LOCATION: Humanitarian Hub, Leer, South Sudan

DATE: 26 July 2022

CHAIR: Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS: Coalition for Humanity, Children Aid South Sudan (CASS), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), DT Global, Hope Restoration South Sudan, International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee, Intersos, Medair, Médecins Sans Frontières Hollande, Nile Hope, Samaritans Purse, UNIDOR.

AGENDA:
1. Introduction to Logistics Cluster Operations
2. Available Logistics Services
3. Logistics Capacities, Gaps and Challenges of Partners
4. Any Other Business (AOB)

ACTION POINTS:
   a) The Logistics Cluster and partners to address the communication gap between Juba offices and field offices for air transport.
   b) Partners can request a common storage (MSU) for Leer.
   c) Movement of cargo via river to Adok and Leer as final destination to be further discussed depending on road conditions and truck availability.
   d) Partners can request further logistics training to be provided depending on needs and availability.

1. Introduction to Logistics Cluster Operations

   - The Logistics Cluster is a partnership and coordination mechanism established by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) as one of the eleven sectorial coordination bodies key to efficient and effective emergency response. The Logistics Cluster provides operational coordination support to different actors and networks in the field of humanitarian logistics, and collects, analyses and disseminates logistics information to assist field operations.
   - Given its expertise in humanitarian logistics as well as its capacity at field level, WFP was selected by IASC as the lead agency of the Logistics Cluster.
   - The three areas of activity of the Logistics Cluster in South Sudan include:
     - Provision of coordination support in and between the six Logistics Cluster hubs (Juba, Bor, Bentiu, Wau, Malakal, Rumbek), between partners at coordination meetings, and active participation from the Logistics Cluster in coordination fora at national and sub-national level.
Coordination meetings provide a platform for operational updates, understanding logistics gaps and needs, inter-agency coordination and informing partners on updated standard operating practices.

Provision of Information Management (IM) support which includes the maintenance of a South Sudan Logistics Cluster operations website, provision of dedicated Geographic Information Systems (GIS) services for humanitarian mapping purposes, and the creation and sharing of IM products (weekly transportation schedules, list of transporters available, etc).

Facilitation of humanitarian logistics services, including cargo transportation via air and road, and provision of common storage services as facilitated by WFP. The Logistics Cluster does not have “members.” All registered humanitarian organisations are invited to participate and request logistics services.

Knowledge of the Logistics Cluster’s mandate leads to improved working relationships and efficiencies among humanitarian actors. Further information on the mandate, goals and overall strategy of the Logistics Cluster can be found in the Logistics Cluster Strategy 2022-2026.

The Logistics Cluster at country level acts as temporary coordination mechanism during emergency response and therefore does not have members as such. All registered humanitarian organisations are invited to participate and request logistics services support.

2. Available Logistics Services

The Logistics Cluster in South Sudan facilitates access to additional logistics services to meet humanitarian partners’ needs. These logistics services are currently delivered under two different terms and modalities:

- Free-to-user common logistics services.
- Service user full cost-recovery bilateral logistics services.

The common logistics services facilitated by the Logistics Cluster are to fill existing logistics gaps in South Sudan. Logistics Cluster services in South Sudan are offered on a free-to-user basis, with the exception of river movement for international NGO’s and UN Agencies (details provided below). These include:

**Free-to-user common logistics services:** the following free-to-user logistics services are currently in place in South Sudan for partners:

- **Air cargo transportation services as facilitated by the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS):** these target rapid humanitarian missions for extreme lifesaving operations, as well as locations unreachable by river or road. UNHAS Standard Administrative and Operating Procedures (SAOP) can be accessed [here](https://logcluster.org/ops/ssa1a).
  - The Logistics Cluster facilitates access to an Mi-8 Helicopter and a fixed-wing specialised aircraft available for air transportation.
  - The Logistics Cluster does not facilitate air cargo to locations reachable by road or river.
  - The Logistics Cluster does not fly explosives, prefabricated items, non-collapsible jerry cans, and items with dimensions larger than the available aircraft.
Air cargo is dispatched from Juba, Bor, or Rumbek. Each dispatching location covers different destinations. For further information about which dispatching location serves which destinations, partners are invited to reach out to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org.

Air cargo requests are prioritised according to the priority locations defined by the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) in South Sudan. Air cargo requests are processed according to the following mechanism:

- Partners determine whether a location is to be considered as a priority location and inform their respective Sectoral Cluster Coordinator.
- Each Sectoral Cluster Coordinator informs the Needs Analysis Working Group (NAWG) at the NAWG meetings. NAWG consolidated recommendations on priority locations for scaling up are sent to the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG).
- ICCG determines the final priority locations.
- The Logistics Cluster supports the inter-agency response according to ICCG indications.

Road transportation services including the coordination of convoys and trucking services for short and long cargo transport services:

- The Logistics Cluster moreover facilitates access to IOM’s Common Transport Services (CTS) trucks to transport key humanitarian supplies on behalf of humanitarian actors from warehouses to and from airstrips, river ports, and storage, distribution or construction sites. The Beyond Response operations from Wau, Bentiu and Malakal use the CTS trucks to provide road transport to deep field locations accessible by road.

Common Storage Services and Access to Mobile Storage Units (MSUs):

- The Logistics Cluster facilitates access to common storage in six hubs and to partner-managed Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) in 36 locations across South Sudan. WFP, as a provider of last resort, allocates additional storage capacity to partners willing to manage the warehouses as common storage facilities and to be located in ICCG prioritised locations.
- For further information, partners are invited to reach out to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org

Service user full cost-recovery bilateral logistics services:

River transportation services:

- Bilateral Service Provision (BSP) is a process where WFP acts as a service provider for organisations ("service users") requesting supply chain services. The Logistics Cluster, as a coordination body, links service users to WFP’s BSP and other commercial river transportation providers. Partners can then choose to use WFP Bilateral Service Provision on full cost-recovery basis by sending requests for river transportation services through the Logistics Cluster. The Logistics Cluster will act as the focal point.
between service users and WFP as service provider. For further information, partners are invited to reach out to southsudan.rivertransport@wfp.org

- Dispatch locations for river transportation services are Malakal and Bor.

- All resources (transport schedules, convoy request form, etc) can be found on the Logistics Cluster South Sudan Operation website.

### 3. Logistics Capacities, Gaps and Challenges of Partners

- Partners shared the need for common storage in Leer and Mayendit. The Logistics Cluster advised that additional storage can be provided on a case-by-case basis, subject to the requirements for the loan of an MSU. Partners can make their request at southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org.

- The Logistics Cluster discussed challenges around air operations:
  - There is a need to improve communication between Juba offices and field offices when cargo is being delivered, including time and date of delivery.
  - If the estimated time of delivery (ETD) changes, organizations asked for them to be notified as soon as possible as the airstrip has no shade or area for waiting. Additionally, if the ETD becomes considerably later, they requested for the rotation to be postponed to the next day, as many organizations have curfew and the amount of time for unloading the aircraft might lead to a risk for individuals.

- The Logistics Cluster discussed challenges around river operations with partners:
  - A new checkpoint was set up on the road to Leer which has been affecting cargo movement along this road. The Logistics Cluster will raise this with the Needs and Access Working Group for their support.
  - The road from Adok port to Leer is heavily affected by the rain, with several chokepoints along the way. There has been some maintenance and filling of potholes and the lack of rain has allowed it to remain accessible so far, however in August they foresee the road becoming inaccessible.
  - Should cargo be delivered to Adok port, there would be the need to have a truck and/or warehouse/storage space on site.

- Only one truck is available for hire in Leer – costing $1200 per day., Due to high usage, and to a lack of spare parts and damages the truck is often out of order.

- Capacity building is needed for staff from partner organisations, specifically in warehouse management and general logistics.

- Concern about immediate locations surrounding Leer also needing immediate support. While the Logistics Cluster acknowledged the urgent need, due to the large volume of requests, it must prioritise ICCG priority locations first. The Logistics Cluster also does not provide last mile delivery of cargo.

### 3. Any Other Business

- An invitation for women to join the Women in Logistics Network South Sudan was extended. The network has a vision to empower women working in logistics in South Sudan, addressing gender
imbalance to enable the logistics industry benefit from female talent. Its mission statement is to increase the capacity of women in this field through amplifying their voices and enabling them to connect, learn and grow professionally in the next five years. Interested women can sign up here: https://forms.gle/2aKnTZFWPqdeRspx8.

- The Logistics Cluster conducted a mini–Logistics Capacity Assessment with partners to get information on the logistical capacity of Leer and Rupkuai. This will be compiled to provide an overview of the available logistics capacities in Leer, to be provided upon request.

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