NOTE FOR THE RECORD (NFR)

GLOBAL LOGISTICS MEETING (GLM)

May 2024

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Executive Summary

The Logistics Cluster Global Meetings (GLM) are convened biannually, bringing together representatives from Logistics Cluster partners worldwide. These meetings serve as a strategic forum for discussing the Global Logistics Cluster's initiatives, reviewing operations, gathering feedback from partner organizations, and presenting new projects relevant to humanitarian logistics.

This GLM hosted participants from 43 organizations, along with five Logistics Cluster Coordinators, building on the productive discussions from the two previous meetings in 2023. The meeting started with a panel where WFP reaffirmed its commitment to the Cluster Lead Agency role, highlighting the importance and significant impact of collaborative efforts of all partners.

Over the two and a half days, participants delved into critical topics for humanitarian logistics:
I. The importance of data and the need for digitalisation to increase traceability and learning about response efforts. This concluded in a recognised need for (i) fostering of a mutual understanding among donors, UN agencies, and NGOs, (ii) optimal alignment of data practices, policies, and systems to increase operability and useful data sharing, (iii) dedicated funding and prioritization and investments. The Global Logistics Cluster can act as a platform to convene this discussion and facilitate dialogue between the right actors.

II. The need for agility and adaptability in logistics responses, as there is no single, 'one-size-fits-all' approach. The session emphasized the importance of tailoring Logistics Cluster approaches to operational demands linked to the crisis context, highlighting that both the core functions of Logistics Cluster teams and the partner commitments may be executed differently across responses to be fit-for-purpose. This was illustrated through the operational updates provided by Logistics Cluster Coordinators from Palestine, Chad for the Sudan Response, Burkina Faso, Nigeria and Ethiopia.

III. How transition of Logistics Clusters (phasing out) is increasingly becoming complicated, and that humanitarian partners with national authorities need to identify effective handover strategies, particularly in complex and prolonged crises. This includes appropriate preparedness approaches.

IV. The centrality of collective advocacy for highlighting key needs, challenges, and opportunities for the humanitarian logistics community. Participants discussed priorities for joint advocacy, such as procurement alignment, funding for preparedness, security/access, green logistics amongst many more topics, including the establishment of a working group to bring them to fruition.

V. A panel discussion highlighted ongoing efforts that are supporting different components in medical logistics in emergencies, with representatives from the World Health Organisation (WHO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Logistics Cluster team discussing the different collaborative efforts already in place and their complementarity. This session marked the start of the discussion and definition of the role that the Logistics Cluster will take to support medical logistics in emergencies, which will be further detailed through a working group.

Other sessions explored private sector engagement and particularly an evolution of the support provided by the Logistics Emergency Team (LET), environmental sustainability in logistics, and stockpiling strategies. Additionally, several cluster partners led sessions provided an update on key developments within their respective organisations. SAG members, Logistics Cluster team, and working group members gave an update on progress against the goals of the Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP). During the governance segment, two new Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) members were elected: *****Sandrine Ducroix (ECHO) to the Government/UN seat and Sarah Penniman-Morin (IRC) to the NGO seat. This GLM resulted in a strong engagement and participation from the community of humanitarian partners to encourage joint efforts in achieving the best results in the implementation of the Logistics Cluster Strategy 2022-2026.

*Due to internal changes in DG ECHO, Sandrine Decroix will not be taking up the position. Richard Kneller will remain the second government seat representative at the SAG until the completion of his term.

Strategic Synergy: The Global Logistics Meeting (GLM) in Rome 2024

The GLM in May 2024 was held from Tuesday, May 21 to Thursday, May 23 in Rome, Italy. The agenda was carefully crafted to encourage discussions and collaborative brainstorming sessions. The primary objective was to facilitate open interactions and develop a shared, in-depth understanding of critical topics related to logistics coordination. This meeting built on the discussions from the previous GLMs held in 2023.

The June 2023 GLM meeting initiated a refocus on activities within the Logistics Cluster's mandate, addressing field requirements and aligning with core values. The November 2023 GLM, spanning 11 countries, addressed field challenges and the need of finding solutions through advocacy, private sector engagement and collaboration. The meeting continued with participants who worked collectively to continue building on the outcomes from the previous two GLMs by focusing on field operations, cluster mandate and values and addressing critical needs and challenges identified in the field.

Right: Maïlin Fauchon, Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator. Left: Mary Jelliti, Deputy Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator. Credit: WFP/Logistics Cluster

The meeting began with a warm welcome from Maïlin Fauchon, the Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator who thanked partners for making the time to attend this year's GLM. She emphasized that this year's GLM presented an opportunity to share updates and have a frank discussion and debate to inform collective partner approaches and actions. Ms Fauchon expressed gratitude to WFP for hosting the GLM at the global headquarters and providing the necessary support to ensure a smooth and successful meeting. This year's GLM tackled strategic challenges, addressed critical issues related to operational adaptability, the transition of the cluster, and advocacy efforts to enable the community of partners to reach consensus on improved collaborative approaches.

Details of the meeting agenda can be found here.

"HOSTING THE GLOBAL LOGISTICS CLUSTER MEETING AT WFP HEADQUARTERS IN ROME UNDERSCORES OUR COMMITMENT TO NURTURING OUR COLLABORATION WITH OUR PARTNERS. IT HIGHLIGHTS OUR DEDICATION TO STRENGTHENING OUR CORE LOGISTICS CAPABILITIES, ENSURING WE CONTINUE TO EXCEL IN WHAT WE ARE KNOWN FOR."

Betty Ka, Director of WFP Supply Chain & Delivery

"THE CLUSTER IMPACT IS NOT ONLY MEASURED ON THE QUANTITY OF AID STORED OR DELIVERED, BUT ON THE POSITIVE OUTCOMES ACHIEVED BY THE HUMANITARIAN PARTNERS AND THE LIVES TRANSFORMED AS A RESULT OF COORDINATED AND COLLABORATIVE ACTION."

Mailin Fauchon, Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator

Role of WFP as Cluster Lead Agency (CLA)

The GLM kickstarted by highlighting WFP's leadership as the Logistics Cluster Lead Agency. The panel shared strategic reflections on global humanitarian needs and WFP's vision for the cluster, reviewing the progression of the cluster approach, and discussing the journey and future direction of the Logistics Cluster. The discussions of the panel focused on a series of questions aimed to provide strategic reflections on the state of the world, the key drivers of humanitarian needs and to understand the path of navigation for WFP in this process. As the host and Cluster Lead Agency (CLA), the panel invited high-level WFP engagement and participation from the start.

What opportunities are envisioned?

The Logistics Cluster is ahead of other cluster mechanisms due to its strength in partnerships. The role of the cluster has grown exponentially due to its continued engagement with stakeholders to support scalable access for humanitarian logisticians. WFP as a CLA seeks opportunities to advocate for leveraging local expertise and aligning its responses with the humanitarian principles in inter-cluster coordination mechanisms.

The evolution and adaptation of the Logistics Cluster

The Logistics Cluster's impact extends beyond transportation and supply chain management. By leveraging shared resources, expertise, and best practices, the Logistics Cluster enhances the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian interventions, ultimately improving outcomes for those they serve, and demonstrating cost savings through maximising logistics assets and minimising disruptions.

DISCUSSION LEAD:
Maïlin Fauchon- Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PANEL:
Betty Ka – Director, Supply Chain Operations Division, WFP
Samer Abdeljaber – Director, Office of the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, WFP
Matthew Dee - Chief, Logistics Service, Supply Chain & Delivery Division, WFP

Reflecting on decades of transformative impact, WFP as the CLA has witnessed the transformative power of the Logistics Cluster coordinating complex logistics operations in natural disasters and conflict-affected areas. The Logistics Cluster should adapt to strengthen localisation by employing the skills and knowledge of national partners to effectively inform exit strategies, while finding sustainable solutions for protracted emergencies.

WFP's global footprint in enhancing its ability to coordinate logistics activities in diverse and complex environments

WFP's supply chain is the backbone of its operations, procuring USD 3 Billion of food, goods, and services in 2023, with over 60% of food procured used in the same region of purchase and delivering 3.6 Million MT of food across 80+ countries. To meet these demands, WFP's supply chain must be agile, focusing on core business excellence, data-driven decision-making, upstream planning, sustainability, and the use of supply chain to build the resilience of the communities we serve, while keeping the people we serve at the centre of our work. WFP remains committed to serving as the Cluster's lead agency, emphasizing the multiplier effect of working together to enhance supply chain power, particularly in emergency response. Adapting to industry changes, including digital services and sustainability, is crucial. In her concluding remarks, Betty Ka, the Director of Supply Chain Operations Division, emphasised that effective humanitarian logistics coordination relies on everyone bringing their best skills to the table, supporting each other, and ensuring an equitable distribution of responsibilities. WFP as the CLA has the responsibility to influence, motivate, and enable the entire humanitarian sector for continued, effective collaboration in service of those in need.

Measuring Progress

Strategic Achievements

The Logistics Cluster has been actively working across all four pillars of its Strategy 2022-2026, namely:

Pillar 1 ———

Partnerships Base:

In the last six months, advocacy efforts included engagement at global and country level, with various stakeholders including donors, and participation in speaking engagements at relevant global events including the European Humanitarian Forum, Humanitarian Network and Partnership Week (HNPW), AidEx (Geneva and Nairobi). Advocacy topics included the importance of humanitarian logistics as the backbone of emergency responses, access to critical locations and increased environmental sustainability in supply chain.

Pillar 2 ———

Standards and Policy:

Significant progress was achieved under the preparedness approach, including the development of key guidance documents. Logistics Cluster Preparedness continued its work in Kenya and Bhutan and has activated Field Based Preparedness Projects (FBPP) in Tanzania and Timor Leste.

Pillar 3 ———

Strenghtening Response Capacity:

Since January 2024, the global training team has tailored its approach to the trainings being offered at global and regional levels, as well as additional trainings delivered directly for those in active emergencies. The training team has also refocused efforts to create multipliers through the Training of Trainers (ToT). In the last six months, 204 participants received training.

Pillar 4 ———

Operational Support:

The Logistics Cluster team actively engaged with the Global Cluster Coordination Group (GCCG) informing discussions on the nexus, transition, and sustainability.

- The Medical Logistics Working Group was discussed.
- LogIE was invited to present at NASA lifelines project to enhance engagement with data scientists and big data for humanitarian responses.

A variety of new online tools for users of the Logistics Operational Guide (LOG), including an energy consumption calculator, a cargo freight planner, a dangerous goods comparison tool, amongst other tools have been rolled out in the first part of 2024.

Challenges

- A lack of resources remains a major challenge to enable an effective community of practice.
- There is need to strengthen working group and overall partner participation in collective activities and responsibilities.
- Incorporating new IASC guidance into Logistics Cluster internal policy/ procedure without overwhelming the Logistics Cluster teams.

The presentation outlined the strategy implementation progress.

Digitalisation, Traceability and Related Requirements in Supply Chain

Digitalization and traceability are critical in humanitarian supply chain as they enhance efficiency, transparency, coordination, and overall effectiveness of aid delivery, ultimately saving more lives and resources. This session discussed the importance of data and the need for digitalisation to increase traceability in response efforts as well as the requirements, needs and challenges of different actors (donors, UN agencies, NGOs) regarding systems and data use. The session begun with a panel discussion followed by group working sessions.

Discussion Panel

- **Sarah Penniman-Morin, Chief Global Supply Chain Officer, International**
- **Nadia Griffin, Team Lead, AFR Team, USAID/BHA/Supply Chain Management Division**
- **Selamawit Biadghlgin Yainshet, Supply Chain Officer at WFP**
- **Richard Kneller, Coordinator Strategic Supply Chain, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO)**

The panel discussions highlighted the need to strengthen visibility in the end-to-end process despite persistent budget challenges.

There is a common consideration across many agencies for joint access to systems to ensure efficiency in the digitalisation of processes as well as the use of inter-operable data to improve tracing of commodities and the supply chain process (from procurement, including last mile delivery, warehousing, and distribution). This is important when dealing with large-scale operations handling high volumes of humanitarian goods. A structured dialogue was recommended to explore common synergies and put in place efficient supply chain mechanisms.

Session Outcomes

- Recognized the need for a common understanding and agreement on end-to-end visibility, outlining the ideal state and central principles.
- Identified the necessity for fostering mutual understanding among donors, UN agencies, and NGOs.
- Emphasized the importance of aligning data practices, policies, and systems to enhance operability and data sharing.
- Acknowledged the need for dedicated funding to prioritize track and trace initiatives.
- Proposed follow-up discussion on standardising and harmonising direct vs. indirect costs for accountability.
- Stressed the importance of enabling national partners to implement digital tracking and tracing of cargo.

Detailed responses to the group activity session are available in **Annex 2**.

Participants during the group activity session. Credit: WFP/Logistics Cluster

Fit-for-Purpose Responses for Different Emergency Scenarios

Utilizing scenario thinking to identify operational similarities and differences across various crises, this session aimed to enhance readiness and preparation for fit-for-purpose Logistics Cluster response models. Different types of emergencies require different types of responses, based on the context. While it is acknowledged that the cluster approach is indispensable, it is often implemented as a 'one size fits all' model which does not fully account for the multi-faceted and evolving nature of crises. The session emphasized the importance of considering the intervention environment, types of crises, cross-border dynamics, beneficiary needs, and local opportunities.

During the group activity exercise, participants were asked to identify the most impactful characteristics as well as define what is missing in scenarios on (1) Sudden Onset 2) Protracted, and 3) Conflict. Participants then identified concrete actions for their selected scenario under the following pillars of Leadership and coordination, Information management, and Common logistics services using the below guidelines:

What: Strategic planning method to make overall Logistics Cluster (flexible) long-term plans.

Why: Anticipating response models and enable preparedness.

How: By identifying:

- Emergency types and required Logistics Cluster activities
- Response models and gaps
- Priority areas and preparedness actions

The provisions under the commitments to the cluster approach highlighted below:

Not one-size-fits-all approach to cluster management	Agreeing to the commitments
- Without the constant commitment of the cluster participants, predictable coordination will not be achieved. - The minimum commitments for participation in country-level clusters set out what all local, national and international organisations should contribute. They do not seek to exclude organisations or national authorities from participating in clusters. - CLAs have a reciprocal responsibility to ensure that they lead their clusters in a manner that goes beyond merely shared information and coordinates effectively with their sub-national counterparts. The responsibility of the CLA's and Cluster Coordinators is to provide a forum for humanitarian action that meets affected people's needs and supports other levels of strategic needs (for example, inter-cluster coordination at country and global levels)	All Cluster partners (Including CLAs in their role as implementor alongside other agencies) have a shared mutual responsibility to meet the humanitarian needs of affected people in a timely manner. The minimum commitments are not prescriptive and should be adapted to actual needs and context since cluster-based responses vary greatly in scale and complexity. They are a starting point and should be considered as an absolute minimum. Country-level clusters should base themselves on this document when they develop or updated their TORs and commitments.

The groups were then asked to identify the top three most important characteristics needed considering the three lenses as introduced by the Logistics Cluster during the 2023 GLM:

- Is it within mandate (the 6+1 core functions)?
- Is it based on field needs?
- Does it comply with the Logistics Cluster values? (as included in the Logistics Cluster strategy)

The scenarios and outcomes of the activity are provided in the **Annex 3**

Transition of the Logistics Cluster and the Role of Preparedness

This session addressed how a transition/exit strategy could be implemented, answering the question: 'Where do we go from here?' The session provided an overview of the Field Based Preparedness Approach, its main components, the support, and capacity strengthening activities with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), national stakeholders and the long-term strategy that is co-developed. The Logistics Cluster Coordinators from Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Burkina Faso provided a brief update on the work and challenges to transition.

Focusing on protracted emergencies, the group work explored how the preparedness approach can be used to address transition and/or deactivation in long-term cluster operations.

Group Activity: A breakout session discussed challenges and opportunities on how to leverage the Logistics Cluster approach. Below are the session outcomes.

|	CHALLENGES	OPPORTUNITIES
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (IM)	• Entry Points • Identifying new secretariat • Providing remote support • Secondment from partner organisations • Accountability and responsibility over sensitive information	• Leveraging on existing logistics IM platforms • Market assessments (involving private sector) • Identifying service providing organisations • Open source/ sustainable IM platforms
LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION	• Monitoring • High staff turnover • Leadership expectations • Security • Poor donor commitment • Not all scenarios are applicable • Decision making with government counterparts • Lack of resources • Customs • Government hand-over is not always possible	• Logistics coordination with in-country partners • Expanding on resources • Skill set capacity development. • Enhancing civil protection • Strengthening preparedness expertise • Private sector engagement with the humanitarian community • Strengthen local partner engagement • Joint working and transition mechanisms

Logistics Cluster Working Group Updates

The Logistics Cluster Working Groups (WG) are established to support a collaborative and effective implementation of the revised Strategy Implementation Plan. The Working Groups are composed of representatives of the Logistics Cluster community (partners), led by a member of the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG), and facilitated by a Logistics Cluster team members.

Some WGs have completed their mandate and will be phased out in the coming months. This <u>link</u> shows the working group updates for 2024.

At the beginning of the strategy period, five WGs were established (Training, Service Provision, Preparedness, Partnership, and Procurement). As highlighted in the below diagram, the Partnership and Procurement WGs are in progress or have completed their objectives and will be closed in 2024. The Preparedness WG has been running for several years and was agreed for its status to be transitioned from a WG to a 'network' as the content remains relevant despite the WG achieving its objectives.

The Service Provision and Training WGs are operational as they have ongoing objectives to meet. There was a collective agreement during the plenary session for the establishment of a Medical Logistics and an Advocacy WG in 2024.
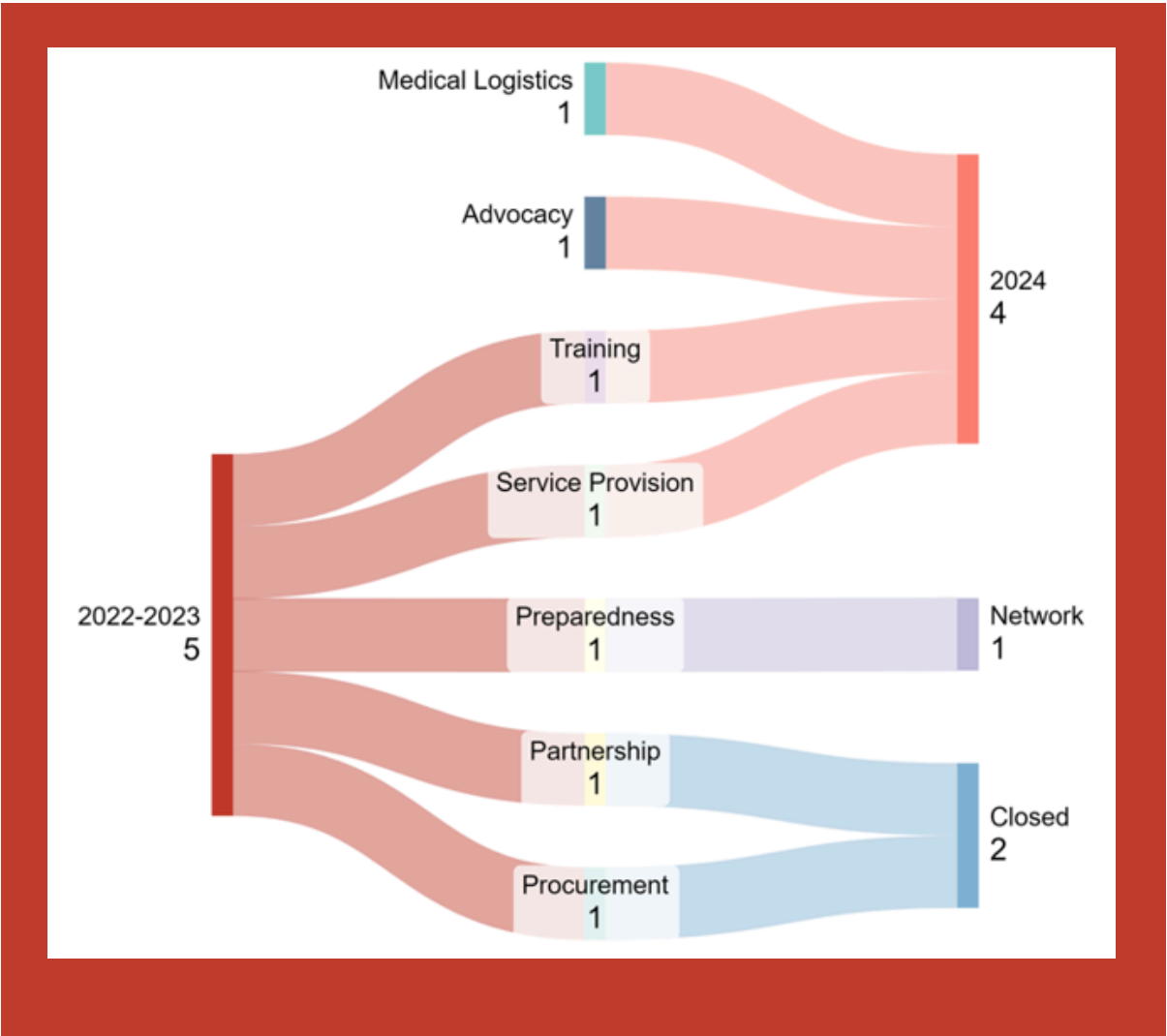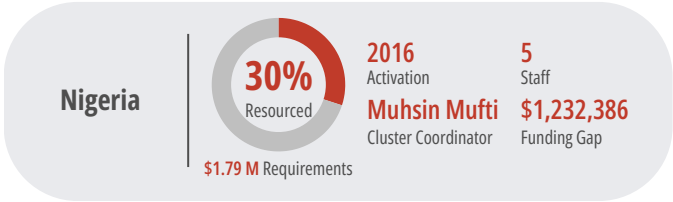

Overview of the Logistics Cluster Working Groups

Logistics Cluster Operations Updates

An overview of global Logistics Cluster operations was then provided, highlighting the work in Burkina Faso, Sudan, Nigeria, Palestine, and Ethiopia. The Logistics Cluster Coordinators for each respective operation gave highlights, challenges, and achievements from the annual operations.

The <u>session</u> information can be found in detail on the GLM webpage:

Burkina Faso
35% Resourced
$1.5 M Requirements

2020 Activation
9 Staff
Bess Cisse Cluster Coordinator
$971,485 Funding Gap

Nigeria
30% Resourced
$1.79 M Requirements

2016 Activation
5 Staff
Muhsin Mufti Cluster Coordinator
$1,232,386 Funding Gap

Palestine
61% Resourced
$23.79 M Requirements

2023 Activation
17 Staff
Andrea Cecchi Cluster Coordinator
$9,342,979 Funding Gap

Ethiopia
56% Resourced
$9 M Requirements

2020 Activation
22 Staff
Andrea Rosales Cluster Coordinator
$4,000,000 Funding Gap

Sudan
100% Resourced
$4.67 M Requirements

2020 Activation
8 Staff
Gilles Cimetiere Cluster Coordinator
$ - Funding Gap

Information Session

Several sessions were held in parallel where updates and new activities were presented by partners for discussion and feedback. Information on each session can be found in the links below.

hulo and Fleet Forum Impact Measurement Results

Speakers:

Jean-Baptiste Lamarche hulo; Paul Jansen Fleet Forum

Session presentation

The session provided an overview of the proof of concept of a vehicle sharing initiative in Lebanon where more than 10 NGOs participated in a joint transport booking and vehicle sharing project designed to optimize vehicle usage, improve financial savings, and reduce the impact on the environment. The session also presented a proof of concept of a joint procurement initiative designed to drive accountability and reduce fraud risks. This is as a collaborative approach by hulo and Fleet Forum designed to enhance value creation and change management to integrate new ways of working for organisation.

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Review of Medical Supply Chain

Speakers:

Sophie Gligorijevic, ICRC

Session presentation

The session provided an overview of ICRC's medical supply chain process. This included the organisations global network of hybrid supply chain end-to-end process (including last mile delivery), customized strategies, and inventory management systems. ICRC as a first responder leverages on its strategic approach to partnerships to improve response capacity.

Revised Gaps and Needs Analysis (GNA)

Speakers:

Kelly Bradley, Logistics Cluster Team

Session presentation

The session provided guidelines and advice on how partners can be actively engaged in the new GNA process including a theoretical and practical process of conducting an effective assessment.

Medical Fuel Cell Vehicle Humanitarian Technologies that link Climate Change Mitigation and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Speakers:

Paul Jansen - Fleet Forum
Yasuhiro Soshino Ph.D. — Head, Humanitarian Technology Unit, Disaster Management Research Unit. Japanese Red Cross College of Nursing

Session presentation

The session showcased a medical Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV) called "Doctor Car NEO", the world's first fuel cell electric vehicle mobile clinic. This is a joint initiative between the Japanese Red Cross Kumatoto Hospital and Toyota to highlight the effectiveness of FCEV in disaster response scenarios.

Collective Advocacy for Humanitarian Logistics

One of the Logistic Cluster's key roles at the global and country levels is to advocate on behalf of partners to improve emergency response. The Logistics Cluster does not just want to be invited to the table on these important topics but to invite others and equip the whole community of partners with the ability to drive conversations and influence decisions. The aim is to build coherent messaging that all Logistics Cluster partners and stakeholders can take forward.

In the November 2023 GLM, the following were key advocacy topics identified by partners. During this session, participants were asked to rate the above topics in order of importance and feasibility, and then went into some more detailed work on individual topics in breakout groups. Key questions that guided that discussions included:

- **Who** is the audience? (Who are we advocating to/trying to influence)
- **Who** are the other stakeholders?
- **What** is the message? (How best do we share that message)?
- **What** do we need to back up claims?

Following the group activity, participants were then asked to do a second prioritisation of the key advocacy messages most needed and which to address first. The top eight topics selected can be seen below highlighted in the box.
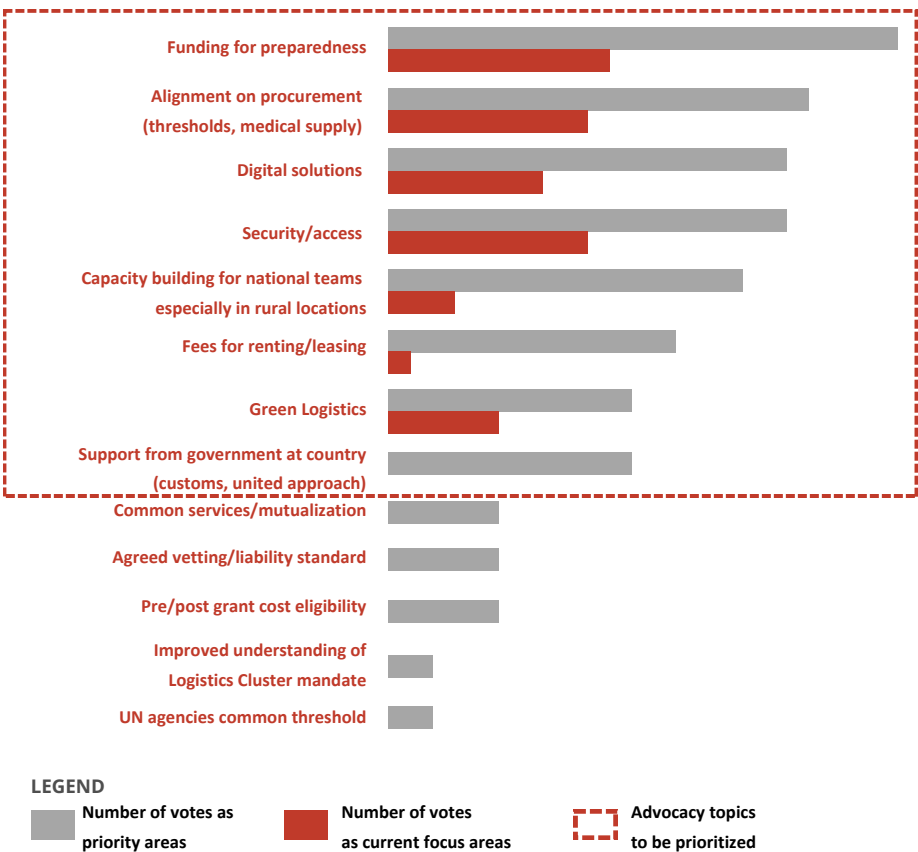
Session Outcomes

- Partners agreed on the importance of working together to collectively advocate for specific topics, recognising the additional power gained through joining voices together and repeating the same message across all partners.
- It was agreed that an Advocacy Working Group should be set up to take the work forwards and decide on the messaging and platforms to bring the most added value to each topic.

Medical Logistics in a Coordinated Response

The past two years have seen a noticeable increase in attention to medical logistics in emergencies. In response to requests by partners, the Logistics Cluster is aiming to adjust its approach to continue serving partners as much as possible. This session aimed to define the extent of Logistics Cluster teams' involvement in health supply chains, agree common ways of working in service provision, and identify and input to related outputs (such as training, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), forms etc).

Speakers:

- **Mary Jelliti: Logistics Cluster**
- **Kelly Bradley: Logistics Cluster**
- **Guillaume Queyras: World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- **Llanos Bernardeau Serra: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA, HHS Representative)**

Summary of Panel Discussion

The cluster platform is trusted due to its accountability, reliability, and ability to coordinate with various actors across different sectors for logistical support. The panelists each presented the different initiatives they are working on and highlighted the complementarity of each initiative as follows:

Health Logistics Working Group (HLWG)

- The Health Logistics Working Group, under the Health Cluster (led by WHO), looks at the supply side/pipeline for health supplies, connecting with the identified needs from the health sector.
- This includes supporting health partners with their technical supply chain issues and some work on health facilities management related to logistics.

Humanitarian Health Supplies Working Group (HHS)

- The HHS group, established in 2018, aims to contribute to more effective procurement, logistics management, and utilisation of health supplies in emergencies.
- This includes developing technical tools and resources, working to address common challenges related to procuring and managing emergency health kits, supporting countries moving from emergency to development mode, and facilitating information sharing and coordination on this topic.

Logistics Cluster Medical Logistics Working Group

- Primarily to define the extent of Logistics Cluster involvement in health supply chain.
- Agreeing on the scope for common service provision vis a vis health commodities.
- Agreeing on an action plan for the necessary changes in internal Logistics Cluster ways of working, guidelines, SOPs, and other relevant areas.
- Establish criteria for identifying which partners can provide health supply chain common service in each local context.

Session Outcomes

- The outcomes of this session are provided in **Annex 4.** This includes the contributions to the group activity that discussed the envisioned deliverables of the Logistics Cluster Medical Logistics Working Group.

Private Sector Engagement and the Logistics Cluster: LET 2.0

The Logistics Cluster continues to collaborate with the private sector to increase the support provided in emergency responses to the humanitarian community. Depending on the response, the private sector has provided expertise, experience, skills, knowledge, technical expertise, technology as well as crucial networks and resources.

The Logistics Emergency Team (LET) is comprised of four of the largest global logistics and transportation companies: Agility, UPS, Maersk, and DP World, which work together to support the Global Logistics Cluster. Since its inception, the LET has evolved its support several times - in line with changes in the humanitarian context and Logistics Cluster operations to ensure that it remains fit-for-purpose.

Speakers:

- **Frank Clary: Vice President, Sustainability, Agility**
- **Natalie Emery: Projects & Outreach Officer, Logistics Cluster**
- **Nicolo Sgreva: Community Relations Director, IMEA, The UPS Foundation**
- **Victoria Bowden: Group Director Community Investment, Group Sustainability, DP World**

What is LET 2.0?

1) To address the dynamic humanitarian operations and supply chain environment, and to fully leverage the breadth of capabilities with agility and flexibility, the LET companies collaborated with the Cluster to develop LET 2.0
2) LET will continue supporting the Logistics Cluster as its main priority in both emergencies and protracted crisis. In addition to that, the LET 2.0 will leverage the full force of the LET companies' diverse expertise and capabilities to extend its support directly to Logistics Cluster partners during an emergency. The LET will now support both the Logistics Cluster and partners, as needed and able.

What is Next?

The LET is doing a test run of the process through the Gaza response and will use lessons learned to further develop this process and aims to roll out before Q4, 2024.

Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) Elections

The SAG was established to foster shared ownership of the cluster and improve decision making. As defined by its Terms of Reference, the SAG is composed of eight members who are elected for two years.

- The Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator is the Fixed Chair of the SAG.
- WFP, as the Lead Agency of the cluster, has a permanent seat.
- NGOs have three seats
- Governmental organisations two seats.
- One Field Logistics Cluster Coordinator is also elected to participate to the SAG as an observer.

During the GLM, one NGO seat was vacant and up for election. Additionally, a government seat held by Richard Kneller (DG-ECHO) was to have been vacated in September 2024. The vote was held in this GLM, with the new representative to take up office in September. However, subsequent changes within DG ECHO mean that Richard will continue in the seat until the end of his term, as originally intended.

Global Strategy Advisory Group (SAG)

Matthew Dee,
Chief, Logistics Service, WFP

Mailin Fauchon
Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator, WFP

Richard Kneller
DG ECHO

Vacant
NGO Seat

Nadia Griffin
Team Lead, USAID/BHA Supply Chain Management Division

Sue Hodgson
Head of Humanitarian Supply Chain, Save the Children International

Fabrice Perrot
Logistics and Information Systems Director, Solitarités International

Blessing Dzambo
Deputy Logistics Cluster Coordinator, WFP South Sudan (observer)

NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS

Sandrine Ducroix
DG ECHO

Sarah Penniman-Morin
IRC

Upcoming seat to be vacated. However, due to administrative challenges within DG ECHO, Richard Kneller will not vacate the seat and will remain in post as one of the government SAG members.

Stockpiling Strategy in support of Rapid Emergency Response

Session Objective

The Logistics Cluster, in collaboration with the Emergency Supply Prepositioning Strategy (ESUPS) is conducting a mapping exercise using LogIE to contribute to building more solid, fast responding humanitarian stockpiling systems and increase response capacity by mapping out existing stock prepositioning systems, data models and integration standards, common logistics services and capacities. The scope of the project recently expanded based on partner feedback to include contextual issues such as the re-assessment of stock locations and prioritization strategies.

This project is a collaborative approach to humanitarian stock prepositioning in effort to reduce gaps and overlaps in emergency preparedness and improve coordination amongst humanitarian partners. Through the STOCKHOLM platform, partners can freely map and analyse pre-positioned relief items at global, national, and subnational levels. The platform provides algorithms on stock analysis that propose ideal stock levels for collective prepositioning strategies in each country, in-line with localisation agendas. Partners can get an overview of available stock, assess whether items can cover expected needs and provide collective recommendations on stock re-allocation in line with prepositioning strategies. The platform is designed to interact with other tools and data sets to enhance coordination and collaboration to help shape disaster preparedness and response efforts worldwide.

Challenges

- Re-assessment of prepositioned stock locations and to prioritize location in strategic planning.
- Limited utilization of innovation and technology: data gathered by various organisations remains available, however there is little collaboration between these organisations on how to utilize this data to encourage innovation and partnerships. There is reluctance amongst partners to share data and strengthen trust by demonstrating the mutual benefits of cooperation.
- Clarification on natural hazard types: At the moment the platform is focused on natural hazards (and not long-term climate related hazards). To avoid confusion and ensure all relevant events are monitored, there is a need to clearly communicate the scope of the platform regarding disaster types.
- Communication among partners: The platform is planning to include an in-built messaging mechanism to enable partner to communicate more effectively.

What can you do?

- Connect to STOCKHOLM and share your data.
- Work jointly with academia on strategic frameworks.
- Join the initiative to build a standard stockpile modality of inter-agency emergency stockpile

WREC Coalition: Environmental Sustainability in Logistics

WREC: Waste Management & Measuring, Reverse Logistics and Environmentally Sustainable Procurement, Transport and Circular Economy

The WREC Coalition is coordinated by the Global Logistics Cluster and supported by a coalition of humanitarian organizations - the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Save the Children International and the World Food Programme of the United Nations - with input from all Logistics Cluster partners, other humanitarian clusters, the private sector, and academic partners.

The WREC Coalition provided an update on two recent successful activities:

1) WREC and IFRC Joint Bangladesh Pilot Project: Green Procurement Market Assessment

In February 2024, the WREC Coalition's Green Procurement Specialist, Paola Robert (hosted by Save the Children International), conducted a field mission in Bangladesh in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) and the Bangladesh Red Crescent. The goal of the mission was to assess the availability of environmentally sustainable goods and services in Dhaka and Cox's Bazar markets. The mission piloted a Green Procurement Market Assessment, which included field visits to key suppliers of construction materials, non-food items, fleet, and medical equipment. The assessment involved gathering data, mapping and analysing the top areas of expenditure to prioritize them, while providing a comprehensive overview of the local supply chain operations. The assessment raised awareness on the green procurement process for partners at the country-level to set recommendations and build action plans. The mission supported the inclusion of sustainable procurement concepts in dialogues with response teams and suppliers through orientation workshops.

2) Pakistan Field Visit: Warehouse Waste Management Assessment

In November 2023, a joint WFP Supply Chain and Logistics Cluster field visit to Pakistan took place to identify country office needs and set the strategic direction on supply chain sustainability. The WREC Coalition's Waste Management Specialist, Marta Kucharski, participated in the visit to understand the challenges and opportunities of managing waste, and support logistics partners develop standardised procedures on waste management in warehouses.

Key findings:

The warehouse waste management assessment process identified good management practices in warehouses for packaging items and an extensive reverse logistics operation to recover packaging for recycling and laminated-plastic sachet packaging for safe disposal. Key recommendations include the need to digitalise and track waste for an optimal reverse logistics route and storing system, engage manufacturers for alternative metalised plastic packaging, and provide guidance and capacity strengthening for government warehouse staff. As a result of the assessment, a WFP team has been deployed to Pakistan to undertake a report validation and implementation planning. Additionally, a local enterprise has been identified for recycling laminated-plastic sachets, as well as the digitalisation of reverse logistics in Karachi.

Watch the WREC Coalition achievements for 2023

Information Session

Additional sessions were held in parallel where updates and new activities were presented by partners for discussion and feedback. Information on each session can be found in the links below.

Leveraging Private Sector Aviation for Humanitarian Logistics

Speakers:

Bethany Holland, Airlink

Session presentation

Airlink presented its work to support humanitarian response, recovery, and resilience projects for emergencies around the world. The organisation's emergency response coordination brings together non-profit actors within its networks to collaborate and share information in emergencies. A strong engagement with partners, aviation actors, and donors has provided Airlink the capacity to respond to logistical needs the humanitarian community in air transportation as shown in the case study examples.

Supply Chain Requirements in Grants

Speakers:

Nadia Griffin, USAID/BHA
Supply Chain Management
Division

The session was an in-person discussion addressing supply chain requirements in grants.

Global Logistics Cluster Preparedness Networks

Speakers:

Guissepe Linardi,
Logistics Cluster Team

Session presentation

The Logistics Cluster Preparedness team showcased their journey from a working group to a global network spanning the Regional Bureaus of Bangkok, Johannesburg, Panama and the Logistics Cluster team in Rome, Italy

The Logistics Response Training (LRT) in 2024 and Beyond: A Summary of the Revision Process

Speakers:

Julie Kuras - Logistics Cluster Team

Session presentation

The Logistics Cluster training unit provided participants with an overview of the concept and structure of an LRT. In an LRT, skilled logistics professionals are put to the test in a rigorous 7-day simulation, providing immediate operational logistics surge capacity as part of Logistics Response Teams. This training is designed to give the participants a realistic emergency experience through working in field-like conditions. The session assessed feedback from participants of the previous 31 in-person and 8 e-LRTs implemented.

Logistics Cluster Community Solutions

The Logistics Cluster Community Solutions team aims to provide highly integrated and user-friendly platforms to enable quick, easy, and on-the-go access to logistics information to increase the efficiency of humanitarian response. The below are the developments across different solutions provided to partners.

Logistics Cluster website

The website is going through a revamp process, focusing on key background architecture so that the other tools connect seamlessly with and through the website, improving the structure and tasks such as the search function.

Logistics Information Exchange (LogIE)

The user experience has been updated for easier navigation, both for viewers and editors. In a major leap forward, viewers will soon be able to create their own rapid map products from LogIE, including own logo, brand colours, and the ability to add text, arrows and icons to the created map.

Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA)

Updates done on the LCA pages. The team is working to increase partner involvement, move towards localisation and full transition, in addition to enhancing the design, data linkage and automation.

Logistics Operational Guide (LOG)

Over the past 6 months, the LOG has recorded over 230,000 visitors, with 439,000 views and 60,000 downloads.
Improvements continue to be made on design, functional widgets, and data integration processes.

Relief Item Tracking Application (RITA)

- New online Service Request Forms (SRFs) have been integrated are available on operations webpages.
- New cargo notification process and automatic emails.
- Automatically generated cargo/pallet labels with QR codes and real-time tracking.
- Internal mechanisms for systems generated waybills, loss reports, stock cards and other management tools.

Cluster on the **GO!**

A preview to the new mobile app was provided. The app is designed to enable logisticians to access Logistics Cluster services from their mobile phones.
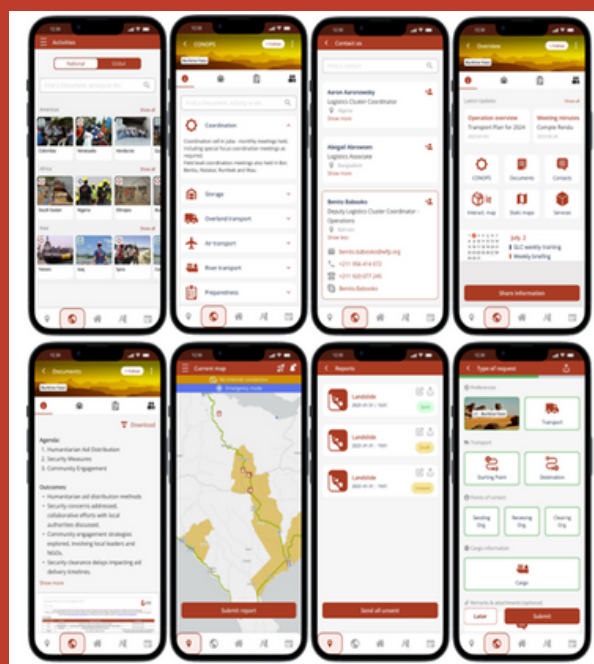
Conclusion

The May 2024 GLM concluded with a collective agreement to further the goals of the four pillars in the <u>Logistics Cluster Strategy 2022-2026</u>, designed by and for community of partners. The partnership base (Pillar 1) was strengthened as good practices and standards were shared, analysed, and adjusted (Pillar 2). By sharing information, the overall response capacity was enhanced (Pillar 3) and improving operational support to the field (Pillar 4).

A recurring theme, acknowledged and echoed by the partners present, was the mutual responsibility among Logistics Cluster partners, as combined efforts are integral to optimising success. All the initiatives and actions agreed require engagement and participation across the community to achieve the best result: from the Working Groups, to implementing the Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP), to the coordination meetings in the countries.

The next GLM will be held in multiple locations between September and November 2024, allowing partners at regional and country levels to continue key discussions on exit strategies in complex and prolonged crises, the role of preparedness approach and advocacy. Further information on the next GLM will be shared with partners.

Annex 1

Agenda

GLM Agenda, May 2024

Session presentations

DAY 1: Session Presentations

DAY 2: Session presentations

DAY 3: Session presentations

Additional resources

Global Operations Updates, 2024

Strategic Implementation Updates, 2024

Working Group Updates, 2024

Global Logistics Meeting (GLM) - Reflection on the November 2023 GLM Slides, February 2024

Global Logistics Meeting (GLM) - Outcomes from the November 2023 GLM

Annex 2 - Digitalisation and Traceability and Related Funding Requirements in Supply Chain

Group Session Outcomes

GROUP 1 & 2

To what extent are there central principles that all can agree to
(e.g. interoperability of data)?
Would having minimum standards be helpful?

- Data security standards for taxonomy for good and services
- Digitalisation as part of the overall costs
- Guidance on digitization due to a gap on the digitalization journey.
- Value -adds.
- Making a good business case for collaboration.

GROUP 3 & 4

Are the expectations possible/reasonable?
How does it get funded?

- Alignment with donor requirements and data standards.
- Understanding of what the data is
- Lowest common denominator on available technology
- Compliance with local laws
- Data protection and funding
- Internal standards within organisations

GROUP 5 & 6

How do we get to the ideal state or a fora / levels for this to be discussed?

- Track end-to-end on common platforms with focus on top priorities
- Right investment and sustainability
- Visibility across organisations
- Tools used for sectoral and humanitarian items rather than organisation specifics
- ESUPS platform as an example
- Risk mitigation, benefits and efficiencies Impact/feedback and information loops
- Cash investment
- Define common gaps and challenges, how did we get there
- Reviewing the different inter-agency perspectives on data and the value it brings to each organisation
- Share success stories

GROUP 7 & 8

How do we (donors, UN, NGOs) work together reasonable version of that state? What are the appropriate next steps?

- Peer-to-peer communication
- Create a voluntary pilot focus group (donors/NGOs etc).
- Electing a steering committee and focal point in each organisation.
- Establishing a clear roadmap, goals and objectives with ember roles and responsibilities.
- Focusing on funding for digital solutions
- Agree on priorities/definition of end-to-end processes
- Harmonising donor and cross- sectoral standards
- Share lessons learnt, best practices, change management, project tracking, etc
- Front-line humanitarian logistics data (understanding the source, diversity, and governance of data). Do we need a common model to enhance information sharing, digital solutions, and cross/benefit analysis

Annex 3: Fit-For-Purpose Responses for Different Emergency Scenarios

Outcomes of the Group Activity

Type of Crises	MOST IMPACTFUL CHARACTERISTICS	ACTIONS		
		Leadership & Coordination	**Information Management**	**Common Services**
SUDDEN ONSET	Governance & Leadership	• Technical Knowledge & Local Participation	• Community engagement & advocacy	• Customs/Convoy to move supplies • Private Sector Engagement
	Access	• Advocacy for lifting restrictions • Access to border and Customs	• Information analysis & mapping dissemination.	• Transport and Warehousing • Infrastructure rehabilitation
PROTRACTED	Local market capacity Community	• Working jointly with other clusters on community sensitization and collaboration • Conducting a 3W	• Collecting partner information though market surveys • Sharing resources and expertise on governance and community structures	• Limited in-country community-based capacity
CONFLICT	Political constraints	• Limited control at the national level • Lack of coordination of activities on ground • Community acceptance	• Effective communication amongst agencies and with governments	• Common Service Notification/ One-stop-shop
CROSS-CUTTING	Funding	• Joint advocacy for funding	• Data sharing	• Private sector market development • Efficiency in common service collaboration

Annex 4 - Medical Logistics in a Coordinated Response

Group Session Outcomes

GROUP 1 & 2

What blind spots does the Logistics Cluster have when it comes to health supply chain? What mandated activities are not implemented?

- Provide more information and best practices on reverse logistics on medical waste.
- Provide information on regulations in different countries (temperature control storage/monitoring)
- Traceability and separation of goods (dangerous goods) from food products.
- A comprehensive assessment of logistics capacity to support supply chain.

GROUP 3 & 4

How can the Logistics Cluster improve its provision of health-related items?

- Provide more information management infrastructures.
- Link with governments, particularly on customs and importation.
- Build partners capacity with health logistics, e.g mapping of cold chain and temperature sensitive transport available.
- Update the Service Request Forms (SRFs) and platforms that accommodate large volumes of entry.

GROUP 5 & 6

Outside of service provision activities, what else can the Logistics Cluster facilitate access for in health-related supply chain.

- Waste disposal – Logistics Cluster Assessments (LCA) in conjunction with Green Logistics (WREC) to map medical waste facilities.
- Improve information on customs clearance, warehousing, transport, temperature control Mobile Storage Units.
- Advocate with authorities to enhance education on medical kits, tracking origin of goods (restricted/export exemptions), expiry dates amongst others.

GROUP 7 & 8

What can partners do to aid with medical logistics in emergencies

- Share cost of emergency interventions, as well as data and information management
- Create a set of shared standards for emergencies (status of medical logistics systems and suppliers).
- Transportation (road/air/restricted routes), customs and clearance.
- Increase human resources/facilities.
- Post emergency waste management.
- Provide advocacy and training.
- Report on needs, shared facilities, and capacities, including last mile delivery.

Acknowledgements

The Logistics Cluster would like to extend gratitude to the community of humanitarian logistics partners for committing their time and effort to attending this year's GLM. The Logistics Cluster Team acknowledges the unwavering support from its lead agency, WFP for facilitating and hosting the GLM meetings, as well as the dedicated Logistics Cluster staff that have worked tirelessly in ensuring a smooth and successful meeting.

We thank you for your continued support and contribution to this year's GLM

For more information, visit the Logistics Cluster website and follow us on Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram.