Operational Highlights

- The month of October saw the largest number of trucks moving into Tigray through the one humanitarian corridor available (Afar region) since 12 July: **477 trucks** in total arrived in Mekele from Semera, out of which 138 were Logistics Cluster trucks and partners trucks facilitated by the Logistics Cluster\(^1\). Despite this, cargo movement was rapidly halted in 20 October with no more convoys passing to Tigray after this date.

- **1,111 m³** of humanitarian cargo were received for storage at the seven warehouses the Logistics Cluster makes available to partners.

- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of 2,588 m³ of supplies on behalf of 17 partners to **11 different locations** in Addis Ababa, Adama, Amhara and Tigray regions.

- As a response to the slowdown of the cargo movement in Northern Ethiopia at the end of October, the Logistics Cluster has initiated processes of warehouse capacity enlargement in two key locations: Addis Ababa and Semera.

- A total of **10 coordination meetings** were organised by the Logistics Cluster in Addis Ababa (online), Mekele, Shire, and Bahir Dar, to which **58 different partners** participated.

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\(^1\) The remaining trucks are WFP trucks

https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a
Background

The Logistics Cluster in Ethiopia continues to assist partners in facilitating humanitarian convoys into conflict-affected regions in close collaboration with WFP. The month of October saw the largest number of trucks passing into Tigray since the beginning of convoy movements on 12 July: 477 trucks, out of which 138 were Logistics Cluster trucks on behalf of nine partners, arrived at Mekele through the only accessible humanitarian corridor. This represented a total of 18,263 mt of humanitarian cargo providing life-saving supplies to affected populations.

However, several challenges faced by the humanitarian community in Northern Ethiopia continue to increase this month. The humanitarian fuel in Tigray ran out on 18 October and the UNHAS flights to and from Mekele were suspended as of 23 October until further notice due to security concerns. In anticipation of logistics bottlenecks resulting from the slowdown of cargo movement, the Logistics Cluster has initiated the process of increasing storage capacity in two key locations in the past month: Addis Ababa and Semera.

Increasing needs in the Amhara and Afar regions have also pushed the Logistics Cluster to expand its activities to support partners. The Logistics Cluster in Bahir Dar held two bi-weekly coordination meetings where partners and stakeholders participated. In addition, requests for 10 Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) on behalf of two partners in the Amhara in the past month were received and finalised.

Coordination and Information Management

- With the significant logistics challenges faced by partners in Ethiopia due to the spill-over of the conflict in Northern Ethiopia, the Logistics Cluster continued to hold regular meetings in different locations to address the coordination needs of the humanitarian community.
- In October, the Logistics Cluster held ten coordination meetings, to which 58 different organisations participated and engaged with the Logistics Cluster and other participants.
- The Logistics Cluster also shared four sets of weekly dashboards that summarise the following information: the number of trucks that arrived in Tigray in the past seven days, the number of total trucks that arrived into Tigray since 12 July and the number of Logistics Cluster-facilitated trucks that arrived into Tigray since 12 July. These dashboards were shared with partners every Tuesday and included a breakdown of cargo type, sender organisation and volume of cargo sent.
- Additionally, the Logistics Cluster published 16 information management products on the dedicated webpage. Meeting minutes, monthly updates, operational planning maps, and physical road constraints maps are among the main products available on the site that the Logistics Cluster maintains.
- To better understand the logistics gaps and needs of partners in the Amhara region and acquire greater visibility on the pipeline of partners active in the Amhara region, the Logistics Cluster carried out a survey in October and collected data from 8 active partners in the region. Additionally, the Logistics Cluster works closely with Cluster coordinators to consolidate further information on logistics needs for partners’ relief cargo in the Amhara region.
Logistics Services

- Transport and storage services were available to partners in seven logistics hubs: Adama, Addis Ababa, Kombolcha, Semera, Shire, Gondar and Mekele. In these hubs, the Logistics Cluster provides humanitarian partners with access to common storage facilities, dedicated transport, and truck assembly points. Partners can submit their requests for storage or transport services via ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org, filling the Service Request Form (SRF).
- Additionally, the Logistics Cluster makes available Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) that can be transported and installed where needed. The Logistics Cluster also supports the transportation and installation of these units, which provide a storage capacity of 320 m².

Storage

- The storage capacity across the seven hubs represents 10,740 m², out of which 2,160 m² are inside Tigray (Shire and Mekele). In October, **1,011 m³ of supplies from 10 partners** were received at the warehouses. The majority of the supplies were stored in Adama (46%) and Addis Ababa (41%).
- As shown in the graph, the cargo was mostly WASH and Food Security items, accounting for 86.5% of all the cargo received for storage in October.
As of 31 October, 2,164 m³ of supplies were stored at the warehouses on behalf of 13 partners.

The Logistics Cluster processed 10 MSU requests on behalf of two partners in the Amhara region, which have been finalised, and MSUs have been handed over.

**Road Transport**

- Seventeen partners requested transport services to the Logistics Cluster in October. In response to these requests, a total of 2,588 m³ of supplies were dispatched to 11 locations. 91% of these supplies were distributed to 8 locations within Tigray.
- As displayed in the graph below, close to half (44%) of all the cargo transported were Shelter items. The remaining cargo transported was then mainly composed of WASH supplies (29%), Food supplies (21%), Health (4%) and Nutrition (2%).

**Humanitarian convoys to Tigray:**

- The Logistics Cluster continued supporting the humanitarian convoys to Tigray, coordinating the notification to be sent to the NDRMC to allow the convoy movement through the corridor from Semera to Mekele through Abala. Through this joint effort, 138 trucks coordinated or facilitated by the Logistics Cluster arrived at Mekele during October. The items
transported represented 5,801 mt of life-saving supplies, were Food Security (56%) and Nutrition (25%) supplies accounted for the majority of items; followed by Shelter (11%), WASH (4%), mixed cargo and Protection (1%).

- Out of the 138 trucks, 12 were facilitated by the Logistics Cluster to 8 partners requesting transport services, and 126 trucks were partners’ trucks on behalf of 3 partners who joined the Logistics Cluster-coordinated convoys.
- Since 20 October, convoy movements from Semera to Mekele have been halted. Hence, at the end of October, 169 Logistics Cluster facilitated trucks on behalf of 16 partners remain in dry port in Semera, awaiting for convoy movement to resume.

Contacts

Andrea Rosales  
Logistics Cluster Coordinator  
andrea.rosales@wfp.org

Pamela Onyango  
Logistics Cluster Deputy Coordinator  
pamela.onyango@wfp.org

Mustapha Kemokai  
Logistics Cluster Operations Manager  
mustapha.kemokai@wfp.org

Hannah Bamberger  
Information Management Officer  
hannah.bamberger@wfp.org

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