

National Logistics Preparedness Workshop

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

08 July 2024



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1. INTRODUCTION

In its role of co-chair of the Emergency Coordination Group (ECG) in Tanzania and as global lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, the World Food Programme (WFP) started working with the Government of Tanzania, in particular the Prime Minister Office's (PMO) Disaster Management Department (DMD) on the implementation of field-based logistics preparedness.

As highlighted in the National Disaster Management Strategy 2022-2027 (available via the PMO website [here](#)), among others key documents, Tanzania will continue to be at risk to disasters due to several vulnerability factors including geographical position, climate change and weather variability, assets exposure, urban population pressure, existence of unplanned urban settlements and environmental degradation. Recent adverse events include earthquakes, floods, epidemics, drought, and fire, in addition to road, train and marine accidents and interruption of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services.

The national logistics preparedness workshop was an opportunity for the DMD to present the government's strategic priorities and initiatives in the field of emergency preparedness and anticipatory actions, and to introduce the logistics preparedness project framework. After consultations with DMD and main humanitarian actors, some aspects arose as gaps and bottlenecks in the current emergency preparedness structure and response capacity that would require a more collaborative and localized approach.

2. OBJECTIVES

The workshop was convened with the following overall objectives:

- 1) DMD to present the structure of emergency preparedness and response policies.
- 2) To provide an overview of WFP's Anticipatory Action framework and Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP) initiatives.
- 3) To explore specific logistics gaps and needs based on the recent emergency responses and 2023 (Simulation Exercise (SIMEX) findings.
- 4) To identify the main challenges and propose recommended activities, that commonly define a Logistics Preparedness Action Plan which will serve as a road map for the implementation of priority logistics preparedness activities.

3. PRESENTATIONS

i. **Presentation from PMO DMD on structure and emergency preparedness and response policies**

DMD is responsible for the coordination of all emergencies in Tanzania. In terms of preparedness, DMD ensures the following:

- Strengthening communication and early warning system
- Activation of the recently launched situation room
- Drafting and implementation of national preparedness policies
- Development of trainings and capacity strengthening initiatives
- Prepositioning of food and non-food items in warehouses located in zones
- Public awareness campaigns and platforms
- Identification of high-risk areas
- Mobilizing resources.



ii. Overview of WFP Anticipatory Action framework and EPRP initiatives

Anticipatory Action (AA) bridges the gap between longer-term emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction and the life-saving window of emergency response.



AA aims to prevent or mitigate potential impacts of disasters/crises prior to a shock or before acute impacts are felt.

The following are the components of the Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP):

- 1) Triggers
- 2) Anticipatory actions
- 3) Financing mechanisms
- 4) Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and evidence generation

A five-year AA project (2023/24 – 2028/29) has been launched in Tanzania. It is targeting 10 drought prone districts in mainland Tanzania and one in Zanzibar.

iii. The Field-Based Preparedness Project

A presentation was shared on the Cluster system, the Logistics Cluster mandate, the Field-Based Preparedness Project (FBPP), and all the other logistics cluster global initiatives, partnerships, platforms, and tools.

Emphasis was placed on the FBPP implementation being focused on building a long-term collaborative approach between stakeholders for a more resilient and efficient supply chain; considering preparedness as a core part of the disaster management cycle; strengthening supply chain capacity; and having a localised approach.



4. GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Two group sessions were conducted with the following objectives:

1. The objective of the first session was to identify challenges related to supply chain readiness, including procurement and market capacity, warehousing and prepositioning strategy, transport, and coordination and information sharing.
2. The objective of the second session was to propose activities and strategies to address identified challenges, focusing on gaps and bottlenecks, recommended actions, status, timelines, and responsible parties.

The table below shows the identified challenges, as well as the proposed activities and strategies, from the group discussions:

Table 1: Supply Chain Readiness Challenges and Proposed Solutions

Group/Thematic Area	Challenges related to supply chain readiness	Activities and approaches to address challenges
Procurement and market capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of a list of prequalified suppliers. - No standard list of emergency supplies. - Inadequate market capacity. - Risks associated with international procurement. - Lack of coordination amongst the partners on how to respond. - No timely availability of the assessment report. - Inadequate forecasts/procurement plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a list of pre-qualified suppliers. - Categorize items and establish standard specifications. - Conduct market survey. - Prepare procurement plan ahead of time (stocks in hand). - Establish and implement Service Level Agreements (SLA).
Warehousing and prepositioning strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shortage of warehouses. - Capacitation of the warehouse staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct government warehouse assessment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate capacity on inventory management. - Enhanced surveillance data use. - Collaboration with other sectors/ministry to identify key items. - Conduct M&E to warehouses. - Emergency warehouse monitoring systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deploy mobile storage solutions for emergencies. - Analyse stock level and replenishing strategy. - Build technical capacity in warehouse management. - Enhance warehouse information management systems.
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of alternative routes in case of disaster. - Limitation of transport networks, especially in water surrounded areas - Poor quality of bridges, especially in water surrounded areas. - Freight transport prices tend to go up during emergencies (lack of regulations). - Poor infrastructure in remote areas (roads, airports). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expand the supplier database and incorporate additional pre-qualified suppliers. - Increase transport capacity based on vulnerability mapping. - Map air transport capacity (including drones). - Conduct road access mapping. - Review freight transport regulations (cargo).
Coordination and Information gathering/sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of an official platform for information sharing - Inadequate awareness and sensitization - Financing/fund allocation - Ineffective M&E of preparedness activities - Time and information sharing for coordination and official platform - Consolidation of information takes time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a sectoral plan that addresses sector-specific priorities. - Schedule quarterly meetings. - Circulate rapid needs assessment results to all relevant stakeholders. - Conduct vulnerability mapping. - Create a common IM platform with data sensitivity controls. - Address maintenance needs for roads, and bridges.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and update SOPs related to coordination and information management. - Enhance local preparedness awareness trainings. - Perform monitoring and evaluation of activities.
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5. OUTCOMES, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND WAY FORWARD

Based on the discussions among participants and challenges commonly identified, DMD will consolidate the preparedness action plan to guide the community of partners towards a set of priority initiatives to bridge these challenges.

The plan will serve as a road map to enhance technical skills for national responders, to tailor initiatives to improve emergency preparedness and response with a focus on coordination and information sharing among actors, to map logistics capacities and infrastructures for a better understanding of vulnerabilities and allow a more efficient response in case of a disaster.

The plan will also aim to bring together stakeholders’ expertise, maximize available resources, avoid duplication of efforts, promote local supply chain resilience and support advocacy for policy changes.

When the Action plan is finalised, it will be shared with stakeholders and implementation will kick-start with support from FBPP on initial priority activities.

ANNEX 1: AGENDA

One day workshop on the 8th of July 2024.

Time	Activity	Facilitator
08:00	Registration	
08:30	Official Opening remarks	PMO DMD Chair
09:00	Presentation from PMO DMD on structure and emergency preparedness and response policies	PMO DMD representatives
09:45	Overview of WFP Anticipatory Actions framework and EPRP initiatives	WFP EPRP/AA
10:00	Group photo	
10:15	Coffee break	
10:45	The Logistics Preparedness Project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Logistics Cluster and Cluster Approach ○ Global Tools and Platforms (LogIE, LCA, WREC, IMPACCT) ○ FBPP - Project overview and implementation 	GLC
11:30	Workshop activities and working group stations. Needs analysis based on recent emergency responses and 2023 SIMEX findings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination and Information sharing • Transport • Warehousing and prepositioning • Local procurement and suppliers 	4 groups
12:30	Lunch Break	
13:30	Presentation of the WGs discussion and findings	By WGs
14:00	Draft Action Plan presentation	DMD, GLC/WFP
14:15	Working Group discussion on proposed activities (<i>who, what, when, where</i>)	4 groups
15:00	Presentation of WGs discussion and proposed activities	By WGs
15:30	Coffee Break	
15:45	Action Plan / discussion and endorsement	DMD, GLC/WFP

16:15	Wrap-up and way forward	
16:30	<i>Closure</i>	