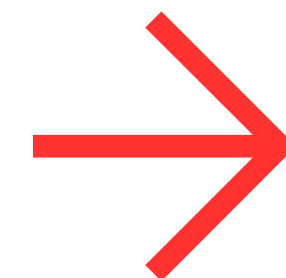


2025 UPDATE



# CIRCULAR ECONOMY ACTION PLAN FOR CANADA



A Solution Space by  
Generate Canada



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>01. About the Circular Economy Action Plan</b>	<b>2</b>
Our Vision	<b>6</b>
<hr/>	
<b>02. Key Enablers</b>	<b>7</b>
Information	<b>8</b>
Collaboration	<b>9</b>
Innovation	<b>10</b>
Policy	<b>11</b>
Investment	<b>12</b>
<hr/>	
<b>03. Priority Actions</b>	<b>13</b>
2025 Priority Actions	<b>14</b>

# ABOUT

The **Circular Economy (CE) Action Plan for Canada** is an essential framework designed to accelerate Canada's transition from a linear "take-make-waste" economy to a regenerative, circular economic system. In 2025, as global competition and market uncertainties intensify while climate impacts accelerate, the need for a unified national strategy is more critical than ever.

Canada currently holds one of the highest per-capita consumption rates globally, yet, our circularity rate stands at a mere 6%<sup>1</sup>. By adopting circular economy strategies and practices, Canada can reduce its vulnerability to market volatility by minimizing dependence on finite resources, building resilient local systems, and diversifying both supply chains and revenue streams.

## **BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION: FROM 1.0 TO 2.0**

The CE Action Plan for Canada serves as a definitive tool to **unite stakeholders**—including the private sector, governments, academic and non-government organizations, investors and innovators, and broader civil society actors—around a common purpose. It provides a shared framework, identifies strategic priorities, and, most importantly, establishes "on-ramps" for coordinated action.

This 2025 update, the **CE Action Plan for Canada Version 2.0**, builds directly upon the foundational work established by the 2023 inaugural edition. The original CE Action Plan defined five critical enablers for advancing circularity in Canada: **Information, Collaboration, Policy, Innovation, and Investment**. It set out thirty priority actions with a short-term horizon, designed to be reviewed and refreshed every two years.

Version 2.0 is not a pivot, but a magnification. It integrates crucial insights and evidence gathered since 2023, particularly from the **Canadian Circular Economy Summit (CCES) 2025** held in Montréal. By aligning our diverse efforts, we can de-risk investments, scale up circular innovations faster, and ensure that our collective momentum is greater than the sum of our individual parts, transforming fragmented efforts into systemic change.

1. Council of Canadian Academies (2021). [Turning Point Report](#).



PROGRESS AND MOMENTUM SINCE 2023

Since the launch of the 2023 CE Action Plan, Canada’s circular ecosystem has gained undeniable momentum. The CE Action Plan's focus on **Prioritizing Critical Enablers** has yielded significant progress, particularly in the areas of Innovation, Investment, Information, Policy, and Collaboration.

- **De-risking Innovation and Investment:** Collaborative efforts have succeeded in de-risking key circular innovations, helping to move concepts from perpetual pilot stages into scaled commercial operations. For example, CIC has initiated an ongoing reuse pilot project focused on testing and demonstrating reusable containers within the grocery and food service sectors. This has also included direct engagement with the finance sector to enhance lending practices for circular businesses and expand sustainable finance taxonomy work. CELC, specifically, has been actively working with financial institutions to identify key risks, enhance lending / investment solutions, and explore expanding sustainable finance taxonomy to include the circular economy as an environmental objective. CIC also continues its vital role as a convenor, actively facilitating matchmaking and de-risking innovation between investors, local governments, and businesses. CELC and CIC have also supported the expansion of the Project Zero incubator / accelerator to scale circular business models.
- **Policy Advancement:** Provincial and territorial governments have dramatically increased the pace of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) implementation for plastics and packaging, providing vital financial mechanisms to support recycling infrastructure. Furthermore, the federal government has continued to advance Canada’s Critical Minerals Strategy, directly aligning the extraction, processing, and recycling of key resources with circular principles. Circular Economy Leadership Canada (CELC) launched a government-to-government (G2G) CE Policy Incubator in 2024 to break down jurisdictional silos, and the Circular Innovation Council (CIC) has been working with the CSA Group and others on national standards and influencing long-term policies. CIC has expanded its circular procurement programming supporting Canada’s official inclusion into the first international procurement working group (CFIT) and launching Canada’s first Procure4Circular Network.
- **Sector Deep Dives:** Focused work streams—such as those addressing plastics packaging, the agri-food system, and energy storage / battery value chains—have matured, moving from initial knowledge sharing to targeted implementation roadmaps, demonstrating tangible steps towards systemic sector transformation. Notably, CELC launched a **Circular Construction Innovation Hub** to accelerate circular practices in the construction and real estate sector, while CIC designed and launched the **Share, Reuse, Repair Hub** to increase community awareness and engagement in the sharing economy.
- **Expansion of Canada’s National Circular Economy Awareness-Building Campaign:** CIC continues to expand the reach of Canada’s Circular Economy Month, engaging thousands nationwide each October, with over 350 businesses, governments, and community groups participating through events and online activities. The campaign generates thousands of hashtag mentions and about 100 events—from repair cafés to conferences and clothing swaps.
- **Development of Local Circular Economy Roadmaps and Action Plans:** More than 20 cities and local governments from across Canada have now developed their own circular economy roadmaps. These broad and comprehensive plans tailor local circular solutions aligned to broader economic development, sustainability, and climate objectives.

ABOUT



CANADA’S EVOLVING CONTEXT

The two years since CE Action Plan 1.0 was published have brought about significant shifts in the North American and global landscape, which version 2.0 must address, as outlined below.

- **Supply Chain Disruptions:** The last few years have exposed the fragility of global supply chains. By prioritizing domestic remanufacturing, reuse, and repair, the circular economy model directly enhances Canada’s **supply chain and economic resilience**, creating new, durable, local jobs, and bolstering domestic value retention that is essential for long-term productivity gains.
- **Geopolitical Headwinds:** With the resurgence of protectionist sentiments and the potential for new **trade barriers** in North America, including the threat of tariffs and trade disputes (often tied to environmental criteria like Carbon Border Adjustments), Canada must diversify to support **economic resilience**. The circular economy offers a powerful domestic solution: by using materials and resources already within Canada, we can reduce dependency on volatile international markets and protect ourselves against global shocks, fostering a sentiment for more **'Buy Canadian'** goods and services.
- **The Ascendancy of Cities:** While national policy is essential, the CCES 2025 reinforced that **cities and local governments** are true engines of circular innovation and implementation. With complex waste streams and municipal infrastructure investment falling under their purview, the role of cities to lead—from circular procurement to managing food and construction waste—has grown substantially. CE Action Plan 2.0 emphasizes the need for federal and provincial governments to transition from competitive project-based grants to providing long-term, predictable infrastructure funding and mutual planning intelligence to enable city-level scalability.



KEY INSIGHTS FROM CCES 2025

The CCES 2025, themed ‘Tackling Canada’s Biggest Challenges,’ served as the engine for the updated CE Action Plan 2.0, bringing together nearly 1,000 delegates to focus on practical, actionable solutions. The key takeaways embedded in CE Action Plan 2.0 include:

- 1. Convening for Change:** CCES 2025 reinforced the importance of bringing stakeholders together in a coordinated way to develop a National Circular Economy Roadmap that provides the strategic, regulatory, and collaborative foundation needed to scale circular practices consistently across sectors and regions.
- 2. Data as a Driving Force:** CCES 2025 underscored that informed circular decisions—from supply chain optimization to product design—are impossible without robust, real-time data and standardized metrics. CEAP 2.0 places a heightened emphasis on accelerating the development of national data standards, leveraging benchmarking tools, and enabling mechanisms like Digital Product Passports (DPPs) for transparency and consumer trust.
- 3. Finance as a Catalyst:** Discussions highlighted that scaling circularity requires overcoming perceived financial risk. Insights revealed a clear need for greater collaboration between the circular economy community and Canada’s financial institutions to expand sustainable finance taxonomies, de-risk circular business models, and address infrastructure investment gaps.
- 4. Prioritizing Resource Reduction:** While recycling remains important, CCES 2025 reinforced the principle of acting at the top of the resource hierarchy. New emphasis is placed on stimulating reduce, reuse, and repair initiatives across key sectors like food, textiles, construction, and packaging rather than focusing solely on end-of-life management.
- 5. Procurement as a Market Scale Lever:** CCES 2025 clearly identified the vast, untapped potential of public and private procurement to create stable, large-scale demand for circular products and services. Standardizing procurement criteria and leveraging collective buying power is essential to move circular solutions from niche projects to mainstream market forces. In addition, CE Action Plan 2.0 emphasizes the need for federal and provincial governments to transition from competitive project-based grants to providing long-term, predictable infrastructure funding and mutual planning intelligence to enable city-level scalability.
- 6. Inclusion and Social Equity:** A resilient circular economy must be an inclusive one. Insights stressed the necessity of engaging marginalized communities and leveraging Indigenous knowledge systems, ensuring that the economic and social benefits of the circular transition—particularly through job creation and cultural preservation—are equitably distributed across all Canadian regions and demographics.

**In light of these developments, CE Action Plan 2.0 re-commits Canada to an economically competitive, inclusive, resilient, and climate-smart circular economy. It translates the energy of our progress and the urgency of our external environment into a refreshed, actionable blueprint for the next two years.**

ABOUT

# OUR VISION

The circular economy advances a net-zero, nature-positive Canada, supporting economic prosperity through innovation and the well-being of Canadians today and for future generations.



# KEY ENABLERS

Updating the 2023 CE Action Plan for Canada to refresh near-term priority actions and focus areas for advancing the circular economy in Canada was a key objective of the 2025 Canadian Circular Economy Summit in Montreal.

Five key enablers were identified as the primary drivers of the circular economy. These enablers were cross-referenced with previous work in Canada such as the [Circular North America report](#) and the [Turning Point report](#), as well as CE Roadmaps from other countries such as [Finland](#) and [Chile](#). While this CE Action Plan is organized under five distinct enablers, their interconnectedness and multi-stakeholder dependencies underscore the need for collaboration.

These enablers and their respective outcome statements are outlined on the following pages.



- 1 INFORMATION**  
Leveraging data, information, education, and training as a foundation for success.
- 2 COLLABORATION**  
Establishing new partnerships and cultural connections to accelerate change.
- 3 INNOVATION**  
Stimulating circular innovation across industries, sectors, and supply chains.
- 4 POLICY**  
Aligning policy, procurement, and standards to drive accelerated circular economy action and investment.
- 5 INVESTMENT**  
Directing capital and financing to support circularity and address infrastructure gaps.



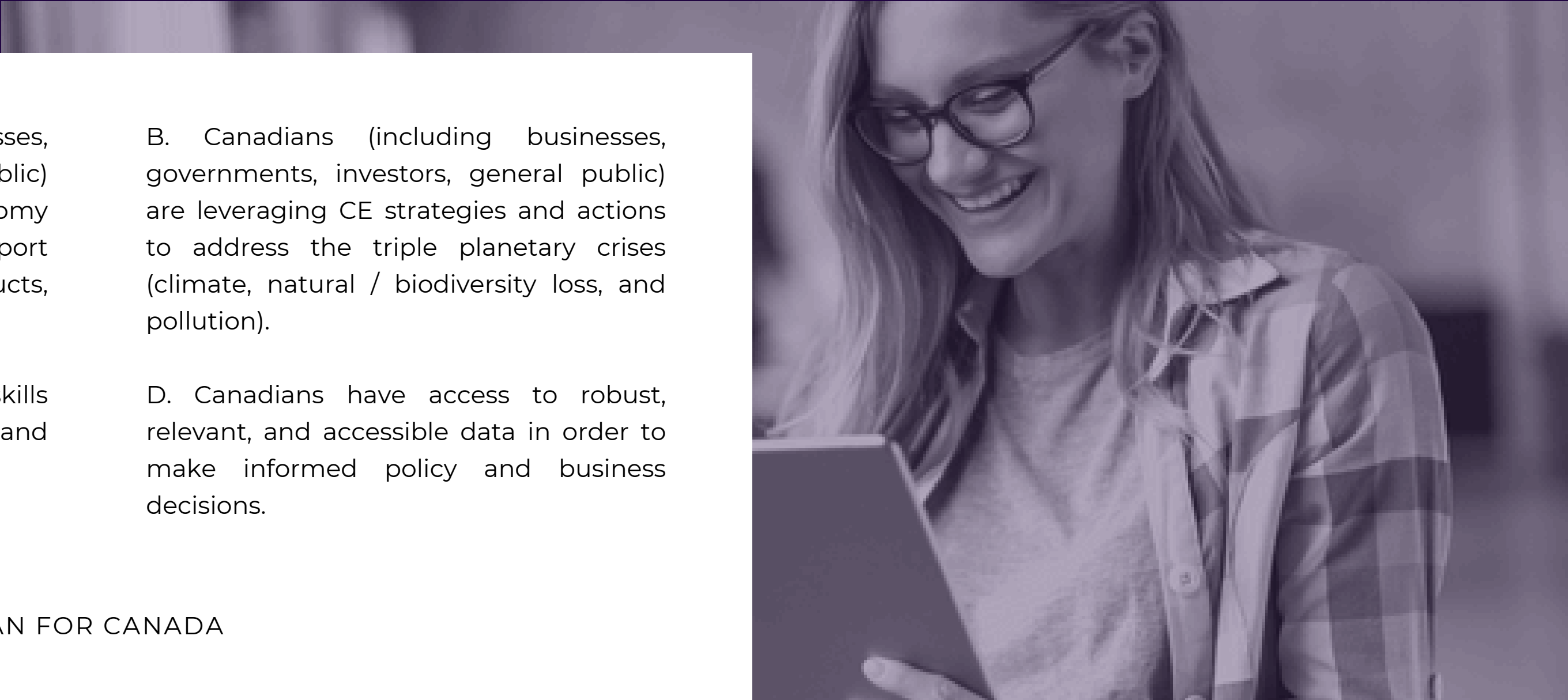
# ENABLER 1 : INFORMATION



**Leveraging data, education,  
and training as a  
foundation for success.**



Raising awareness will be essential to advancing the circular economy in Canada, including for circular strategies and solutions that bring economic, social, and environmental benefits. Information and knowledge-sharing are foundational components to this, which must be based on defensible, accessible data, proof points, and evidence-based research. Skills training and education will also be essential for enabling action.



KEY OUTCOMES

- A. Canadians (including businesses, governments, investors, general public) broadly support the circular economy through their actions, including support for circular business models, products, services, and investments.
- C. The Canadian workforce has the skills and education required to drive and deliver on CE goals and activities.

- B. Canadians (including businesses, governments, investors, general public) are leveraging CE strategies and actions to address the triple planetary crises (climate, natural / biodiversity loss, and pollution).
- D. Canadians have access to robust, relevant, and accessible data in order to make informed policy and business decisions.

# ENABLER 2 : COLLABORATION



**Establishing new partnerships and cultural connections to accelerate change.**



Transitioning from current linear industries and supply chains to a more circular economy in Canada will require systems-thinking to break down silos and establish new partnerships (domestically and internationally), while leveraging new approaches and collaborative platforms. Supporting the wide-scale adoption of circular practices will also require engaging across cultures and exploring the opportunities and challenges from various perspectives to embrace an inclusive approach to circularity.



## KEY OUTCOMES

E. Stakeholders (business, government, academia) are able to leverage enhanced models and platforms for collaborating across circular value chains to accelerate action and the CE transition.

G. Canada has identified and supports trade and collaboration across borders as it relates to accelerating and harmonizing global circular economy efforts.

F. Circularity in Canada is inspired by cultural diversity, different worldviews, working with Indigenous Knowledge holders, and other lived experiences.

# ENABLER 3 : INNOVATION



**Stimulating circular innovation across industries, sectors, and supply chains.**



Innovation is at the core of transforming business practices, industries, and supply chains from their current linear structures to more circular models. Leveraging Canada’s applied research knowledge-base while supporting business model innovation can create triple bottom-line benefits that support economic, social, and environmental objectives.



KEY OUTCOMES

H. Circular business models have become mainstream across Canadian sectors, industries, and supply chains.

J. Canada has applied circular strategies to address challenges in resource intensive (materials and energy) sectors.

I. Canada has a world-leading applied research community focused on accelerating CE innovation.

# ENABLER 4 : POLICY



**Aligning policy, procurement, and standards to drive accelerated circular economy action and investment.**



Establishing a comprehensive, harmonized policy framework across Canada, based on established standards of practice, will help provide certainty and drive circular economy activities and investments. Procurement as a tool can further accelerate the scale up of investments by driving the demand for circular products and services.



## KEY OUTCOMES

K. Policy in Canada (including regulation) has integrated circular economy principles and strategies across a broader set of issues beyond waste, including linking to Canada's climate / net zero goals, biodiversity / nature targets, as well as Canada's economic, innovation, and social agenda.

L. Procurement practices and tools are actively driving demand for more circular products and services across Canada.

M. Standards related to circular economy principles and best practices have been developed and widely referenced in Canadian policy, regulation, and codes.



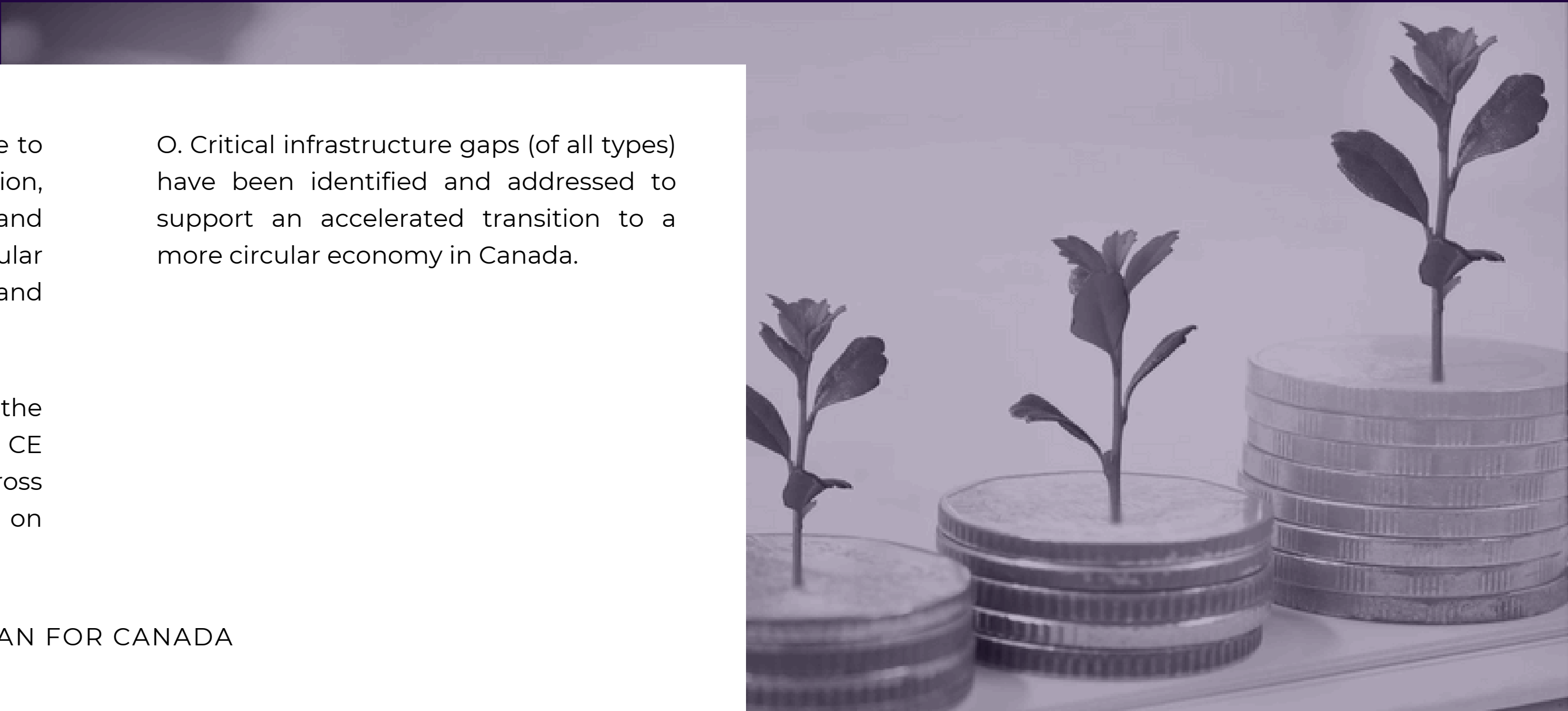
# ENABLER 5 : INVESTMENT



**Directing capital and financing to support circularity and address infrastructure gaps.**



Finance and investment are critical enablers for the circular economy, mobilizing capital to support business and community efforts while addressing critical infrastructure gaps. Engaging with financial institutions, addressing risks, and improving returns will take a coordinated effort, but must be aligned with business and community priorities.



## KEY OUTCOMES

N. The finance sector in Canada is able to advance its GHG emission reduction, nature-positive, social impact, and profitability goals through circular economy related investments and lending practices and programs.

P. Adequate funding exists to support the scale-up and deployment of CE innovation within communities across Canada (in connection with Theme 3 on Innovation).

O. Critical infrastructure gaps (of all types) have been identified and addressed to support an accelerated transition to a more circular economy in Canada.



# PRIORITY ACTIONS

**Thirty-six priority actions** have been identified under the five enablers and sixteen outcome statements, with short-term horizons that will be revisited every two years during the Canadian Circular Economy Summit to track progress and consider any areas for revised focus.

# 2025 PRIORITY ACTIONS

## 1 Information

**1. Launch Public Awareness and Engagement Campaign.**

Expand national campaigns using behavioral insights. Focus on practical benefits: affordability, waste savings, and job creation. Segment by audience—business, consumers, governments, cultural groups—to drive participation. (Builds on CEAP 2023 Priority Action 1.1)

**2. Create a National Circular Data Framework.**

Harmonize metrics, data, and measurement formats. Provide open dashboards that track progress by sector and region. (Builds on CEAP 2023 Priority Action 1.7)

**3. Integrate Circularity into Climate Action Plans and**

**Efforts.** Embed circular metrics and strategies into government and private sector climate plans, and address issues related to GHG reporting that disincentivize circular strategies and practices such as reuse, repair, and designing for longevity. (NEW Priority Action for CEAP 2025)

## 2 Collaboration

**4. Co-Design Circular Projects and Initiatives with Indigenous and Local Partners.** Adopt circular principles for infrastructure projects that align with Indigenous knowledge systems and regional co-governance that allows for shared ownership and/or benefit clauses in publicly-funded projects. (Builds on CEAP 2023 Priority Action 2.4)

**5. Scale Proven Models for Reuse, Repair, and Remanufacturing.** Support greater adoption of Value Retention Processes (VRPs) (reuse, repair, remanufacturing) business models through pre-competitive collaboration and shared infrastructure. (Builds on CEAP 2023 Priority Action 3.2)

## 3 Innovation

**1. Empower Entrepreneurs and SMEs.** Provide funding, advisory support, and buyer-linked pilots through circular economy incubators and accelerators to de-risk circular innovation. (Builds on CEAP 2023 Priority Action 3.3)

**2. Support Circular Testbeds & Innovation Hubs for Major Sectors.** Use a ‘living lab’ approach in strategic sectors (including construction, agrifood, textiles, manufacturing, plastics, and critical metals / minerals) to validate and prove out scalable business models. (Builds on CEAP 2023 Priority Action 2.1 and 3.4)

**3. Develop a Product Passport Roadmap.** Roll out digital IDs across key sectors—construction, electronics, food packaging—starting with voluntary pilots, then integrating into standards of practice and procurement. (NEW Priority Action for CEAP 2025)

**4. Use Digital Tools to Scale Circular Design.** Apply and incentivize AI, robotics, blockchain, and other digital solutions to cut waste or track material flows, prioritizing open-source and/or interoperable systems and platforms. (NEW Priority Action for CEAP 2025) (NEW Priority Action for CEAP 2025)

# 2025 PRIORITY ACTIONS



## 4 Policy

**10. Develop and Launch a National Circular Economy Roadmap.** Establish federal level objectives, underpinned by sectoral roadmaps, that are aligned with global standards and best practices. (NEW Priority Action for CEAP 2025)

**11. Enhance Supportive Policies for Reuse and Repair.** Redirect a share of EPR funds and fee modulation to support reuse and repair infrastructure, reform taxation on used goods, introduce durability ratings, and advance ‘right to repair’ legislation. (Builds on CEAP 2023 Priority Action 4.1)

**12. Mandate Circular Procurement Across All Public Agencies.** Use procurement to drive low-carbon, reusable, and repairable products while building SME readiness. (NEW Priority Action for CEAP 2025)

**13. Use Standards as Policy Accelerators.** Embed standards into procurement and policy, and leverage ISO 59020 standards for circular economy measurement locally, provincially, and nationally. (Builds on CEAP 2023 Priority Action 4.7)

## 5 Investment

**14. Launch a Circular Infrastructure Investment Plan.** Identify critical infrastructure needs and gaps by sector and region, and develop incentives and funding models to operationalize the plan. (NEW Priority Action for CEAP 2025)

**15. Expand Blended Finance to Support and De-risk Circular Projects and Infrastructure.** Combine public grants, private equity and debt, and community funding to support circular business models and infrastructure (reuse, repair, reprocessing, recycling). (NEW Priority Action for CEAP 2025)

**16. Mobilize Cities and Local Governments.** Empower localized circular programs through planning tools and grant funding opportunities. (Builds on CEAP 2023 Priority Action 5.3)



Outcome (10-year Horizon)	Priority Actions (2-year Horizon)	Stakeholders					
		CELC	CIC	Govt	Industry	NGOs	Academia
A. Canadians (including businesses, governments, investors, general public) broadly support the circular economy through their actions, including support for circular business models, products, services, and investments.	1.1 Launch a public awareness and engagement campaign. Expand national campaigns using behavioral insights. Focus on practical benefits: affordability, waste savings, and job creation. Segment by audience—business, consumers, governments, cultural groups—to drive participation.	L	L	S	S	L	
	1.2 Collaborate to develop standardized and accepted definitions for CE and related terms relevant to the Canadian context.	S	S	L	L	S	S
	1.3 Develop a key performance indicator, metrics, and measurement framework for CE in Canada.	L	S	S	S	S	S
B. Canadians (including businesses, governments, investors, general public) are leveraging CE strategies and actions to address the triple planetary crises (climate, natural / biodiversity loss, and pollution).	1.4 Aggregate evidence / data, undertake new research, and develop case studies clearly demonstrating the linkages between circular strategies / practices and (a) GHG emission reductions and (b) nature loss, and develop targeted communications, advocacy efforts, and implementation tools (including CE benefits into climate literacy programs).	L	L	S	S	S	L
	1.5 Demonstrate and share examples of how circular strategies can support embodied carbon objectives across the construction and built environment value chain (design, materials, asset life extension, deconstruction), connecting both demand and supply side through research, education (e.g., case studies), capacity building (e.g., training), and improved data and standards.	L	S	S	S	S	L
	1.6 Integrate circularity into climate action plans and efforts. Embed circular metrics and strategies into government and private sector climate plans, and address issues related to GHG reporting that disincentivize circular strategies and practices such as reuse, repair, and designing for longevity.	S	S	L	L	S	
C. The Canadian workforce has the skills and education required to drive and deliver on CE goals and activities.	1.7 Develop an inventory of top 20 occupations / professions essential for advancing circular models and practices and work with relevant professional bodies / organizations to identify curriculum gaps and training tools.		S	S	S		L
D. Canadians have access to robust, relevant, and accessible data in order to make informed policy and business decisions.	1.8 Create a national circular data framework to harmonize metrics, data, and measurement formats. Provide open dashboards that track progress by sector and region, aligned with CE principles and activities, including developing national material-flow accounts and intermediary data platforms to allow for the sharing of anonymized data.	S	S	L	S	S	S

Outcome (10-year Horizon)	Priority Actions (2-year Horizon)	Stakeholders					
		CELC	CIC	Govt	Industry	NGOs	Academia
E. Stakeholders (business, government, academia) are able to leverage enhanced models and platforms for collaborating across circular value chains to accelerate action and the CE transition.	2.1 Continue to strengthen, support, and expand pre-competitive collaboration models / platforms for knowledge sharing and problem solving / experimentation that bring together industry, government, and academia to advance circular value chains across sectors / materials (such as the Canada Plastics Pact, Canadian Circular Textiles Consortium, CERIEC's Living Labs, etc.).	S	S	L	L	S	S
	2.2 Scale proven models for reuse, repair, and remanufacturing. Support greater adoption of Value Retention Processes (VRPs) (reuse, repair, remanufacturing) business models through pre-competitive collaboration, digital platforms and shared infrastructure.	S	S	L	L	S	S
F. Circularity in Canada is inspired by cultural diversity, different worldviews, working with Indigenous Knowledge holders, and other lived experiences.	2.3 Undertake an exploration, including with Indigenous Knowledge Holders, of how different worldviews and cultural values could inform the CE transition in Canada and help communicate CE principles to different audiences.			S		L	S
	2.4 Co-design circular projects and initiatives with Indigenous and local partners. Adopt circular principles for infrastructure projects that align with Indigenous knowledge systems and regional co-governance that allows for shared ownership and/or benefit clauses in publicly-funded projects.	S	S	L	L	S	
	2.5 Undertake research on how to grow circular culture (habits, practices, patterns of use / reuse, and accessibility) in line with the motivational profiles of the Canadian population and applying a social equity lens (leveraging existing work on this topic).	S	S	S	S	S	L
	2.6 Explore options to develop more community-based programs that build an awareness and understanding for CE across Canada inline with different cultures, including at the K-12 level.		S	S	S		L
G. Canada has identified and supports trade and collaboration across borders as it relates to accelerating and harmonizing global circular economy efforts.	2.7 Collaborate with international organizations and government agencies to support knowledge sharing and harmonize policy, procurement, standards, business innovations, and trade initiatives with respect to circular products, services, and supply chains, including areas such as cross-border material flows and technologies.	S	S	L	L	S	S

L = Lead      S = Support

Outcome (10-year Horizon)	Priority Actions (2-year Horizon)	Stakeholders					
		CELC	CIC	Govt	Industry	NGOs	Academia
H. Circular business models have become mainstream across Canadian sectors, industries, and supply chains.	3.1 Launch a national circular business accelerator program to support existing / established businesses of all sizes across Canada to adopt more circular business models, engaging with their suppliers and customers to create more circular value chains and leverage industrial symbioses. Additionally, this program can foster a collaborative environment where companies across sectors can share experiences, learn from each other, and potentially form partnerships that enhance the overall impact of circular economy solutions.	S	S	S	S	L	S
	3.2 Develop and expand programs that enable product-as-a-service, sharing, reuse, repair, and value retention (e.g., remanufacturing) focused businesses in Canada, using an affordability and equity lens, making it easier and more attractive for the public to participate in these models.	S	S	L	S	S	
	3.3 Empower entrepreneurs and SMEs. Provide funding, advisory support, and buyer-linked pilots through circular economy incubators and accelerators to de-risk circular innovation.	S	S	S	L	S	
I. Canada has a world-leading applied research community focused on accelerating CE innovation.	3.4 Support circular testbeds and innovation hubs for major sectors. Use a 'living lab' approach in strategic sectors (including construction, agrifood, textiles, manufacturing, plastics, and critical metals / minerals) to validate and prove out scalable business models.	L	L	S	L	S	L
	3.5 Develop a product passport roadmap. Roll out digital IDs across key sectors—construction, electronics, food packaging—starting with voluntary pilots, then integrating into standards of practice and procurement.			L	S	S	S
	3.6 Use digital tools to scale circular design. Apply and incentivize AI, robotics, blockchain, and other digital solutions to cut waste or track material flows, prioritizing open-source and/or interoperable systems and platforms.	S	S	S	L	S	L
J. Canada has applied circular strategies to address challenges in resource intensive (materials and energy) sectors.	3.7 Scale the adoption of regenerative and zero-waste agriculture, aquaculture, and forestry practices through financial incentives, grants, harmonized policies, standards, and technical support to industry in order to transition towards regenerative and net-zero practices, demonstrations, and research collaborations, tied to climate mitigation and adaptation goals (building on existing efforts by industry and governments in Canada, including groups such as CANZA).	S	S	S	L	L	S
	3.8 Advance research and activities that encourage circular strategies and policies within critical mineral and metal value chains of importance to Canada's net-zero goals (including strategies such as design for disassembly, reuse, refurbishment, and recycling at end-of-life of products, such as renewable energy technologies and EV batteries, to recover the value of these resources).	L	S	S	S		L

ENABLER 4 : POLICY

Outcome (10-year Horizon)	Priority Actions (2-year Horizon)	Stakeholders					
		CELC	CIC	Govt	Industry	NGOs	Academia
K. Policy in Canada (including regulation) has integrated circular economy principles and strategies across a broader set of issues beyond waste, including linking to Canada's climate / net zero goals, biodiversity / nature targets, as well as as Canada's economic, innovation, and social agenda.	4.1 Enhance supportive policies for reuse and repair. Redirect a share of EPR funds and fee modulation to support reuse and repair infrastructure, reform taxation on used goods, introduce durability ratings, and advance 'right to repair' legislation.	S	L	L		S	
	4.2 Integrate life cycle GHG emission and carbon disclosure policies and reporting requirements within supply chains and within procurement requirements.		S	L	L		S
	4.3 Develop a government-to-government 'circular economy policy incubator' to break down silos and support strategic multi-disciplinary thinking and planning, enabling the systems approach needed for accelerating a circular economy, innovation, and social impact, as well as providing a mechanism for pooling funds to support research and scaling solutions.	L	S	L		S	
	4.4 Continue engaging with industry to explore where and how to expand provincially-harmonized extended producer responsibility (EPR) policy and/or resource recovery programs in areas of highest impact, including within targeted industrial sectors (e.g., agricultural plastics, construction, etc.)		S	L	S		
	4.5 Develop and launch a national circular economy roadmap. Establish federal level objectives, underpinned by sectoral roadmaps, that are aligned with global standards and best practices.	S	S	L	L	S	S
L. Procurement practices and tools are actively driving demand for more circular products and services across Canada.	4.6 Launch more public-private partnerships (e.g., buying groups) focused on standardizing circular procurement in strategic sectors and/or for circular products, services, and materials, as well as government procurement initiatives that standardize procurement and drive circular outcomes. This can include referencing circular economy relevant standards in procurement documents and tenders.		L	L	L	S	
	4.7 Coordinate and create demand for using the buy less, buy better, and use better principles and incent CE business model innovations by transitioning procurement (public and private) criteria to focus on outcomes that deliver economic and social value.		L	S	S		
	4.8 Mandate circular procurement across all public agencies. Use procurement to drive low-carbon, reusable, and repairable products while building SME readiness.			L			
M. Standards related to circular economy principles and best practices have been developed and widely referenced in Canadian policy, regulation, and codes.	4.9 Use standards as policy accelerators. Embed standards into procurement and policy, and leverage ISO 59020 standards for circular economy measurement locally, provincially, and nationally.	S	S	L	L	S	



Outcome (10-year Horizon)	Priority Actions (2-year Horizon)	Stakeholders					
		CELC	CIC	Govt	Industry	NGOs	Academia
N. The finance sector in Canada is able to advance its GHG emission reduction, nature-positive, social impact, and profitability goals through circular economy related investments and lending practices and programs.	5.1 Continue to engage the finance sector to identify key risks for investors / lenders, help financial institutions better understand the needs of circular businesses to enhance lending, investment solutions, and financing options (e.g., microloans, low-interest loans, innovative leasing, etc.), and expand sustainable finance taxonomy work in Canada to include circular economy.	L	L		S		S
O. Critical infrastructure gaps (of all types) have been identified and addressed to support an accelerated transition to a more circular economy in Canada.	5.2 Launch a circular infrastructure investment plan. Identify critical infrastructure needs and gaps by sector and region, and develop incentives and funding models to operationalize the plan. Advocate for investments to close these gaps where needed - including related to reuse, sortation, and recycling facilities (MRFs, reclaimers, recyclers, composting facilities, warehousing for secondary material storage, etc.).	S	S	L	L	S	
P. Adequate funding exists to support the scale-up and deployment of CE innovation within communities across Canada (in connection with Theme 3 on Innovation).	5.3 Mobilize cities and local governments. Empower localized circular programs through planning tools and grant funding opportunities. Grants should be accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, including universities, think-tanks, start-ups, and established businesses.			L			
	5.4 Expand blended finance to support and de-risk circular projects and Infrastructure. Combine public grants, private equity and debt, and community funding to support circular business models and infrastructure (reuse, repair, reprocessing, recycling).	S	S	L	L	S	S

L = Lead      S = Support



A Solution Space by  
**Generate Canada**



Circular Economy Leadership Canada and Circular Innovation Council look forward to working with our Partners, industry, governments, communities and other stakeholders across the ecosystem to advance this Circular Economy Action Plan for Canada.

**Learn more about CELC and CIC:**

[www.circulareconomyleaders.ca](http://www.circulareconomyleaders.ca)

[www.circularinnovation.ca](http://www.circularinnovation.ca)