



Highlights

- In May, the preparedness unit conducted with its partners the Logistics Preparedness Workshop focusing on the Log:ie (Logistics Information Exchange) platform implementation and discussing the latest preparedness updates to share challenges and lessons learnt.
- A Logistics Capacity Assessment mission was conducted in the first week of May to identify areas of collaboration with potential partners and prepositioning sites in Karonga District.
- While supporting the Ministry of Health with the mitigation of the COVID 19 pandemic, in May, the preparedness team, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Shireco Building Contractors, and Arch Art Lab the Global LTA consultant carried out a site handover for the container lab at the Dedza Point of Entry.



Background

Malawi is a landlocked country in southern Africa where rural populations are highly affected by climate change with episodes of drought and severe flooding increasing in frequency, intensity, and unpredictability.

In March 2019, the country's southern region was exposed to heavy rainfall before and following the Category 3 Cyclone Idai, causing extensive damage to its logistics infrastructure. The subsequent emergency response resulted in the activation of the Logistics Sector on 27 March 2019, led by the Ministry of Transport and Public Works (MoTPW) and supported by the World Food Programme (WFP) and other humanitarian stakeholders in Malawi. The Logistics Sector response, based on a preliminary logistics gaps analysis and partner needs assessments, sought to support the humanitarian community in its efforts to deliver lifesaving items to the affected area.

When the Logistics Sector operations came to a close in May 2019, the Global Logistics Cluster introduced the Field-Based Preparedness Project to the National Logistics Cluster which subsequently endorsed it. The project's is to foster coordination of the various humanitarian stakeholders and government-led transport, logistics, and telecommunications operations to better prepare Malawi for future disasters by identifying and addressing logistics gaps ahead of time.



Information Management

- The Log:ie (Logistics Information Exchange) platform has been formally launched.

Challenges

- Due to COVID-19, multiple humanitarian partners are heavily engaged in the response, thereby impacting the targets set in the Preparedness Action Plan.
- There is usually limited participation in the Preparedness meetings due to the remote working modalities.

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