

Suppliers Partnership for the Environment – Quarterly Meeting

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**Accelerating Circular Economy Policies
World Economic Forum**

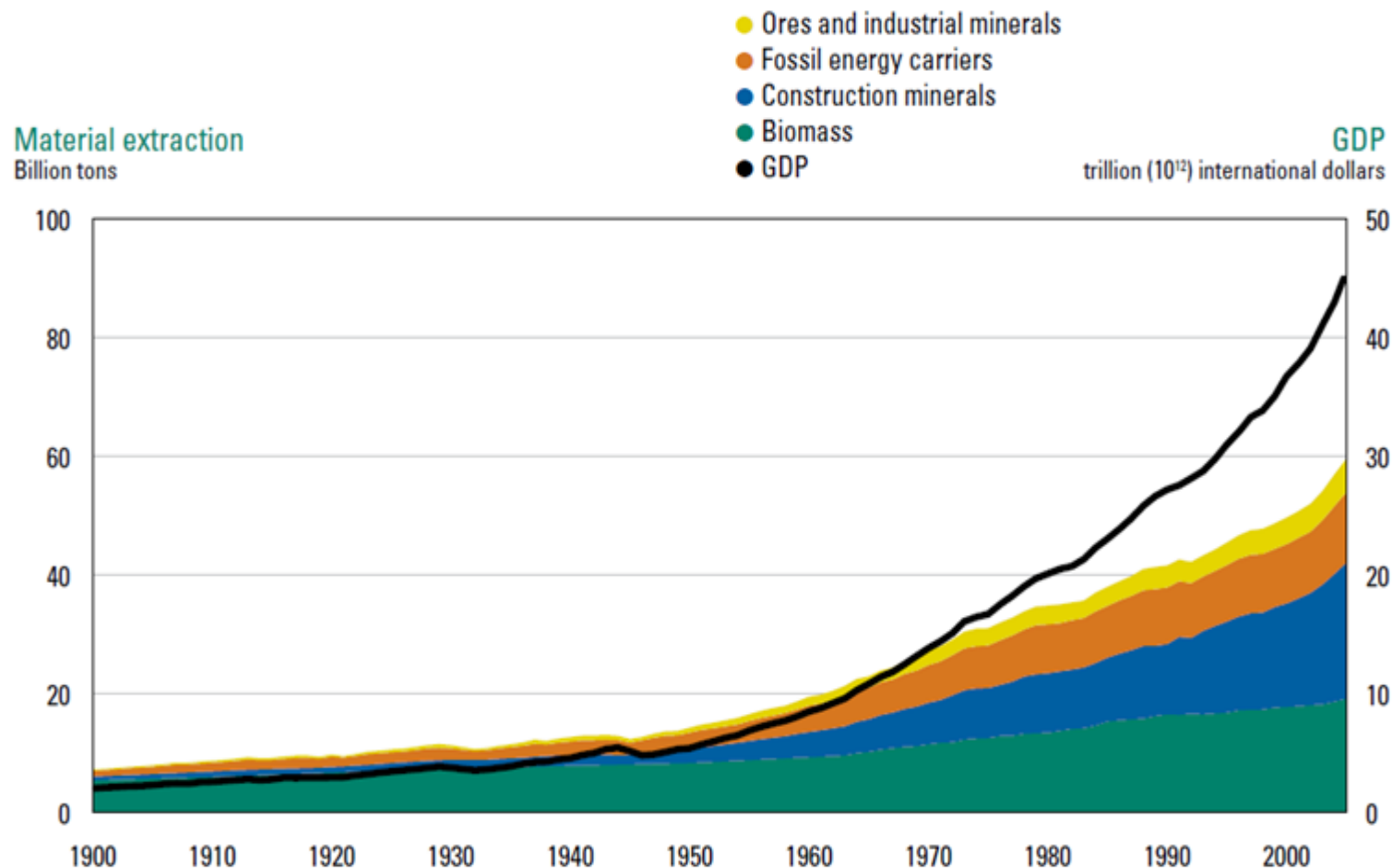
**Former Obama Administration Official –
USEPA Assistant Administrator**

**US Representative to G7 Alliance for Resource
Efficiency**



Decoupling of materials from GDP is a key to a circular economy

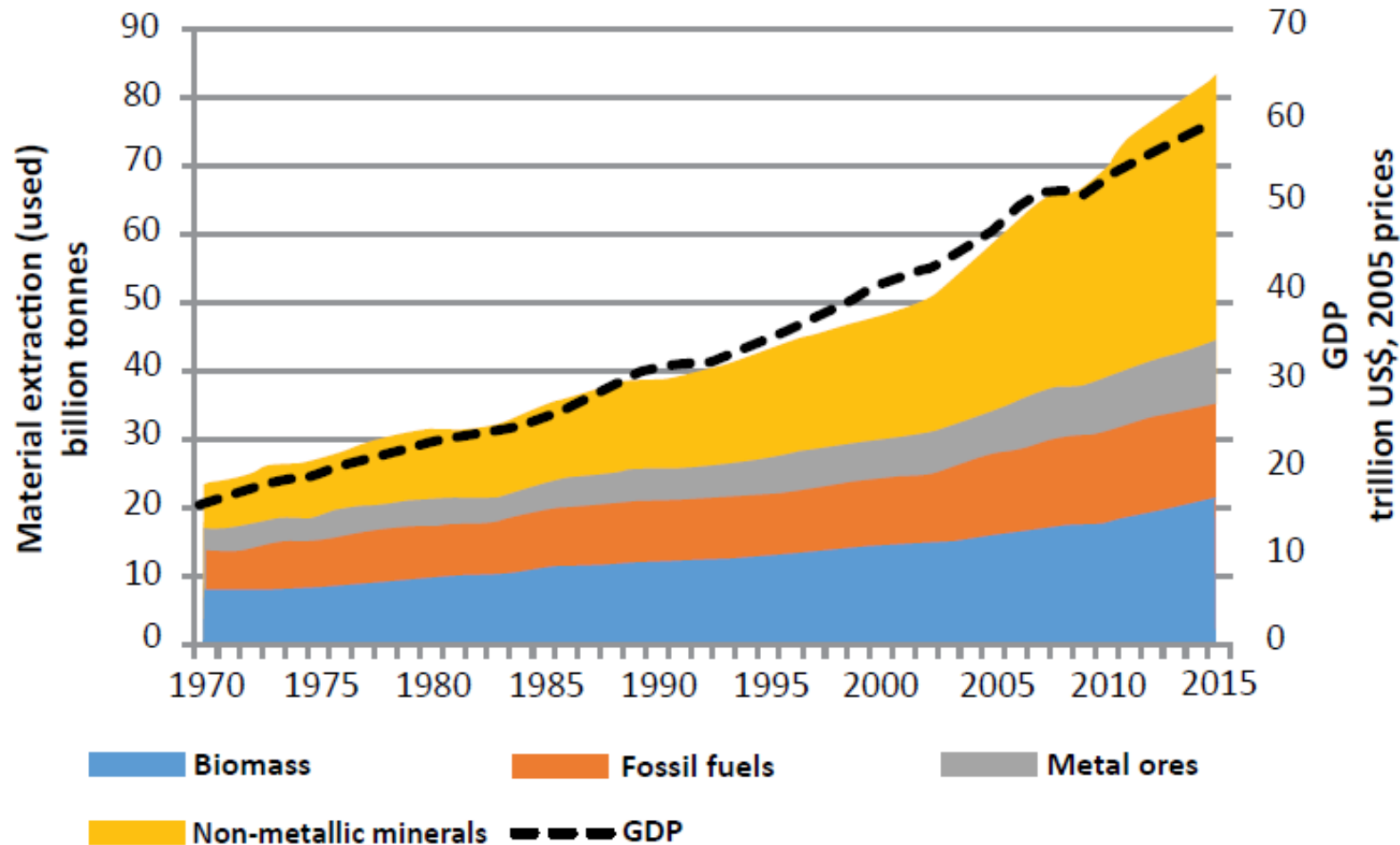
Figure 2. Global material extraction in billion tons, 1900–2005



Source: Krausmann *et al.*, 2009

- Global material resource use during the 20th century rose at about twice the rate of population. (UNEP)
- Global demand for materials will increase by more than 35% over the next 15 years, reaching 100 billion metric tons per year. (OECD)
- One half to three quarters of annual resource inputs to industrial economies is returned to the environment as wastes within just one year. (WRI)

Global material extraction has recoupled with GDP



- **Factors driving global recoupling of raw materials with GDP:**
 - acceleration of growth in emerging markets
 - shifting of components of supply chain
 - Increasing consumption-based economy

Source: Material extraction data from UNEP (forthcoming in 2016b), GDP data from UNSD (2015)

The circular economy is of a particular relevance to delivering the Paris Agreement as current commitments address only half the carbon gap



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

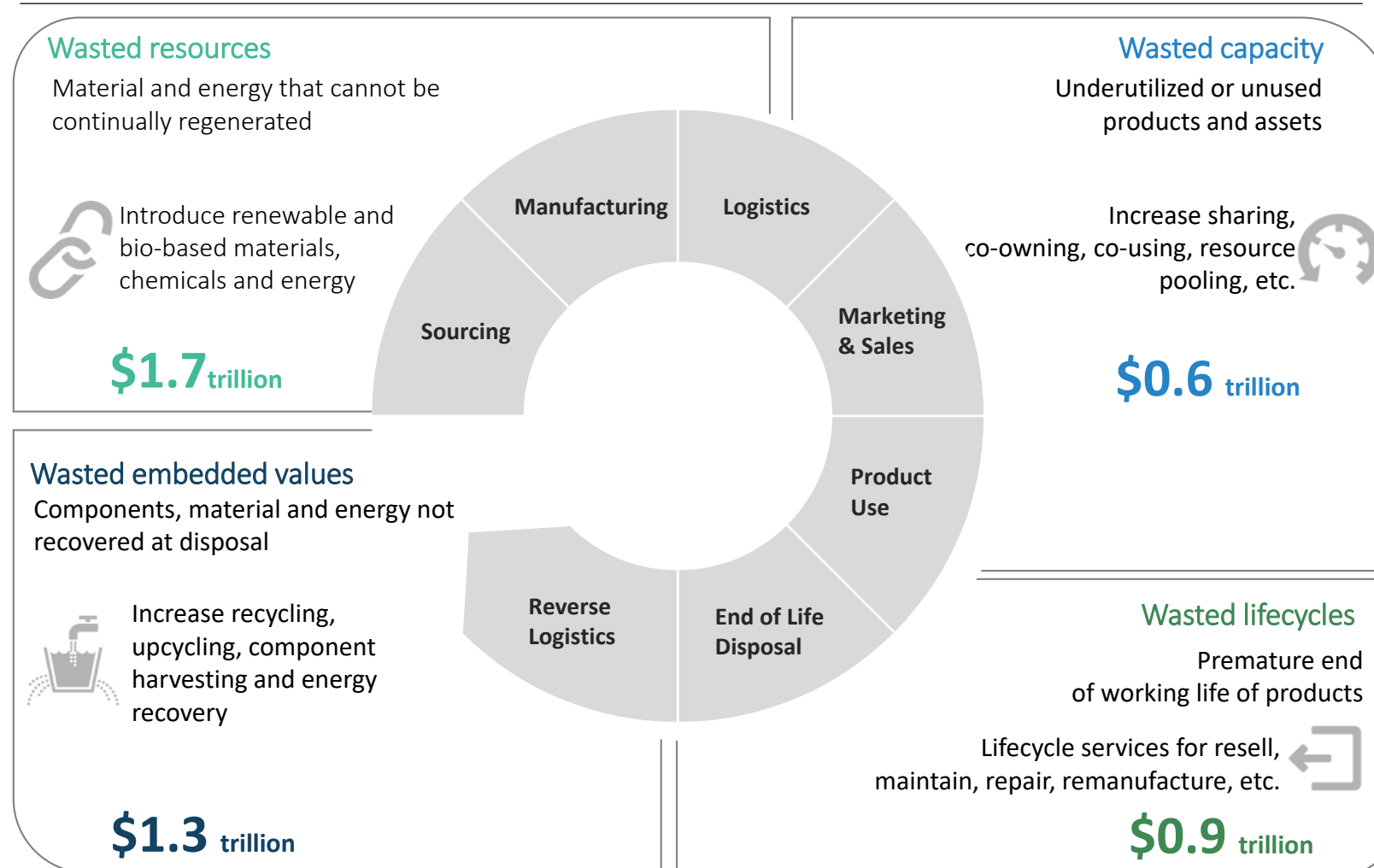
- Achieving a more circular economy is critical to delivering the Paris Agreement and limiting global warming to 1.5 – 2.0 degrees of pre-industrial levels
- By preserving the energy embedded in manufactured products, significant reductions in GHG emissions can be made

“IMPLEMENTING CIRCULAR ECONOMY GLOBALLY MAKES PARIS TARGETS ACHIEVABLE”¹

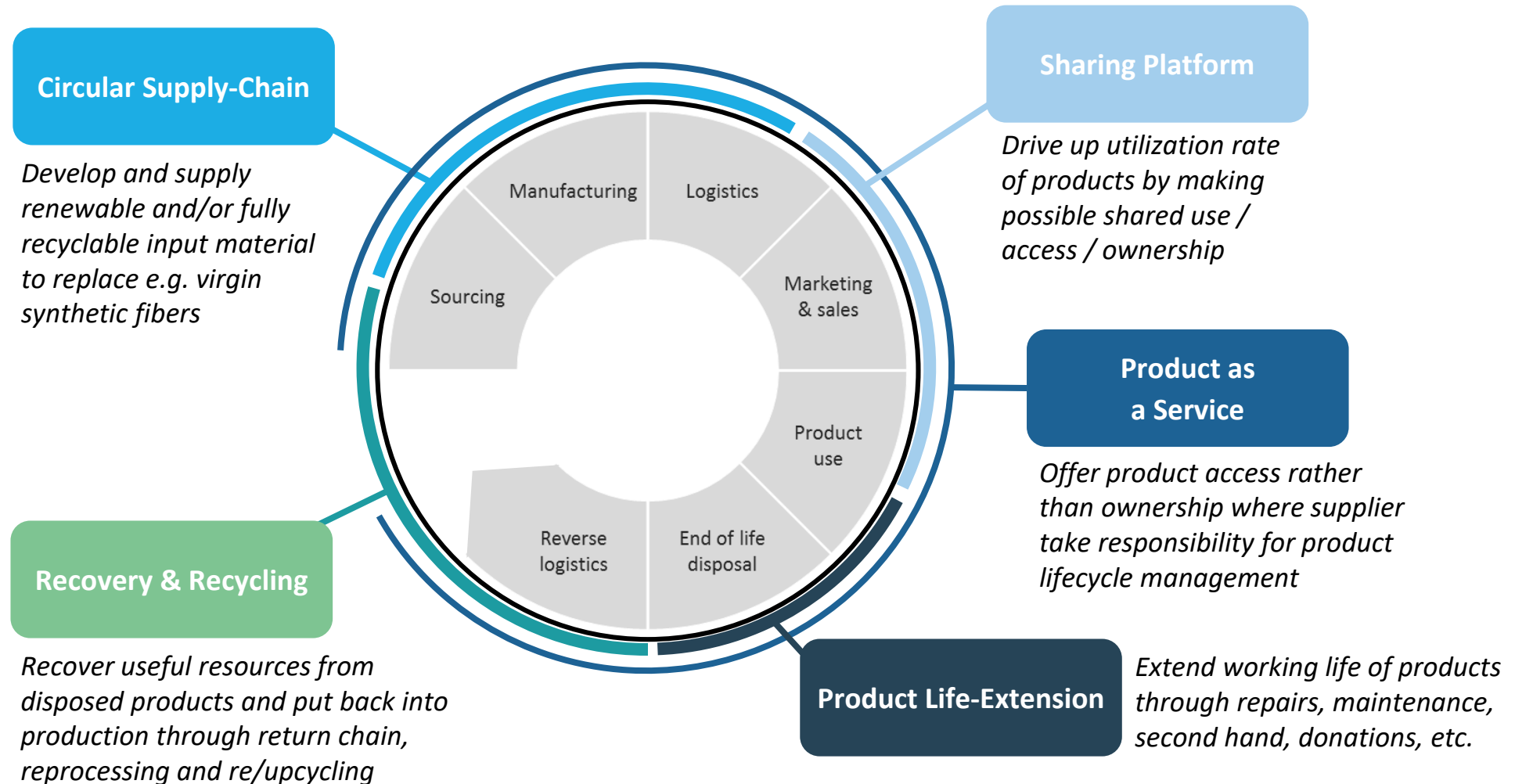
- current commitments address only **half** the gap between business as usual and the 1.5 °C pathway. There is still a reduction of about 15 billion tonnes CO₂e needed to reach the 1.5 °C target (2016 analysis by Circle Economy and Ecofys).
- circular economy strategies can reduce the gap between current commitments and business as usual by about **50%**
- “Industrial Sector is the **3rd largest near term [GHG] abatement opportunity** with materials efficiency and waste reduction as one of the significant levers.” – World Resources Institute, May 2015

A 4-dimensional view on waste is required to see the potential of the circular economy and 5 applications can be identified to capture the value

Waste categories



Applications for leveraging the circular economy approach





COMMITTED TO
IMPROVING THE STATE
OF THE WORLD

Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE)

April 2017

Multi-stakeholder collaboration, circular economy knowledge exchange and on-the-ground action are the key pillars of the vision

VISION

A transformed economic system in which economic growth is decoupled from resource consumption.



MISSION

To create systems change at speed and scale by:



I. Catalysing collaboration between public and private stakeholders at local and regional levels

II. Sharing knowledge about the potential of new business models and 4IR technologies to unlock new economic opportunities

III. Driving action by initiating prototype circular economy projects and creating replicable blueprints

OBJECTIVES

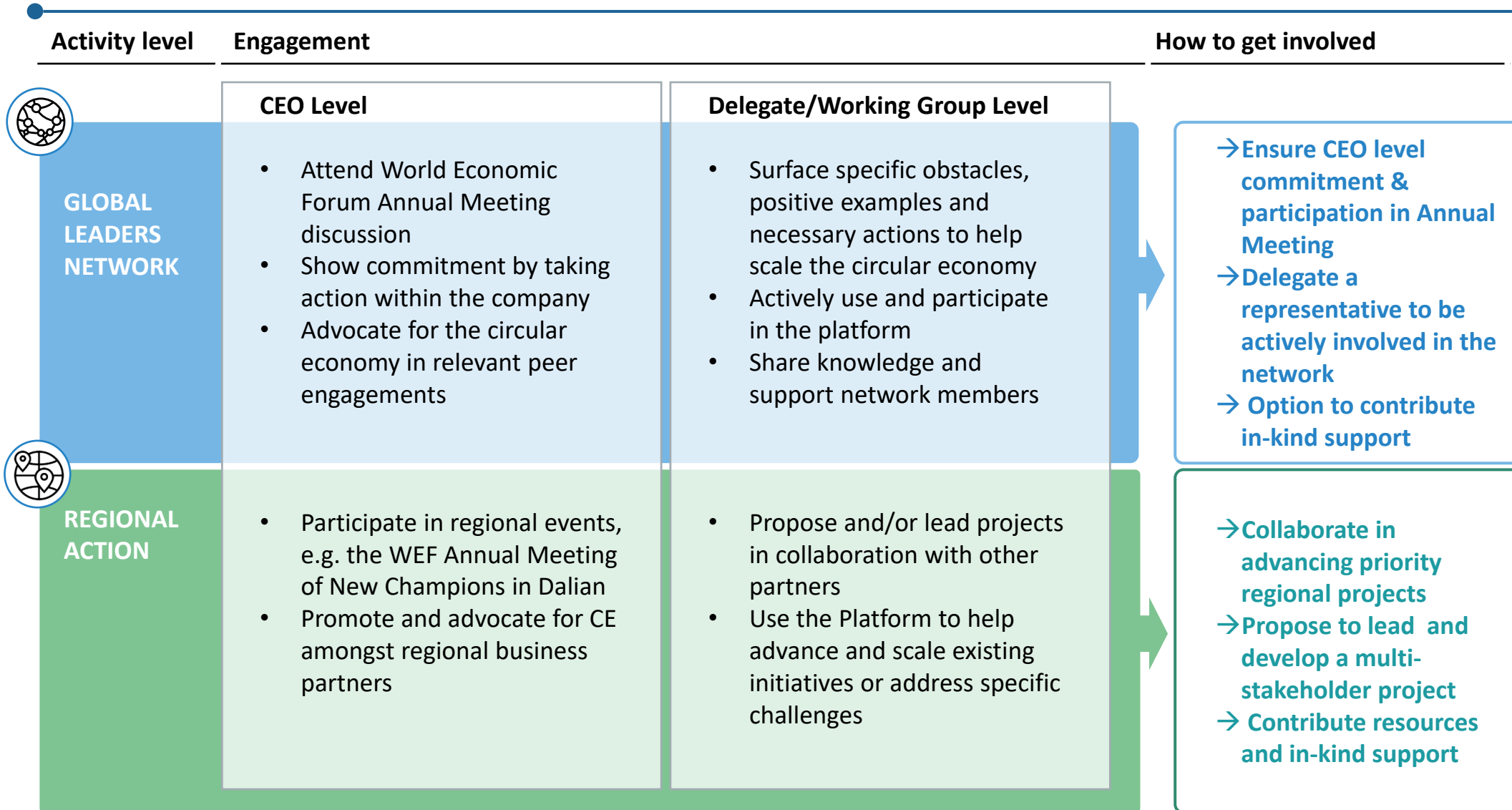
Build a global network to

- Link leading organizations, businesses and governments working to accelerate the circular economy
- Foster strategic partnerships between network members
- Raise the circular economy on the international agenda

- **Share best practice cases**, project learnings and facilitate mentoring
- **Identify disruptive technology and business model solutions** to circular challenges

- **Broker partnerships** to advance project and build coalitions for implementation
- **Scope prototypes, signpost funding** and provide strategic support framework for implementation
- **Scale success** by replicating blueprints across geographies

How to get involved



A growing network of partners

CO-CHAIRS



PUBLIC & PRIVATE SECTOR



China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development
中国环境与发展国际合作委员会

