



**JOBS IN THE  
CIRCULAR ECONOMY**  
A JOINT CIRCLE  
ECONOMY, ILO & S4YE

# WHO WE ARE



## Specialized UN agency

- Sectoral policies dept in collab with Green Jobs and research departments
- Focus areas: decent work, green jobs, just transition

## World Bank Group's Program

- Based in the Jobs Group at the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice.
- Focus areas: youth employment, entrepreneurship and digitalization.

## International impact organization

- Circular Jobs Initiative and Research & Development teams
- Focus areas: skills, quality of work, inclusive economy

# POTENTIAL OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Reduce  
**Global  
greenhouse  
gasses**  
by **39%**

Reduce global  
**resource  
extraction**  
by **28%**



Limit climate  
change to  
**1.5 degrees**  
Achieving Paris



Promote  
**innovation,  
enterprise &  
create decent  
jobs for all**

# WHY

- **Urgency:** The total amount of materials mobilized between 2000 and 2015 already equals more than half of those extracted between 1900 and 2000. **These trends are expected to accelerate.**
- The circular economy offers a **sustainable** approach to address resource scarcity, environmental challenges, economic growth, making it increasingly important in today's world, but its uptake in developing countries will depend on how people's livelihoods are likely to be affected .





# WHY | THE PROBLEM

- **But:** Circular economy policies, interventions, indicators, estimates are developed in **isolation** and with limited connection to potential impact on **people and their livelihoods**
- Limited understanding of the impact **on developing countries**

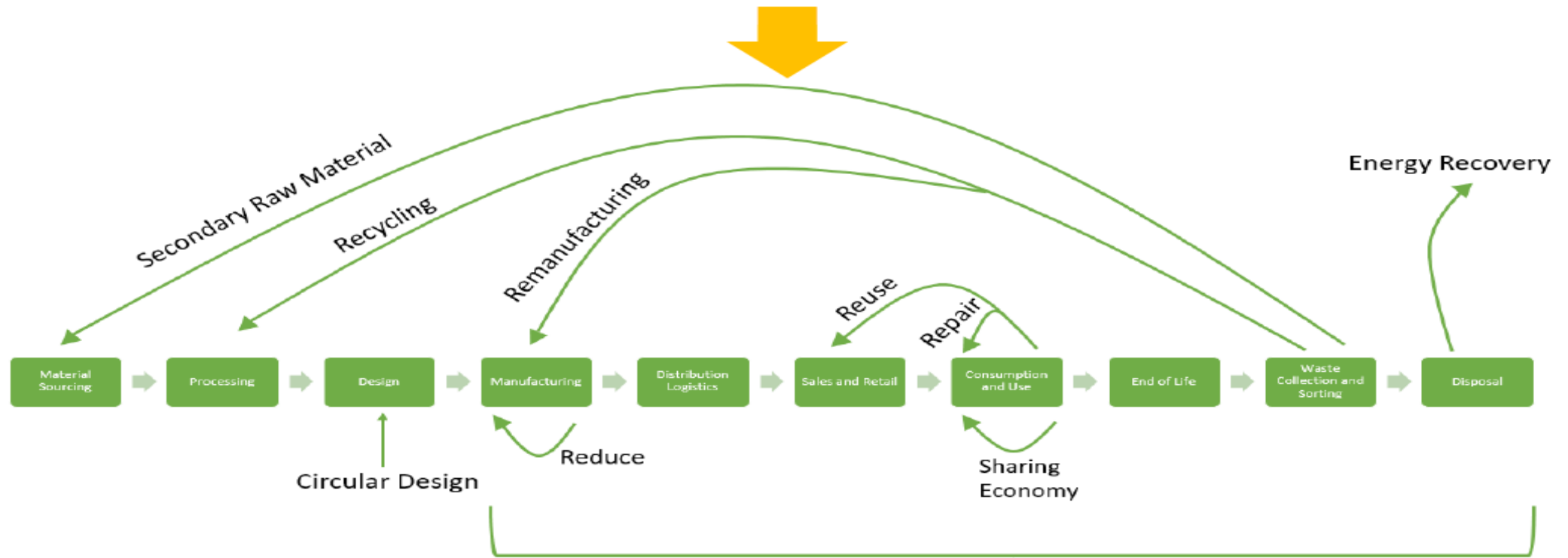
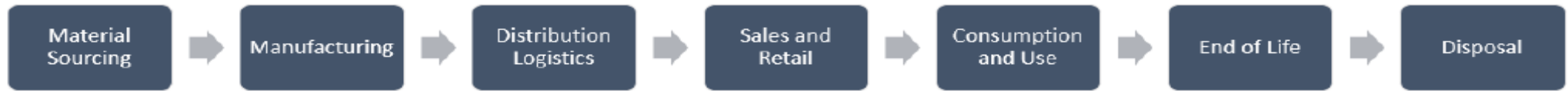


# WHY | THE OPPORTUNITY

- Linking the transition to greener economies to the creation of better jobs offers **double dividends** for the environment and for workers.
- Understanding how climate change impacts workers and livelihoods and how climate action – mitigation and adaptation – will affect jobs, especially those for the poorer segments of society, is a key component to **prioritizing** and **sequencing climate action**



# WHERE ARE THE JOBS?



## Linear Value Chain to Circular Value Chain



# FINDING WIN-WIN OPPORTUNITIES

The shift to CE can create approximately between **6 million and 20 million jobs** globally

Circular activities like **recycling, waste collection and sorting, reuse, repair, and maintenance** will be important segues for job creation.

As these labor-intensive activities demand **low-medium level skills**, they are also crucial pathways for **creating more entry level jobs**.

This is particularly attractive for **youth, especially from vulnerable communities**

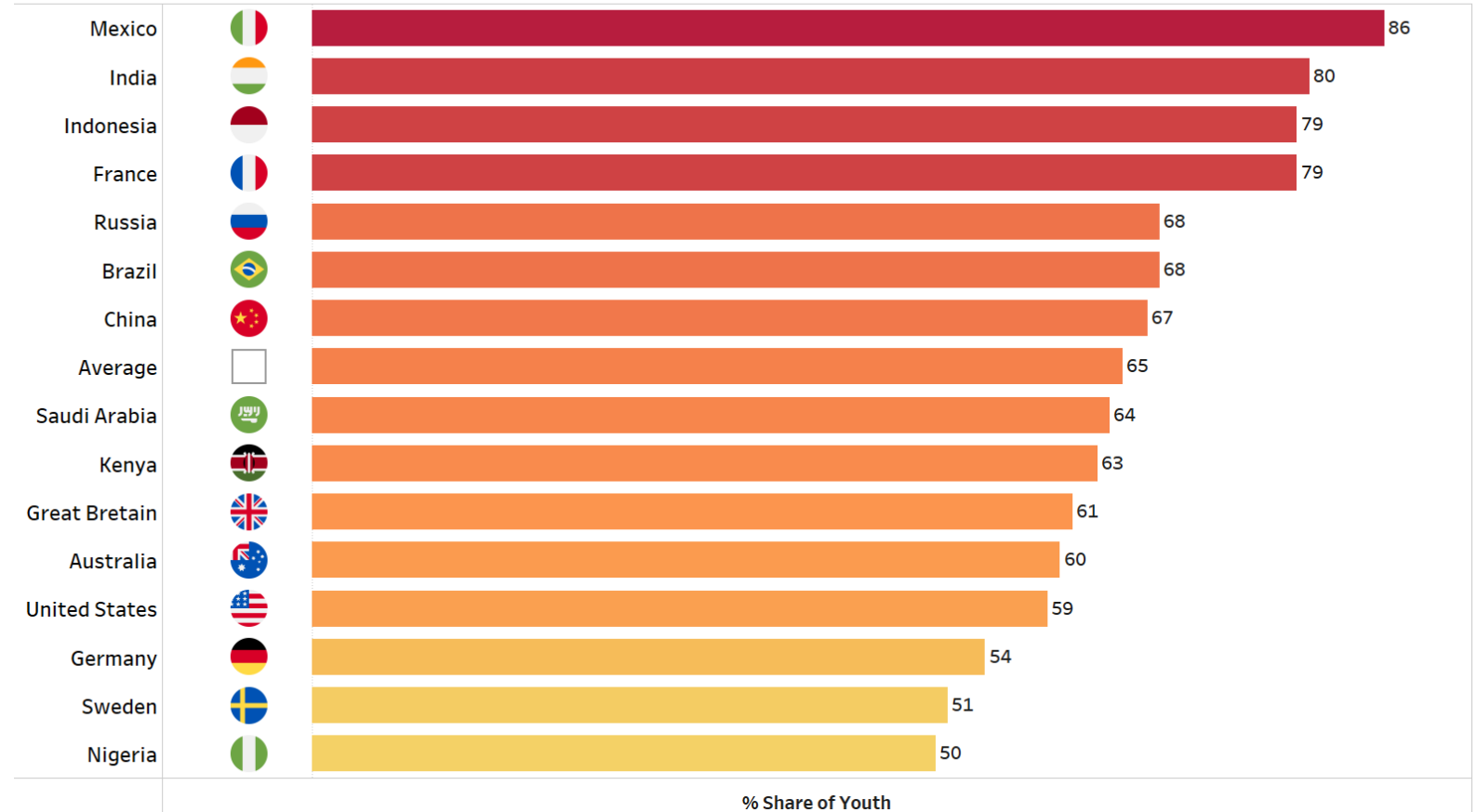


# YOUTH AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

**Millennials** are likely to constitute **75% of the global workforce by 2025**.

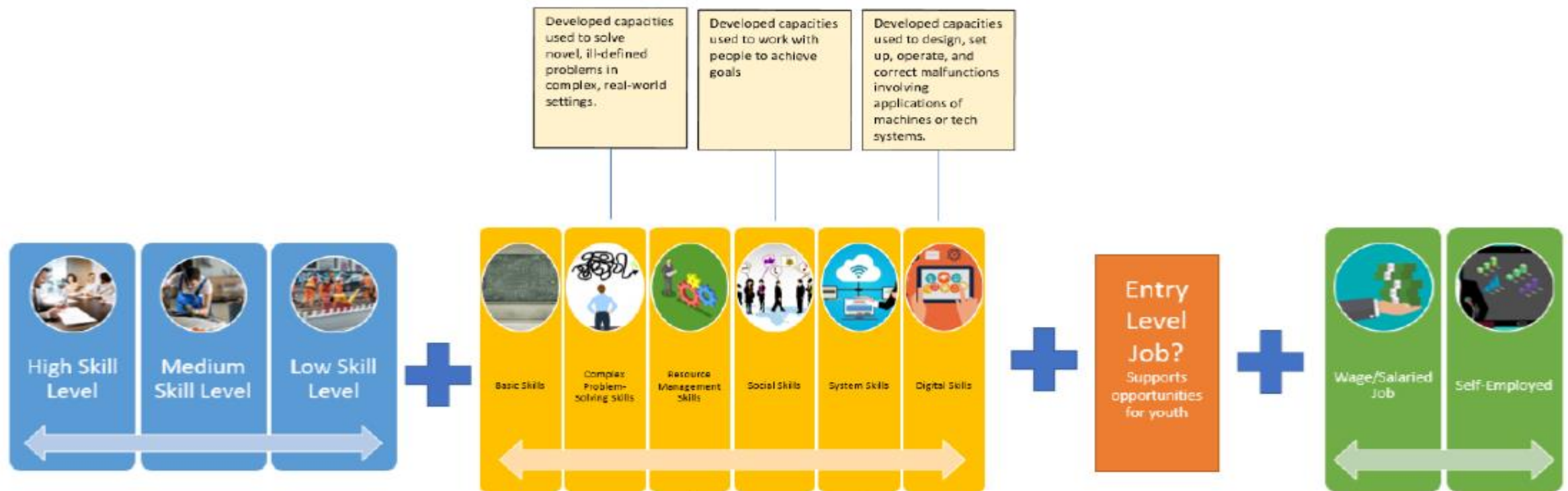
With an increased spending power and a more socially conscious mindset, young people will influence **consumptions patterns towards more environmentally sustainable choices**.

The Share of Youth Who Thinks Climate Change Is A Threat to Communities Worldwide, 2018



Source: S4YE based on Goalkeepers Global Youth Outlook Poll

# JOBS CANNOT BE AN AFTERTHOUGHT - NEED TO BE EMBEDDED EX-ANTE IN OUR POLICIES

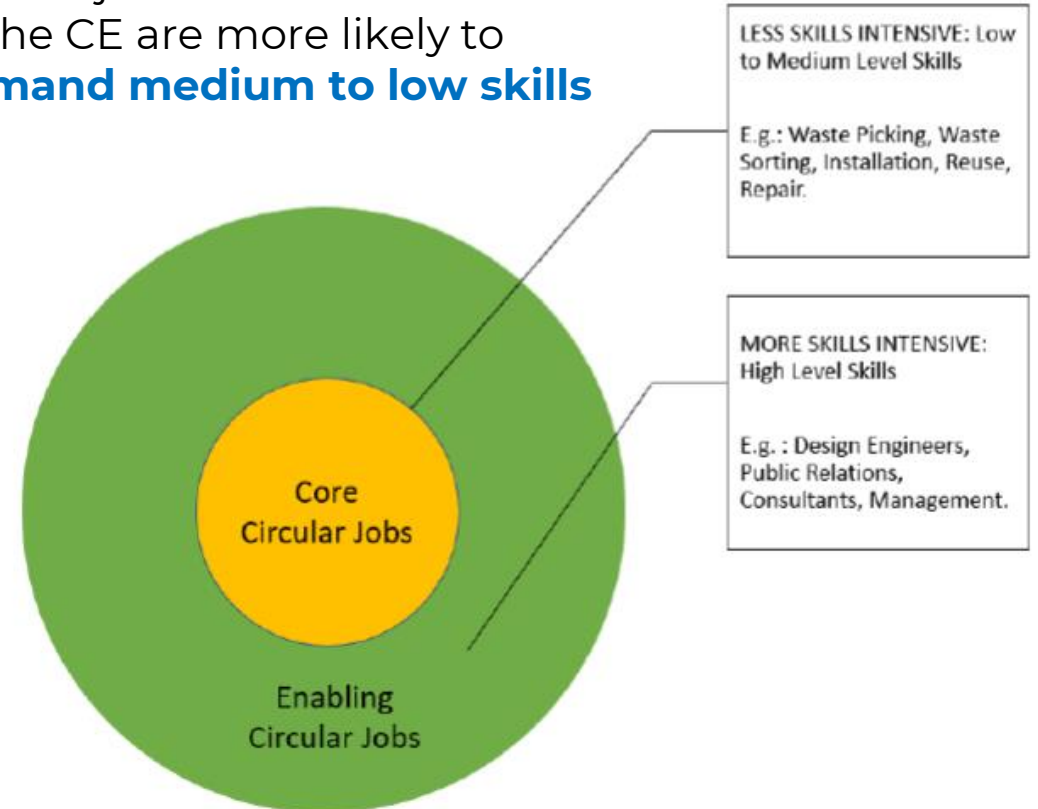


# CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND SKILLS

## 2 directional skill need within CE:

- **Inter-Disciplinary skills.** These are also called transversal skills (or transferable skills) and are skills that are applicable across a range of tasks, occupations, and industries. For example, communication and negotiation skills, teamwork, problem solving, leadership, creativity and adaptability
- **Deep skills.** These refer to specialist skills and are needed by employees that work in specific industries or sectors.

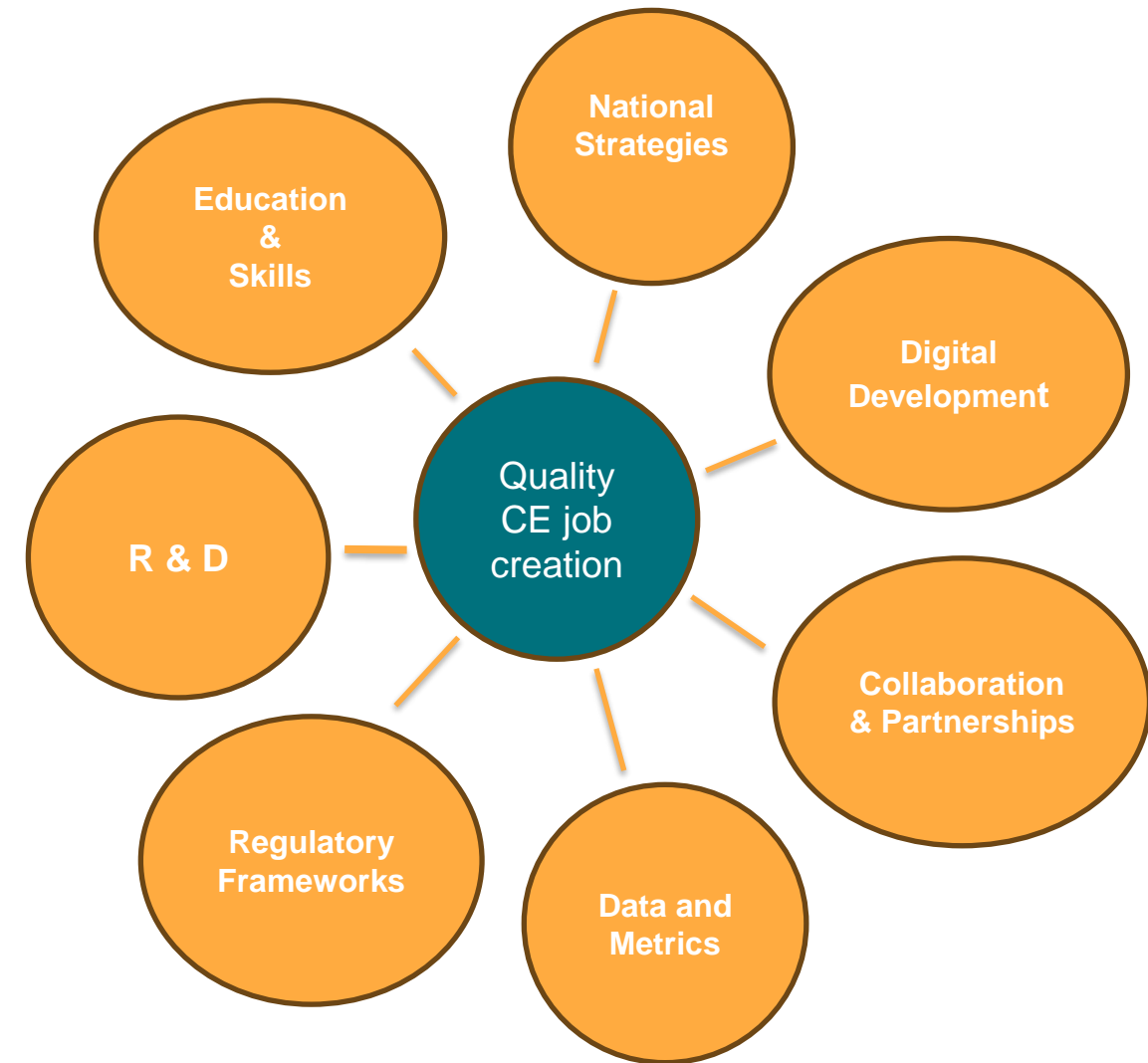
- Certain jobs created in the core of the CE are more likely to **demand medium to low skills**



# IT TAKES A VILLAGE.....

Inserting jobs into the circular economy (CE) agenda requires a **comprehensive set of policy** instruments to foster employment opportunities and support the transition to a circular economy.

Designing these policies will need good **metrics and data**



# WHAT | INITIATIVE PILLARS

Three-year collaborative initiative, creating a global evidence base on decent jobs in the circular economy



## PILLAR ONE

### LANDSCAPING & MONITORING GLOBAL CIRCULAR JOBS

- Stakeholder mapping + outreach
- Systematic literature review
- Review of methodologies
- The first high-profile Review of Jobs in the



## PILLAR TWO

### SECTORAL & REGIONAL DEEP DIVES

- Sectoral (e.g. Textiles, e-waste, energy)
- Thematic (e.g. gender, youth, trade, skills)
- Regional (LMICs and MICs)



## PILLAR THREE

### KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND AWARENESS RAISING

- Seminars and learning exchanges
- Indicator guidance
- Capacity development
- Annual high-level events

# INITIATIVE GOALS AND STRATEGY

**Develop** compelling evidence on current work in the circular economy and **support** pathways towards more environmental and economic policies and interventions which can **enable** a fair transition for all.

Four approaches:



Conduct **in-depth analyses** of the circular economy.



Develop consistent and rigorous **methodologies, assessments and indicators**.



Raise **awareness and share knowledge** about the circular economy and its potential for creating decent work.



Foster **partnerships and collaboration** among stakeholders.

# WHO | GLOBAL COMMUNITY

## Research institutions



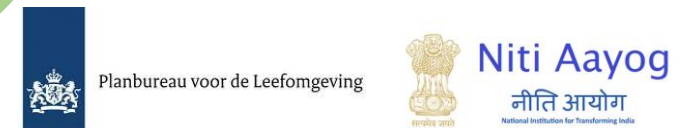
## Industry partners



## Social partners



## Ministries and public bodies



# PROJECT IMPACT

**Social and employment agenda** is embedded in CE and climate  
CE adopted as a mechanism for achieving key goals

Stronger political support for just & inclusive solutions

**Enabling environment and policy-making** for decent jobs in CE

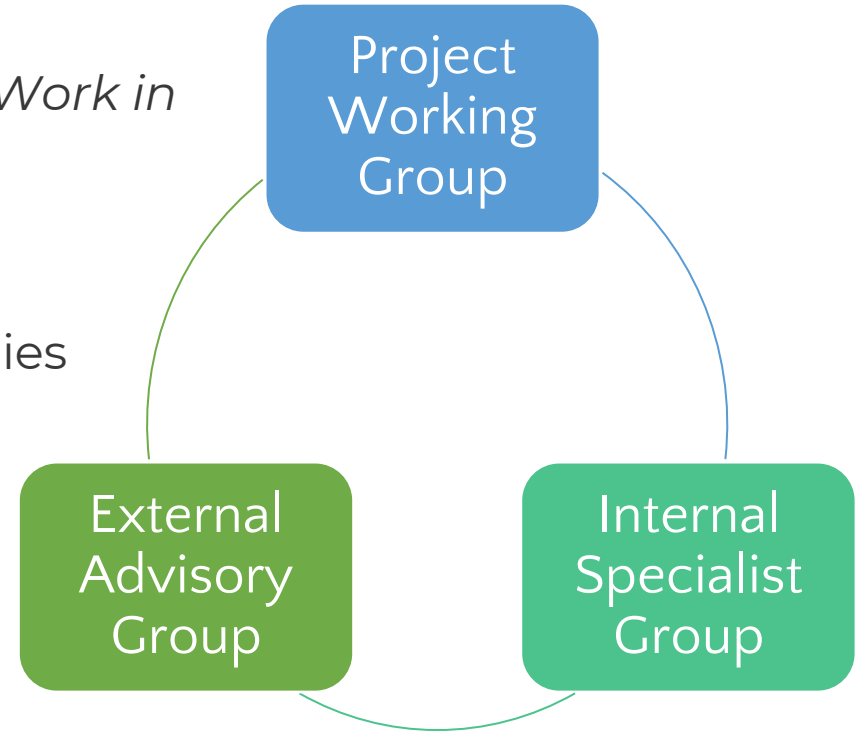




# NEXT STEPS

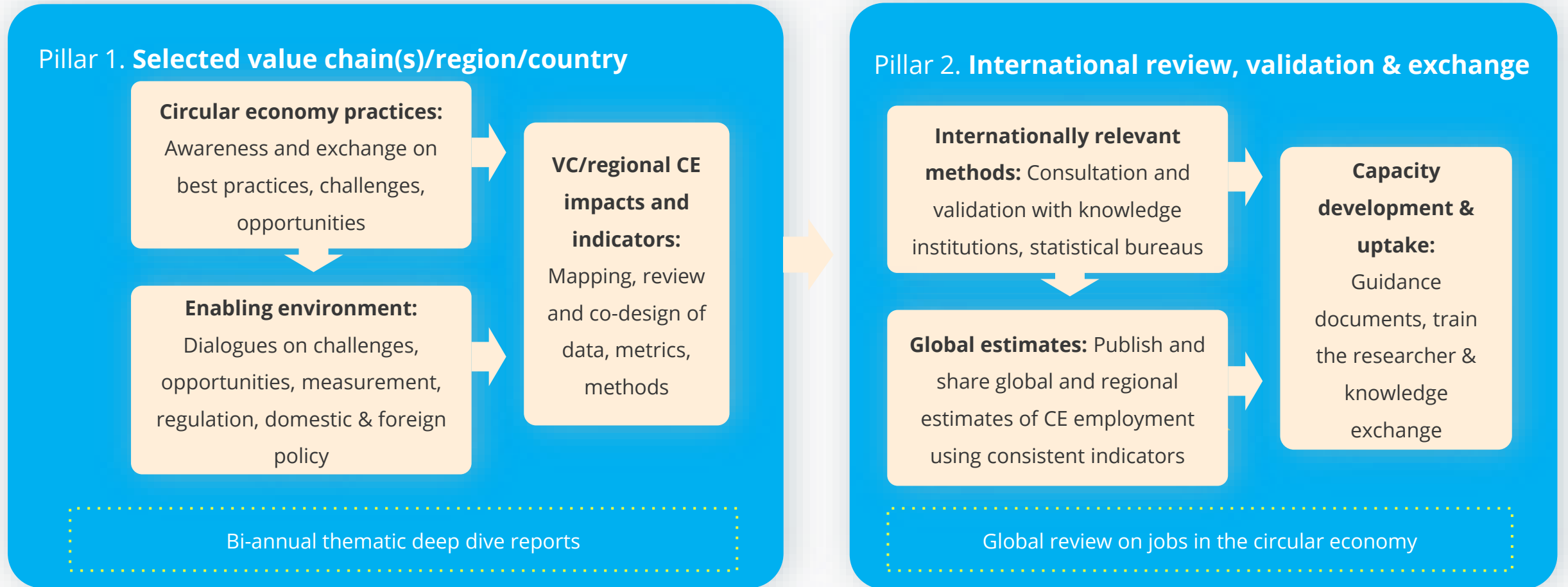


- Launch of systematic review, *Decent Work in the Circular Economy*
- Establish strategic partnerships
- Begin in-depth review of methodologies



Additional slides

**Overall objective:** To support an enabling environment for job creation, decent and sustainable work in the circular economy [in selected value chain/region/country].



**Specific objective:** Increased awareness among governments agencies, employers and workers and other key institutions of the social impact of circular economy interventions in [selected value chain(s)/region/country] and tools for measurement.

**Specific objective:** Governments, statistics offices and key research institutions have increased knowledge of and access to consistent and compelling evidence and indicators of decent work in the circular economy.

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND VALUE CHAIN

The circular economy has the potential to create jobs across diverse skill sets.

**Integrating** the jobs angle into the circular economy agenda bolsters policy support, encouraging governments to adopt **sustainable practices**. By addressing employment concerns and emphasizing the interconnectedness of jobs and the environment, the transition to a circular economy gains momentum.

A critical **pillar** of ensuring a **just transition** to the circular economy is to **provide opportunities** for workers to **reskill** and **upskill** to access better job opportunities.



# TACKLING INFORMALITY | STUDY CASES

In developing countries, jobs created in the **circular economy** tend to be clustered in the **informal sector**, which are often low-quality, low-wage jobs with workers operating in hazardous conditions with regular exposure to toxic waste.

**How can waste management at the core of CE address the cycle of informality?**

**1**

The **South African Waste Pickers Association (SAWPA)** has a network of over 1000 registered waste pickers across 19 different regions.

**2**

In **Ethiopia**, municipal corporations are encouraged to enter **PPP with integrated waste management companies** and outsource the solid waste management activities to the enterprise.

**3**

**Conserve India** employs and trains hundreds of people from Delhi's most disadvantages communities to collect plastics from across the city.

# WBG Climate Change Action Plan (2021-2025)

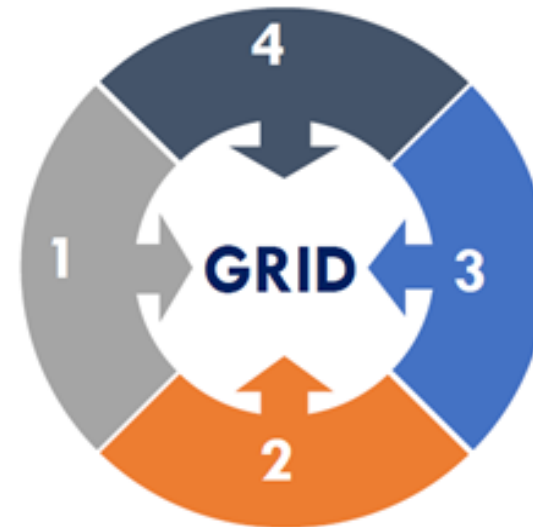
WBG will assist countries in navigating crisis response, recovery, and growth and **mainstreaming climate action in their development strategies.**

For IDA and IBRD, the World Bank will be allocating **at least 50% of climate finance** to adaptation over the next five years.

The **Jobs Group** aims to ramp up support to **Green & Inclusive Jobs (GIJ)** by leveraging funding and activities hosted under the **Jobs Umbrella MDTF** Phase 2. This initiative will serve as a **new global jobs and climate resilience accelerator**

Support policy reforms, technology, and innovation

Mobilizing transformative investments at scale



Financing using all WBG instruments

WBG convening power for global coordination