

Highlights

- Between 27 May - 4 June 2021, the Preparedness Officer facilitated various logistics topics in the Humanitarian Logistics Management virtual training for the Philippine Red Cross, hosted by HELP Logistics and in partnership with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and the Office of Civil Defense (OCD).
- The Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) and the World Food Programme (WFP) have renewed their partnership agreement to collaborate in various Logistics Capacity Development activities for DSWD and OCD. The Preparedness Officer, as alternate focal point for the Humanitarian Country Team Logistics Sectoral Working Group, also participated in PDRF-led Quarterly National Logistics Cluster meeting for the private sector.



Humanitarian Logistics Management online training course conducted for the Philippine Red Cross staff

Background

Based on risk indices and national-level logistics performance and capacity indicators, in 2018 Philippines 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 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 the Philippines request international humanitarian assistance, the Global Logistics Cluster capacities can support national actors in facilitating a coordinated response.

In October 2019, a Field Preparedness Officer was recruited to commence the process of mapping national logistics capacities and stakeholders. Based on this, he is currently working with national responders to augment information

sharing and exchange as well as assisting in the organisation of capacity strengthening initiatives based on identified partner needs.

In 2020, the Philippines experienced several disasters, including typhoons and the Taal Volcano eruption, reaffirming the need for coordinated logistics preparedness actions.

Coordination

- Between 27 May – 4 June 2021, the **Preparedness Officer participated as facilitator at HELP Logistics' Humanitarian Logistics Management virtual training for the Philippine Red Cross (PRC)** covering topics on Warehouse Management and Operating Mobile Emergency Hub and as co-facilitator covering topics on Transport and Distribution Management. Representatives from DSWD, OCD, and IFRC also facilitated other topics in the training. As a prerequisite of this course, all participants were required to complete the Logistics Cluster's online Basic Humanitarian Logistics Course prior to the training. The training had originally been planned for September 2020 as face-to-face training but got postponed due to COVID-19 related constraints. It was aimed at enhancing humanitarian logistics knowledge and skills of PRC's non-logistics personnel as surge capacity for the country's emergency preparedness and response.
- The Preparedness Officer has advocated for the renewal of the partnership between PDRF and WFP which led to the Memorandum of Agreement signing ceremony in June 2021. PDRF is the country's major private sector vehicle and coordinator for disaster management. It works with field experts and reputable humanitarian institutions to organise and coordinate private sector during various phases of disaster management cycle. **PDRF in its renewed partnership with WFP will plan to collaborate in various Capacity Development Activities for OCD and DSWD in the field of Logistics.** The Preparedness Officer, as alternate focal point of the HCT Logistics Sectoral Working Group, also participated in the PDRF-led Quarterly National Logistics Cluster meeting for the private sector. PDRF adopted the UN Cluster Approach as they divide their partner companies into functional sectors.
- The Preparedness Officer participated in the **National Logistics Cluster Pre-Disaster Risk Assessment meetings** conducted by OCD for Tropical Storm DANTE (international name CHOI-WAN), Tropical Depression CRISING, and Typhoon BISING (international name SURIGAE) and continue to coordinate with WFP any transport requests of OCD and DSWD for the responses.
- Due to an increasing number of COVID-19 cases and subsequent community quarantine status being imposed by the Government, meetings and activities planned with partners, including the quarterly National Logistics Cluster meetings, except for disaster response where the National Logistics Cluster is activated, remain postponed until further notice.

Information management

- The Preparedness Officer presented the Global Logistics Cluster's Logistics Information Exchange platform (Log:ie) to OCD and DSWD focal points for initial discussion prior to presentation to their respective senior management.
- The quarterly update and infographic for January-March 2021 were published on the [Philippines Preparedness webpage](#).

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