SITUATION REPORT
HAITI OPERATION
APRIL 2012

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1 GENERAL OVERVIEW

• It is the annual rainy season in Haiti at present. Torrential rains were experienced on 10-13 April, and even heavier rains on 23-25 April, caused flooding in many départements. The Plan National de Gestion des Risques et des Désastres (PNGRD) issued an orange alert for the entire country on 25 April 2012, which was in place for three days. Several organisations conducted joint assessments in various départements. IOs and NGOs, the Red Cross Movement, the Direction de la Protection Civile (DPC) and the Direction Nationale de l’Eau Potable et de l’Assainissement (DINEPA) provided support in some affected areas.

• The number of cholera cases has increased slightly in Haiti over the past few weeks, with frequent rains spreading the bacteria in several areas where health officials had it under control. Since the beginning of the epidemic in October 2010, the Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP) recorded almost 535,000 cumulative Cholera cases (an increase of roughly 5,000 between mid-March and mid-April) and altogether 7,091 deaths (source: http://www.mspp.gouv.ht, mid-April 2012).

• On 14 April 2012, the MSPP, along with international partners including WHO, launched a vaccination campaign against Cholera, targeting 100,000 people in vulnerable areas. According to Health officials it is a pilot programme that was launched in two areas in the country, but it will be later extended to the rest of the population with a priority for areas at risk. The vaccine will protect for a period of two to three years, with an efficiency rate of about 65%.

• The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), a monitoring tool utilised by the Camp Coordination and Camp Management/E-shelter Cluster, indicates that the total number of people living in Internally Displaced Person (IDP) sites is now approx. 421,000.

• The day-to-day operations of the Haitian government have been largely put on hold after Prime Minister Garry Conille resigned in February 2012. Haiti’s Senate approved President Martelly’s new candidate on 10 April 2012; the nomination of Laurent Lamothe, currently Foreign Affairs minister, still has to be approved by the Chamber of Deputies.

2 SECURITY

• The security situation deteriorated in the last week of April. Numerous demonstrations and road blockages in some areas of the country caused daily, but temporary, movement restrictions. The road to the border crossing point Malpasse/Jimani was also affected where over 200 long-haul trucks trying to enter Haiti became stuck over the weekend.
3 COORDINATION

- 2012 Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) – 1st quarter monitoring report: all Clusters provided an update in regards to their respective performance indicators, targets, achievements and gaps, covering the months January – March 2012. The report is being compiled by OCHA.
- The Logistics Cluster Special Operation (SO) in Haiti is currently undergoing a budget revision, with the aim to achieve an extension of the SO until the end of the Hurricane Season in November 2012.
- A Logistics Cluster coordination meeting took place Port-au-Prince on 10 April 2012, with 12 participants representing nine UN agencies and NGOs. Feedback was provided from various inter-agency meetings, progress of the inter-agency storage site was presented, and the latest cartographic products were handed-out.
- The MSPP invited WHO, UNICEF, IOM, WFP/Logistics Cluster, IMC, MdM, Red Cross, IFRC and OCHA to a meeting with Health Officials on 10 April 2012, during which feedback was provided to the draft National Cholera Contingency Plan.
- The Logistics Cluster participated in a meeting of the « Abagrangou », a commission set up by the office of the **Premiere Dame** to find anger solutions, offering its expertise on road rehabilitation. The current concern is to reduce mango losses during the mango seasons, in order to reduce food insecurity by improving production and incomes to farmers.
- The Mitigation Task Force (MTF) was reactivated under the leadership of the **Ministère des Travaux Publics, Transports et Communications (MTPTC)**, in order to support the MTPTC in all mitigation activities that need to be carried out countrywide. The Logistics Cluster is part of the MTF due to the amount of ongoing projects concerning road networks.
- The Logistics Cluster updated the 2011 Technical Agreement between WFP and the DPC. New developments have been included regarding the joint warehouse network project, co-leadership of Cluster meetings, as well as trainings in terms of food security assessments and ICT equipment.
- The ‘Transition Task Team (TTT)’, comprised of staff from OCHA HTI & GVA, UNDP and UNISDR, is on a two-week mission in Haiti from 23 April – 05 Mai 2012, in order to assist all parties involved with the transition process. The Logistics Cluster met with the TTT on 25 April 2012 to discuss activities, transition period and exit strategy, with a special focus on capacity strengthening of governmental counterparts (DPC, CNIGS).
- The Logistics Cluster was invited to participate in a MSPP – workshop on 26 April 2012, to strengthen the coordination mechanism of the Cholera response and to discuss a Cholera eradication strategy.

4 SERVICE PROVISION

- The relocation of the inter-agency storage site in Port-au-Prince was finalised this month with the support of 3 UNHRD staff from Panama and Brindisi. 33 Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) and 7 prefabricated offices were dismantled at the old site in the Tabarre quartier, which was officially closed on 30 April. The transfer of all equipment and relief items of Cluster participants was completed on time. The new smaller site near the airport, where 5 MSUs have been re-established, is now fully operational.

Photo: Inter-agency storage site at Tabarre: before and after
• On 21 April 2012 the joint Ministry of Health/WHO nationwide vaccination campaign started. For a period of two weeks almost three million children (age: 9 month to 9 years) will receive vaccines against measles, rubella and polio. The Logistics Cluster facilitated WFP’s support to this operation and prepositioned all medical items in the 10 départements of the country.

• The Logistics Cluster Capacity Inventory Matrix for Haiti was again updated together with Logistics Cluster participants in the frame of the inter-agency preparedness activities. This information is also required in order to update the map about warehouse and transport capacities in country.

5 GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM - GIS

• The Logistics Cluster GIS team continues to update its key cartographic products. This month, the map ‘Dépôts en moyens logistiques des participants du Cluster Logistique’ was updated and published, as well as the map ‘Etat des routes’.

http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a/haiti-depots-et-moyens-logistiques-120410

• Other maps were produced for the DPC, as well as for Logistics Cluster participants, such as ALIMA, CBM and UNICEF.

• A number of flood-related maps were produced between 10-13 April and 23-25 April 2012.

• The team is also following up with a request from OCHA regarding a map which displays the prepositioning of Cholera relief items. This map shall be included in the National Inter-agency Cholera Contingency Plan.

• On 03 April 2012, another GPS training session took place in Port-au-Prince. 19 Logistics Cluster participants from 15 organisations attended the one-day-course, which included a practical assessment exercise. The next GPS training will be organised depending on the demand.

6 CIVIL/MILITARY LIAISON

• On 24/25 April 2012, US SouthCom and the Logistics Cluster met in Gonaives/Artibonite département to prepare the first training for DPC staff on the use of US SouthCom-donated ‘Jon Boats’ which shall be utilized during emergencies such as flooding. This first training in Gonaives will take place from 30 April – 03 Mai 2012. WFP is temporarily acting as a custodian of the boats, until they can be handed-over to the DPC. Additional exercises will be conducted in other départements in the coming weeks.

Photo: ‘Jon Boats/motors, by US SouthCom

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7 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

• The Logistics Cluster emergency preparedness and response concept note was shared with OCHA for submission to the DPC, in order to be integrated in the National Contingency Plan – 2012 Hurricane Season, together with the updated inventory of humanitarian logistics assets in country.

• All Clusters and governmental counterparts provided input to OCHA’s compilation of ongoing preparedness activities. The Logistics Cluster outlined its prepositioning strategy of trucks and relief items, the finalisation of hurricane-proof warehouses at strategic locations, and its contingency plan at airport and seaports.

• A simulation exercise (SimEx) took place in Les Cayes/Sud département on 26/27 April 2012, co-facilitated by the DPC, UNDP, WFP/Logistics Cluster, OCHA and MINUSTAH. The reason for the exercise is to test emergency preparedness and response capacities in the region. After the Nord- and Centre départements, this was the third SimEx of the year, followed by Sud-Est, Nippes, Artibonite and Nord-Ouest in Mai 2012.

End.