
Background

- The current drought in Somalia is expected to escalate as Somalia faces the risk of a fifth consecutive failed rainy season between October and December 2022. In addition, insecurity, deteriorating infrastructure and global supply and price shocks are further exacerbating the crises. In response, the Logistics Cluster is stepping up common services and operational support to address growing needs, fill gaps and ensure effective and timely delivery of assistance in the country. WFP leads the Logistics Cluster to help the humanitarian community reach the affected population, particularly in hard-to-reach areas.

Operational Highlights

- In October 2022, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 226 mt of humanitarian cargo to 10 destinations, supporting a total of 17 organizations.
- WFP, UNHAS and the Logistics Cluster have mobilized a helicopter for the use of the humanitarian community in Somalia to help provide support in hard-to-reach areas. In October, this air asset transported 14.809 mt of assistance on behalf of three organizations to two hard-to-reach locations: Qansaxdhere and Buur Hakaba.
- The Logistics Cluster is currently in the process of evaluating the logistics capacity of the port of Garacad located in the Mudug region of Central Somalia, and the assessment will be published on the Logistics Cluster website by December 2022. The port was opened on 22 October 2022 and its significance was recognized by the President in Somalia, the Minister of Puntland and an Ethiopian regional delegation.
- Since 2019, cross-border movements between Kenya and Somalia have been halted due to the temporary closure of the border by the Government of the Republic of Kenya. When the drought crisis broke out, the impact of the border closure on humanitarian operations became critical. So far in 2022, WFP has facilitated the movement of 1,530 mt of emergency food items, including high-energy, nutrient-rich emergency relief food items across two cross-border humanitarian operations. A third border crossing movement between Kenya and southern regions of Somalia is planned for the end of November.
- Humanitarian access remains a concern due to insecurity, creating high dependence on air transport and increasing the cost and complexity of logistics operations.

Coordination

- In October, the Logistics Cluster facilitated two National Coordination Meetings. The next Logistics Cluster National Coordination Meetings are planned for 8 and 22 November 2022.
- The Logistics Cluster facilitated a Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting with 'IMPortation and Customs Clearance Together' (IMPACCT) and partners to agree on next steps on customs clearance action points in Somalia. The TWG agreed on the following action points: (I) The Logistics Cluster to update the tax exemption tracking sheet on a quarterly basis, (II) TWG members to update the customs clearance process workflow including the definition of sector-specific requirements and changes to government focal points, (III) TWG members to map key stakeholders involved in customs processes, including contact lists and (IV) TWG members to update and expand the 2020 transport document requirement list. The TWG will meet again on 23 November 2022 to map out the stakeholders involved in the customs clearance processes.
- The Logistics Cluster, with the support of OCHA, donors and other key stakeholders, advocates for the reopening of the Kenya-Somalia border for more effective cross-border humanitarian operations.

Information Management

- As part of the Somali Drought Operation & Coordination Centre (DOCC)'s need to further discuss storage capacity for repositioning purposes, the Logistics Cluster carried out a warehouse mapping exercise to identify key warehouse capacities in Somalia. A warehouse map was developed in April and updated in October. The analysis relied on: (1) the number of warehouse sites in Somalia, (2) their storage capacity (m²) and (3) the estimated available space. The Logistics Cluster aims to publish the one-page summary document by the end of November.
- The Logistics Cluster is currently in the process of consolidating input from all partners for the creation of a comprehensive directory of suppliers in Somalia. The objective of this list is to provide partners with faster access to providers in Somalia. The list includes the names of the providers, their location, the types of goods and services provided and contact information. Following the consolidation of these data, the directory will be posted on the Logistics Cluster website for everyone to access by the end of November 2022.
- Throughout October, the Logistics Cluster published eighteen Information Management products including meeting minutes, maps, and situation updates on its [operational website](#). Additionally, the Logistics Cluster published:
 - [The Assessment on Customs Clearance Challenges](#).
 - [The Monthly Fuel Report for October 2022](#).

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