WFP
World Food Programme
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

# Supply Chain Sustainability

The climate emergency, with its unpredictable weather patterns, rising temperatures, and extreme weather events, continues to trigger new and prolonged crises, exacerbating food insecurity, displacement and other negative impacts on vulnerable communities. Changes in climate will lead to reduced availability and diversity of foods, increased food prices, decreased incomes and further compromised access to healthy diets.

According to IFRC, **over 80% of all disasters in the past decade were climate-related, affecting 1.7 billion people globally**. The need for sustainable supply chains has never been more pressing. To tackle this challenge, WFP is integrating environmental considerations into its processes and collaborating with external stakeholders to develop innovative solutions that strengthen and improve its supply chain systems.

## SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITIES

Addressing the intersection of supply chain impacts on the environment and the repercussions of the climate breakdown requires a holistic approach both at the global and local levels. WFP is scaling up the climate transformation of its supply chains by focusing on the following workstreams:

### 1) Minimizing its environmental footprint

Analysing supply chains to introduce more sustainable practices that minimize the potential negative impacts of WFP's interventions on the natural environment of communities we assist.

### 2) Building resilience

Acting early helps reduce needs. WFP will improve its capacity to anticipate the impacts of key megatrends such as climate crisis, biohazards and market fluctuations to support evidence-based decision-making and mitigate supply chain disruptions.

### 3) Enabling local actors

Working with governments, local communities and private sector, influencing collective strengths, encouraging and incentivizing environmentally conscious and climate-resilient approaches.

**WFP aims at improving the efficiency of its supply chain operations and mitigating disruptions by selecting green and climate-smart solutions whenever feasible:**

### Sourcing

Buying food, goods and services that minimize adverse effects on the environment and promoting climate-smart commodities and production practices

### Transport

Prioritizing greener transportation whenever feasible, optimizing load and transport networks for efficient fuel usage

### Warehousing

Including environmental considerations in warehouse operations management, such as using renewable energy sources to minimize environmental impacts and increase resilience of WFP operations

### Waste

Reducing, reusing, repurposing and recycling waste and minimizing stock losses

### Greenhouse gas emissions footprint

Using digital solutions to define operational areas with the highest carbon impact and effectively decarbonizing WFP Supply Chain

# POTENTIAL AREAS FOR COLLABORATION

**WFP seeks partners' technical and financial support for advancing supply chain sustainability through the following areas:**

## LIFE-CYCLE ASSESSMENTS (LCAs)

Creating systematic processes, models and corporate tools to embed agricultural and packaging Life-Cycle Assessments in procurement procedures. This will help country offices better identify the key areas where WFP needs to invest in to decarbonize and reduce waste in its supply chain systems.

## REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPLY CHAIN STRATEGIES

Building contextualized solutions and adapting WFP's environmental supply chain strategies to fulfil regional-specific needs while maintaining global alignment. WFP will also provide tailored methodologies on environmental sustainability to support national partners. Currently operating through **six regional bureaux**, WFP Supply Chain has started working on environmental strategies in two regions and aims to extend this initiative across all six regions.

## DECARBONIZATION ROADMAPS (COUNTRY PILOTS)

WFP is looking to reduce the level of emissions from its field operations with a targeted and contextualized approach. Introducing a decarbonization roadmap in a specific country will require support in potential activities ranging from load optimization solutions to selecting green transportation modes and fuels.

## RENEWING WFP TRUCK FLEET

To maintain the fleet's efficiency and reliability and to minimize environmental impact, WFP plans to gradually introduce electric trucks into its operations where feasible.

## GREENING WFP AVIATION

WFP strives to reduce air transportation needs with efficient planning and optimization. Where air transport is necessary, there are several greening opportunities such as localized solutions for producing Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), buying it from existing pipelines and switching to more fuel-efficient air assets.

## SOLAR PANELS IN WFP WAREHOUSES

Solarizing WFP warehouses will reduce dependency on non-renewable energy sources and improve the infrastructure's resilience against power disruptions, ensuring sustainable and continuous operations even during emergencies.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

WFP monitors waste management practices across the countries where it operates and strives to reduce packaging waste and promote recycling where feasible.

**Photo 1:** Chad. Farmer in a fertile groundnut field. © WFP/ Evelyn Fey
**Photo 2:** Burkina Faso. Farmer in a sorghum field. © WFP/ Jecuthiel Yaméogo

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