The current drought in Somalia is expected to get even worse as the country risks experiencing a fifth consecutive failed rainy season between October and December 2022. In addition, insecurity, deteriorating infrastructure, world supply and price shocks exacerbate crises. In response, the Logistics Cluster is scaling up common services and operational support to respond to growing needs, address gaps and ensure effective and timely delivery of aid in the country. WFP leads the Logistics Cluster to help the humanitarian community reach the affected populations, especially in hard-to-reach areas.

In November, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 138.61 mt of humanitarian cargo to 6 destinations, supporting a total of 7 organizations during the month.

For the use of the humanitarian community in Somalia, WFP, UNHAS and the Logistics Cluster mobilized a helicopter to help deliver assistance to hard-to-reach areas. Throughout November, this air asset transported over 50.612 mt to four hard-to-reach locations: Buurhakaba, Jalalaqsi, Mahas and Qansaxdhere.

Since 2019, cross-boundary movement between Kenya and Somalia has been halted due to the temporary closure of the border by the Government of the Republic of Kenya. With the onset of the drought crisis, the impact of closing the border on humanitarian operations became critical. From 21 November 2022 to 9 December 2022, WFP facilitated the movement of 789 mt of emergency food items across the border, including high-energy, nutrient-dense emergency relief food products, on behalf of four organizations. In total, throughout 2022, WFP facilitated the transport of 2,319 mt on behalf of five organizations in three border-crossing periods, saving in $2,536,986 in alternative transport costs. With the support of OCHA, donors and other key humanitarian partners in Somalia, the Logistics Cluster continues to advocate for the reopening of the border and for the continuation of cross-border humanitarian operations.

The Logistics Cluster finalized its draft for the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2023. The total requirements for 2023 are 29,601,551USD and the response strategy aims to focus on:

- facilitating access to the provision of logistics, coordination, and information management services on behalf of the humanitarian community and meeting, based on demand, the needs of all partners responding in Somalia. This includes continuing air transport services and operational support to ensure efficient and timely delivery and assistance in the country, in particularly in hard-to-reach areas and drought affected locations.
- holding national and subnational coordination meetings with partners as often as required in order to share operational information and streamline the response.
- strengthening logistics capacities of the humanitarian community operating in Somalia in order to improve the wider response to future emergencies.

Humanitarian access remains a concern due to insecurity, creating high dependency on airlifts and increasing the cost and complexity of logistics operations.

In November, the Logistics Cluster facilitated two national coordination meetings. Moreover, the Logistics Cluster facilitated one subnational coordination meeting in Mogadishu on 2 November 2022. The next Logistics Cluster National Coordination Meetings are planned for 6 and 20 December 2022.

The Logistics Cluster facilitated its third Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting in cooperation with “Importation and Customs Clearance Together” (IMPACCT) on 23 November 2022. The last meeting was attended by eight participating organizations: Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Medical Corps, Medair, Somaus Help., United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees...
(UNHCR) and World Food Programme (WFP). During the meeting, the TWG worked on mapping the key stakeholders involved and identifying constraints in the customs clearance process. The TWG is meeting again on 14 December 2022 to continue to map the end-to-end process and start drafting recommendation for the arrival process.

- The Logistics Cluster continues to advocate, with the support of OCHA, donors and other key stakeholders, for the reopening of the Kenya-Somalia border as a key enabling factor for the response which included discussions for cross-border movements with WFP and the Government of Kenya.

**Information Management**

- Throughout November 2022, the Logistics Cluster published sixteen information management products including meeting minutes, maps, and situation updates on the operational website. Among the key products were:
  - A warehouse mapping exercise identifying key capacities in Somalia. The warehouse map was developed in April and then updated in November. The map provides information on warehouse locations in Somalia, their storage capacity (in sqm) and estimated space available.
  - An indicative supplier list which includes potential suppliers’ names, locations, kind of goods and services supplied and contact details. The list will be published on the Logistics Cluster website for all to access throughout the month of December.¹
  - Terms of Reference (ToR) and meeting minutes from the most recent TWG held on 23 November 2022.
  - Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for accessing common logistics services.
  - The meeting minutes of the Logistics Cluster subnational coordination meeting held in Mogadishu on 2 November 2022. The key requests from partners refer to consolidation of partners’ needs for cargo flights to facilitate co-loading where possible, publication of the SOP on how to access common logistics services (completed), continuation of helicopter services for the delivery of humanitarian supplies from Mogadishu to hard-to-reach locations including Mahas, Kismayo and Jalaqlaqsi, and ensuring that sufficient notice is given to partners for them to position their cargo at WFP warehouses before those are being transported to various locations in Somalia.
  - A blogpost on the Logistics Cluster response to the 2022 drought in Somalia, providing information on common services, national and subnational coordination initiatives, technical working groups, and information management products.
  - The monthly fuel report for October.

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¹ Inclusion of company information does not imply any business relationship between the supplier and WFP/Logistics Cluster, and is used solely as a determinant of services and capacities. Please note: WFP/Logistics Cluster maintain complete impartiality and are not in a position to endorse, comment on any company’s suitability as a reputable service provider.