Donation of 20 trucks to SARC

In November 2013, the Syria Logistics Cluster donated 20 trucks to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) at a cost of approximately USD 2 million. As the current situation in Syria has severely limited the availability of commercial transporters, the donation of these trucks will enhance SARC’s capacity and allow it to fill logistics gaps and deliver aid to the most challenging areas. Each truck has a capacity of approximately 8 -10 metric tonnes of humanitarian cargo, and can be loaded by SARC in its own warehouses for direct dispatch and delivery of life-saving items to the affected populations in the country.

In November 2013, the Logistics Cluster supported 8 Joint Humanitarian Convoys to difficult-to-access locations in Rural Homs, Daraa, and Aleppo, transporting over 2,600 m³ of relief cargo on behalf of IOM, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UNRWA and WHO. The cargo transported includes WASH, shelter, protection, food and health items. Upcoming convoys are planned for Rural Damascus, pending security and access. The convoys aim to bring focus to a specific area where access has been problematic, facilitating increased intervention by the humanitarian community once access is established.

Coordination

Coordination meetings are held bi-monthly in Damascus and monthly in Amman and Beirut. Two new organizations are now attending Cluster Meetings in Damascus: GOPA and the German Red Cross.

Over 30 organizations (UN agencies, NGOs, INGOs, and donor agencies) regularly attend the meetings, where participants discuss logistics bottlenecks and develop common solutions for improved humanitarian response.
The Logistics Cluster received **48 Service Requests** in November, and transported over **3,300 m³** of relief items to locations across Syria, on behalf of FAO, IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNRWA, and WHO.

Inter-agency storage capacity at Sahnaya (Rural Damascus) has been increased to **6,300 m²** (concrete warehouse). The Safita facility, near Tartous on the Syrian coast has 6 Mobile Storage Units with a total capacity of **1,760 m²** for inter-agency cargo. This will be expanded to 2,720 m² by end-December 2013.

Since its activation in Syria the Logistics Cluster has transported over **30,600 m³** of non-food items (NFIs) vital to Shelter, Nutrition, Health, WASH, and Agriculture programmes, on behalf of **16 humanitarian organizations** (ACF, AKF, DRC, FAO, IMC, IOM, Mercy Corps, Premiere Urgence, Secours Islamique France, SARC, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA and WHO).

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Information Management

The Logistics Cluster has produced and regularly updates over **70 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

Fuel

WFP continues to maintain a strategic reserve of diesel fuel in Damascus. Moreover, as part of the UN's joint winterization project WFP may provide limited quantities of fuel for emergency cooking and heating. **10,000 litres of fuel** is planned to be provided to **10 IDPs** shelters in Damascus in response to the first storm of the winter season.

Cargo Tracking

The Logistics Cluster continues to utilize and streamline an online cargo tracking tool, the ‘Relief Item Tracking Application’ (RITA), which provides tracking and accountability to donors and partners for all cargo handled.