Meeting Minutes, 19 December 2024

Palestine Logistics Cluster

LOCATION	Amman, Cairo (online and in-person), Jerusalem (Online)
DATE	19 December 2024
CHAIR	Palestine Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	ACTED, Action Against Hunger Spain (ACF), American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA), Baitulmaal, Care International, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Cooperazione Internazionale Sud Sud (CISS), Danish Church Aid (DCA), Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG-ECHO), Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Gisha, Global Communities, Global Empowerment Mission (GEM), Good Neigbors Japan, Helping hand for relief and development (HHRD), Humanity and Inclusion (HI), Humanitarian Logistics Cooperative (Hulo), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Jordan National Red Crescent (JNRCS), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Maan Development Center, MedGlobal, Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP -UK), Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), MERCY Malaysia, Mercy Corps, Médecins du Monde (MdM), Médecins Sans Frontières OCA (MSF), Médecins Sans Frontières Spain (MSF-S), Mentor Initiative, Netherlands Embassy Amman, Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development (NICCO), Norwegian Aid Committee (NORWAC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), OXFAM, Palestinian NGOs Network (PNGO), PARC Interpeoples' Cooperation (PARCIC), Plan International, Première Urgence Internationale (PUI), Project Hope, Rahma Worldwide (RWW), Rebuilding Alliance, Relief International (RI), Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS), Save the Children, Secours Islamique France (SIF), ShelterBox, Solidarites International (SI), Swiss Church Aid (HEKS/EPER), Terre des hommes (TdH), Türkiye Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD), UK-Med, United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), United Palestinian Appeal (UPA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), WeWorld, Welthungerhilfe (WHH), World Food Programme, World Health Organization (WHO).
AGENDA	1. Overall Updates 2. Egypt corridor Updates 3. Jordan corridor Updates 4. Shelter Cluster: Household Energy Assessment (Preliminary Findings) 5. Inter-Agency Pipeline 6. AOB

1. Overall Updates

Overview of the Gaza entry points:

- Erez West (Zikim):
  - Daily uplifting operations are ongoing (except on Saturdays), with 50-70 trucks per day. Looting has reduced compared to previous months, although security constraints are still hindering smooth transportation.
  - Delays in granting access to the platform are resulting in difficulties in completing cargo pickups on the same day.

- Kissufim Entry Point:
  - Security constraints continue to hamper cargo operations at the entry point.
- The uplifting mission on 18 December was cancelled due to the ongoing security incidents.
- Kerem Shalom-Karem Abu Salem:
  - Partner cargo collections are still impeded by continued severe security constraints.
  - The platform is congested. Partners are requested not to send consignments unless they can collect them on the same day or the next to avoid further blocking the platform.
- Philadelphi corridor: Four collection tests took place through Khan Younis to the Middle Area. During the latest test on 18 December, 78% of the trucks arrived at the Logistics Cluster warehouse.
- Fence road: Starting next week, non-food items will be prioritised (60%) over food items (40%), adjusting the previous focus on food items in accordance with the high-level decisions by the Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator and the ICCG.

2. Egypt corridor Updates

- The coordination of the Egypt corridor is led by the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC). Partners are required to follow the ERC Standard Operating Procedures and notify ERC of cargo movements through the 15-day or 48-hour forms.
- Al Arish: As of 18 December, 784 UN and International NGOs trucks are in Al Arish, ready for dispatch to Gaza, with 50% of the trucks carrying food security items. The weekly average number of UN and INGO trucks in line to cross at Kerem Shalom was 806 between 12 and 17 December.
- Overview provided of trucks offloaded on the fence road and at Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem from the last month (November) and the last week (11-17 December):

Month	Crossing	Trucks Offloaded
NOV	Fence road	265 trucks: 47% of the manifest
	Kerem Shalom	369 trucks: 38% of the manifest
DEC (11-17)	Fence road	54 trucks: 87% of the manifest
	Kerem Shalom	143 trucks: 49% of the manifest

- Overview provided of trucks offloaded at the Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem platform each month since August:

Month	Trucks Offloaded	Daily Average Trucks
AUG	436 trucks: 67% of the manifest	20 daily
SEP	317 trucks: 49% of the manifest	14 daily
OCT	574 trucks: 59% of the manifest	23 daily
NOV	369 trucks: 38% of the manifest	18 daily
DEC (1 – 18)	286 trucks: 39% of the manifest	20 daily

- Partners are kindly advised not to push their trucks unless cargo can be collected to avoid inefficiencies and waste. Only essential trucks should be manifested from Kerem Shalom, prioritising partners with immediate or short-term collection capacity.

3. Jordan corridor Updates

- Between 12 and 18 December, three direct Government-to-Government convoys were dispatched for JHCO, WFP, and Logistics Cluster partners to Erez West, comprising 119 trucks. Of these, the Logistics Cluster facilitated 34 trucks carrying food security, WASH, health, protection and shelter items on behalf of seven Logistics Cluster partners.
- Since December 2023, the Logistics Cluster has consolidated 26,071 m3 of partners' cargo in the consolidation warehouse in Jordan. The current stock on hand is 1,025 m3.

4. Shelter Cluster: Household Energy Assessment (Preliminary Findings)

- The Shelter Cluster presented the preliminary results of its household energy assessment conducted with its partners in Gaza from September to December 2024. The assessment highlighted severe energy challenges due to restricted access to fuel and energy technologies, leading to critical shortages of electricity, cooking fuel, and other essential resources. These shortages have worsened energy poverty, significantly impacting basic living conditions, healthcare, and humanitarian operations.
- To address these issues, a set of priority measures and actions was developed, focusing on:
    - Optimising the use of available energy resources.
    - Improving energy efficiency in critical infrastructure.
    - Ensuring equitable distribution of limited energy supplies.
- The Household Energy Assessment, spearheaded by the Shelter Cluster Palestine and its partners from September to December 2024, included a multisectoral energy demand assessment to address the critical needs of humanitarian operations and the 2.1 million people affected by the energy crisis in Gaza.
- The findings presented are preliminary and will be revised before the final report's official release.
- This assessment involved the following steps: stakeholder mapping, key-informant interviews, a Kobo Survey, analysis and evaluation, and a focus group discussion.
- The two primary humanitarian operations with the highest energy needs are the WASH sector and non-food item distributions. Most energy is needed for charging stations for electronic devices, WASH and ICT equipment. Partners identified the top five energy challenges they face, with fuel shortages being the most significant.
- At the household level, the primary challenges are the widespread use of inefficient and unsafe makeshift stoves, which expose households to health risks. With additional resources, the Shelter Cluster proposes to raise awareness for upgraded stoves and increase the availability of cooking fuels, such as Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) fuel.
- Since October 2023, Gaza has been experiencing a severe electricity crisis with no grid electricity available. Over half of all generators are destroyed, damaged, or non-operational, leaving more than 90% of households with minimal access to electricity. This highlights the urgent need for effective power solutions, including improved power distribution, maintenance of existing systems, and the adoption of solar energy and battery longevity measures.

5. Inter-Agency Pipeline

- The Logistics Cluster provided an update on the Inter-Agency pipeline, which is compiled monthly using dedicated forms per organisation.
- As of 11 December, 301,938 mt of aid are in the pipeline for the next three months[1]. The latest figure remains similar to the previous report on 25 November 2024. The breakdown by corridor is as follows:
    - Egypt corridor: 25 organisations plan to deliver 159,572 mt, 39% of which is for food security and 38% shelter and NFIs.
    - Jordan corridor: 29 organisations plan 60,273 mt (58% food security, 22% shelter and NFIs).
    - Ashdod: Eight organisations plan 75,558 mt.
    - West Bank: Nine organisations plan 6,444 mt.
    - 91 mt have not yet been allocated to a specific corridor.
- The Logistics Cluster highlighted that this data is based on updates from only 29 organisations for this round, representing 50% of organisations with active excel sheets in the Logistics Cluster database. It also emphasised the need for partners to update their pipeline data to strengthen collective analysis and logistical planning.
- Partners who have not received the form or are facing any issues can contact Palestine.logcluster@wfp.org.

6. AoB

- The Logistics Cluster maintains a consolidated supplier list with information provided by partners. The list is shared with partners regularly when there are changes. Partners who have supplier lists for inside Gaza are particularly encouraged to share them at Palestine.logcluster@wfp.org. Organisation names are removed from the shared file.
- Partners interested in sharing their logistics set-up and experience and who would like to present at the Logistics Cluster coordination meeting are welcome and encouraged to contact Palestine.logcluster@wfp.org.
- More information on the Logistics Cluster services, updates, guidelines, and related links can be found on the Palestine operation webpage.

The next Palestine Logistics Cluster coordination meeting will be held on 9 January 2025 at 11:00 (Jerusalem/Cairo time) and at 12:00 (Amman time).

Contacts

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[1] The pipeline collection is an ongoing process and data is based on available inputs from humanitarian organisations monthly. Therefore, it does not represent the entire pipeline and should be interpreted accordingly.