HAITI – Earthquake & Cholera Response

Jan 2010 – Jan 2012

Activities & Achievements

Coordination

- The World Food Programme as Logistics Cluster lead is maintaining a Logistics Cluster Cell in Port-au-Prince, which coordinates the mobilisation and use of logistics assets and provision of logistics support services to the Humanitarian Community.
- Since 12 January 2010, over 100 Logistics Cluster coordination meetings have been held, predominantly in Port-au-Prince, but on an ad-hoc basis also in Cap-Haitien, Gonaives, Jacmel, Petit Goave and Les Cayes.
- Representatives from over 220 different organisations, including UN agencies, UN affiliated organizations, NGOs, military responders, and government, have attended these meetings.
- In November 2011, the 2012 Humanitarian Action Plan as well as the transition plan was finalised, highlighting the continuity of coordination activities during the first half of 2012; however logistics services – transport and storage – will be provided by WFP Logistics on a “cost-recovery” basis as of 01 January 2012. The Logistics Cluster also aims to reinforce capacity strengthening activities with the Direction de la Protection Civile (DPC) and the Centre National de l’Information Géo-Spatiale (CNIGS).

Early Field Coordination

- Within 48hrs after the earthquake, a Logistics support team was deployed to Haiti from the Global Logistics Cluster Support Cell (GLCSC) in WFP HQ in Rome, to reinforce the Logistics Cluster team, already present in Haiti since end 2008, after four hurricanes swept over Haiti within one week.
- At the height of the earthquake relief operation, the Logistics Cluster team consisted out of over 25 staff, which was deployed all over the country. One team was permanently based at the International airport in Port-au-Prince, to help a) managing incoming air cargo; and b) with the facilitation of customs clearance procedures on behalf of the Humanitarian Community. After 6-9 months, when the initial emergency was over, the majority of this surge capacity was able to leave the country.
- In November/December 2010, the Logistics Cluster temporarily reinforced its staff capacity again, with the deployment of two additional Logisticians from the GLCSC. A Logistics Cluster Field Coordinator was based in St Marc, where at the beginning the majority of Cholera cases where registered, to evaluate and monitor the overall situation on the ground. He was then working in Port-au-Prince ensuring close liaison with the Health Cluster. A Medical Logistics Officer was liaising directly with WHO/PAHO in the capital, and was located at their offices.
- In the same period, an Air Cargo Movement Officer, seconded from TNT, was permanently based at the International airport in Port-au-Prince, again to support air operations for the Humanitarian Community.
- A special Crisis Cell was established at the Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP). This cell consisted of Coordinators of the Health, Wash, Camp Management, and Logistics Cluster, their Government counterparts and OCHA, to ensure information exchange and coordination of activities with the Government of Haiti.
- The “Groupe Logistique et Gestion des Intrants - Cholera», chaired by the MSPP, meets at the Palais National, initially on a weekly, now on a monthly basis.

Assessments

- A number of infrastructure assessments were conducted by the Logistics Cluster in the first half of 2010. These included evaluations of the situation at the international airport and seaport in Port-au-Prince; and a number of port assessments were conducted in the regions, e.g. in Les Cayes, Jeremie and Gonaives.
- Road assessments were conducted countrywide throughout the years 2010 and 2011.
- Immediately after the Cholera outbreak was confirmed, a Logistics Cluster Officer, specialised in infrastructure was deployed to St Marc together with a UNICEF Logistics Officer, in order to support WHO/PAHO in conducting assessments of Health facilities.
Activities & Achievements

- A WFP port assessment, conducted end October 2010, confirmed that it would be possible for the WFP/Logistics Cluster barge to berth at Grande Saline. The barge, initially deployed to Haiti for the Hurricane season, left Haiti mid December 2010.

Infrastructure/Equipment

- The UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), a WFP network able to deliver humanitarian relief items worldwide within 24/48 hrs from five strategically placed hubs (Italy, UAE, Ghana, Malaysia and Panama), deployed prefabricated offices to Port-au-Prince. Their technical support team erected structures for 15 different organisations.

- The Logistics Cluster, together with the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP), established temporary accommodation for inter-agency staff beginning February until mid September 2010. This “base camp” was managed by IHP and was able to accommodate up to 450 relief workers.

- In October 2010, equipment from the base camp was made available (tents and beds) to increase hospital capacities in support of the Cholera response.

- The Logistics Cluster facilitated ground preparations for a number of Cholera Treatment Centres (CTCs) in various locations. Generators from Logistics Cluster stocks have been given to a several organisations to ensure power in their CTCs.

Transport

- From Jan 2010 until Dec 2011, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the deliveries of emergency relief items through an inter-agency truck fleet, which was managed by Handicap International/Atlas Logistique on behalf of WFP from January 2010 until March 2011, when the management of the fleet was handed over to MSB (Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency). Since Jan 2012, services are being provided by WFP on a “cost-recovery” basis.

- 124 different organizations utilised the Logistics Cluster common transport services. The delivery of goods was facilitated for other sectors, including Health, Water/Sanitation, Shelter, Food and Nutrition.

- Over 16,000 mt were dispatched alone from Port-au-Prince for the Earthquake response, mainly by road (nearly 83%), but also by air (7%) and sea (10%). In addition, more than 1,300 truck loads were transported from Santo Domingo to Haiti between January and May 2010, delivering more than 9,300 mt of life-saving relief supplies.

- Since the beginning of the Cholera response operation on 22 Oct 2010 until end Dec 2011, 42 organisations have used the free Logistics Cluster inter-agency transport services. More than 4,000mt of health and wash items for the Cholera response were dispatched from Port-au-Prince, (by road and by air) to 72 locations country-wide.

- Between January 2010 and March 2011, helicopters of the UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) flew numerous assessment missions to more than 90 isolated villages and delivered over 1,400 mt of humanitarian cargo, (mainly medicines and food) on behalf of 162 agencies. In addition, over 20,000 staff from some 300 different UN Agencies, NGOs, donors, governments, embassies and media institutions have used UNHAS passenger services.

- From June to December 2010, a chartered 1,500 mt barge provided a viable alternative to road transport for the humanitarian response programmes. For the transport of huge quantities of cargo and also in case of road failure, access to disaster-prone areas was possible via sea to northern and southern coastal areas.
HAITI – Earthquake & Cholera Response

Activities & Achievements

Storage

- To meet storage requirements, 2 hectares of warehousing/transit hub was established early 2010 outside the capital on the road to the Malpasse/Jimani border crossing, as a site for organisations to set up and manage their own Mobile Storage Units (MSUs). This site was relocated to Tabarre 1 end March 2011, where the same services were provided on a site with over 3,000 m². The full capacity offered now by WFP is 12,720 m², as well 6,000 m² on a second site in the capital (Shodecosa).

- End 2010, the Logistics Cluster organised 24 Mobile Storage Units to be shipped to Port-au-Prince from the UNHRD in Panama. These are being used by various organisations as Cholera Treatment Centres or to augment storage capacity all over the country.

- 52 organizations have used inter-agency storage facilities made available by the Logistics Cluster in 2010/2011.

- Inter-agency storage space was also made available in the regions. WFP has now the following capacities:
  - Cap-Haïtien (Nord): 3,940 m²;
  - Gonaïves (Artibonite): 7,560 m²;
  - Jacmel (Sud-Est): 2,000 m²;
  - Les Cayes, (Sud): 1,820 m²;
  - Jeremie (Grand’Anse): 500 m² under construction;
  - Port-de-Paix (Nord-Ouest): 500 m² under construction.

Civil/Military Liaison

- The Logistics Cluster continues to be part of the Joint Operations Tasking Centre (JOTC) alongside representatives from MINUSTAH, the US Military, the Canadian Military and OCHA, that was established to optimize the use of military and police assets in support of the humanitarian operation.

- The Logistics Cluster worked together with MINUSTAH through the JOTC to implement a Contingency Plan that ensures continuity of delivery of cholera related cargo at the international airport in Port-au-Prince, should the security situation become unstable.

- In September 2011, new UN Civil Military Coordination Guidelines for Haiti, developed under the mandate of the UN Humanitarian Country Team, have been endorsed by the RC/HC/DSRSG. The guidelines are the result of a collaborative process that started in March 2011. The process was coordinated by OCHA with the support of a dedicated Task Force, of which the Logistics Cluster was a key member.

- The Logistics Cluster also provided input to the new MINUSTAH Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The document outlines how MINUSTAH provides assistance to the Government of Haiti, and to humanitarian and recovery activities through the JOTC, of which the Logistics Cluster is part of.

- The Logistics Cluster participated and co-facilitated a number of Civil/Military Coordination workshops organised by the Civil Military Cooperation section of MINUSTAH (CIMIC-U9) in coordination with OCHA.

Emergency Preparedness

- The Logistics Cluster is a permanent member of the “Emergency Preparedness and Response” Working Group (EPRWG), chaired by OCHA. The working group convenes every week to meet the needs for early and qualified multi-hazard contingency planning in support of the Government of Haiti.

- In March 2011, the Logistics Cluster participated in an Emergency Preparedness workshop. This “Atelier Saison Cyclonique” was organized by the Direction de la Protection Civile (DPC) and the Ministère de l’Intérieur et des Collectivités Territoriales (MICT) for emergency preparedness focal points of each Cluster, in order to evaluate 2010 preparedness activities and to continue planning for the 2011 Hurricane Season.

- Four Joint Natural Disaster Simulation Exercises – hurricane scenario – were conducted in Haiti; two in 2010 (July, September) and two in 2011 (April, July). The exercises were co-developed and co-facilitated by
Activities & Achievements

the “Design Team”, a Working Group the Logistics Cluster was part of, which was tasked to follow all the phases of the exercises from drafting to implementation. Participants included representatives from the DPC, the Humanitarian Community and MINUSTAH. Lessons Learnt was prepared after each exercise by the Logistics Cluster in partnership with OCHA.

- The National Contingency Plan of the DPC for the 2011 Hurricane Season was issued in August 2011. All Clusters provided feedback to the plan in regards to their respective operational response capacity. The document is available at: http://haiti.humanitarianresponse.info/Default.aspx?tabid=177


- The pre-positioning of food and Non-Food-Items in the regions was facilitated for numerous organisations in 2010 and 2011.

- A series of Joint Regional Visits on emergency preparedness and response were completed between August and October 2011. The mission consisted of representatives from OCHA, JOTC, Logistics Cluster and MINUSTAH U3. The Logistics Cluster, together with the JOTC, issued a mission report and action plan based on the visits conducted, which shall provide input, as well as a road map, for the 2012 Hurricane Season preparedness planning.

Information Management and GIS

- Various information products, including maps, situation reports, meeting minutes and a number of in-depth snapshots on operations, procedures and infrastructure, are constantly being updated and shared.

- Altogether three “User satisfaction surveys” were launched in 2010/2011 for Logistics Cluster participants, in order to evaluate a) the quality of service provision and b) the requirements in the near future. The outcomes of the surveys helped the Logistics Cluster to tailor its strategy for logistics coordination, information and service provision in 2011/2012. The survey results are available at: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a/logistics-cluster-haiti-meeting-presentation-1110/view

- The Logistics Cluster GIS unit is providing specific maps for the Humanitarian Community. Standard map products include infrastructure status, road conditions and operational warehouses.

- The GIS unit also supported WHO/PAHO and the Health Cluster with map products, and liaised with the GIS departments of the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as USAID/OFDA in regards to exchange of data. Additionally, the GIS unit followed up with map requests received from the DPC.

- The Haiti Logistics Cluster mailing list haiti.logs@logcluster.org, which ensures flow of logistics related information within the Humanitarian Community, has currently 1,291 subscribers.

- A dedicated information sharing platform, the Logistics Cluster Haiti webpage http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a, is online since 12 January 2010. To date, the website has been visited by more than 68,600 users, producing nearly 195,000 page views.