

Highlights

- Capacity Needs Mapping activities have concluded, considering feedback and comments raised by the GLC CCS Team on the version initially submitted.
- Budget discussions for project extension beyond June 2023 have been initiated, including reconciliation of available funding, potential carry overs and projections for the coming 2 years.
- Civil engineering works for a cold store and a steel warehouse commenced at Hola – Tana River County – with good progress being made and works expected to be completed in Q2
- Comprehensive planning and recruitment for an LCA Logistics Officer substantially concluded with technical support from the GLC LCA Team providing updated templates and expected to guide the process and ensure the final LCA Document is of high quality and informative to the humanitarian community in Kenya.

Background

Kenya continues to be exposed to a broad range of hazards, both man-made and natural. Whilst the most common disasters are hydrometeorological (floods and drought), others may occur such as geomorphic and geo-tectonic, technological, and epidemic disasters. Their magnitude and frequency, aggravated by climate and man-made factors, have become more severe in the recent past, strongly impacting lives and livelihoods. It is estimated that three to four million Kenyans are affected by disasters disrupting livelihoods and resulting in liabilities exceeding USD 500 million annually.

The recently concluded short rains assessment (SRA) estimated that 3.1 million, mostly located in the arid counties, need immediate food assistance. Further, more than 500,000 children under five years old require nutrition treatment for acute or severe acute malnutrition. The number of people in need of food assistance is projected to grow to 3.5 million in the coming months if the current situation remains prevalent. Consequently, the Government of Kenya and stakeholders at national and county level are updating their response plans and mobilising resources for subsequent activities.

The Logistics Cluster Field-Based Preparedness Project (FBPP) is centred on strengthening national supply chain resilience, enhancing coordination between stakeholders, and promoting a common methodology towards logistics preparedness. The core concept of logistics preparedness is to support local and international actors before an emergency occurs. This is best achieved by working together to identify and address systemic challenges in local supply chain systems in a sustainable way, driven by national governments and actors. Globally, the project promotes a common framework. At the national level, this framework is tailored to each country's unique operational context.

A joint scoping mission between the Global Logistics Cluster and WFP Kenya Country Office was conducted in June 2021 to identify the existing disaster preparedness and response structures, regulatory frameworks, and available resources in-country; as well as to conduct a high-level Capacity Needs Mapping (CNM) exercise. Further, a detailed capacity needs mapping was conducted in the last quarter, utilizing comprehensive data collection tools, approach and methodology developed by the FBPP Global Team. The findings of the CNM will be translated into capacity strengthening activities as outlined under different capacity bundles and formed a logistics action plan for the coming 18 months of the project implementation in Kenya. This is expected to be concluded within the second quarter 2022.

Coordination

- Technical working groups for the two counties continued to engage in project coordination activities throughout the quarter, notably committing effort to revise the CNM reports and address comments and feedback provided by the GLC/CCS Team
- Desk support from GLC Global team has been of great assistance in making the strides and progress of the KEN Project as we conclude on the analysis and planning phase related activities. Meetings were scheduled on bi-weekly basis – save for unforeseen exigencies which led to a few cancellations.
- In close coordination with several actors, several activities were initiated during the quarter, with a few underway and expected to spill over to Q2. Foremost, the National Logistics Capacity Assessment review and update was last conducted in 2016. As an important tool for all emergency preparedness and response among the humanitarian community, it was identified as a priority by the CO and committed to the stewardship of the FBPP project – to leverage on the technical support from GLC and the project structures. Recruitment is being finalized, and initial discussions have been held on the next steps to expedite completion of the exercise.

Information Management

- The project information management activities were conducted as planned. Key project documentation is centrally stored in the KEN Channel of the GLC Teams Platform – accessible to all team members anywhere on the globe.
- Monthly reports have been prepared for each month of the year so far.
- A training course on Information Management was cancelled at the last minute in February due to the situation in Ukraine, with indications it will be available at a later stage. The course will provide good insights on GLC/FBPP reporting best practices and tools to further enhance the operational information management and effectiveness

Advocacy

- At a technical level, advocacy has focused on sustaining the momentum of the project commitments against a background of a challenging drought and stretched counterpart staff. Project analysis and planning phase extended longer than initially planned due to a few constraints, but continuous advocacy has seen some progress towards addressing the challenges to secure smooth and timely implementation of activities going into Q2.

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