LOCATION
OCHA conference room and online

DATE
13 December 2022

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
Action Against Hunger (ACF), Child’s Destiny and Development Organization (CHIDDO), DT Global, Humane Aid for Community Organization (HACO), Humanity and Inclusion, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) France, MSF Spain, Mobile Humanitarian Agency (MHA), Nile Hope, OXFAM, Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH), Samaritan’s Purse, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Women Vision

ACTION POINTS
• Partners to send requests for Leer (Adok) and Bentiu (Manga Port) to southsudan.rivertransport@wfp.org going forward.
• Organisations to start preparing for the dry season and make use of improved road access in the coming months to preposition cargo.
• Partners willing to take over management of a mobile storage unit in one of the hubs to send an email to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org.

AGENDA
1. Logistics Cluster Operations Updates
2. Dry Season Prepositioning
3. 2023 Forecast
4. Any Other Business (AOB) / Discussion

1. Logistics Cluster Operations Updates

River Movements
• The Logistics Cluster will be serving two more destinations by river going forward. Adok port will be used to reach Leer and Manga Port will be used to reach Bentiu. Both destinations are served from Bor only and the tentative departure date for the next river convoy is 10 January. Partners are reminded that the cluster will no longer serve these locations by air.
• The Logistics Cluster shares a weekly transport plan with tentative departure dates and deadlines by email and on the webpage. Organisations are also invited to submit their Service Request Forms for river transport if there are no movements scheduled. Ad hoc convoys can be organised if enough cargo is available.
• Participants were reminded that the Logistics Cluster facilitates access to WFP’s Bilateral Service Provision (BSP) for river transport on a 50% cost sharing basis for INGOs/UN. All costs are covered by the Logistics Cluster for NNGOs (assessed on case-by-case basis).
Common Storage

- The Logistics Cluster will start handing over existing Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) in its hubs (particularly Malakal and Bentiu) to partners who have sufficient goods in stock to fill an MSU.
- The partner will be responsible for security, warehouse and stock management, and all other aspects. The Logistics Cluster will only loan the physical structure.
- Preference will be given to partners willing to manage the MSU as common storage, allowing access to other organisations with urgent storage needs.
- One or two MSUs will be maintained by the cluster for transit cargo or organizations with low quantities.
- Any organisation who is already interested to take over an MSU can send an email to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org.
- There is no minimum quantity of cargo required, however, space should be used efficiently. Organisations with smaller quantities may also choose to share between themselves if they want to make use of this opportunity.

2. Dry Season Prepositioning

- Road transport is the most cost-efficient method to transport large quantities of humanitarian cargo. It also enhances preparedness for emergencies by having stocks readily available in strategic locations to reduce lead times. To support partners with prepositioning, the cluster facilitates regular road convoys from Juba and Bor, with increased frequencies in the dry season. It also offers Beyond Response road transport services, using IOM’s Common Transport Service (CTS) trucks from Wau and Bentiu (and to a limited extent Malakal and Bor) to reach project locations by road.
- Partners are required to organise their own trucks for road convoys coordinated by the Logistics Cluster. The cluster provides coordination, access and security, and monitoring services.
- The Logistics Cluster discussed all the possible road convoy routes, which include the Western Corridor, Western, Central and Eastern Equatoria, Northern Jonglei and Pibor. It was highlighted that the northern Jonglei roads are likely to become accessible the coming months. Road access to Pibor and Akobo is estimated to open early next year too. Partners are urged to make use of the short window of opportunity when it arises.
- Organisations are invited to share information on road accessibility with the team via southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org.

3. 2023 Forecast

- The Logistics Cluster shared the forecast for common services facilitated by the cluster in 2023 to prepare partners better for any upcoming changes. For air cargo transport, one helicopter will be available throughout the year, and contrary to this year, a second helicopter will not be engaged during the rainy season. The fixed wing from Juba will remain available for locations accessible by plane, but will be reduced to one rotation per day only.

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• For river transport, the cluster will either keep funding 50% of the costs or, in case of lower funding levels, will resort to 100% cost recovery. The team will endeavour to share information about any changes in a timely manner.

• The Logistics Cluster will increase the frequency of road convoys during the dry season, to allow all partners to make use of road transport.

• Organisations are requested to start planning where their cargo needs to be next year and by when; to identify if there is sufficient storage space in those locations; and to include realistic logistics costs in 2023 project budgets. Stocks should be procured in advance, where funding allows, so that organisations do not miss out on the opportunity to transport their cargo during the dry season.

Partners were also reminded not to use air transport for goods which are not required in the immediate future, but rather use river or wait until the road becomes accessible.

4. AOB/Discussion

• Partners requested a list of commercial river transporters. This will be shared bilaterally upon request.

• An organisation was looking to source a refrigerated truck for the transport of medicines. The cluster put them in contact with another organisation transporting medication.

The next coordination meeting will take place online on Tuesday 10 January 2023 at 14:00.

Contacts

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