

# Principles of Safety and Sustainability

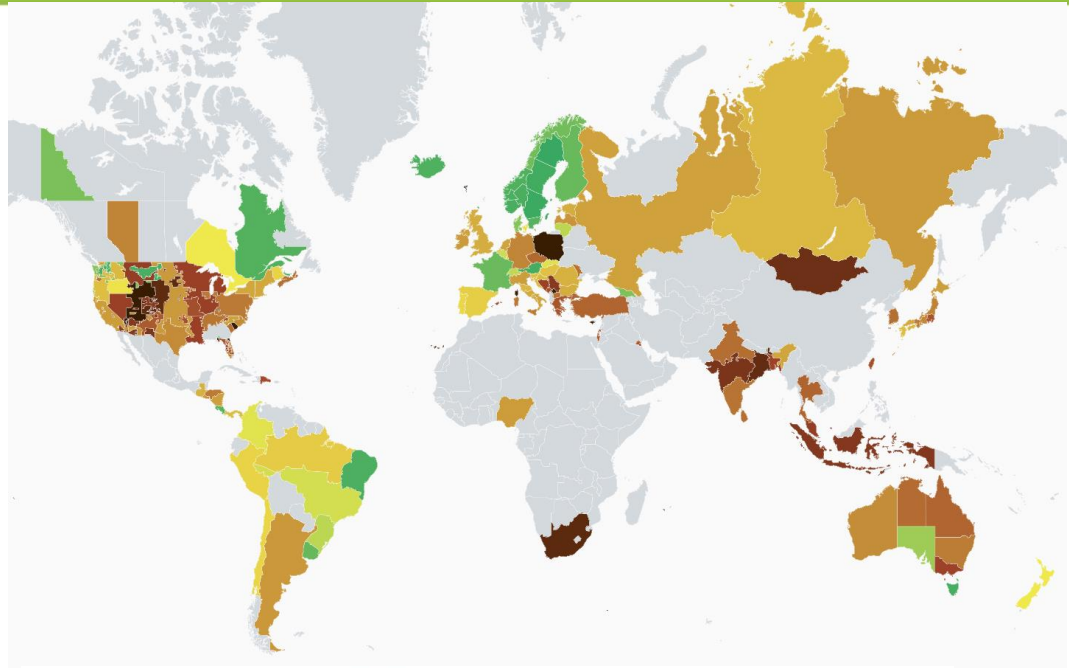


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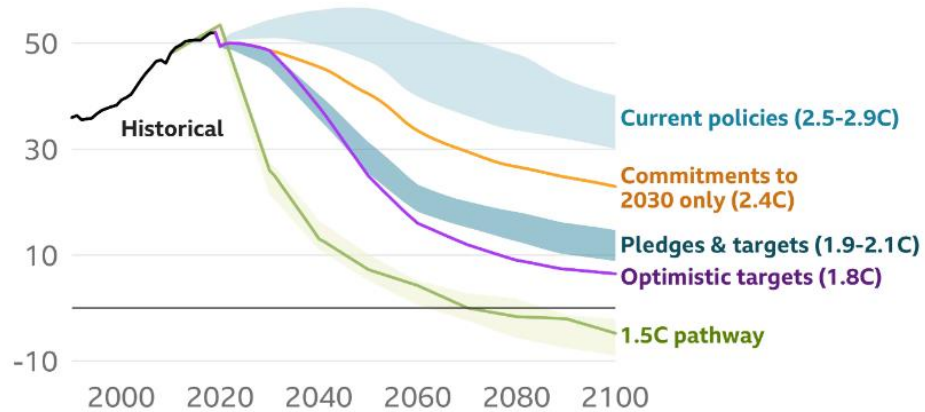
[www.epa.sa.gov.au](http://www.epa.sa.gov.au)

# Why this conference is so important



Climate change is expected to cause an estimated **250.000 additional deaths every year 2030-2050.**

The direct health costs are estimated to be **\$2-4 billion each year** by 2030 (excludes costs in agriculture and water and sanitation) WHO 2021



Source: Climate Action Tracker

BBC



# Why this conference is so important

Scaling up medical imaging would avert **3.2% of all cancer deaths** between 2020-2030, saving **55 million life years**.

(Lancet Oncology Commission on Medical Imaging and Nuclear Medicine 2021)

One third of the **€1.8 trillion** investments from the EU NextGenerationEU Recovery Plan will go towards the European Green Deal

(European Commission)

Asset managers globally are expected to increase their ESG-related assets to **US\$33.9 trillion** by 2026

(PwC 2022)

# Why this conference is so important

## UN 2030 Agenda:

- end poverty and hunger
- protect the planet from degradation
- all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives
- peaceful, just and inclusive societies
- strengthened global solidarity

The ambition and importance could not be higher

# The case for action

- Radiation safety compliance is regarded as a purpose in itself
- Safety and sustainability are seen as belonging to different parties
- The radiation protection principle requires only to ‘not unduly limit’ sustainable outcomes
- We have an opportunity to be part of the future

# Safety: can build or limit progress

## Applied positively

Build public trust

Reduce harm

Build employee engagement

Culture of compliance

## Applied indiscriminately

Delay or prevent activities

Decrease business viability

Reduce efficiency

Stifle innovation



# Safety often addressed in isolation by numbers

## ALARA: driving lower numbers

Transport safety  
1 Bq/g, 0.025 mSv/h



Worker safety  
1E+06 monitored workers  
Ave dose 0.4 mSv/a



Waste safety  
'background radiation'



Environment impact  
0.4 mGy/h



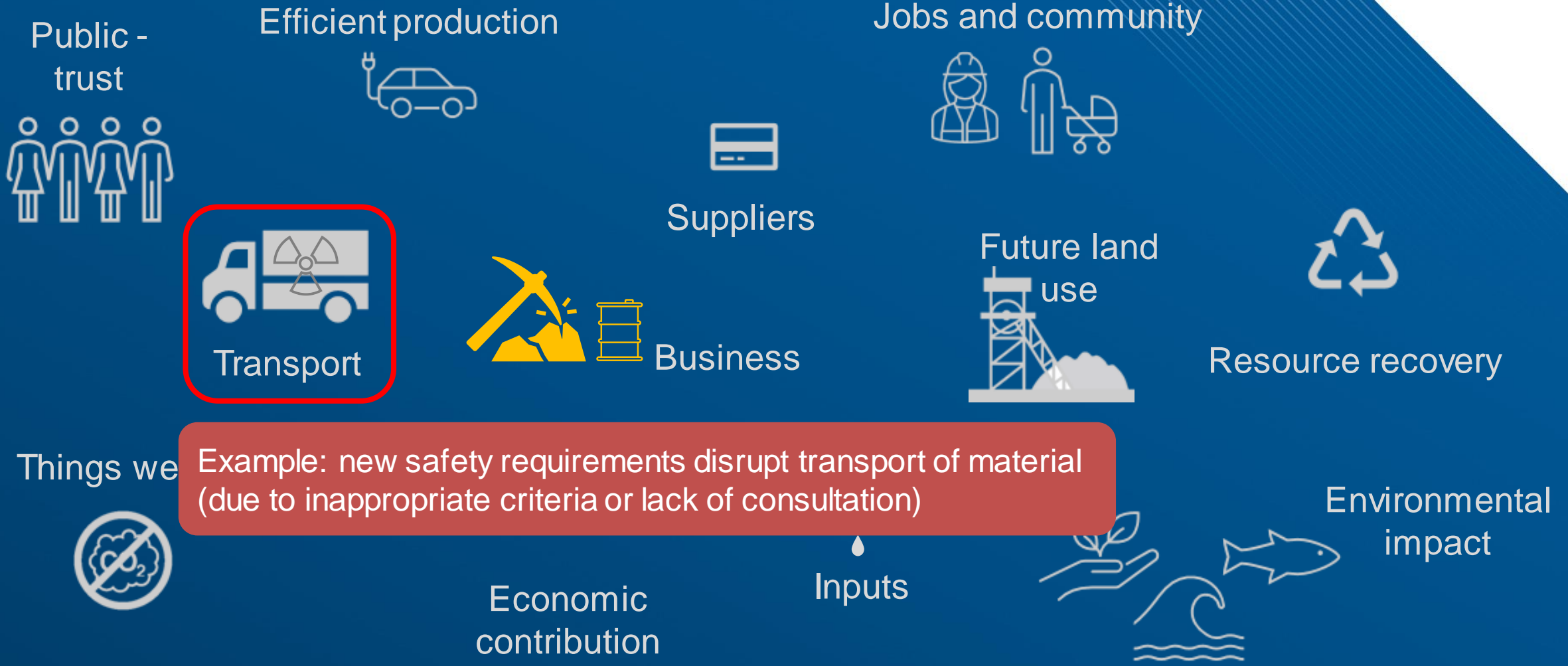
Public safety  
0.3 mSv/a

# Lifecycle analysis example: uranium production

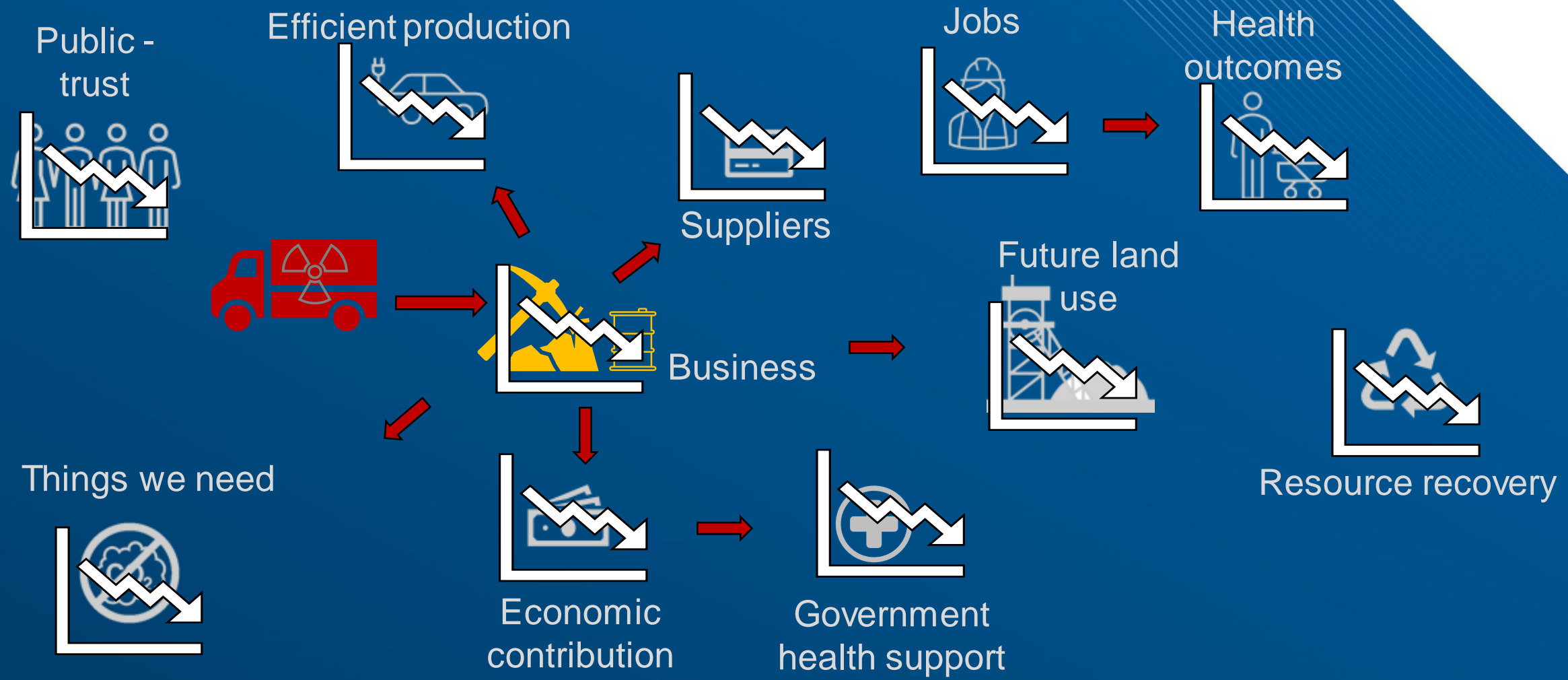




# Applying safety without considering impact



# Unintended consequences can cause real harm





# UN SDGs: a framework and common language





# This is complex... we need partners



International bodies



Regulatory Forum for Safety of Uranium Production and NORM (REGSUN)

Academia



Government



Industry



Community



Regulator





# Conference themes – suggestions

## Interrelationship between safety and sustainability in decision making



Target  
**8.2**

Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors

- More cost efficient methods for optimising protection
- Regulatory approaches that engage industry, understand business impact, and include business needs.  
How safety approaches were modified to improve lifecycle sustainability outcomes

## Practical experiences integrating safety and sustainability



Target  
**12.2**

By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

- Recycling initiatives in a decommissioning project
- Radiological criteria and clearance approaches that considered and progressed circular economy principles

# Conference themes – suggestions

Interrelationships in policy, strategy,  
legislation, and regulation



- How a graded approach ensured that safety was proportionate to risk.  
How radiation protection principles were efficiently incorporated.
- How objectives for sustainable development were developed, and how they were integrated in legislation and regulatory approaches

# Conference themes – suggestions

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“Por qué no los dos?”

We are interested in both safety and sustainability, but the conference will benefit most from learning how you integrated them

# What might be interesting for the conference to explore

Do we agree on the definitions of safety and sustainability?

Can UN Sustainable Development Goals be used for a common language?

What are the levers for change? What is the role of the IAEA?

Who are the partners and stakeholders we need to work with?

Where do we go from here, how do we build on this opportunity?



# Thank you

**Ensuring Safety and  
Enabling Sustainability**



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Kaurna Country

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