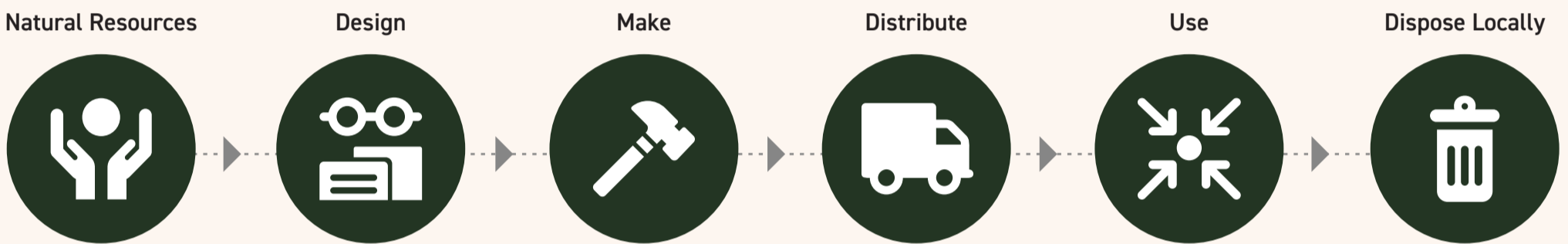


Reverse Logistics

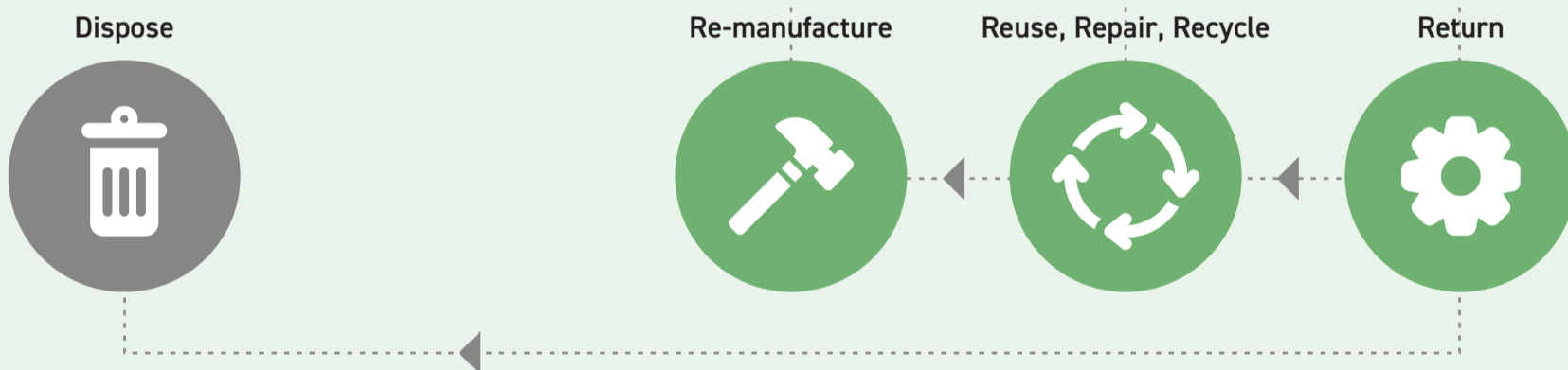
Reverse Logistics (RL) is a supply chain management process involving the flow of materials from the point of consumption back to any steps of the supply chain (i.e. re-manufacturing, repair, reuse, etc.) to recapture value, redistribute/resell, or properly dispose of materials.



LINEAR/FORWARD LOGISTICS



REVERSE LOGISTICS



For additional information on Reverse Logistics, refer to the [Reverse Logistics Quick Guide](#).

APPLICATIONS OF REVERSE LOGISTICS



For item value recovery – when items are no longer in primary use but still hold value, they can be preserved through reuse, repair, repurposing, and recycling



When items are found faulty, damaged, or end-of-life items that cannot be recovered



When items are no longer needed but are not damaged/ faulty and can still be re-distributed.

FIVE STEPS TO INCLUDE REVERSE LOGISTICS IN HUMANITARIAN SUPPLY CHAINS

Identify Reverse Logistics opportunities

- Regularly assess items for potential RL (e.g., broken pallets, reusable packaging).
- Leverage cases where RL is already in place (e.g. trucks going back empty).
- Determine the best method, timing, and participants for collecting returned items.

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Set up Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

- Develop specific processes and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to define processes and role/ responsibilities.

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Evaluate progress and share

- Gather stakeholder feedback and adapt strategies.
- Implement a monitoring system for progress and cost savings.
- Celebrate wins, learn from failures! Share results with the WREC project.

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Engage with suppliers

- Analyze the market for RL-capable suppliers.
- Encourage contracted suppliers to implement RL practices.
- Include RL criteria in tender documents for supplier evaluation.
- Consult the Waste management and recycling infrastructure mapping for disposal guidance.

Raise awareness and talk to stakeholders

- Raise internal awareness on RL solutions.
- Advocate RL to key decision-makers and seek external collaborations.

BENEFITS



Reduced negative impact of operations

through less waste to landfill, optimization of aid distribution, efficient use of resources



Resource efficiency and cost effectiveness

through repairing and reintegrating items (vs. procuring new ones) it allows organizations to maximize available resources



Contribution to local development

by creating jobs and fostering economic growth through the repair and maintenance of relief items in affected communities



For additional information on Reverse Logistics, refer to the Reverse Logistics Quick Guide.

For more information contact: global.WREC@wfp.org