Digital Product Passports: Traceability for Circularity in ICT Procurement

Digitalisation for Circular Procurement: Global Insights and Local Applications

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Global sustainability certification - IT products

Product scope

Displays, Notebooks, Tablets, Smartphones, Desktops, All-in-One PCs, Projectors, Headsets, Imaging equipment, Network equipment, Data storage, Servers

Environmental and social criteria with direct impact

Criteria go beyond legislation and are updated every three years by TCO Development. All criteria are mandatory (no optional).

20,000 hours of independent verification each year

Independent accredited verification of every criterion for every product model is mandatory and continuous.

Detecting and solving issues

Holding industry accountable.
Consequences for non-compliance

TCO CERTIFIED

Main focus areas
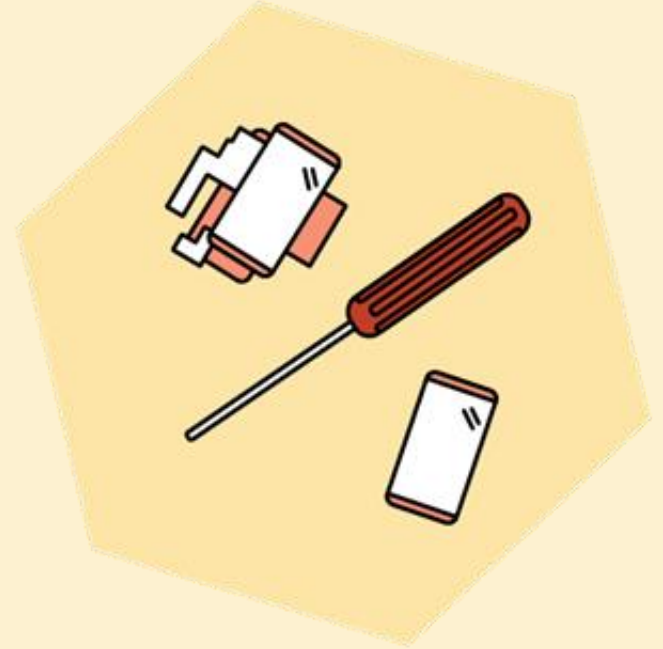
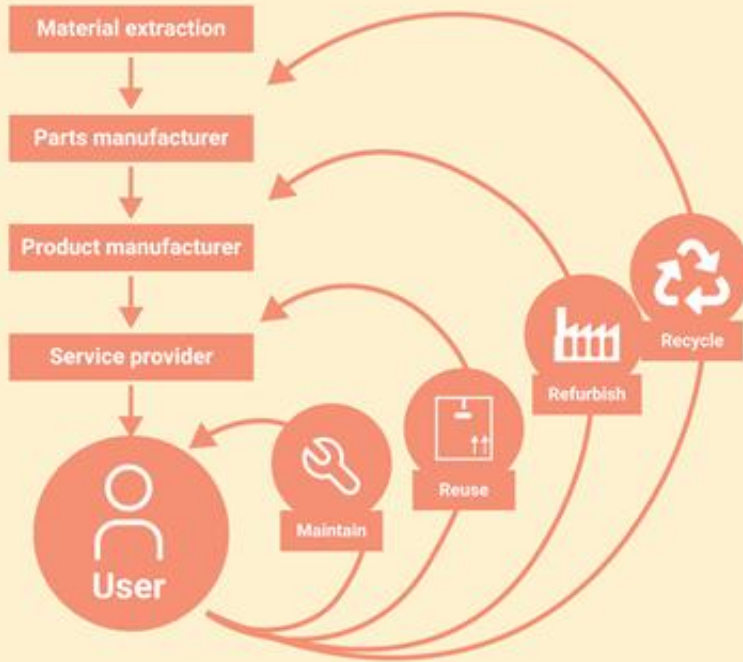Climate

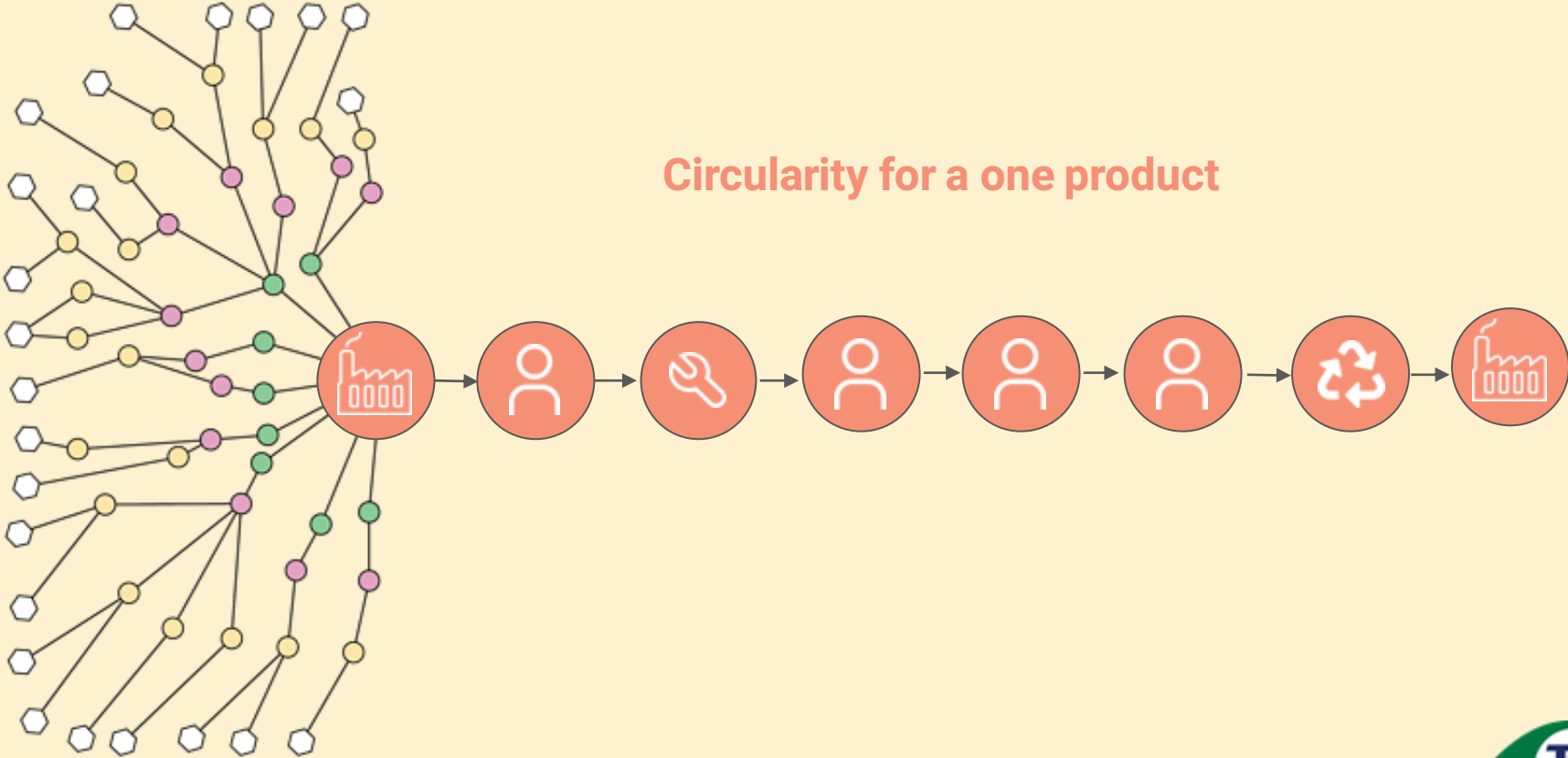Supply chain

Substances

Circularity

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Circularity
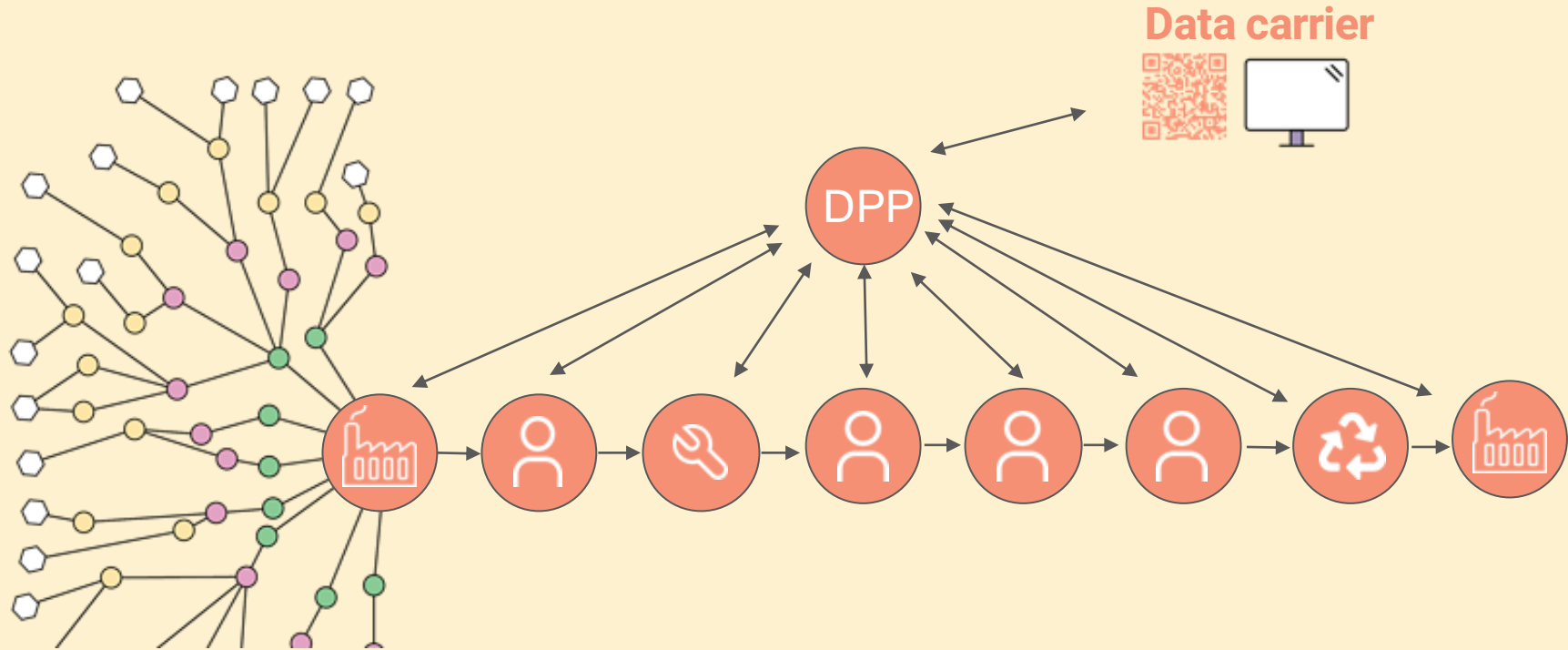
Circularity for a one product

Digital product passports

Digital product passport

A set of data specific to a product that is accessible via electronic means or through a data carrier.

Data carrier

DPP

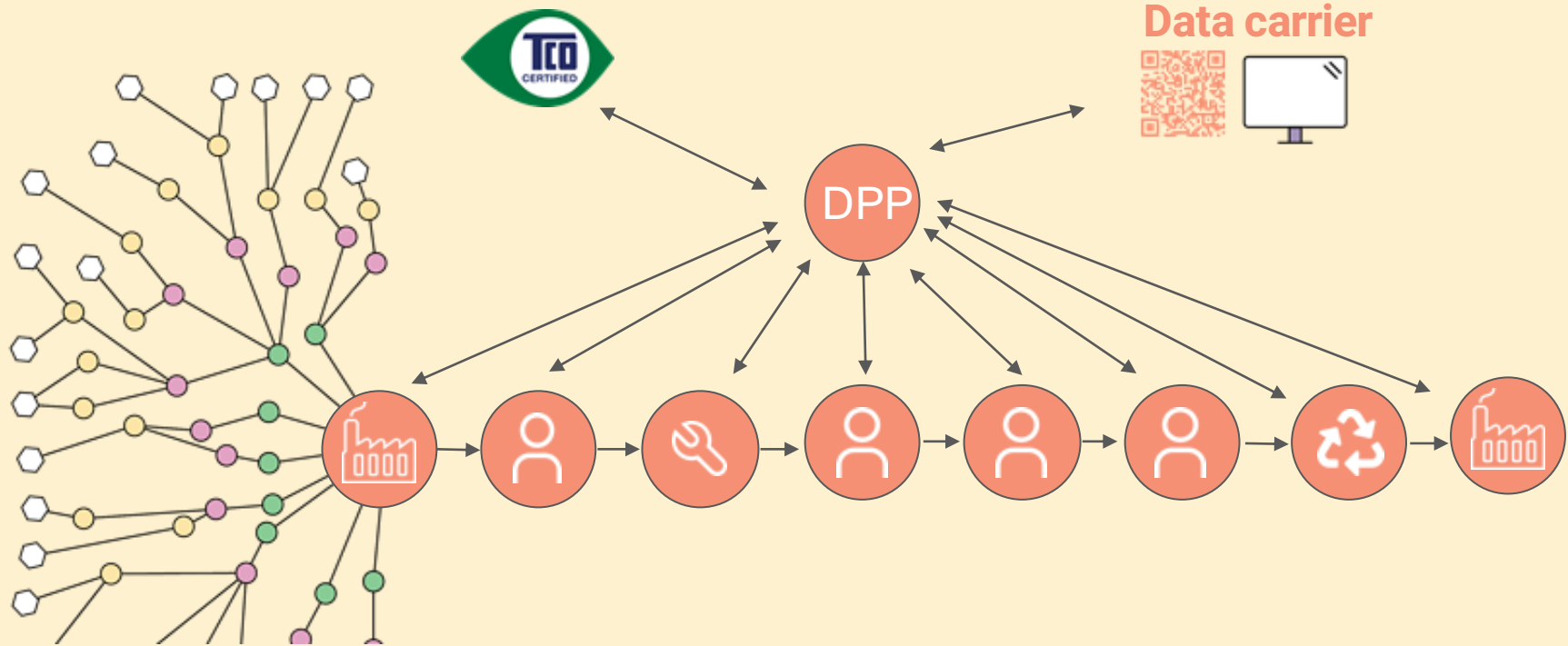# Digital product passport

A set of data specific to a product that is accessible via electronic means or through a data carrier.

Data carrier

DPP

How will DPPs effect circular procurement of ICT products?

Increased Transparency

More data and Increased transparency

Verified Product Information and authenticity:
For public and private procurement, DPPs can provide a means to validate the authenticity of products and product information.

Make procurement of Refurbished Products more viable

Reliable Quality Assurance: DPPs provide detailed data on product history, including repair records, upgrades, and usage patterns and to verify the condition, performance, and remaining lifespan of refurbished products, reducing uncertainty and risk

Clear Refurbishment Standards: DPPs can be used to ensure compliance with quality standards for refurbishment, making it easier to assess the reliability and durability of pre-used items.

Improved Circular Economy Alignment: Procurement of refurbished products aligns with sustainability goals, which is tracked and aggregated via the DPP.

Facilitating Regulatory Compliance: DPPs help ensure refurbished products meet environmental and regulatory standards, reducing compliance risk.

Leasing and Product-as-a-Service Models will become more common

DPPs will simplify the process of returning products to the supplier for refurbishment or recycling. The supplier will have detailed records on the product's history, allowing them to handle end-of-life processing efficiently, whether through refurbishment, resale, or recycling.

Data driven asset management

Real-time access to product data (lifecycle, materials, repairs) supports proactive maintenance and accurate condition monitoring.

Data-driven insights from the currently used assets allow for life cycle cost analysis and sustainability-focused supplier selection, driving total cost of ownership (TCO) decisions.

Predictive maintenance and repair history tracking improve asset uptime, reducing costs and downtime.

Improved Decision-Making at End-of-Life:

Recommerce and Resale Opportunities:
DPPs will make it easier for organizations to resell products at the end of their service life. Potential buyers can review the DPP to understand the product's history, reducing the friction in secondary markets and increasing the product's residual value.

Optimized Refurbishment:
With detailed maintenance and repair records stored in the DPP, refurbishment companies can determine exactly which components need to be replaced or upgraded, improving the efficiency of the refurbishment process. This makes it more feasible for organizations to send products for refurbishment rather than disposing of them.

When will this happen?

EU DPP

Batteries - February 2027

IT products - not decided (my personal guess is 2028-2029)

TCO Certified generation 10 - December 4, 2024

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