NEPAL NATIONAL LOGISTICS CLUSTER COMMON SERVICE



13-MONTH SITUATION REPORT FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE 19 May 2021

After 4 months of relatively low daily cases in Nepal, COVID-19 cases began to rapidly climb from mid-April 2021 indicating the start of a serious second wave and a new lockdown starting 26 April. Up until then the pandemic was marked by a 120-day national lockdown (24 March - 22 July 2020) and a 22-day lockdown in Kathmandu valley (19 August - 10 September) which caused disruptions to national and international transport systems, affecting the ability of the Government of Nepal and humanitarian workers to respond quickly. Although the lockdown was partially lifted by August 2020, parts of the country continued to see increases in COVID-19 cases and subsequent local movement restrictions and access constraints for humanitarian staff. The National Logistics Cluster, activated on 19 April 2020, has been working closely with the COVID-19 Crisis Management Center (CCMC), the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), the UN system and non-governmental organizations (NGO), to provide supply chain common services to fill gaps where commercial capacity is disrupted, ensuring that critical health and humanitarian staff and cargo can move to where they are needed most.

In March 2021, based on feedback from the national logistics cluster members and low demand, National Logistics Cluster common services were suspended for all users, except for the MoHP and Provincial Health Directorates. Beginning of May 2021, following a Government appeal (10 May) to donors for critical medical supplies, the National Logistics cluster scaled up its support to MoHP and Provincial Health Directorates, to facilitate receipt and storage of the health supplies received though international airlifts and a quicker dispatch to health facilities through improved coordination with MoHP Management Division, USAID's GHSC-PSM project and FHI360. In addition, in Sudur Paschim, Karnali and Gandaki province transport support was increased to aid hospitals with refilling oxygen cylinders in neighbouring provinces. This report covers 13 months from 20 April 2020 to 19 May 2021. During the latest 13th month, 465 m³ medical supplies of the Government were transported to provincial capitals and district headquarters and 576 m³ medical supplies of the Government were stored at the Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA) in Kathmandu.

HEALTH AND HUMANITARIAN CARGO TRANSPORT



6,563 M³ of critical medical supplies & NFIs transported



297 truckloads of 3 – 21 MT trucks dispatched to province capitals to district HQs



27 user organizations supported with transport



62 M³ of critical supplies delivered to Nepal by WFP flights



1,721 oxygen cylinders transported to the provinces

1 M³ EQUALS



32,500 surgical masks, or

1,650 safety

goggles

reached



1,800 face shields



30,000 gloves



312 requests completed

HEALTH AND HUMANITARIAN CARGO STORAGE



3,520 M² storage space provided at Humanitarian Staging Areas in Kathmandu, Nepalgunj, Dhangadhi, Surkhet and Birgunj.



1,789 M³ of critical medical supplies stored for GoN and humanitarian agencies at the Humanitarian Staging Areas in Kathmandu, Nepalgunj and Dhangadi.



7 Mobile Storage Units with a capacity of 2,240 M², provided to Covid-19 Crisis Management Center, Provincial Health Directorate, Bagmati, Tribhuvan International Airport, Bharatpur Covid-19 clinic and DAO Banke.



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT & COORDINATION

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Meetings of the logistics task force with CCMC, Nepal Army and MoHP have been replaced by operational logistics meetings twice a week with the MoHP Management Division, USAID's GHSC-PSM project and FHI360 to plan incoming cargo flights, prepare distribution & dispatch plans and trouble shoot health supply chain issues. Although in 2020 the national logistics cluster conducted bi-weekly meetings, since the start of the second-wave COVID-19 emergency in April 2021, meetings are conducted weekly. Participants from more than 39 organisations have participated in the coordination meetings to resolve logistics gaps and issues. A midline user satisfaction survey was conducted in September 2020 among 63 user organizations and a Gaps and Needs analysis in November 2020 among 90 humanitarian organizations and cluster members. The overall user satisfaction rate was 76%, a 20% increase compared to 56% during the flood response operation of 2019. Similarly, a National Logistics Cluster lesson learned exercise was conducted in April 2021 to assess the performance and draw lessons and recommendations from the National Logistics Cluster COVID-19 response during 2020, in time to be applied for the second wave response.

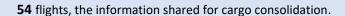
More than 100 updates and information management products such as meeting minutes, SOPs, customs clearance procedure, reports etc were shared with the National Logistics Cluster members through email and a dedicated webpage. https://logcluster.org/countries/NPL

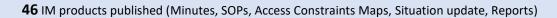


22 National Logistics Cluster meetings held, **39** user organizations attended the meetings.



9 Passenger flights from Kuala Lumpur-Kathmandu-Kuala Lumpur, **441** passengers transported of UN agencies, INGOs and Embassies. **(232** outbound and **209** inbound passengers)





Transport Services:

SN	Date	Agency	Item Description	Transport		Weight	Volume	Number of trucks
				From	То	(MT)	(CBM)	
1	24/04/20 to 04/01/21	Management Division, MoHP	Medical Items	Kathmandu	Morang, Sunsari, Dhanusa, Parsa, Rupandehi, Makwanpur, Banke, Surkhet, Kaski, Kailali.	189.55	839.06	46 Trucks
2	04/05/20 to 04/09/20	Provincial Health Directorate, Lumbini Province	Medical Items	Kathmandu, Rupandehi	Rupandehi, Gulmi	3.4	26	2 Trucks
3	20/05/2020 to 28/09/20	Care Nepal and LWF	Medical Items	Kathmandu	Rupandehi, Banke, Kailali.	26.43	114	4 Trucks
4	24/05/20	DanChurdhAID	Medical Items	Kathmandu	Kailali	1.6	16	1 Truck
5	29/05/20 to 31/05/20	IPAS Nepal	Medical Items	Kathmandu	Morang, Kaski, Kailali, Bajura.	5.8	58	4 Trucks
6	08/06/20 to 25/02/21	Save the Children	Medical Items	Kathmandu	Bardibas, Siraha, Rajbiraj, Banke, Dhanusa, Surkhet, Kailali, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Jajarkot.	88.65	393.6	22 Trucks
7	09/06/20 to 20/08/20	ССМС	Medical Items	Kathmandu	Morang, Sunsari, Parsa, Dhanusa, Makwanpur, Nuwakot, Rasuwa, Khotang, Kavre, Rupandehi, Sindhupalchowk, Kaski, Banke, Surkhet, Kailali.	420.7	2,430	80 trucks
8	10/06/20	Action Against Hunger	Medical Items	Kathmandu	Kawasoti, Bardaghat	5	50	2 Trucks
9	28/06/20 – 19/05/21	Ministry of Home Affairs	NFIs	Kathmandu	Nuwakot, Chitwan, Nawalpur, Kapilvastu, Kailali, Banke, Bardiya, Parsa, Makwanpur, Rautahat, Saptari, Siraha, Sunsari, Kaski	114.71	424.57	24 trucks
10	28/05/20 to	Provincial Health Directorate, Karnali	Medical Items	Banke,	Jajarkot, Salyan, Rukum, Kalikot, Jumla, Dolpa, Mugu,	18.45	148.6	13 trucks
	12/12/20	Province		Surkhet	Rukum.			
11	20/07/20	Kopila Nepal	Medical Items	Pokhara	Myagdi	1.4	14	1 truck
12	20/07/20- 03/02/21	WFP	NFI	Kathmandu	Surkhet	6.3	50	2 trucks
13	25/07/20 to 30/04/21	Provincial Health Directorate, Province 2	Medical Items	Janakpur	Bara, Parsa, Siraha, Saptari, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Rautahat.	224.15	772.25	28 trucks
14	27/07/20	Chhahari Nepal	NFIs	Kathmandu	Kaski	7	30	1 truck
15	27/07/20 to 02/09/20	World Education Inc	NFIs	Kathmandu	Kathmandu, Surkhet.	16.1	66	2 trucks
16	29/07/20 to 19/10/20	UNICEF	NFIs and Medical Items	Nepalgunj, Rupandehi	Dang, Surkhet, Kalikot, Jumla, Kailali, Mugu	7.66	58.17	4 trucks
17	27/08/20	WHO	Shelter items	Kathmandu	Sindhupalchowk	2.59	14	1 truck
18	02/09/20	PHD, Karnali/World Education/ KIRDRAC	Medical & NFIs	Surkhet	Mugu	3.68	30	1 truck

19	15/09/20 to	Nepal Red Cross Society	Shelter & Wash	Kathmandu	Sindhupalchowk	5.48	28	2 trucks
	11/11/20		items					
20	14/09/20 to	Central Medical Store, Department of	Medical & Food	Bara	Dhading, Chitwan, Makwanpur, Dhangadi, Rupandehi,	139.37	408	13 trucks
	11/11/20	Health Services			Banke, Dhanusha, Morang			
21	01/10/20	Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH)	Shelter items	Kathmandu	Chitwan	19.52	22	1 truck
22	13/10/20	PeaceWin	Food and NFIs	Kailali	Bajura	29.1	54.6	1 truck
23	18/10/20 to	Provincial Health Directorate, Province 1	Medical items	Morang	Jhapa, Illam, Panchthar, Taplejung, Terhathum,	25.23	158.86	17 trucks
	06/05/21			_	Bhojpur, Khotang, Solukhumbu			
24	30/10/20 to	GIZ	Medical Items	Kathmandu	Chitwan, Rupandehi, Dang, Banke, Kailali, Kanchanpur,	24.7	116.7	7 trucks
	18/02/21				Dhanusha, Jhapa			
25	18/11/20	Rural Reconstruction Nepal	Medical items	Banke	Achham	7.5	32	1 truck
26	30/05/21 to	Ministry of Social Development	Medical items	Kailali,	Kailali, Banke, Rupandehi, Siraha, Saptari, Chitwan	69.3	209	17 trucks
	15/05/21	·		Banke,				
		Total				1,464	6,563	297 trucks

Storage Services:

SN	Date	Agency	Items	Stored at	Weight (MT)	Volume (CBM)
1	04/05/20 - 17/05/20	Ministry of Health and Population	Medical Items	HSA, Kathmandu	240.18	1,138.11
2	20/07/20	World Education Inc	NFIs	HSA, Kathmandu	8.18	30
3	22/09/20	World Health Organization	Medical Items	HSA, Kathmandu	3.23	25.21
4	30/09/20	CARE Nepal	Medical Items	HSA, Kathmandu	37.80	147.58
5	30/09/20	Ministry of Home Affairs	NFIs	HSA, Nepalgunj	25.31	67
6	30/09/20	CARE Nepal	Medical Items	HSA, Dhangadi	12.63	50.52
7	30/09/20	Ministry of Home Affairs	NFIs	HSA, Dhangadi	16.88	44
8	01/10/20	CARE Nepal	Medical Items	HSA, Nepalgunj	12.7	51.54
9	07/10/20	Action Against Hunger	Medical Items	HSA, Kathmandu	0.6	6
10	08/10/20	Ministry of Health and Population	Medical Items	HSA, Dhangadi	1	8
11	23/10/20 - 23/01/21	GIZ Nepal	Medical Items	HSA, Kathmandu	26.63	129.1
12	11/12/20	UNICEF	Medical Items	HSA, Kathmandu	1.12	7.93
13	16/12/20	Action Aid Nepal	NFIs	HSA, Nepalgunj	11.13	84.5
_				Total	397.39	1,789

After the lockdown due to the first wave of COVID-19 in April 2020, the National Logistics Cluster activated three existing HSA's (Kathmandu, Nepalgunj and Dhangadhi) and in April 2021, after the lockdown due to the second wave, two additional HSAs were activated (Surkhet and Birgunj) to facilitate cargo storage and transport free-of-cost for Government and Provincial Health Directorates. This logistics preparedness capacity was established by the UK Aid funded EPR-II project. 11 MSU's, with a total space of 3,520 m2, are currently providing storage capacity at these five HSA's for COVID-19 response. Three MSU's at Kathmandu HSA and two MSU's each at Nepalgunj, Dhangadhi, Surkhet and Birgunj HSA's.

Four Mobile Storage Units (MSU's, 10x32m size) were loaned to the CCMC of which two were erected at Nepal Army No.14 Engineering Brigade at Tribhuvan Airport to expand storage capacity for a large quantity of COVID-19 medical supplies, one at Tribhuvan airport international terminal for arriving passengers and one MSU to expand the waiting area for passengers at the domestic terminal. In addition, one MSU plus 70 wooden pallets were given to Provincial Health Directorate, Bagmati Province to augment storage capacity for Covid-19 supplies and one MSU was loaned to Bharatpur COVID-19 clinic to provide additional space for patients. Similarly, one MSU was loaned to District Administration Office, Banke to establish a holding center for screening of returnees at Nepalgunj border. The plan is to erect in June one MSU at the Central Medical Store of MoHP in Pathlaiya to expand their storage capacity for medical supplies for COVID-19 response.

MoHP confirmed through the COVAX GAVI support application (15 December 2020) the anticipated gap in cold chain storage capacity at Pathalaiya central level, Janakpur province 2 and Surkhet Karnali province. MoHP Management Division requested support of WFP to augment cold chain storage capacity through provision of 3x 20ft refrigerated containers with clip-on backup generators. WFP is in the process to confirm technical specifications and procurement and supply with MoHP and WFP HQ.

Provincial level Storage capacity:

Province	Primary Preposition Store	Secondary Store		
1	Inaruwa (Provincial Government)	Itahari (FMTC)		
2	Janakpur (FMTC)	Pathlaiya (MD)		
3	Hetauda (Provincial Government)	FMTC Emergency Store		
4	Pokhara (Provincial Government)			
5	Nepalgunj HSA (WFP)	Butwal Medical store (MD)		
6	Surkhet (FMTC)			
7	Dhangadhi HSA (WFP)	Dhangadhi (Provincial		
		Government)		

Coordination

The National Logistics cluster has eight provincial focal points, one in each province and province 5 with 2 focal points (at Nepalgunj HSA and Butwal) who continue to provide logistics support to the Provincial Health Directorate in their respective province for COVID-19 response. Coordination with stakeholders in the provinces was found to become more effective and information sharing improved after the logistics focal points were appointed in the provinces.

The results of the User Satisfaction survey and Gaps and Needs analysis was shared with the National Logistics Cluster members in December 2020. Following the results of this analysis, the Cluster suspended the common services for humanitarian agencies but maintained them for the Government in order to maintain an agile logistics operation that can respond quickly to sudden changes in scenario. This was proven to be essential to enable a rapid scale up of cluster services for the second wave response in May 2021.

The National Logistics cluster updated its response in the new humanitarian Covid-19 Response Plan (published 20 May 2021) based on newly identified gaps and needs:

- Transport and storage capacity in support of Ministry of Health and Provincial Ministries of Social services.
- Air transport capacity to import medical supplies into Nepal. (commercial or charter flights)
- Facilitation of road transport for health items from China to Nepal.
- Setup holding/isolation areas for returnees at borders in provinces.
- Upstream air cargo pipeline coordination / consolidation.
- Tracking of government requests and supplies from donors, by EDP-SCM working group.

Storage and Transport Services

- Transport services from Kathmandu to seven provinces and from provinces to district headquarters. Target: 1,000 MT/ 5,000 m3 cargo transported.
- Storage and logistics services at five humanitarian staging areas across the country. Target: 7,500 m2 storage space provided.

Provision of Equipment and Technical Assistance

- Equipment and personnel to scale up health and humanitarian response (supporting all clusters) by providing storage tents, prefabricated buildings, generators, engineering services and any other equipment as required.
- Target: 12 MSU's, 6 Prefabricated, 4 Generators.

Logistics Coordination and Information Management

- Provincial & Federal level logistics coordination and information management services. Target: 16 coordination meetings in 4 months.
- 40 organisations participating, 30 IM updates.
- Civil-Military coordination with Nepal Army and CCMC to support MoHP health logistics.
- Updates on customs directives, international cargo flight information, transport permit procedures, SOP's.
- Augment cold-chain capacity and last-mile delivery to remote areas as needed.

If and as required additional response mechanisms may be activated to support humanitarian partners on a cost recovery basis:

- Cargo consolidation at strategic hubs worldwide
- Strategic airlifts to Nepal
- Humanitarian Air Service
- Provision air capacity for national medical evacuations for UN and INGO partners.