify strategies to enhance the economic and environmental performance of projects using products with recycled and recyclable content; explore how Australian construction organisations can integrate circular economy principles into their business; develop a national training package for construction designers to foster uptake and identify what and investigate how national and state policy interventions may optimise the use of products with recycled and recyclable content in construction.

Objectives

The project aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Identify the strategies to enhance the economic and environmental performance of projects using products with recycled and recyclable content.
2. Explore how Australian construction organisations can integrate circular economy principles into their business model/practice to foster uptake of local products with recycled and recyclable content.
3. Develop a national training package for construction designers to foster uptake of products with recycled and recyclable content.
4. Identify what and investigate how national and state policy interventions may optimise the use of products with recycled and recyclable content in construction.

Industry Outcomes

The project aims to enable industry:

1. In-depth understanding of strategies that are aimed at enhancing the environmental and economic performance of products with recycled and recyclable content application in the construction industry.
2. Offer pilot tested and validated education/training program aiming at behaviour and attitudinal changes for managing construction waste in the design phase.
3. Provide recommendations for reforming existing waste regulation and standards in favour of optimised uptake of products with recycled and recyclable content.
4. Advance construction projects environmental sustainability by introducing ways to improve the environmental footprints of products with recycled and recyclable content.

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