
Sudan Operation

Sudan – Coordination Meeting Minutes

04 March 2025



LOCATION	Port Sudan and Online
DATE	4 March 2025
CHAIR	Sudan Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS	Africa Global Logistics Group (AGL), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), Airlink, Alight, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Concern Worldwide, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Emergency NGO, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), German Red Cross, GOAL, Humanitarian Logistics Cooperative (Hulo), Humanity and inclusion (HI), Humanity for Development and Prosperity Organization (HDPO), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), INTERSOS, LM International, Medair, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF Belgium), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF France), Médecins Sans Frontières Operational Centre Amsterdam (MSF Holland), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF Switzerland), Medical Teams International (MTI), Mercy Corps, Music for Peace, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Relief International (RI), Save the Children International (SCI), ShelterBox, Sudan INGO Forum, Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS), United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Relief (WR), World Vision International (WVI).
AGENDA	1. Previous action points 2. Gaps and Needs Analysis 3. Logistics Cluster Services and Updates 4. Access and Convoys Updates 5. United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) Update 6. Information Management Updates 7. Any Other Business
ACTION POINTS	• Gaps & Needs Analysis (GNA): Each organization is requested to complete the GNA partner survey by 6 March 2025. • Storage: Partners are requested to share information on available temperature-controlled facilities in Port Sudan and share any anticipated storage needs in locations such as Wad Madani. The Logistics Cluster team will follow-up with WHO to provide further details on the status of their temperature-controlled facilities in Chad. • Monthly Movement Plan: Partners are requested to submit their monthly cross-border and crossline movement plans by the 1st of each month in OCHA's Humanitarian Information Sharing Mechanism (HISM) platform.

- **Cross-Border Movement:** Partners are encouraged to share details on their South Sudan-Sudan cross-border plans and needs to support preparedness, planning, and advocacy efforts.
- **Access Constraints:** Partners should report access constraints (including bureaucratic impediments, operational interference, security incidents, and others) using the [OCHA Access Monitoring and Reporting Framework](#) or by emailing ocha-sudanaccessreporting@un.org, to support CMCoord follow-up and advocacy efforts.

1. Previous Action Points

- **Gaps & Needs Analysis (GNA):** Each organization was requested to complete the [GNA partner survey](#) by 26 February (extended to 6 March).
- **Monthly Movement Plan:** Partners were requested to submit their monthly cross-border and crossline movement plans by the 1st of each month in [OCHA's Humanitarian Information Sharing Mechanism \(HISM\) platform](#).
- **Movement:** Partners to report access constraints using the [OCHA Access Monitoring and Reporting Framework](#) (including bureaucratic impediments, operational interference, security incidents, and others) or by emailing ocha-sudanaccessreporting@un.org, to support CMCoord follow-up and advocacy efforts.

2. Gaps & Needs Analysis (GNA)

- The Logistics Cluster extended the deadline for the [2025 GNA Partner Survey](#) until 6 March 2025. Partners are requested to complete the survey.
- The survey aims to collect feedback from supply chain experts across the humanitarian community, including UN agencies, INGOs, and NNGOs, on the logistics situation and challenges in the country.
- Selected partners will also be able to participate in bilateral interviews to further expand on the information they provided in the survey, and may be asked to explain additional needs, provide relevant examples, or even supply market data.
- The findings from the GNA analysis, along with the resulting report and recommendations, will inform the Sudan Logistics Cluster future strategy, Concept of Operations (ConOps), and services. Partner participation and collaboration are critical to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the logistics situation.
- More information on the GNA can be found on the Logistics Cluster website [here](#).

3. Logistics Cluster Services and Updates

Common Services

Transport

- The Logistics Cluster continues to provide road transportation to partners on a case-by-case basis. Criteria include a demonstrated lack of capacity to organize transport independently. Services are subject to security and access conditions.
- Before submitting a Service Request Form (SRF) for road transport, partners are advised to contact: Sudan Logistics Cluster Coordinator: Ali Awan (ali.awan@wfp.org), copying Gilles Cimetiere (gilles.cimetiere@wfp.org).
- Each organization remains responsible for negotiating its own access and seeking necessary authorizations from the relevant authorities. OCHA teams can support on identifying the authorities to contact.

Storage

- The Logistics Cluster continues to provide temporary storage services at no cost to partners in Kassala, Gedaref, Port Sudan (including 190 m² of temperature-controlled storage), and Kosti, which reopened at limited capacity in November 2024. Plans are underway to expand temperature-controlled facilities in Port Sudan. Partners are requested to share any information on available temperature-controlled facilities in Port Sudan.
- The Logistics Cluster will assess the feasibility of resuming previous storage capacity in Wad Madani as conditions allow and based on partner interest. Additionally, in response to partners' needs, the LC will consider the possibility of expanding storage capacity to other locations, such as El Obeid, subject to access and security considerations. Partners are encouraged to communicate any anticipated storage requirements in these locations with the Logistics Cluster at sdn.response.logcoordination@wfp.org.
- Partners can access storage services by submitting a [service request form \(SRF\) online](#) or [by email using an excel form](#). Instructions for completing the excel form are available [here](#).
- The Logistics Cluster can provide Mobile Storage Units (MSUs), in areas where common storage services are unavailable. Partners should communicate their storage needs, including pipeline requirements, to facilitate planning. Shared and inter-sectoral use of the MSUs is strongly encouraged.
- The Logistics Cluster is loaning five MSUs to partners in Golo, Nertiti, Um Dukhun, and Zalingei (Central Darfur) and Tawila (North Darfur), under a common services approach. This is in addition to other MSUs already loaned to partners in White Nile, Red Nile, Blue Nile and North Darfur States, and in Chad to support the regional response. Additional MSUs are under procurement.
- WFP is planning to establish a humanitarian hub in Al-Dabbah, Northern State, with capacity to support the humanitarian community with temporary storage, managed by the Logistics Cluster, including temperature-controlled capacity. The land has been secured and works are underway, with completion not expected before two months. Services will be provided in line with [Standard Operating Procedures \(SOPs\) on Temporary Storage & Road Transport](#).
- Partners have highlighted the need for temperature-controlled storage needs in Sudan and Chad (e.g., N'djamena, Farchana, and Abeche to support cross-border operations). The Logistics Cluster will follow with WHO regarding temperature-controlled facilities in Abeche, Chad.

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- The South Sudan Logistics Cluster is setting up a small storage hub in Aweil, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, South Sudan, initially with one MSU. The site is approximately one hour north of Aweil, along the road to the Sudanese border. Platform-raising works are currently ongoing and expected to be completed in one month. However, the Joda border crossing in Renk remains the only official approved entry point for humanitarian cargo between South Sudan and Sudan.
- For any storage or transport services in South Sudan, partners should contact Fiona Lithgow, South Sudan Logistics Cluster Coordinator, at fiona.lithgow@wfp.org. Partners are also encouraged to share cross-border plans and operations from South Sudan with the Sudan Logistics Cluster at sdn.response.logcoordination@wfp.org to inform Logistics Cluster strategies and advocacy efforts.

Movement Plans

Humanitarian Information Sharing Mechanism (HISM)

- Partners are reminded to submit their monthly movement plans, including cross-line and cross-border movements, to the OCHA [HISM](#) platform by the 1st of each month.
- OCHA shares submitted movements with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) to enhance visibility and advocate for improved access to hard-to-reach locations. Movements are also tracked by the Logistics Cluster to optimize transport capacity utilization.
- Partners are responsible for submitting movement plans through HISM and obtaining the necessary travel permits.
- For assistance with movement planning, the HISM platform, or joining coming convoys, partners can contact Abdallah Dirar (abdallah.dirar@wfp.org) and Ali Awan (ali.awan@wfp.org).
- February 2025: 179 trucks (5,709 mt) crossed Adre with no reported movements via the Tine border crossing point. Figures may change as movements are reconciled.
- March 2025: 71 trucks (2,455 mt) planned to cross Adre and six trucks (136 mt) planned to cross Tine.

Other Updates

- The Sudan Logistics Cluster is augmenting cross-border operations from Chad. Christophe Vial is on extended leave and is expected back in April. In the meantime, two additional staff will be deployed to Abeche, Chad. Their contact details will be shared once available.
- Partners with cross-border queries should contact the Sudan Logistics Cluster team based in Port Sudan at sdn.response.logcoordination@wfp.org until further updates are provided.

4. Access and Convoys Update

Inter-Agency Convoys

- Strategic planning for inter-agency humanitarian convoys - including priority locations and cargo – is led by the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG). Following this strategic planning, the Logistics Cluster provides operational planning support for OCHA-coordinated convoys.
- Partners are encouraged to review the [Sudan - Humanitarian Road Convoy Guidelines and Flowchart](#) (published on the Sudan Logistics Cluster website in December 2024), which outlines roles and responsibilities.
- For OCHA-led inter-agency convoys, partners participate using their own contracted trucks, unless otherwise agreed with the Logistics Cluster through common transport services.
- A recent inter-agency convoy from Chad was successfully completed with 33 trucks on behalf of four partners (split into two teams), to locations in West, Central, and South Darfur. Another inter-agency convoy from Port Sudan to Khartoum is underway, including 18 trucks for three partners. 12 out of 18 trucks have reached their final destinations, with the remaining six trucks still in Shendi until the route becomes accessible.
- Some trucks from the inter-agency convoy from Chad to Tawila reportedly remain in Kebkabiya due to the inaccessibility of the main road to Tawila. The alternative route using the Sartoni road requires smaller (30 mt) trucks, which are reportedly unavailable currently.
- The Logistics Cluster is coordinating with OCHA on a potential inter-agency convoy from Port Sudan to Wad Madani. The final decision on organizing the convoy, its destinations, and other details, will be made by the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG).
- Recently reported convoy challenges include drivers taking alternate routes the agreed ones, truck breakdowns due to poor vehicle conditions, armed escort requirements, limited availability of smaller trucks, and the need for strengthen communication and tracking, particularly for unaccompanied convoys.
- Partners are encouraged to share information on priority locations they need to access, which may be communicated to the ICCG for consideration of future inter-agency convoys.

WFP-Led Movements

- The Logistics Cluster facilitates partner cargo inclusion in WFP-led movements where opportunities arise (using WFP trucks).
- A WFP-led movement from Port Sudan to Omdurman and Bahri is expected to depart this week, potentially including one truck for a partner.
- Upcoming WFP-led convoy opportunities will be shared through the Logistics Cluster mailing list.

5. United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) Updates

- The [UNHAS Sudan weekly flight schedule effective 1-31 March 2025](#), has been published.
- Updated [UNHAS Sudan Airbridge and Internal Operations FAQs](#) have also been published, including guidance on the requirements for Kassala and Dongola.

- **International airbridges:** Flights from Nairobi and Cairo to Port Sudan continue to operate without disruptions.
- **Internal flights:** Regular weekly flights to Kassala and Dongola continue. While demand for flights to Dongola remains low, UNHAS is considering increasing the frequency of flights to Kassala.
- A second assessment of the Kadugli airstrip is still planned, with operational planning in progress to ensure the involvement of relevant stakeholders.
- An assessment of Damazine was conducted in late December 2024. A reconnaissance flight has been conducted, and runway maintenance is expected to be completed by the end of the month, ahead of the resumption of regular flights.
- An assessment of El Obeid, initially planned for late 2024, is still pending.
- The UNHAS Steering Committee Meeting is expected to take place this week. Further updates on UNHAS operations will be shared in the next Sudan Logistics Cluster Coordination Meeting.
- Partners reported challenges entering Sudan with the old visa format. While UNHAS is following up, partners were also encouraged to provide these details through the [OCHA Access Monitoring and Reporting Framework](#) or by emailing ocha-sudanaccessreporting@un.org, to support CMCoord follow-up and advocacy efforts. On 5 March, UNHAS shared a communication with users that Sudan Authorities are now, only accepting their new Sudan Visa format that is a visa sticker with embossed picture plus QR code. The old Sudan Visa format is no longer accepted.

7. Information Management Updates

- The Logistics Cluster has recently published the following documents on the Sudan Logistics Cluster website which are also available on the Logistics Cluster app.
 - [Situation Update – Extension of the Adre border crossing point](#)
 - [2024 Achievements and 2025 Priorities Infographic](#)
 - [Access Challenges & Impediments to Aid Delivery – February 2025 Infographic](#)
 - [UNHAS Sudan Airbridge & Internal Operations – Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - [Logistics Cluster Coordination Meeting Minutes – 4 February 2025](#)
 - [Cross-Border Coordination Meeting Minutes – 14 January 2025](#)
 - [UNHAS Sudan Schedule 1 -31 March 2025](#)
 - [UNHAS Chad Schedule from 15 February 2025](#)
- The [Logistics Cluster app](#) is available for [Android](#) and [iOS](#). Partners can use the app to access key Logistics Cluster documentation and tools, including Logistics Information Exchange (LogIE), Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA), LOG and more. New push notifications provide real-time updates on critical logistics information.
- Partners are also encouraged to use [Log-IE](#) (Logistics Information Exchange), the interactive GIS platform, to consult and share updates on physical access constraints. Updates, including photos and location details, can be submitted directly via the Logistics Cluster app.

7. AOB

- The Logistics Cluster team has proposed changing the frequency of the Sudan Logistics Cluster Coordination Meeting to bi-weekly instead of monthly. This change would remove the need for separate Sudan Logistics Cluster Coordination and Chad-Sudan Cross-Border Coordination meetings, providing more regular updates and integrating cross-border discussions.
- Partners' feedback has been considered, including insights from other operations, the value of stronger linkages between Port Sudan and Chad-based teams, as well as potential language barriers for partners operating in Chad.
- In the absence of the LC team based in Chad, the Logistics Cluster will proceed with a bi-weekly Sudan Logistics Cluster meetings. The next meeting, scheduled for 18 March, will include a focus on the cross-border response.
- Partners are invited to provide short presentations (5-10 min) at the coordination meetings regarding their logistics operations and challenges. To include the presentation in the next coordination meeting, kindly send an email to sdn.response.logcoordination@wfp.org.

The next Sudan Logistics Cluster Coordination Meetings at the WFP Port Sudan Office:

- **Tuesday, 18 March 2025 at 1pm Sudan time / 12pm Chad time.**
This meeting will include a spotlight on the Chad-Sudan cross-border response.
Partners operating in Chad are kindly requested to attend.
- **Tuesday, 1 April 2025 at 3pm Sudan time / 2pm Chad time**

Contacts

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