Mapping Australia's Crafts Sector



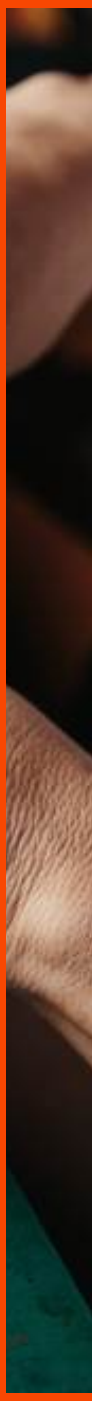




2026

Overview findings and national infrastructure

A consolidated companion to the full research report



PUBLICATION AND CULTURAL AUTHORITY

About this overview

Acknowledgement of Country

The Australian Crafts Alliance acknowledges the Wadawurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land on which the full report was researched, written and produced in Geelong. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and recognise the continuing authority of First Nations peoples over their cultures, knowledge, practices and heritage. We also acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Countries represented throughout the research.

First Nations cultural authority

First Nations cultural knowledge, authority and heritage remain governed by the relevant knowledge holders and communities. Decisions about recording, verification, access, disclosure and reuse cannot be transferred to a general provenance register, certification body or publisher. Cultural authority is distinct from product quality, practitioner identity and geographical origin.

Purpose and scope

This overview presents the principal findings and proposed national architecture developed in Mapping Australia's Crafts Sector 2026. The research brings skilled material practice, production, enterprise, transmission, provenance and living heritage into a connected Australian sector framework. Through concise analysis and visual maps, this companion makes that framework and its practical implications accessible to policymakers, industry, educators and practitioners. The full report provides the detailed evidence, methods, definitions and recommendations underpinning the overview.

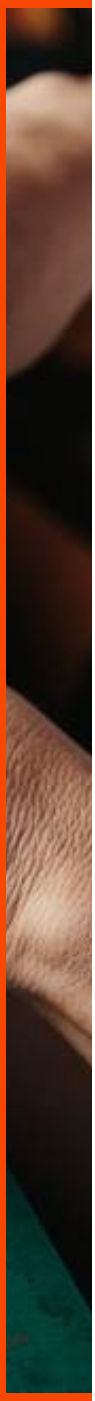
Publication details

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Source and interests

Principal source: Australian Crafts Alliance (2026) Mapping Australia's Crafts Sector 2026. Geelong: Australian Crafts Alliance. Researcher: Penelope Thomas, founder of ACA and CWA. ACA publishes the research and has developed sector frameworks with CWA. Proposed national roles remain subject to consultation and government decisions.

Full report pp. 2–4 and 17–28.



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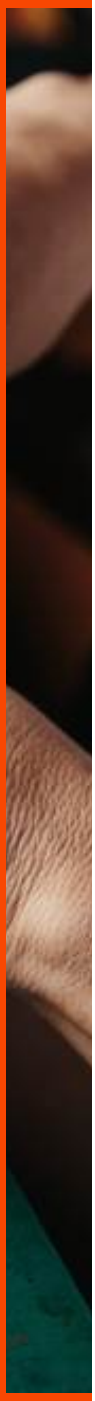
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How to use this publication

Read pages 4–9 for the overview, pages 10–29 for the complete section-by-section consolidation, and pages 30–35 for the connected system, implementation and evidence guide. Full-report locators accompany each substantive page. They refer to printed report folios rather than the page count of an individual PDF extract.



THE SECTOR AT A GLANCE

An existing productive field with fragmented visibility

Craft skilled employment

Luckman and Tower's (2023) occupational analysis identified 116,538 people employed in craft-skill occupations in 2021, equivalent to 1.1 per cent of the national workforce. The figure spans skilled material work across the economy. It is not a census of everyone participating in the wider sector defined in this report.

Economic contribution

The same study estimated $19.2 billion in gross value added in 2021, approximately 1.0 per cent of the economy. Employment and value added belong to the study's defined population and method. They establish a historical benchmark, not a current valuation of the proposed Australian Craft and Provenance Sector.

14 numbered case studies

The full report uses fourteen numbered cases to explain mechanisms involving production, recognition, transmission, product identity, provenance and place. They demonstrate how relationships work in particular settings. They do not supply a representative statistical sample or establish the prevalence of those arrangements.

19 sections and 18 recommendations

The analysis connects skilled practice, workforce and enterprise with learning, regional production, living heritage, markets, law, provenance and innovation. Its eighteen recommendations propose a national institutional response while preserving the different functions of each mechanism.

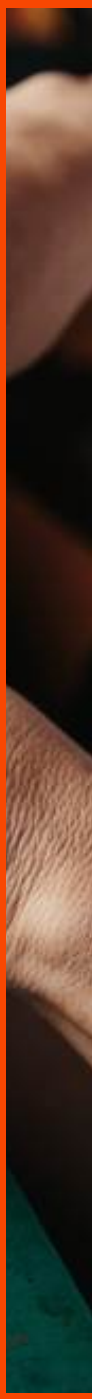
A wider field than arts classification

Craft-skilled work includes textiles, ceramics, glass, jewellery, timber, metal, leather, paper, food and related fields. It is exercised in studios, factories, workshops, farms, construction, repair, conservation, education and community settings. No single existing occupation or industry code captures that entire field.

What must remain separate

A practitioner count is not an enterprise count. A product price is not a maker's income. A recognised brand is not evidence of current Australian production. A Maker's Mark attributes a contribution; a product rating, origin claim and cultural authority require their own supporting evidence.

Full report pp. 13–14 and 28; Section 18.2.



EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

Making continuing capability visible

Australia possesses substantial craft-skilled capability, but the institutions describing it are divided across arts, trades, manufacturing, heritage, education, agriculture and small business. Each records legitimate activity within its remit. Their combined coverage does not make visible the complete relationships among people, material knowledge, production stages, workshops, learning and place.

The report responds by defining an Australian Craft and Provenance Sector. Craft is material practice; craftsmanship is the quality with which learned capability and consequential human judgement are applied. Craft as trade describes its economic and workforce function. Living heritage concerns the knowledge, communities and transmission through which relevant practices continue. These dimensions overlap without becoming interchangeable.

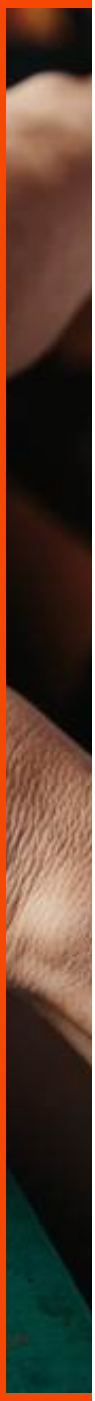
The evidence identifies weaknesses in intermediate processing, specialist training, enterprise sustainability, succession and market information. A region may retain raw materials and a recognised product identity while losing the people or facilities needed to transform those materials. A practitioner may remain economically active through other work while their capacity to make or teach contracts. A brand may continue after production changes location.

The proposed response connects national recognition and measurement with regional facilities, learning pathways, enterprise development, provenance and origin protection. It gives different institutional homes to practitioner capability, atelier conditions, product assessment, evidence records, cultural authority and geographical rights. Shared records should allow evidence to be reused without converting one verified attribute into proof of another.

The intended results are continuing practice, viable enterprises, stronger transmission, more resilient production and usable product information. They depend on operating support, paid practitioner participation, accountable governance, technical standards and commercial demand. Establishing a register, credential or facility does not by itself demonstrate those results.

The eighteen recommendations translate this analysis into a connected national development agenda. They identify how recognition, investment, learning, production and trustworthy information can strengthen one another, giving practitioners and enterprises a clearer institutional foundation for continuing work. Implementation should begin with defined responsibilities, a costed plan and evaluated pilots, building from existing capability and expanding where results justify further investment.

Full report Executive Summary and Sections 18–19.



KEY FINDINGS

What the evidence establishes

Institutional visibility is incomplete

The sector extends across existing occupational and industry boundaries. A national account needs a reproducible crosswalk and connected measures of people, enterprises, workplaces, production, learning and place. Improving individual occupation codes alone will not establish the wider sector boundary.

Capability depends on connected stages

Textiles illustrate the difference between raw-material strength and a complete productive chain. Fibre preparation, spinning, weaving or knitting, dyeing, finishing and finished-product manufacture depend on linked equipment, experienced workers, maintenance and demand. Losing one stage can weaken the usefulness of the others.

Transmission is an operating condition

The survival of knowledge depends on opportunities to exercise and teach it. Practitioner age, learner numbers, successors, material access, workshops and markets need to be assessed together. A small field may be viable; a larger field can still face serious succession or training risks.

Enterprise viability affects continuity

Practitioners combine making with administration, selling, teaching and other employment. Support needs change from formation to growth, collaboration and succession. A productive workshop contains transferable knowledge and relationships as well as machinery and stock.

Market claims need distinct evidence

Brand, Australian origin, craftsmanship, provenance, geographical entitlement and cultural authority answer different questions. The proposed five-pillar product rating has a defined unit and scope. It cannot substitute for the wider evidence record or establish attributes it has not assessed.

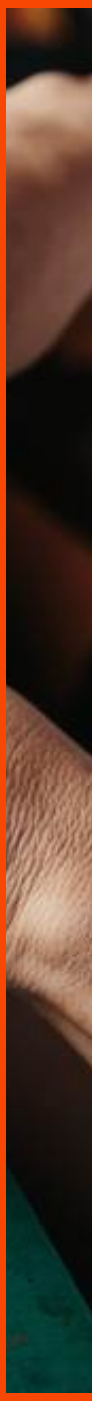
Recognition works through institutions

International models differ, but each identifies what is recognised, establishes eligibility, assigns responsibility and maintains evidence. Australia's proposed system should connect these functions while preserving their legal and cultural differences.

Innovation requires a translation pathway

Practitioner-held materials knowledge needs authorised connections with research, testing and manufacturing. The proposed staged program begins with textiles, pays for knowledge-holder participation and makes expansion conditional on evaluated results.

Full report Sections 18.1–18.10.



RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION AND METHODS

Original sector analysis through documentary and comparative research

Documentary and comparative research

The full report develops an integrated account of the Australian Craft and Provenance Sector through documentary and comparative research, critical interpretation of published quantitative findings and explanatory case studies. Its original contribution lies in defining the sector, analysing relationships across established policy and statistical boundaries, and developing a connected framework for recognition, transmission, production and provenance. Published surveys and economic studies provide evidence within their stated populations and periods. The report does not undertake a new population survey or produce a new national economic estimate.

Source selection

The core documentary review covers sources from 1923 to 17 August 2026, with selected updates verified to October 2026. Primary legal and administrative sources receive priority, followed by official publications and statistics, scholarship and established research. Company, museum, industry and media materials supply attributed operational or historical evidence where appropriate.

Different populations

The report distinguishes craft-skilled employment across the economy, professional craft artists, arts-classified main jobs, enterprises and non-commercial participation. Estimates from those populations cannot be added together or read as interchangeable counts. A number may describe a small subgroup, a broad occupational framework or a general workforce rather than craft specifically.

Case evidence

Fourteen numbered cases were selected for their explanatory value and traceable evidence. Selected drafts were provided for factual review; not every case underwent external review. An account of production or training at one enterprise establishes that example, rather than a sector-wide outcome. Company statements remain attributed.

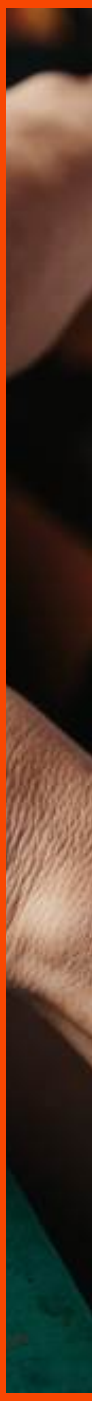
Consolidation method

This overview translates the report's analysis into a concise sector narrative and connected visual architecture. It brings relationships examined across separate chapters into a shared view, showing how practitioners, enterprises, learning, production, evidence and institutions can work together. Definitions and recommendations remain aligned with the full report, with source folios provided for detailed examination.

Policy status

Legislative and program descriptions reflect the evidence and dates in the full report. Announced arrangements, proposed legislation, voluntary frameworks and operational statutory systems are distinguished. This overview does not independently update current legal status or establish eligibility for a grant, designation or export market.

Full report Research Design and Methods pp. 26–28.



TERMS AND DISTINCTIONS

Use the same language for the same function

Craft and craftsmanship

Craft names the material practice, field and product category. It includes making, modifying, repairing and conserving tangible products through learned material knowledge and practical skill. Craftsmanship concerns the demonstrable quality with which that capability is applied through consequential human judgement. Hand-making, time, price or small scale alone does not establish a high standard.

Practitioners and artisan producers

A Craft Practitioner participates in a field commercially or non-commercially and may be at any stage of development. Participation is distinct from an assessed credential. Artisan Producer is used specifically for qualifying small-scale agricultural, agrifood, craft food and beverage production under field-specific limits, with continuing responsibility for consequential production stages.

Transmission and living heritage

Knowledge and skill are capability. Transmission is the process through which capability is communicated, learned, embodied, renewed and passed on. It can occur through apprenticeship, observation, demonstration, teaching, supervised practice and communities of practice. Documentation can support that process but does not replace the practical relationship.

Provenance

Provenance is the documented chain linking a product to materials or ingredients, maker or producer, place, method, knowledge lineage and subsequent distribution, custody and use, together with documented oral histories and cultural meanings. Records retain verification status and identify gaps, disputes and uncertainty. Transmission is an integral dimension of the report's provenance definition.

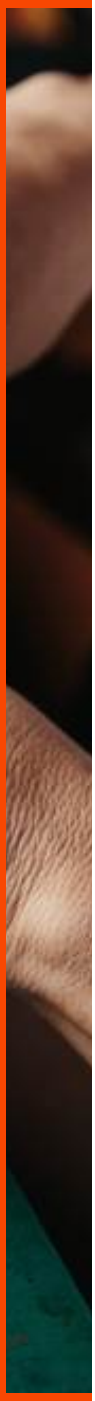
Attribution and protected names

A Maker's Mark connects a product with a verified practitioner's attributed contribution through the proposed Unique Provenance Identifier. It is not, by itself, a product-quality or origin guarantee. A geographical indication protects a qualifying place-linked name used in accordance with its specification. A trade mark identifies commercial source.

Cultural authority

First Nations cultural authority determines legitimate decisions about cultural knowledge and its use. It cannot be inferred from authorship, ownership of an object, a general credential or registration of a provenance record. These distinctions apply throughout the proposed system.

Full report Note on Terms pp. 17–24.



RECOGNITION AND EVIDENCE ARCHITECTURE

Different questions require connected mechanisms

The report separates the knowledge that continues through practice, the quality demonstrated in making, the record of relationships and the legal protection of qualifying products and names. These functions can share identifiers and evidence while retaining separate criteria and decision-makers.

The graphic below consolidates the report's functional distinctions. It does not establish a hierarchy of artistic worth or imply that every product qualifies for every mechanism.

TRANSMISSION

Knowledge, teachers, learners and continuing practice

↓

CRAFTSMANSHIP

Field standards and the demonstrated quality of making

↓

PROVENANCE

Materials, contributions, stages, place, lineage and custody

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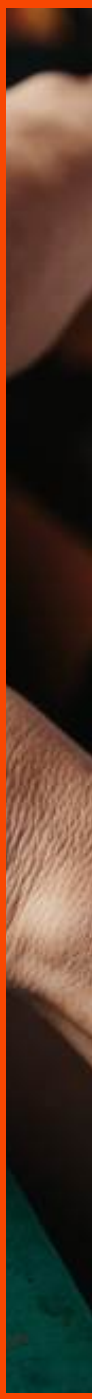
PRODUCTS AND ORIGIN

Product claims, specifications and qualifying geographical rights

Practitioner capability and atelier conditions are assessed separately from a defined product, batch, line or controlled process. The proposed Craftsmanship Star Rating combines five named public pillars: Provenance; Materials and impact; Durability; Repair and circularity; and Heritage and transmission. Technical eligibility for craftsmanship assessment is a preceding determination, not the same five-pillar test.

A general provenance record can connect evidence used by different mechanisms. It must retain each claim's scope, source, status, permissions and limitations. A product passport can reuse relevant fields where they match applicable requirements. Neither data connection nor a visible mark creates statutory entitlement or cultural permission.

Full report Note on Terms; Sections 1.6, 13 and 19 Recommendation 6.



RESEARCH AND CONCEPTUAL FOUNDATIONS

Section 1

A progressively wider national account

Australian craft research has moved from a professional field principally visible through cultural policy towards a broader understanding of skilled material work. The 1975 enquiry examined professional practice, education, conditions and markets. Later studies developed the arts-based account. Heath and Pascoe's 2014 national mapping examined practitioners, organisations, infrastructure and markets, while Luckman and Tower's 2023 study traced craft-skilled occupations across the economy.

Knowledge judgement and standards

The report draws on Sennett's account of doing work well, Pye's distinction between workmanship dependent on judgement and predetermined results, and MacIntyre's account of standards internal to a practice. Together they support assessment of learned capability, consequential decisions and field-specific quality. No one formulation supplies a complete certification test across all materials and production settings.

Craft within modern production

Tools, machinery and digital processes do not automatically exclude craftsmanship. The relevant question is where knowledgeable human judgement substantively affects a consequential production stage or result. Collaborative work, repeated traditional processes, repair and industrial production may all contain such stages. Classification and assessment must identify them rather than infer capability from a hand-made appearance.

Living knowledge

UNESCO's traditional-craftsmanship framework directs attention to the knowledge and skills through which material expressions are made and transmitted. The report applies that safeguarding rationale within a wider productive sector. Traditional craftsmanship is part of that sector; the wider definition also includes contemporary production, repair, conservation and skilled work embedded in industry.

Developmental evidence and its limits

The discussion of manual capability and learning draws on evolutionary, sensory and skill-acquisition research. That evidence helps explain why practice and material engagement matter. It does not demonstrate that a particular craft course causes a neurological, educational or health outcome.

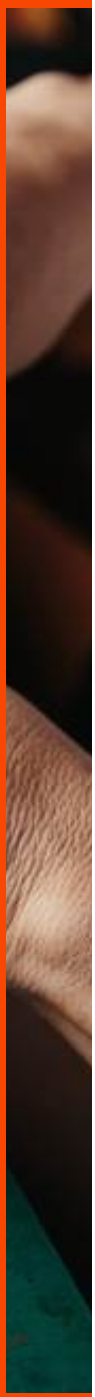
Implication

A national framework needs both a common language and field-specific evidence. It should recognise substantive capability wherever it is exercised, then assess the particular standard or claim within the relevant practice.

Full report Section 1, pp. 30–36.

SECTOR SCOPE AND MEASUREMENT

Section 2



A connected sector boundary

The sector comprises practitioners and enterprises together with workshops, ateliers, institutions, materials, production systems, markets and transmission relationships. It crosses arts, manufacturing, construction, agriculture, food, design, repair, heritage, education, retail and tourism. These are related dimensions of activity rather than mutually exclusive industries.

Follow the production chain

Textile production illustrates why raw-material output and final sales are insufficient measures. The report cites Australian Wool Innovation's available 2023–24 data, with one month outstanding, reporting 96.3 per cent of wool exports by weight in greasy or raw form. The figure concerns that export measure and period. It is not the percentage of all Australian fibre processed offshore.

Record intermediate capability

Between fibre and a finished product sit scouring, carbonising, carding, top-making, spinning, dyeing, weaving or knitting, finishing, cutting and assembly. Mapping should identify each stage's machinery, workforce knowledge, maintenance, throughput and dependence on suppliers or buyers. A surviving manufacturer may preserve several stages without constituting a complete national chain.

Include food through an appropriate classification

Craft food and beverage production brings ingredient selection, fermentation, maturation, sensory judgement and batch control into the sector. Artisan Producer thresholds must be field-specific. A liquor-licensing definition cannot become a universal measure for cheese, bread or other products. Sector inclusion is also broader than the EU legal category for craft and industrial GIs, which excludes food and beverages.

Build a repeatable account

Occupation codes describe jobs; industry codes follow enterprise activity; cultural statistics capture particular populations. The report proposes a national crosswalk that retains existing codes while identifying related craft-skilled activity across them. Records should connect people, enterprises, facilities, production stages, learning and place without double counting.



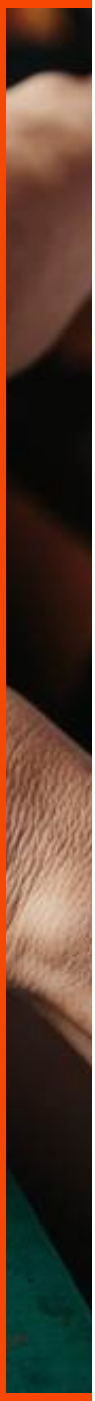
Conceptual consolidation of the source section. Functions may overlap; this is not a mandatory sequence.

Implication

Measurement should reveal capability and its continuity. It needs a declared boundary, reference period, update cycle and separate measures for employment, commercial production and non-commercial participation.

Full report Section 2, pp. 37–51.

ECONOMIC SOCIAL AND PRODUCTIVE VALUE



Section 3

Economic contribution

The 2021 estimate of 116,538 craft-skilled workers and $19.2 billion in gross value added establishes a substantial occupationally defined economic base. Wider evidence on fashion, textiles, participation and enterprise adds context but cannot simply be aggregated into that estimate. Different sector boundaries, years and methods require separate presentation.

Women and productive opportunity

The report examines women's contribution to skilled production and the barriers created by uneven recognition, training and progression. Its D Mill case describes women learning, operating and inspecting specialised brass-tube manufacture at Port Kembla from 1942, with capability later adapted to civilian markets. The case demonstrates access to machinery, training and authorised work; it is not a national employment estimate.

Regional value and wellbeing

Craft activity can connect production with local suppliers, learning, visitor economies, repair and community participation. Research on making and wellbeing supplies a further dimension of value, subject to the population and design of each study. Social and cultural benefits should not be converted into unmeasured economic totals or claims that every craft intervention produces the same result.

Automation copying and accountability

Digital production and generative imagery make appearance an unreliable guide to who designed or made an item. The report therefore follows human decisions within production and examines the practical difficulty small enterprises face when products or designs are copied. Provenance can preserve evidence of contribution and history; enforcement still depends on applicable rights and procedures.

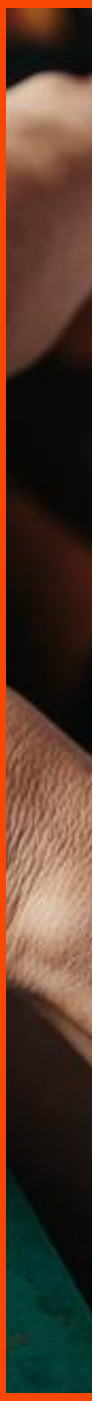
Migration and knowledge

Material expertise can arrive through migration and remain economically underused where credentials, networks, language or resources impede participation. The report's migration evidence establishes relevant structural questions. Economy-wide underutilisation figures do not measure the number of migrant craft practitioners or their unrealised craft output.

Implication

Public value should be understood through connected but distinct economic, workforce, cultural and social measures. Capability becomes useful where people can exercise it in paid work, enterprise, teaching and community practice.

Full report Section 3, pp. 52–78.



PRACTITIONERS AND PARTICIPATION

Section 4

Several legitimate populations

The full report compares craft-skilled employment across the economy, professional craft artists and the main-job category Visual Arts and Crafts Professionals. These populations answer different questions. The much larger cross-occupational estimate does not invalidate the smaller artist estimate, and the smaller population does not represent the entire craft economy.

Portfolio practice

A practitioner may make, teach, sell, repair and hold another job. Main-job and principal-income classifications can miss secondary, intermittent, unpaid or home-based practice. Enterprise records may classify a business by retail or another principal activity even where skilled production is integral to it. Recording practice, work arrangement and income source separately produces a clearer account.

Micro enterprises

Small and home-based enterprises are enduring forms of production. The same person may select materials, design, make, manage orders, document provenance and teach. This can preserve direct responsibility for the work, while concentrating market risk, administration and interruptions to income in one person or household. Scale, viability, workshop access and transmission should be measured separately.

Geography

Residence is only one part of craft geography. A productive region also includes material sources, facilities, suppliers, teachers, equipment and markets. Occupational concentrations can indicate where to investigate, but an arts-classified state profile is not a complete national map of craft production. Small populations can also be obscured by statistical suppression.

Recognition of existing capability

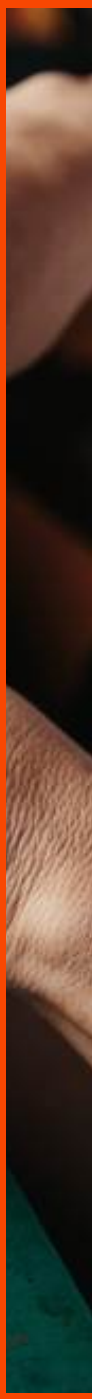
Prior practice may have developed through employment, family, community, overseas training or informal apprenticeship. Migration and gender can affect access to formal recognition. Evidence should identify demonstrated capability and relevant learning history without assuming that the absence of an Australian credential means the absence of skill.

Implication

National measurement needs multiple entry points. People should remain visible through their material practice and contribution even when their employment, enterprise classification or principal source of income changes.

Full report Section 4, pp. 79–89.

WORKING CONDITIONS AND REMUNERATION



Section 5

The working life behind the product

Craft careers depend on income, time, facilities, social protection and opportunities to develop responsibility. A practitioner may move among wages, commissions, self-employment and teaching while using the same knowledge. Continued employment somewhere in the economy does not establish that advanced craft practice remains viable.

Revenue and income are different

The sale price becomes enterprise revenue before materials, rent, equipment, freight, selling commissions and other costs are paid. What remains available for wages or an owner-maker can be much smaller. Analysis must distinguish gross sales, business profit, wages, practice-derived income and total personal income.

Income evidence needs its sample

The full report cites median gross creative income of $10,500 in 2021–22 among eighteen professional craft practitioners with usable income data in Throsby and Petetskaya's study. Median gross income from all sources was $30,500. These small-sample results describe the professional-artist subgroup under the study's rules, not the wider craft workforce.

Time and security

Sourcing, customer contact, maintenance, administration and documentation make production possible but consume hours that may not appear in a making fee. Teaching and skill development also require time. Leave, superannuation and protection during interruptions depend on the legal work arrangement. Productive assets such as tools and stock are not equivalent to accessible income.

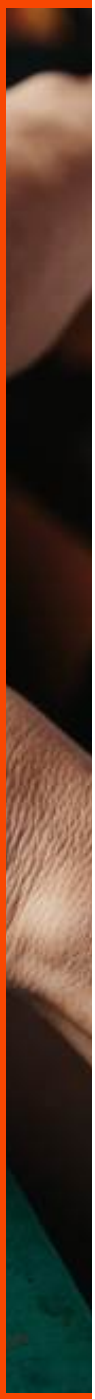
Value distribution

Direct sales, wholesale, consignment and commissions allocate costs and risk differently. Deposits, stage payments, due dates and written terms can clarify payment, rework, attribution and use of designs or histories. The report draws on relevant professional guidance while distinguishing it from employment obligations and negotiated commercial terms.

Implication

Better recognition or a larger market does not automatically improve practitioner earnings. The economic return to skilled labour, the time needed to sustain practice and the distribution of commercial risk require explicit attention.

Full report Section 5, pp. 90–100.



SKILLS ATTAINMENT AND TRANSMISSION

Section 6

Learning occurs in several settings

The skills system includes schools, TAFE, universities, workplaces, independent studios, guilds and community organisations. Formal education provides shared technical knowledge and recognised qualifications. Sustained practice with experienced practitioners develops material judgement through demonstration, repetition, correction and gradually increasing responsibility.

Availability is more than a course title

A qualification on a register does not establish active local delivery, affordable enrolment, suitable equipment or an employer able to supervise. The report proposes an audit connecting qualifications and occupational pathways with actual providers, contracts, facilities, teachers, supervisors and geographic access.

Workplace capacity

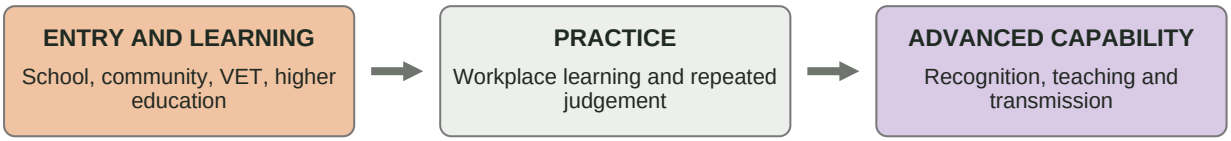
Apprentices require productive work, repeated practice, supervision and time for correction. Smaller workshops may hold exceptional skill while having limited capacity to teach alongside production. The Simon Martin case explains a working connection between paid employment, nationally recognised training and specialist workshop instruction. It demonstrates that arrangement rather than a universal apprenticeship outcome.

Recognise varied routes

Informal and non-formal learning can produce advanced capability. Recognition of Prior Learning and current competency should accommodate work samples, practice history, technical judgement and appropriate peer or employer evidence. Overseas and community-based expertise should be assessable without requiring every practitioner to repeat an introductory pathway.

Progression and participation

The report connects cumulative school material learning with vocational routes, advanced practice and responsibility for transmission. It examines uneven pathways across gender-concentrated fields and the need for material knowledge alongside digital design, automation, safety and equipment maintenance. Advanced recognition must remain field-specific and accessible through credible evidence routes.

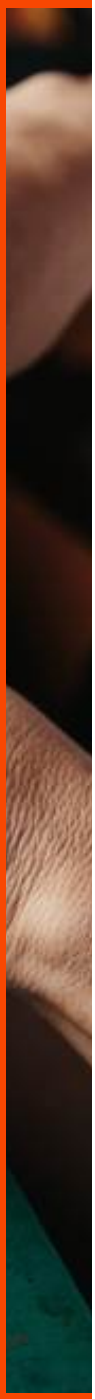


Conceptual consolidation of the source section. Functions may overlap; this is not a mandatory sequence.

Implication

A continuous pathway must fund and maintain the places, people and relationships through which learning happens. Qualifications, advanced titles and learner numbers are useful only alongside evidence that practical capability can actually be developed and exercised.

Full report Section 6, pp. 101–120.



CHALLENGES TO CONTINUING CAPABILITY

Section 7

Training infrastructure can disappear quietly

Broad program names may survive after a specialist workshop closes, teaching hours contract or technical staff leave. The report describes losses in creative-arts provision and education infrastructure while explicitly recognising that those broad measures do not quantify each craft discipline. National monitoring needs facility-level and field-level evidence.

Retirement and succession

Ageing workers can hold knowledge that is difficult to reconstruct once they leave. The report cites a median age of 57 among skilled fashion and textile manufacturing workers in the relevant industry strategy. That is a field-specific workforce measure, not the median age of all Australian craft practitioners.

Endangered does not mean small

Risk assessment needs practitioner and learner numbers, age, successors, teaching, material supply, equipment, demand and regional concentration. A small practice with active learners and stable work can remain viable. Another field may have many practitioners but no advanced successors or access to critical materials. The proposed endangered-craft inventory connects evidence of vulnerability with action.

Built heritage depends on living skill

Historic buildings and collections need stone, timber, metal, plaster, glass and other specialist knowledge. Recording an asset or commissioning restoration does not ensure that the workforce and material supply remain available for its next repair. Heritage planning should connect maintenance demand with training and continuing specialist employment.

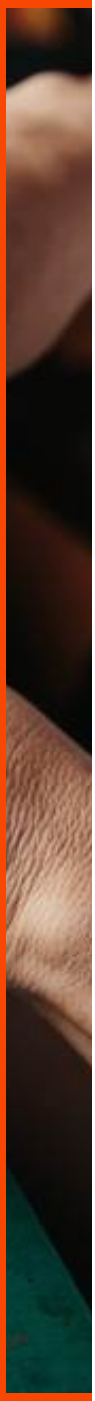
Institutions and timeframes

Skills ecosystems link training, production, tools, facilities and customers. Short project grants can support valuable activity without underwriting the long periods required for mastery, maintenance and transmission. The report's centres approach starts from existing working sites and seeks continuing coordination and access rather than treating a building as a complete system.

Implication

Safeguarding requires early evidence and sustained operating capacity. Interventions should address the specific cause of risk: teaching time, facilities, materials, viable work, succession or a combination of these.

Full report Section 7, pp. 121–131.



REGIONAL PRODUCTION AND INSTITUTIONS

Section 8

Place is a productive relationship

Regional identity can arise through local materials, a community of makers, adapted techniques and continuing use. Place-based production is therefore more specific than an enterprise having a regional address. Where a geographical right is proposed, the quality, reputation or other characteristic linked to origin must be evidenced.

Collective producer governance

Individual firms can document their own work without having authority to define a regional name for others. Producer groups provide the setting for developing a common specification, maintaining participation and addressing compliance. The European comparator emphasises open, transparent and non-discriminatory arrangements among qualifying producers.

Regional institutions

The report examines institutions connecting makers with teaching, enterprise, research and public participation. UNESCO's Austrian regional-centres example combines working practitioners and continuing production with safeguarding. Its relevance is the connection among functions, rather than a requirement to reproduce one building or organisational form in every region.

Shared production facilities

Kilns, looms, machinery, testing and technical advice can be difficult for a single enterprise to finance or use fully. Shared provision can widen access where equipment, staff, maintenance, safe operation and bookings are sustained. A facility without operating support or appropriate demand can remain underused despite capital investment.

Tourism and resilience

Visitor activity can create sales, demonstrations and public understanding, but the productive practice must remain viable beyond the visitor experience. Regional resilience also depends on suppliers, transport, substitute facilities, skilled successors and the ability to respond when a key business or process is lost.

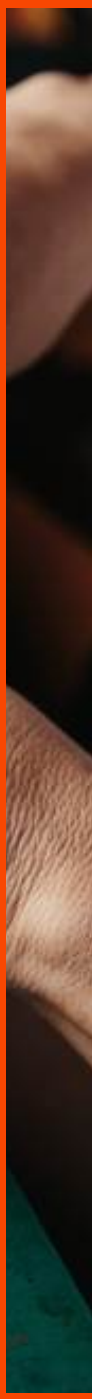
Implication

Regional planning should map the productive ecology: people, materials, workshops, training, specialist facilities, buyers and collective institutions. Local Centres for Craftsmanship, higher-capability regional centres and research or industrial partners can remain distinct while functioning as a connected network.

Full report Section 8, pp. 132–140.

LIVING HERITAGE AND CULTURAL AUTHORITY

Section 9



Continuity through practice

Living craft heritage persists through the people who exercise knowledge and the relationships through which others learn it. Safeguarding must therefore consider materials, tools, workshops, time and livelihoods alongside documentation and preserved objects. The report's use of UNESCO concerns this continuity of knowledge and practice.

Transmission and provenance

A product can carry a history of who taught whom, how a technique was learned and how a practice changed. Provenance connects that lineage with materials, methods, place and later custody where evidence exists. The record should distinguish documented relationships, attributed recollections and uncertainty rather than fill gaps with an assumed tradition.

First Nations authority

Knowledge holders and communities determine legitimate access, use and disclosure of First Nations cultural knowledge and expressions. General copyright, ownership of a physical object or a product credential does not provide equivalent authority. Consent, attribution, cultural integrity, access controls and negotiated benefits must be addressed before recording or commercial reuse.

Shared memory

Collections, tools, workshop records, oral histories and surviving objects can preserve evidence of productive lives. They become especially valuable when connected to practitioners and transmission rather than isolated as finished artefacts. The Gwenda Baker case demonstrates how an object history can connect millinery, apprenticeship, teaching and later collection custody.

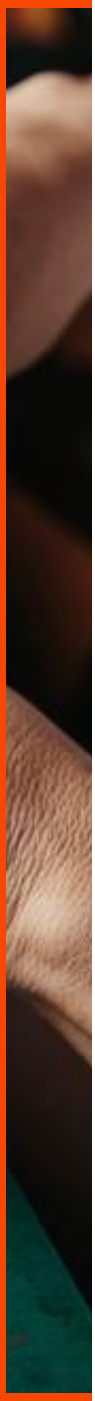
Wellbeing and belonging

Making can connect individual agency, social participation, shared knowledge and place. The research reviewed supports examining those dimensions while respecting the designs and limits of particular studies. Cultural and social value does not replace the need for paid work, practical access or community authority.

Implication

Trade recognition and living-heritage safeguarding should reinforce one another. The aim is to maintain conditions in which people can continue to practise and transmit knowledge, while communities retain authority over its cultural meaning and permitted use.

Full report Section 9, pp. 141–148.



MARKETS BUYERS AND DISTRIBUTION

Section 10

Information at the point of comparison

Craft products reach buyers through retail, galleries, commissions, markets, wholesale and digital channels. Materials, methods, practitioner contribution and place may distinguish products but remain invisible at purchase. Broad artisanal language and price alone do not reliably establish those attributes.

Provenance and price

Verified information can make differences legible and support particular claims. The full report reviews evidence of origin-related market value within defined European product regimes. Such findings do not demonstrate that every Australian craft product will receive a premium, that consumers can afford it or that an employee receives a larger share of the sale.

Export readiness

Exporters may need records of materials, production stages, responsible businesses and originating status. Reconstructing these separately for buyers, certification and destination rules can burden small firms. Connected evidence can support several legitimate uses, subject to each rule's scope. Announced trade arrangements remain distinct from requirements already in force.

Procurement

Public purchasing can support demand for production, repair and specialist services. Product-specific evidence can help buyers understand performance, provenance and capability retention. Supplier identity or Australian business status does not by itself establish the origin of every component or manufacturing stage. Procurement must operate within applicable rules and obligations.

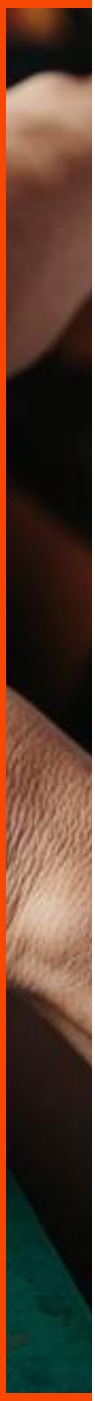
Digital distribution and high turnover

Online access can widen market reach while adding fees, content production, competition and enforcement work. Copying and rapidly changing product images make evidence preservation important. The report also examines ultra-fast fashion, clothing stewardship and the distinction between production models, environmental responsibility and craftsmanship.

Implication

Market development requires both demand and usable evidence. The proposed rating should be tested for consumer understanding, while underlying records preserve specific claims. Price, origin, durability, repair, labour conditions and cultural authority should not be allowed to stand in for one another.

Full report Section 10, pp. 149–156.



MATERIAL FIELDS AND SECTORAL PERSPECTIVES

Section 11

Textiles fashion and leather

These fields connect fibre processing, weaving, knitting, printing, patternmaking, cutting, construction, millinery, footwear, finishing, alteration and repair. A product may involve several workshops and practitioners. Australian design, local assembly, fibre origin and assessed craftsmanship are different attributes. Product-level records should preserve consequential contributions without attributing all work to a single label.

Craft and industrial products

Ceramics, stone, wood, glass, metal and related fields often combine manual decisions with specialist machinery or industrial facilities. The Five Mile Radius brick example connects local soil, hand forming and factory firing. It demonstrates that access to industrial equipment can extend practitioner capability without erasing the role of skilled making.

Artisan foods and beverages

Ingredient selection, fermentation, maturation, blending, temperature and sensory assessment involve learned judgement. Artisan Producer classification concerns qualifying scale and continuing productive responsibility. Food safety, geographical names and craftsmanship each require separate evidence. Agricultural and food GIs operate through a different European legal regime from craft and industrial products.

Heritage and technical work

Conservation, bookbinding, traditional building, specialist tools and repair often generate value through services and maintenance rather than new retail objects. Long-term commissioning can sustain the knowledge needed to care for existing assets. Workforce planning should therefore consider future maintenance and restoration demand alongside present practitioners.

Different production systems

The full report compares heritage recognition, commercially organised craft and high-turnover production. These cannot be distinguished solely through price or promotional appearance. The appropriate unit may be a practitioner, a production stage, a controlled process, an enterprise or a qualifying place-linked product.

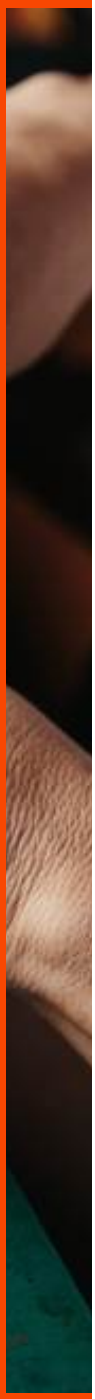
Implication

A common sector framework needs material-field schedules. It should identify the consequential work, relevant standards, production responsibility, evidence and transmission arrangements appropriate to each field rather than impose identical criteria on unlike products.

Full report Section 11, pp. 157–170.

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESSION

Section 12



Incubation

Emerging enterprises need the conditions to make as well as business advice. The report examines craft incubation combining affordable workspace, equipment, mentoring, costing, pricing, market testing and selling opportunities. Technical capability does not automatically supply the resources or commercial knowledge needed to maintain a practice.

Growth and acceleration

An established product and customer base create different needs: production planning, cash flow, wholesale, export, staff and investment. The Irish comparator separates foundation, growth and accelerator functions. Support should match commercial maturity and the constraints of the enterprise rather than assume one generic course serves every stage.

Networks and productive districts

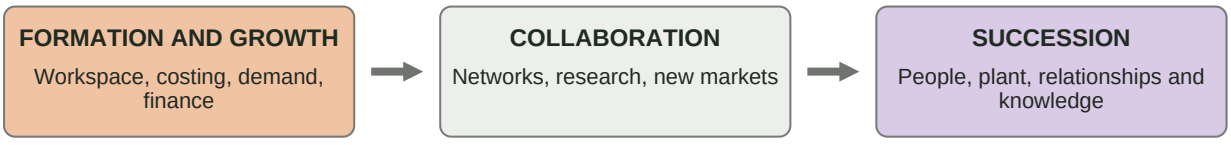
Independent firms can combine specialisms to undertake commissions or contracts beyond one workshop's capacity. Italy's network arrangements illustrate collaboration without requiring every business to surrender its separate identity. The relevant relationship is coordinated capability, supported by agreements about roles, delivery and responsibility.

Innovation and markets

New demand may emerge through design collaboration, research access and application of existing knowledge to different products. The report's examples link productive traditions with materials, testing and contemporary buyers. Innovation should retain the practitioner's contribution and connect technical development with a credible route to use or sale.

Succession

A mature workshop contains machinery, methods, suppliers, customers, reputation and people. Succession can transfer this productive system rather than allow assets and knowledge to disperse at closure. Planning includes valuation, finance, premises, intellectual property, staff and staged knowledge transfer. Employees, apprentices, family members or new owners may be relevant successors.



Conceptual consolidation of the source section. Functions may overlap; this is not a mandatory sequence.

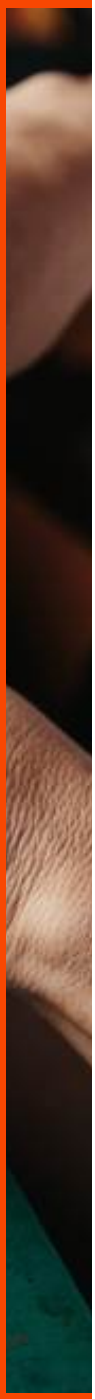
Implication

Incubation, acceleration, networks, innovation and succession are functions rather than mandatory sequential stages. An established workshop may need networking or succession support without entering an accelerator. The national pathway should identify present need and connect the enterprise with appropriate capability.

Full report Section 12, pp. 171–179.

PROVENANCE AND CONNECTED RECORDS

Section 13



A record across the object's life

Provenance connects materials or ingredients, people, place, method, knowledge lineage and later distribution, ownership, custody, use and repair where relevant. It can accommodate a new product, a conserved object and a museum collection item. Evidence may change over time, so corrections and uncertainty need to remain visible.

Separate identities

Practitioners, producer enterprises and products require separate linked records. One person may contribute to many objects; several people may contribute to one object; a business may coordinate production without personally performing every stage. Persistent identifiers support those connections without confusing commercial responsibility and individual contribution.

Claims and verification

A useful record states the precise claim, assessed unit, evidence, assessor or responsible source, date and current status. Declared, documented, independently assessed, disputed and unknown information should remain distinguishable. A record's existence is not proof that all its contents have been independently verified.

Rights and permissions

Provenance supports evidence for attribution and relevant legal rights, but does not replace copyright, designs, trade marks, contract or other protections. Public access needs to be distinguished from personal, commercial and culturally restricted information. Recording a history does not itself authorise its marketing, commercialisation or reuse.

Product passports

Digital Product Passports provide a regulated product-information layer where applicable requirements have been introduced. They are not a general substitute for the report's wider provenance record. Australian records should permit reuse of verified fields that correspond with adopted requirements while preserving permissions and evidentiary status.



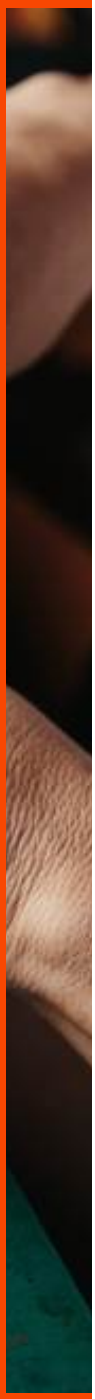
Conceptual consolidation of the source section. Functions may overlap; this is not a mandatory sequence.

Implication

The proposed national registry requires governance as well as technology: creation and amendment rules, continuity, version history, review, access, verification and treatment of disputes. The public product rating should link to a bounded assessment record; the wider provenance chain remains available for its own legitimate purposes.

Full report Section 13, pp. 180–189.

REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT



Section 14

Several systems recognise different parts

Arts policy addresses cultural practice and participation; skills systems govern recognised learning; industry policy addresses production; heritage protects particular places and practices; intellectual-property law protects defined rights; consumer law regulates representations; and trade and procurement govern market relationships. Coordination needs to connect their information and responsibilities without overriding their separate remits.

Industrial capability

The report considers the Future Made in Australia framework as a relevant lens for domestic capability, resilience, skills and community benefits. Policy relevance is not an entitlement to investment. Any project still needs to satisfy the applicable criteria, demonstrate a specific problem and establish its case through the relevant process.

Trade and geographical names

The Australia–EU negotiations and proposed domestic GI arrangements supply a policy context for producer readiness. The full report distinguishes the announced agricultural and spirit arrangements from a dedicated Australian statutory system for craft and industrial products. It does not describe the proposed Australian Craft and Provenance Bill as existing law.

Living heritage

The report records that Australia is not a State Party to UNESCO's 2003 Convention and recommends ratification. Participation in international networks or non-government accreditation is not equivalent to State Party obligations. A national framework would need community participation, inventories, safeguarding action and continuing administration.

Statistics and product information

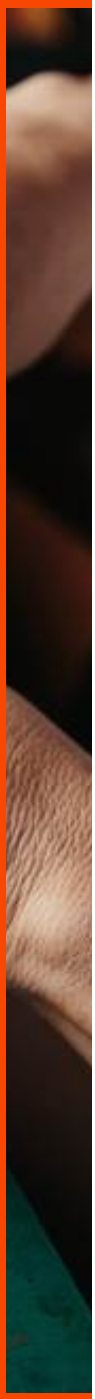
Occupational classification reform creates opportunities for better visibility, but a sector account still needs cross-classification methods. Product-information systems create a parallel need for structured records. Applicable passport duties depend on product-specific measures; a general regulatory framework does not make all future fields mandatory immediately.

Implication

Implementation should identify which functions existing arrangements can perform and where a defined gap remains. Proposals require legal design, consultation, costs and accountable allocation of responsibility. The report's policy descriptions retain their source dates and should be checked against current instruments when implementation decisions are made.

Full report Section 14, pp. 190–197.

GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS AND PRODUCER READINESS



Section 15

A collective product and place relationship

A GI identifies a product with a quality, reputation or other characteristic attributable to geographical origin. The specification defines the product, area, methods and relevant relationship to place. Protection concerns the qualifying name and entitlement of compliant producers; it is different from ownership of a company or brand.

Australian and European routes

The report distinguishes Australia's wine system and certification-trade-mark mechanisms from the EU's dedicated craft and industrial GI regime. A third-country application to that European regime requires evidence of protection in the country of origin. Whether a particular Australian mechanism supplies adequate proof needs assessment against the application requirements.

Producer readiness

The substantive work begins before filing: identifying a product community, assembling historical and contemporary evidence, defining boundaries and stages, drafting specifications and organising transparent participation and controls. A producer association needs continuing capacity to manage the specification and protect the collective interest after registration.

Directory and record infrastructure

The proposed directory would identify products, places, producers, materials, methods, reputation, legal protection and evidence gaps. Inclusion would be preparatory; it would not certify eligibility or confer a GI. Connected provenance records could support the evidence without changing the legal test.

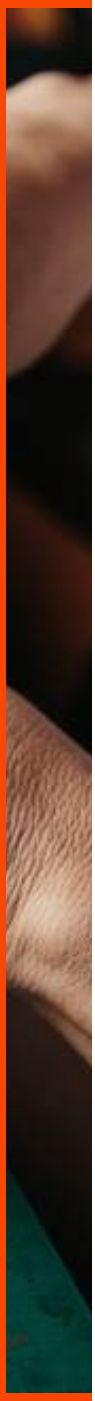
Proposed national architecture

The Australian Craft and Provenance Bill would connect recognition, transmission, provenance and potential origin protection through enabling legislation. Consultation must determine the detailed legal and administrative design. First Nations cultural authority requires explicit treatment and cannot be absorbed into a general geographical product designation.

Implication

Product communities should be organised while people, facilities and evidence still exist. A GI can protect an eligible place-linked identity; it cannot guarantee sales, stop every factory closure or prevent company ownership changing. Brand history, manufacturing location, practitioner contribution and protected origin need to remain separately documented.

Full report Section 15, pp. 198–216.



COMPARATIVE RECOGNITION MODELS

Section 16

Japan

The report distinguishes regional traditional-craft-industry designation, practitioner certification within that industry framework, and separate cultural-property recognition of techniques and their holders. These mechanisms support different units: a productive tradition, a practitioner and a culturally significant technique. They should not be collapsed into a single national master title.

Germany

Craft is organised through skilled occupations, enterprises, Chambers of Crafts, training and advanced progression. The Meister pathway connects practical capability, theory, enterprise knowledge and pedagogy. Its relevance is the institutional connection among advanced practice, economic activity and responsibility for future practitioners.

Italy

Statutory artisan-enterprise categories make practitioner participation and productive responsibility administratively visible. Regional master-artisan and teaching-workshop arrangements address advanced capability and transmission. Product specifications and geographical protection operate alongside those enterprise functions.

United Kingdom

The Harris Tweed model protects a specific relationship among material, processing, home weaving, producers and place. Mills and independent island weavers perform distinct stages within a shared statutory identity. Inspection and the Orb mark support the defined requirements rather than provide a universal guarantee about all craft qualities.

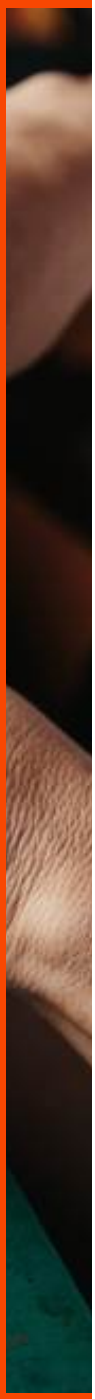
European Union

The cross-sector craft and industrial GI system protects qualifying product names through producer organisation, specifications, national administration and Union registration. Machine-assisted production is not automatically excluded. Product origin remains distinct from personal capability and the assessment of craftsmanship.

Australian implications

The recurring lesson is functional clarity: specify the recognised unit, eligibility, evidence, administrator, entitlement and continuing controls. Public bodies retain statutory responsibility; specialist organisations contribute field expertise; producer groups maintain collective specifications; education and workplaces sustain learning; and First Nations communities retain cultural authority. Australia can connect these functions without importing a foreign system unchanged.

CRAFT AND INNOVATION



Section 17

Knowledge as a research resource

Practitioners hold accumulated knowledge about fibres, soils, pigments, timber, resins, leather, food and other materials. It is expressed through preparation, combination, transformation, repair and repeated judgement. Institutional separation between heritage, small business and research can leave that capability poorly connected to testing and manufacturing development.

A material library with authority

The proposed material-library approach connects sources, preparation, practice, evidence, performance and relevant cultural permissions. It is not an unrestricted repository of knowledge. Recording and research use require authority, attribution, intellectual-property arrangements and benefit sharing appropriate to the material and its knowledge holders.

Preventative materials

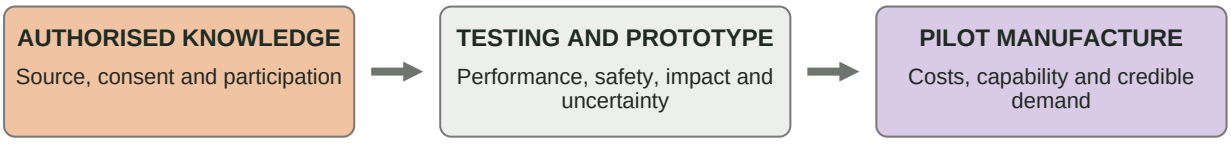
The report's preventative approach brings material choice, chemistry, construction, exposure, durability, repair and end-of-life into development. Natural, synthetic and recycled materials require assessment in their actual application. A traditional process or natural ingredient is not automatically safer or environmentally preferable.

From bench to manufacturing

Craft and research can interact through characterisation, trials, prototypes, testing and pilot manufacture. Evidence should compare equivalent product functions and disclose lifecycle boundaries and uncertainty. Practitioners and knowledge holders contribute expertise that must be recognised as a research cost, rather than supplied as unpaid context.

Staged national program

Recommendation 17 proposes a National Craft × Innovation and Preventative Materials Program, beginning with a textiles demonstrator. It would use existing research and manufacturing facilities and complement relevant initiatives. Expansion depends on independent evaluation of authorised participation, remuneration, technical findings, prototypes, manufacturing trials, impacts and credible production pathways.

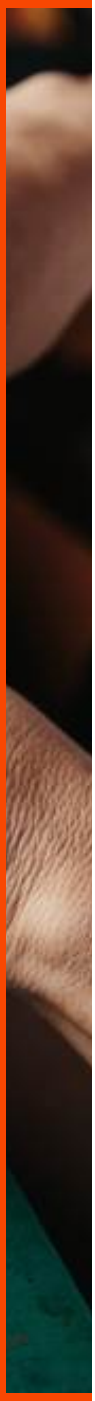


Conceptual consolidation of the source section. Functions may overlap; this is not a mandatory sequence.

Implication

The proposed reconnection of craft and manufacturing is a translation task. Its value must be established through useful products, verified findings, sustained skills and productive opportunity. The diagram on page 30 shows this pathway connected to enterprise, records, buyers and transmission.

Full report Section 17, pp. 224–232.



CONSOLIDATED FINDINGS

Section 18

Recognition and scale

The economic benchmark establishes substantial skilled activity, while the classification analysis explains why its broader relationships remain obscured. Recognition is therefore both an administrative and a measurement task. A common sector account must preserve differences between professional artistic practice, craft-skilled employment, enterprises and wider participation.

Productive capacity and transmission

Material strength is insufficient without processing, specialist people, maintenance and demand. Transmission is similarly a system property: a course, skilled worker or surviving workshop cannot alone show that capability will continue. Risks should be identified through connected evidence rather than isolated counts.

Market visibility and enterprise continuity

Brand continuity may outlast its original production arrangements. Provenance preserves the evidence of actual making and later change. Enterprise development must support access to working facilities, business capability, collaboration and succession, recognising the workshop as an interconnected productive system.

Institutions and regulatory opportunity

Comparators show that different recognition functions require durable institutional homes. The report identifies opportunities in classification, origin protection, product information and international collaboration. Announced legal developments and future requirements must remain distinct from operating systems and settled obligations.

Research translation

The reviewed initiatives demonstrate relevant capability but do not by themselves constitute the proposed national cross-material pathway. A defined program would connect authorised knowledge with testing, manufacturing and markets, and evaluate whether those relationships create practical benefit.

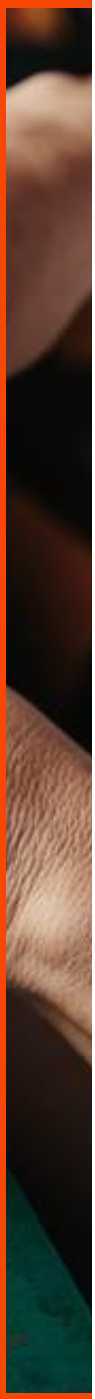
Public value and sustainable development

The report maps selected proposals to relevant Sustainable Development Goal targets concerning learning, decent work, industry, heritage and responsible production. This expresses policy relevance, not measured progress against SDG indicators or endorsement by the United Nations.

Overall finding

The report identifies an Australian sector whose productive relationships extend beyond the categories through which it is currently measured and supported. Its proposed framework connects those relationships through national recognition, practical learning, enterprise development, provenance infrastructure and field-specific protection. This provides a basis for strengthening existing capability, addressing missing infrastructure and creating opportunities for skilled knowledge to continue through work, teaching and innovation.

Full report Section 18, pp. 233–244.



NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS 1 TO 8

Section 19

1 Australian Craft and Provenance Bill

Establish an enabling statutory framework for recognition, governance, transmission, provenance and related functions, with consultation on qualifying craft and industrial origin protection. Define accountability, independent assessment, review and cultural safeguards.

2 National sector recognition

Recognise the Australian Craft and Provenance Sector as economic, trade, workforce, productive and living-heritage activity. Locate primary policy responsibility in industry with structured cross-portfolio coordination.

3 National statistical account

Develop an occupational and industry crosswalk and recurring sector account. Measure people, enterprises, workplaces, teaching, repair and productive capability with transparent boundaries and controls against double counting.

4 Coordination and provenance infrastructure

Establish or designate a nationally recognised coordinating authority with defined public functions. Connect persistent records while maintaining specialist assessment, permissions, uncertainty, continuity and accountable governance.

5 Geographical indications and producer readiness

Support agricultural, food and spirit producer readiness and consult separately on craft and industrial GI protection. Develop representative groups, specifications, evidence and compliance capability without treating credentials or records as geographical entitlement.

6 Artisan production and product assessment

Distinguish Artisan Producer, practitioner and atelier recognition, technical eligibility and the proposed five-pillar Craftsmanship Star Rating. Publish and pilot field schedules, thresholds and governance before live ratings.

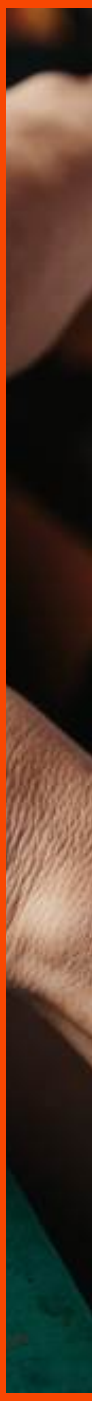
7 Market integrity

Provide coordinated evidence, advice, reporting and referral pathways for copying, counterfeiting and misleading craft claims. Make existing protections more accessible to small producers while preserving each instrument's legal scope.

8 First Nations authority and ICIP

Support First Nations-led statutory protection and governance of cultural knowledge, heritage and expressions. Embed consent, control, attribution, restricted access and negotiated benefits throughout connected systems.

Full report Section 19, Recommendations 1–8, pp. 246–253.



NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS 9 TO 18

Section 19 continued

9 Living heritage and endangered crafts

Ratify the 2003 UNESCO Convention and establish community-led safeguarding and endangered-craft monitoring linked to action on transmission, materials, facilities, succession and viable practice.

10 Learning and advanced practice

Connect school, vocational, higher, workplace and community learning. Maintain practical facilities, recognise prior and current capability, improve participation and establish credible advanced progression.

11 Development scholarships and transmission

Establish a continuing craft-trade development intermediary supporting specialist learning, apprenticeships, mentoring and advanced practice across careers. Fund time, materials, travel and facilities as well as instruction.

12 Enterprise development and succession

Provide support matched to formation, growth, networks, innovation and transfer of established businesses. Connect commercial capability with the resources required for specialist production.

13 Regional centres and shared infrastructure

Connect existing local practice sites with higher-capability regional centres and research or industrial facilities. Recognise coordination, equipment maintenance, teaching and productive use as operating costs.

14 Productive capability and markets

Assess complete production chains, beginning with textiles as an early demonstrator. Connect plant, workforce, research, procurement and commercial demand while retaining distinct product and origin claims.

15 Digital interoperability and export readiness

Establish persistent, structured and exportable records. Test reuse of verified information against adopted product requirements, preserving permissions and separate practitioner, enterprise and product identities.

16 International participation

Provide a durable pathway into research, innovation and standards networks, including relevant Horizon Europe opportunities as described in the full report. Build continuing relationships and domestic capability beyond individual grants.

17 Craft and preventative materials innovation

Establish a staged national program, beginning with textiles. Agree authority and benefits before research, pay for expertise, test performance and impacts, and make expansion conditional on evaluated results.

18 Migrant craft skills and workforce participation

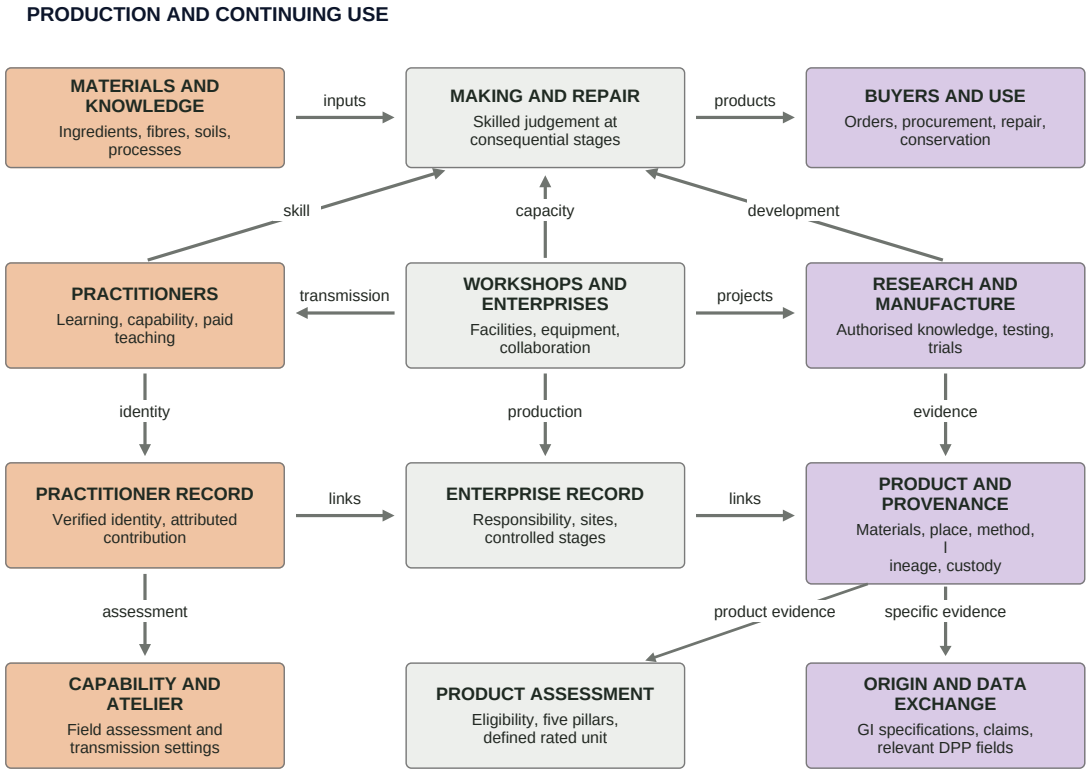
Connect recognition of existing migrant craft skills with paid employment, enterprise development and transmission. Provide practical assessment, targeted bridging training, workplace English, accessible enterprise assistance and paid teaching opportunities, supported by employment-rights information and evaluation of sustained outcomes.

Full report Section 19, Recommendations 9–18, pp. 254–264.

DETAILED SYSTEM MAP

How the proposed functions connect

This map brings the report's proposed production, learning, evidence and institutional relationships into one connected architecture. It shows how skilled practice can be sustained through enterprises, facilities, demand and transmission, and how evidence can support recognition, product assessment and market access. It is a conceptual system map rather than a geographical inventory.



Across all paths: cultural authority • permissions • paid participation • review • continuing governance

Read the production pathway with its supporting loops. Materials and capability enter making, modification, repair and conservation. Enterprises and facilities support that work. Buyers and continued use sustain demand; teaching and succession return knowledge to future practice. Research can develop new applications, subject to authority and testing.

The evidence pathway records those relationships. Practitioner, enterprise and product identities remain separate. Product assessment, origin protection, market enforcement and passport exchange reuse only relevant evidence. Coordination connects institutions; it does not confer every right or absorb First Nations authority.

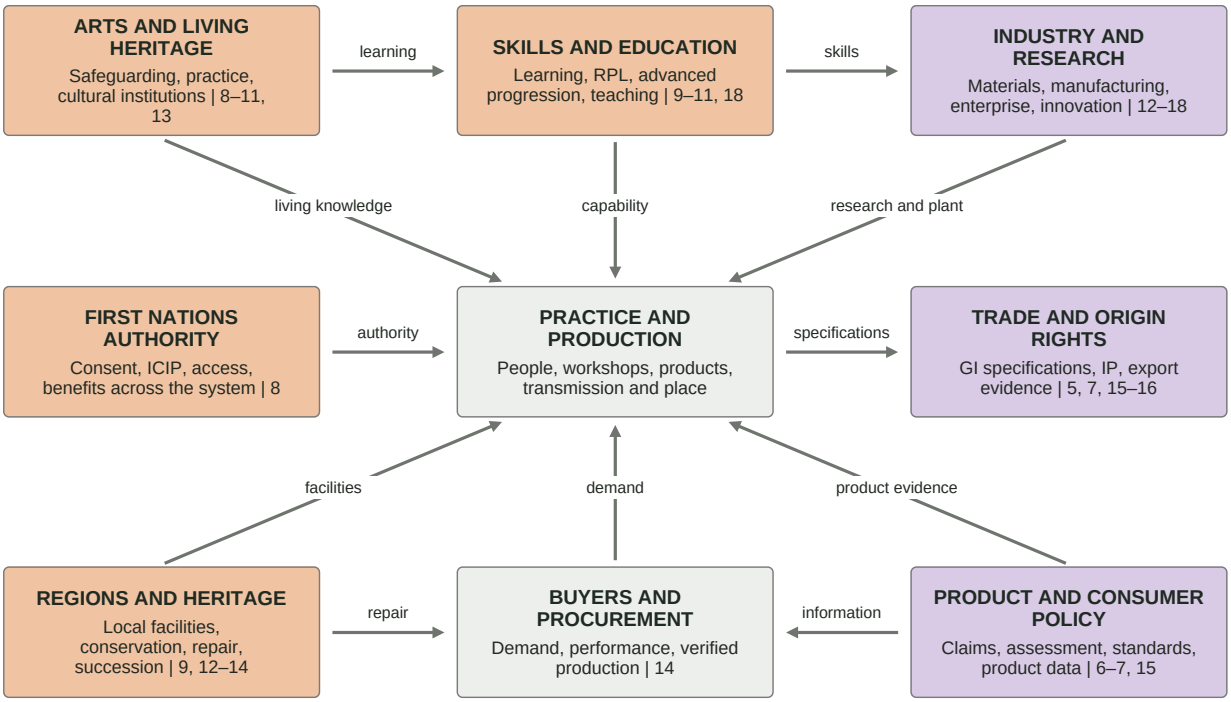
The architecture identifies the conditions needed to make these connections work: sustained operating support, paid practitioner participation, appropriate permissions, specialist assessment and accountable governance. Its purpose is to guide coordinated development of the sector while preserving the distinct responsibilities and authority attached to each function.

Full report Sections 6, 8, 12–17 and Recommendations 1–18. Author's consolidation of proposed relationships.

POLICY CONNECTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

How the proposed functions connect

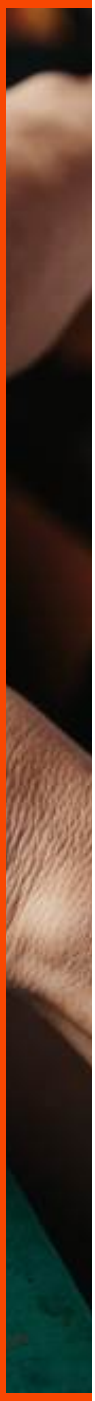
Craft-skilled activity intersects with several policy systems because the same productive work can involve learning, enterprise, culture, materials, trade and repair. This map consolidates the responsibilities discussed in Sections 14–19. It identifies relevant functions rather than assigns new statutory powers.



Industry leadership is proposed for the wider sector response. That leadership would coordinate the national evidence base and productive agenda while respecting the existing responsibilities of skills, arts, heritage, agriculture, trade, consumer and intellectual-property systems. State, territory and local institutions remain important to training, premises, heritage and regional delivery.

First Nations knowledge holders and communities must exercise cultural authority wherever relevant, including within research, product records, regional development and market use. A cross-portfolio process should make that authority effective rather than treat it as an optional consultation after a system has been designed.

Full report Sections 14–19. Functions shown for coordination, not adopted allocation.



INTENDED OUTCOMES AND IMPLEMENTATION

What the proposed infrastructure should enable

Continuing productive capability

The report seeks a sector in which skilled practice remains connected to materials, facilities, learning, enterprise and markets. Outcomes should be assessed through actual work and transmission, rather than inferred from a register entry, course title, building or credential.

Intended result	Evidence identified in the recommendations	Report rec
Sector visibility	Repeatable definitions, crosswalks, regional and workforce measures	3
Knowledge continuity	Practitioner progression, teaching, apprenticeships and transmission risk	9–11
Enterprise continuity	Survival, revenue, collaboration, investment and succession	12
Working regional infrastructure	Continuing teaching, equipment maintenance and productive use	13
Viable production	Defined processing capability, manufacturing cost and credible demand	14, 17
Trustworthy product information	Assessed scope, consumer understanding, evidence and participation costs	5–7, 15
Authorised innovation	Paid participation, material findings, prototypes, trials and impacts	16–17
Migrant skills and workforce participation	Recognised capability, employment aligned with skills, progression, enterprise continuity and participation in transmission	18

A costed and accountable first stage

Recommendation 1 calls for lead agencies, existing capacity, dependencies, milestones, baseline indicators and independent evaluation of pilots. Recommendations 14–17 connect a textiles demonstrator with production, research, evidence and export capability. These proposals require a defined scope, partner responsibilities and resources before implementation.

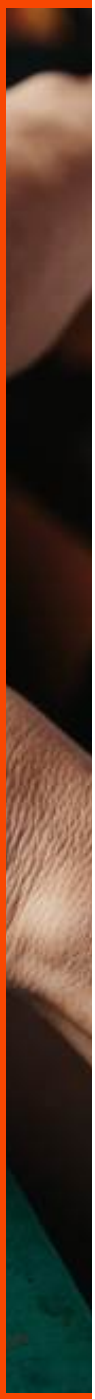
Operating conditions

Recommendation 13 recognises teaching, coordination, maintenance and practitioner time as infrastructure costs. Recommendation 17 requires authorised participation, remuneration and benefit arrangements before research. Record governance, specialist expertise, conflicts controls, review and appeals support trust across the wider architecture.

Expansion through evidence

The proposed system should be evaluated for additional benefit, usable access and practical viability. A credible prototype does not establish national manufacturing capacity; a completed course does not establish a continuing career. Expansion should follow the outcomes demonstrated at the relevant scale.

Full report Recommendations 1, 3, 5–6 and 9–18.



WHAT THE CASE STUDIES ESTABLISH

Examples of mechanisms rather than a statistical sample

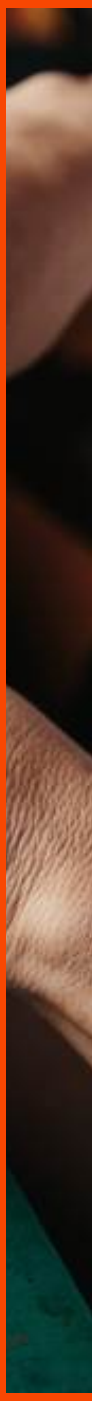
The full report's fourteen numbered cases examine specific relationships. The examples below preserve their explanatory purpose without reproducing approved case-study text or extending company claims. They do not rank enterprises or imply that every product made by a featured company carries the same provenance.

Example	Mechanism illustrated	Full report folios
Waverley Mills	Processing stages retained within a working textile manufacturer	42–45
The D Mill	Training and women's technical participation in industrial production	58–60
Carla Zampatti	Migrant knowledge, design and garment construction	72–75
Naturally Timber	Material practice, enterprise and transmission	76–78
Simon Martin	Workplace instruction linked to paid production and formal training	103–106
Wooden Boat Centre	Practical learning and the continuity of specialist boatbuilding	125–127
Rare Arts and Forgotten Trades	An institutional setting for specialist practice and learning	136–137
Helen Kaminski	Distributed materials, design, making and training relationships	161–164
Five Mile Radius	Hand forming connected with local material and factory firing	167–168
Gwenda Baker	Maker, apprenticeship, teaching and later collection custody	182–183
Australian product histories	Brand identity separated from ownership and production location	211–216

Other cases in the full report examine platform-scale imitation, training and transmission infrastructure, collective origin rights and contested Australian product identities. Their evidence supports distinct arguments; it should not be combined into an unsupported claim about the whole market.

The cases show why a national system needs more than a product directory. It must be able to distinguish practitioners, suppliers, places, stages, work arrangements, transmission and later changes in ownership or custody. Historical identity and current production are separate propositions, each requiring evidence.

Full report case studies and methods p. 28.



GUIDE TO THE FULL REPORT

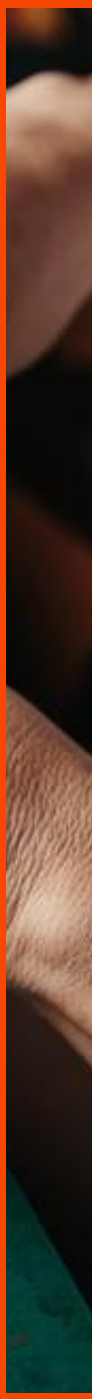
Complete coverage and source navigation

This companion retains all nineteen sections. It compresses the argument and supporting examples; the full report remains the source for subsection detail, complete definitions, original citations and all recommendation text. The complete publication contains the original references and appendices supporting its frameworks.

Section	Full report section	Folios	Overview
1	Craftsmanship and Sector Definitions	30–36	10
2	Sector Definition and Measurement	37–51	11
3	Economic Social and Cultural Value	52–78	12
4	Sector Profile	79–89	13
5	The Craft Practitioner	90–100	14
6	Skills Attainment and Transmission	101–120	15
7	Threatened Skills and Sector Constraints	121–131	16
8	Craft and Place	132–140	17
9	People Place and Cultural Heritage	141–148	18
10	The Crafts Market	149–156	19
11	Sectoral Perspectives	157–170	20
12	Entrepreneurship and Business Development	171–179	21
13	Provenance	180–189	22
14	Regulatory Environment	190–197	23
15	Geographical Indications and Australian Craft	198–216	24
16	Comparative Recognition Models	217–223	25
17	Craft and Innovation	224–232	26
18	Findings	233–244	27
19	Recommendations	245–264	28–29

Use the original source identified in the full report when citing a particular statistic, legal provision or company statement. Use Thomas (2026) when citing the report's synthesis, operational definitions, diagrams or proposals. This prevents a consolidated summary from obscuring the provenance of its own evidence.

Full report contents and Sections 1–19.



SOURCES AND INTERPRETATION

Keeping evidence connected to its scope

Principal publication

Thomas, P. (2026) Mapping Australia's Crafts Sector 2026. Geelong: Australian Crafts Alliance. This overview consolidates the report, including the Note on Terms, Research Design and Methods and Sections 1–19. It introduces no additional evidentiary source into the substantive findings.

Historical national research

The full report locates its findings alongside the 1975 national enquiry, Heath and Pascoe's Mapping the Australian Craft Sector (2014), and Luckman and Tower's The Value of Craft Skills to the Future of Making in Australia (2023). These works have different populations and research designs. Their original methods and limits should accompany any reuse of figures.

Workforce and working conditions

Throsby and Petetskaya (2024), Luckman and Andrew (2020), McQuilten et al. (2025), official classification and training sources provide different views of working life. This overview cites their findings through the full report. Small professional-artist samples, visual-and-craft surveys and general workforce measures are not converted into national craft-sector totals.

Institutional and legal evidence

UNESCO instruments and guidance, the Harris Tweed Act, European GI and product-information instruments, Australian legislation and official administrative sources support the report's institutional comparisons. A proposed Australian framework is not presented as an operational statutory system. Product-specific duties and legal eligibility require the applicable instrument and current requirements.

Visual interpretation

The diagrams on pages 9 and 30 and the policy map on page 31 provide a visual synthesis of the report's sector framework and proposed institutional relationships. Their contribution is to make connections across production, learning, enterprise, provenance and public policy visible together. Colours distinguish functions; arrows identify relationships and flows. The maps present a conceptual architecture for development, with the full report supplying the supporting analysis and evidence.

Continuity as the central purpose

The report brings the person, the productive setting, the knowledge, the product and the evidence into the same field of view. Its proposed infrastructure is directed towards maintaining those relationships over time: capability that can be exercised, work that can sustain it, learning that can carry it forward, and claims that can be examined.

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Principal source throughout: Thomas (2026), full report.