

# **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION 2025**



## CEDA MEMBERSHIP | OUR PURPOSE

**CEDA** is Australia's leading independent and membership based economic development think tank.

*"We exist to drive positive change on the economic and social development issues that matter most to Australia".*

*Melinda Cilento – Chief Executive of **CEDA***



## CEDA MEMBERSHIP | OUR DIFFERENCE

Our independence, diverse membership and nation-wide influence is truly powerful.

1

### ENDURING LEGACY

For 65 years, CEDA has been at the forefront of shaping the critical thought and action needed to drive Australia's economic development.

2

### TRUSTED PARTNER

As a trusted partner of government, business, industry and the broader community, CEDA unlocks unique engagement, dialogue and impact.

3

### ECONOMY- WIDE AGENDA

Anchored around our ambitious **Progress 2050** agenda, CEDA's economy-wide approach focuses on both economic and social aspects of development.



**CEDA MEMBERSHIP | OUR AMBITION**

# PROGRESS 2050

## Strong Economy



**PRODUCTIVITY,  
INVESTMENT AND  
INNOVATION**



**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS  
AND WORKFORCE**



**ENERGY TRANSITION  
AND CLIMATE  
ADAPTATION**

**Goal 1:** Australia's businesses are amongst the most competitive and dynamic in the world.

**Goal 2:** Australia's skills, knowledge and ideas are valued, invested in and sought after – locally and globally.

**Goal 3:** Australian businesses and communities lead climate adaptation and the transition to affordable, reliable and secure clean energy.

**Progress 2050 is our vision of long-term prosperity for all Australians.**

Launched in 2024–25, it responds to growing global challenges and the call from our members for bold, people-centred action.

At its core, Progress 2050 recognises that an economy is about people. It is built on two connected pillars - a strong economy and a strong social compact, because one cannot thrive without the other. Together they create a target for Australia's future: a nation that is innovative, inclusive and resilient.

These pillars are supported by six strategic goals developed through extensive consultation and research, guiding how we measure and drive real progress.

## Strong Social Compact



**WELLBEING, SECURITY  
AND PARTICIPATION**



**DISADVANTAGE AND  
OPPORTUNITY**



**INCLUSION AND  
EQUITY**

**Goal 4:** All Australians have access to the education, housing and care they need to thrive.

**Goal 5:** All Australians have the opportunities and support to live a productive, connected and meaningful life.

**Goal 6:** Australia's success is characterised by the vibrancy and diversity of our workplaces and society.

# CEDA MEMBERSHIP | OUR OFFERING

## MEMBERSHIP

Access, Participate, Connect, Gain Visibility & Voice

- **Research:** Research & knowledge on key economic topics.
- **Insights:** Digital assets & content on key economic topics.
- **Events:** Public events on key economic topics.
- **Engagements:** Private roundtables & briefings on key economic topics.
- **Communities:** Communities of practice on key economic topics.

## VALUE CREATION\*

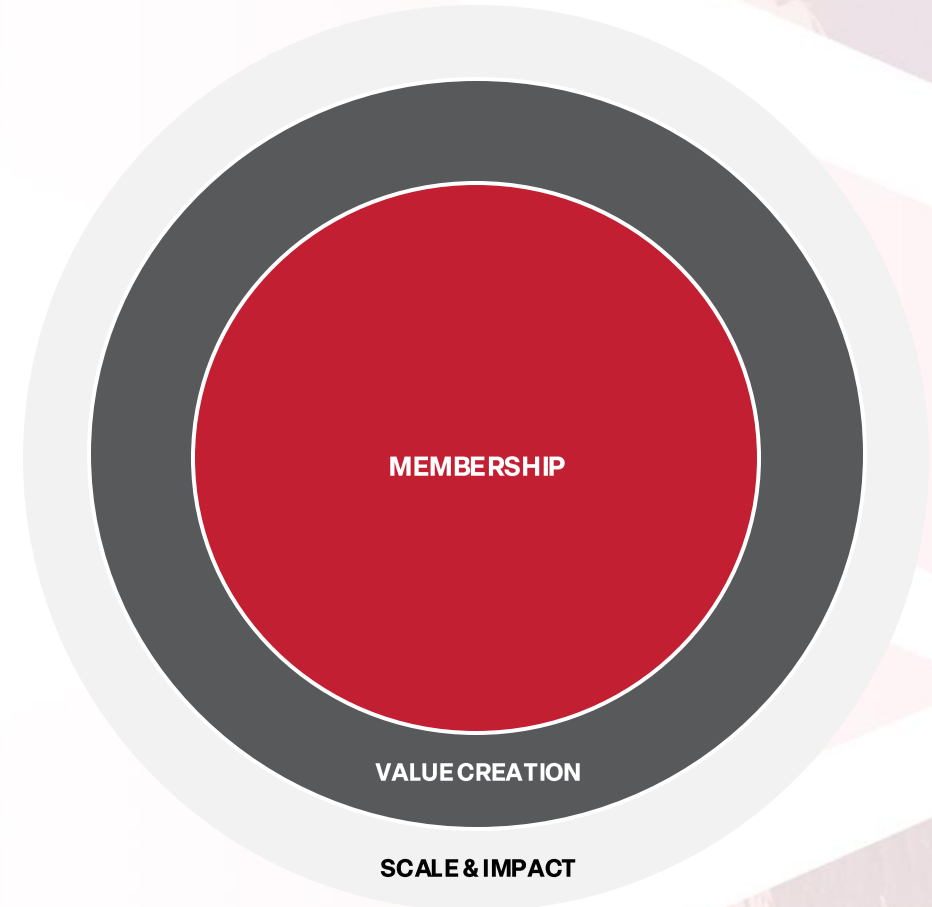
Unique Opportunities to Create Mutually Strategic Value

- **ResearchPlus:** Lead & collaborate on strategic research partnerships.
- **InsightsPlus:** Elevate your executive & leader insights on key topics.
- **EventsPlus:** Scope, develop, host & sponsor influential events.
- **EngagementsPlus:** Convene private roundtables & briefings.
- **CommunitiesPlus:** Establish & sponsor communities of practice.

## SCALE & IMPACT\*\*

Pathways for Shaping Nationally Significant Impact

- **Co-lead:** Take a lead on key Progress 2050 pillars & initiatives.
- **Co-deliver:** Alliance partnering on strategically aligned CEDA services.
- **Co-create:** Bringing forward bold new investment opportunities.



\* Value Creation means pay-as-you-go strategic opportunities members can explore with CEDA. This is in addition to membership fee.

\*\* Scale & Impact means longer-term co-investment opportunities in CEDA's strategic agenda that members can explore where alignment exists.

## CEDA MEMBERSHIP | OUR DELIVERY

### CEDA Research

21

#### Research Reports released FY25

Delivered in consultation and partnership with CEDA members

### CEDA Insights

46

#### CEDA opinion articles published in FY25

Authored by leading voices in CEDA's membership, CEDA op-eds debate on the topical issues impacting Australia.

### CEDA Events

58

#### FY25 National Events State of the Nation State of the States State Budget Addresses National Summits

CEDA events provide members speaking, attendance, and sponsorship opportunities

### CEDA Engagements

50

#### FY25 Trustee Events Roundtables and Policy Co-labs

CEDA engagements convene cross sector leaders to collectively problem solve the challenges facing Australia

### CEDA Communities

2

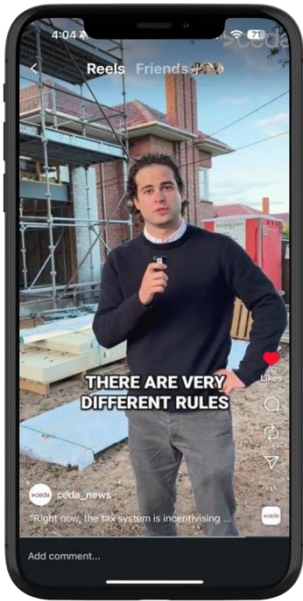
#### AI CoBP ESG CoBP

Included in CEDA Lead Membership, our Communities of Best Practice lift Australian capability in areas of global significance



# CEDA MEMBERSHIP | OUR REACH

CEDA's influence and reach continue to grow year on year, reflecting the impact of our work and dedication of our team.



**46,000**  
SOCIAL MEDIA

**46**  
OPINION  
ARTICLES



**780,000**  
WEBPAGE

**6,500**  
MEDIA  
MENTIONS



**170,000**  
VIDEO VIEWS

**21**  
RESEARCH  
PIECES



## CEDA MEMBERSHIP | OUR INFLUENCE

CEDA's has had significant influence and impact in FY25. Many policy recommendations have been taken up, and we have been invited to participate in several key economic and social development committees.

### We participated in:

- ACCC Performance Consultative Committee
- Amplify Australia Research Committee
- Australian Circular Economy Hub Advisory Board
- Australian Statistics Advisory Council
- Curtin University Economics Discipline Advisory Group
- Deakin University Economics Advisory Board
- Economic Inclusion Advisory Committee
- Expert Council on University Governance
- GovAI CoLab
- Melbourne Institute Advisory Board
- Ministerial Advisory Council on Skilled Migration
- OECD Economic Survey of Australia
- Parliamentary Panel of Expert Advisors (PBO)
- Responsible Artificial Intelligence at Scale
- Poverty Research Network
- Universities Studies Centre
- WA Economics Society Council
- WA Women in Economics Network Committee

### 1 PRODUCTIVITY FUNDING POOL

**Recommendation:** CEDA called for a funded state reform model to lift productivity.

**Impact:** Federal Government created a \$900 million National Productivity Fund, enabling states to bid for productivity-enhancing reforms. Read more on page 9.

### 3 VISAS FOR SKILLER WORKERS IN CLEAN ENERGY

**Recommendation:** CEDA recommended fast-track visas and intra-company transfers for net-zero roles.

**Impact:** The Skills in Demand visa includes some clean-energy specialists but excludes key trades and ICT roles. Read more on page 14.

### 5 FAST-TRACKED VISA FOR HIGHLY SKILLED WORKERS

**Recommendation:** CEDA advocated for streamlined migration pathways for high-earning specialists.

**Impact:** A Specialist Skills Pathway was introduced, allowing faster processing for workers earning above \$145,000.

### 7 FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

**Recommendation:** CEDA identified literacy, numeracy and digital capability gaps limiting workforce participation.

**Impact:** The Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program was expanded and a National Foundation Skills Strategy launched.

### 9 INCREASE IN RENT ASSISTANCE

**Recommendation:** CEDA called for a review of Commonwealth Rent Assistance to address affordability.

**Impact:** Payments increased by 15% in 2023 and 10% in 2024, with further reform still needed. Read more on page 19.

### 2 REVIEW OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

**Recommendation:** CEDA sought a comprehensive review to improve skill recognition and mobility.

**Impact:** The Productivity Commission is reviewing licensing under National Competition Policy. Read more on page 12.

### 4 SUPPORTING AGED-CARE WAGE INCREASES

**Recommendation:** CEDA called for wage rises to address workforce shortages and improve care quality.

**Impact:** The Fair Work Commission delivered significant pay increases for 400,000 aged-care workers. Read more on page 17.

### 6 BETTER USE OF MIGRANTS SKILLS

**Recommendation:** CEDA urged stronger protections and permanent residency pathways for skilled migrants.

**Impact:** The 2024 Skills in Demand visa created defined PR pathways and limited "visa hopping". Read more on page 21.

### 8 CLEAN-ENERGY PRECINCT FRAMEWORK

**Recommendation:** CEDA proposed clear criteria for precinct investment to attract global projects.

**Impact:** National Interest Framework now aligns investment with emissions, security and economic priorities.

### 10 RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

**Recommendation:** CEDA pushed to fast-track recognition of overseas qualifications to fill skill gaps.

**Impact:** In 2025, expedited recognition began for internationally qualified nurses, starting with the health sector.



## CEDA MEMBERSHIP | OUR COMMUNITIES

### ESG Community

630

Attendees

8

Engagements

13.5

Learning Hours

12

Different Speakers

#### Topics in focus

Responsible AI  
AI Procurement  
Catalysing an Australian AI  
Ecosystem  
AI and Trust  
ROI of AI Investment

### AI Community

452

Attendees

7

Engagements

10

Learning Hours

8

Different Speakers

#### Topics in focus

Mandatory Climate Disclosures  
Circular Economy  
Human Rights  
Supercharging the S in ESG  
Nature Positive

## CEDA MEMBERSHIP | OUR MEMBERSHIP BASE

**400+**  
Corporate Members

**3,330**  
Member Trustees

**27**  
Sectors Represented



**Thank you** to our Lead Members during 2024-25

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Get in touch: [membership@ceda.com.au](mailto:membership@ceda.com.au)

