

## Highlights

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- The Logistics Capacity Mapping survey was developed and designed to capture the nature of the supply chains in the Central and Southern regions of Iraq. The survey was sent out to humanitarian actors and actors from the private sectors (specialized in humanitarian logistics) in activity in the targeted areas. These actors were encouraged to participate in the survey and share their logistical challenges.
- Over 29 responses to the survey were received and many entities expressed their interest in joining the initiatives and efforts of the Logistics Preparedness Project.
- The results of the survey will be used as guidance during the coming Gaps Analysis Workshop in Federal Iraq (FI). Furthermore, the outcome of the survey will be consolidated into a summary report and presented during the Gap Analysis Workshop (which is expected to take place after the COVID-19 prevention measures on the restrictions of movement, are lifted in FI).
- The World Food Programme (WFP) is now chairing the Business Operations Strategies / Logistics Working Group. The National Logistics Preparedness Officer was appointed chairperson of the Logistics Working Group at a challenging time when the participants needed support to develop their Cost-Benefit-Analysis and when a planning framework had to be established and put in place. Several meetings and calls took place during the month of June and July with the Operations Management Team and Logistics Working Group Participants to discuss and agree on the common services and sub-services within the scope of the group.
- During the second quarter of 2020, the National Logistics Preparedness Officer developed a contact list of Supply Chain personnel working in the humanitarian community. The list consists of contact information of over 200 supply chain personnel from over 80 humanitarian actors. This contact list is only for the humanitarian actors in FI, it is an addition to the contact list of the KRI.
- Regular contact with the Joint Crisis Coordination Centre (JCC) in Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) is established to follow up on the endorsement status of the Action Planned. But due to the COVID-19 crisis and its impact on the working hours in KRI, the revision was postponed. Additionally, the new customs procedures impacted the importation process and JCC's work in general. Also, the new customs procedures resulted in the dissolving of One-Stop-Shop (OSS) project that was implemented and supported by Global Logistics Cluster.

## Background

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The COVID-19 crisis has had an important impact on the national supply chain and froze different aspects of logistics activities. As precaution measures, most of the border-crossing points of Iraq were temporarily closed and the inter-governorate movement was restricted. In the vital entry points, such as Ibrahim Khalil (between KRI and Turkey) and Trebil (between Iraq and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan), new precautionary procedures that forbid the entry of the trucks to Iraq's side were imposed. The cross loading at specific locations at the border is mandatory in order to pass the goods. This process is time-consuming and adds additional transportation burdens. Furthermore, the transportation lead-time is increased due to the long queue of trucks at the borders. On the downstream side, the inter-governorate movement restriction impacts accessibility and transportation cost.

In the meantime, the OSS project that was implemented by the Joint Crisis Coordination Centre (JCC) via the support of WFP / Global Logistics Cluster to facilitate and shorten the time of obtaining the import permit was dissolved. Consequently, the time required to process and obtain import permit augmented to up to 4-6 weeks.

During the first quarter of 2020, the first stage of the Logistics Preparedness Project was kicked off by preliminary meetings with JCC and other government entities. Additionally, the result of Logistic Capacity Mapping analysis was presented and thoroughly discussed during the Gap Analysis Workshop held in Erbil on 11 and 12 February. Subsequently, the Action Plan was drafted and sent for JCC's endorsement.

The second stage of the Logistics Preparedness Project was kicked off in FI. A customized Logistics Capacity Mapping questionnaire was developed and disseminated to the humanitarian community functioning in the Central and Southern regions of the country. The responses were collected to be reflected during future workshops and discussions. In the second stage, the Logistics Preparedness Project aims to bring the humanitarian community together to develop an action plan and to strengthen the dialog between the humanitarian actors and authorities to establish a strategic common response.

In the third stage, the main activities of the preparedness project will be the consolidation of the action plans into one national plan and bring the concerned government entities from KRI and FI to work together and resolve any pending and overlapping issues.

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## Coordination

- Introducing the Logistics Preparedness Project in the FI and its objectives and activities to several UN Agencies: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), International Organization for Migration (IOM), and World Health Organization (WHO) during Logistics Working Group meetings. Additionally, the project activities and objectives were introduced and discussed with a representative of the Emergency Logistics Team Company, an expert company in humanitarian logistics in Iraq, and Logistics Coordinator of Humanity & Inclusion.
- Regular follow up calls with interlocutors from JCC on the progress of the endorsement process of the Action Plan. Furthermore, a constant follow-up and monitoring of the border status and new instructions and procedures that have an impact on the supply chain in general and importation and import permit processes in particular.
- Action Plan was developed during Logistics Gap Analysis workshop took place in Erbil in February. The workshop report can be found [here](#) or upon demand.

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## Information management

- A Logistics Capacity Mapping survey was developed and disseminated to humanitarian actors functioning in the Central and Southern regions of the country. The aim of this survey is to assess the logistics capacities of the humanitarian actors, to map the existing resources, and to identify the different gaps and bottlenecks. The result and summary of this analysis survey will be presented during Logistics Gap Analysis Workshop that will be held in Baghdad after the precautionary measures that are imposed due to COVID-19 are lifted and the situation is improved.

- The [Iraq Logistics Preparedness Webpage](#) is officially launched and running. This website will be a platform where the Logistics Preparedness Project updates and reports will be published, as well as a source of information for the stakeholders, and a platform to exchange information.

## Contacts

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