

# What Goes Around Comes Around: Pivoting to a Circular Economy

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## **Abstract:**

The waste we throw away has a tendency of coming back in our air, water and food, directly affecting our livelihoods, economy and health. The presentation will discuss the waste problem in APEC and present a more sustainable production model — the circular economy — which minimises waste and optimises resource use by incorporating reuse, repurposing and recycling of materials into manufacturing and logistics. It will point to new business and trade opportunities provided by the circular economy in general and during the COVID-19 pandemic in particular. Finally, it will present some policy recommendations and discuss the role of regional cooperation in facilitating the transition to a circular economy.

The presentation will be based on the following PSU publications:

### **1. Policy Brief**

Circular Economy: Don't Let Waste Go to

Waste <https://www.apec.org/Publications/2020/01/Circular-Economy---Dont-Let-Waste-Go-to-Waste>

### **2. ARTA Theme Chapter**

APEC Regional Trends Analysis - What Goes Around Comes Around: Pivoting to a Circular Economy; Uncertainty Tests APEC's Resilience amid COVID-

19 <https://www.apec.org/Publications/2020/05/APEC-Regional-Trends-Analysis---What-Goes-Around-Comes-Around>