
Malawi National Logistics Cluster Meeting Minutes, 26th January 2021

Zoom Online Meeting



LOCATION	Lilongwe, Malawi (online meeting)
DATE	26 th January 2021
CHAIR	Patrick Mills Lamptey (WFP - National Logistics Cluster Coordinator), on behalf of Herbert Chingati (Under Secretary - Ministry of Transport and Public Works - MoTPW)
PARTICIPANTS	GOAL Malawi, World Vision Malawi, CRS Malawi, Last Mile Health, USAID, SPRODETA, Save The Children, World Food Programme
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partners to make available trained staff or staff to be trained for the setting up of MSUs (to assist on a voluntary basis)• The National Logistics Cluster to share the updated figure on COVID-19 cases in the past week• Partners to channel support requests for transportation and storage via the National Logistics Cluster• The National Logistics Cluster to update on SOPs in public transport• Partners to fill in the form for updating the humanitarian contact list as part of the Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) update• Partners to fill in the form for updating the current storage capacity in Malawi for the LCA• The National Logistics Cluster to publish relevant COVID-19 Updates on the webpage• The National Logistics Cluster to update on the planned deployment of container labs

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AGENDA

1. Recap of the Previous Meeting
2. General COVID-19 Updates
3. National Response Updates
4. Lean Season Response Updates
5. Physical Access Constraints
6. AOB

1. Recap of the Previous Meeting

- State of national disaster declared by the president:
 - Testing and treatment capacities to be augmented
 - Tightening of the social distancing measures
- Logistics support in response to COVID-19 to be augmented:
 - Scaling up of engineering support through increased setting up of MSUs for storage, isolation, treatment and screening
 - Number of available tents is limited: The needs for MSUs are expected to outweigh the current stocks in the coming months.
 - Need for prioritization in coordination with partners
 - Transport & storage services available for partners
- Weekly National Logistics Cluster meetings to be shifted to 11am on Tuesdays due to a time overlap with the National Health Cluster meetings

2. General Covid-19 Updates

- High daily record of confirmed COVID-19 cases over the past week: necessity for close collaboration between partners
- Boarding schools to remain open: The National Logistics Cluster is liaising with the Education sector on logistics needs.
- The National Health Cluster is working on a priority list for tents: over 80 required across all districts to increase testing and screening capacities

<https://logcluster.org/countries/MWI>

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- Priority locations to include Mzuzu, Zomba, Mulanje, Kasungu (more comprehensive list expected to be finalized today)
- MSU capacities of the National Logistics Cluster are limited
- Technicians and casual labour required to assist in tent deployment – currently there is no budget for extra allowances (i.e. voluntary basis)
- COVID-19 regulations in public transport:
 - Compulsory compliance with general preventative measures by transporter's crew and passengers on board
 - Not to carry passengers with COVID-19 related symptoms
 - To reduce seating capacity to 60%
 - Compulsory sanitization of vehicle and related transport equipment
 - Compulsory wearing of face masks by crew and passengers while on board
- COVID-19 regulations for passengers arriving at the airports:
 - Passengers and crew to get tested 48hrs before departure time and obtain COVID-19 negative result certificate
 - The airline to provide an isolation cabin for passengers who develop COVID-19 related symptoms while on board
 - Passengers to be tested on arrival and non-residents to pay for test and quarantine

3. National Response Updates

- Current funding situation:
 - Shortage of funding: \$1.05m required for the National Logistics Cluster to continue providing its services to the beneficiaries
 - \$120,000 received from UN MPTF
 - \$195,000 received from the Government of Iceland
 - Review of current requests
 - To advocate for more funding from the donor community
- Key logistics services provided in the past week:
 - Erection of three MSUs at the Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre for the MoH and MSF
 - Support to MSF with the setting up of a MSU at the Youth Centre in Blantyre as COVID-19 treatment centre
 - Support requests for the setting up of MSUs for UNHCR and CHSU
- Major gaps to be addressed:
 - Limited storage and transport capacities
 - Limited screening and isolation units
 - Efficient logistics coordination and operational information sharing
 - Stock reporting

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- 41 organisations supported

4. Lean Season Response Updates

- 45% of the dispatches to Mangochi district are completed
- Dispatches to Blantyre district started on 22 January and completed dispatches amount to 25%
- 42% of the overall December & January dispatches to Mangochi and Blantyre districts are concluded
- The ATC (Authority To Collect) for collecting maize from Kanengo Silos to Blantyre district yet to be released
- Commodity tracking trainings for the remaining DoDMA dispatch officers to start next week

5. Physical Access Constraints

- Chilemwe bridge damaged (around 49km to Mangochi): Diversion created but only accessible by light vehicles and trucks not heavier than 15MT
- Another bridge 5-7km from Makanjira is also broken: Diversion only accessible by light vehicles
- LSR distributions to the TAs Makanjira and Lulanga are significantly affected: planning for pre-positioning is on-going

6. AOB

- Please remember to refer to the Malawi Logistics Cluster webpage for COVID-19 flight SOPs & FAQ at <https://logcluster.org/countries/MWI>
- For MSU (tent) support requests, please use the online form
- Remember to email malawi.covid19@wfp.org for free-to-user logistics support
- Free to use trainings are available on the GLC Learning Channel
- Partners to submit the forms for the LCA update until January 21st:
 - Storage: <https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/KDKmJ4tr>
 - Humanitarian Contact List: https://forms.microsoft.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rtkqRtnXBkK4dHGx4HI3b8zO53LmbJhBrj1_1DXlwK9URVJSOTVQRUNENzVXNUtRUE9JT1EzVzcwNC4u
- Site assessments are on-going for the deployment of container labs to be used as mobile COVID-19 laboratories: partners are welcome to take part in the assessments

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