



## Advisory Board Meeting Communique

4 June 2021

The second meeting of the Australian Circular Economy Hub (ACE Hub) Advisory Board was strongly focused on developing board members' understanding of the ACE Hub's strategic direction, work plans, and progress of the current ACE Hub Working Groups.

Key highlights of the meeting included:

- Feedback and suggestions from board members on the ACE Hub's Strategic Action Plan and Three-Year Work Plan.
- First updates and an engaging discussion on the ACE Hub Working Groups.
- An agreement by members to discuss how best to use their extensive networks in assisting the ACE Hub.

Feedback from board members on the ACE Hub Strategic Action Plan and Three-Year Work Plan noted the document was clear and comprehensive, but also ambitious in its deliverables and projected outcomes. Questions arose on how to prioritise work within the plan, the level of funding and resourcing to carry out initiatives, and the viability of these goals given the economic environment caused by the COVID pandemic.

Suggestions to enhance the Strategic Action Plan and Work Plan included linking the deliverables to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and climate change and having a more refined view of economic barriers to help identify both potential sources of funding and opportunities for micro-economic reform. Regarding the Strategic Action Plan, the Board suggested creating a plan that was more concise and straight to the point.

An overview and discussion on the ACE Hub Working Groups including those focused on metrics, procurement and education was provided as part of the boards pre-reading material. As the latter two groups are still in development, more detailed updates on the already formed Metrics Working Group were provided by the groups chair Dr. Heinz Schandl, with further details available through the group's [dedicated page](#) on the ACE Hub platform.

The Education Working Group, which includes the Teachers Community sub-group, generated an engaging discussion from board members who debated where efforts on circular economy education should be focused. While primary, secondary, tertiary, and vocational education was discussed, a suggestion was also made that greater impact might be generated by focusing education on influential professional sectors like the construction industry.

The Advisory Board members also discussed several ideas for how they could best help the ACE Hub, including:

- Elevating the context and dialogue of circular economy in Australia.
- Helping drive a common language and terminology for the circular economy in government and communities.
- Supporting the ACE Hub Working Groups in their efforts to drive the transition to a circular economy in priority areas.
- Creating opportunities to influence government policy and engaging closely with government through different departments relating to the Advisory Board members and their networks.

Find information on the [ACE Hub Advisory Board members and meeting summaries here](#).