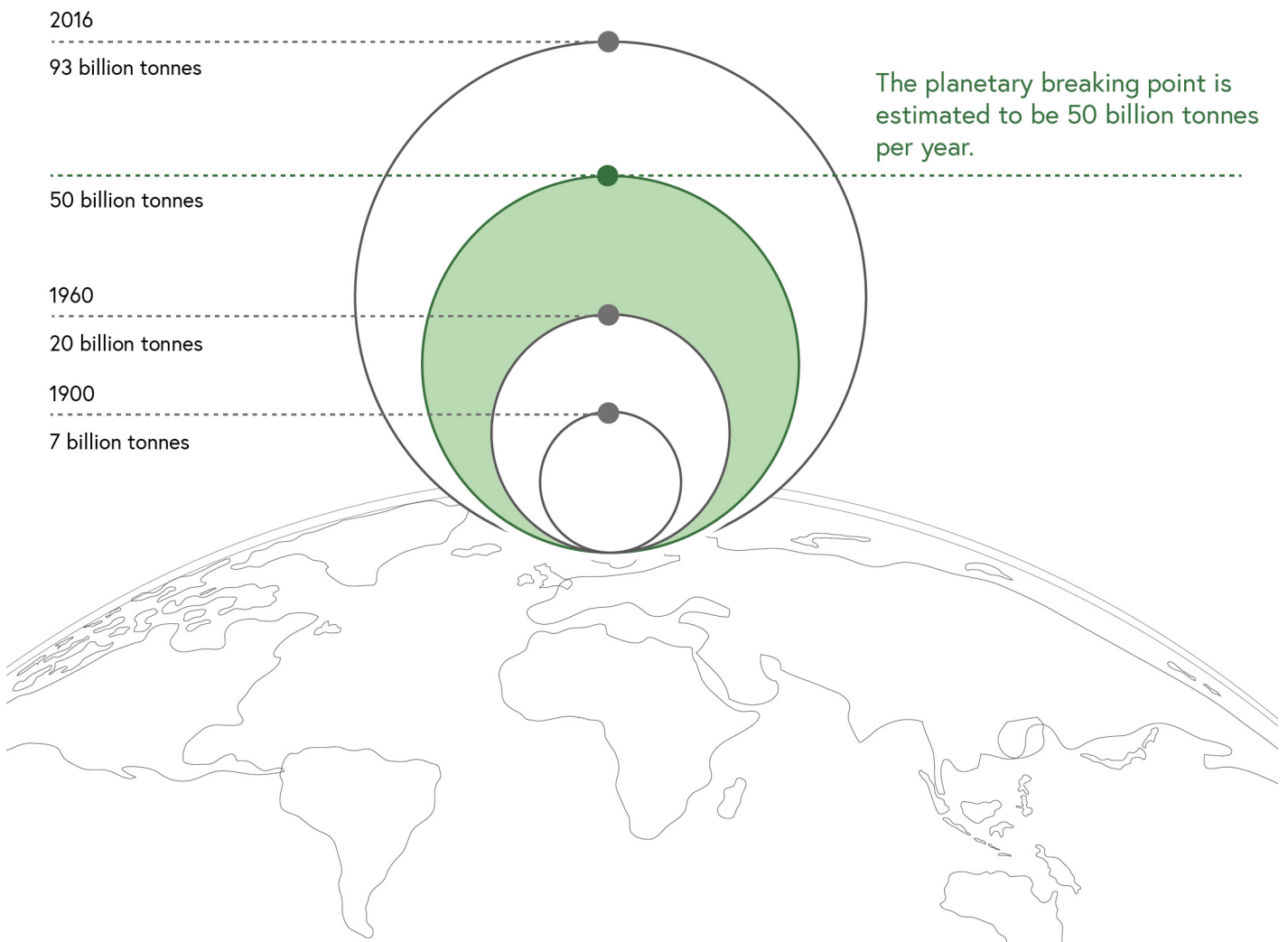


# Austria's Circular Economy Strategy

## 1. Action needed for changes

The global consumption of resources has long exceeded the planetary load limit. In 2016, the planet's resources we used were nearly double that it could tolerate. In Austria, material consumption falls far over the European average. There is an urgent need for action

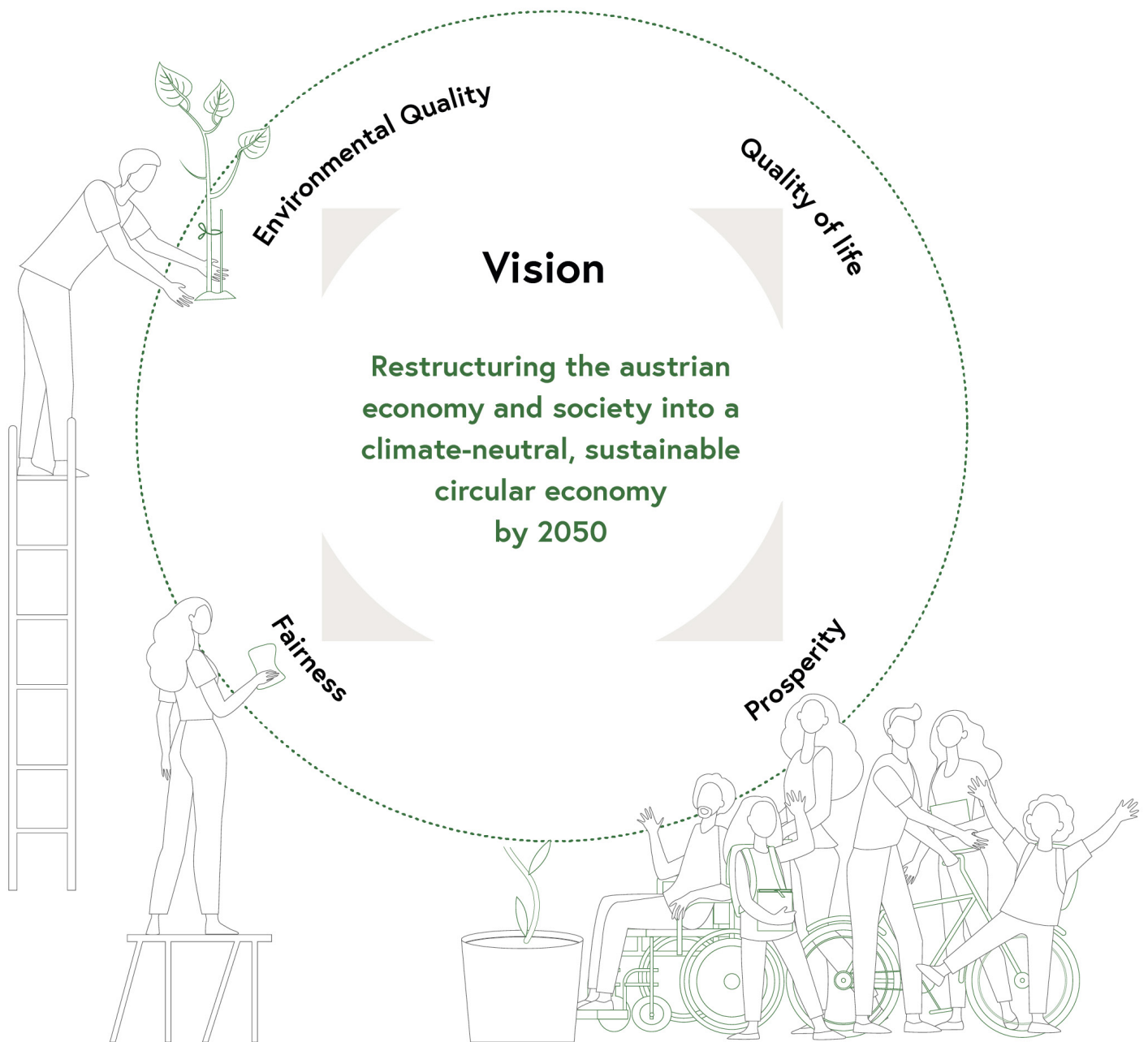
### Development of the global material footprint



Source: Krausemann et al. (2009) U.N. International Resource Panel

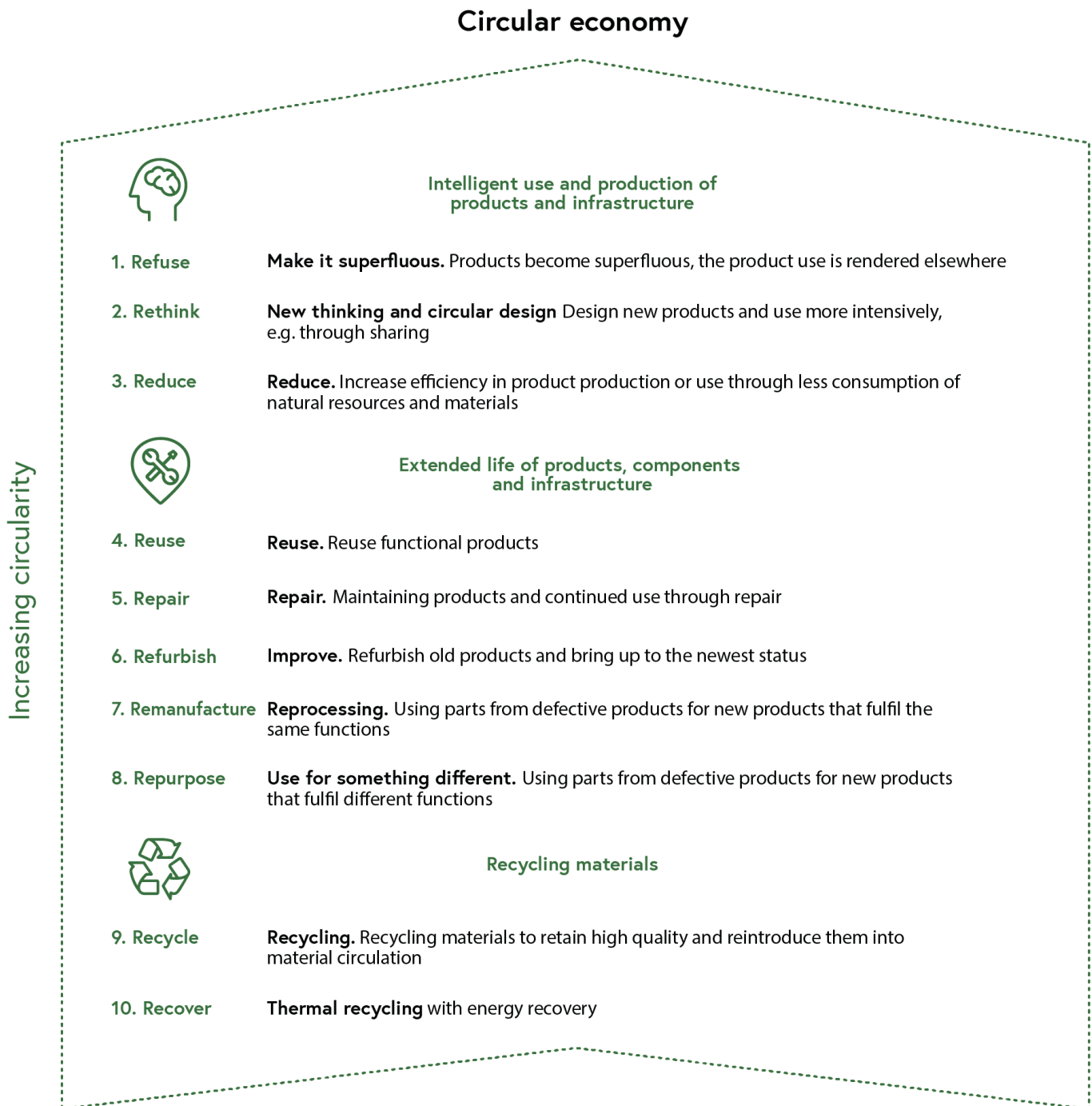
## 2. A vision of the future for Austria

The vision of the federal government is the reformation of the Austrian economy and society into a climate-neutral, sustainable circular economy by 2050. This enables a sustainable and socially just development that protects the ecosystem, our quality of life and our prosperity for us and future generations.



### 3. The ten principles of the circular economy

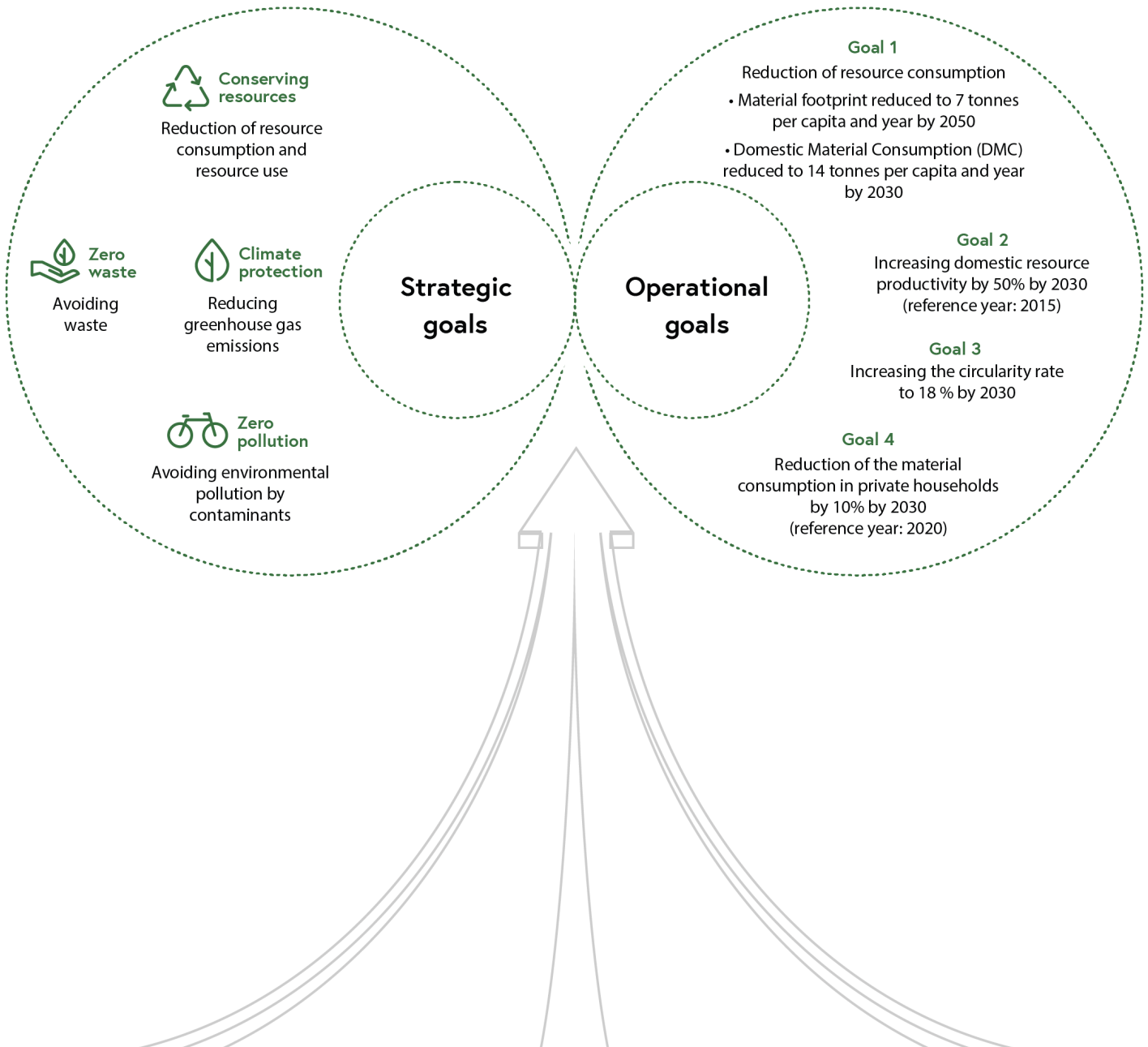
The Austrian circular economy strategy is based on these ten principles that have the goal of avoiding environmental contamination and waste and increasing value and resource efficiency. These principles are the guiding basis for the development of all instruments and measures.



Source: BMK based on Potting et al. (2017)

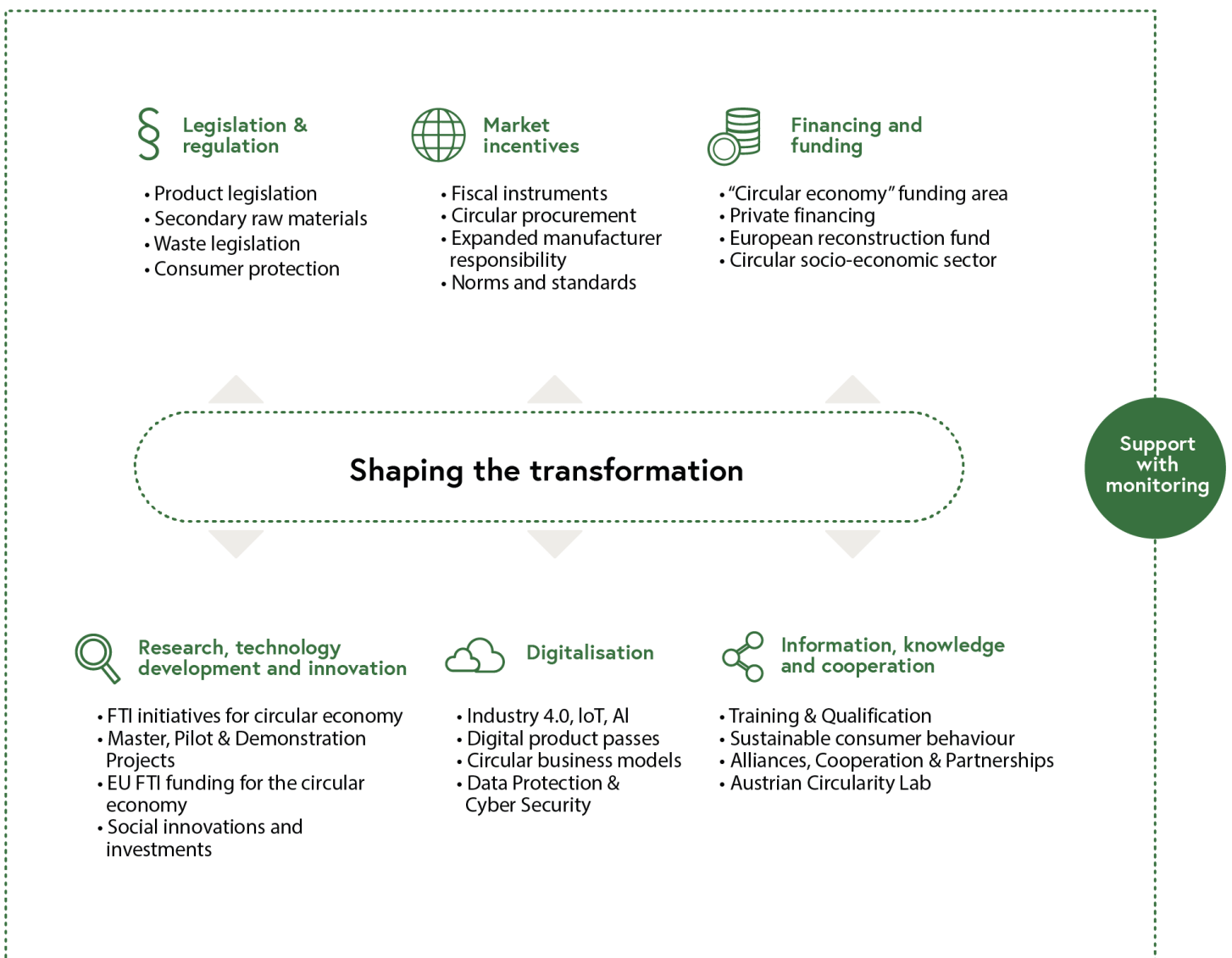
## 4. Goals

The transformation into a circular economy means including resource flows in production, sales and consumption processes and thus massively reducing the use of raw materials and materials as well as the volume of waste and strain on the environment. The strategic and operational goals of the Austrian circular economy are derived from this.



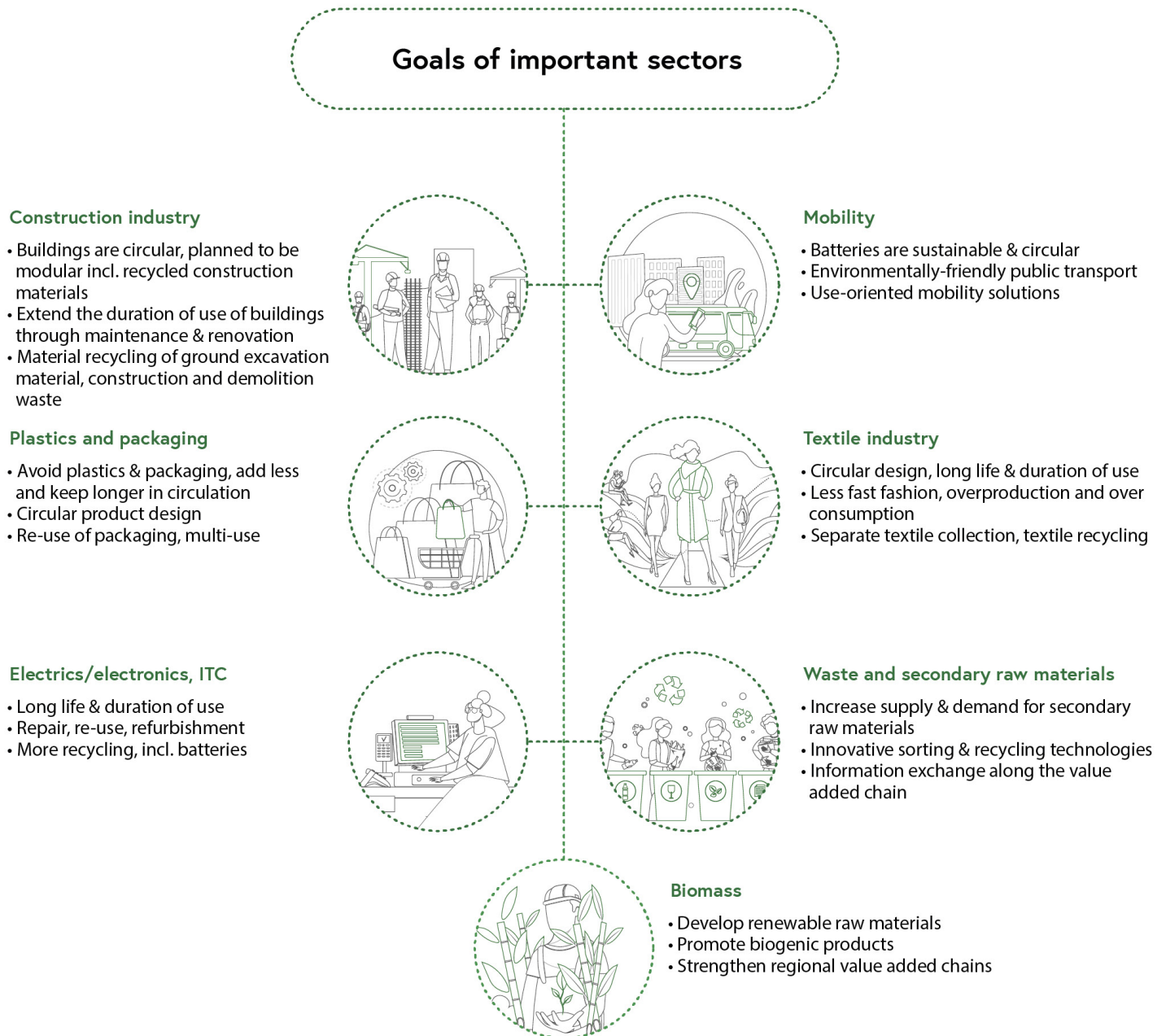
## 5. Shaping the transformation

So that the transformation to the circular economy in Austria is successful, it is necessary to be active simultaneously in many sectors and to implement a smart mix of various instruments and measures. Subsequently, the central intervention areas of the Austrian circular economy strategy spanning sectors and industries are presented.



## 6. Seven transformation focal points

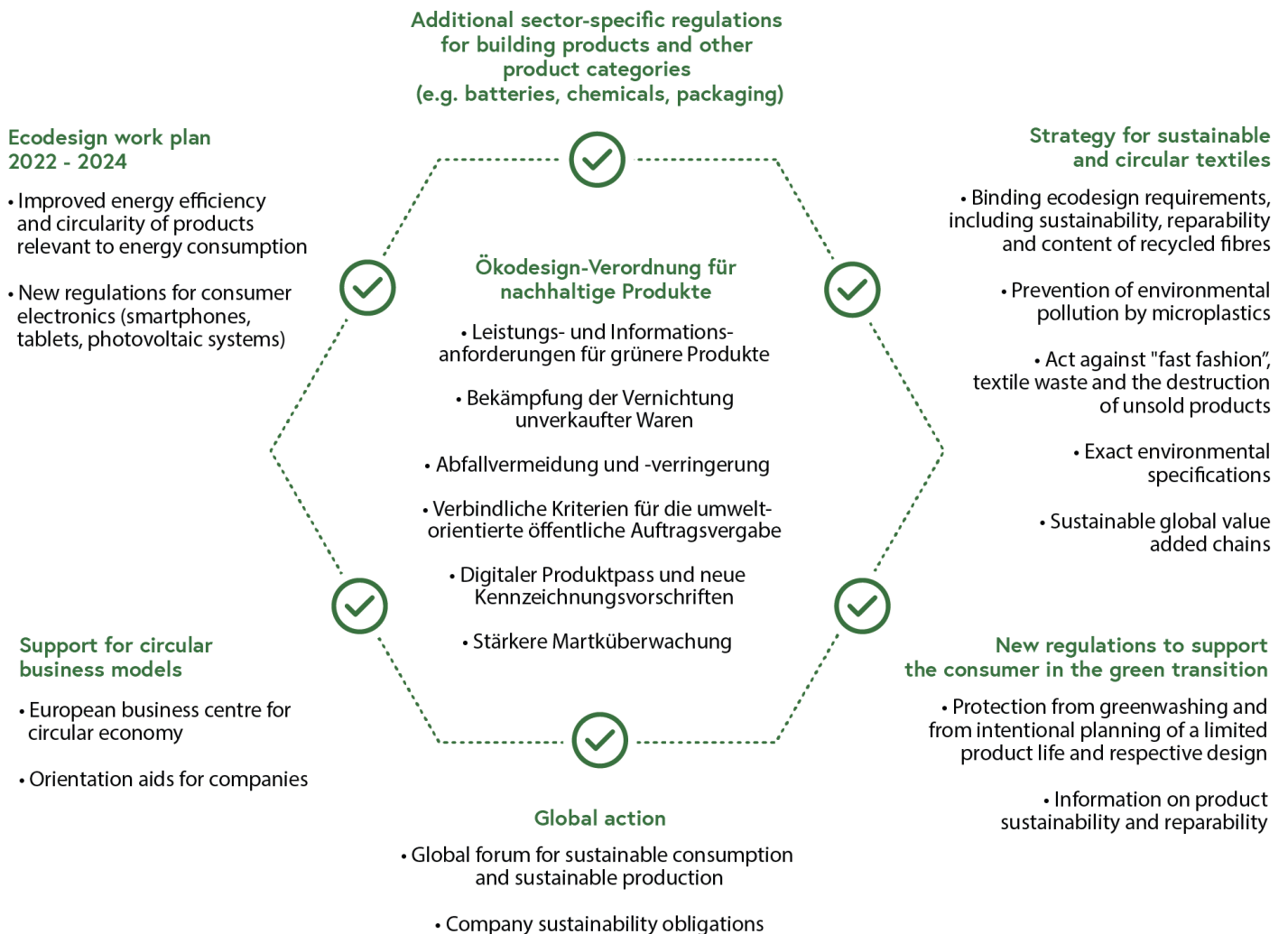
Within the transformation focal points, more than 600 proposals for measures from actors in the circular economy will be developed, assessed on their possibilities to be implemented in Austria, content summarized and included in the present circular economy strategy.



## 7. The Austrian circular economy strategy in the European context

With the Green Deal (2019) and the Action plan for circular economy (2020), the European Union is pursuing a transformation to a competitive, resource-efficient and climate-neutral economy by 2050. Sustainable product policy plays a key role in the action plan, with the goal of making sustainable products the norm in the European internal market. The introduction of the ecodesign regulation for sustainable products, EU textile strategy and new rights for consumers are the focus of this. The Austrian circular economy strategy is compliant with the European requirements and is linked to the EU plans.

### Making sustainable products in a resilient internal market the norm



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