

Circular Economy Consulting Market Forecasts to 2032 – Global Analysis By Service Type (Strategy Development and Business Model Innovation, Circular Supply Chain and Sourcing Advisory, Material and Waste Management Consulting, Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Footprinting, Policy and Regulatory Compliance Advisory, Technology Implementation Support, Training, and Education, and Change Management), Organization Size, End User, and By Geography

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Abstracts

According to Statistics MRC, the Global Circular Economy Consulting Market is accounted for \$10.1 billion in 2025 and is expected to reach \$18.0 billion by 2032, growing at a CAGR of 8.6% during the forecast period. Circular economy consulting consists of advisory firms helping organizations redesign products, business models, and supply chains to reduce waste and keep materials in use longer. Services cover circular strategy, material flow analysis, reverse logistics, product-as-a-service models, and regulatory alignment. Benefits include lower material and disposal costs, new revenue streams from reuse and remanufacturing, a reduced environmental footprint, and stronger alignment with sustainability expectations and upcoming regulations.

Market Dynamics:

Driver:

Corporate Sustainability Goals

Companies are increasingly setting ambitious net-zero and zero-waste targets, driven by stringent government regulations, investor pressure, and growing consumer demand for responsible products. Consulting firms are essential in guiding businesses through this transition, helping them redesign supply chains, implement resource-efficient processes, and meet rigorous environmental, social, and governance (ESG) reporting standards. These external pressures make professional consulting services not just beneficial but a strategic necessity for large corporations aiming to future-proof their operations and maintain their social license to operate.

Restraint:

High Implementation Costs

For many businesses, the capital needed to overhaul linear production systems, procure advanced recycling technologies, and redesign products for disassembly is prohibitive. This financial hurdle is particularly challenging for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which may lack the liquidity for such transformative projects. Furthermore, the perceived long return on investment period can deter companies from engaging consultants, as leadership may prioritize short-term financial gains over long-term resilience and savings, thus limiting the immediate client pool for consultancies.

Opportunity:

New Business Models

Consultants are pivotal in helping clients explore and implement models such as Product-as-a-Service (PaaS), sharing platforms, and remanufacturing. These models create new, recurring revenue streams while decoupling growth from resource consumption. By guiding companies in this fundamental reinvention, consultancies can move beyond simple advisory roles to become partners in value creation. This allows them to tap into a premium service segment and build long-term, strategic relationships with clients who are fundamentally changing how they operate and generate profit.

Threat:

Competition from Non-Specialists

A growing threat to specialized circular economy consultants comes from large, diversified firms like major management consultancies and the Big Four accounting networks. These players leverage their established, deep-rooted client relationships and offer sustainability services as an extension of their core strategic, financial, and operational advisory. Their ability to provide integrated solutions can be very appealing to clients seeking a one-stop shop. This means that pure-play circular economy companies have to show off their unique, specialized skills or risk being outdone by bigger companies with more brand recognition and resources.

Covid-19 Impact:

The pandemic initially caused market disruption, as businesses deferred non-essential spending to preserve cash, temporarily stalling consulting projects. However, it also served as a stark exposition of the fragility of global linear supply chains, ultimately accelerating the circular economy agenda. The crisis made business leaders rethink how much they rely on resources and how well they can handle problems. As a result, the second half of the pandemic saw a rise in demand for consulting services that focused on building strong, localized, and circular supply chains. This turned a short-term problem into a medium-term driver for market recovery and growth.

The strategy development and business model innovation segment is expected to be the largest during the forecast period

The strategy development and business model innovation segment is expected to account for the largest market share during the forecast period. This segment's dominance stems from its foundational role; it is the essential first step for any company embarking on a circular transition. Consultants are hired to do materiality assessments, find circular opportunities, and make the big picture plan that fits with the company's goals. This high-value, foundational work is consistently in demand from large corporations, making it the largest revenue generator for the consulting market, as it forms the critical blueprint for all subsequent circular activities.

The small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) segment is expected to have the highest CAGR during the forecast period

Over the forecast period, the small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) segment is predicted to witness the highest growth rate as they increasingly recognize circularity as a lever for competitiveness and cost savings. Government grants and support programs for small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) are making it easier for them to obtain

consulting services. Consulting firms are also developing more scalable and affordable service packages tailored to the specific needs and budgets of smaller businesses, unlocking a vast and previously underpenetrated market segment with significant growth potential.

Region with largest share:

During the forecast period, the Europe region is expected to hold the largest market share. The European Union's Circular Economy Action Plan, along with policies like the Ecodesign Directive and extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes, creates a compulsory and urgent need for businesses to adapt. This robust regulatory push, combined with high levels of corporate sustainability awareness and strong consumer advocacy for green products, provides mature and fertile ground for circular economy consultants. Consequently, European enterprises are the most active clients, seeking expert guidance to ensure compliance and maintain market access, securing the region's dominant market share.

Region with highest CAGR:

During the forecast period, the Asia Pacific region is anticipated to exhibit the highest CAGR due to its rapid industrialization, mounting waste management challenges, and increasing governmental focus on sustainable development. Nations like China, Japan, and South Korea are implementing ambitious national circular economy frameworks to combat pollution and resource scarcity. Furthermore, the region's manufacturing-intensive economies stand to gain immense efficiency and cost benefits from circular models. This combination of acute environmental pressures, strong policy signals, and significant economic incentives is creating a rapidly expanding market for consulting services, positioning Asia Pacific for the highest growth rate globally.

Key players in the market

Some of the key players in Circular Economy Consulting Market include Accenture plc, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, PricewaterhouseCoopers International Limited, Ernst And Young Global Limited, Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler, Capgemini SE, McKinsey And Company, The Boston Consulting Group Inc., WSP Global Inc., Arcadis N.V., AFRY AB, Ramboll Group A/S, Buro Happold Engineering Ltd., Anthesis Group Ltd., Sphera Solutions Inc., Alcimed SAS, Gate C Consulting Limited, Closed Loop Partners LLC, Metabolic Institute B.V., and Trinomics B.V.

Key Developments:

In June 2025, WSP Global Inc. introduced a digital “Steel Reuse Tool” to help projects reuse structural steel, enabling circularity in construction and reporting significant CO₂ savings on projects such as Elephant & Castle Town Centre.

Service Types Covered:

Strategy Development and Business Model Innovation

Circular Supply Chain and Sourcing Advisory

Material and Waste Management Consulting

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Footprinting

Policy and Regulatory Compliance Advisory

Technology Implementation Support

Training, Education, and Change Management

Organization Sizes Covered:

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)

Large Enterprises

End Users Covered:

Manufacturing

Consumer Packaged Goods (CPG) & Retail

Fashion & Apparel

Construction & Building Materials

Food & Beverage

IT & Telecommunications

Energy & Utilities

Other End Users

Regions Covered:

North America

US

Canada

Mexico

Europe

Germany

UK

Italy

France

Spain

Rest of Europe

Asia Pacific

Japan

China

India

Australia

New Zealand

South Korea

Rest of Asia Pacific

South America

Argentina

Brazil

Chile

Rest of South America

Middle East & Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

Qatar

South Africa

Rest of Middle East & Africa

What our report offers:

- Market share assessments for the regional and country-level segments
- Strategic recommendations for the new entrants
- Covers Market data for the years 2024, 2025, 2026, 2028, and 2032
- Market Trends (Drivers, Constraints, Opportunities, Threats, Challenges, Investment

Opportunities, and recommendations)

- Strategic recommendations in key business segments based on the market estimations
- Competitive landscaping mapping the key common trends
- Company profiling with detailed strategies, financials, and recent developments
- Supply chain trends mapping the latest technological advancements

Free Customization Offerings:

All the customers of this report will be entitled to receive one of the following free customization options:

Company Profiling

Comprehensive profiling of additional market players (up to 3)

SWOT Analysis of key players (up to 3)

Regional Segmentation

Market estimations, Forecasts and CAGR of any prominent country as per the client's interest (Note: Depends on feasibility check)

Competitive Benchmarking

Benchmarking of key players based on product portfolio, geographical presence, and strategic alliances

Contents

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2 PREFACE

- 2.1 Abstract
- 2.2 Stake Holders
- 2.3 Research Scope
- 2.4 Research Methodology
 - 2.4.1 Data Mining
 - 2.4.2 Data Analysis
 - 2.4.3 Data Validation
 - 2.4.4 Research Approach
- 2.5 Research Sources
 - 2.5.1 Primary Research Sources
 - 2.5.2 Secondary Research Sources
 - 2.5.3 Assumptions

3 MARKET TREND ANALYSIS

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Drivers
- 3.3 Restraints
- 3.4 Opportunities
- 3.5 Threats
- 3.6 End User Analysis
- 3.7 Emerging Markets
- 3.8 Impact of Covid-19

4 PORTERS FIVE FORCE ANALYSIS

- 4.1 Bargaining power of suppliers
- 4.2 Bargaining power of buyers
- 4.3 Threat of substitutes
- 4.4 Threat of new entrants
- 4.5 Competitive rivalry

5 GLOBAL CIRCULAR ECONOMY CONSULTING MARKET, BY SERVICE TYPE

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Strategy Development and Business Model Innovation
- 5.3 Circular Supply Chain and Sourcing Advisory
- 5.4 Material and Waste Management Consulting
- 5.5 Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Footprinting
- 5.6 Policy and Regulatory Compliance Advisory
- 5.7 Technology Implementation Support
- 5.8 Training, Education, and Change Management

6 GLOBAL CIRCULAR ECONOMY CONSULTING MARKET, BY ORGANIZATION SIZE

- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)
- 6.3 Large Enterprises

7 GLOBAL CIRCULAR ECONOMY CONSULTING MARKET, BY END USER

- 7.1 Introduction
- 7.2 Manufacturing
- 7.3 Consumer Packaged Goods (CPG) & Retail
- 7.4 Fashion & Apparel
- 7.5 Construction & Building Materials
- 7.6 Food & Beverage
- 7.7 IT & Telecommunications
- 7.8 Energy & Utilities
- 7.9 Other End Users

8 GLOBAL CIRCULAR ECONOMY CONSULTING MARKET, BY GEOGRAPHY

- 8.1 Introduction
- 8.2 North America
 - 8.2.1 US
 - 8.2.2 Canada
 - 8.2.3 Mexico
- 8.3 Europe
 - 8.3.1 Germany
 - 8.3.2 UK

- 8.3.3 Italy
- 8.3.4 France
- 8.3.5 Spain
- 8.3.6 Rest of Europe
- 8.4 Asia Pacific
 - 8.4.1 Japan
 - 8.4.2 China
 - 8.4.3 India
 - 8.4.4 Australia
 - 8.4.5 New Zealand
 - 8.4.6 South Korea
 - 8.4.7 Rest of Asia Pacific
- 8.5 South America
 - 8.5.1 Argentina
 - 8.5.2 Brazil
 - 8.5.3 Chile
 - 8.5.4 Rest of South America
- 8.6 Middle East & Africa
 - 8.6.1 Saudi Arabia
 - 8.6.2 UAE
 - 8.6.3 Qatar
 - 8.6.4 South Africa
 - 8.6.5 Rest of Middle East & Africa

9 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- 9.1 Agreements, Partnerships, Collaborations and Joint Ventures
- 9.2 Acquisitions & Mergers
- 9.3 New Product Launch
- 9.4 Expansions
- 9.5 Other Key Strategies

10 COMPANY PROFILING

- 10.1 Accenture plc
- 10.2 Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited
- 10.3 PricewaterhouseCoopers International Limited
- 10.4 Ernst And Young Global Limited
- 10.5 Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler

- 10.6 Capgemini SE
- 10.7 McKinsey And Company
- 10.8 The Boston Consulting Group Inc.
- 10.9 WSP Global Inc.
- 10.10 Arcadis N.V.
- 10.11 AFRY AB
- 10.12 Ramboll Group A/S
- 10.13 Buro Happold Engineering Ltd.
- 10.14 Anthesis Group Ltd.
- 10.15 Sphera Solutions Inc.
- 10.16 Alcimed SAS
- 10.17 Gate C Consulting Limited
- 10.18 Closed Loop Partners LLC
- 10.19 Metabolic Institute B.V.
- 10.20 Trinomics B.V.

List Of Tables

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Region (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 2 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Service Type (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 3 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Strategy Development and Business Model Innovation (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 4 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Circular Supply Chain and Sourcing Advisory (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 5 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Material and Waste Management Consulting (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 6 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Footprinting (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 7 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Policy and Regulatory Compliance Advisory (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 8 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Technology Implementation Support (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 9 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Training, Education, and Change Management (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 10 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Organization Size (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 11 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 12 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Large Enterprises (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 13 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By End User (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 14 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Manufacturing (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 15 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Consumer Packaged Goods (CPG) & Retail (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 16 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Fashion & Apparel (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 17 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Construction & Building Materials (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 18 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Food & Beverage

(2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 19 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By IT & Telecommunications (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 20 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Energy & Utilities (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Table 21 Global Circular Economy Consulting Market Outlook, By Other End Users (2024–2032) (\$MN)

Note: Tables for North America, Europe, APAC, South America, and Middle East & Africa Regions are also represented in the same manner as above.

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