Syria Operation
Türkiye – Coordination Meeting Minutes
21 October 2022

LOCATION
Gaziantep, Türkiye [in person and online]

DATE
21 October 2022

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
CARE, Ghiras Alnahda, Global Communities, GOAL, Hand in Hand, Human Appeal, Malteser International, Maram Foundation, Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF Spain), Relief International.

AGENDA
1. Logistics Cluster Update
2. WFP Bilateral Service Provision Update
3. Partners Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks
4. AOB

ACTION POINTS
• The Logistics Cluster team will report partners’ operational constraints to OCHA Access unit for necessary follow-up and advocacy efforts.
• Partners to share their needs for dedicated logistics trainings and capacity-building initiatives with the Logistics Cluster team.
• NGOs interested in visiting the UN transhipment hub to contact the Logistics Cluster team to organise a visit.

1. Logistics Cluster Update

CROSS-BORDER OPERATION
• In September the Logistics Cluster team facilitated the transhipment of 293 trucks in the UN transhipment hub of Reyhanli, on behalf of WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA with health supplies, IOM with Shelter items, and WFP with food assistance. Over half of the shipments were transported to Idleb governorate, and around 30 percent to Aleppo governorate.
• An increase in operations is seen in the first half of October, with a total of 292 trucks, delivering 7,300 MT of humanitarian commodities. A further increase is expected over the coming weeks in light of the winterisation activities and prepositioning efforts under the current UNSCR expiring on 10 January 2023.
• Two delegations visited the UN transhipment hub to witness cross-border operations, logistics arrangements and monitoring mechanism. Both delegations met with LC, UNMM and agencies’ representatives and discussed main operational challenges and future scenarios.

https://logcluster.org/ops/syr12a
Syria Operation
Türkiye – Coordination Meeting Minutes
21 October 2022

• An online dashboard is updated regularly to allow partners to access in real-time all key figures and trends related to cross-border operations and is available here.

CROSSLINE OPERATION

• The last inter-agency convoy from Aleppo was organised on 17 September, with the facilitation of the Logistics Cluster, and delivered food and NFIs (dignity kits, medicines, WASH items and nutrition supplies) on behalf of 5 UN agencies to Sarmada, Idleb governorate. The next inter-agency convoy is planned on 22 October.

COMMON SERVICES

• The Logistics Cluster currently operates one common warehouse, in Qamishly, free-to-user. During the month of September, 62 m3 of items were released; no new consignments were received.
• To request free storage services facilitated by the Logistics Cluster, contact syria.clustercargo@wfp.org.

2. WFP Bilateral Service Provision Update

• In case of specific logistics needs, WFP could assist humanitarian partners with various logistics services on a cost-recovery basis (contact Syria BSP Logistics unit for further information: co_syr_bsp_logistics@wfp.org).

3. Partners Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks

• Partners raised concerns about possible scenarios after January, in case of no further UNSCR extension. One main issue is in regards to some critical medical items that are now procured and transported by UN agencies across northwest Syria for NGO partners’ distribution.
• It was also reported that limitations are currently envisaged for other internationally procured items subject to restrictions were shipped from Türkiye to Syria.
• Advocacy has to be done with the support of the OCHA Access team, and the relevant Cluster leads to facilitate approvals.
• Discussions moved to possible operational constraints and the role of the Logistics Cluster in case of no UNSCR. The Logistics Cluster mandate to facilitate the management of the UN transhipment hub, on behalf of the Cluster Lead Agency, the service provider, would cease. Partners discussed various possible scenarios, such as the continuity of the Logistics Cluster coordination and IM activities to facilitate the shift in operational modalities by humanitarian actors. Capacity-building initiatives can also be facilitated, if requested by partners.

https://logcluster.org/ops/syr12a
• One partner requested the Logistics Cluster to facilitate the consolidation of warehouse information and capacity across northwest Syria to support operational planning. This exercise will require inputs from all actors with field presence inside the country.

• Another point discussed concerned alternative funding mechanisms for international and national NGOs, with the current Pooled Fund for humanitarian interventions into northwest Syria run by OCHA. The chair informed partners that discussions are moving forward among donors to ensure organisations have access to funds to continue and scale up their operations.

4. AoB

• Next coordination meeting on cross-border operations is planned for Tuesday, 22 November. An email invite will be circulated closer to the date.

Contacts

Valentina Signori  Logistics Cluster Officer  valentina.signori@wfp.org
Levent Kucukaslan  Hub Manager  levent.kucukaslan@wfp.org