LOCATION
Gaziantep (Online)

DATE
2 August 2022

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
Big Heart, BINAA for Development, Care Turkey, Ghiras Al-Nahda, Global Communities, GOAL Turkey, Hand in Hand for Aid and Development, Horan Foundation, Human Appeal, Malteser International, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF-OCB), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Takaful Al Sham (TAS), Turkish Red Crescent (TRC), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Monitoring Mechanism (UNMM), Welthungerhilfe, World Health Organization (WHO).

AGENDA
1. Situation Update
2. Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations
3. Humanitarian Logistics Operations
4. Contingency Planning
5. AOB

ACTION POINTS
• The Logistics Cluster Support Team will be reaching out to partners who flagged their interest in joining the dedicated Contingency Working Group.

1. Situation Update

• An overview of the cross-border operations was provided to partners using the latest infographic.
• The activity repartition per agency as well as the multi-year trend were presented and reflected upon (cf. PowerPoint presentation).
2. Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations

COORDINATION

- The new Logistics Cluster Support Team based in Damascus was introduced to partners. Ayad Naman (ayad.naman@wfp.orf, Logistics Cluster Coordinator) and Valentina Signori (valentina.signori@wfp.org, Information Management Officer) took up their functions in the last week of July.
- Regular coordination meetings will continue to be held in Damascus.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- An online dashboard has been set-up to enable partners to follow in real-time cross-border operations’ figures and trends.
- The physical access constraints data collection will be soon resumed by the Logistics Cluster Support Team. This data will then be mapped out and regularly updated on Physical Access Constraints maps that will be shared with partners.
- It has been stressed that an effective access constraints mapping system must be put in place before the potential autumn/winter weather hazards negatively impact the roads condition and therefore the delivery of relief items.
- Discussions on roads access constraints data collection are ongoing with UNDP.

LOGISTICS SERVICES

- Since 1st July 2022 and as planned in its strategy, the Logistics Cluster ceased to facilitate access to free storage services in the Aleppo, Rural Damascus, and Homs warehouses as no logistics gaps have been identified and that partners may avail the market capacity. The Logistics Cluster will however continue to facilitate access to free storage services in Qamishli until the end of the year.
- Bilateral services are now provided by WFP on a cost recovery basis for the Aleppo, Rural Damascus, and Homs warehouses.

3. Humanitarian Logistics Operations

Partners did not report specific developments regarding the conduct of their operations in northwest Syria.

4. Contingency Planning


https://logcluster.org/ops/syr12a
They voiced their support for a pursuit of the discussions that had previously been initiated regarding contingency planning should the UNSCR not be further extended beyond January 2023.

The establishment of a dedicated Working Group was suggested by partners to elaborate on possible scenarios and develop an operational contingency plan.

Several partners flagged their interest in joining this Working Group. They will be reached out to accordingly.

TRC signalled that it will plan an informational session on its cross-border activities by mid-August. All humanitarian organisations will be invited to attend.

A discussion will also be planned between UNMM and the Logistics Cluster Support Team to discuss lessons learnt and the way forward for cross-border operation from the transshipment hub.

It has been underlined that in case of closure of the transshipment hub, the Logistics Cluster activities inside Syria will endure.

5. AOB

Partners have been reminded that updated information are accessible on the Logistics Cluster website.

To ease regular communications between partners regarding cross-border operations:
  - A dedicated “Syria Cross-border mailing list” has been created. All communications from the Logistics Cluster will go through it going forward.
  - A WhatsApp group has been created and can be joined using this link.

The next Logistics Cluster Coordination meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 September at 10:00 (TRT).

Contacts

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