Learn how to use LogIE

This manual provides an overview of the main components of LogIE. In the document components are referred to as ‘widgets’. It should be noted, that not all LogIE pages will feature all of the widgets below. This is because every page has been designed based on operational needs, and as such only those relevant to operational activities are selected for display.

Please note: The document is intended as a guide on how to navigate and use the LogIE interface. For information about what the tool is, refer to: https://logcluster.org/logie/about

Its main functionalities

LogIE uses what’s called geographic information system technology (GIS). In other words, it uses geographic data to help visualize logistics information for the humanitarian community.

This data is organised into layers. In LogIE these layers represent key logistics infrastructure and information including roads (and road tonnage capacity), bridges, ports, airports, warehouses, and so on. Instead of showing each layer simultaneously, LogIE groups this information into what’s called modules. Every module contains different groups of layers, and therefore every module has a different use case.

For example, you can view the module “Physical Access Constraint (PAC)” which will show roads, bridges, and accessibility of routes. Or you can view the “Logistics Capacity Mapping (LCM)” module where users can see current humanitarian warehouse mapping capacity for a specific country or region. The different modules appear at the top of the screen as a horizontal menu allowing for easy navigation across different use cases.

LogIE visualizes layers on top of a map (basemap). Users can:

- Change both the layer view (using the “Layers widget”)
- Change the basemap view (using the “Basemap widget”). Examples of basemaps include satellite imagery and Open Street Maps.
Within the map’s interface, a legend is used to display the meaning of the symbols, colours and styles used to represent data. User can see this information in the “Legend widget.”

As with most web maps, LogIE has zoom functionality, allowing users to zoom in or out of specific areas of interest. On desktop the functionality can be accessed using two buttons (‘+’ zoom in; ‘–’ zoom out). On mobile, the user can simply zoom two fingers to zoom.

Symbols and icons appearing on the basemap (for example a bridge or a warehouse) are described as ‘features.’ And every feature is categorized under a specific layer (see above). In most of the cases, when users click on a feature, a pop-up window will open. The pop-up details information relating to the feature. For example, if you have the LCM layer selected, and you click on a specific warehouse, a pop-up will open. This pop-up will then show all the information from that warehouse. Pop-ups can contain text, images, videos, and documents to help users better understand the context. Also, pop-up windows offer the possibility to share the feature through a url and, if the feature has an “Logistics Capacity Assessment” (LCA) associated, it will to its page. For information about the LCA, refer to: https://logcluster.org/lcas.

If users are looking for a specific feature they can utilize the “Search widget,” entering key words related to the infrastructure or topic.

LogIE collects crowd-sourced information. One way of collecting this information is through the “Report widget.” Once a report is made, the data is submitted to LogIE for validation (i.e. it won’t automatically go public) – see here for data governance and validation process. The report will then be reviewed by an Information Management (IM) Officer, who may seek additional clarification if required. Once validated, the IM Officer will update the information on the map accordingly.

Overall, crowdsourced reports help IM officers to better understand the current operational situation on the ground. They are also key in helping provide the humanitarian community with logistics timely information and a common operational picture.
Change language

LogIE speaks different languages. On every page different languages are available depending on the operational context. To change the language users can use the “Language widget.”

Sketch and print

Information presented through LogIE can be also printed in hardcopy as map in pdf format. This function is available through the “Print widget”. Prior to printing, users can ‘draw’ electronically on the map to highlight specific areas of interest, or identify key features, gaps, or shortfalls. To do so, use the “Sketch widget”. When printed, the hardcopy map will also contain this sketch.

Filter

The information appearing on the map can also be filtered. For this there is a “Filter widget”. Most of the information that appears filtered, won’t disappear but will remain somewhat transparent.

Analytics

Beyond displaying information directly on the map, LogIE also aggregates data through graphs and charts. This data visualization capability appears inside the “Analytics widget”. The charts displayed in the widget are directly connected to the features on the map. So, for example, when the user clicks on a part of the pie chart, all features that are aggregated in this part are highlighted on the map. In this way, the analytics widget also acts as a filter.