BACKGROUND

Since the onset of the conflict in Syria in 2011 the security situation has deteriorated dramatically throughout the country and severely affected the main cities of Homs, Hama, Idleb, Dara’a, Deir-er-Zor, Albu Kamal, Qamishly, Al Hassakeh, and Aleppo as well as the capital Damascus. Populations living in these areas are affected by the impact of a prolonged siege as well as the lack of access to basic necessities which include; food, water, medical supplies, electricity and fuel.

To date it is estimated by the United Nations that over 3 million people have been directly affected by the crisis and need urgent humanitarian assistance.

Furthermore, the conflict is hindering the effective importation and movement of goods as well as the continuation of normal levels of trade within Syria. Insecurity is further hampering the ability of humanitarian actors to provide humanitarian assistance.

Logistics plays an essential role in the response and creating synergies between humanitarian actors and institutions ensures that relief commodities are delivered to those in need in a timely and efficient manner.

The Logistics Cluster is responsible for coordination, information management, and, where necessary, logistics service provision to ensure an effective and efficient logistics response takes place in each and every operation.

To achieve this goal, the Logistics Cluster fills gaps in logistics capacity, meets the need for logistics coordination services, and where necessary acts as ‘provider of last resort’ through its Lead Agency, WFP.

The Logistics Cluster was activated in January 2013, following the recommendation of the UN Regional Humanitarian Coordinator (RHC) for the Syria Emergency.
LOGISTICS CLUSTER - SYRIA

ACTIVITIES

Coordination
The Logistics Cluster has established a logistics coordination forum in Damascus, Beirut and Amman. Bi-monthly meetings are held in Damascus and monthly ones in Amman and Beirut. Over 28 organizations (UN agencies, NGOs, INGOs, and donor agencies) regularly attend the meetings, where participants discuss logistics bottlenecks and develop solutions for improved humanitarian response.

Information Management
The Logistics Cluster has produced and regularly updates over 40 information products including maps, situation reports, snapshots, fuel price analyses, infographics, and real-time flash logistics updates.

To ensure a coherent flow of logistics information to all stakeholders, relevant information is available to the humanitarian community via a dedicated Syria Logistics Cluster webpage: www.logcluster.org/ops/syr12a

GIS Mapping
The Logistics Cluster provides the humanitarian community with timely and accurate geographic information on the status of logistics assets and infrastructure.

Cargo Tracking
The Logistics Cluster has implemented an online cargo tracking tool, the ‘Relief Item Tracking Application’ (RITA), which provides access to the latest information to donors and partners for all cargo handled.
Common Transport and Storage

To improve inter-agency logistics coordination, the Logistics Cluster, led by WFP, provides free-to-user services, including cargo transportation and storage, to humanitarian organizations responding to the emergency in Syria.

Free common transport is offered inside Syria, and from Lebanon/Jordan to Syria.

Free common storage is available to the humanitarian community in rural Damascus, Tartous (Safita), Lattakia, Qamshli and regionally in Irbid (Jordan).

Since its activation in Syria the Logistics Cluster has handled over 34,600 m³ of non-food items (NFIs) vital to Shelter, Nutrition, Health, WASH, and Agriculture programmes, on behalf of 14 humanitarian organizations (ACF, DRC, FAO, IMC, IOM, Premiere Urgence, Secours Islamique France, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, WFP and WHO).

Joint Humanitarian Convoys

The Logistics Cluster also supports Joint Humanitarian Convoys to the most vulnerable communities in Syria, with locations prioritized by the Inter-Sector Coordination Group in Damascus.

The implementation and continued support of Joint Humanitarian Convoys has proved vital to the humanitarian response, as it allows for the collective safe transport of life-saving cargo to areas previously inaccessible due to fighting. Convoys are the result of preparation between UN OCHA, the Logistics Cluster, the humanitarian community and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC).

Fuel Provision

As a contingency measure, the Logistics Cluster has established a fuel depot in Damascus, which can provide fuel on a cost-recovery basis to other humanitarian actors if needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Users</th>
<th>Number of SRFs</th>
<th>Total Volume Released (m³)</th>
<th>Total Tonnage Released (MT)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>34,633</td>
<td>6,535</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. Service Requests by Month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Volume Released by User Type

- NGOs: 34%
- International Organizations: 61%
- UN Agencies: 5%
The Logistics Cluster’s capacity has grown steadily since activation, in line with increased requests from partners for storage, transport, cargo handling and information management services. As a contingency measure, the Logistics Cluster is planning to increase warehouse space in Tartous to guarantee enough storage capacity to meet increasing humanitarian demands. The Port of Tartous is one of the main entry points for humanitarian cargo and expanded warehouse capacity is crucial to reaching more people in need in Syria.
SYRIA - 6-month report
Volume of humanitarian cargo stored

> 570 = standard cargo containers

18,900 m³

WASH ▼ 35%
Shelter ▼ 26%
Protection ▼ 21%
Education ▼ 8%
Health ▼ 5%
Food ▼ 5%

Cargo handled on behalf of
ACF, DRC, FAO, IMC, IOM, Premiere Urgence, Secours Islamique, France, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, WFP, WHO

Common Storage Locations and Capacity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Damascus</td>
<td>7,500 +2,500 m²</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safita</td>
<td>1,900 m²</td>
<td>space available upon request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lattakia</td>
<td>space available upon request</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qamishly</td>
<td>space available upon request</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irbid (Jordan)</td>
<td>space available upon request</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information provided in this document is based on the most accurate data currently available from the Field Logistics Cluster staff supporting the emergency response operation. It may be revised or updated as new, more complete data becomes available.

The Logistics Cluster is led by

World Food Programme