

Highlights

- Together with the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), the National Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Officer has supported the review and update of Provincial Contingency Plans to prepare for the upcoming flood season.
- The Field-Based Preparedness Project (FBPP) continued to advocate to NCDM through the World Food Programme (WFP) as co-chair and secretariat of the Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF) for a regular preparedness coordination meeting between HRF, Joint Action Group (JAG), and NCDM. The HRF Secretariat position has been filled in June and will support in moving forward the logistics preparedness activities.

Background

Based on risk indices and national-level logistics performance and capacity indicators, in 2018 Cambodia was identified as one of 24 country candidates for the Global Logistics Cluster's Field-Based Preparedness Project ("the Project"). The primary aim of the Project is to support and empower national actors to strengthen their capacity to autonomously prepare for and respond to humanitarian crises. A key element of this is the facilitation of a coordinated approach towards improving the resilience of local humanitarian supply chains and supporting effective information exchange between the government, national actors and the private sector, to ensure all actors are well prepared for joint humanitarian logistics responses. In the event of a large-scale disaster event and should the Government of Cambodia request international humanitarian assistance, the Global Logistics Cluster capacities can support national actors in facilitating a coordinated response.

In March 2020, a Preparedness Expert was deployed to Cambodia to commence the process of mapping national logistics capacities and identifying existing national disaster management structures and frameworks. She has worked with national responders to augment information sharing and exchange and provided technical support and guidance towards establishing a coordinated and localised approach to humanitarian logistics preparedness activities.

Cambodia is exposed to yearly recurrent floods that place rural population and their agriculture-based livelihoods in significant risk. In October 2020, Cambodia experienced severe flooding as a result of multiple tropical storms in the South China Sea, affecting 800,000 persons over 19 provinces. With key infrastructure damaged and multiple donations received, the importance of the National Committee for Disaster Management's coordinating role, to secure rescue and delivery of relief items in the government assistance efforts to the provinces affected, was manifested.

Cambodia is further exposed to extreme weather events triggered by El-Niño causing severe drought. The hottest year recorded in 2016 triggered drought that was described by Prime Minister Hun Sen as the "worst natural disaster occurring in Cambodia in 100 years".

Coordination

- The National Emergency Preparedness and Response Officer has **supported the NCDM & WFP-led training workshop to review and update the Provincial Contingency Plan (PCP)** and provide capacity strengthening to Commune Committee for Disaster Management (CCDMs) on data collection for disaster and incident support. The objective of this training workshop held in June was to prepare for the flood season and was joined by representatives from Provincial Committee for Disaster Management (PCDMs), District Committee for Disaster Management (DCDMs), and CCDMs. Together with NCDM technical group, the EPR Officer has also participated in reviewing the national and sub-national contingency plans in five provinces along the Mekong river.
- The EPR Officer has supported WFP as co-chair and secretariat of the Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF) to **advocate for regular coordination meetings between HRF, JAG, and NCDM**. NCDM plans to hold its first quarterly coordination meetings with HRF, JAG, and CHF in July, where logistics preparedness activities could be discussed, dependent on NCDM's agenda and needs.
- The vacant HRF secretariat position has been filled, and the onboarding process was completed in June. This position will complement the WFP EPR unit in **taking forward current logistics preparedness efforts beyond the Project's timeframe** to ensure continuous support to the Government's humanitarian logistics preparedness and response capacity strengthening.
- The EPR Officer continued **reaching out to PCDMs and participants of the first Provincial Humanitarian Logistics Preparedness Workshop (PHLPW)** in Cambodia to follow up on the proposed action plan and its implementation. Key challenges in defining and implementing the action plan have been identified, and solutions will be explored together with the stakeholders.
- Due to a sudden rise in the number of COVID-19 cases and subsequent lockdown measures, all activities and discussions planned with NCDM have been postponed until further relaxation of the restrictions, and where physical gathering is allowed. The EPR Officer has **kept NCDM engaged to confirm the dates of the two provincial workshops and the national simulation exercise**, which have been included in the Joint NCDM & WFP workplan.

Information management

- The quarterly update and infographic for January-March 2021 were published on the [Cambodia Preparedness webpage](#).

Contacts

Chanmoniroth IV

*National Emergency Preparedness &
Response Officer*

chanmoniroth.iv@wfp.org

Project email

Field Based Preparedness Project

hq.glc.preparedness@wfp.org

<https://logcluster.org/preparedness/cambodia>