Logistics Cluster Preparedness Working Group
Meeting Minutes, 22 April 2021

LOCATION
Online

DATE
22 April 2021

CHAIR
Global Logistics Cluster Preparedness Project Team

PARTICIPANTS
Action Against Hunger, Catholic Relief Service, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent, United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Welthungerhilfe/ Emergency Supply Pre-positioning Strategy (ESUPS), Global Logistics Cluster Preparedness Project Team

ACTION POINTS

• When possible, monthly Logistics Cluster Working Group meetings are planned to be held on the second Thursday of every month at 10:00 CEST/CET until December 2021.
• Global Logistics Cluster Preparedness Team will provide current project documentation to Working Group Members to prepare for the next meeting.
• Working Group Members feedback on their organisation’s/programme’s interest to participate in Log.ie testing and piloting activities and/or piloting information exchange with Log.ie for identified datasets.

AGENDA

1. Institutional Capacity Strengthening Implementation
2. Log.IE Platform Progress & Rollout Plan
3. Country Update
4. Field-Based Preparedness Project Session at the GLM
5. AOB

1. Institutional Capacity Strengthening

The developed Institutional Capacity Strengthening (ICS) framework was presented. It is currently being applied or implemented in Bhutan, Nepal, Sierra Leone and Tajikistan, with other project countries reviewing their ongoing project frameworks for potential expansion/migration.

In light of the new Logistics Cluster Strategy starting in 2022 and currently under development, the role of the Logistics Cluster in the Preparedness Project was reiterated, based particularly on the IASC mandate\(^1\), as well as on the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit commitments by international agencies\(^2\) and the current Global Logistics Cluster Strategy (2016 – 2021)\(^3\). In that context, the Logistics Cluster is implementing a localised preparedness project, the Field-Based Preparedness Project (FBPP), targeting 20 countries and the Pacific region from 2017 to 2020. The Global Logistics Cluster

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\(^2\) See https://agendaforhumanity.org/core-commitments

\(^3\) Goal 1: “Strengthen Logistics Preparedness of National Actors”

logcluster.org/preparedness
Support Team is facilitating the project coordination and implementation through regional field preparedness officers for Asia-Pacific, Africa and the Middle East, and Latin America and the Caribbean regions. Each project country, identified through a consultative candidate selection process, is being supported through a deployed field preparedness officer. The Global Logistics Cluster Working Group (WG) is acting as a Logistics Cluster partner group overseeing the project progress, providing subject matter expertise and direct support to global, regional, and country-level project activities. The project is conducted as a localised, multi-stakeholder project.

In light of the current activities drafting the new Logistics Cluster Strategy 2022 onwards, the WG members are asked to provide their thoughts on the continuation of FBPP beyond the current project period until the end of 2021 (request for project extension ongoing with donors). Options could be:

- Continuation (with the potential transition of roles, e.g. a partner taking active project lead in a country, area, or region) with selected current or additional project countries;
- Focus on change, impact and results review, potentially looking into further longer-term studies;
- Creation of a community guideline on good practices for localised preparedness, out of the ICS framework, to be accessible for the entire humanitarian community for actors that anticipate implementing a similar project.

WG members are invited to contribute their thoughts and ideas. The topic will be reviewed in one of the next WG meetings.

2. Log.IE Platform Progress & Rollout Plan

The Logistics Information Exchange (Log.IE) platform development and its planned rollout in the project countries for 2021 was presented to the working group members. Work is ongoing to further scale the platform provision to national stakeholders and government in all FBPP project countries, where feasible and a respective need was identified (so-called “soft-launch” scenario). Log. IE’s functionality range development is still progressing based on needs identification, partner input and field testing. WG members are invited to share thoughts and ideas on possible future use and invited to participate in field testing and feedback on technical development.

The WG discussed the required efforts on data maintenance and cleaning and potential further use cases beyond Logistics and Supply Chain.

ESUPS has already engaged in discussions to link their stocks info collected with Log.IE and will follow up bilaterally on those discussions.

Log.IE is further able to interconnect with existing datasets on a national, regional, and global level and will continue advocating with respective data stakeholders for active data exchange.

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4 See WG ToR
5 See FBPP concept note
The Working Group members are invited to explore further use cases or ideas on where/how/what else Log.IE could be used within the Logistics Cluster community (e.g. as a tool in Logistics Cluster operations for physical access constraints mapping and rapid assessments/data collection, etc.) and potentially beyond.

3. Country Update

**Latin America & Caribbean Countries Update**

**Colombia**: The first Logistics Preparedness Workshop was successfully held online in April, gathering more than 100 participants. Key actors from the private, public and humanitarian sectors agreed on concrete actions from the main bottleneck identified during the Gaps Analysis Phase of the project conducted over the last three months. The NDMO (UNGRD) is now fully co-leading the initiative.

**Haiti**: Despite the difficulty to shift the focus from Logistics Sector activities to Preparedness activities and limited availability of partners, the Project continues to engage with the NDMO (DGPC) for long term capacity strengthening initiatives. The Log.IE platform is being implemented in Haiti.

**Honduras**: The scoping mission report was finalised and shared with key actors in-country. A Preparedness Expert has been identified and will be deployed in the coming weeks to Tegucigalpa.

**Guatemala**: The project implementation has not started yet. A scoping mission will be organised in May 2021.

**Africa & Middle East Countries Update**

**Iraq**: The Gap Analysis Workshop for Federal Iraq is tentatively planned to be held in Bagdad after Ramadan in June.

**Kenya**: Endorsement of the Project from the government side has been pending since December 2020. It has been agreed with the WFP Office that if there is no commitment by May, Kenya should be dropped from the candidate list.

**Madagascar**: Project has been fully supported and implemented by national actors. GLC expects to phase out its support by mid-2021.

**Malawi**: Implementation of the Project action plan is ongoing.

**Mozambique**: Current country context is no longer feasible to continue with the project. It has been discussed to phase out the project while fully handing over the logistics sector coordination structure to the INGD.

**Sierra Leone**: The Gap Analysis Workshop is tentatively planned to be held after Ramadan in June.

**South Sudan**: The preparedness project is on hold while in-country actors are responding to ongoing emergencies.

**Zimbabwe**: Implementation of the Project action plan is ongoing.

**Asia-Pacific Countries Update**

**Bhutan**: Project Officer started remotely in February 2021, supporting the government to host an initiation workshop for the establishment of the Logistics Preparedness Working Group in Q2 2021.

**Cambodia**: The first Provincial Humanitarian Logistics Preparedness Workshop, led by NDMO, was conducted in February 2021. The Expert finished her mission and handed it over to the National Officer.

**Laos**: The National Logistics Preparedness Action Plan and Working Group TOR endorsed by NDMO and other partners in March 2021. Focal points of the working group members were also nominated, and a contact list was thus created for further coordination & info sharing.

[logcluster.org/preparedness](http://logcluster.org/preparedness)
**Nepal**: Project Officer continues working with the NDMO and National Logistics Cluster to better integrate logistics preparedness into national frameworks. Potential collaboration between Log.IE and the NDMO’s disaster management info sharing platform is being explored.

**Philippines**: Project Officer supported the renewal of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation and WFP to include logistics preparedness capacity strengthening.

**Tajikistan**: Project Officer started remotely in March 2021 and is working with WFP CO to recruit national officers to work with the NDMO.

### 4. Field-Based Preparedness Project Session at the GLM

It has been reminded that the FBPP has three sessions at the Global Logistics Meeting: 30 minutes with a focus on project highlights, a 10 minutes Log.IE session on 27 April, and a Log.IE marketplace session on 29 April.

The WG recommended having a form of review of the Preparedness Project in-country, a way to evaluate the work that has been done like be a summary of what the preparedness unit has been doing, including what worked and what did not, as starting point towards assessment of success or change, shifting the perspective of focusing on the immediate response to a preparedness-oriented strategy. Behavioural change is harder to evaluate as indicators are limited yet worth exploring further. This discussion will be carried out in further detail towards Q3-Q4/2021.

The WG suggested further discussions with other global clusters on how they invest in preparedness, what works for them, and how this could also inspire future ideas for the Logistics Cluster Preparedness Project.

The WG members agreed on the importance of impact and change measurement, as well in cases where new emergencies can be assessed for potential indications on project impact. The ICS Capacity Needs Mapping (CNM) can be used for such reviews.

The WG also noted the long-term challenge of preparedness.

### 5. A.O.B

- WG Participants agreed to have the monthly Logistics Cluster Working Group meetings on the second Thursday of every month at 10:00 CEST/CET until December 2021.
- The Regional Project Officer for the Africa & Middle East region will be on break in service for three months starting from May 2021. During this period, Martin Keitsch will cover the region.
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