PREPARING THE HUMANITARIAN SUPPLY CHAIN CONCEPT NOTE

More information:

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INTRODUCTION

Preparedness forms a key pillar of the Logistics Cluster’s overarching strategy and aims to create a common approach to supply chain preparedness centred on localisation and capacity building, to ensure initiatives are driven by responders on the ground. This includes the national disaster management response body, as well as the broader humanitarian community: customs, line ministries, port/airport authorities, Red Cross/Crescent, NGOs (national and international), the private sector and UN agencies. Studies show supply chain can account for up to 80 per cent of humanitarian response costs\(^1\), hence, an efficient and robust supply chain structure is fundamental to every operation.

Logistics Cluster preparedness activities are currently focused on ten disaster-prone priority countries\(^2\), chosen by Logistics Cluster partners and based upon risk indices, national-level logistics performance and capacity indicators. So far, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Haiti, Madagascar, Nigeria and South Sudan have been initiated, with the aim to expand to 24 countries by 2021.

WHY PREPAREDNESS?

Investing in preparedness saves time, lives and money during emergency response and reduces the need for international mobilisation. However, it is not a singular action, event or activity. To be integrated effectively into emergency response cycles, preparedness requires time, commitment and ongoing, long-term and meaningful collaboration across global, regional and national actors.

As part of its strategy and mandate given by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the Logistics Cluster seeks to utilise its wide network of partners, its experience in complex operations, and expertise in coordination and information management, to strengthen national supply chain resilience, and promote a common methodology towards logistics preparedness globally. Moreover, where WFP and partner organisations have a presence in-country, the Logistics Cluster will also leverage on these existing relationships, knowledge and experience to ensure activity alignment with WFP strategy and IASC mandate, and the long-term sustainability of preparedness actions at national level.

LOCALLY-LED, DRIVEN AND IMPLEMENTED

Localisation is fundamental to ensure preparedness activities maintain a lasting impact on policy and standard operating procedures. Through pursuing collaborative multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral actions, the primary aim of Logistics Cluster preparedness is to stimulate locally-driven solutions that develop long-term change leading to more robust, agile and efficient national supply chain structures.

The project’s Programmatic Framework has been designed to ensure each country’s unique context is taken into consideration. The framework aims to strengthen collaboration among actors, leading to a coordinated approach towards national policy and procedural development; enhance supply chain infrastructure through advocacy efforts on rehabilitation and prepositioning; and, expand access to logistics data.

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\(^1\) Supply Chain Expenditure and Preparedness Investment Opportunities in the Humanitarian Context

\(^2\) Bangladesh, Indonesia, Madagascar, Haiti, South Sudan & Nigeria
With the support of a dedicated Preparedness Officer, each activity is concentrated on building a collaborative response environment, working together with partners to bring together organisational objectives and identify country-specific gaps. This collaboration aims to lead to a tailored, nationally-endorsed, government-led action plan, outlining tangible outcomes, roles and project timelines.

THE PREPAREDNESS PLATFORM

A core feature of the project is the development of the digital data tool, the Preparedness Platform. The innovative system is designed to integrate and analyse hundreds of data sources within one location, harnessing this potential to become a global game-changer for humanitarian logistics. Leveraging on the Logistics Cluster’s expertise in information management, and with the aim to fully embed the system within national disaster management structures, the platform would assist in overcoming a key constraint in the humanitarian response cycle - providing a common information gateway for validated and integrated real-time data at global, national and community level.

PROJECT STRUCTURE

PROGRAMMATIC FRAMEWORK

The following table represents the Logistics Cluster Preparedness Programmatic Framework for country implementation. These categories have been defined through extensive stakeholder consultation to align with activities undertaken by government, WFP and partner organisations. Each category is also aligned with the Logistics Cluster strategy and wider IASC approach to Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR). Overall, the framework is fundamental in ensuring the application of a common methodology towards logistics preparedness in each country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAPPING</th>
<th>ASSESSMENT &amp; ANALYSIS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY PLANNING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map stakeholders, suppliers, storage, infrastructure, processes, roles, response structure etc.</td>
<td>Assess and analyse risk, impact, process, capacity: creation of a gap analysis towards an action plan.</td>
<td>Review EPR plan, Minimum &amp; Advanced Preparedness Actions (MPA) and contingency planning.</td>
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<th>IM &amp; PREPAREDNESS PLATFORM</th>
<th>CAPACITY STRENGTHENING</th>
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<td>Solidify working group coordination mechanisms and promote networking.</td>
<td>Strengthen IM processes in-country and upstream to global level. Roll-out of the preparedness platform.</td>
<td>Conduct trainings, workshops; advocacy, infrastructure rehabilitation, policy development &amp; SOP</td>
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PREPAREDNESS CONCEPT NOTE

PROJECT SEQUENCE

The following represents the sequential phases for in-country preparedness activities. Milestones have been defined as an average minimum goal, but are subject to country-specific adaptation:

**PHASE 0**
- Preparedness Officer deployed; national officer recruitment started

**MAPPING**
- ASSESMENT & ANALYSIS
- ACTIVITY PLANNING
- COORDINATION
- IM & PREPAREDNESS PLATFORM

**CAPACITY STRENGTHENING**
- Phase out of international officer (if deployed)
- Handover to national officer

**LINKAGES**
- Alignment, support & collaboration on existing activities, capacity mapping and contingency planning.
- Alignment with Global Logistics Cluster Strategy and IASC approach to EPR; establish common preparedness methodology.
- Alignment with WFP Country Strategic Plan and existing initiatives; harmonisation of KPIs.

CREATING STREAMLINED LINKS ACROSS THE HUMANITARIAN LOGISTICS COMMUNITY FOR STRENGTHENED PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY CYCLES.