

# **Sustainability in the Toy Industry in Australia**

**Presented by Alice Sanderson**

**Executive Manager**



**Australian Toy  
Association**

# Why is Sustainability & Circular Economy Important?

- ▶ Global plastics use is projected to nearly triple from 2019 levels
- ▶ While recycled (secondary) plastics are projected to grow quicker than virgin (primary) plastics; projected to make up only 12% of total plastics by 2060
- ▶ Plastic waste is on course to triple
- ▶ Plastic leakage to the environment is projected to double to 44 million tonnes a year
- ▶ Greenhouse gas emissions from the plastics lifecycle are projected to more than double

# Project Supporters, thank-you!



**Australian Toy Association**

This project was supported by the Circular Economy Business Innovation Centre (CEBIC) which is delivered by Sustainability Victoria



**Circular Economy  
Business Innovation Centre**

# Sustainability Victoria / CEBIC - Business support Fund

- \$2:\$1 – Industry Funded
- Upto 50% of industry contribution in-kind (ATA)
- 12-month project
- 5 milestones



**Australian Toy  
Association**

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY ACTION PLAN & ROADMAP FOR TOYS



**Australian Toy  
Association**

July 2022

# PROJECT PURPOSE

- Understanding of the movement of toys and materials through the Victorian and Australian economy
- Identify, develop, and assess circular economy solutions
- Interventions including opportunities for improved end-of-life management and recovery pathways



# DATA INSIGHTS

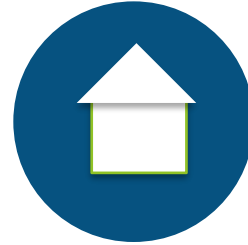
ABS data



Charitable organisations



Toy companies



NPD Group retail data

Toy libraries

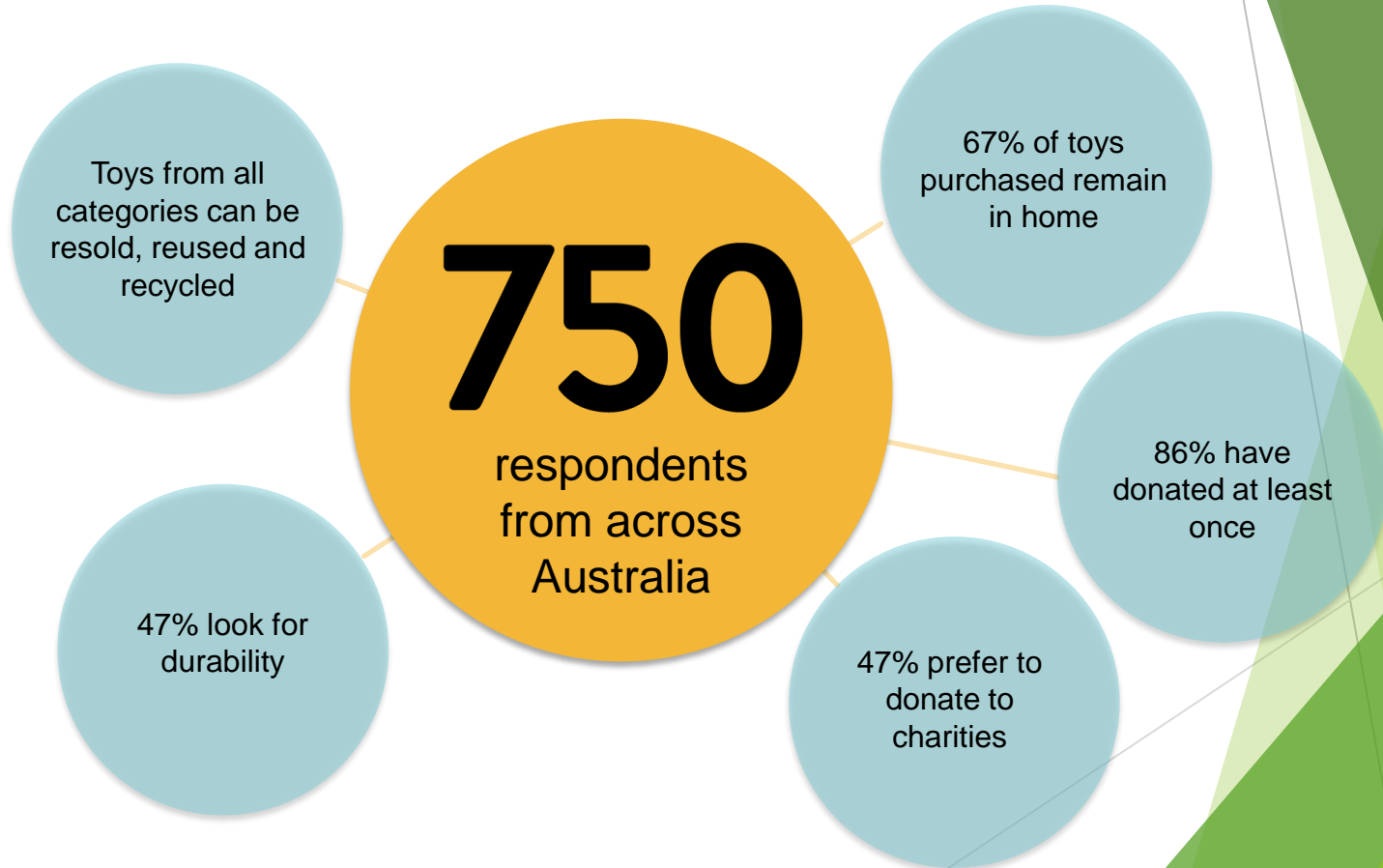
Other stakeholders



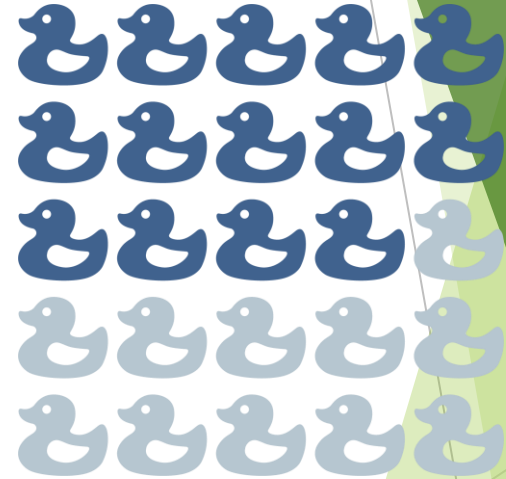
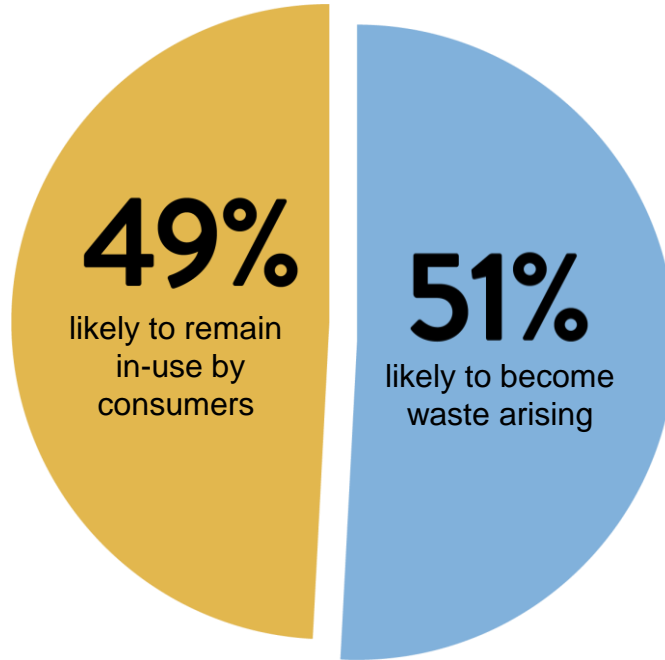
# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



# NPD CONSUMER SURVEY



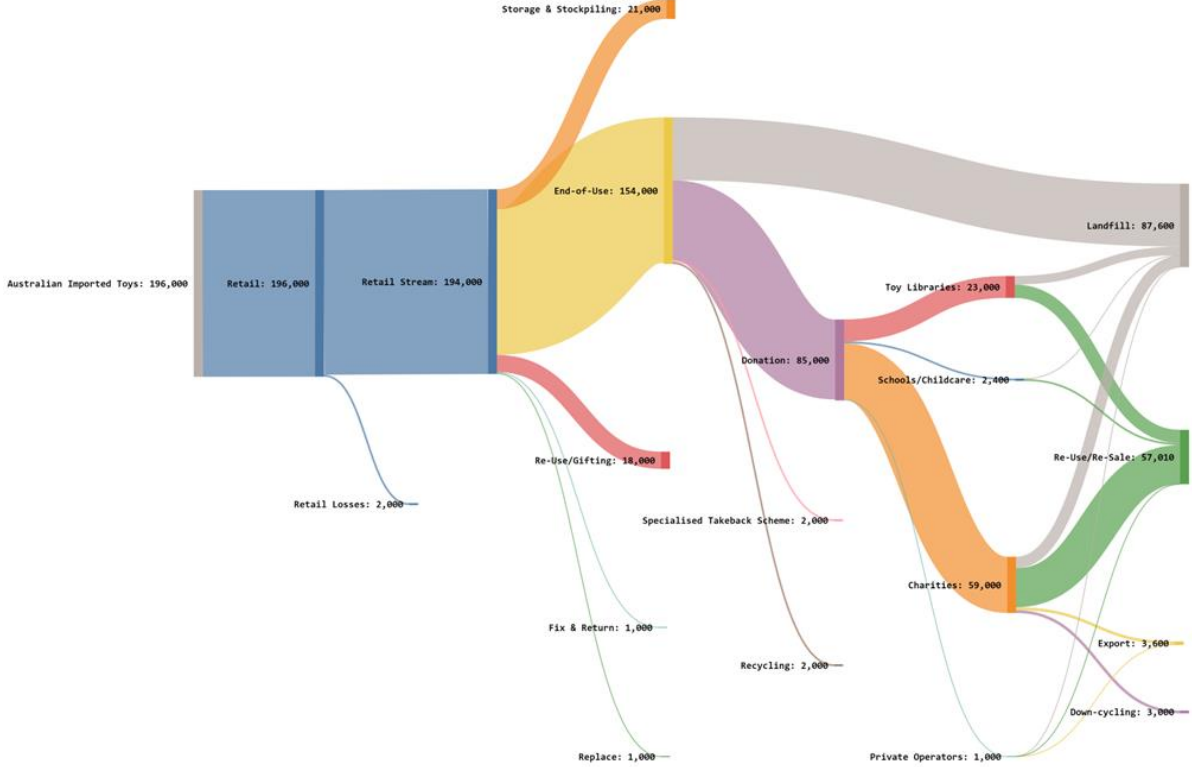
# MATERIAL FLOW ANALYSIS



**59%**

of toys that remain in-use by consumers are captured by the donation stream

# Material Flow Analysis



# Prioritisation of Interventions

Product Category	Weight (import data)	Useful Life	Material Composition	Repair & Re-use	Recovery and Recycling	Alignment with existing programs	Score
Plush	2	3	3	3	3	3	17
Outdoor & Sport Toys	3	2	3	3	3	3	17
Explorative & Other Toys	3	2	2	3	3	3	16
Vehicles	1	2	2	2	3	3	13
Action Figures & Acc	1	2	3	2	2	2	12
Dolls	1	2	3	2	2	2	12
Building Sets	2	1	3	1	2	2	11
Infant/Toddler/Preschool Toys	3	1	2	1	2	2	11
Games/Puzzles	2	1	2	1	2	2	10
Youth Electronics	1	3	1	2	1	1	9

# Categories & Material Compositions

Action Figures & Accessories - 99% Plastics / 1% Metals

Dolls - 92% Plastics / 8% Textiles

Plush - 5% Plastics / 95% Textiles

Outdoor & Sports Toys - 90% Plastics / 10% Textiles

Infant/Toddler/Preschool Toys - 93% Plastics / 4% Batteries / 3% Other

Games/Puzzles - 94% Carboard & Paper / 6% Wood

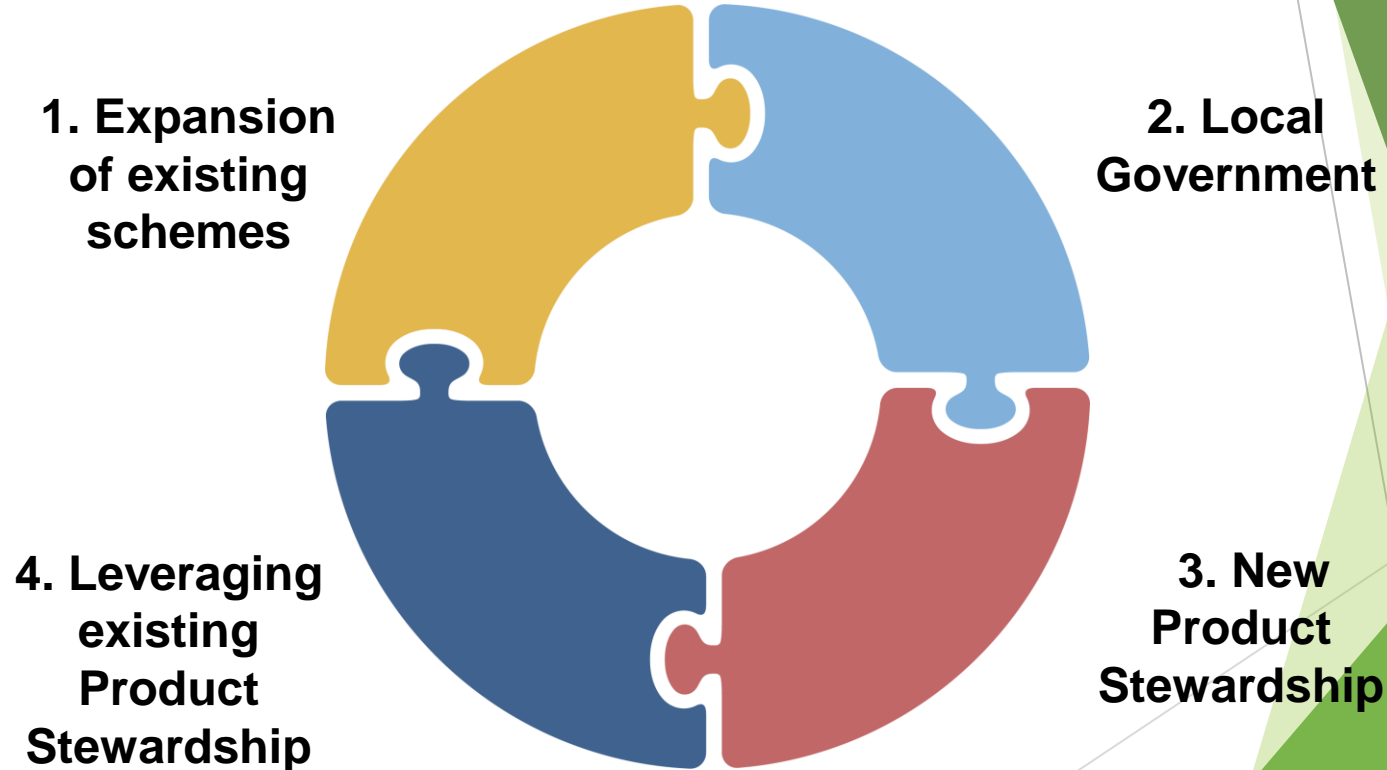
Building Sets - 100% Plastics

Explorative & Other Toys - 91% Plastics / 1% Batteries / 1% Other / 7% Wood

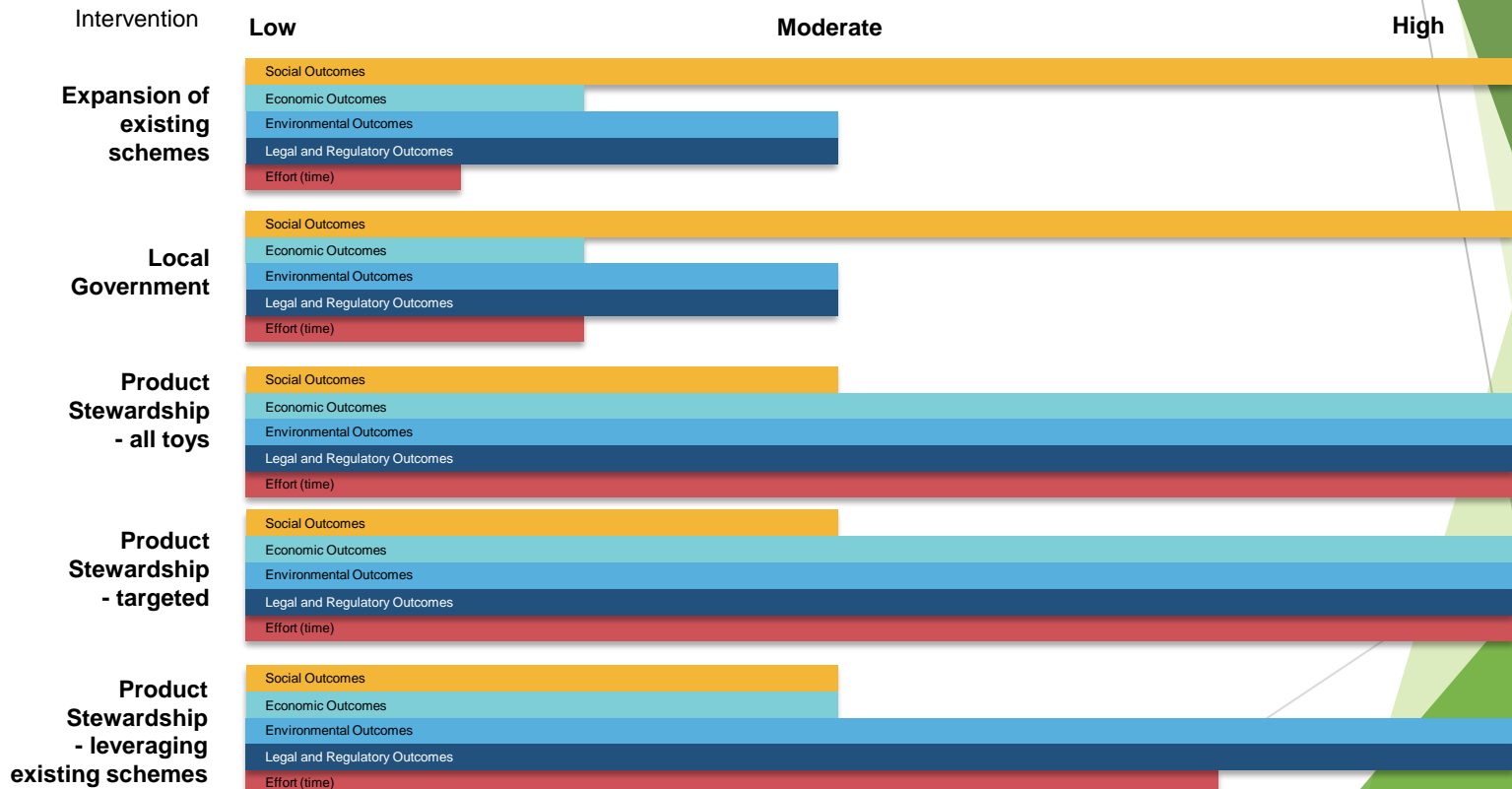
Vehicles - 5% Metals / 95% Plastics

Youth Electronics - 82% Plastics / 5% Batteries / 13% Other

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY SOLUTIONS



# SUSTAINABLE RETURN ON INVESTMENT





# CHALLENGES

**Multiple categories of toys**

**Complex and varied material compositions**

**Recycling infrastructure & availability**

**Data gaps**

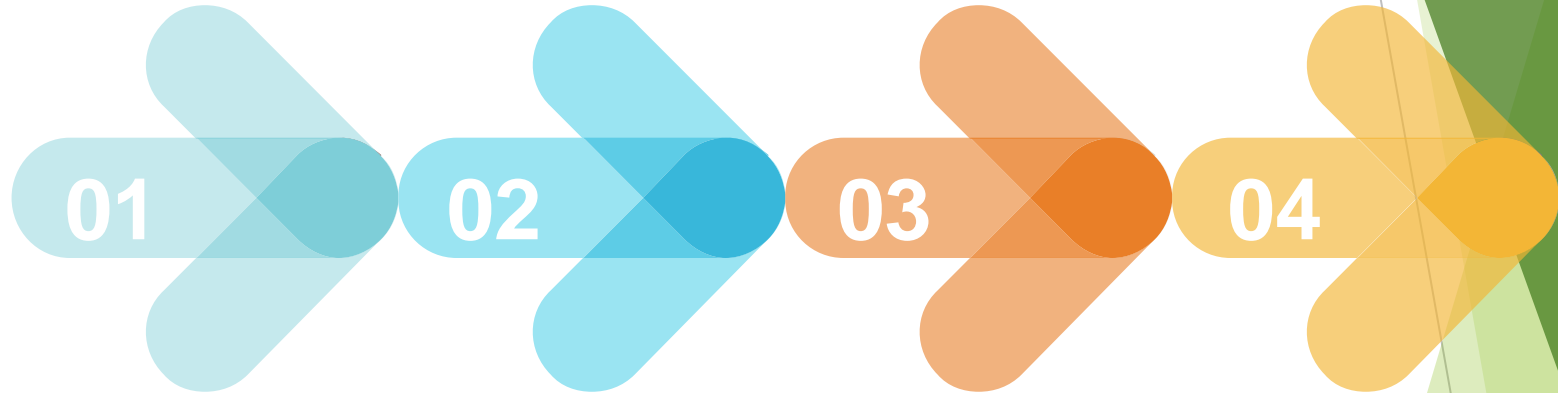
# PROJECT SUCCESSES

First comprehensive national and Victorian assessment of all toy consumption, use and disposal

New knowledge and insights leading to several potential solutions



# NEXT STEPS



Increase the re-use and repair of toys

Improve the recovery and recycling of toys

Encourage design for the environment

On-going market intelligence and addressig research gaps

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades, primarily on the right side of the slide, creating a modern, layered effect.

# Thank-you!

## Q&A

Contact

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