

Date: 9th July 2021, 11:00 – 12:00

Participants

1. Action Against Hunger (ACF)
2. CARE Nepal
3. Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
4. Humanity & Inclusion (HI)
5. International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
6. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
7. Islamic Relief Nepal
8. Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA)
9. Mountain Child
10. Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS)
11. People in Need (PIN)
12. Plan International Nepal
13. Save the Children
14. Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGH)
15. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
16. United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
17. World Food Programme (WFP)

Meeting chaired by: Mr. Dil Kumar Tamang, NEOC Chief, MoHA.

Agenda:

1. Nepal National Logistics Cluster update on COVID-19 and Monsoon Response
2. Health logistics update
3. Logistics gaps and issues
4. AOB

1. Nepal National Logistics Cluster storage and transport update

The following updates were shared regarding the National Logistics Cluster services:

- Received 1,600 oxygen cylinders for storage at the Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA), Kathmandu donated by UNICEF and UNFPA, 800 each. Received other medical items such as ventilators, PPE kits, oxygen concentrator, thermometer, antigen kits from different donors such as Italy, China, Denmark, Canada, UNICEF, UNFPA and some items locally purchased by the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) for storage at the HSA, Kathmandu.
- Upon request from Provincial Health Logistics Management Center (PHLMC), Gandaki Province, one MSU was installed in Pokhara. Similarly, the plan is to install one MSU in Janakpur for PHLMC, Province 2 next week. Likewise, with the resumption of domestic flights from 1 July, one MSU, to collect luggage for passengers, was installed at the domestic terminal of the Tribhuvan International Airport.
- To date, the National Logistics Cluster has transported more than 4,600 empty oxygen cylinders mostly from hospitals in Sudhur Paschim Province to refilling plants in Lumbini Province and Bagmati Province. Similarly, 4,400 filled oxygen cylinders have been transported from the refilling plants to different hospitals in Sudhur Paschim province. Likewise, more than 1,700 filled oxygen cylinders were transported from Kathmandu to Gandaki Province.

- Dispatched 10 trucks of critical medical items (ventilators, PPE kits, oxygen concentrator, thermometer, antigen kits, oxygen cylinders) from the provincial capitals to district headquarters.
- MoHA, with support from the National Logistics Cluster, dispatched a large number of shelter items to landslides and flood-affected locations in Sunsari, Panchthar, Taplejung, Gorkha and Manang districts.

2. Health Logistics Update

- Care Nepal informed that in the last two weeks they handed over COVID-19 medical items in Rupendehi, Kapilvastu, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali and Kanchanpur districts.
- CRS informed that as of 8th July they have handed over 25,643 different COVID-19, medical equipment to nine hospitals in Kavre, Palpa, Gorkha, Kaski, Tanahun and Lamjung districts through their implementing partner Caritas Nepal. They informed that they will continue to distribute medical supplies to hospitals and isolation centers in the coming days.
- Save the Children informed that in the last two weeks they dispatched 26 trucks, 139 mt (550 cbm) of medical items for COVID-19 response. Similarly, they dispatched relief materials to Kailali, Banke, Mahottari, Siraha and Saptarai districts as part of monsoon preparedness.

3. Logistics Gaps and issues

- ACF inquired where they could get the list of specifications for medical items for COVID-19 approved by the Government. WFP asked ACF to contact USAID for the list of minimum requirements for medical supplies for COVID-19 approved by the Government. In addition, Mountain Child informed that Care Nepal could also have access to the information as they recently supported the Association of International INGOs in Nepal (AIN) with joint procurement of COVID-19 supplies.
- Mountain Child inquired if there has been any approach by the National Logistics Cluster to the Government for last-mile cold chain transport of vaccine. WFP informed that few requests were received for vaccine transport including air transport requests but due to budget constraint, the request was declined.
- Mountain Child informed that they have been requested by the District Health Office (DHO), Gorkha to fund vaccine distribution by helicopters because of the destruction of the trail in Chumsubri rural municipality. They are hoping to assist the vaccine distribution by helicopters but their project agreement, submitted for approval to Social Welfare Council (SWC) 5-month back, has not been approved and hence, they are now applying for emergency approval to be able to distribute the vaccines. Mountain Child informed that they are hopeful of getting approval by today and will reach out to the National Logistics Cluster if they don't receive approval by the end of today. WFP asked Mountain Child to reach out to the National Logistics Cluster and MoHA for any assistance on this matter.

- ACF inquired if the “On-Arrival Visa” has been resumed at Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA). WFP informed that they would check with the Department of Immigration (DOI) and if there is any information on an on-arrival visa it will be shared with cluster members.
- Plan International inquired if inter-district travel was lifted by the Government. MoHA informed that a permit issued by the District Administration Office (DAO) where a person is residing currently would be required to enter the Kathmandu valley.

4. AOB

- WFP advised the participants, in addition to the road access constraints map that WFP has been sharing daily, to also visit the official website of the National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC), [here](#) for more information on road constraints.

In case of any logistics gaps, questions, or issues, please do not hesitate to contact the National Logistics Cluster:

Aniruddha Chhetri, (Information Management), ph: 9801083461, aniruddha.chhetri@wfp.org

Ratindra Khatri, (National Logistic Cluster Coordinator), ph: 9851220123, ratindra.khatri@wfp.org

Lionel Schenal, (Head of EPR and Supply Chain), ph: 9810350341 lionel.schenal@wfp.org