



GREEN LOGISTICS ESSENTIALS

Procurement

Purchase items that last longer, are repairable locally, and have potential for reuse. This will reduce waste.

Include environmental considerations in your tender and contract documents to show your suppliers that sustainability is important to your organisation. Have a dialogue on what suppliers propose to reduce environmental and carbon footprint e.g. ask them if they have an environmental policy, or to demonstrate how they manage waste.

Include environmental considerations in specifications of items when procuring. ICRC (with the support of IFRC) has developed guidance on sustainable specifications for the main items we purchase, covering things like reduced packaging, low impact materials, reusability or recyclability, overall carbon footprint etc.



Travel and Fleet

Train all staff in eco-driving practices: e.g. shut off the engine when idling to reduce fuel consumption, use AC reasonably, avoid sudden acceleration.

Use smaller fuel-efficient vehicles: the weight of a vehicle and its engine size determine fuel consumption, and therefore the carbon emissions that it generates and the cost of operation. Use the right sized vehicle for the right purpose.

Only fly if it is unavoidable: avoid air travel for meetings/events that can be held online, ban air travel when train options of less than five hours exist, prefer direct flights as most emissions occur during take-off and landing.

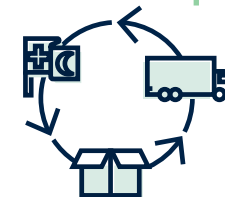


Supply Chain Planning

Accept donations of goods only if they meet a specific need and quality standards, to avoid waste. Develop criteria to help you make and justify decisions on accepting such donations.

Closely monitor stocks and equipment to have visibility of what is in your warehouse, to avoid waste due to expired or damaged items.

Improved programme planning and forecasting, leading to more effective supply chain planning for both supply and demand, can help you minimize the use of airfreight, and increase the use of other means of transport like sea, road, or rail freight. These are less carbon intensive, and often cheaper.





Waste

Ensure collection of waste generated by your organisation at the office, warehouse, or at project or distribution sites, so that it can be properly managed.

Reduce as much as possible the use of single-use packaging and single-use items in projects, at the office and during training and events.

Look for opportunities to work with local partners involved in reuse or recycling of waste. There are usually options even in the most remote locations.



Premises

Paint the roofs of your premises white to keep buildings cool in hot countries.

Train staff in energy efficiency, monitor water and electricity bills to analyse consumption and track leaks.

Adjust the temperature of the a/c or the heating up or down to save energy; don't leave electrical devices switched on in stand-by mode.

Only buy LED lightbulbs, as they last longer and save energy.

Consider if a solar energy system could provide for some of your office or warehouse energy needs.

