Highlights

- Several meetings to discuss logistics support and adjusted logistics preparedness work plan were conducted with key national stakeholders including the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) National Office, and the Philippines Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF).

- Between April and June, the Preparedness Officer provided continuous logistics coordination and support to the National Logistics Cluster to keep the communication line open for any relevant logistics preparedness activities, plans, and discussions and to strengthen partnerships with relevant national stakeholders.

- The Preparedness Officer continuously advocated for and contributed to the development and endorsement of the National Logistics Cluster Operational Manual, which was subsequently endorsed by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council in the Philippines in June. This milestone has marked the conclusion of the Field Based Preparedness Project (FBPP) in the Philippines in the end of June.

Background

Based on risk indices and national-level logistics performance and capacity indicators, in 2018 Philippines was identified as one of 24 country candidates for the Global Logistics Cluster’s Field-Based Preparedness Project (“the Project”). The primary aim of the Project is to support and empower national actors to strengthen their capacity to prepare for and respond to humanitarian crises. A key element of this is the facilitation of a coordinated approach towards improving the resilience of local humanitarian supply chains and supporting effective information exchange between the government, national actors and the private sector, to ensure all actors are well prepared for joint humanitarian logistics responses. In the event of a large-scale disaster event and should the Government of the Philippines request international humanitarian assistance, the Global Logistics Cluster capacities can support national actors in facilitating a coordinated response.

In October 2019, a Field Preparedness Officer was recruited to commence the process of mapping national logistics capacities and stakeholders. Based on this, he is currently working with national responders to augment information sharing and exchange as well as assisting in the organisation of capacity strengthening initiatives based on identified needs from partners.

In 2020-2021, the Philippines experienced several disasters, including the Taal Volcano eruption since 2020 and the Typhoon Odette in 2021, reaffirming the need for coordinated logistics preparedness actions.

In March 2022, an active Taal Volcano started to emerge with an alert level 3, according to the Department of Science and Technology, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS). The Preparedness Officer was closely monitoring the situation for any logistics emergency preparedness support to the Government.

Between April and June 2022, the Preparedness Officer continued to strengthen coordination and partnerships through facilitating logistics preparedness-related discussions and logistics operational support with and among the

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National Logistics Cluster and national counterparts. By the end of June, the Field-Based Preparedness Project has officially phased out in the Philippines.

Coordination

- The Preparedness Officer facilitated discussions with OCD on the potential use of the DSWD Emergency Logistics Training curriculum and trainers as a main resource when needs arise in the conduct of Emergency Logistics course among OCD staff as well as on the handover of the Emergency Logistics Training Curriculum re-design from DSWD to OCD for members of the National Logistics Cluster.

- The Preparedness Officer supported the ongoing preparation for a table-top simulation exercise following the new Enhanced Philippine International Humanitarian Assistance (PIHA) guidelines for large scale disaster and activation of the One-Stop-Shop facilities located in the country's international airports and seaports. A planning meeting with PDRF will be conducted to identify members of a technical working group and creation of a concept note for the simulation exercise.

- The Preparedness Officer continued to advocate for and contribute to reviewing and recommending logistics preparedness actions in the National Logistics Cluster Operational Manual. In June, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) endorsed the Operational Manual, which will serve as a guideline and standard operating procedure for in-country emergency logistics preparedness and response. This milestone has marked the conclusion of the FBPP Project in the Philippines.

Information management

- The quarterly report and infographic updates of FBPP activities between January and March 2022 have been published and are now available on the Philippines Preparedness webpage.

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