

Case Study: Building Product Recycled Content Western Sydney

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BUILDING PRODUCT SUMMIT | FEBRUARY 2026



Bradfield City Centre



114 hectares, 5 x the size of Barangaroo



2-hectare Central Park will be the main civic gathering place



Built on the doorstep of the Western Sydney International Airport



First stage of development to complete in 2026



2 million sqm of gross floor area will be available for development - over 80 buildings of mixed use



City built using low carbon and sustainable materials



36 hectares of open space, waterways and playgrounds



Designed with a strong connection to Country



Nearly **half of global emissions** come from the production, consumption and disposal of products and materials.

What does a circular economy mean in practice?

It means **getting as much use out of products and materials as possible** and reducing the amount of waste we generate.

<https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/government-and-local-organisations/choose-circular/nsw-government-agencies-taking-circular-economy>



Conserve natural resources and reduce the need to extract raw materials.



Minimise waste and reduce the need for landfill.



Save energy and reduce emissions generated by manufacturing processes.



What is driving demand for products containing recycled content?

What is recycled content?

Recycled content typically refers to the **proportion of a product's material that comes from recycled sources**, as opposed to virgin materials.

Pre-consumer recycled content:

Materials reclaimed during the manufacturing process (e.g. factory scraps).

Post-consumer recycled content:

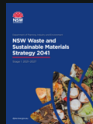
Derived from products that have already been used (e.g. plastic pipes).



Source: Roberts, T. (2008, November 24). Defining Recycled Content. Retrieved from <https://www.buildinggreen.com/explainer/defining-recycled-content>

NSW Government requirements

NSW Government agencies are required to **prefer products that contain recycled content**, including building materials and office fit outs and supplies, on an 'if not, why not' basis, where there is no significant additional cost or negative impact on performance and the environment.



<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/recycling-and-reuse/strategic-direction-for-waste-in-nsw/waste-and-sustainable-materials-strategy>

NSW Government requirements

The required data for reporting will likely include:

- the **types, quantities and cost of products containing recycled materials**, and quantities of key products containing no recycled materials
- **lessons learned in the uptake of recycled materials** (including barriers and opportunities)
- the types and quantities of materials reused on site.

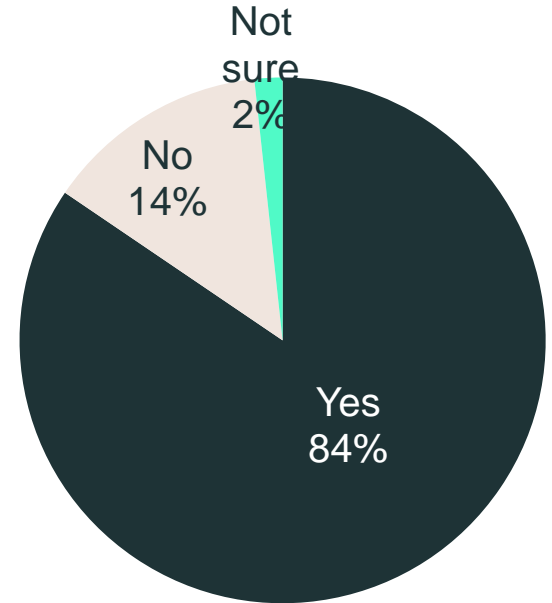


<https://yoursay.epa.nsw.gov.au/protection-environment-policy>



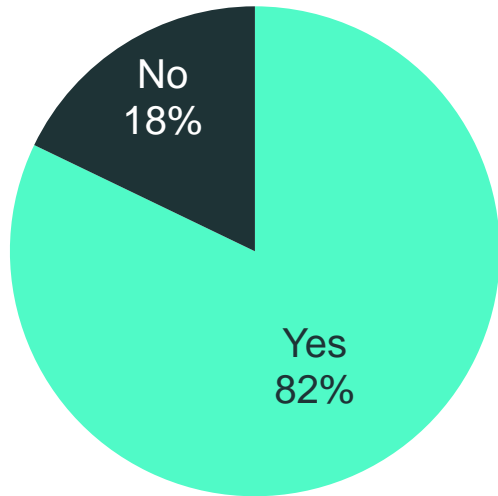
Are manufacturers using recycled content?

Do the products you manufacture and/or sell contain recycled content?

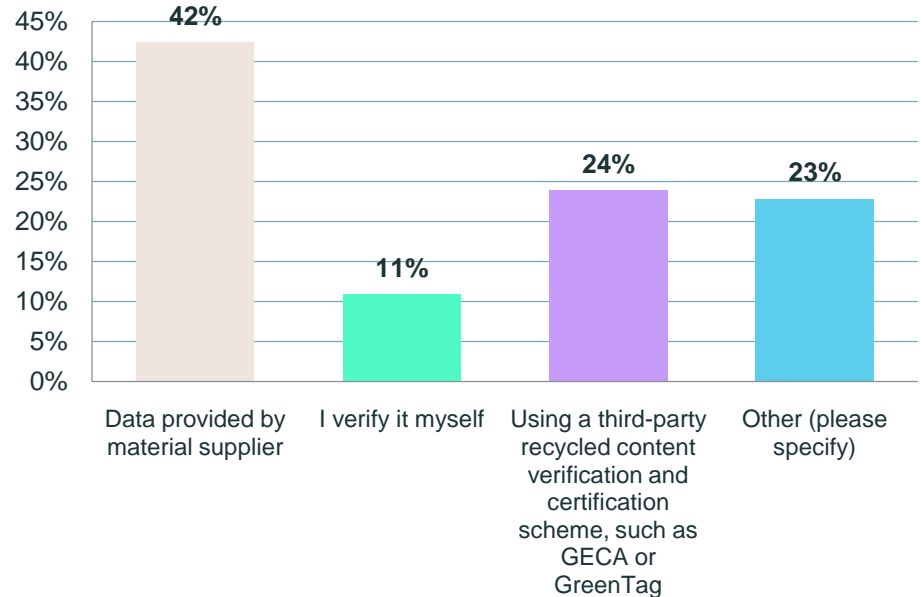


Are manufacturers verifying and certifying their products?

Do you verify or trace where recycled content is coming from?

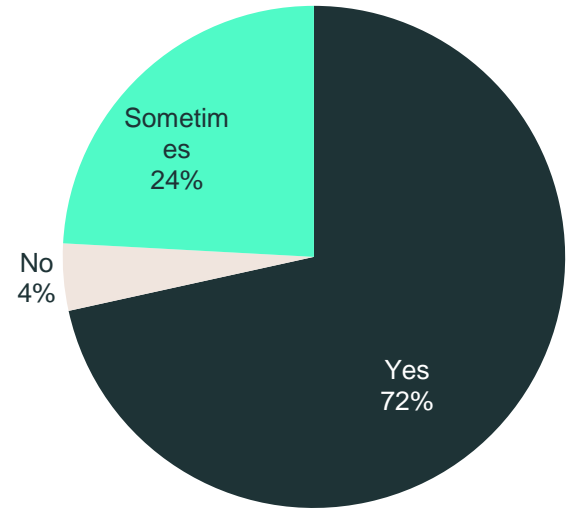


How do you verify recycled content?



Are clients asking for certified products?

Do your customers ask for sustainable products?







Navigating the complexity of schemes



Recycled content information

Not provided







Provided

Certifications	Information available through certification schemes						
	Product / material weight	Recycled material type	Proportion of recycled materials	Recycled materials origin (state or country)	State or country where product was manufactured	Proportion of Australian recycled materials	Recycled content data independently certified
GECA Recycled Products (RPv1.0ii-2015) 				X	X	X	
Global GreenTag - Manufacturer Claim Verifications 						X	
FSC Mix 				X		X	
Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) 		Can be declared		Can be declared		Can be declared	

Alignment with rating schemes

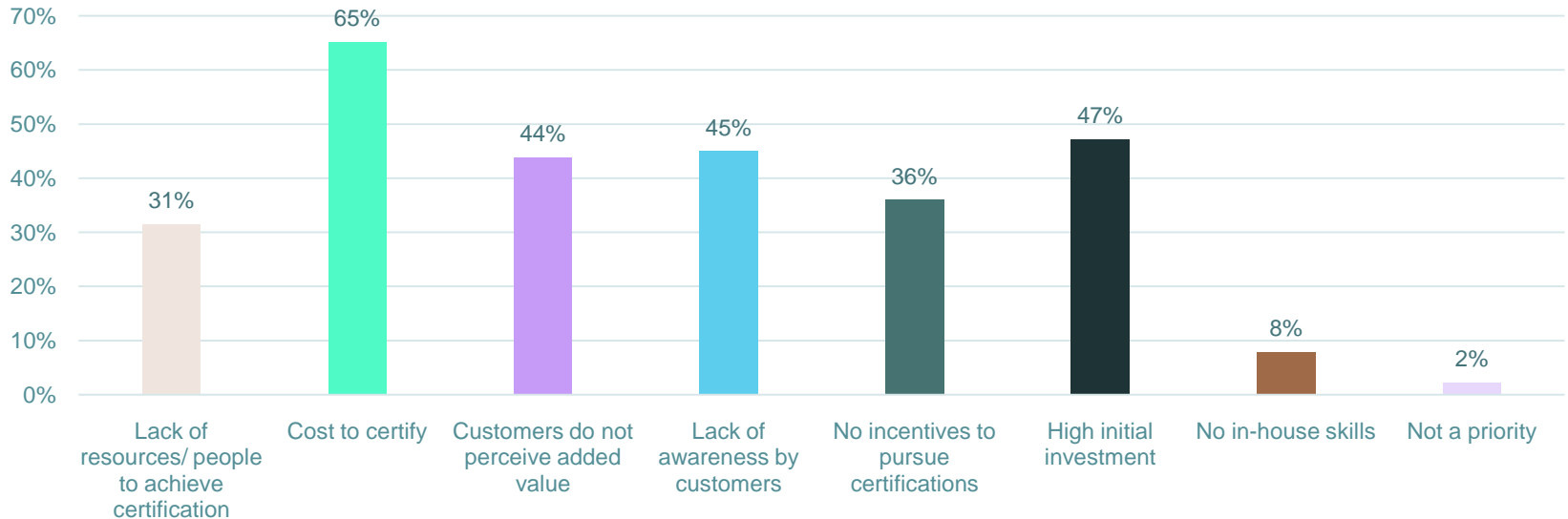
Not aligned

Aligned

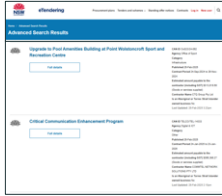
Certifications	Infrastructure Sustainability (IS) Rating Scheme 	Green Star Buildings 	
	Rso-6: Material Life Cycle Impact Measurement and Management	Rso-7: Sustainability Labelled Products and Supply Chains	Responsible Category (Structure; Envelope; Systems; Finishes)
GECA Recycled Products (RPv1.0ii-2015) 			
Global GreenTag - Manufacturer Claim Verifications 			
FSC Mix 			
Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) 			

Barriers to achieving certification

What are the barriers to using sustainability certifications for your products or the products you work with?



Supplying into projects



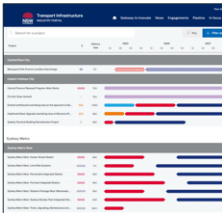
NSW eTendering awarded contracts

<https://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au/>



ICN procurement portal

https://icn.org.au/icn_nsw/



Transport for NSW Infrastructure Pipeline

<https://industry.transport.nsw.gov.au/tfnsw/tiip/pipeline>

Supplying into projects



**AusTender – Australian Government
procurement**

<https://www.tenders.gov.au>



Western Sydney Airport

<https://wsairport.com.au/opportunities/contractors>

Resources to support businesses

NSW Government will publish a **directory of recycled material suppliers**.

BDA is developing a **Recycled Products Guidance Document** to drive the uptake of products by architects and builders.

Service NSW Business Connect provide **free procurement advisory services and events** for small businesses in NSW.

AusIndustry support Australian businesses with **advice, grants and programs**.



<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/business/business-connect>





Thank you

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