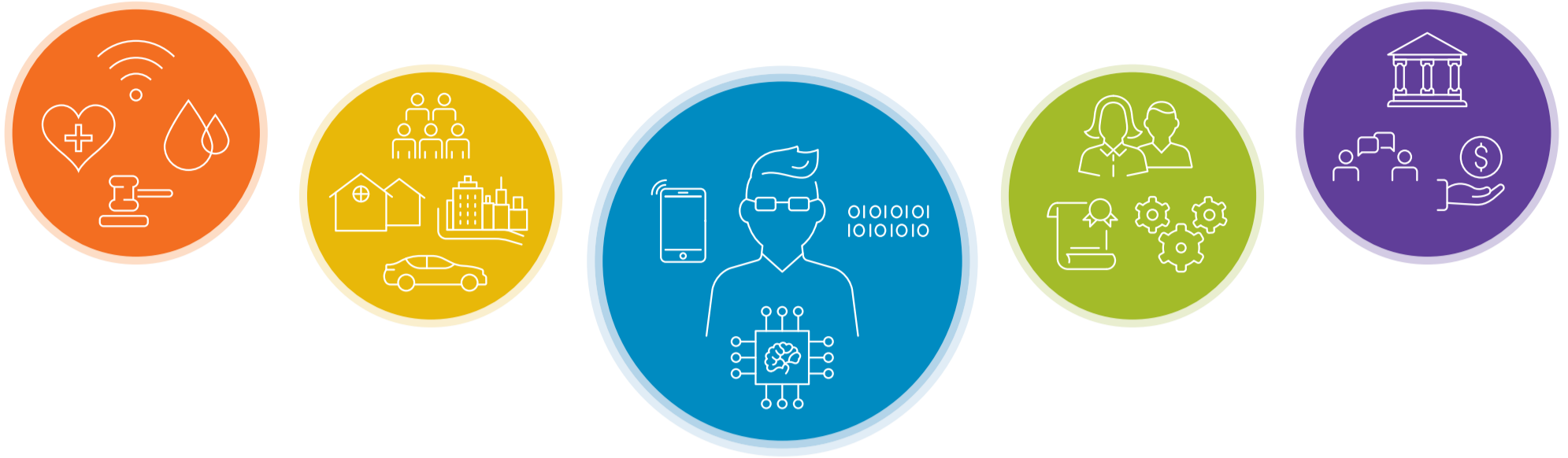


Connecting people with progress securing future economic development

SNAPSHOT



Connecting people with progress identifies a new policy 'stack' of five priority areas to deliver future economic development for Australia.

Policy solutions in population; technology and data; workplace, workforce and collaboration; critical services; and institutions will provide the foundations to connect people to future opportunities and address those issues most important to people's daily lives.

Australia has achieved incredible economic progress over many decades.

However, CEDA's *Community Pulse 2018* survey found that many people feel disconnected from the progress made possible by economic growth. The survey confirmed sentiments that have been seen and heard in Australia and around the world in the last decade.

This matters because if people feel they have not benefitted from sustained growth, they will see little reason to support future growth and economic development.

Connecting people with progress examines the elements of Australia's brand of economic development that have underpinned our past success and identifies where and how we can do better.

It delivers a clear message: we have fixed our future before and we should be optimistic about our ability to do so again. We need to recapture our past reform optimism to establish new foundations for progress and to connect people to progress in a meaningful way.

CEDA's policy stack identifies five areas critical to securing Australia's future economic development that it will seek to advance through research and leveraging the insights of its members.

PROGRESS DELIVERED

- Incredible economic gains through the expansion of the economy, trade, technology and investment.
- Economic security for people through growing incomes, better health, better education and more Australians in jobs.
- Resilience to deal with economic shocks.

AUSTRALIA'S BRAND OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Strong multiculturalism through immigration.
- A social compact to share prosperity.
- Positioned to benefit from globalisation and growth in Asia.

PROGRESS NOT DELIVERED

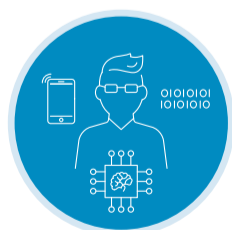
- Three per cent of Australians have been in poverty for more than four years, including an over-representation of Indigenous people.
- Persistent barriers to equality of opportunity based on education, geography and gender.
- Poor population planning resulting in growing pains for cities.
- No consistent climate policy and Australia's biodiversity is under increased threat.

EMERGING LIMITS TO PROGRESS

- Weak productivity growth that will impact future living standards.
- Underlying weaknesses in the labour market including steady growth in long-term unemployment.
- Dwindling resilience in the face of future shocks, including greater vulnerability for government and household budgets.

A new policy stack

Australia needs a rebooted reform agenda to connect people to progress in a meaningful way. CEDA will seek to advance progress on:



Technology and data:

Moving from analysis of trends and issues to creating the policy foundations for people to be at the centre of emerging technologies. This includes government stewardship of regulation and markets and establishing frameworks for trust and transparency.



Workplace, workforce and collaboration:

Making sure that skills are keeping up with technological demands, and that workplace relations are enabling productivity through collaboration and innovation.



Population:

Moving from episodic debate to a strategic and sustainable framework for managing immigration, population growth and settlement.



Critical services:

Responding to increasing demand and the need for innovation in service delivery with a focus on outcomes, better use of data, transparency, eliminating non-value adding activities, and implementing change based on evidence and analysis.



Institutions:

Building new ways of working collaboratively across sectors including place-based initiatives utilising trusted local institutions, a long-term intergovernmental reform agenda, and transparent institutions with a focus on outcomes and genuine evaluation of programs.

Connecting people with progress

Securing future economic development

What do we need for economic development?

Environmental stewardship
Australia's built and natural environment is managed well and sustainably.

Social cohesion
Our society is cohesive, enhances wellbeing and provides equality of opportunity supported by a strong social compact.

Global links
Australia has strong economic, diplomatic and cultural links to the rest of the world.

Financial security
Australians have sufficient wealth and income to meet their needs through their life.

Competitive business
A vibrant and trusted business sector that is globally competitive and connected.

Health and wellbeing
Australians have a high quality of health and wellbeing.

Education
An accessible, world-class education, enabling people to realise their potential.

Effective government
Governments are stable and effective and working well together, to balance budgets, deliver critical services, provide a social safety net and maintain law and order.

Jobs and participation
People participate in the workforce and society to the greatest extent possible.

Effective infrastructure
Australia's infrastructure is well planned, built, funded and utilised, providing convenience, amenity and opportunity for business and the community.

What have we done well? What do we need to improve?

Education

- Today almost 85 per cent of secondary school students complete Year 12 compared to 23 per cent 50 years ago.
- Australian students' PISA results for science, maths and reading have consistently declined.

Social cohesion

- Overall levels of inequality have not risen since the GFC.
- Indigenous Australians continue to be left behind while Australia's incarceration rate is high and rising.

Environment stewardship

- Air quality has improved while energy intensity has decreased.
- There is no consistent climate policy and Australia's biodiversity is under increased threat.

Effective government

- Well established institutions provide economic opportunities, financial security and social assistance to Australians when they need it most.
- Six Prime Ministers in the last decade has undermined long-term decision-making. Commonwealth net debt is now over 18 per cent of GDP.

Effective infrastructure

- The volume of domestic freight has tripled in the last 30 years.
- Australia's quality of infrastructure lags other advanced economies. The costs of traffic congestion are expected to rise to \$30 billion by 2030.

Health and wellbeing

- Australians' average life expectancy at birth has increased by more than 10 years since 1960.
- The burden of preventable diseases is increasing.

Jobs and participation

- 62 per cent of Australians are in jobs.
- Long-term unemployment has doubled in the last decade.

Financial security

- Disposable incomes have grown more than 2.5 times since 1960.
- Relative poverty has hovered around 10 per cent over the last three decades. Over 700,000 people live in persistent poverty.

Global links

- Since 1960, Australia's exports have almost doubled as a proportion of our economy.
- Australia's trade relationship with some major emerging markets are underdeveloped. There is a threat of rising protectionism.

Competitive business

- Levels of productivity have doubled since 1975.
- Less than half of Australian businesses are innovating.

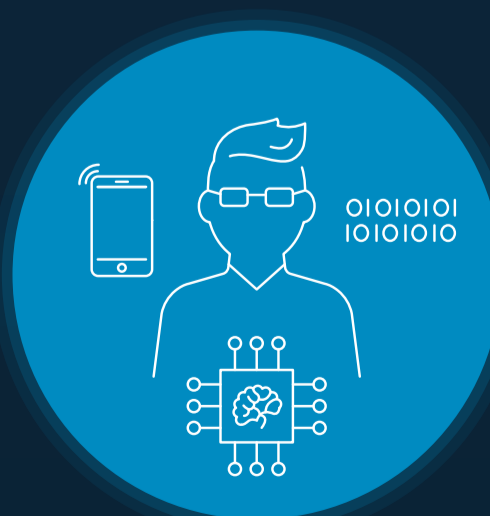
How do we deliver on the economic priorities?



Critical services
Deliver critical services with better outcomes.



Population
Manage immigration, population and settlement strategically across governments.



Technology and data
Put people at the centre of policies to harness technology and data. Enable effective take up and use of technologies and data.



Workplace, workforce and collaboration
Invest in skills for a lifetime of work and productivity. Retain a strong and effective safety net. Support productivity through engagement and collaboration in the workplace.



Institutions
Strengthen institutions and their role in economic development. Foster collaboration across sectors and jurisdictions.