

Brussels, 14 November 2025
(OR. en)

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COHAFA 90
CLIMA 535
ENV 1224
RELEX 1480
INTER-REP 113

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Climate and Greening Donors' Humanitarian Assistance

Following the meeting of the Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA) on 12 November 2025, delegations will find in Annex the presentation made by IFRC International^{1 2}.

¹ International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, identification number in the EU Transparency Register: 132236315085-89.

² This document contains a presentation by an external stakeholder and the views expressed therein are solely those of the third party it originates from. This document cannot be regarded as stating an official position of the Council. It does not reflect the views of the Council or of its members.



The slide features a dark blue and white geometric background with diagonal lines. In the top-left corner is the IFRC logo, consisting of a red cross and a red crescent with the letters 'IFRC' below it. In the bottom-left corner is a circular green logo with a checkmark and the text 'GREEN RESPONSE' repeated twice. The main title 'Greening Humanitarian Sector: IFRC perspective' is centered in large red font. The date '14 November 2025' is located in the bottom-right corner of the slide area.

IFRC

**Greening Humanitarian Sector:
IFRC perspective**

14 November 2025



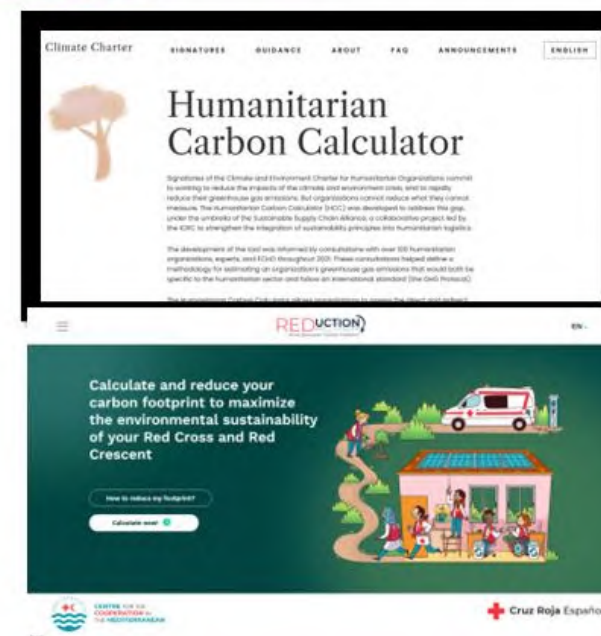
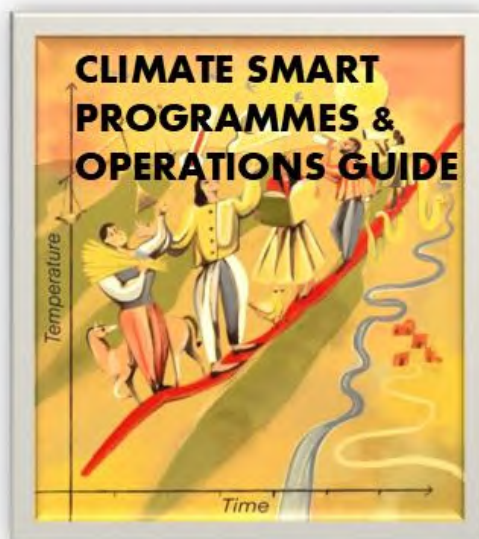
Funded by the European Union



Tools



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Challenges

- Finding a workable C&E risk screening approach for humanitarian response, suitable for local actors (e.g. NEAT+ or simpler)
- Systematising green approaches: moving from pilots & project level to institutionalisation
- Financing development of organisational environmental safeguarding system from scarce internal funds
- Mainstreaming in an over-mainstreamed system
- Determining appropriate priorities for our NS (local actors): greening their institutions, or climate resilience programming scale-up?



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Green Reset?



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Green Humanitarian Reset?



Action Item 24 of the IASC Humanitarian Reset Roadmap: *Bring together scaled up anticipatory action and a 'green humanitarian reset' that is ready for the climate challenges ahead*

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

- No clear timeline or ask from IASC Principals yet; however, aiming for a proposal by Q1 2026
- IASC Climate Change working group co-led by FAO/IFRC, + Anticipatory Action task force
- Also: C&E Charter Secretariat, Donor Greening WG



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Green Humanitarian Reset – priorities?



Some possible priorities for greening: cost efficiency + environmental sustainability

- Supply chain sustainability: including joint agency collaboration with suppliers; joint green specifications; joint reverse logistics
- Clean energy: cost savings (short payback period), operational resilience, carbon footprint



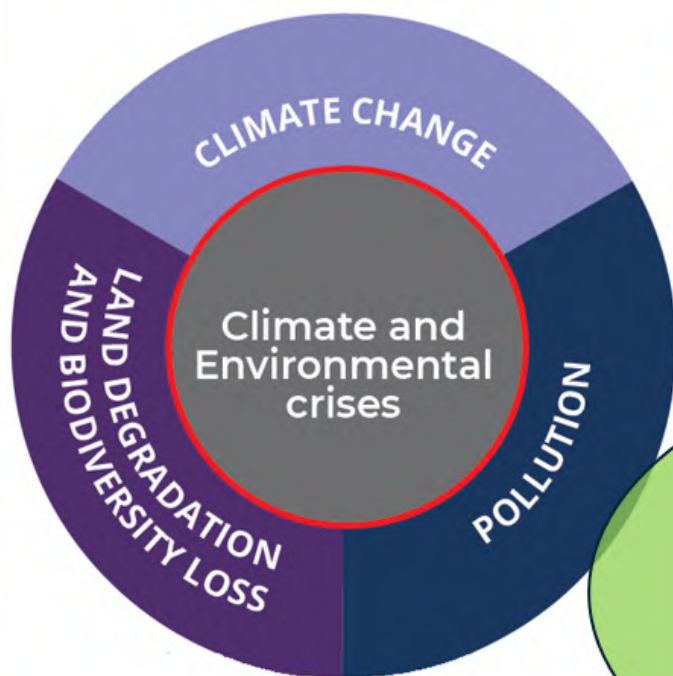
For donors:

- Standardised C&E requirements, especially for C&E risk screening / assessment for projects
- Some upfront higher cost in exchange for medium term cost savings
- Support local actors on their internal green transformations



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Taking Action: Adaptation & Resilience vs Mitigation & 'Greening'



Since the crises are happening, we must **adapt** and **prepare for the future**

WORKING WITHIN THE CRISIS:
AA, CC Adaptation, DRR, 'climate-smart'

REDUCING THE NEGATIVE DRIVERS
CC mitigation, 'greening'

We can also **reduce our contribution to worsening** the crises

GREEN RESPONSE:
improve environmental sustainability

Resilient communities and a green, resilient organisation

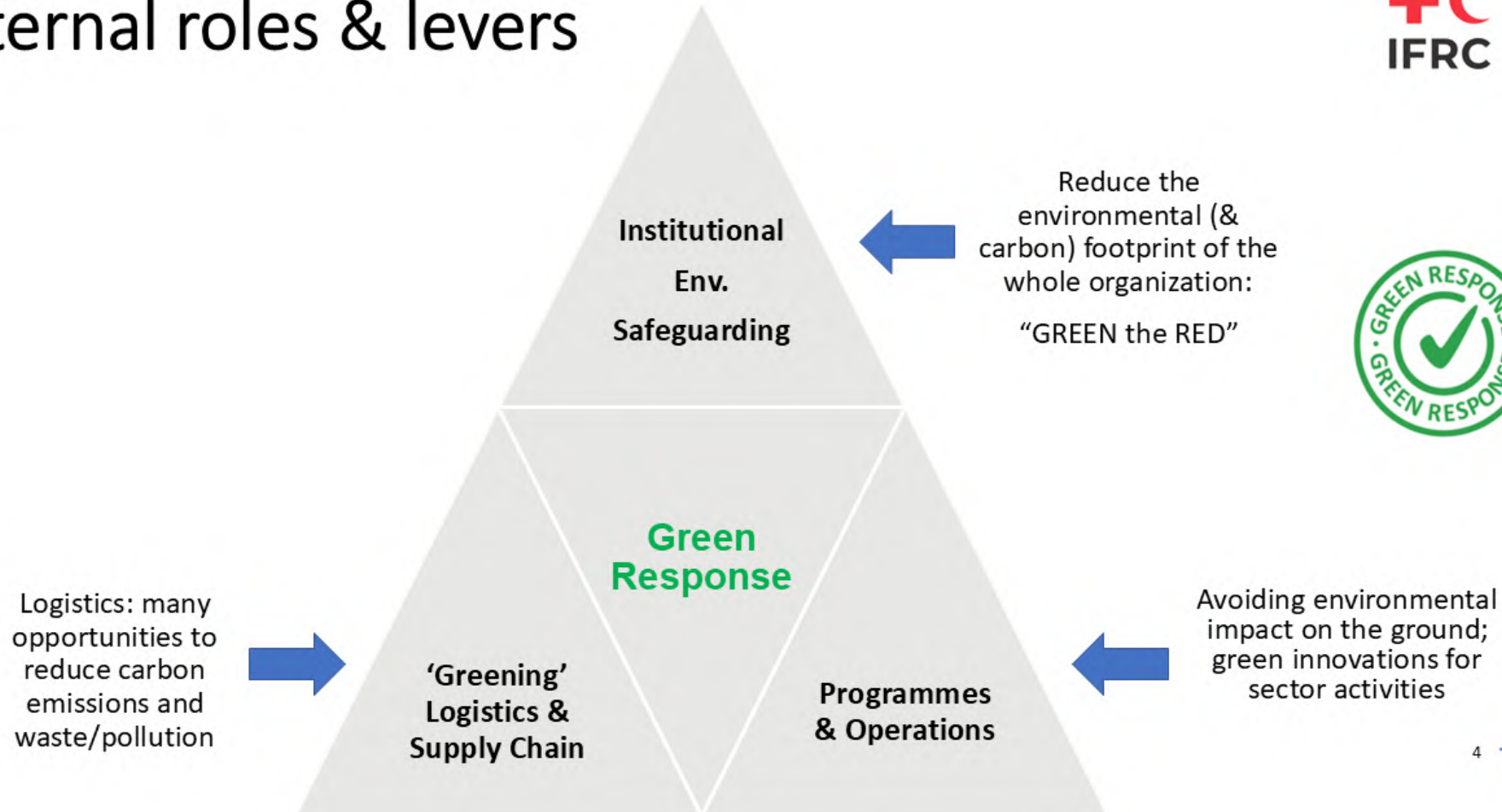


Green Response in practice



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Green Response: different internal roles & levers



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Greening: what are we working on?

Institutional Env Safeguarding

Policies, staff behaviour change, institutional decarbonization, offices, travel, events

Green Supply Chain & Logistics:

Procurement, storage/transport, fleet

C&E risks integrated into programmes

Environmental screening of project; light analysis of C&E risks

C&E Behaviour Change

Integrated into programming to support positive behavior in communities

Green Innovations in Programming

e.g. solar water pumping, biodigesters, green shelter materials, waste/circularity, NbS

Support NS internal greening

Policies, staff/volunteer awareness, adapt preparedness & response systems



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Some examples from the RCRC



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Example: 'Green' water supply in Bangladesh



Bangladesh Red Crescent Society implemented a water supply project in Cox's Bazar in which solar energy is used to power the water pumps and pipe network in the camps.

Reduces carbon emissions from use of diesel fuel in generators, avoids air pollution and noise.

Estimated that the solar power system has a Total Cost of Ownership of 71% less than generators & diesel.



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Example: Waste mgmt, circular economy in Chad



Chad Red Cross established a waste sorting & recovery centre in Abeche & Adren 2025.

Host + refuge communities collect & sort waste.



Plastic latrine slabs produced from recycled plastic.

Produce 600 latrine slabs per month, 85 permanent jobs (50% refugees), 320 tonnes plastic waste collected per year.



Now also producing charcoal from peanut shells, to meet demand for sustainable cooking fuel.

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Example: Eco-tarpaulin design: ICRC, IFRC, UNHCR

Life-cycle assessment, lab testing, field testing 2021-2023

Biodegradable / bio-sourced inputs: not feasible.

New product specification includes:

- Introduction of 15% recycled PE = **8% impact reduction on GHG emissions** (& fossil resources)
- Weight reduction of 14% = **reduction of transport/storage related emissions**
- Extended life-time with a stronger PE material and high UV resistance = **potentially 50% reduction or more of the overall impact**

Future: **recycling** at end of life = **78% reduction of overall environmental impact**



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