

Logistics Cluster Meeting Minutes

8th November 2007, 09:00hrs

Location: WFP sub-office, Soroti

Teso Region Flood Emergency Response

ATTENDEES

IFRC, WHO, IOM, UNICEF, WFP (lead), UNHAS, UNJLC, WVI, ASB, OCHA,

AGENDA

1. Logistics Cluster - Exit Plan
2. Air Operations
3. Warehousing
4. Road Condition Updates
5. Update from Organisations / Planned Response
6. AOB

SUMMARY

The meeting in Soroti focussed on:

- Exit Plan
- Operational Planning

1. LOGISTICS CLUSTER EXIT PLAN:

- Demand for Logistics Cluster services based on requests received has reduced over the last week, it was therefore proposed by the Chair to review the situation in conjunction with partners to draft an exit strategy.
- Proposed scaling back of services was discussed for the following areas below.

Air Operations:

- Staggered reduction of Mi-8MTVs from two to one helicopters on the 11th November and the departure of the remaining helicopter on the 30th November;
 - Agencies present including ASB, WHO, Red Cross Movement and WVI agreed to prioritise areas that will require air cargo to be accessed over the next two weeks.

Warehousing:

- NFI Warehousing in Soroti will remain until the 10th December as a result of a bilateral agreement between WFP and UNICEF, operational duration of the Katakwi site is expected to be to the 16th November;
 - ASB pointed out that they rely on the security provided at the Katakwi warehouse site, as it allows them to park loaded trucks overnight and then allow direct loading to helicopters the following morning.
 - UNICEF confirmed Socadido (local NGO acting as implementing partner for NFIs) already have their own warehousing capacity.

Coordination & Information Management/Mapping:

- Logistics Cluster Meetings will continue to be held on a weekly basis on Thursdays at 09:00hrs at the WFP Soroti Office on the 15th and 22nd November - after which the situation will be reviewed.
- Information Management and GIS Mapping will be scaled back on the 10th November, GIS data will be handed over to OCHA and a basic Road Matrix Update will be maintained until the exit of the Cluster.

Additional actions taken include:

- IASC guidelines on the modification/closure of a Cluster will be applied to ensure correct procedures are followed to maintain a transparent approach with partners.
- All Agencies who have previously attended the Logistic Cluster have been contacted to request their input for the exit plan.

Action Point:

- Logistics Cluster to collate agencies feedback to determine future demand for services.

2. AIR OPERATIONS:

- To date, the interagency helicopter operation has airlifted over 675mt of relief supplies and carried over 680 passengers (mostly distribution teams) to inaccessible areas.
- One of the three Mi-8MTV helicopter ended its deployment on the 3rd November.
- Current operational capacity consists of two Mi-8MTV helicopters (for further details see above).

- An overview map detailing the performance of the helicopter operation including the amount of air cargo delivered to individual sub-counties was provided to participants (see attached).

Action Point:

- All Agencies requiring air cargo are requested to submit Cargo Movement requests as soon as possible and no later than the 23rd of November.

3. WAREHOUSING:

- The interagency NFI warehouse in Soroti (500m² capacity) is due to receive additional supplies of UNICEF NFIs over the next few days. The warehouse will continue to operate up to at least the 10th of December - see exit plan above for further details.
- In Katakwi Town, the duration of the deployment of the 350m² warehouse will be extended by 1 week until approximately the 16th November.

4. ROAD CONDITION UPDATES:

- Following recent heavy rainfall since the last meeting, a general deterioration in the condition of roads throughout the Teso Region was reported by all agencies in attendance.
- The weather is expected to remain dry over the next 24-48 hours, but further rainfall is expected over the weekend.
- Although the major roads are not believed to be at significant risk of closure, all agencies were advised that following heavy rainfall the condition of roads in outlying areas is likely to be reduced to 4whd only until weather conditions improve.
- Points of concern in Katakwi District continue to be the area south of Ngariam Corner where WFP trucks were reported to have been stuck earlier in the week and around Ongongoja in the North where WHO reported difficulties delivering drugs to remote clinics with 4whd vehicles.
- In Amuria District, the road conditions in areas around Ajelik in the Acowa sub-county and in Oblanga sub-county also remain problematic to all vehicles including 4whd after prolonged periods of rainfall.
- The Katakwi District authorities have signed an agreement with UNDP to rehabilitate a 6km stretch of road south of Ngariam Corner.

5. UPDATE FROM ORGANISATIONS / PLANNED RESPONSE

- Red Cross movement and planning distribution of seed/toolkits to support the early recovery process and may submit cargo movement requests depending on further weather conditions.
- WHO are awaiting the arrival of Cholera treatment kits for Bukwa and may submit air cargo movement requests as necessary (linked to the Cholera Contingency Plan - see previous minutes).
- ASB will continue NFI distributions in Katakwi and Amuria Districts, currently 3,500 NFI kits are due to be distributed in the next 2 weeks and will submit CMRs to use the helicopters to reach inaccessible areas.
- UNICEF confirmed that the NGO GVC will be distributing approximately 775 kits in Katakwi District.

6. A.O.B

- UNJLC staff members Bernard Chedid and Iain Paterson will depart on the 10th November. Information Management and Mapping data will be handed over to UN OCHA.

ATTACHMENTS:

i.) Soroti Logistics Cluster Participant Contact List

ii.) Air Operations Summary Map

KEY CONTACTS FOR LOGISTICS CLUSTER

- **Soroti, Logistics Cluster Coord:** Anastasia Lubkovskaya, anastasia.lubkovskaya@wfp.org, Mob: 0772 701 001
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NEXT MEETING in SOROTI will be on Thursday 15th November 09:00 @ WFP Soroti Office Meeting Room