

# GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY SUPPLY CHAIN STUDENT COMPETITION 2025



## MAKE AN IMPACT SHAPE THE FUTURE

Empowering students to shape sustainable  
supply chains worldwide

SUPPORTING



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ORGANIZERS



Power of Mobility



The **Global Sustainability Supply Chain Student Competition (GS3)** engages students from around the world in developing innovative, actionable solutions to real-world supply chain challenges.

Designed to foster critical thinking, collaboration, and applied learning, the competition encourages teams to address complex global issues through the lens of sustainability.

## GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES

While International trade has brought important benefits to many, it representing a critical source of greenhouse gas emissions and climate related risks.

“The objective of supply chain sustainability is to create, protect and grow long-term environmental, social and economic value for all stakeholders involved in bringing products and services to market”

UN Global Compact, n.d.

**80%**

The typical consumer company's supply chain accounts for more than 80% of greenhouse gas emissions.

Source: McKinsey & Company



**70%**

70% of consumers are willing to pay more for sustainable goods.

Source: McKinsey & Company



**8**

8 supply chains account for more than 50% of global emissions.

Source: World Economic Forum



## GOALS OF THE COMPETITION

- Raise awareness about the social and economic benefits of supply chain sustainability.
- Promote advanced management, technical, and technological solutions for developing sustainable supply chains.
- Inspire students to cultivate creative problem-solving skills, engage in productive teamwork, and enhance effective communication.
- Educate students on sustainable supply chain practices and their potential to positively impact society.
- Train students to develop and apply innovative solutions to real-world problems, while familiarizing them with global ESG standards.
- Advocate for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and UN Resolutions on sustainable transport.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



## EDUCATIONAL COMPONENT

An enduring platform for global learning, it empowers students to contribute meaningfully to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**—while providing educators with a dynamic way to integrate sustainability, systems thinking, and global collaboration into their teaching.

The competition integrates educational resources to teach students about supply chain sustainability while preparing them for the competition. Additionally, it offers faculty resources to support education programs globally.

All registered competitors are provided with:

- Fundamentals of Global Supply Chain Sustainability training program
- Competition Readiness training course
- Access to UN Climate Change Learning Partnership Certificate Training
- Access to additional learning and teaching resources



**Fundamentals of Global Supply Chain Sustainability**  
Course provided to all participants

## REAL-WORLD SUPPLY CHAIN CASES



"Kudos to the talented participants who brilliantly worked on AI-based use cases to decarbonize global supply chains. Thanks to the organizers for this enriching experience."

**Antoine Du Sorbier**  
Delegate General  
AI Cargo Foundation

Teams are provided with challenging real-world supply chain cases to select from. The teams' challenge is to develop an innovative solution for the case that improves sustainability and contributes towards UN Sustainable Development Goals.

### Companies that have provided cases for the competition

AI Cargo Foundation (France)  
Cainiao (China)  
Nulogy (Canada)  
SF Express  
African Transport Research Alliance  
GSU Supply Chain Innovation Center and Business Incubator (USA)

Babemax (China)  
LONGi (China)  
Schneider Electric  
Dole Foods (Canada)

"Congratulations on this impressive initiative and competition! It's global nature, SDG and supply chain focus and hands-on work by students to solve these challenges is certainly aligned with our mission at PRME. Thank you all for your support, collaboration, and dedication. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to have worked with you all."

**Luisa Murphy**  
Senior Manager  
UN PRME

## TESTIMONIALS from participants

Click to see the student video testimonials



"We really enjoyed the process of discussion and were very excited when new ideas on reducing carbon emissions were developed. We believe this is the essence of the competition - to inspire the younger generation to work towards sustainability. We communicated effectively under the guidance of Professor Liu Dacheng."

Team Membest - Tsinghua University  
2023 Bronze Award Winner - Overall

"This competition opened my eyes to the balance between efficiency and sustainability it's been inspiring to work on practical solutions that not only reduce waste but are also aligned with the global sustainability goals"

Team Green Guardians - University of Maryland  
2024 Bronze Award Winner (tie) - Overall

"Through this competition, I have a deeper understanding of supply chain and a strong interest in learning. Before the competition, my understanding of supply chain was more from the concept explanation in books. This competition gave me the opportunity to really get in touch with the field of supply chain...."

Team Woody - Beijing Wuzi University  
2023 Gold Award Winner - Paired teams and Bronze Award - Overall

"It's an incredible journey participating in the global supply chain competition. I have two major takeaways. First tackling real world supply chain challenges taught me the important of sustainable innovation. Analyzing complex cases to align business solutions with the UN SGDs deepen my understanding of the global supply chain's environmental social and economic impact. Also collaborating with my team was an amazing experience."

Team ZeroTrace - Tongji University  
2024 Bronze Award Winner (tie) - Overall

"This experience has been a transformative one, not just in terms of competition, but in understanding the dynamics of global supply chains. Working together across borders, time zones, and languages, we've not only learned the value of teamwork but also the critical importance of supply chain management in today's world."

Team Woody - University of Rhode Island  
2023 Gold Award Winner - Paired teams and Bronze Award - Overall

"This competition has made us realize that sustainability in supply chain is not optional it's essential for improving our planet and economy. One of the most important things that we have learned is by rethinking the supply chain design, we can create a system that are not only more efficient also more respectful for our planet."

Team Nexus - Iran University of Science and Technology  
2024 Bronze Award Winner (tie) - Overall

"Addressing supply chain sustainability is one of the foremost issues faced by companies around the world. Industry leaders are looking for ways to reduce their carbon footprints, cut down on waste materials, and reduce water consumption, among other sustainable goals. The Global Sustainability Supply Chain Student Competition can help foster new ideas and solutions to these important challenges."

Prof. Martin Dresner  
Professor of Logistics, Business and Public Policy  
University of Maryland

"I talked to the team, and based on their comments and my own experience with other case competitions, I think the Global Sustainability Supply Chain Student Competition was run really well. Congratulations!"

Prof. Prakash Mirchandani  
Director, Center for Supply Chain Management  
Academic Director, Executive MBA Program  
University of Pittsburgh

## ELIGIBILITY

- All degree granting educational institutions worldwide are eligible to participate.
- Students must be enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate degree program during the 2025-26 academic year.
- Each team must consist of a faculty advisor and can have up to 4 students.

## PAIRED-TEAMS

- To foster cross-cultural learning, an optional Paired- Teams program will pair students from different regions to form collaborative teams.
- This program offers students valuable experience working in a multicultural environment and encourages knowledge sharing.

## REGIONS

The competition was split into geographical regions

- Africa and Middle East
- Americas
- Asia-Pacific
- Europe

## AWARDS CATEGORIES

### Certificate of Participation

All participating students will be awarded a Certificate of Participation recognizing their support of UN SDGs.

### Best Sustainable Solution – Overall

- Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards
- Winning teams are invited to the Awards Ceremony in Geneva, Switzerland.
  - Winning teams are invited to visit United Nations to meet with UN representatives.

### Best Sustainable Solution – Paired-Team

Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards

### Regional Awards

Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards

## COMPETITION ROUNDS

### First Round – Written submission

- In the first round, teams must submit a written proposal using the 6-page Amazon Press Release and Frequently Asked Questions (PR/FAQ) format.
- Submissions will be evaluated through a double-blind review process.
- Teams that score in the top 50% will advance to the second round.

### Second Round – Presentation

- In the second round, teams will present their solution in a 15-minute presentation to a panel of judges, followed by a 10-minute Q&A session. During the Q&A, judges may seek clarification, challenge the team's position, or question the validity of data and tactics.
- The combined scores from the first and second rounds will determine which teams advance to the Final Round.

### Final Round

- The final round determines the competition's award winners.
- Evaluation in this round will be based on both the team's revised written submission and their presentation.
- Teams will deliver a 15-minute presentation of their solution, followed by a 15-minute Q&A session where judges may ask for clarification, challenge the team's position, and question the tactics or validity of data.

## GS3 KEY DATES



September 28	Close of Registration
September 29	Case release
October 19	Round One - Written submissions due
October 29	Round One - Results announced
November 8-14	Round Two - Presentations
November 22	Round Two - Results announced
December 1-7	Final Round – Presentations
December 19	Final results announced







**Awards Ceremonies held at FIATA HQ meeting in Geneva, Switzerland**



Advisor: Humberto Carlos Coronado, University of Maryland, USA



- Meet the Gold Winning Team - SCOPE Team, University of South Carolina, USA
- Quintan Boyle
  - James Celli
  - Allie Place
  - Kort Wise

Advisor: Priyank Arora



The FIATA HQ meeting is attended by delegates representing industry leaders and members from 150 countries



Participants met with senior representatives of the International Trade Center in Geneva



**Meeting at UN Headquarters in New York City**



Two student competitors, Noah Blake and Obed Oppong Asamoah, accompanied by GSSC Board member Roberto Posadas, had the privilege of presenting the outcomes of the 2023 Global Sustainability Supply Chain Student Competition to delegates of the United Nations during the First Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Group of Friends of Sustainable Transport at the UN NYC Headquarters.



## SCHOOLS THAT HAVE PARTICIPATED



## HIGHEST-RANKED SUPPLY CHAIN COMPETITION GLOBALLY

The **Global Sustainability Supply Chain Student Competition** website ([supplychainsdg.org](http://supplychainsdg.org)) consistently ranked in the **top 5 search results worldwide**, across all languages and regions. This level of visibility establishes it as **the highest-ranked supply chain competition globally**.

- Ranked #1** in most English-speaking, European, and Eastern Bloc countries
- Consistently a first-page search result worldwide**

The competition's presence on the first page of search results worldwide underscores its **GLOBAL PROMINENCE AND REACH!**



**We invite you to take part in the 2025 edition of this competition!**

### To register for the competition – Students & Faculty

Please visit [www.supplychainsdg.org](http://www.supplychainsdg.org) to register online

### Registration Fees:

**Student Registration: \$70 CAD (\$50 USD) per person**

\* Please contact us to inquire about our program for students in Least Developed Countries

### Fee includes:

- Competition registration
- Training programs
- Certificate



**Faculty Advisor Registration: FREE**

### If you have any questions

Please email: [info@supplychainsdg.org](mailto:info@supplychainsdg.org)

"As we stand at the crossroads of globalization and sustainability, FIATA is thrilled to join forces with GSCC in a commitment to promote excellence in freight forwarding and logistics sector academic education with a focus on making UN SDGs a reality"

Dr. Stéphane Graber  
Director General  
FIATA International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations



The Global Sustainability Supply Chain Student Competition was launched at the **UN Group of Friends of Sustainable Transport** meeting in New York on December 5, 2022. Highlighted during the United Nations Sustainable Transport Day, it has since been featured at major events like the UN High-Level Political Forum and UN Sustainability Week.

GSCC executives and students presented the competition's results at ministerial meetings in New York and Ashgabat, attended by ambassadors and key UN leaders, including representatives from the UN Development Coordination Office (UNDCO), UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and UN Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

This competition will be a key educational component of the **UN Decade of Sustainable Transport**.

The Global Sustainability Supply Chain Student Competition has demonstrated the immense potential of young talent in driving industry transformation, bringing fresh perspectives to some of the most pressing challenges in global supply chains.

"Investment of education is the investment for our future and the key for our sustainable transportation. Members of the Group are proud of supporting this activities and being part of this."

**H.E. Ms Aksoltan Ataýewa**

Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations  
Co-Chair UN Group of Friends of Sustainable Transport



## INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

We would like to thank the following organizations for the support.

### Global Level

- International Trade Center (ITC)
- United Nations Global Compact Principles for Responsible Management Education (UNPRME)
- United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- World Bank Group
- World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS)
- World Trade Organization (WTO)

### Regional Level

- Africa African Transportation Research Alliance (ATRA)
- Africa UNPRME Africa Chapter
- Canada Canadian International Freight Forwarders Association (CIFFA)
- China China International Marine Containers
- China Development Research Center of the State Council
- China Global Sustainable Transport Innovation and Knowledge Center, Ministry of Transport
- China Transport Planning and Research Institute, Ministry of Transport
- Europe UNPRME Dach Chapter
- Europe A.P. Moller – Maersk
- France Ministry of Transportation
- USA Rhode Island Department of Transportation
- USA Transportation Research Board (TRB)
- USA Sino American Logistics Council
- USA International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)
- Vietnam Vietnam Logistics Business Association

## HIGHLY RESPECTED JUDGES

Special thanks to the highly respected members of the judging committee  
(Listed in alphabetical order)

- **Dr. Megersa Abera Abate**, Transport Economist, **the World Bank Group**
- **Dr. Irakli Danella**, Business Development Head for Central Asia & Caucasus Region, **Maersk**
- **Prof. Dr. Salome Danella** - Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics and Business, **Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University**
- **Mr. Victor Dolcemascio**, Freight and Logistics Project Manager, General Directorate of Infrastructure, **Transport and Mobility Transport Innovation Agency, France**
- **Prof. Dr. Sherwat Elwan** - Associate Professor of Operations Management, **The American University in Cairo**; Chair of the **UN PRME Chapter Africa**
- **Mr. Dimitri Fleitman** - Head of Supply Chain & Strategy, **Dole Packaged Foods**
- **Dr. Charles Henri Fredouet**, Global Supply Chain Classroom (GSCC) Board Member, Former First Vice President of **Le Havre University**
- **Mr. Richard Gluck**, President, Sino American Logistics Council, and Vice President, **FIATA International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations**
- **Dr. Stephane Graber**, Director General, **FIATA International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations**
- **Mr. Reggie Greenwood**, Director for Supply Chain Innovation Center and Business Incubator, **Governors State University, Illinois Innovation Network**
- **Prof. Dr. Florian Haas**, Program Director Purchasing and Logistics, **Pforzheim University**
- **Dr. Ho Thi Thu Hoa**, Director, **Vietnam Logistics Research and Development Institute**
- **Dr. Ceicilia F. Kadeha**, Transport Engineer/Transport Specialist, **World Bank Group - Transport, South Asia**
- **Dr. Charles Kunaka**, Lead Specialist on Connectivity, Macroeconomics, Trade & Investment, **the World Bank Group**
- **Mr. Liu Peng**, Director-General of **Global Sustainable Transport Innovation and Knowledge Center, China Ministry of Transport**
- **Dr. Gustavo Lolola**, Manager, Leadership Education, Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) Foundation, the **United Nations Global Compact**
- **Dr. Lu Jian Zhong**, Board Member of **Global Reporting Initiative GRI**
- **Mr. Louie Lu**, Board Member, **Global Supply Chain Classroom**
- **Dr. Nada N. Naufal**, Director, The Rami F. Makhzoumi Corporate Governance Initiative, **American University of Beirut**; Chapter Secretary, **UN PRME Chapter Middle East**
- **Prof. Juliette Passer**, Founding Board Member, **International Center for Transport Diplomacy (ICTD)**
- **Mr. Stephen Piper**, Lead Client Partner, State of Rhode Island, **IBM Consulting**
- **Mr. Roberto Posadas**, Board Member, **Global Supply Chain Classroom**
- **Prof. Dr. Mehmet Tanyas**, Head of International Trade and Logistics Department, **Maltepe University**
- **Dr. Donald Tham**, Board Director, Co-Founder, **Nulogy Corporation**; Formerly Emeritus Professor and Internship Program Coordinator at **Ryerson University**
- **Mr. Irwin Wang**, Assistant General Manager, **China International Marine Containers (CIMC) Modular Building System**
- **Dr. Wang Wei**, Director General, Institute for Market Economy, **Development Research Center of the State Council, China**
- **Mr. Christos Xenophonos**, Assistant Director, **Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT)**; Co-chair of **International Coordinating Council, TRB**
- **Mr. Mike Yarwood**, Managing Director Loss Prevention, **TT Club**

## THE SPONSOR



We sincerely thank **TWTH Express Co., Ltd.** for their generous sponsorship of the **TWTH-Global Sustainable Supply Chain Student Competition Award**. This award supports winning teams' participation in the awards ceremony in Geneva and furthers the study of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Additionally, TWTH will collaborate with competition organizers and universities to launch a global youth career development program in sustainable supply chain management, highlighting its leadership in fostering youth-led innovation.

Through this support, TWTH aims to inspire the next generation of supply chain professionals to develop innovative, sustainable solutions for global logistics challenges.

For more information please email us at:  
[info@supplychainsdg.org](mailto:info@supplychainsdg.org)

or visit our website  
[www.supplychainsdg.org](http://www.supplychainsdg.org)



## THE ORGANIZERS



### GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN CLASSROOM

The Global Supply Chain Classroom (GSCC) is an initiative established with the support of top logistics and supply chain universities from around the world. The vision for GSCC is to be the leading knowledge platform for global educators, professionals and academic institutions to improve the quality of supply chain services through education at the college and university level. We have been developing education programs and facilitating academic cooperation between developed and developing economies in the field of logistics and supply chain management for over 20 years. The GSCC platform allows the global academic community to collaborate on research to solve complex problems facing the global supply chain and international issues like sustainability, application of technology, food logistics, multimodal transport, and international trade facilitation.



### FIATA International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations

FIATA, the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations, is a non-governmental, membership-based organisation. FIATA is a reference source on international policies and regulations governing the freight forwarding and logistics industry. FIATA works at the international level to represent service providers who operate in trade logistics and supply chain management. Through its FIATA documents and forms, digitalisation of key trade documents, annual congress and headquarters meeting, training and publications, it promotes trade facilitation and best practices among the freight forwarding community. FIATA is committed to representing the interest of its members by actively engaging with the World Trade Organization, United Nations agencies and other international organisations, transport organisations, global partners and governments to promote and protect the interest of the industry.



### INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSPORT DIPLOMACY

The International Center for Transport Diplomacy (ICTD) was inaugurated on October 30, 2018 at the UN Headquarters in New York within the framework of the High-Level Roundtable on Sustainable Transport and Mobility. ICTD has General Consultative status with UN ECOSOC, and performs a variety of functions - from promotion of multimodal transit corridors and digitalization of the global supply chains to introducing the "Greenovative®" solutions into transport infrastructure development. Special attention is devoted to the Human Resources development through publication the first ever manual on Transport Diplomacy™ for universities, and special online learning programs and courses for civil servants and businesses. ICTD was actively involved in creation of the "Group of Friends of Sustainable Transport" in the UN Headquarters in New York in 2022 and serves as its Secretariat.

## ENDORSED BY



United Nations Group of Friends for Sustainable Transport



### UN GROUP OF FRIENDS OF SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

The United Nations Group of Friends for Sustainable Transport was launched on July 6, 2022 by the Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan to the United Nations at a meeting attended by more than 90 representatives of UN member states. The overall aim was to raise awareness of the importance of sustainable transport, and exchange of ideas and views, best practices etc. on national and regional levels.