Pakistan Monsoon Floods

Concept of Operations

PAKISTAN

The heaviest Monsoon rains in Pakistan’s recent history have led to widespread flooding, causing loss of life, extensive destruction of homes and livelihoods, and significant displacement of population. The Pakistan National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) estimates that more than 20 million people have been directly affected. The NDMA is putting the current death toll at over 1,984 people.

Three months into the emergency the crisis is continuing to affect large numbers of people and many locations remain cut off from normal road access. According to the latest estimates of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), 700,000 are affected in Baluchistan, 3.8 million in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), 6 million people are affected in Punjab, 7.1 million people are affected in Sindh, 200,000 in AJK, and 100,000 in Gilgit Baltistan (GB). In all, 78 districts across Pakistan have been affected.

Gaps and Needs
The following logistical gaps have been identified:

- The main obstacle to relief efforts is access to affected people, as significant damage and blockage to the road network occurred during the flooding. As such, heavy airlift support is still needed to reach areas that remain cut off by the floods – specifically in Sindh and KPK.
- There is a need to coordinate with the Government of Pakistan to facilitate the use of military and Government air assets to transport relief supplies provided by the humanitarian community.
- There is insufficient cargo handling, consolidation and storage capacity in affected areas.
- There is a need for coordination and information sharing between the various actors in order to mitigate any duplication of efforts and maximize the use of available logistics assets.
- Given the ongoing and changing situation on the ground, there is a need for GIS/mapping information on access and road conditions to support operational decision making.

Activities of the Logistics Cluster in the Pakistan Flood Response
The Logistics Cluster aims to augment the humanitarian community’s capacity to deliver life-saving relief assistance to the most affected populations in Pakistan in a coordinated manner. In response to the logistics gaps and bottlenecks identified, the activities of the Logistics Cluster will include:

1. Logistics Coordination

- In addition to the existing Logistics Cluster coordination cell in Islamabad, coordination cells have been established in Sukkur, Hyderabad, and Dadu (Sindh Province), Peshawar (KPK Province), Gilgit (Gilgit-Baltistan Province) and Multan (Punjab Province). The Logistics Cluster cells are coordinating the logistics response with the Government of Pakistan and the humanitarian community.
- The Logistics Cluster has provided dedicated Logistics Cluster Coordinators and support staff in Islamabad, Multan, Sukkur, Hyderabad, Dadu and Peshawar, as well as an Information Management team, GIS team, Cargo Coordinator, Aviation Coordinator, and commodity tracking team in Islamabad.
- The Logistics Cluster is participating in meetings of the NDMA and the Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMA) to ensure effective coordination with the Government.
- The Logistics Cluster is also participating in the Joint Aviation Operations Group, which is jointly tasking Government of Pakistan and military air assets for delivery of relief items.
2. **Information Management**  
The Logistics Cluster is providing information management services to facilitate operational decision making. These services include the following:

- Consolidating information from the humanitarian community and local authorities on the overall logistics situation, including logistical gaps and bottlenecks;
- Provision of updated operational information, such as road conditions, air operations and customs procedures, publication of sitreps, bulletins, snapshots, flash news and briefings;
- Provision of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)/mapping tools and products, including maps of logistics infrastructure;
- Provision of a platform for sharing logistics information at: [http://www.logcluster.org/ops/pak09a](http://www.logcluster.org/ops/pak09a) as well as through a moderated email circulation list.

3. **Logistics Common Services**

- Temporary storage capacity and staging areas have been established for the trans-shipment of relief supplies and personnel in Sukkur, Hyderabad, Dadu, Multan, Gilgit, Ghazi, Khwaza Khela, Peshawar and Besham. The Logistics Cluster is providing participants with storage, handling, consolidation and tracking services at these hubs. If needed, the Logistics Cluster will expand these facilities and potentially open new hubs in other locations, contingent on Government priorities, available resources and operational requirements.
- An UNHAS air operation has been established to facilitate transportation of relief supplies and workers to areas inaccessible by road. Ten UNHAS heavy-lift helicopters have been deployed to Pakistan and are currently working in Sindh Province, where they are transporting the humanitarian cargo of Logistics Cluster participants to areas cut off by the floods. At the request of NDMA and the humanitarian community, UNHAS is now assessing the feasibility of operating in KPK. By establishing UNHAS in KPK the Logistics Cluster will both be able to fill the gap when the US assets phase out of the region and provide the humanitarian community with a civilian option to move cargo. The UNHAS fleet is flexible and may be redeployed to other locations in future, depending on operational needs.
- In addition to UNHAS services, the Logistics Cluster is facilitating participants’ access to Government of Pakistan and military helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft. These air assets are provided for the airlift of urgent relief cargo to areas cut off by flood waters. Multiple air corridors are operating from Sukkur, Hyderabad, Nawab Shah, Dadu, Ghazi, Khwazakhela, and Besham. Additional staging areas will be established based on need.
- Light trucks will be provided for the shunting of relief items from transit hubs to helicopter staging areas in a timely manner, to maximize the number of helicopter rotations per day.
- All cargo transported and stored is being handled based on the priorities set by the Humanitarian Country Team /NDMA. All specified services will be provided at no cost to humanitarian actors.

4. **Establishment of Logistics Strategic Warehouses**

- As a preparedness and mitigation measure for future emergencies, and to the strengthen the response capacity of the Pakistan Government at both the national and provincial levels, as well as the Humanitarian Community as a whole, WFP and the NDMA/PDMA will work together to establish Humanitarian Logistics Hubs in the strategic locations throughout the country. The emergency response depots will allow the Government of Pakistan and the Humanitarian Community to preposition relief items in the event of future disasters.
This Concept of Operations will be updated as the situation on the ground evolves. Funding for the UNHAS operation will run out at the end of November. Additional funding is being sought to extend the provision of UNHAS services. The transshipment services are only expected to be offered until the end of January 2011. The provision of services may be either withdrawn earlier or extended for longer, depending on the situation on the ground, operational needs and funding.