

# Sustainability Victoria Impact Report

## An overview of our work in 2022-2023

### Our goal is to become Australia's most sustainable state by 2030, and a global leader in sustainability solutions by 2045.

Our purpose is to accelerate Victoria's transition to a circular, climate-resilient, clean economy – contributing to achieving the Government's targets for 2025 and 2030 as set out in Victoria's Circular Economy Policy and the Climate Change Strategy.

In 2022–23, we continued to make significant progress towards SV2030, our ambitious and exciting agenda to deliver a decade of action towards net zero emissions, reducing waste and building climate-resilient communities across Victoria.

This year we invested in and strengthened relationships with Victorian industries and businesses, research institutions, schools, households, individuals, community groups and local government. These partnerships will continue our acceleration to a circular, climate-resilient, clean economy.

We achieved several significant milestones and celebrated successes in our three key focus areas exceeding 12 of our 16 targets:

#### Investment and innovation

Target goal	2022–23 result
\$30 million in government investment into new resource recovery and zero carbon infrastructure	\$44.9M
\$60 million of private investment mobilised into new circular economy and zero carbon infrastructure (including Commonwealth funding)	\$151.9M
120 clean economy jobs	337
200,000 tonnes of resource recovery capacity funded and installed (BP3)	126,962
500,000 tonnes less waste going to landfill	472,430
70 7-star certified homes built	58

#### Behaviour change and education

Target goal	2022–23 result
5 priority SV projects using behavioural insights in program design and delivery	5
1 million people have been reached by the circular economy education and behaviour change program	1.9 million
650 Victorian schools participating in the ResourceSmart Schools program (BP3)	528
8.5M kWh energy saved by Victorian schools participating in the ResourceSmart Schools program (BP3)	8.3 million kWh

#### Community action

Target goal	2022–23 result
5,000 volunteer hours increasing local capacity and capability within communities to deliver renewable energy and circular economy projects	58,313
7,500 Victorians safely dispose their household chemicals at a Detox your Home event	8,132
22 networks and partnerships to deliver a circular, climate resilient and clean economy in Victoria	47
1,190 MWh clean energy generated	1,200
1.5 million t CO2e of (modelled) abatement through policy support and technical advice to other agencies	1.6 million
\$400 million (modelled) in annual energy bill savings contributed through policy support and technical advice to other agencies	\$400 million

See over for further details on our impact in 2022–2023.

# Our impact in 2022–2023

Sustainability Victoria continues to offer leadership and foresight to help Victoria understand the opportunities and risks as we work towards SV2030. This area of work is complex and to meet our long-term goals, we must focus on the issues the State tackles and how we make impact in these areas year on year.



## Future-proofing our recycling system

### We're building a recycling system of the future.

We've leveraged millions in investment to deliver major projects transforming Victoria's recycling system. We are working to ensure more material can be processed locally, turning it into high quality recycled content all while reducing our reliance on export markets.

To do this, we are building a recycling system all Victorians can trust, and tackling emerging challenges posed by climate change and population growth.

This work prepares our Victorian businesses for the transition to a circular economy.

**\$44.9 million**

Victorian government investment delivered by Sustainability Victoria to build new resource recovery and zero carbon infrastructure.

**\$151.9 million**

additional private and commonwealth investment brokered by Sustainability Victoria in new circular economy infrastructure projects.

### We're taking recycled materials to the next level.

We've brought innovative products made from recycled materials to market, from research, development and demonstration through to commercialisation. This ensures our recycling is put to good use and can be turned into the best possible materials and products for us to use again.

In 2022–23, 22 projects received \$5 million in funding from us to bring new ideas to market. The Australian Government also helped us by co-funding another 11 projects worth \$11 million to divert more organic waste from landfill and improve the quality of recovered materials.



## Stopping waste before it starts.

### We're changing how we do business in Victoria

We're future-proofing Victoria's economy by investing in Victorian businesses to design out waste.

Through grants, education and collaboration, we've fast tracked first movers to test new business models that are good for the environment and the bottom line. It's paving the way for smarter, circular, and more sustainable business in Victoria.

Our Circular Economy Business Innovation Centre (CEBIC), is a one of its kind program in Victoria that focuses on circular design. It is a one-stop online shop for events, funding and research on circular economy for businesses.

### In 2022-23, CEBIC has:



**Supported the development of 96 new circular products or services.**



**Delivered \$1.2 million in grants to 9 projects for business models that reduce or design out waste.**



**Leveraged \$7.58 million in co-investment.**



**Established 39 partnerships or collaborations.**



**More than 20,000 users have accessed the Circular Economy Business Innovation Centre online.**

### We're supporting communities to do it their own way.

We partnered on the ground in towns and cities across Victoria, supporting communities to develop their own grassroots circular economy projects, from repair cafes to nappy sharing schemes.

Showing communities how to bring their ideas to life has lasting impact, paving the way for a future where every Victorian can be part of a local circular economy, no matter where they live.

## 39 projects funded

in 2022-23, with \$3 million to empower not-for-profits, charities and community organisations to deliver projects that repurpose, repair, reuse and recycle everyday items.





## Making recycling work for Victorians

### We champion shared responsibility on recycling.

We deliver statewide education and behaviour change programs to Victorians — encouraging households to recycle correctly.

Only 27% of Victorians have a strong level of trust in Victoria's recycling system. Through our campaigns, we have begun to build this trust, supporting householders to understand changes to the system and their role in making it work.

More than half of Victorians have put the wrong thing in the recycling bin, and contamination remains one of the sector's biggest challenges. We know that we need the system to operate to its full potential as we move to four-bin kerbside collection.



### 13%

Since SV's 'Small Acts, Big Impact' campaign began in 2021, the number of Victorians contaminating their recycling by putting it in bags has reduced from 20% in 2021 to 13% in 2023. This equates to 7% of Victorians, or approximately 360,000 people changing their behaviour.

### 1.9 million people

reached by SV's 'Small Acts, Big Impact' campaign in 2022-23, — nearly double our target of 1 million.



## Making energy efficiency easier

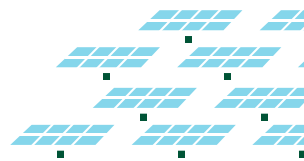
### We're breaking down barriers to energy efficiency

Even when Victoria can generate more of its energy from renewable sources, we'll need to think about how efficiently we're using that energy to save money and keep our emissions low. We've made energy efficiency easier for all Victorians by understanding the barriers and breaking them down, sector by sector.

Whether the stumbling block is know-how, motivation, cost or access, we've accelerated energy efficiency for councils, not for profit organisations, industry, business and households by understanding their needs and providing the right support at the right time.

### 330,000

Victorians reached by our Household Energy Action Guide in 2022-23, helping householders find energy savings in light of cost-of-living pressures



### We're bringing Victorian homes into the 21st century.

Half of Victorian homes have poor to extremely poor thermal quality. Not only are Victorians in these homes sacrificing their comfort and wellbeing, they're also using energy inefficiently — costing them money and increasing emissions.

We're pioneering a new approach to adapt homes to our 21st century climate. We know what is needed for the future, and we're driving systemic change by working with decision makers from a range of perspectives — from householders to researchers, policy makers to home builders — ensuring no Victorian is left behind.

### 58

7-star certified homes built in 2022-23





## Leveraging communities to reach net zero

### We're achieving collective impact through communities.

Action at every scale is needed if Victoria is to hit net zero emissions by 2045, and we're tapping into communities to drive Victoria's transition from the ground up. We've supported communities to design their own sustainable, low carbon future – from funding projects to generate renewable energy locally, to reducing emissions through education in schools.

A ripple makes a wave; one solar panel becomes one thousand: our programs are a catalyst for collective action, connecting communities to progress together towards a net zero future.



## Connecting systems and sectors

### We drive sustainability in Victoria end-to-end.

No sector can create change alone. As a connector for governments, business, industry, academia, community and consumers, Sustainability Victoria is in a unique position to accelerate meaningful change. By understanding the problem, the stakeholders and the supporting systems, we facilitate effective, evidence-based solutions with a deep understanding of impacts from a range of perspectives.



### In 2022-23:



528 Victorian schools participating in the ResourceSmart Schools program.



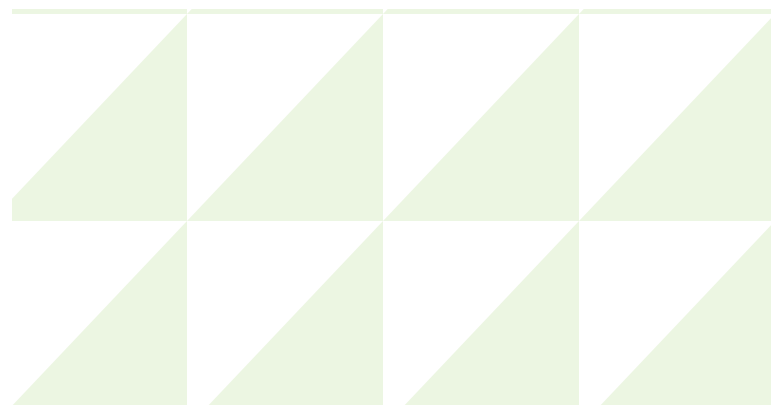
The ResourceSmart Schools program resulted in a saving of more than 8.3 million kWh of energy and over \$2 million on annual energy bills.



8,132 Victorians safely disposed of their household chemicals at a Detox your Home chemical collection event.



7 community power hubs across the state supported 127 community organisations to deliver more than 40 community energy projects.



Read Sustainability Victoria's 2022-2023 Annual Report for an expanded summary of our impact. Visit [www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/our-impact](https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/our-impact)