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# Meeting Minutes, 5 September 2024

Global Strategic Advisory Group (SAG)



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<b>LOCATION</b>	Online
<b>DATE</b>	5 September 2024
<b>CHAIR</b>	Mailin Fauchon (Global Logistics Cluster (GLC) Coordinator)
<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	Blessing Dzambo (South Sudan Logistics Cluster), Kelly Bradley (GLC), Mary Jelliti (GLC), Nadia Griffin (USAID - Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)), Richard Kneller (Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)), Sarah Penniman-Morin (International Rescue Committee (IRC)), Susan Hodgson (Save the Children).
<b>ACTION POINTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A SAG digitalization deep-dive meeting to take place on 19 September</li></ul>
<b>AGENDA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Review and update on action points</li><li>2. Rapid GNA update</li><li>3. Operational update</li><li>4. Funding outlook for 2024</li></ol>

## 1. Review and update on action points

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- A SAG digitalization deep-dive meeting is taking place on 19 September.

## 2. Rapid GNA update

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- The Gaps and Needs Analysis (GNA) template is being revised to reduce the questionnaire length and facilitate data collection. The main objective is to work from a hybrid version for information-gathering purposes, and feedback will be obtained from partners both online and through in-person interviews. The main changes refer to:
  - A reduction of questions from 22 to 12 questions overall;
  - The requirement for at least 8 partners to respond to the questionnaire;
  - The requirement to validate feedback against market information.

## 3. Operational update

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### Gaza:

- WFP operational scale-up plan: WFP, as the Logistics Cluster lead agency, has developed its operation plan for the period to come in which it will enhance logistics infrastructure in Gaza to improve the reception, storage and transportation of humanitarian aid ensuring readiness for the upcoming winter. This plan will include:
  - Capacity augmentation and management

- Temperature-sensitive storage and transport
- Logistics infrastructure augmentation

### **Sudan**

- Major logistics impediments between Port Sudan and Kosti, with some of the roads and bridges being impassable or damaged, now exacerbated by the rainy season.
- Cross-border road access challenges with South Sudan complicate the response. Locations around Rank into Kosti are still accessible through river transport. Within South Sudan, there are air assets limitations and air transport remains problematic as well.
- Free-to-user air transport services are currently being provided in South Sudan under the Logistics Cluster's mandate. Due to the rainy season, requests are increasing and the Logistics Cluster teams in South Sudan can currently not meet the increases in demand. Discussions are ongoing with UNHAS to assess whether some air assets can be sourced for the Logistics Cluster operations in South Sudan.
- UNHCR has been pushing for additional UNHAS flights for the delivery of in-kind cargo, and air transport support was provided. It was flagged that the resources are available to the entire partner community and that they must be used to the best of our ability.

## **4. Funding outlook for 2024**

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- A select number of operations are currently heavily underfunded:
  - Syria: 15% c. 5.5 million
  - CAR: 18% funded c. 2.2. million
  - Nigeria: 24% funded c. 2 million
  - Yemen: 38% funded c. 5 million
  - Somalia: 24% funded c. 14.2 million
  - Ethiopia: 37% funded c. 9 million
  - Burkina Faso: 38% funded c. 1.8 million
- The trend towards smaller funding envelopes has led the SAG to discuss what possible steps could be undertaken to navigate this increasing climate of uncertainty:
  - Improved relationship development with donors, and clearer donor prioritisation efforts for organizations to better coordinate for efficient service delivery
  - Improved localisation for cost-saving purposes
  - Improved definition of the role of Logistics Cluster operations when transitioning from acute to protracted emergencies
  - Better clarity on the role and responsibilities of each actor along the humanitarian logistics response chain to improve the pooling of resources and to avoid competition for funding
- Improved assessment of partners' storage needs given that organizations increasingly procure at national level.
  - Improved assessment of private sector and infrastructural capacities to avoid service delivery when commercial alternatives exist.

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## Contacts

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