Meeting Minutes, 9 August 2022
Yemen

LOCATION: Teleconference
DATE: 9 August 2022
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster


ACTION POINTS:
• The Logistics Cluster to share a survey on logistics training needs and subsequent gaps analysis with partners.
• The Logistics Cluster to assess the Temperature Sensitive Logistics (TSL) gaps with key humanitarian partners.

AGENDA:
1. Logistics Cluster general updates
2. Partners potential training needs and gaps in supply chain staff capacity building
3. Temperature Sensitive Logistics: Temperature-controlled storage capacity for partners
4. Common logistical gaps and challenges
5. AOB

1. Logistics Cluster Update

Context Updates:
• The overall security situation remains unpredictable and fragile in Yemen.
• By the end of June, the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) remained under-funded, forcing aid organizations to reduce or close critical assistance programmes. As of 30 June, the 2022 HRP secured only 26% of the requested funds to provide lifesaving assistance and protection services to 17.9 million people.

Yemen Logistics Cluster
• The Logistics Cluster continues supporting partners, according to the 2022 Concept of Operations, that was jointly developed and subsequently approved by partners.
• The Logistics Cluster will continue to hold coordination meetings on a monthly basis.

https://logcluster.org/ops/yem10a
The Logistics Cluster Support Team will reach out bilaterally to partners to better understand the existing and foreseeable gaps in partners’ supply chain operations.

**Yemen Logistics Cluster staff updates:**

- An update was provided on the current Logistics Cluster Support Team staff:
  - Abdurahmon Okhundjanove has joined the team as a new Head of WFP Supply Chain Interagency Unit (Logistics Cluster + Bilateral Service Provision [BSP]), replacing Martin Bettley.
  - Sami Thabit, Logistics Cluster Officer based in Aden, is currently Acting Logistics Cluster Coordinator while the position is being recruited. The Logistics Cluster Coordinator will be based in Sana’a.
  - A new National Logistics Officer position (based in Sana’a) is being advertised through WFP recruitment platform. Partners were requested to share this vacancy widely.

**Common Storage**

- Temporary common storage capacity available to the humanitarian partners:
  - Sana’a: 3,000 m²
  - Aden: 5,100 m² (including 600m² temperature controlled)
  - Hodeidah: 320 m².

- Common storage capacity might be rightsized depending on humanitarian organisations clearly identified common gaps and needs.

- The Logistics Cluster is providing access to Temperature Controlled Units (TCUs) that can be installed in the key hubs to increase the temperature-controlled storage capacity, if needed.

- Mobile Storage Units (MSU) continue to be made available to humanitarian organisations for temporary loan and increased storage capacity, when and where needed.

**Air Cargo Transport**

- The main route for ad hoc air cargo transport will continue to depart from Dubai with destinations Sana’a and Aden. This service will only be activated in case of a rapid onset emergency, backed by multiple partners’ service requests, and on specific request and agreement from the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC).

- Ad hoc airlift service facilitation to Yemen is strictly intended to transport of urgent life-saving items and commodities in accordance with the priorities set by the Humanitarian Country Team. This is to ensure the best use of available common resources.

**Information Management:**

- The Logistics Cluster continues to host the Yemen Logistics Cluster website that provides variety of products (SOPs, UNHAS flight schedules, meeting minutes, updated Access and Constraints Map, forms, and guidance, etc.). The website is accessible through this link: [https://logcluster.org/ops/yem10a](https://logcluster.org/ops/yem10a).
2. Partners potential training needs and gaps in supply chain staff capacities

- One of the areas discussed during the previous Logistics Cluster meetings was the capacity building of staff. A wide range of online trainings already exists through the Logistics Cluster platform.
- Having specific and targeted practical training sessions targeting the existing gaps, was not possible earlier mainly because of COVID-19 restrictions.
- Capacity building of logistics and supply chain staff may require a periodic review, e.g., staff turnover, opening of new hubs and offices in hard-to-reach areas, various programmes, etc.
- It was also noted the need to strengthen national NGOs logistics staff capacities. Arrangement of the hands-on and practical trainings on warehouse management and cargo handling were mentioned as potential areas for capacity building activities.
- The Logistics Cluster will shortly share a survey to collect information on (a) supply chain setup and planning, (b) logistics staff capacities and challenges, (c) partners’ available capacity-strengthening resources. The survey aims to support further analysis and development of a Capacity-strengthening Plan of Action. Capacity strengthening is a shared task, and the Logistics Cluster expects active participation and feedback.
- Any common gaps on specific subjects identified among partners which are not available through other sources, and where further capacity building will make an impact in supply chain in Yemen.

3. Temperature Sensitive Logistics: Temperature-controlled storage capacity for partners

- The Logistics Cluster continues to support partners with common storage services where needed.
- The Logistics Cluster have in country stock of Temperature Controlled Units (TCUs). The existing TCUs can be deployed and installed to meet immediate and short-term (up to three months) partners’ requirements.
- As a last resort, the Logistics Cluster may also consider the deployment of additional TS capacities, depending on common requirements, partners’ concept of operations and pipeline, and supply chain gaps.

4. AoB

- Partners were encouraged to share common gaps, challenges, and lessons learnt as a way for others to learn from past experiences. This could be done on a bilateral basis, through monthly Logistics Cluster coordination meetings, and any other ad-hoc meetings.
- It was shared with partners that the Yemen authorities require all medicine and medical equipment shipments to be pre-approved by the Supreme Council of Medicine of Yemen before loading at the Port
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of Loading (POL). In the absence of these pre-approvals, the final vessel reaching Yemen will not be granted permission to berth.

- The Logistics Cluster informed partners about the availability of light cargo service through UNHAS for in-country flights.
- The Logistics Cluster coordination meeting will continue to be held once a month. The next Logistics Cluster coordination meeting will be on 13 September 2022.
- Outside the regular bi-annual User Feedback Surveys, and Logistics Cluster meetings, the Logistics Cluster partners were encouraged to continue actively sharing suggestions and feedback, through Yemen.LOGCluster@wfp.org.

Contacts

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