Meeting Minutes, 28 November 2023
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

LOCATION
WFP Office, Addis Ababa

DATE
28 November 2023

CHAIR
Ato Tadesse Bekele, Senior Adviser, Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC)
Andrea Rosales, Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS (10)
Action Against Hunger (AAH), Catholic Relief Services, Danish Red Cross, Ethiopian INGO Forum, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), OXFAM, Plan International, World Vision International (WVI).

AGENDA
• Access Updates
• Situation Updates
• Logistics Cluster Updates
  ❖ Cargo Movement
  ❖ Updates on Somali Flood
  ❖ Cargo Pipeline Survey
• Questions and AOB
  ❖ Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM)

ACTION POINTS
• To access inland transport services to the Amhara region, partners are requested to send their requests to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org and submit a Service Request Form (SRF). The SRF can be found here Service Request Form
• Logistics Cluster to share further updates on cargo movement to Amhara region.
• Logistics Cluster to share a template for partners to provide information on their pipeline information for the next three months.
1. Access Updates

Updates on access constraints into different regions in the country as presented by the Access Working Group (AWG) OCHA are as follows:

- **Amhara**: Access by road from Addis Ababa to Bahir Dar has been viable via both Mota and Debre Markos routes. Occasional road closures are expected as the situation remains volatile. Commercial and humanitarian trucks have been using Debre Markos Injibara route recently.

- **Oromia**: Access to Southern Oromia, West Guji, Guji, East Borena remains challenging, however, access in parts of Western Oromia has improved, except for pockets in East Wollega/areas bordering Amhara. Access to some areas of North Shewa Zone bordering Amhara region has been affected by the ongoing hostility in Amhara region.

- **Beneshangul Gumuz**: Access to both Kemashi and Metekel Zones remains complicated due to physical constraints. For Kemashi, there are some hopes on Nejo_Kemashi road. Metekel/Gilgel Beles: It is better to use Addis Ababa - Debre Markos – Injibara - Chagni - Gilgel Beles route.

- **Somali**: The road conditions have continued to deteriorate following the floods in the region. Most parts of Liban, Afder, Shabelle zones have become inaccessible as a result.

For further updates on access, partners can reach out to Anuwar Mohammed (anuwar.nur@un.org)

2. Situation Updates in Somali Region affected by the Floods.

New information emerging from a Rapid Flood Impact Assessment:

- About 800,000 individuals in three zones in Somali Region are affected of which 34,000 households are displaced.

- The Shabelle zone was the most impacted followed by Liban and Afdher. The affected woredas within Shabelle zone are Kalefo, Imay Bari, Dolo Ado and Ferfer.

Updates On Physical Road Access

- Deliveries via Shabelle river: Currently, there are two motorized boats run by DRMB and shuttle between Gode and Kelafo, via Shabelle river.

- Each has a capacity of 5.0 - 7.5 MT of assorted food commodities. Both are doing road trip each day and carrying food items and a few numbers of passengers. It takes half a day to sail between Kelafo and Gode.
Multimode Transport

- Ex Gode to Kelafo town (90 Km distance): Commercial transport is moving between Gode town and Deeqa (cross-loading point) – 83 Km (approx).
- From Deeqa point to Garaashka (evacuated point) is covered by floods and locals are using makeshift boats (as seen in the picture) to transport both passengers and cargo for 5-7 km to reach the destination (Garaashka).
- There is no commercial waterway transport available in the region, other than the makeshift ones as shown in the pictures.
- There is alternate mountainous route between Deeqa and Garaashka – 2 Km suitable for passengers only. Currently, this is the only means of transport from Deeqa to Garaashka.
- The road between Dolo Ado and Melkadida which was until now inaccessible is now motorable.
- The Logistics Cluster will be supporting the transport NFI's to Dolo Ado Town with trucks since the road between Dolo Ado and Melkadida is now accessible.

1. Logistics Cluster Updates

Cargo Movement

Amhara region

- Three trucks were dispatched to move cargo of 42 MT from Addis Ababa to Amhara on behalf of three partners (COOPI, Plan International and Food for the Hungry)
- Transport of humanitarian cargo to Amhara is possible, interested partners can liaise with the Logistics Cluster to arrange and join the convoy to the region.
- Other Updates: The road between Bahir Dar and Gondar is now accessible.
- Two corridors between Amhara and Tigray regions are not accessible. (Gondar – Shire and Kombolcha – Mekelle)

Tigray region

- In November, 36 trucks carrying a total of 1044 MT of cargo reported arrival into Tigray via the Semera-Mekelle corridor on behalf of two partners.
- Since 15 November 2022, a total of 6,582 trucks have reported arrivals into Tigray with a total cargo of 256,259MT on behalf of 48 partners.
- The trucks arrived via Semera-Mekelle, and the Logistics Cluster will continue to track truck arrivals into the region.
- INSA support letters are still needed to move IT equipment's into the Tigray area. The Logistics Cluster will inform partner of any updates from EDRMC accordingly.

https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a
Cargo Pipeline Information

As discussed at the last coordination meeting, the Logistics Cluster has shared a short survey, Cargo Pipeline with partners to provide their organization’s cargo pipeline for the coming 3 months. This will help us understand your cargo movement needs and will greatly assist us in planning and coordinating the logistics cluster services. We hereby urge partners yet to submit their cargo pipeline information to do so soon as possible.

2. Questions

- A partner requires support to release a cargo stuck at the border for 2 months. EDRMC will have a bilateral e-meeting with the partner to discuss how to resolve the issue.
- A partner would like to know the possibility to moving cargo from Addis Ababa to Bahir Dar in Amhara region. The Logistics Cluster focal point in Amhara recommends the Debre Birhan – Kombolcha – Weldiya route, it was however cautioned that the road condition is highly volatile and unpredictable.

3. AOB

Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM)

The Logistic Cluster has launched its yearly user satisfaction survey known as the Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring. The country-led survey is supported by the Inter-Agency Steering Committee (IASC) is aimed at assessing the core functions the strategic aspects of the Logistics Cluster.

The survey will help take stock of the functional areas that worked well and others that need improvement, ensure effective coordination, strengthens transparency, show the added value, and justifies the cost of coordination.

To ensure a successful process, partners are required to:

- Provide feedback through the survey.
- Engage in the follow-up workshop to provide ideas to address areas for improvement to serve you better.
- Reflect on their own contribution to the Logistics Cluster and committing to implement the action plan or activities after the follow-up meeting.

The next coordination meeting is on 19 December 2023 at 11:00 EAT in person.

Contacts

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