

Summary

The ResiLoop project is up and running, set to improve the design, recovery, reuse, and recycling of resilient flooring consumed in Australia. This project will be supported by proof of concept, for national product stewardship scheme for resilient floor coverings, together with a roadmap to guide the national roll-out of the scheme in Australia.

Currently the ARFA team are completing a detailed plan, engaging major suppliers and manufacturers, quantifying and characterising the waste material flows. Further, the team are conducting a global scan of existing programs to analyse and determine what is feasible for this project. Lastly, we're exploring and evaluating existing potential reprocessing technologies.

Key Findings & Activities

Our Project Steering Group (PSG) has been formed following the terms PSG's terms of reference and have held it's first meeting:

Chair: Rob Coombs (Interface), chair of ARFA's Sustainability sub-committee

ARFA member representatives:

Aidan Mullan (Interface), Peter Byron (Armstrong)

Product Stewardship Centre of Excellence:

John Gertsakis

ResiLoop project director:

Sophi MacMillan

Based on analysis of product consumption since 1955 using ABS data, it has been estimated that 95,000 tonnes of vinyl resilient flooring product (tile and sheet) were consumed in 2020.

Assuming an average product life span of 15 years, just over 1 million tonnes of product remain in service while 48,000 tonnes is estimated to have reached the end of use in 2020 and entered the waste stream.

What's Next?



Evaluate industry initiatives and schemes

Understand supply chain industry drivers and incentives

Recruit participants for the ResiLoop Stakeholder Referance Group

Seek survey submissions from industry parties

Raise awareness of the ResiLoop project amongst key industry leaders

