

Background

The National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) has been established by the President and Members of Parliament as a new Agency through National Disaster Management Act 2020. Prior to this, the Disaster Management Department was under the Office of National Security (ONS). NDMA is currently in a transitional phase to manage disasters, establish offices and regional, district, and chiefdom disaster management committees, and establish funding for the prevention and management of disasters throughout Sierra Leone.

The Global Logistics Cluster within the World Food Programme (WFP) commenced a Logistics Field Based Preparedness Project (FBPP) in Sierra Leone late February 2021. The FBPP aims to enable government, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, development partners, and the private sector to have a coordinated approach towards improving local supply chain resilience. The initiative is built upon localisation and skills-transfer and aims to ensure national responders have the tools and knowledge needed to take ownership of humanitarian logistics operations and reach vulnerable communities during times of disaster.

On 24 March 2021 a fire broke out at Susan's Bay in Freetown affecting 7,093 people and 1,597 households. The NDMA activated the Pillar system and the Situation Room. This was the first inter-agency emergency response that NDMA has coordinated since its establishment in November 2020, and without permanent staff appointed or allocation of a budget. The Logistics FBPP project supported an After Action Review following the emergency phase to capture the lessons learnt for logistics, as well as the other pillars, to guide the NDMA coordination and logistics enhancement priorities.

A two-day workshop was co-led by NDMA in May 2021 with key line ministries, district disaster coordinators, government authorities, UN agencies, INGOs and private sector to capture logistics gaps and needs and develop recommended short and long term strengthening ideas. The workshop outputs and the after action review were used to formulate the NDMA logistics preparedness action plan.

Another important output of the Logistics Gap Analysis and Action Planning workshop is the formation of a National Logistics Preparedness working group and sub-working groups to bring stakeholders together before an emergency. The Logistics Pillar has been expanded to include key government, humanitarian, and private sector partners and the Pillar terms of reference will now include logistics preparedness functions as well as operational response coordination during emergencies. This enables stakeholders to work together before an emergency to develop critical logistics information sharing mechanisms, tools and strategies, and establish a collaborative team environment to support affected communities.

WFP also conducted a field logistics assessment in eight districts and relevant findings for the Pillar were discussed and solutions identified. The Logistics Preparedness Action Plan has been formulated following the Logisitics Preparedness Workshop, Susans Bay Fire lessons learnt, and WFP field assessment.

I - Coordination and Information Sharing



1. INFORMATION COLLEC	CTION, STORAGE, AND SHARING			
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	DEADLINE	LEAD
SHORT TERM				
	1.1.A A Google shared drive is created where logistics information, tools, and training materials can be stored and accessed by Government, UN, and humanitarian partners (including health logistics)	Completed Oo per year for 1	Q2 2021 I Terrabyte. This	NDMA and WFP set up All partners access and use can be covered by
	ness-as-usual tool in preparedness should sustain its use for response until NDMA has a website established			
1.2 There is limited logistics capacity information available	 1.2.B Map logistics capacity information and other useful disaster information to inform logistics and disaster planning on the Log.IE platform and DSTI integrated government platform Regularly capture logistics capacity through the Pillar Develop the Log.IE platform for Sierra Leone with relevant logistics and disaster information. Transition the information and capability to the DSTI integrated government portal so data collection and mapping becomes Government owned Explore the use of the MIRA tool to capture logistics information 	In progress	Ongoing	NDMA, DSTI WFP, DDMCs, MoHS All partners contribute
	nal capacity building: WFP technical support and tools will be provided to stakeholders to collect and map the capacity. Loo n to be captured as business-as-usual in the future. An MoU will be developed between NDMA and DSTI to formalise this.	cal Government (capacity will be b	ouilt to sustain
1.3 There are no SOP's or reporting templates to support logistics emergency response data capture or reporting	 1.3 Create/review Logistics data collection and reporting templates in readiness Develop a Logistics situation report template to feed into the inter-pillar meetings Review the logistics assessment questions in the MIRA tool for community assessment Develop a Logistics rapid assessment reporting tool for large scale emergency Stock distribution reporting template for standardisation across agencies 	Not started	Q4 2021	DDMC, NDMA, WFP, RSLAF, FCC
LONG TERM				
1.4 The NDMA does not have its own website or information data analysis and sharing capacity	 1.4 NDMA establishes a website for its disaster planning and real time emergency response information sharing. Google drive and Logistics Cluster website utilised in the interim MCI assists with the development of the Website Build up capacity building in data analysis and real time information capacity In-house staff capacity for rapid information analysis, upload, and sharing through platform links to website is created within NDMA 	Not started	July 2021 – June 2022	NDMA, MCI, DSTI, WFP

Advocacy, finance, institutional capacity building: Govt and WFP technical support to develop website and train in tools. Financial support may be required for formal IT training of NDMA nominated staff in IT services, data analysis, and basic GIS.

2. LOGISTICS COORDINATION

GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	DEADLINE	LEAD
SHORT TERM				
2.1 No national standing logistics coordination and communication group that includes government, UN and partners and private sector.	 2.1A Revise the Terms of Reference of the Logistics Pillar to include logistics coordination, operation readiness, and information sharing for emergency preparedness and response. 2.1B Develop Sub Working Groups to enhance logistics preparedness and response capacity in preparedness. 2.1C Maintain logistics information and contact list in the NDMA google share drive. 	Completed	May 2021	NDMA lead. All partners contribute Sub working groups led by key partners
2.2 There are no emergency logistics & ETC SOPs	 2.2A Create a logistics Concept of Operations for a large-scale emergency response. 2.2B Test the implementation of the response SOPs annually in SimEx 	Not started	Q4 2021	NDMA, WFP, RSLAF, MTA, ONS, SCI, SLRCS
2.3 There is no logistics contingency plan	 Need to develop a logistics contingency plan in alignment to Government disaster plans. Input logistics response into Government disaster plans Develop scenario-based logistics plans against a level 1, 2 and 3 emergency Test aspects of the contingency plan in targeted Simulation Exercises. 	Not started	Q2 2022	NDMA, WFP, RSLAF, MTA, ONS, SCI, SLRCS
2.4 There is duplication of disaster logistics and health emergency logistics coordination	 Need to align Logistics and Health Logistics Pillar preparedness and response efforts and information sharing. Health logistics information added to logistics information sharing sites and platforms Pillar representatives attend each other's meeting during a response The Health Pillar continues meeting (as a logistics preparedness sub working group) to enhance health logistics capacity and tools based on lessons learnt post emergency 	Not started	Q1 2022	NDMA, NMSA, MOHS, MSF, WFP

Advocacy, finance, institutional capacity building: NDMA with support of WFP need to lead logistics working group meetings with partners to develop and implement logistics strengthening activities. The working groups/coordination meetings and information sharing to be embedded as business as usual so all stakeholders know where to find logistics information in an emergency.

LONG TERM

2.5 Investigate South - South co-operations with regional NDMO's for the sharing of logistics	NDMA to investigate/establish quarterly meetings with neighbouring NDMO's to discuss initiatives that may be relevant to Sierra Leone and the possibility to provide support during an emergency.	Started	Q2 2022	NDMA, WFP, Regional OCHA; MoFA, ECOWAS

initiatives and assets during emergencies				
Advocacy, finance, institution projects and information and	nal capacity building: NDMA to utilise existing West African Government and Donor networks such as ECOWAS to recomr asset sharing.	nend regional NE)MO meetings to	o look at regional
3. COMMUNICATION				
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	DEADLINE	LEAD
SHORT TERM				
3.1 No established distribution lists or communication systems for real-time logistics information that includes all stakeholders	 Set up communication distribution lists via WhatsApp, Signal, email and maintain contacts lists for phone call communication chains via the district disaster coordinators of important logistics capacity information. Develop or utilise established disaster communication and sharing networks and tools where possible 	Completed but ongoing updates	May 2021	NDMA and Sub working group leads
3.2 Limited mobile network coverage and emergency telecommunications for real-time communication of logistics capacity or disaster information.	 3.2.A Enhance/establish mobile phone coverage and emergency telecommunication coverage to relay vital logistics information, prioritising high risk disaster locations Map who has ETC equipment who can relay field information. Work with providers to ensure they have their own emergency response plan developed and in place (with availability, deployment of mobile antennas for GSM and 4G, VSAT) 	Not started	Q4 2021	NATCOM, WFP, Mobile companies
LONG TERM				
-	3.2.B Review emergency telecommunication (ETC) capacity and seek partner or donor support to enhance capacity for emergency logistics telecommunications	Not started	Q3 2022	NDMA, WFP, NATCOM, Donors

II - Relief item storage and tracking, Donation management



1. STORAGE CAPACITY				
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	DEADLINE	LEAD
SHORT TERM				
1.1 Government and partner warehousing locations and capacities are not recorded or mapped (including cold storage)	 Map partner warehousing locations and logistics capacities that are available on a GIS platforms, and overlay with flood mapping, and other disaster information for logistics planning and disaster response strategies. Capture warehouse size, storage type, owner, handling equipment, and truck availability at site 	In progress	Q4 2021	NDMA and DSTI All partners contribute
1.2 Temporary emergency storage needs and locations are unknown	 Use the warehouse mapping to determine gaps in high-risk areas for disaster and health emergencies. Engage local disaster and health emergency to identify high-risk seasonal areas and storage needs/ access issues and develop temporary emergency storage or relief item pre-positioning strategy 	In progress	Q3 2021	NDMA, SLRCS, WFP, RSLAF, MOHS, MSF

Advocacy, finance, institutional capacity building: Support will be needed to assist with mapping logistics capacity on ARCGIS software. DSTI has ARCGIS licence and capacity, and WFP-GLC has a Global Logistics information platform and can support. An MoU will be required for DSTI to support the creation of shapefiles from partner supplied information.

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GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	DEADLINE	LEAD
SHORT TERM				
2.1 Emergency relief items in country for emergency response are unknown	 Map the emergency relief items stocks in country for all emergency responses (including health) using pillar coordination and other existing humanitarian forums Determine the gaps and needs of relief items against threshold response plans Pre-position stock items in regions. 	Completed but ongoing	July 2021	NDMA, WFP with all partners
2.2 NDMA unable to track and report relief items provided by partners for emergency response sufficiently to guide disaster and pillar planning.	 Develop capacity for NDMA to capture and track relief item distributions from partners Develop a simple excel emergency relief item tracking system categorised into key pillars Capacity build NDMAs ability to record and report on relief item distributions for logistics planning and donor accountability. Investigate the development of a more sophisticated relief item tracking system in the long term. 	Completed but ongoing	July 2021	NDMA, WFP

Advocacy, finance, institutional capacity building: Resources and support will be required from partners to support the capacity building of NDMA to capture relief items received and dispatched to pillar partners for distribution to beneficiaries. Refresh and follow up on the job assistance may be required to embed excel spreadsheet knowledge and encourage its use for other logistics administration or reporting functions.

LONG TERM

2.3 Insufficient
government contingency
stocks or funding to
support emergency
response logistics

- Establish a contingency fund to enable the purchase and transport of relief items for a large-scale logistics response
- Have a minimum level of contingency food, NFI's and emergency response equipment prepositioned to provide initial emergency relief to affected communities.

In Q2 2022 NDMA progress

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Advocacy, finance, institutional capacity building: Government will need to incorporate a contingency fund for disaster response where the purchase, transport and distribution of relief items into its annual budget which conditions that enable unspent funds to be utilised for the prepositioning of relief items for the following year as required.

3. WAREHOUSING AND STOCK MANAGEMENT

GAPS & BOTTLENECKS | RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS

GAI 5 & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & INTELLED CORE ACTIONS	JIAIOS	DEADLINE	LLAD
SHORT TERM				
3.1 NDMA have received donated warehouses and relief items but have limited capacity to get them operationally ready	 3.1 Develop a stock management system for NDMA and implement real time warehouse and stock management training in each warehouse. Clean and resort warehouse with stack and stock cards Create electronic stock record Train in stock management system 	In progress	Q3 2021	WFP
Advocacy, finance, institutio	onal capacity building: WFP to support the initial rapid capacity building of NDMA's warehouse stock take and stock manage	ment set up for	2021 wet seasor	1.

3.2 Limited capacity for
NDMA and partners to
manage donated relief
items

- 3.2 Establish a donated items policy and SOP in collaboration with Government, donors, private sector, community groups, and humanitarian partners.
 - aster site started

Not

Q4 2021 NDMA, RSLAF, WFP, SLRCS, Caritas

- Develop policy and media communications for only needed items and no drop off at disaster site
 Have a dedicated warehouse for drop offs and sorting and PR events
- o Implement an electronic stock tracking system and report available items to Pillars
- o Provide donor accountability reports.

Advocacy, finance, institutional capacity building: Government will need to engage Pillars, Donors, private sector and relevant government agencies such as MoFA, and MoSW to make a clear policy for the acceptance of certain quality local and international donations as only required and where they can be dropped off. Public Relation needs along with donation tracking, security and access to operational sites need to be captured in a mutually agreed policy. Communications need to be developed ready to go. NGO's and community groups may need to be engaged to assist with sorting and counting of relief items for distribution.

LONG TERM

3.3 Capacity	3.3A Develop and implement theory and practical warehouse and stock management training for	Not	Q2 2022	WFP, NDMA,
strengthening is required		started		NMSA,
in warehousing, stock management, and stock tracking	 3.3B Engage local training institutes of commercial logistics to develop and deliver a humanitarian warehouse and stock management training module as part of its electives. Align NFI, Food and Medical logistics relief item tracking and reporting. 			UNFPA?

Advocacy, finance, institutional capacity building: If utilising a private training institute donor funding will be required to assist in the initial development and possible support for government participation. Humanitarian partners to be engaged with the content development and also to provide real time practical training in humanitarian warehouses (NFI, Food, and Health)

III - Transport and Logistics access



1. ROAD TRANSPORT AS	SETS	_		
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	DEADLINE	LEAD
SHORT TERM				
1.1 Reputable government, humanitarian and private sector road transport and road clearance assets are not documented	 Need to document what large and last mile road logistics transport assets and excavation equipment is available for emergency response. Government and humanitarian road transport assets and locations need to be documented Reputable service providers of fit for purpose 30 mt, 7 mt, and 3 mt trucks to be documented. Government, commercial and private sector owners of road excavation and bridge repair infrastructure and assets to be documented. 	In progress	September 2021	RSLAF, Ministry of Transport and Aviation?
1.2 No formal agreements for emergency use of Government and private sector assets and fuel stores.	Need to establish formal agreements between NDMA and road access asset owner/operators for the use of trucks and road work equipment during an emergency.	In progress	March 2022	NDMA, RSLAF, MTA, Total Fuel?
	nal capacity building: A specific Transport working group will need to be created to capture and record this information to be om private sector such as mining companies in terms of corporate responsibility and support to local communities and transpo			
1.3 During emergencies and flood season fuel access can be delayed	Need to establish an agreement for fuel supply and /or a contingency fuel store for emergency response	Not started	Q1 2022	Ministry of Energy and Power? Total , NP.
2. ROAD ACCESS CONST	RAINTS			
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	DEADLINE	LEAD
SHORT TERM				
21 Limited capacity to communicate road access	 Map known flood regions and road access issues from previous flood seasons. Develop real-time road access issues that are reported to logistics stakeholders through WhatsApp email and documented on the Logistics capacity platform maps. (Log.IE / DSTI portal) 	In Progress	Q3 2022	DDMCs, MTA, DSTI, WFP

issues that affect				
emergency relief item				
transport				
LONG TERM			<u>'</u>	<u>'</u>
2.2 Road networks country wide are poor constraining access to affected communities	Advocate for improvement of existing road network country wide including dedicated emergency routes.	Not started	Q4 2022	MTA, MWPA
	nal capacity building: Priority roads / bridges for upgrade in high disaster risk areas with access issues need to be identified a lising the roads for commercial benefit they could also be lobbied. D ACCESS	nd governmen	t and donors lobl	ied for support to
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	DEADLINE	LEAD
SHORT TERM				
3.1 Ocean and waterway boat transport assets are not documented and insufficient to access affected communities	 Map the GIS coordinates of waterway and sea access points to communities and place on the logistics platform Map government, humanitarian partner and private sector boat assets and identify gaps in access to affected communities where entry points are a priority need. 	In progress	Q3 2022	RSLAF Navy, NDMA, SLBOA; DDMC's, UNDP
3.2 Water access points to affected communities are not mapped	Map water community access points from the ocean and the waterways on GIS logistics capacity platforms	In progress	Q3 2021	RSLAF Navy, SLBOA
LONG TERM				
3.3 More water access points are required to access communities where road access is difficult	 Identify where Jetty/anchoring repairs or new priority water access points are for remote communities with poor road access based on lessons learnt and advocate for development. 	Not started	Q3 2022	Navy SLRCS, DDMC's, UNDP; SLBOA
4. AIR TRANSPORT AND	ACCESS			
	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	DEADLINE	LEAD

4.1 No formal agreements for emergency use of Government and private air assets and aviation fuel.	 Need to document air assets that could be utilised for emergency transport of passengers and relief items Need to establish formal agreements between NDMA and air asset owner/operators for the use of the air assets during an emergency. Need to secure access to aviation fuel for emergency response 	Not started	Q3 June 2022	MTA, CAA,
4.2 There is no rapid air transport of emergency medical supply items to remote communities with access constraints	 4.2.A Develop a specific health logistics plan for emergency supply of emergency health supplies throughout Sierra leone, including pre-positioning, cold chain storage and air delivery to remote locations of vaccines and emergency medicines. 4.2.B Investigate UAV transport of small emergency medicines and vaccines to remote communities with road access constraints, in addition to all terrain motorbike and Polaris vehicles. 	Not started	Q3 2022	NMSA; DSTI and UNOPS
LONG TERM				
	 4.2.C Provide support to enable UAV air transport of emergency medical supplies to remote communities with road access constraints if feasible. 			

IV – Import Clearance and local procurement



GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	WHEN	WHO
SHORT TERM				
1.1 The import clearance of relief items during emergencies can be delayed causing bottlenecks and demurrage costs.	 1.1A - Government to revise the waiver process to make it more efficient for clearance of relief items during emergencies. An SOP and policy are developed to advise of the process to all stakeholders. 1.1B - Establish bonded warehouses and approval process to store uncleared emergency relief items off the port /airport to clear space and reduce costs to humanitarians, allowing more money to be spent on assistance to beneficiaries. 	Not started	Q1 2022	UNICEF; NRA, MoFA and NDMA, Bollore, WFP; MOHS
LONG TERM				
1.2 Import clearance processes are delayed due to agents visiting multiple government agencies to get approvals and certificates.	1.2– Establish a one window system so all agencies can access the documents required for assessment and approval at the same time, same place. (Electronic and/or physical location where all authorities can be accessed in the same place/system.)	Not started	Q2 2022	NRA, MoF, Private sector
2. CAPACITY BUILDING				
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	WHEN	WHO
SHORT TERM				
2.1 Some import clearance agents are not effective or do not have the knowledge or electronic systems required to clear humanitarian relief items quickly	 2.1.A Develop a database of credible import clearance agents of humanitarian cargo. 2.2.B Develop import clearance guidance documents for humanitarian cargo to assist stakeholders. 	Not started	Q1 2022	NRA, Regent freight services Bollore; WFP

	2.1.C Encourage the use of the ASYCUDA system and provide training in electronic import clearances.			
3. PARTNERSHIP AND FC	DRMAL AGREEMENTS			
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	WHEN	WHO
SHORT TERM				
3.1 There are no formalised agreements between Government, humanitarians and private sector port or airport operators/service providers for emergencies.	Agreements or MoU's need to be established to formalise and fast track humanitarian relief item import clearance, storage and on-forwarding efficiencies out of International ports and airports during emergencies.	Not started	Q3 2022	NDMA,
4. LOCAL PROCUREMEN	T Company of the Comp			
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	WHEN	WHO
SHORT TERM				
4.1 There is no list of reputable local suppliers and manufacturers of relief items	 4.1A Develop a combined list of where quality emergency relief items for pillars can be purchased in the major cities. 4.1.B Investigate the development of long-term agreements with local suppliers that can be used by partners to set purchase rates. 	Not stated	Q4 2021	All

V – Private Sector Engagement



1. PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORT IN EMERGENCIES					
GAPS & BOTTLENECKS	RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLIED CORE ACTIONS	STATUS	WHEN	WHO	
SHORT TERM					
1.1 The Government and humanitarian sector may not have the sufficient	 1.1A - Investigate the capacity of private sector to provide end to end supply chain support (import clearance to last mile delivery). 	Not started	Q2 2022	NRA, MoFA and NDMA	
capacity to support a large-scale emergency	 1.1B – Investigate the capacity for private sector to provide warehousing services as the port and airport under a service level agreement. 				
	 1.1C - Investigate private sector capacity to provide transport services from the port and the airport under a service level agreement. 				