

# Transition to a Circular Economy in South Africa:

## Panel Discussion Questions

### **Question 1: Energy Feeding a Circular Economy**

Circular economy seeks to establish a resource efficient economy. Can any of you elaborate on how energy fits into / drive such an economy? And what options are available for industry?

- Renewable Energy
- Solar PV / Wind
- Biomass / Biogas
- SSEG / ESCOs / REIPPPP

### **Question 2: Fast Tracking Circular Economy**

Can we fast track such a transition? What mechanisms are available? How has Europe done this? Are there examples of developing countries fast tracking a Circular Economy?

- Collaboration
- Rethinking incentives
- Access to financing
- Skills development
- Procurement Policy
- International rules
- Lead by example

### **Question 3: Material Focus**

Apart from plastics, what other materials / sectors should be focused on? What are the low hanging fruits?

- Electronics / Organics / Plastics / C&D to some extent
- Retail / manufacturing / service sectors

### **Question 4: Fourth Manufacturing Revolution**

Some say we are entering into the 4th manufacturing revolution (artificial intelligence, robotics, the Internet of Things, autonomous vehicles, 3D printing and nanotechnology). How does a circular economy fit in this revolution?

- Robots: Fast assessment of materials
- Internet of Things: constant performance monitoring
- Additive manufacturing: Smaller, Agile factories / Multi product, made to order
- Scale customization: Factories home bound / replace N/S material /product movement for regionalised.

#### **Question 5: Circular Economy and the IndWMP**

With the envisioned call for IndWMP, should and how can industry incorporate the idea of circular economy into these plans?

- Targets
- Preferred available technologies

#### **Question 6: Informal Sector involvement**

Where does the informal / low income sector fit into this circular economy?

- Indian report on low income sector
- Sourcing recyclables
- Cascade services form premium clients to lower down status

#### **Question 7: Concerns**

What concerns do you have about implementing a circular economy in South Africa?

- Local municipalities ability to grasp idea
- Available skills to support CircEcon
- Corruption / Uncertainty for investors
- Long term return on investment