On Saturday 16 April 2016, an earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale struck the northern coast of Ecuador reportedly killing over 650 people, injuring thousands and leaving several thousand displaced. The earthquake caused extensive damage to buildings and infrastructure including electricity, water and other public service supply networks. As a result, a state of emergency was declared in the provinces of Esmeraldas, Santo Domingo, Manabí, Guayas, Los Ríos and Santa Elena.

Although the Logistics Cluster was not activated, on 20 April, the WFP-led Logistics Sector began supporting relief efforts with logistics coordination, information management and facilitating access to common services primarily in the areas of Quito, Pedernales and Manta.

In coordination with the humanitarian community and the Government, the Logistic Sector identified three main gaps for this operation: Logistics Coordination, Information Management with GIS support and Temporary Warehousing near the affected areas.

**CARGO TYPES**

The Logistics Sector facilitated the storage of different priority items throughout the operation, mainly in Logistic hubs of Quito, Manta and Pedernales. The following is a list of the storage cargo types divided by sector: Shelter, Food, Health, WASH, Education, Nutrition, Construction, Protection, Agriculture, Logistics and Operational Support.
AIR TRANSPORT

The United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), a common service managed and provided by the World Food Programme (WFP), supported the emergency response at the onset of the operation, transporting 113 metric tons on behalf of World Vision International, Catholic Relief Services, AECID, WFP and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Panama.

113 MT
Overall amount moved by air

ROAD TRANSPORT

During the first month of the emergency response, the Logistics Sector coordinated humanitarian cargo dispatches, from Centro Logístico de Asistencia Aumanitaria (CELAH) logistic hub to emergency facilities in Pedernales and Manta. In addition, the Logistics sector delivered Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) and other equipment to hubs in Pedernales and Manta.

234 MT
Manta

152 MT
Pedernales

109 MT
Quito (CELAH)

495 MT
Overall amount moved by road
In response to the need for appropriate temporary storage, the Logistics Sector set up temporary storage facilities and logistics hubs in strategic locations, to facilitate the movement of relief cargo to the affected population. At the onset of the emergency, storage was made available to humanitarian actors on a free-to-user basis, however, after 21 May access to common storage switched to full cost-recovery due to limited funding of the Special Operation.

The Logistics Sector supported the Education, WASH, Shelter and Non Food Items (NFIs), Camp Management, Protection and Health sectors by providing storage space (managed by experienced logistics staff) and office spaces at the following locations:

- Pedernales: Logistics Hub, with two Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) for a total storage capacity of 560 m³
- Manta: Logistics Hub, with two MSUs, for a total storage capacity of 640 m³
- Quito: approximately 3,600 m³ of total space at the ‘Centro Logístico de Asistencia Humanitaria’ (CELAH) located in Tumbaco, Quito – mainly used for incoming air shipments.

The cargo stored at each of these three locations also relied on the support of the Logistics Sector cargo tracking and reporting tool (RITA) allowing dedicated staff to provide users with receipt, dispatch, and existing stock reports – greatly facilitating the management of their pipelines.

1,686 m³
Manta

589 m³
Pedernales

489 m³
Quito

2,765 m³
Total storage
From the beginning of the operation, the Logistics Sector team held weekly or bi-weekly sectorial meetings at three strategic locations (Quito, Portoviejo and Manta) providing a forum for coordination and information exchange between the Government, NGOs, INGOs and UN agencies involved in the response. WFP, as representative of the Logistic Sector for inter-sectorial meetings ensured representation on decision making forums and advocated for much needed funding through important coordination initiatives such as OCHA inter-sectorial meetings, flash appeals revisions, donors meetings, etc. The Logistics Sector led 21 logistics coordination meetings in Quito, Manta and Pedernales.

Through a dedicated webpage, the Logistics Sector supported humanitarian actors involved in the emergency response by serving as a repository of important information including: minutes for weekly coordination meetings, templates for service request, latest formats provided by the Government for clearance of incoming humanitarian shipments, and registration procedures for NGOs not previously registered in Ecuador.

By facilitating the identification of available transportation options, the Logistics Sector shared information on local transporters, suppliers, etc., to assist organizations in their response to the emergency.

Information was also disseminated regularly through the mailing list of organisations on the ground and via the Logistics Cluster website.

Altogether, 59 Information Management (IM) products were produced and published on the website - generating 1,577 page views throughout the operation period.

59
Information updated across operation pages

21
Coordination meetings

1,577
Views to the website