As of May 2011, a supply chain has been established to bring humanitarian cargo from Tunisia into western Libya. The upstream entry points are the ports of Tunis and Sfax in Tunisia. The port of Zarzis also remains a viable option for cargo coming in on liners or chartered vessels. For more information please see: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/lby11a/snapshot_overview_of_tunisia_ports/view. Once the cargo is in-country, transport is organized to the Zarzis Free Zone (ZFZ) which lies about 100 km from the Libyan northwest coastal border.

The ZFZ functions as the major staging area for relief goods destined for Libya. It has 1,400 m2 of covered commercial space available, as well as some 5,000 m2 of open-air storage. The ZFZ offers 2 months temporary storage, space permitting, and simplified customs procedures because the cargo remains customs sealed from the port of entry. Once removed, organizations have 48 hours to take the goods across the border. WFP has an additional five mobile storage units in reserve to be erected as a contingency should more covered storage at this location be required.

From the ZFZ, the goods can be moved directly into Libya or transported to the line exchange in Medenine where the Tunisian Red Crescent (TRC) in partnership with the Libyan Red Crescent (LRC) have a large warehouse they have made available to the humanitarian community.

The Medenine warehouse is divided into three sections, in line with the three EDPs in the Nafusa Mountain region. Goods are stockpiled according to their final destination before transport across the Dehiba border. The three towns currently being used as logistics hubs are Nalut, Jadu and Zintan, based on existing storage capacity in these locations available from the LRC. Each hub caters to nearby villages and communities to cover the whole Nafusa mountain area, with the exception, for now, of Yafran, Al Kalaa and Kiklah due to security concerns.

Transport to the three hubs in Libya is carried out by the TRC/LRC. Onward dispatch from the EDPs to the villages and communities is under LRC responsibility in coordination with local community leaders.

Logistics Cluster meetings are ongoing in Zarzis and a dedicated cell remains in place to assist all agencies and NGOs with cargo movements and coordination. Further information and maps are available at http://www.logcluster.org/ops/lby11a.