



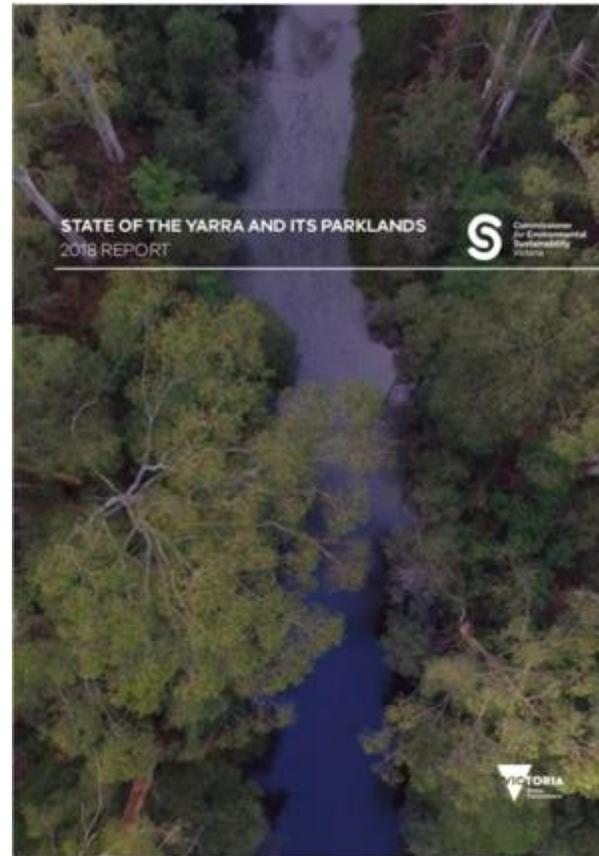
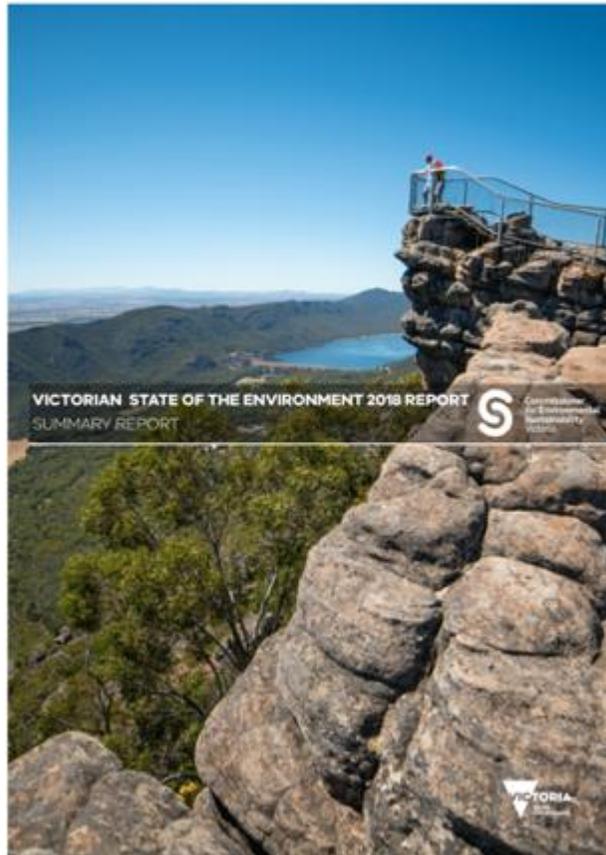
MELBOURNE PLANNING SUMMIT

Planning a Liveable and Sustainable Greater Melbourne

Dr. Gillian Sparkes,
Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability
18 July 2019



ces.vic.gov.au



SoE 2018 Recommendations

- 170 indicator assessments, 20 recommendations
- Aligns 52 UN SDG targets with current indicator suite and delivers the foundation for the SoE 2023 framework due in June 2020 (recommendation 20)
- The recommendations include better investment in, and use of:
 - digital platforms
 - data analytics
 - citizen science
 - environmental economic accounting
- They advocate for a shift in how we monitor and protect Victoria's natural assets.

Investment by **all levels of government** in these capabilities and workforce skills is critical.

SoE 2018 Recommendations

ces.vic.gov.au



SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS, CHALLENGES AND SDG TARGETS FOR FUTURE REPORTING

Dr. Gillian Sparkes,
Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability

March 2019



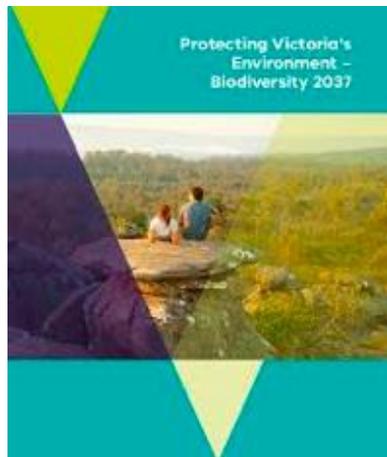
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Principles & Criteria

- Improving multiple environmental outcomes.
- Focus on improving the evidence base to deliver key legislative and policy frameworks including Climate Change Act 2017, Biodiversity 2037, Water for Victoria and the Yarra Strategic Plan.
- Be informed by the findings of other respected reports (CES acknowledges the significant research undertaken by others).
- Align with achieving ecologically sustainable development and SDG targets by 2030, and support the development of a system of environmental-economic accounts for Victoria.



Principles & Criteria

The recommendations can broadly be grouped into the following strategic capabilities:

- Science impact
- Coordination and governance
- Delivery
- Data, monitoring, spatial information and analytics
- Citizen science and education

Focus for today's discussion

- Biodiversity
- Climate Change Impact/Energy
- Waste and Resource Recovery
- Global Context – Megatrends, UN SEEA and UN SDGs
- Commissioner's Statutory Environmental Reporting Program 2019-2023

The big issues: Biodiversity

**The U.N. Reports That 1 Million Species
Could Go Extinct. It Shows How Hard It
Will Be to Heal the Planet**



TIME MAGAZINE 7.5.19

SoE Biodiversity Indicators

TREND	BIODIVERSITY
IMPROVING	1
STABLE	7
DETERIORATING	18
UNCLEAR	9
TOTAL	35

SoE 2018 Recommendations

Biodiversity:

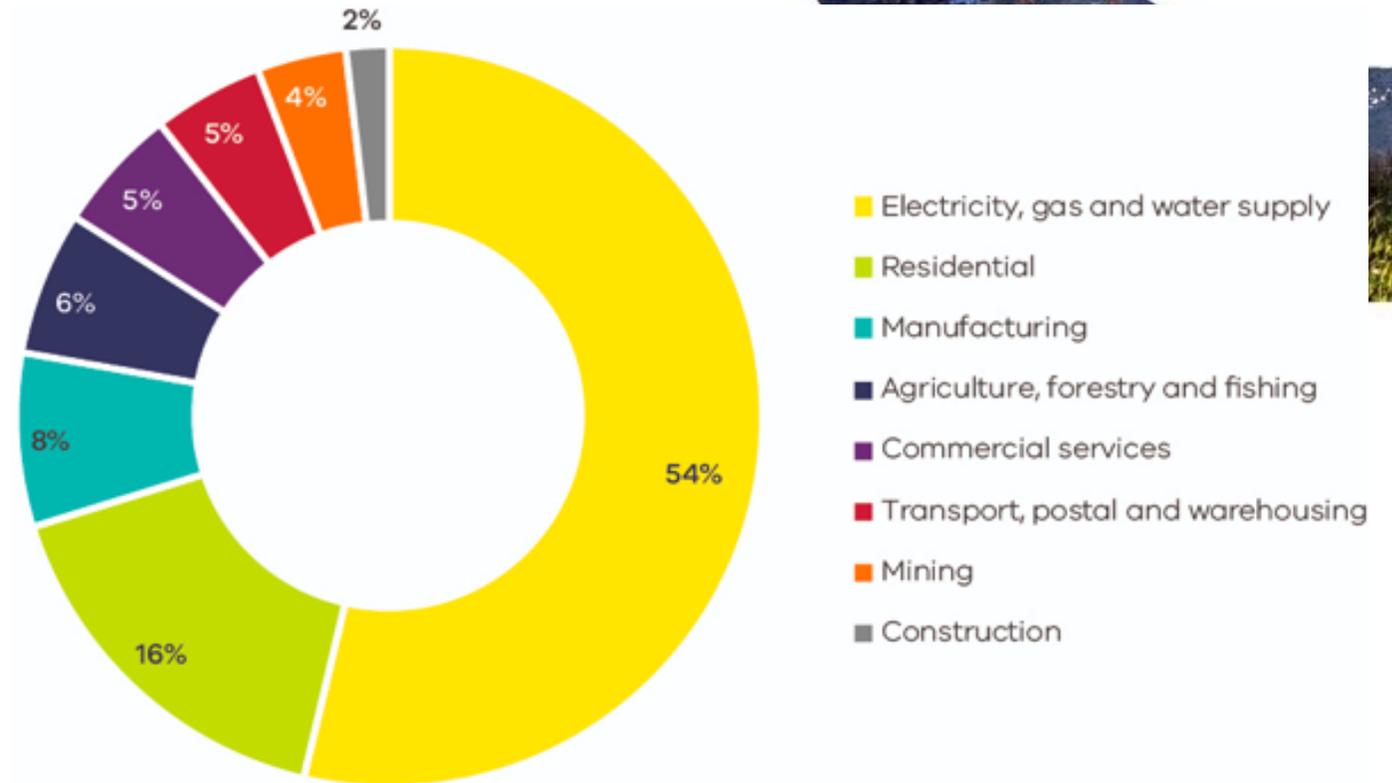
DELWP establish the position of the **Chief Biodiversity Scientist** to oversee this coordinated effort and provide esteemed counsel to the DELWP Secretary and the Minister for Environment to improve the impact of investment in biodiversity research across the Victorian environment portfolio.



The big issues: Climate Change Impact/Energy

Assessments highlight two key issues:

- The extent of the problem
- The urgency required to mitigate and adapt to its influence



Greenhouse gas emissions in Victoria

CLIMATECHANGE.VIC.GOV.AU

SoE 2018 Recommendations

Climate Change Impact/Energy:

Recommendation 15: That DELWP establish a set of indicators, and implement measures to collect appropriate data, to track the impact of energy emissions reduction to meet interim targets set under the Climate Change Act 2017. The reporting should also track the transition of Victoria's grid, transport and industry infrastructure to support a low-carbon future.



The big issues: Waste and Resource Recovery



SoE 2018 Recommendations

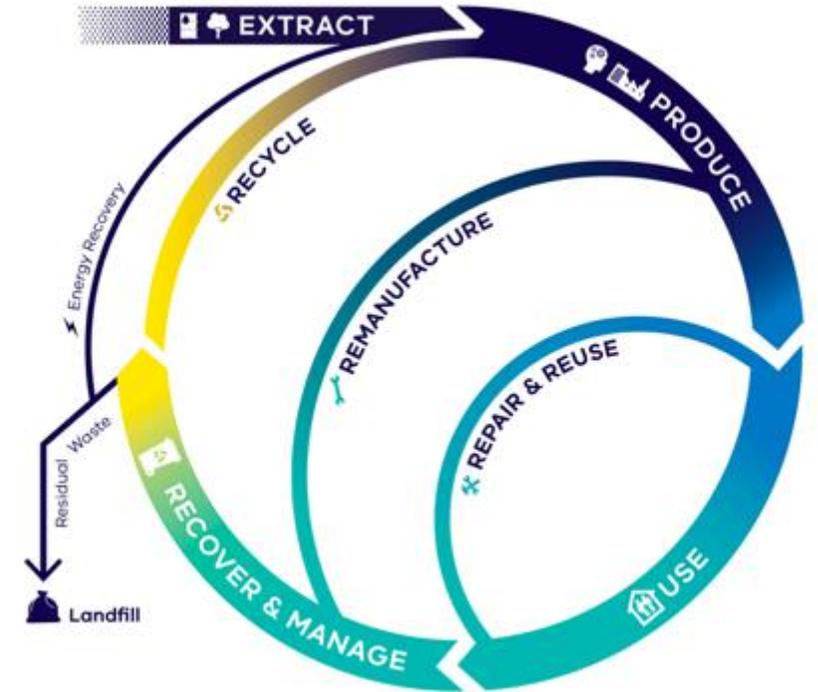
Waste and Resource Recovery

Develop indicators and implement a comprehensive monitoring and reporting framework to enable and track progress on Victoria's transition to a circular economy.

Recommendation 13: That Sustainability Victoria, in 2019, develop indicators and implement a comprehensive monitoring and reporting framework to measure delivery of the current SWRRIP and WRRIPs against their circular economy design principles.

From July 2020, that Sustainability Victoria expand that monitoring and reporting framework to track the progress of the implementation of the strategy and **publicly report, at least annually, on Victoria's transition to a circular economy.**

A circular economy for Victoria



SoE 2018 Recommendations

Waste and Resource Recovery

Recommendation 14: That the Victorian Government, commencing within the metropolitan region as a minimum, **align the institutional planning and procurement processes (including leveraging Victorian Government procurement) to support the delivery of the circular economy strategy from July 2020.**

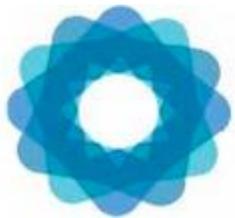
Ultimately, this alignment would be adopted state-wide and enable an orderly transition to a circular economy in Victoria by 2030. In developing the action plan to deliver the circular-economy strategy, the roles and responsibilities of all agencies should be clarified to nominate those agencies responsible for delivering policy, procurement, program, reporting and regulatory roles. Further, that the Victorian Government commit to **long-term, systemic, state-wide community education to support this transition** and assist the change in behaviours that will be required to improve long term system outcomes. Reducing consumption and contamination levels in kerbside recycling would be the initial focus.

The big issues: Global Context, UN SEEA and UN SDGs



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

SoE 2018 Recommendations

Recommendation 19: That DELWP **establishes environmental-economic accounting as a core capability and delivers a set of environmental economic accounts for Victoria by 2022**, consistent with the SEEA guidelines, the DELWP Valuing and Accounting for Victoria's Environment strategy and aligned with the agreed common national approach. Further, that the Minister for Environment include in the Statement of Expectations to the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability a requirement to incorporate reporting against Victoria's environmental-economic accounts in State of the Environment reporting for Victoria from 2023.



SoE 2018 Recommendations

Recommendation 20: That the Minister for Environment include in the Statement of Expectations to the **Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability** a requirement to **adopt the SDGs as an operating framework for SoE reporting in Victoria from 2023**. This will require that DELWP support the Commissioner by leading a portfolio review of the data requirements to assess Victoria's progress against the selected SDG targets, which will include a complementary analysis of current legislation, policy and programs against the SDG targets, and the development of a plan to improve data-acquisition processes for socio-economic indicators by 2021.



Commissioner's Statutory Environmental Reporting Program 2019-2023:

- I. **2020:** State of the Environment Reporting Framework – build on SoE 2018 and SDGs baseline + Water for Victoria Action 3.6: Framework for reporting on the benefits of environmental water
- II. **2021:** State of the Marine and Coastal Environment (building on 2016 State of the Bays report)
- III. **2023:** State of the Yarra and its Parklands
- IV. **2023:** State of the Forests
- V. **2023: State of the Environment** inc. reporting against **Biodiversity 2037 Targets** and **Benefits of Environmental Water**

www.ces.vic.gov.au



Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability
Dr Gillian Sparkes



@CommissionerVic

THANK YOU