



WASTE MANAGEMENT LANDSCAPE

Who is setting the pace in humanitarian waste management?



July 2024

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Glossary

ACF	Action Contre la Faim
ACTED	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
AKAH	Aga Khan Agency for Habitat
AKDN	Aga Khan Development Network
BDRCS	Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
BHA	Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
CAA	Climate Action Accelerator
CESVI	Cooperazione e Sviluppo
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
DWB	Doctor Without Borders
FF	Fleet Forum
FSL	Food Security and Livelihood
DG ECHO	Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
EPACT	Environmental Plan of Action
ESAT	Environmental Self-Assessment Tool
ESF	Electriciens Sans Frontières
ESSF	Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework
GHG	Green House Gas
GIZ ESDS	German Corporation for International Cooperation Energy Solutions in Developing Settings
GRWP IFRC	Green Response Working group of International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
GPA	Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings
GT	German Toilet
GLC	Global Logistics Cluster
HHS	Humanitarian Health Supply
HI	Handicap International
HQ	Head Quarter
HL	HELP Logistics
HULO	Humanitarian Logistics Cooperative
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society's
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IRC	International Rescue Committee

IOM	International Organization for Migration
JI	Joint Initiative for Sustainable Humanitarian Assistance Packaging Waste Management
LC	Logistics Cluster
MDM	Médecins du Monde
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières France
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NORCAP	Norwegian capacity to international operations
OXFAM	Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
PAH	Polska Akcja Humanitarna Fundacja
PIN	People in Need
PNS	Partner National Societies
PUI	Première Urgence Internationale
QSE	Quality, Social and Environmental
REH	Réseau Environnement Humanitaire
SRC	Swedish Red Cross
SOP	Standard Operational Procedure
SSCA	Sustainable Supply Chain Alliance Project
SUPs	Single-Use-Plastics
SWM	Solid Waste Management
TORs	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
URD Group	Urgence-Réhabilitation-Développement Groupe
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization
WORM	Waste in Humanitarian Operations
WM&R	Waste Management and Recycling Infrastructure Assessments
WREC/LC	Waste management and measuring, reverse logistics, environmentally sustainable procurement and transport, and circular economy, Logistics Cluster
WMCG	Waste Management Coordination Group
WFP	World Food Programme

Introduction

The current document: 'Waste Management Landscape: who is setting the pace in humanitarian waste management' is an analysis and landscape of humanitarian organisation's work on waste management practices in supply chains. It has been compiled with the aim to support humanitarian organisations with collaboration, coordination, and avoidance of duplication.

The current mapping identifies existing initiatives and resources not necessarily limited to the logistics sector but the entire humanitarian sector, providing a foundation for working groups and key partners who are reducing environmental impacts at the source, avoiding duplication of efforts. The methodology for this analysis was based on desk research, a survey¹ shared with the focal point of various organisations, working groups and networks, followed by conversations to consolidate the contents before the publication. This is a 'living document' and will be updated over time to ensure that humanitarians have access to the most up-to-date information, as and when new initiatives and work is shared with the Logistics Cluster environment team (WREC).

The WREC² Coalition maintains a Waste Management Coordination Group (WMCG)^{3,4} and will maintain this mapping on a regular basis with the support of the WMCG and partners. It should be noted that the WMCG is open to all humanitarian partners with an interest and activities on waste management. The aim of the WMCG is to support logistics professionals to integrate waste management along the humanitarian supply chain targeting warehouses, vehicle/fleet workshops, offices, and distribution points. The group is focused on the waste management principles and circularity; thus, it is also interlinked to green procurement practices as well. Activities from other clusters (e.g. Shelter, WASH, Health, Food Security, etc.) are also necessary for the WMCG to include the reduction of waste generation and support an effective and coordinated waste management approach at the country and field levels.

The WREC Coalition defines 'Waste management' as an instrument which defines a set of practices, processes, and policies aiming at measuring, reducing, reusing, recycling or properly disposing of items which are no longer useful for an organization. This approach supports the Waste management principles which aims to maximize the use of resources and minimize the needs of waste landfilling.

Target Audience

The document has been developed for humanitarian logisticians and seeks to provide a landscape analysis of existing initiatives, networks/working groups, tools, and resources that can support the incorporation of waste management activities and principles into their day-to-day operations.

This document is also intended to provide the key focal points of organizations who are developing waste management solutions or have the experience of implementing them in their operations through which others can learn from and share experiences.

The WREC team can be reached at any time for additional guidance, support, and/or networking with relevant key stakeholders via: Global.WREC@wfp.org.

¹ [WREC Waste Management 3Ws mapping survey](#) was launched in December 2023 for a month, but it was open for additional inputs until June 2024.

² WREC: Waste management and measuring, reverse logistics, environmentally sustainable procurement and transport, and circular economy.

³ The WREC Coalition has defined in the 'WREC approaches to Environmental Sustainability Concepts & Processes' its own definition for each workstream its addressing, more information is available on the following link: [WREC Approaches to Environmental Sustainability Concepts & Processes, August 2023](#)

⁴ WREC Waste Management Coordination Group (WMCG) TOR: [WREC Waste Management Coordination Group \(WMCG\) TORs](#)

Who is setting the pace in humanitarian waste management?

The purpose of this mapping is to identify initiatives and serve as an initial step to encourage collaboration and avoid duplication of efforts by offering visibility of the waste management landscape in the humanitarian sector. It considers the feedback from **25 different organisations and initiatives across the humanitarian sector**.

These organizations are currently implementing waste management initiatives not necessarily limited to the logistics sector but across the entire humanitarian supply chain and can provide resources and expertise in several areas. This mapping includes both organisations leading networks of organizations, called ‘collaboration initiatives’, and organizations implementing different levels of waste management activities, called ‘individual organizations’ (Figure 1).

WASTE MANAGEMENT LANDSCAPE - WHO?

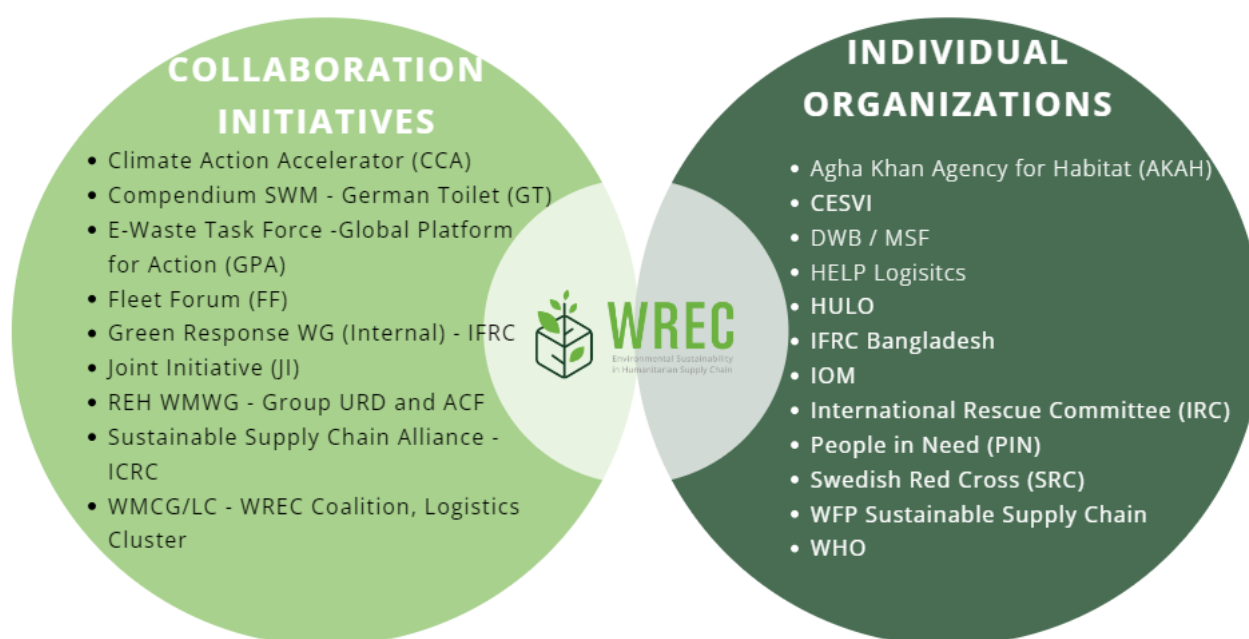


Figure 1 Waste Management Landscape – Who?

Where are the waste management initiatives taking place?

Respondents to the survey reported implementing waste management initiatives: at local level (28%), global level (28%), and both levels at the same time (40%), and a few reported research projects on waste management (4%) (Figure 2). At global level, initiatives are mostly related to coordination groups both internal and external to the organization to address specific waste management topics and to develop global guidelines which will be later applied locally. At the local level, organizations' efforts are mainly focused on mainstreaming best waste management practices into their main core areas of work or implementing direct projects related to waste management with communities. Finally, organizations who said to be working at both levels, they work at global level developing waste management solutions for common local challenges which will be later implemented at their local project activities.

WASTE MANAGEMENT LANDSCAPE - WHERE?

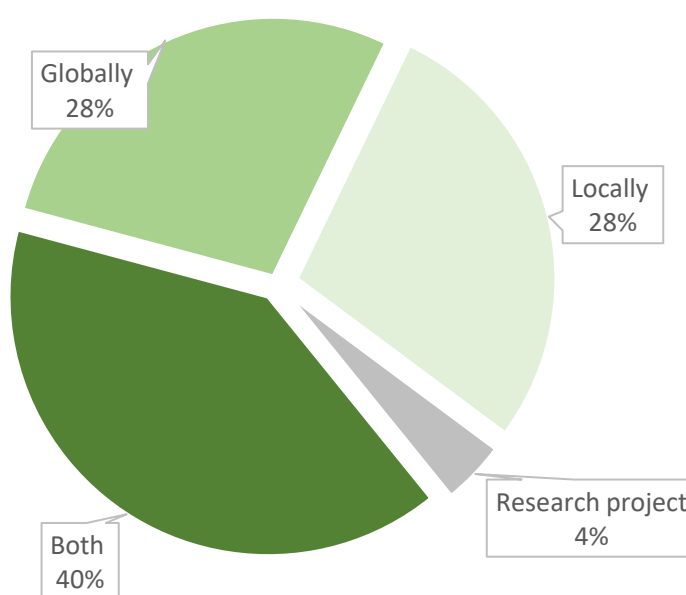


Figure 2 Waste Management Landscape – Where?

What are the waste management priorities and resources across the sector?

2024 priorities

Organizations were asked to share an overview of their 2024 priorities with the purpose to provide visibility of the areas of focus on waste management initiatives for the new year. Figure 3 provides a summary of the common waste management 2024 priorities identified.

2024 WASTE MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES








	 Organization SWM system	 Waste reduction (green procurement)	 WM&R Infrastructure Mapping	 Waste to Energy & Safe disposal	 Reverse Logistics	 Emergency Waste monitoring	 Community SWM systems
COLLABORATION INITIATIVES	CAA, FF, SSCA, GRWG/IFRC WREC/LC	Jl, REH, SSCA, WREC/LC	REH, GPA, WREC/LC	CAA, Jl, WREC/LC	REH, WREC/LC	CAA, Jl, WREC/LC	CAA, GT
INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS	AKAH, MSF, IRC, IOM, IFRC BGD, WFP, WHO	AKAH, CESVI, IRC, IOM, MSF, PIN, WFP, WHO	AKAH, WFP, HELPL, HULO, MSF	IFRC BGD, MSF, SRC, WHO	CESVI, WFP		AKAH, CESVI, HULO, IFRC-BGD, IOM, PIN

Figure 3 Common Waste Management 2024 priorities – What?

Representatives from the different initiatives and organizations are focused on seven main priorities for 2024:

- Equipping humanitarian organizations with proper management systems of waste to minimize potential environmental impact of waste along the supply chain (e.g. warehouses, vehicle/fleet workshops, offices, and distribution points). These are systems aligned with the waste management principles and circularity (reduce, reuse, repurpose, recycle, energy recovery, and waste disposal) to extend the lifespan of relief items and reduce the generation of waste.
- Reducing waste through environmentally sustainable procurement which minimizes unnecessary use of packaging and single-use plastics and the burden of waste at the end of the supply chain.
- Identifying local circular solutions for waste in their countries of work contributing to the WREC Waste Management and Recycling Infrastructure (WM&R) assessments.
- Identifying solutions on waste to energy and safe disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste.
- Implementing reverse logistics solutions to bring back packaging items and hazardous waste to any step of the supply chain for reusing, repurposing, refurbishing, recycling or disposal end-of-life items. This is a key initiative in those contexts where there are no local solutions for waste management.
- Monitoring waste at emergency response level to provide an overall picture of the total waste generated and set strategies of waste reduction and proper management in humanitarian responses.
- Finally, another priority is associated to those initiatives and organizations implementing WASH interventions and building waste management systems at beneficiary level in both camps and host communities in coordination with local governments. These interventions are related to the last step of the supply chain after relief items distribution. The engagement between supply chain and program stakeholders are fundamental to promote waste reduction and proper management of waste during emergencies.

WREC is currently coordinating with the representatives of all these collaborative initiatives and organizations throughout the Waste Management Coordination Group (WMCG) and assists with encouraging collaboration efforts to accomplish joint priorities together, avoiding duplication of efforts and instead creating synergies and amplifying best practices.

Waste Management Resources

Participants in the survey were also asked to share the type of resources they are developing to promote and ensure the integration of waste management considerations into day-to-day operations; this mapping is summarised in Figure 4 and Figure 5.

COLLABORATION INITIATIVES	Waste management field solutions	Guides	Tools	Trainings	Research	Policies	Webinars	Case studies	Advocacy (donors)
CCA	✓		✓		✓		✓		
Fleet Forum	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Global Platform for Action		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
JI	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
REH -Group URD, ACF	✓					✓			
SSCA - ICRC	✓	✓		✓					
SWM Compendium - GT		✓							
WREC/LC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
GRWG - IFRC	✓								

Figure 4 Waste Management resources across Collaboration Initiative

INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS	Waste management field solutions	Guides	Tools	Trainings	Research	Policies	Webinars	Case studies	Advocacy (donors)
CESVI	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
DWB / MSF	✓					✓	✓		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute		✓		✓			✓	✓	
HELP Logistics		✓	✓						✓
HULO	✓								
IFRC Bangladesh	✓								
IOM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
IRC					✓			✓	
People in Need	✓								
Swedish Red Cross	✓				✓				
WFP	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
WHO		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		

Figure 5 Waste Management resources across individual organisations

Waste Management Types

As a next level of information, we extracted from the survey the type of wastes the organizations are mostly targeting to find solutions and can provide more expertise and specific resources (Figure 6).

WASTE MANAGEMENT TYPE PRIORITIES








	 Damaged/Expired stocks	 Fleet Waste	 Packaging waste	 Metalized plastic packaging	 E-waste	 Medical waste	 Hazardous waste exportation
COLLABORATION INITIATIVES	SSCA, WREC/LC,	FF, SSCA, WREC/LC	REH, SSCA, JI, IFRC-GWG, CAA, WREC/LC	JI, CCA, WREC/LC	GPA, WREC/LC	WREC/LC, CAA	GPA, WREC/LC, REH, SSCA
INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS	IRC, WFP, MSF	MSF, WFP	WFP, PIN, AKAH, MSF	WFP	HULO, IOM, WFP, MSF	WHO, EPH, IRC, MSF, PIN	HULO, MSF, WFP

Figure 6 Waste management type priorities

Logistics Cluster Environment Team (WREC) – Waste Management plan for 2024

As part of the Logistics Cluster-led WREC Coalition, the Waste Management Specialist leading the WMCG there is a comprehensive plan of initiatives which will be taking place in 2024 detailed in Figure 7. *To read more go to page 16.*

2024 Waste Management initiatives

¹Waste Management Coordination group
WM&R: Waste Management and Recycling

✓ Completed
■ In Progress / not started
➤ Ongoing

	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024
Activities:				
1. WMCG meetings & Info sessions	✓ WMCG ¹ meeting (Jan, Feb, March)	✓ WMCG' meeting (April, May)	■ How to Measure Waste Workshop ■ WMCG' meeting	■ WMCG' meeting ■ WM Info -session
2. Tools & Guides & Case studies	✓ Quick user guide on how to use the LogIE map. ✓ Waste or material characterization user guide.	■ Waste Management humanitarian landscape (3Ws mapping).	■ Quick user guide for the Waste Management & Recycling assessments. ■ Quick Guide on Waste Management in Warehouses.	■ Case Study 2 of in -country solutions. ■ Toolkit on how to develop a Solid Waste Management system.
3. Waste Management & Recycling infrastructure mapping	✓ Coordination meeting updates. ✓ Develop new WM&R infrastructure mappings through partners' engagement.	✓ Coordination meeting updates. ✓ Develop new WM&R infrastructure mappings through partners' engagement.	■ Coordination meetings updates. ■ Develop new WM&R mappings through partners' engagement ■ LogIE New layer on Environmentally sustainable best practices.	■ Coordination meetings updates. ■ Develop new WM&R mappings through partners' engagement. ■ Recycling Value Chain Analysis methodology.
4. External events	✓ IMF Green Customs event ✓ IHD Waste Management presentation	✓ Aidex Africa: hazardous waste across borders. ✓ Fleet Forum Annual Conference: Decision Making in Fleet Waste		■ COP29 ■ Aidex Geneva
5. Initiatives with other clusters	✓ WASH Cluster Waste Management Compendium Group. ✓ Global Shelter Cluster – Environmental Country Profiles.	✓ HNPW 2024: Event on Inter -cluster discussion on waste management during emergencies.	■ Humanitarian Health Sector WG on medical waste management.	
6. Help Desk and collaboration with WFP	✓ Logs partners info requests ✓ WFP CO WM support	✓ Logs partners info requests ✓ WFP CO WM support	➤ Logs partners info requests ➤ WFP CO WM support	➤ Logs partners info requests ➤ WFP CO WM support

Figure 7 WREC Waste Management 2024 work plan

The intention of this mapping is to be a **live document**, we encourage further collaboration and participation, please reach out and share more about what you are doing, and where you need further support or resources to accelerate your green procurement journey.

Please reach out to the Global WREC team at: global.wrec@wfp.org and marta.kucharski@wfp.org

Collaboration initiatives

Nine platforms have been identified as being focused on waste management in the humanitarian sector. Further details of their activities, resources, and main priorities are described in this section below.

1. Climate Action Accelerator (CAA)⁵ – Waste management action

Main partners: ALIMA, ICRC, Joint Initiative, MSF, and TdH.

The Climate Action Accelerator (CAA) is a not-for-profit association which aims to mobilise a critical mass of community organisations to scale up climate solutions, contain global warming below 2°C, and avoid the risk of dangerous runaway climate change.

CAA is concerned about waste management not only for the local pollution to the soil and water resources it causes but also for its contribution to global CO₂ emissions. CAA conducts research and supports partners to find better solutions to manage the plastic packaging used by humanitarian medical workers, in particular metalized plastic packaging (sachet) for therapeutic food products and individual drug dispensing sachets. CAA also supports its partners in setting up appropriate waste management areas. They prepare toolboxes to their partners, resources that are available as open-source on their site, and or get involved directly in certain project. For example, CAA is currently working in partnership with Alima and Alerte Santé (Chadian NGO) on a climate resilient hospital (CRESH) project in Chad, which includes the construction of a waste management area.

One of CAA's priorities for 2024 is to develop toolkits for monitoring and managing waste, especially medical waste, considering the high proportion of plastics among this waste.

For more information, please contact Pascal Carré (pascal.carre@climateactionaccelerator.org).

2. Compendium of Solid Waste Management in Humanitarian Settings Group (German toilet (GT)/ German WASH Network).

The current core group members consist of EAWAG -Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, UNHCR, IFRC, Geneva Technical Hub, LC/WREC, Global WASH Cluster, and members of the German WASH Network.

The development of the Compendium of Solid Waste Management in Humanitarian Settings Group is a collaborative and inclusive effort that is open to all interested organizations and individuals with expertise/experience in humanitarian Solid Waste Management (SWM). The Compendium of Solid Waste Management in Humanitarian Settings⁶ is part of a series of WASH in Emergencies compendia. While the first three compendia focused on the obvious main pillars of WASH – water supply, sanitation, and hygiene promotion – this publication further expands the series with a particular focus on another key area of WASH: solid waste management. The compendium of SWM aims at providing an overview of existing SWM technologies and approaches appropriated or used in humanitarian settings.

⁵ CAA website: <https://climateactionaccelerator.org/>

⁶ GT - Compendium of Solid Waste Management in Humanitarian Settings structure : [Kloud - SWM Compendium Structure.jpeg \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

The compendium is targeting WASH practitioners to respond and support recovery activities but also other stakeholders from other sectors. This publication can be adapted for use in a variety of scenarios thereby contributing to the complementarity between the humanitarian and development realms. The Compendium of Solid Waste Management in Humanitarian Settings is primarily a capacity building tool and a reference book, but it also supports planning, implementation, and decision making when designing context specific SWM interventions. It is a starting point to access relevant summarised information on SWM and provides details and links to additional guides and publications where available.

The group is planning to finalize the compendium by end of 2024/early 2025, including a comprehensive sector review process.

For more information, please contact Rob Gensch (robert.gensch@germantoilet.org).

3. E-waste in Displacement Settings Task Force⁷ (Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings - GPA)

Members: The GPA Coordination Unit (CU), GIZ Energy Solutions in Developing Settings (GIZ ESDS), IOM, WFP, and NORCAP.

The E-waste in Displacement Settings Task Force is a small, voluntary group of UN agencies and NGOs created in 2021 by the GPA CU⁸ and GIZ ESDS. It is premised on the shared understanding that stakeholders at all levels must take action to mitigate the impact of e-waste accumulation in displacement settings. The Task Force works collectively on improving the e-waste management practices in displacement settings through joint activities, effective coordination, knowledge sharing activities such as webinars, and collective advocacy at various level. The GPA CU manages the administration of the task force, including organising and moderating meetings, drafting agendas and action points, monitoring progress on the implementation of joint outputs, and maintaining an up-to-date contact list and project database.

The main priorities of the GPA for 2024 related to e-waste management:

- Collaborating with LC/WREC to expand the Waste Management and Recycling Infrastructure Assessments⁹ with e-waste initiatives in displacement and humanitarian settings⁹.
- Collecting lessons learned from past pilots of e-waste management initiatives.
- Research on cross-boundary transport of e-waste in humanitarian settings.

For more information, please contact Elif Gul Demir (elif.demir@unitar.org).

4. Fleet Forum¹⁰ - Fleet Waste Management

Fleet Forum was formed in 2003 to encourage, facilitate, and develop relationships between humanitarian aid and development organisations all over the world. Twenty years later, they have grown to an interagency association consisting of more than 40 members, including (international) non-governmental organisations, United Nations

⁷ E-Waste Management in Displacement Settings website: [E-waste Management in Displacement Settings | Global Platform for Action \(humanitarianenergy.org\)](#)

⁸ The Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings (GPA) is the global initiative to promote actions that enable sustainable energy access and use in displacement settings.

⁹ WREC Waste management and recycling infrastructure assessments map: [WREC Waste management facilities mapping \(logcluster.org\)](#)

¹⁰ Fleet Forum website: [Home | Fleet Forum](#)

agencies, Red Cross/Crescent organisations, commercial fleet operators, mobility product and service suppliers, donors, and academic institutions.

One of the Fleet Forum's main priorities is to put environmental sustainability at the hearth of the fleet management strategies of their members. To accomplish that, Fleet Forum has developed tools, trainings, workshops, and webinars on fleet related issues. The tools related to fleet waste management are listed below:

- *ESAT: Environmental Self-Assessment Tool Fleet and Transport Management tool*¹¹ to support organizations in assessing their environmental performance against a number of recognized standards and requirements, including the DG ECHO Minimum Environmental Requirements and Recommendations.
- *GreenMe*¹²: an interactive platform, designed for on-the-ground fleet managers, it empowers them to bring their organisation's CO2 reduction commitment to life using the 'Avoid, Shift, Improve' (ASI) approach.
- Bi-weekly webinars¹³, many of them addressing the common challenge around fleet waste management.

Through professional fleet management, the Fleet Forum helps their members to deliver lifesaving and life changing aid to communities in need. The Fleet Forum believes that professional fleet management in developing countries can help to save lives, save costs, and save the planet.

For more information, please contact Rose van Steijn (rose.van.steijn@fleetforum.org).

5. Green Response Working group¹⁴ (GRWG) (Internal) - IFRC.

The group is formed by all Red Cross National Societies.

As part of the IFRC Green Response initiative to improve the environmental sustainability of humanitarian response, a Green Response Working Group (GRWG) was formed in 2014 to advance the concept of 'Green Response' within the Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement. The GRWG's objective is to progress initiatives that improve environmental outcomes of humanitarian action, connected to the IFRC Secretariat and National Societies' knowledge, experience and mission, adhering to the Fundamental Principles, the principle of 'do no harm', and the concept of 'build back better'. It functions as an informal network to share best practices and experience on greening and promote coordination on this topic both within and outside the movement.

As part of the Green Response Initiative, in 2020 IFRC published a reference guide *Managing Solid Waste: sector-specific guidelines for the Red Cross Red Crescent*¹⁵. These guidelines address the challenge of waste management in emergencies breaking down the topic into sectoral priorities and actions, with the aim of leading to stronger waste management practices, better outcomes for affected communities, and improved environmental sustainability.

The main priority for 2024 of the group related to waste management is to find field-base solutions which promote the reduction of packaging and eliminating single-use plastics in relief items and recycling and the concept of the circular economy, rather than disposal, incineration, or generating pollution.

For more information, please contact Allan Kilakah MASAVAH (allan.masavah@ifrc.org).

¹¹ Fleet Forum ESAT tool: [Introducing: The Environmental Self-Assessment tool \(ESAT\) | Tools & Templates | Fleet Forum Knowledge Platform](#)

¹² Fleet Forum Green me platform: <https://greenme.fleetforum.org/login>

¹³ Fleet Forum Webinars: <https://www.fleetforum.org/2024-webinars>

¹⁴ IFRC -GRWG factsheet: [Green-Response-Intro-Oct-2021.pdf \(ifrc.org\)](#)

¹⁵ IFRC-GRWG *Managing Solid Waste: sector-specific guidelines for the Red Cross Red Crescent*: [RCRC SWM Guidelines.PDF - Google Drive](#)

6. Joint Initiative for Greener Humanitarian Assistance (former Joint Initiative for Sustainable Humanitarian Assistance Packaging Waste Management)¹⁶

The Joint Initiative is funded by the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), with an overarching goal to support humanitarian actors in delivering lifesaving assistance more effectively and efficiently by protecting people from environmental risks. It brings together 26 humanitarian actors from the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations, donors, and academics.

Previous phases of the Joint Initiative (JI) have focused on coordination among environmental and humanitarian actors, and sustainable packaging waste management in humanitarian supply chains. The JI is now entering a new phase, focusing on strengthening coordination and harmonization among donors on the greening of humanitarian assistance, including ensuring localization and nature-based solutions are considered.

The JI will continue to collaborate with its existing partners and stakeholders on activities where it can add value by contributing its expertise on packaging sustainability and waste management. It will work to translate the knowledge it has acquired to date into practice, helping influence and shape common operations, policies, and standards on greening, with a continued focus on supply chains.

Some of the waste management activities planned for the remaining of 2024 include:

- Facilitating the Metallized Laminated Sachet Working Group and producing an overview of what has been tried and tested to date to reduce the climate and environmental footprint of this type of packaging.
- Finalizing Life Cycle Assessments of packaging for food and non-food items and disseminating their results.
- Updating the JI's packaging calculator tool (to include additional types of packaging) and ensuring that this aligns with and complements other tools in the sector.

For more information, please contact ji@tetrattech.com.

7. Réseau Environnement Humanitaire (REH) Waste Management Working Group (Groupe URD¹⁷ and Action Contre la Faim¹⁸ (ACF)).

Composed of representatives from: Action Contre la Faim (ACF), ACTED, Electriciens Sans Frontières (ESF), Handicap International (HI), Joint Initiative for Sustainable Humanitarian Packaging Waste Management (JI), Médecins du Monde (MDM), Médecins Sans Frontières France (MSF), OXFAM International, and Première Urgence Internationale (PUI).

A REH forum was held on waste management topic in April 2022, and attracted a great deal of interest. After meeting the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in June 2022 the Waste Management Working Group was created. The working group addresses the issue of waste management from upstream (e.g. reducing packaging) to downstream (e.g. improving recycling). It requires coordination with suppliers, purchasers, logistics players, programmes, and business line referents (e.g. e-waste) and other stakeholders programmes/business lines (WASH, Food Security and Livelihood (FSL), etc.) and users. By exchanging and sharing experiences, the REH Waste Management Working Group aims to help member organisations to take better account of waste and waste management in their projects.

The main priorities of this group with regards to waste management for 2024 are listed below¹⁹:

- Capitalise on members' experience of waste management in humanitarian context.

¹⁶ Joint Initiative website: [Joint Initiative On Sustainable Humanitarian Assistance Packaging Waste Management - EECentre](#)

¹⁷ Groupe URD website: [Home - Groupe URD](#)

¹⁸ ACF website: [Association humanitaire contre la faim dans le monde \(actioncontrelafaim.org\)](#)

¹⁹ REH website: [Réseau Environnement Humanitaire](#)

- Contribute to existing initiatives, without duplicating efforts (e.g. collaborating in WREC/LC Waste management infrastructure mapping) in coordination.
- Establish common methodologies and tools at programme and support level.
- Cooperate with suppliers to optimise purchasing/reduce packaging and/or integrate or develop reverse logistics services.
- Lobby donors to take better account of the cost of managing waste and selecting eco-responsible products in proposals/projects.

For more information, please contact: dechets@environnementhumanitaire.org or Johana Bretou-Klein (jbretouklein@urd.org) and Céline Heim (cheim@actioncontrelafaim.org).

8. Sustainable Supply Chain Alliance (SSCA) Project²⁰ – International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society's (ICRC)

As part of the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society's (ICRC) ongoing commitment to climate change²¹ and environmental sustainability and as a firmly believer of the 'don-no-harm principle, in 2020 ICRC launched the Sustainable Supply Chain Alliance (SSCA) project. The Sustainable Supply Chain Alliance (SSCA) project aims to integrate the three pillars of sustainability (environmental, social, and economic) into the supply chain of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The SSCA project involves various stakeholders both within and outside the ICRC, working together to develop tools, knowledge, training, and supporting guidelines to help us reach our common goal of a sustainable supply chain.

Some of the key outcomes from the SSC related to waste reduction and proper management are highlighted below:

- Developed fleet waste management guidelines to assist vehicle fleet managers in waste management, including: Workshop Waste Management Standing Operational Procedure (SOP)²² – provide a great understanding of garage waste, its potential impacts, and the most sustainable means to handle them; Quality, Social and Environmental Company assessment tool (QSE) for workshop waste managers ; and Workshop waste kit²³.
- Piloted recycling across borders: joined pilot initiative with WFP and MSF to find suitable solutions for fleet waste in South Sudan²⁴.

The SSCA main priority for 2024 is to focus on first reducing the waste from the design of the product (reducing packaging, eco-design tarpaulin, etc.)²⁵ and second, providing the tools to the field teams to be able to manage vehicle workshop and warehouse waste properly. The SSCA will also finalize the two pilot projects to assess ICRC current situation in terms of aviation waste management in Nairobi and Juba.

To learn more about ICRC' commitment and best practices on sustainable supply chain, you can check their best practices from across the world and newsletter on their website.

²⁰ ICRC website: [SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAIN - ICRC Logistics | ICRC Logistics](#)

²¹ As part of the Environmental and Climate Change Charter, the ICRC logistics committed to reducing our greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% by 2030. This commitment covers both direct and indirect emissions, as well as the proper management of hazardous waste.

²² ICRC – Workshop SOP: [GLO – SOP – WORKSHOP WASTE MANAGEMENT \(icrc.org\)](#)

²³ ICRC – Workshop waste kit : [1. Workshop waste kit - tools and PPE.xlsx \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

²⁴ ICRC - Finding a common solution for fleet waste in South Sudan : <https://blogs.icrc.org/logistics/wp-content/uploads/sites/117/2024/02/ARTICLE-SS-waste-management.pdf>

²⁵ ICRC – Sustainable procurement: [Sustainable procurement - ICRC Logistics | ICRC Logistics](#)

For more information, please contact Carmen Garcia Duro (cgarcia.duro@icrc.org)

9. Waste Management Coordination Group (WMCG) - WREC Coalition

The WREC Coalition seeks to identify and reduce the adverse environmental consequences of humanitarian logistics through awareness, practical guidance, and real-time environmental expertise provided to the Logistics Cluster and Coalition Members community of partner organizations supply chain practitioners. The Coalition is a multi-donor (Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), UPS Foundation) and multi-stakeholder initiative coordinated by the Global Logistics Cluster (GLC) and supported by a coalition of humanitarian organisations including: Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Save the Children International, and World Food Programme (WFP).

The Coalition intends to inject environmental expertise into the humanitarian community through Environmental Specialists focusing on green procurement, waste management, circular economy, and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The Environmental Specialists are based within the coalition partner organisations to capitalise on existing complimentary activities and initiatives, and to better reach field-based practitioners. The Environmental Specialist dedicated to waste management is embedded within Sustainable Supply Chain Unit of the World Food Program's headquarters in Rome (Italy) and coordinates and supports the following overarching objectives:

- Support coordination with all Global Logistics Cluster partners to avoid overlaps and duplication of efforts in implementing waste management solution with a strong focus on waste prevention and the linkage with green procurement and circular economy topics.
- Develop consolidated guidance, awareness-raising resources, training materials and tools for use by field-based logistics practitioners to support their adoption of best environmental practices in humanitarian operations.
- Gather existing case studies and good practices on waste management and identify opportunities for replication of these projects in selected field locations.

The WREC Waste Management Coordination Group (WMCG) ²⁶ was created in December 2023 in response to the information requests expressed by logistics partners through the WREC Annual survey of March 2023. The survey revealed that significant proportion of humanitarian organisations lacked a mechanism to measure and monitor the waste generated in their project locations (e.g. office, warehouses, vehicle/fleet workshops, and distribution sites), the need for more information on waste management and recycling infrastructure on the humanitarian setting, and a general need for best practices and local solutions from other organizations that could be implemented in their local projects. The WMCG was created to address the next key priorities:

- Develop practical needs-base guidance for field-based logistics practitioners on the establishment of solid waste management systems in field environments.
- Map ongoing efforts of organizations in the field of environmentally sustainable waste management such as initiatives, learnings, challenges, successes.
- Promote the development of Waste Management and Recycling (WM&R) Infrastructure Assessments ²⁷ supported by partners in the field.
- Promote inter/intra cluster/sector collaborative solutions at field level to optimize efforts and improve the overall solid waste management systems in field operations.

²⁶ WREC WMCG Terms of Reference (ToR): [WREC Waste Management Coordination Group \(WMCG\) TORs | Logistics Cluster Website \(logcluster.org\)](https://logcluster.org/en/wrec-wm-cg-terms-of-reference)

²⁷ WREC Waste Management and Recycling Assessments documents: <https://logcluster.org/en/green-logistics#wastemanagementandrecyclingassessments> and LogIE interactive map: [WREC Waste management facilities mapping \(logcluster.org\)](https://logcluster.org/en/wrec-waste-management-facilities-mapping)

The purpose of these meetings is to serve as a platform for knowledge exchange, address challenges, and collaborate in developing solutions that will contribute to the achievement of environmental goals. The WREC team aims to execute in-country pilots and provide in person training in 2024 as part of their strategy to create practical solutions. A significant number of resources are currently available on the WREC website²⁸ for all humanitarian organisations.

For more information and to join the Waste Management mailing list please contact Marta Kucharski (marta.kucharski@wfp.org) and the global WREC Coalition team (global.wrec@wfp.org).

Organisational Initiatives

Twelve individual organizations initiatives are described in this section as well as their resources and main priorities:

1. Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH)²⁹

The Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH) brings together several Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) agencies and programmes that have been working on habitat and disaster preparedness and relief since 1990. The AKAH aims at providing safe, sustainable, and resilient habitats communities and help them prepare for and respond to natural disasters and the effects of climate change. As a result of their work, AKAH has built safe water and sanitation systems for more than 600,000 people and helped communities build 5,000 natural-hazard-resilient hospitals, schools, and community centres.

Their main priorities for 2024 is to mainstream waste management within and across all projects/activities/offices in each of their five countries of operation: Syria, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, India, and Pakistan. Currently, AKAH is in the early stages of mapping out their waste management objectives. One of the immediate initiatives they are carrying out is to set mappings of waste management solutions/options as well as mapping of recyclers in coordination with WREC team. The Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH) currently operates in Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Syria, Pakistan, and India, with plans to expand further in Central Asia and to East Africa.

In Syria, AKAH has developed a Solid Waste Management (SWM) system in Salamieh city, it employs local community members (prioritising women) to support with the waste collection in the city. In Pakistan, AKAH is currently looking into waste management facilities (mainly in the North and South) and possibly developing waste management systems or IRRC (integrated resource recovery centre) type modality for waste management and collection. They are also developing Rural and Urban Waste Management SOPs.

AKAH Global is focused on reduction of all Single-Use-Plastics (SUPs) from AKAHs programming and operations (particularly in stockpile items and office supplies), and reduction of plastic packaging from all stockpile items procured.

For more information, please contact Samara Bhimji (samara.bhimji@akdn.org).

2. CESVI³⁰

CESVI is an international humanitarian organisation founded in 1985 which promotes human rights and sustainable development to the most vulnerable populations. On the area of sustainable development, CESVI works in guaranteeing environmental protection and correctly managing natural resources.

CESVI implements waste management projects in many countries, for example Pakistan, Palestine, and Somalia. The main priorities for this 2024 are the promotion of reverse logistics, the reduction of consumes (of any kind) and capacity building of partners and stakeholders. Moreover, CESVI fosters social change by enabling people to derive value from

²⁸ WREC project website: [Green Logistics | Logistics Cluster Website \(logcluster.org\)](https://www.logcluster.org/)

²⁹ AKAH website: [Aga Khan Agency for Habitat - AKDN \(the.akdn\)](https://www.theakdn.org/)

³⁰ CESVI website: [Home - CESVI Fondazione - ETS](https://www.cesvi.org/)

their waste. CESVI's efforts aim to create sustainable jobs and expand employment opportunities in the solid waste management, renewable energy, and environmental protection sectors.

For more information, please contact Leopoldo Poggiali leopoldopoggiali@cesvi.org ; giacomoagosti@cesvi.org

3. Doctor without Borders /Medicines Sans Frontières (MSF)³¹

MSF is an international, independent, medical humanitarian organization founded in 1971 which provides medical assistance to people affected by conflict, epidemics, disasters, or exclusion from health care. Each MSF Operational Centres in Paris³², Brussels³³, Switzerland³⁴ have developed their Climate and Environmental Roadmap, which can be found at the MSF Climate Hub³⁵. MSF is committed to reducing the environmental impact of its operations and halving its greenhouse gas emissions by 2023. The roadmaps include an important key commitment on waste which aims at all projects having effective waste management plans in place to reduce, recycle, and responsibly dispose of waste by 2025. The waste production will be reduced by 50% by 2030, particularly by limiting the consumption of single-use plastic items:

- By end 2025, the headquarters and regional offices, all missions and regular projects will have a waste management plan in place and 100% of missions monitor and are able to quantify and qualify their waste.
- End 2025, overall weight of waste has been reduced by 20% and by 50% by 2030.
- By the end 2025, 100% of the projects have assessed and identified viable recycling streams for their different type of waste (as part of their waste management plan).
- By the end of 2025, 80% of missions have installed or implemented the Best Environmental Possible Options (BEPO) to ensure proper destruction and final disposal of all categories of generated waste and 100% by 2030.

To support their field logisticians to achieve these commitments, MSF OCP has published the *Pace Maker*³⁶ logistics guideline which will be implemented at intersectional level next year. The document links missions and the Climate and Environment Roadmaps (see links above). The book is divided into four technical families: Energy, Building, Motorized Fleet Management (MFM), and Waste and Ecosystems. Each section is composed of the main angles of attack and a set of simple and practical sheets to collectively meet their logistics commitments by 2030. The Energy, Building, and MFM sections are mainly concerned with the objective to reduce CO2 emissions, whilst the Waste and Ecosystems section is mainly concerned with the objective to reduce the impact on the local environment.

For more information, please contact OCP – Stella Viot: stella.viot@paris.msf.org; OCB – Joos Van Den Noortgate: joos.van.den.noortgate@brussels.msf.org; OCG – Antoine Prus: antoine.prus@geneva.msf.org; OCA – Jeff Fesselet: jeff.fesselet@amsterdam.msf.org; OCBA – Paul Jawor: paul.jawor@barcelona.msf.org.

³¹ DWB/MSF website: <https://sherlog.msf.org/page/home>

³² MSF Operational Center Paris (OCP) Climate and Environment Roadmap: [MSF-OCP-Environmental-roadmap-EN-1.pdf](#)

³³ MSF Operational Center Brussels (OCB) Climate and Environmental Roadmap: [MSF_OCB_ROADMAP.pdf](#)

³⁴ MSF Operational Center Switzerland (OCG) Carbon footprint Report 2019: [Microsoft Word - OCG Carbon Footprint VF_29092022.docx \(msf.org\)](#)

³⁵ MSF Climate Hub: <https://climatehub.msf.org/mitigate/decarbonization-roadmaps/>

³⁶ MSF Pace Maker guideline (2024): [Médecins Sans Frontières - Pace Maker - 100 Logistics Answers to Meet our Climate and Environment Commitments | Logistics Cluster Website \(logcluster.org\)](#)

4. HELP Logistics³⁷ (HL)

HELP Logistics is a non-profit organisation and a subsidiary company of the Kühne Foundation. The organisation operates from logistics hubs strategically located in Amman (Middle East), Dakar (West Africa), Nairobi (East Africa), Hamburg (Germany), and Singapore (Asia-Pacific). HELP Logistics is committed to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian supply chains whilst advocating for transformative changes in delivering humanitarian assistance. Its core services encompass supply chain analysis, training, applied research, and outreach. With a dedicated team of 25 experts and collaborating with over 30 organisations from various sectors, we tackle critical challenges in the humanitarian landscape.

In line with its mission to be a catalyst for transferring supply chain and logistics knowledge to improve the lives, and economic potential of vulnerable people and communities, HELP Logistics has been supportive to the humanitarian sector in measuring and improving the environmental sustainability of the sector through a series of activities which include:

- Supply chain optimization aimed at avoiding inefficiencies, losses and fallout of planning challenges,
- Supporting organisation in measuring and improving the carbon footprint the execution of carbon calculation and advises on the elaboration and implementation of sustainability strategies.
- In cooperation with PLAN International the West Africa Office of HELP Logistics also created and provided a tool for mapping informal waste actors with the purpose of optimising and streamlining humanitarian waste streams with existing waste management flows.

For more information, please contact the respective focal point in each region: [here](#).

5. Humanitarian Logistics Cooperative (HULO)³⁸

Working together with ACTED, ACF, Bioport, Croix-Rouge Francaise, Fleet Forum, Humanité & Inclusion, Intersos, MdM, NRC, Oxfam Intermon, Plan International, Premiere Urgence Internationale, Solidarités International, Welt Hunger Hilfe, REH, and LC/WREC Coalition.

HULO connects logistics stakeholders to improve the efficiency of humanitarian aid and reduce their environmental impact by pooling resources, optimising supply chain management, and developing new digital solutions. An 'Environment & Ecology Expert' was recruited at the end of 2023 and established the Joint Environmental Initiatives (JEIs) Road Map for the HULO cooperative members.

HULO has initiated some activities related to waste management in emergency contexts through these JEIs and they aim at continuing these initiatives as main priority for 2024:

- Continue the project in Democratic Republic of Congo focused on electric and electronic waste (e-waste)³⁹ in which HULO did partner with a local e-waste recycling company to facilitate the collection, the dismantling, and processing of some e-waste materials from humanitarian organizations.
- Replicate the same project in Burkina Faso: HULO launched its first call for expressions of interest from e-waste collectors, dismantlers, and recyclers in May 2024 to pre-qualify waste management specialists and put them in touch with participating NGOs.
- Continue the project in Burkina Faso focused on non-hazardous waste streams in which HULO partnered with a local non-hazardous waste association, Africa Ecology, to facilitate the collection and recovery of different

³⁷ HELPS Logistics website: [HELP Logistics | Kühne Foundation - HELP Logistics \(help-logistics.org\)](https://www.help-logistics.org/)

³⁸ HULO website: [Together we are Stronger - Hulo](https://www.hulo.org/)

³⁹ HULO Democratic Republic Congo E-waste project presentation: [Democratic Republic Congo - Recyclage des déchets Electriques et Electroniques \(DEEE\) Goma et Kinshasa | Logistics Cluster Website \(logcluster.org\)](https://www.logcluster.org/en/2024/01/24/hulo-democratic-republic-congo-e-waste-project-presentation/)

types of waste (organic, glass, paper/cardboard, household waste, and plastics) generated by humanitarian organizations.

- In Central African Republic, HULO is looking to set up two pilot projects on e-waste and non-hazardous waste (assessment is currently under way to identify local partners and one or more HULO members in CAR willing to take part in the pilot).
- Feedback from NGOs on waste management needs to start shortly in Lebanon and Iraq.
- Support the development of WREC Waste Management and Recycling (WM&R) Infrastructure Mappings. HULO is traveling to several countries in Africa and Middle East and throughout these field visits contributing to map waste management and recycling companies.

For more information, please contact Philine Moucheront (philine.moucheront@hulo.coop).

6. IFRC Cox's Bazar Bangladesh

Participated by Cox's Bazar WASH Sector, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (National Society), PNSs- German Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross.

IFRC and its Partner National Societies (PNS) is supporting the Rohingya emergency Response in Cox's Bazar (Bangladesh) through their implementing partner/national society Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), Population Movement Operation. BDRCS is managing the waste management system in several refugee camps establishing a collection, segregation, recovery and safe disposal of waste. The key areas of the waste management system include production of compost, distribution of compost for household level gardening, segregation of recyclable inorganic material, and revenue generation by selling the inorganic wastes (such as plastic bottles, metals etc.) to local scrap dealers.

The main priorities for 2024 in Cox's Bazar would be to initiate a sustainable waste management project in the host community at Cox's Bazar and integrate it to the existing waste management system in the refugee camps run by BDRCS with support of IFRC and its PNSs.

For more information, please contact Mejbah Uddin Chowdhury, WASH Manager-IFRC, Population Movement Operation (PMO) (mejbah.chowdhury@ifrc.org).

7. International Organization for Migration (IOM)⁴⁰

IOM recognizes that environmental sustainability is inherently linked to the safety, security and wellbeing of migrants and societies. As part of IOM's mission to uphold the well-being of migrants and communities, IOM made an institutional commitment in 2017 to mainstream environmental sustainability in its strategies, projects and programs, and facility management and operations. This commitment is in line with the environment-related commitments of the Sustainable Development Goals, the environmental sustainability related commitments of the United Nations and the Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations System 2020-2030. To achieve these objectives, IOM has established its Environmental Sustainability Unit to drive efforts and coordinate internally and externally good practices and policies, with a focus on three key environmental management areas: clean energy, material circularity (water and waste) and financing the sustainability transition. For more information see IOM's webpage on the UN Greening the Blue⁴¹.

IOM is also undertaking numerous projects in the field with a focus on waste management. This includes:

- E-waste Pilot Project: Greening humanitarian response through repair, recovery and recycling of solar e-waste in displacement settings, which aims to create a circular economy for solar e-waste in Bidibidi, Uganda;

⁴⁰ IOM's website: [International Organization for Migration | IOM, UN Migration](https://www.iom.int/)

⁴¹ IOM's website on the UN Greening the Blue: [IOM's webpage on the UN Greening the Blue](https://www.iom.int/un-greening-the-blue)

- E-waste Circular Economy Scale Project, which is a continuation of the pilot and is aiming to establish a self-sustaining business model for e-waste management by assessing local markets, exploring alternative income streams and expanding collection points and repair centers in Bidibidi and surrounds;
- Closing the Loop on Effective Waste Management in Displacement Settings Using Innovative Finance Project, looking at using innovative financing to subsidize waste management services, promote sustainable procurement and support responsible waste business practices in Dikwa, Nigeria and Bicol Region, Philippines. Each of these projects is funded by Innovation Norway.

For more information, please contact Gemma Arthurson garthurson@iom.int.

8. International Rescue Committee⁴² (IRC)

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is an international NGO created in 1933 which helps people affected by humanitarian crises—including the climate crisis—to survive, recover, and rebuild their lives.

IRC country programs are taking active steps to reduce their waste and procure sustainably. For example, IRC Lebanon is recycling and refurbishing furniture and IT items and minimizing physical archiving. The most implemented activities across IRC country programs to reduce waste are:

- incorporating waste management planning into procurement,
- working with programs on right-size procurement/forecasting,
- reducing packaging of food and NFIs,
- and working with local authorities and services to integrate waste management into existing systems and infrastructure (From IRC's annual sustainability survey).

IRC is also taking global measures to reduce its pharmaceutical waste. For example, IRC is reducing pharmaceutical waste by investing in systems and standardizing operating procedures. IRC has invested in a Quality Management System, producing and training on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and data collection systems, to target missteps that can result in greater waste generation. These tracking systems and SOPs are supporting efficiency and reducing waste in the pharmaceutical supply chain. In the fiscal year 2022, 96% of IRC countries reporting that year claimed that the cost of expired pharmaceutical stock was less than 2 percent of the total stock cost.

The main priority for 2024 is to develop mechanisms to measure and monitor waste through its cost (not volume).

For more information, please contact Anita Raman (anitasraman@gmail.com).

9. People in Need (PIN)

PIN is a Bio4HUMAN consortium partner, together with another INGO - Polska Akcja Humanitarna Fundacja (PAH), bio-based sector actors, and circular economy experts. The consortium is led by Enspire Science Ltd. Bio4HUMAN⁴³ is a pivotal Horizon Europe-funded initiative focusing on the solving of solid waste management (SWM) challenges in humanitarian settings. Bio4HUMAN's principal objective is to provide both humanitarian aid operators and bio-based sector stakeholders, with a list of bio-based solutions for solid waste management that have the potential to be applicable across various humanitarian settings (see more).

PIN tackles Solid Waste Management (SWM) as a cross-cutting issue in all its projects and tries to integrate some measures to tackle the waste in its areas of intervention. PIN has implemented though some SWM related projects, e.g. focusing on medical waste disposal in Syria..

⁴² IRC website: [International Rescue Committee | International Rescue Committee \(IRC\)](https://www.irc.org/)

⁴³ Bio4HUMAN Project website: <https://bio4human.eu/>

The main priorities of PIN for 2024 is to implement the Bio4HUMAN Project in Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan and to continue integrating SWM into all its projects, with special focus on humanitarian SWM. From January 2024, PIN has been conducting Bio4HUMAN scoping exercise to assess the needs of the humanitarian sector with regards to SWM in Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan. This will be followed-up by the bio-based and circular economy experts Bio4HUMAN who will conduct the second phase of this scoping exercise which consists of understanding which bio-based innovative technological solutions and bio-based systems are environmentally friendly and may be applicable under these two humanitarian contexts.

For more information, please contact Marie Smidova Skalova (marie.smidova@peopleinneed.net) and Alberto Clerici (alberto.clerici@peopleinneed.net).

10. Swedish Red Cross⁴⁴ (SRC)

The Swedish Red Cross, with support from the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), is undertaking a study to better understand the opportunities for using gasification as a means for sustainable waste management in acute humanitarian emergencies. The project is funded by DG ECHO and in consultation with WREC and Joint Initiative on Sustainable Humanitarian Assistance Packaging Waste Management.

The project will compare the environmental, social and economic impacts of gasification of humanitarian wastes against the impacts generated from more traditional methods of waste management such as open pit burning, landfilling, open dumping and crude incineration. The study seeks to address unavoidable wastes generated within the first 3 months of an emergency operation. Wastes to be managed are limited to wastes that are generated directly by the humanitarian response operation and exclude infectious wastes and disaster waste/debris.

The main priorities for 2024 are to: complete a waste characterization study to understand the nature of humanitarian wastes in the first 6 months of a humanitarian response, complete a comparison study of commercially available gasification technologies to assess their suitability and robustness for humanitarian applications, and to complete an investigation into the potential social harms and benefits of introducing such a technology in the early stages of humanitarian response. The results of all studies will be made available in the later half of 2024.

For more information, please contact Kanika Thakar (kanika.thakar@redcross.se).

11. WFP Sustainable Supply Chain⁴⁵

After adopting the *Strategy for Sustainability Management in the UN System 2020-2030*⁴⁶, WFP developed the *Environmental Plan of Action 2030 (EPACT)*. The EPACT describes WFP's commitments for the reduction of its environmental footprint by 2030 and describes how it plans to achieve this by mainstreaming environmental sustainability considerations in different business areas. This document builds on the principles, standards and tools described in *WFP's Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework (ESSF)*⁴⁷ and *WFP's Supply Chain Environment Social Governance Strategy*.

The main priorities of WFP Supply Chain for 2024 with regards to waste management practices are next:

- Reduction of stock loss during transportation and storage of food commodities in WFP operations.
- Develop solutions for damaged stocks (i.e., convert to animal feed, compost, etc.).
- Reuse, repurpose or recycle packaging waste from warehouses and distribution points (e.g. pallets, woven bags, cardboard boxes, plastic films, plastic bags, primary packaging, etc.).

⁴⁴ SRC – Gasifier project website: <https://bit.ly/GasifyHumWaste>

⁴⁵ WFP Supply Chain website: <https://www.wfp.org/supply-chain>

⁴⁶ UN - [Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations System 2020-2030 | United Nations](#)

⁴⁷ WFP ESSF - [WFP Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework](#)

- Treat hazardous waste from fleet workshops and warehouses (e.g. batteries, used oil, used filters, lubricants, electronic devices, etc.) to avoid any harm to the environment.
- Ensure safely disposal of remaining waste (e.g. waste to energy solutions or engineered designed sanitary landfills).
- Update system for measure and monitoring waste in warehouses and fleet workshops.
- Enforce cabin waste management for contracted air carriers.
- Established paperless ticketing for UNHAS operations.

To elaborate and propose a common approach within the WFP Supply Chain Division, the Sustainable Supply Chain Unit created in 2023 an internal working group. The group is formed by one focal point from each technical unit in the Supply Chain Division and other HQ units in WFP (Supply chain & delivery, Infrastructure and facilities management, program and policy development, innovation and knowledge management and nutrition). The working group aims to improve coordination on environmental concerns and map / mainstream environmental practices in supply chain operations, with the ultimate aim to reduce the negative environmental impact on the communities WFP serves and their ecological environment.

For more information, please contact (hq.supplychain.sustainability@wfp.org).

12. World Health Organization (WHO)⁴⁸

The mandate of WHO's Health and the Environment programme is to support Member States to improve health outcomes linked to environmental risks.

Among other initiatives, WHO has recently published the *Global Framework for Action 2024-2030 for water, sanitation, hygiene, waste, and electricity services in all health care facilities to achieve quality health services*⁴⁹ (the "Framework") to guide collaborative global and national efforts to deliver safe and sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), health care waste management, and reliable electricity in all health care facilities. Moreover, WHO has started the revision of the *WHO Guidelines for safe disposal of unwanted pharmaceuticals in and after emergencies* published in 1999. To that, they have reviewed and identified the gaps of the actual guidelines for safe disposal in several selected countries. Based on this research, guidelines are being updated in consultation to a group of experts in which interested members of the Humanitarian Health Supply (HHS) are embedded. WHO will also soon update the guidance on mercury and mercury waste in health settings.

WHO main priorities for 2024 are next:

- Finalization of the WHO guidelines for safe disposal of pharmaceutical waste, mentioned above.
- Ongoing country support on Health Care Waste Management (HCWM) based on needs.
- Develop a WASH Health Care Waste Management (HCWM) module for the open WHO training platform.

For more information, please contact Ute Pieper (utepieper@health-environment.de).

⁴⁸ WHO website: [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](https://www.who.org)

⁴⁹ WHO *Global Framework for Action 2024-2030 for water, sanitation, hygiene, waste and electricity services in all health care facilities to achieve quality health services*: [GlobalFrameworkWASH_waste_electricityHCF_WHOUNICEF_2024_Web.pdf \(washinhcf.org\)](https://www.who.org/publications/m/item/global-framework-for-action-2024-2030-for-water-sanitation-hygiene-waste-and-electricity-services-in-all-health-care-facilities-to-achieve-quality-health-services)

The Waste Management Landscape was written in collaboration with:

