Highlights

- Logistics Preparedness Action plans finalised and published for Garissa and Tana River counties.
- Stakeholder workshop to accelerate the implementation of project activities conducted.
- County information-sharing platforms established by Technical Working Group members.
- El-Nino preparedness activities take centre stage in Kenya following early warnings of enhanced rainfalls expected in quarter four of 2023.

Background

Following months of a serious drought billed to be one of the worst in recent years, the National Meteorology Department has issued an El Nino warning for the last quarter of 2023. It is anticipated that most parts of the country will receive enhanced rainfalls, resulting in flooding and other impacts that threaten lives and livelihoods. National stakeholders are engaged in various preparedness activities, including contingency planning and strengthening coordination mechanisms to facilitate effective emergency response.

The Logistics Cluster Field-Based Preparedness Project (FBPP) is centred on strengthening national supply chain resilience, enhancing coordination between stakeholders, and promoting a common methodology towards logistics preparedness. The core concept of logistics preparedness is to support local and international actors before an emergency occurs. This is best achieved by working together to sustainably identify and address systemic challenges in local supply chain systems driven by national governments and actors. Globally, the project promotes a common framework, while at the national level, this framework is tailored to each country’s unique operational context.

In Kenya, the project is implemented in two counties in the arid northern frontier, identified by national stakeholders as vulnerable to various hazards, most notably drought, human and livestock diseases, inter-clan conflicts and floods. Project implementation is primarily driven by Technical Working Groups established by each of the two counties, deriving membership from the County Stakeholders and coordination with national government representatives in the county and the WFP Field Office in Garissa.

Coordination

- Project coordination with the regional and global focal points continued.
- Technical Working Group meetings were held on the sidelines of the main workshop convened in the quarter and will be convened monthly.
Information management

- During the quarter, information management products were prepared in coordination and collaboration with the Technical Working Group Members. These included the preparedness action plans, the capacity needs mapping reports and a workshop report. The preparedness action plans were formatted and posted on the Kenya project website: Garissa Action Plan and Tana River Action Plan, while the other products are at various stages of review and clearance for publication.
- The Technical Working Group members also set up shared folders (Google Drive for Garissa County and Microsoft One Drive for Tana River County) for information sharing and collaboration at the County Level. These shared folders will serve as the primary repository for all project information in each county going forward into the implementation and transition phase. They will be accessible to all county stakeholders interested in logistics preparedness activities.
- Initial consultations were also held during the quarter regarding the possibility of exploring or piloting the Logistics Information Exchange (LogIE) platform for use by the two counties in mapping logistics physical access constraints and situation monitoring. These consultations will be concluded during quarter three, and clearer plans of action developed if implementation is mutually agreed upon. The action plans will define a roadmap for the implementation of LogIE, including stakeholder socialisation and training of the TWG Members on the utilisation of LogIE.

Advocacy

- The focus for quarter three of 2023 was mobilising all project stakeholders to accelerate project implementation as the transition phase of the FBPP draws closer. In this regard, the finalised logistics preparedness action plans provided a common reference point upon which stakeholders convened for a three-day workshop to develop strategies for accelerated activity implementation.
- The FBPP team in Kenya will participate in the Global Annual Preparedness Workshop in Bonn, Germany, on 7-9 November 2023 to update and review the Preparedness Roadmap identified jointly by the Preparedness partners and practitioners. The FBPP Kenya team will contribute and share lessons learned and experiences from implementing the Institutional Capacity Strengthening Approach.
- The upcoming Global Logistics Meeting is to be held in a hybrid modality on 28-30 November 2023; Nairobi will host a physical meeting and provide an opportunity for stakeholders to share information and a platform to advocate for additional support to preparedness activities.

Contacts

Daniel Kirwa  
National Preparedness Officer – FBPP Kenya  
Daniel.Kirwa@wfp.org

Bernard Nyatuga  
Programme Policy Officer & Activity Manager  
Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Bernard.Nyatuga@wfp.org