

JULY

SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAIN COMMUNITY

“We don’t need a handful of people doing zero waste perfectly. We need millions of people doing it imperfectly.”

– Anne Marie Bonneau



The Sustainable Supply Chain Alliance (SSCA) project, led by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), aims to embed the three pillars of sustainability (environmental, social and economic) in the supply chain activities of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The purpose of this newsletter is to form and engage a community around this all-important topic and to provide a platform to share updates, tools, plans and ideas.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE QUARTER

- A **carbon accounting tool** is being adapted for the humanitarian sector. The kick-off meeting took place at the end of June, and more than 50 organizations have signed up to the project.
- The ICRC will begin **mapping the sustainability of its supply chains** in the second half of the year.
- The fleet forum, bringing together members of the fleet teams of the ICRC and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has begun work on **optimizing fleet and waste management**. For example:
 - **Interactive webinars** have been organized to raise the fleet teams’ awareness of sustainability issues and to better understand the needs in terms of tools, training, etc., as well as to work on a dashboard for fleet optimization.
 - The ICRC has developed a tool, which the IFRC is piloting, to **calculate CO2, the cost of operations** and the safety of each vehicle according to type. The results have been turned into an infographic, with purchase guidance for different types of vehicles relative to their environmental, social and economic impact. The tool has been shared within the Movement, as well as with other organizations.
- A group of Movement members met in June to discuss **sustainable fleet management**, share experiences and identify and develop tools.
- A **study on the environmental impact of the two options to recycle used oil** in East Africa has been completed by Coventry University and the recommendations circulated.
- Work has begun on **guidelines on the sustainability of parcels containing essential household items and food**, as have two research and development projects to find more sustainable tarpaulins and polypropylene bags. If you or your organization have ideas to share, please contact paoger@icrc.org.
- The quality team has conducted **11 training sessions to increase awareness and enhance quality, social and environmental (QSE) assessments** on the ground. If you would like to participate, let us know at cgarciaduro@icrc.org.
- **Sessions to promote the project and increase awareness of the SSCA** have been organized at the ICRC, as well as for external forums (e.g. Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week, Humanitarian and Emergency Logistics Innovation Expo (HELIX) and the fleet forum annual conference).



For more information on the project charters, click on the links below:

- [Optimization of the fleet](#)
- [Eco-design tarpaulin](#)
- [Carbon accounting tool for the humanitarian sector](#)
- [Workshop waste management](#)
- [Sustainable EHI](#)

MAKING SUSTAINABILITY IDEAS A REALITY



Circular economy: From waste to office furniture.
For more ideas, click [here](#).



The ICRC delegation in Afghanistan has started using the train to transport goods from China. To read the full article, click [here](#).

WHATS NEW

PROCUREMENT

- As the best waste is that which is not produced, the ICRC has put in place a range of measures, including:
 - replacing disposable face shields with reusable, easily disinfected face shields (a 90% reduction in waste)
 - using refillable containers for hand sanitizer and certified reusable masks
 - the Afghanistan and Pakistan teams are discussing ways to reduce the amount of packaging used for the winter kits sent from Peshawar.
- The Finnish Red Cross is revising its guidelines to make procurement more sustainable (ritva.lahti@redcross.fi).
- The Canadian Red Cross is:
 - **conducting** a spending analysis to assess and rank its suppliers according to CO2 emissions, creation of non-recyclable waste, etc.
 - **engaging** with suppliers to reduce energy, CO2, water, waste, etc.
 - **modifying** procurement policies and contracts to integrate carbon and other environmental performances into purchasing standards and processes (romain.gauduchon@redcross.ca).

FLEET

- The Costa Rican Red Cross has made a fleet management optimization video. View it here: <https://youtu.be/XXq1InHjvHw> (walter.fallas@crzroja.or.cr).
- The ICRC has developed a carbon emissions calculation tool for vehicles in collaboration with the IFRC, which is also helping to develop the instruction manual and pilot-testing the tool (karlkristian.stuns@ifrc.org).
- The IFRC and the Costa Rican Red Cross are pilot-testing a System Dynamics Green Fleet Tool to identify strategies for reducing vehicle emissions in a cost-efficient way.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- An **introductory training session on waste management** was held at the LOG centre in the Afghanistan delegation. The delegation will also pilot the waste-kit workshop on how to correctly handle, segregate, store and transport waste.

For more information on the SSCA project or share sustainable supply chain initiatives in the next newsletter, please contact cgarcia@icrc.org.

DO YOU WANT TO ENGAGE WITH AND LEARN FROM EXPERTS IN SUSTAINABILITY AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT?

To participate in our discussion forum, sustainability thematic meetings or other events, contact Richard.casagrande@ifrc.org.



DO YOU HAVE A GREAT IDEA TO IMPROVE SUSTAINABILITY?

Click [here](#) and share it with us. We will publish it in the next newsletter.