Asbestos National Strategic Plan

Phase Three 2024–30

Taking action to save lives

Foreword

We are proud to present the third phase of the Asbestos National Strategic Plan which coincides with the 20th anniversary of Australia's complete ban on all forms of asbestos introduced on 31 December 2003.

In developing this plan, we reflected on the significant progress made to eliminate asbestos-related diseases in Australia, and consulted with a wide range of stakeholders to identify the areas that require ongoing action and improvement.

This plan has also been informed by extensive research, including an analysis of achievements against the recommendations of the 2012 Asbestos Management Review and an economic evaluation of options to increase the rate of asbestos removal safely. With approximately 6 million tonnes of ageing asbestos material that still remains in our built environment, there is a more urgent need to focus on safe, proactive removal and disposal.

We want to acknowledge the contribution of our stakeholders, including representatives from governments, unions, industry bodies and support groups across Australia, who were all instrumental in shaping the final document. We will continue to support all governments in the implementation of the Asbestos National Strategic Plan as we move towards ending the harmful legacy of asbestos.

Paul Bastian
Chairperson
Asbestos and Silica Safety
and Eradication Council

Jodie Deakes
CEO
Asbestos and Silica Safety
and Eradication Agency

Australian Government
Asbestos and Silica Safety
and Eradication Council

Australian Government
Asbestos and Silica Safety
and Eradication Agency

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and pay respects to their Elders, past and present and emerging.
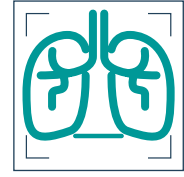
We do so in a spirit of reconciliation, recognising that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have suffered significantly and disproportionately from the past mining, manufacture and use of asbestos.

We acknowledge that the presence of asbestos in many communities today is an ongoing health risk and that many traditional lands remain contaminated with asbestos. We commit to contributing to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap through the implementation of the Asbestos National Strategic Plan.

Australian Government

ACT Government

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

VICTORIA State Government

Queensland Government

NSW GOVERNMENT

Government of South Australia

Tasmanian Government

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

An estimated **4,000 Australians** die annually from asbestos-related diseases[1]

4k

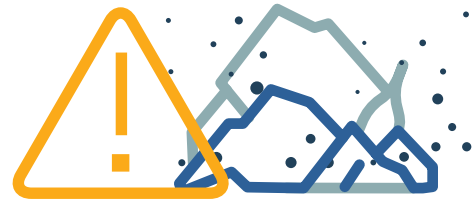Approximately **6.4 million tonnes** of asbestos materials remain in our built environment[2]

6.4m

Asbestos is in one in three homes across Australia[3]

28k

Increased asbestos removal from buildings can **prevent** up to **28,000 deaths** by **2100**[4]

Asbestos materials are degrading, increasing the risk they pose[5]

Time and cost to recover from a disaster increases significantly if asbestos is present[5]

Every dollar spent on increasing the rate of asbestos removal can return a positive net benefit to the Australian economy[4]

128 countries still use asbestos, although worldwide consumption halved in the past decade, decreasing to 1.3 million tonnes in 2022[6]

About the Asbestos National Strategic Plan

The Asbestos National Strategic Plan (ANSP) provides a phased approach to eliminating asbestos-related diseases (ARDs) in Australia through nationally consistent and coordinated actions.

Phase one

2014
2015
2016
2017
2018

Phase one (2014-2018) focused on establishing an evidence base to understand the asbestos legacy.

This work included:
- developing the National Asbestos Profile
- estimating the economic burden of ARDs and the future burden of mesothelioma
- conducting national benchmark surveys of asbestos awareness and attitudes.

Phase two

2019
2020
2021
2022
2023

Phase two (2019-2023) contained actions aimed at increasing awareness and supporting the more effective management and removal of asbestos containing-materials (ACMs).

Progress was measured against nine national targets and achievements included completion of the first version of the National Residential Asbestos Heatmap.

Phase three

2024
2025
2026
2027
2028
2029
2030

Phase three builds on this progress and focuses on practical measures to support the safe removal of ageing ACMs, so that we can:
- prevent future generations from suffering disease
- prevent further contamination of our environment
- maximise the significant health and environmental benefits, as well as cost savings, from safe prioritised removal.

This ANSP also aims to:
- support workers and others who are affected by asbestos-related diseases to improve their quality of life
- facilitate Australia's international role in leading the campaign for a worldwide asbestos ban.

Our challenges

Asbestos-related disease rates have not declined as expected following improvement of asbestos management and removal approaches over the last 35 years.[7]

Over 4000 Australians die each year from asbestos-related diseases, making asbestos the single greatest cause of work-related deaths in Australia.

The total banning of asbestos in Australia in 2003 did not apply to ACMs already in place (in situ), which means that 20 years on, significant amounts of legacy ACMs still remain in public and commercial buildings, homes and infrastructure.

Asbestos products in Australian buildings are anywhere between 30-100 years old.[2] This means that ACMs are degrading, increasing the risk of exposure to asbestos fibres. Climate change and the escalating frequency and intensity of extreme weather and other disaster events in Australia is also increasing the risk of exposure to asbestos fibres. ACMs become damaged and disturbed during these events and the subsequent clean-up is dangerous, time-consuming, and costly.

Internationally, 128 countries continue to use asbestos.[6] Until a worldwide ban is achieved on the production and trade of ACMs, there is a risk of asbestos products entering Australia unlawfully.

Our key challenge under this ANSP is prioritising the removal of this deadly legacy.

This will require a shift away from the acceptance of in situ management of ACMs to a proactive approach of controlling risk and removing ACMs safely, as well as ensuring the necessary supports are in place to encourage and facilitate removal in workplaces and homes.

The current work health and safety regulations for asbestos inhibit removal in workplaces because they focus on the use of lower order controls to minimise the risk, even when it may be practicable to eliminate the risk by removing ACMs. This means that ACM removal often only takes place opportunistically or following emergency events when ACMs have already been damaged.

Furthermore, the lack of effective controls under public health and environment protection laws compromises the safe removal of asbestos in homes.

Principles

Five principles will guide actions under the strategy:

1 **Best practice**

Adopt evidence-based practices to deliver sustained improvement and ensure our focus is on areas of highest risk, including the most vulnerable populations

2 **Efficiency**

Eliminate duplication by leveraging our collective efforts

3 **Transparency**

Roles and responsibilities are acknowledged, and actions and outcomes are shared and publicly reported

4 **Partnerships**

Governments work together with non-government organisations and Australian communities to extend the reach and impact of our actions

5 **Coordination**

Actions are coordinated across and within all tiers of government to ensure they are effective, targeted and consistent

Working together

Addressing the scourge that is asbestos requires a concerted effort from a diverse group of stakeholders including many government agencies, researchers, industry, employer groups, unions, asbestos-related disease advocates, and public health bodies.

The ANSP is the mechanism which ensures that:

➔ The Australian Government and state and territory governments are working to a shared purpose and that priorities and strategic actions are coordinated across the nation.

➔ Government agencies with asbestos-related responsibilities in each jurisdiction work together to provide a whole-of-government response in addressing asbestos issues.

➔ Local or other governments and non-government organisations facilitate, support and influence implementation by aligning their actions.

➔ Support groups and the broader community have confidence that action is being taken to prevent asbestos-related diseases and the devastating impacts they have.

Managing a problem this big means that everyone needs to work together to make sure actions are consistent, efficient and effective.

Implementation

Effective implementation of the ANSP is dependent on each jurisdiction establishing an interagency coordination group and using the ANSP to guide the development of its own action plan. The interagency coordination group can then set relevant jurisdictional targets and implementation timeframes according to the jurisdiction's baseline and priorities.

Evaluating and reporting progress

All jurisdictions will monitor, evaluate and report progress against their targets to Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency (ASSEA).

ASSEA will report on progress consistent with requirements in the *Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency Act 2013*. It will develop an annual progress report, which will be provided to all relevant Ministers and published on its website.

The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council will provide ongoing guidance, advice and recommendations to assist in the successful delivery of the ANSP's targets.

A midpoint review of the ANSP will provide an opportunity to adjust, if necessary, the national action plans and targets.

The Asbestos Safety System

Successful implementation of the ANSP involves collaboration between:

- **The implementers:** Australian, state and territory governments are responsible for implementing the ANSP actions and achieving its targets. A range of agencies have an overarching role to develop policy or to enforce compliance with asbestos-related laws.

- **The partners:** Local governments (including regional and land councils) as well as non-government groups play an important role in facilitating, supporting and influencing action.

Implementers

- Public housing
- Building and planning
- Foreign affairs
- Transport safety
- Emergency management
- Border protection
- Public health
- Consumer safety
- Environment protection
- Treasury
- Work health and safety
- Industry, science and innovation

Collaboration

Partners

- Local government and land councils
- Researchers and universities
- Waste industry
- Medical and health professionals, and peak bodies
- Business and employer representatives
- Advocacy and support groups
- Real estate industry
- Asbestos professionals
- Workers, health and safety representatives, unions
- Training organisations
- Homeowners and occupiers

The Strategy

The Strategy has three aims:

Aim 1

Eliminate asbestos-related diseases (ARDs) in Australia

Prevent exposure to airborne asbestos fibres at each stage of the asbestos life-cycle

Priority 1	Accurate identification and consistent assessment
Priority 2	Risk control and prioritised removal
Priority 3	Safe and effective transport and disposal

Aim 2

Support workers and others who are affected by asbestos-related diseases

Improve the quality of life for people with ARDs by improving their diagnosis, treatment and support

Priority 4	Early diagnosis of asbestos-related diseases so that appropriate care and treatments can be provided
Priority 5	People with asbestos-related diseases, their family and carers are able to access and navigate the care and support system with ease and dignity
Priority 6	Continued improvements in diagnostic, therapeutic and other treatment methods

Aim 3

Be an International Leader

Focus on securing a worldwide ban on the production and trade of asbestos.

Priority 7	Capacity building in South-East Asia
Priority 8	Promoting the Australian Government's position on asbestos bans
Priority 9	Preventing and responding effectively to illegal importation of products containing asbestos

For each aim the barriers to achieving change have been identified, along with drivers to overcome these barriers.

Each aim has a dedicated national action plan.

Aim 1

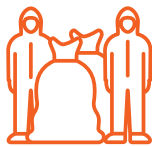## Eliminate asbestos-related disease in Australia
Prevent exposure to airborne asbestos fibres

Priority Areas

Priority 1
Accurate identification and consistent assessment

Priority 2
Risk control and prioritised removal

Priority 3
Safe and effective transport and disposal

Barriers to achieving change

Capability barriers
- Lack of knowledge about asbestos including where it is found and how to safely deal with ACMs
- Technical complexity involved in the identification of ACMs
- Lack of awareness of legal requirements

Opportunity barriers
- Lack of centralised information on ACM location and condition
- Jurisdictional overlap and misalignment of asbestos-related laws and administrative processes
- Disposal capacity

Motivation barriers
- Overconfidence in knowledge and capabilities about ACMs
- Mistaken or incorrect attitudes and beliefs about risk and likelihood of being caught for not doing the right thing
- Removal and disposal costs

Drivers to overcome the barriers

Raise asbestos risk awareness

Improve knowledge, skills and workforce capacity

Strengthen and align relevant legal frameworks

Support and enforce compliance with asbestos-related laws

Innovate, incentivise and inspire action

Conduct research and data collection to inform policy and practice

National Action Plan for eliminating asbestos-related diseases

Priority 1 Accurate identification and consistent assessment

Why is it a priority?

A robust and standardised process for identifying the presence, location and condition of ACMs enables effective actions to be taken to prevent exposure to airborne asbestos fibres including the development of prioritised asbestos removal programs.

What will success look like?

Accurate asbestos identification and consistent risk assessments improve the quality of asbestos registers and management plans in workplaces to allow risk-based removal to occur.

Homeowners know where ACMs are located so that action can be taken to prevent asbestos exposure.

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Deliver National Asbestos Awareness Campaigns targeting: • DIY and trades • Indigenous Australians • Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) • Remote and regional communities • Buyers and sellers of residential property • Renters and landlords of residential property • School communities	ASSEA	All governments Local governments Non-government groups
	Improve asbestos-related training for: • Workers including apprentices, waste and transport workers • Asbestos surveyors • Building inspectors and certifiers • Environmental Health Officers • Real estate agents and property managers	All governments	Unions Employer representatives Training organisations Jobs and Skills Councils
	Develop national guidance for conducting asbestos surveys including for naturally occurring asbestos	ASSEA	All governments Unions Employer representatives Asbestos professionals
	Support expansion of accreditation systems for asbestos professionals	ASSEA	All governments Asbestos professionals

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Implement asbestos awareness training for certain workers	All governments	Unions Employer representatives Training organisations
	Implement identification and disclosure of asbestos in residential properties: • at point of sale and lease • for planning and development approvals Improve incentives for the identification of ACMs in residential properties	All governments	Real estate industry
	Continue to respond to and investigate asbestos related complaints and incidences	All regulators	
	Improve real time detection technologies Improve and promote the National Residential Asbestos Heatmap Expand analytical techniques for identifying all types and morphology of asbestos fibres Promote the use of technology to achieve a consistent ACM risk assessment approach Support establishment of a national, publicly accessible platform for asbestos registers	ASSEA	All governments Local government Non-government bodies
	Conduct regular awareness surveys and evaluations of awareness campaigns Use artificial intelligence to detect legacy asbestos, including in remote Indigenous communities, to inform better management	ASSEA	All governments Non-government bodies
	Develop jurisdictional asbestos profiles which include details of asbestos stocks and flows	ASSEA	All governments

Priority 2 Risk control and prioritised removal

Why is it a priority?

Asbestos materials have reached end of product life and are degrading, increasing the risk of exposure to asbestos fibres. Without significant intervention, Australia will still have around one million tonnes of in situ ACMs in the built environment by 2060.

What will success look like?

An increase in the rate of removal of ACMs so that they are removed from the built environment significantly earlier than the current estimate of 2100. Until ACMs are safely removed the risk of exposure needs to be effectively controlled.

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Deliver National Asbestos Awareness Campaigns targeting: • DIY and trades • Indigenous Australians • Remote and regional communities • Property owners/managers to promote the benefits of proactive removal • Duty holders regarding duties under work health and safety (WHS) laws	ASSEA	All governments Local governments Non-government groups
	Provide resources and guidance for health and safety representatives to ensure they can effectively exercise their functions in relation to asbestos risk controls	Safe Work Australia ASSEA	All governments Unions Employer representatives Training organisations
	Review the effectiveness of vocational education and training courses for licensing asbestos removalists, including for CALD students	Safe Work Australia ASSEA	All governments Unions Employer representatives Training organisations Jobs and Skills Councils
	Assess industry capacity to remove ACMs	ASSEA	Asbestos professionals
	Develop best practice approach for government-funded asbestos removal program	ASSEA	All governments Local government Non-government bodies

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Facilitate a whole-of-government approach to compliance and enforcement by developing guidelines for regulatory agencies and local government to work together	ASSEA	All governments Local government
	Progress through Safe Work Australia processes a review and revision of the model WHS regulations to improve asbestos risk control and support prioritised removal, including: • training • the effectiveness of asbestos management plans in ensuring prioritised ACM removal within specified timeframes • transition to lowering the occupational exposure limit in line with changes agreed by the European Commission • the ability of WHS regulators to issue notices in relation to high-risk ACMs installed prior to 31 December 2003 • the definition of friable asbestos • the effectiveness of in situ risk controls including encapsulation • unlicensed removal	Safe Work Australia	All governments Unions Employer representatives Asbestos professionals
	Progress through Safe Work Australia processes a review and revision of model WHS codes of practice and guidance to align with any changes to the model WHS regulations	Safe Work Australia ASSEA	All governments Unions Employer representatives Asbestos professionals
	Strengthen requirements for safe asbestos removal and disposal in situations where WHS laws do not apply, e.g. homeowners removing asbestos themselves	Public health agencies	ASSEA
	Investigate expanding corporate reporting obligations to include asbestos liabilities: • in financial statements • as part of environmental, social and governance reporting	Australian Government	Employer representatives
	• Develop an annual campaign to promote compliance with asbestos-related laws • Ensure effective oversight of permit and licensing regimes • Raise awareness of penalties for non-compliance and publicise successful enforcement outcomes	All Regulators	ASSEA Non-government bodies

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	• Develop a risk-based, prioritised ACM removal program for publicly owned and controlled properties • Develop incentives to encourage the safe removal of ACMs from residential and commercial properties, including housing of Indigenous Australians • Support local government to administer devolved responsibilities	All governments	ASSEA
	Research low level exposures in the workplace and non-workplace environment, including in water and soil	ASSEA	Researchers and universities

Priority 3 Safe and effective transport and disposal

Why is it a priority?

Environment protection agencies and local authorities across Australia continue to face the challenge of illegal disposal of asbestos which harms both human health and the environment and results in significant clean-up costs to the community. The barriers to the legal disposal of asbestos are cost, convenience and awareness.

What will success look like?

Asbestos waste can be tracked from removal to disposal.

Easier and safer asbestos waste disposal options help remove barriers to legal disposal.

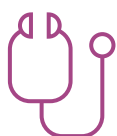| Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Deliver National Asbestos Awareness Campaigns targeting: • illegal disposal • responding to a disaster event	ASSEA	All governments Non-government groups
	Develop guides on: • asbestos contamination in construction and demolition waste • asbestos safety for waste facility operators and workers • how to classify asbestos waste consistently and accurately under the NEPM waste codes • emergency response	ASSEA	All governments Unions Employer representatives Safe Work Australia
	Investigate aligning thresholds for asbestos waste transport licences and licensing fees to achieve national consistency. Investigate the consistency between the requirements for determining asbestos presence in soils under WHS and environment protection laws Investigate creating an additional waste classification code for asbestos-contaminated soil and rubble so that it is reported separately under NEPM waste codes (N120 and N220)	Australian government	All governments

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Respond to and investigate asbestos-related complaints and incidences	Environment protection agencies	Local government
	Develop an annual campaign to promote compliance with asbestos-related laws		
	Ensure effective oversight of permit and licensing regimes		
	Raise awareness of penalties for non-compliance and publicise successful enforcement outcomes		
	Develop a nationally consistent asbestos waste tracking system which integrates with asbestos removal notifications	All governments	Local government Waste industry
	Improve incentives to encourage responsible ACM disposal		
	Conduct a needs assessment for future waste capacity		
	Update asbestos waste data estimates	ASSEA	All governments Waste industry
	Identify illegal ACM disposal patterns and hotspots		
	Monitor alternative asbestos waste disposal technologies		

Aim 2

Support workers and others who are affected by asbestos-related disease

Improve the lives of people with asbestos-related diseases

Priority Areas

Priority 4
Early diagnosis of asbestos-related diseases so appropriate care and treatments can be provided

Priority 5
People with asbestos-related diseases, their family and carers are able to access and navigate the care and support system with ease and dignity

Priority 6
Continued improvements in diagnostic, therapeutic and other treatment methods

Barriers to achieving outcomes

- Lack of specialists and allied health professionals skilled in diagnosing, treating, and supporting people with asbestos-related diseases

- Lack of funding for support services for people affected by asbestos-related diseases

- Lack of funding for preclinical research and clinical trials

Drivers to overcome the barriers

Raise asbestos risk awareness
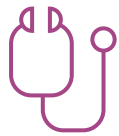
Improve knowledge, skills and workforce capacity

Innovate, incentivise and inspire action

Conduct research and data collection to inform policy and practice

National Action Plan for supporting workers and others who are affected by asbestos-related diseases

Priority 4 Early diagnosis of asbestos-related diseases

Why is it a priority?

Early detection of asbestos-related diseases is essential to help prevent disease progression and increase survival rates.

What will success look like?

An increase in the number of medical and health professionals who are trained in early diagnosis of asbestos-related diseases and able to respond and refer appropriately.

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Build awareness among medical and health professionals about diagnosing and caring for people with asbestos-related diseases (ARDs)	ASSEA	Researchers Medical and health professionals Peak professional bodies and societies Advocacy and support groups
	Support the development and dissemination of a guide for medical and health professionals (including instructions for taking occupational and non-occupational history relating to asbestos exposure) to support early diagnosis of ARDs	ASSEA	Researchers Medical and health professionals Peak professional bodies and societies Advocacy and support groups

Priority 5 Easy navigation of care and support system

Why is it a priority?

The diagnosis of an ARD can be overwhelming for those affected, not only physically but also emotionally and financially. The not-for-profit ARD support groups around Australia play a vital role in advising and assisting ARD sufferers, their families, friends and carers to make living with the disease easier.

What will success look like?

People affected by ARDs:

- are able to navigate the care and support system with ease and dignity
- have timely and equitable access to the support, care and treatment they need

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Support the work of advocacy and support groups around Australia	All governments	
	Support the development and dissemination of guides on optimal care for people with ARDs	ASSEA	Researchers Medical and health professionals Peak professional bodies and societies Advocacy and support groups

Priority 6 Improved diagnostic, therapeutic and other treatment methods

Why is it a priority?

Improving diagnostic, therapeutic and other treatment methods will help people with an ARD live longer, healthier lives.

What will success look like?

An increase in funding for ARD research and better health outcomes for people with an ARD.

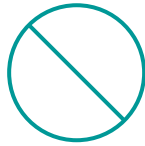| Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Support development of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of mesothelioma and other ARDs	ASSEA	Researchers Medical and health professionals Peak professional bodies and societies Advocacy and support groups
	Support ongoing ARD research, including conducting preclinical research and clinical trials	All governments	Researchers Medical and health professionals Peak professional bodies and societies

Aim 3

Be an International Leader
Working to secure a worldwide ban on the production and trade of asbestos

Priority Areas

Priority 7
Capacity building in South-East Asia

Priority 8
Promoting the Australian Government's position on asbestos bans

Priority 9
Preventing and responding effectively to illegal importation of products containing asbestos

Barriers to achieving results

The single biggest challenge to progressing asbestos bans continues to be the significant efforts by the asbestos industry and major asbestos exporting countries to block any regulation of their product.

Drivers to overcome the barriers

Raise asbestos risk awareness

Improve knowledge, skills and workforce capacity

Strengthen and align relevant legal frameworks

Support and enforce compliance with asbestos-related laws

Innovate, incentivise and inspire action

Conduct research and data collection to inform policy and practice

National Action Plan for International Leadership

Priority 7
Capacity building in South-East Asia

Why is it a priority?

Neighbouring countries in South-East Asia continue to have large levels of chrysotile asbestos consumption, often coupled with very poor work health and safety standards. Assisting these countries develop capability to detect ARDs and improve practices to prevent asbestos exposure builds the foundation for progressing asbestos bans and aligns with Australia's International Development Program for the Indo-Pacific.

What will success look like?

A decline in asbestos consumption in South-East Asia.

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Support the development of awareness materials and awareness raising activities in South-East Asia and the Pacific (target countries)	ASSEA	Non-government bodies
	Share best practice approaches for asbestos risk control and removal Develop training and capacity building programs on: • disease detection • preventing and monitoring asbestos exposure	ASSEA	Non-government bodies
	Share technological solutions to: • improve ACM identification, management, removal and disposal	ASSEA	Non-government bodies
	Share research to help: • detect disease • improve ACM identification, management, removal and disposal	ASSEA	Non-government bodies
	Commission research to ascertain the burden of asbestos-related disease in target countries	ASSEA	Non-government bodies

Priority 8 Promoting the Australian Government's position on asbestos bans

Why is it a priority?

Australia's past use of asbestos has left a devastating legacy. It is important that we use our experience in a positive way to support campaigns to ban the production and trade of asbestos and ACMs to prevent further death and disease.

What will success look like?

Australia's influence leads to more countries implementing asbestos bans.

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Develop models for regulatory reforms in target countries including import/export and workplace use bans	ASSEA	Non-government bodies
	Promote reforms to multi-lateral trade, health, economic and environmental agreements (such as the Rotterdam Convention, Global Framework on Chemicals, World Health Organisation and International Labour Organisation)	Australian government	Non-government bodies

Priority 9 Preventing and responding effectively to illegal importation of products containing asbestos

Why is it a priority?

Until a worldwide ban is achieved on the production and trade of asbestos and ACMs, there is a risk of asbestos products entering Australia unlawfully. The Australian Border Force is responsible for enforcing the import prohibition at the border and works together with WHS regulators and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to trace imports that have entered Australia and commence remediation.

What will success look like?

All importation incidents detected are subject to regulatory action and repeat importations prevented.

Driver	Action	Lead	Partners
	Develop resources for the import supply chain to keep preventing ACMs from entering Australia	Australian Government	Non-government bodies
	• Ensure effective oversight of import/export permits • Promote compliance with asbestos-related laws • Raise awareness of penalties for non-compliance and publicise successful enforcement outcomes	Australian Government	

Measuring Performance

National targets are set against the aims of the ANSP and measure the collective efforts of implementers and partners in the asbestos safety system.

The targets set out below identify a measurable goal, specify a timeframe where relevant and identify baseline data against which achievement can be measured.

Aim	Performance measures	National Targets
Eliminating asbestos-related diseases in Australia	Awareness: • Level of awareness amongst target groups • Performance against national awareness campaign benchmarks	• Awareness levels increase each year compared to the baseline year of 2024 • Campaign exceeds government performance benchmarks
	Workforce capability: • Workers completing asbestos-related training • Asbestos professionals licensed and/or accredited	• Number of workers completing asbestos-related training increases each year • Number of people licensed and/or accredited to carry out asbestos activities increases each year
	Rate of asbestos removal	Asbestos stocks decline more than the 2021 estimate of 10% per decade[2] in line with the additional rates (extra 0.6-1.0% per annum) included in the socio-economic evaluation[4]
Supporting workers and others who are affected by ARDs	Funding for mesothelioma and lung cancer research and programs	Increase in funding from $30.9 million reported by Cancer Australia in 2020
	Funding for advocacy and support groups	Increase in funding from amounts reported in the groups' 2022-2023 financial statements
International leadership	Asbestos consumption in SE Asia	50% decline in consumption by 2030 from baseline of 175,000 tonnes in 2022
	Detections of imported products which contain asbestos	All importation incidents detected are subject to regulatory action, with the aim of preventing repeat importations.

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4   Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency (ASEA) and Urbis (2023). *Economic evaluation of Asbestos Management and Removal Options Report.*

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Asbestos National Strategic Plan

Phase Three
2024–30