



Sustainable transport for a better world

# CHARTING THE COURSE OF SUSTAINABLE FLEET MANAGEMENT: MITIGATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF HUMANITARIAN AID

2023 FLEET FORUM SUMMIT – CALL TO ACTION



## CONTEXT

The imperative to mitigate environmental impact has risen to the forefront of concern for humanitarian and development organisations. Vehicle fleets, by their nature, can wield substantial influence in reducing emissions.

Fleet Forum has been working on climate change as an important issue area since 2008. It first took shape when our community started to embrace the TNT - UNEP [Clean Fleet Toolkit](#) to get insight into their fleet emissions as well as workshops with ICRC and WFP to identify initiatives. In the 2023 – 2028 strategy, Fleet Forum has taken a deliberate decision to greatly expand and accelerate this work.

At the 2023 Annual Fleet Forum conference, more than 700 humanitarian fleet managers from across the globe gathered virtually, with a primary focus on environmental sustainability taking center stage:

**74%** think their organisation will lose funding if they do not reduce the emissions of their fleet substantially by 2030

**70%** have a target to reduce their fleet emissions

**38%** only have a baseline for the emissions of their fleet.  
Of these, most are measuring Scope 1 emissions

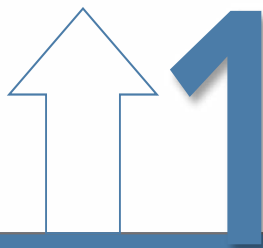
Vehicle sharing, adopting low emission vehicles, rightsizing the fleet, fuel consumption monitoring and capacity building were cited as the most important initiatives to reduce fleet emissions.

As a community, we are in an emergency situation that requires collective action to prevent the known, human-made causes of climate change from escalating further, to support those with the fewest resources who are hardest hit by the changes, and to safeguard the very ecosystems and environment that can reduce the risks all together.

As a convener, thought leader, and voice of 30+ aid and development organisations, Fleet Forum is working to galvanize senior management, fleet management mainstreaming, and unified advocacy at all levels of our member organisations.

# WHAT ARE SCOPE 1, 2 AND 3 CARBON EMISSIONS?

The three scopes are a way of categorising the different types of greenhouse gas emissions, created by an organisation, its' suppliers and it's customers



## SCOPE 1 Direct emissions

**Direct emissions that are owned or controlled by an organisation**

Emissions from sources that an organisation owns or controls directly

### Fleet emissions

Fuel consumed by owned and rented ICE vehicles



## SCOPE 2 Indirect emissions

**Indirect emissions that are a consequence of an organisations' activities but occur from sources not owned or controlled by it**

Emissions an organisation causes indirectly that come from where the energy it purchases and uses is produced

### Fleet emissions

Electricity purchased to power owned and rented hybrid / electric vehicles



## SCOPE 3 Indirect emissions

All emissions not covered in scope 1 or 2, covered by a organisations' value chain

### Fleet emissions

Production of the vehicle, of fuel and electricity, of insurance, rental and maintenance service. Cargo transport. Emissions from vehicle waste



## COMMITMENTS

The Fleet Forum member community wishes to support reductions of fleet emissions of their respective organisations and acknowledges that collaborating (sharing practices, learning from each other, collaborative projects) within the community can accelerate impact of initiatives.

In 2023, the collective body of Fleet Forum members joined forces to formulate a series of commitments. These chosen commitments are believed to offer efficacy in the endeavour to curtail emissions.

In consultation with the Fleet Forum members the below commitments were developed and agreed upon. All member organisations will strive to achieve the commitments and will review progress towards the achievement of the commitment at a regular basis.

### **Baseline and targets**

Set a baseline and set targets for the largest fleets in our organisation, representing at least 50% of your global fleet, by end of Q3 2024

### **Leading indicators / objectives**

- Within 5 years 25% of vehicles of our organisation are Euro3 or higher;
- Within 3 years our organisation participates in vehicle sharing initiatives in at least 20% of the operating countries.

These commitments serve as a catalyst, inspiring the Fleet Forum community to actively engage in the reduction of emissions linked to their vehicle fleets. Their objective is to foster collaboration, facilitate the exchange of both successful and unsuccessful experiences, and encourage mutual learning and the inception of initiatives for the collective good.

Moreover, they aim to ignite internal dialogues at senior management level within member organisations and heighten awareness regarding the pivotal role fleet management can play in emissions reduction.

Fleet Forum acknowledges that these commitments lack legal binding but are designed to stimulate positive transformations in humanitarian fleet management. Consequently, no punitive consequences will ensue if the commitments' objectives are not achieved.

## HOW WILL WE WORK TOGETHER?

- 1. Collective reporting** Fleet Forum members will report annually their fleet emissions using the [Clean Fleet Toolkit](#) and the progress on their sustainable commitments.
- 2. Expertise and practice sharing** The Fleet Forum [Knowledge Platform](#) will be adopted as the place where fleet managers can share evidence-based best practices, lessons learned and technical sustainable fleet expertise.
- 3. Periodic exchange** Convene members on a quarterly basis, with a strong facilitated approach, focused on spreading knowledge of sustainable fleet initiatives and success stories.

## WHAT DO WE NEED?

Facilitating a fleet decarbonisation approach in the field of humanitarian work will require collaboration with donors and the private sector. For this reason, Fleet Forum members ask donors and fleet-related suppliers to support them through a series of support areas described below.

This call-to-action results from a collaborative process between Fleet Forum members at the 2023 Fleet Forum Summit, hosted by ICRC and TGS in Geneva, Switzerland. At the heart of this call to action is Fleet Forum members desire to collaborate and ultimately, achieve the described commitments.

### WHAT FLEET FORUM MEMBERS NEED FROM: DONORS

#### 1. Dedicated funding

Provide specific funding, in the form of a fixed percentage of project funding on top of the existing project funding, to be allocated for sustainable fleet initiatives. In the face of a growing gap between humanitarian needs and resources, it is critical that the provision of fixed percentage should not result in a decrease in the funding directly intended for beneficiaries. Dedicated funding will assist members in implementing sustainable initiatives such as vehicle sharing and adopting vehicles with better emission control technologies. These sustainable initiatives will not only lead to reduction of emissions, but ultimately also reduces costs;

## **2. Modification of funding mechanisms**

Adjust donor funding regulations to enable humanitarian organisations to charge back and recover the proportionate purchasing and operating costs of fleet. It remains common practice among Fleet Forum members to operate donor-owned or rented, project specific vehicles. This has led to oversized, aged fleet that is expensive to operate and is not environmentally friendly. A growing number of Fleet Forum members wish to implement fleet cost recovery mechanism, which would allow them to purchase and operate lower emission vehicles and charge donors a cheaper, non-profit making monthly rental fee, which is country specific, proportionate to the transport needs of the award, based on actual usage. The modification of funding mechanisms, in combination with set donor criteria to reduce emissions as part of funding approval, can also accelerate the implementation of vehicle sharing initiatives between organisations;

## **3. Institutional support**

Initiate dialogue with host governments to invest in waste management infrastructure in key humanitarian contexts (e.g., recycling centers, collection systems), that can accommodate an environmentally sustainable disposal of the waste generated in fleet management operations.

## **WHAT FLEET FORUM MEMBERS NEED FROM: SUPPLIER ORGANISATIONS**

### **1. Accountability**

Vehicle manufacturers and suppliers should adopt a proactive approach to offer products with a sustainable lifecycle, offering reverse logistics solutions to recover or dispose of vehicle waste (e.g. hazardous substances, tyres, batteries etc.) in a sustainable way during and at the end of their useful life. Build capacity of authorized workshops so that they are equipped and competent to responsibly manage vehicle waste. Provide a network of vetted vehicle waste recycling companies. Use recycled materials in the manufacture of new vehicles;

### **2. Product design**

Propose and provide aftersales support for alternative vehicle models that have a lower environmental impact throughout the product life cycle (raw materials, production, operations, disposal), aligning to circular economy. Alternative vehicle models include ICE vehicles with better emission control technologies (of Euro 3 standard or higher) as well as hybrid and electric vehicles;

### **3. Environmental responsibility**

Provide proof of having adopted ESG or similar business models that emphasize environmental responsibility. Acknowledgment of their responsibility for their actions, decisions and products and the impact that they have on the planet and people. Measuring and monitoring their resource use, waste generation, and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as the social and economic aspects of their business. Contribute to the humanitarian organizations' efforts towards impact reduction by sharing tools, training, and best practices on Scope 3 emission reduction.

## ABOUT FLEET FORUM

Fleet Forum is the world's only not-for-profit organisation dedicated to cleaner, safer and more effective humanitarian transport in developing nations.

Our members include aid and development organisations, commercial fleet operators, fleet management suppliers and international non-governmental bodies such as the Red Cross and United Nations. Through professional fleet management, we help our members to deliver life saving and life changing aid to communities in need in a sustainable way.

To learn more about the Fleet Forum member community, [click here](#).



Fleet Forum Summit, October 2023