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## LOGISTICS CLUSTER FIELD-BASED PREPAREDNESS

**More information:**

Martin Keitsch

Preparedness Lead Officer

[martin.keitsch@wfp.org](mailto:martin.keitsch@wfp.org)

Stephen Cahill

Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator

[stephen.cahill@wfp.org](mailto:stephen.cahill@wfp.org)

## Introduction

Investing in preparedness saves time, lives and money during emergency response and reduces the need for international mobilisation. Recent studies show supply chain accounts for an average of 73% of humanitarian response costs.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, research on past emergencies shows logistics preparedness investments can save seven euros or more, per euro invested, during the emergency response, and reduce maximum lead-times to reach the affected population by between 16-38 days, speeding up the delivery of critical humanitarian cargo.<sup>2</sup>

As part of its strategy and mandate given by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the Logistics Cluster seeks to utilise its experience, expertise and wide network of partners to strengthen national logistics capacity, and promote a shared methodology towards logistics preparedness.

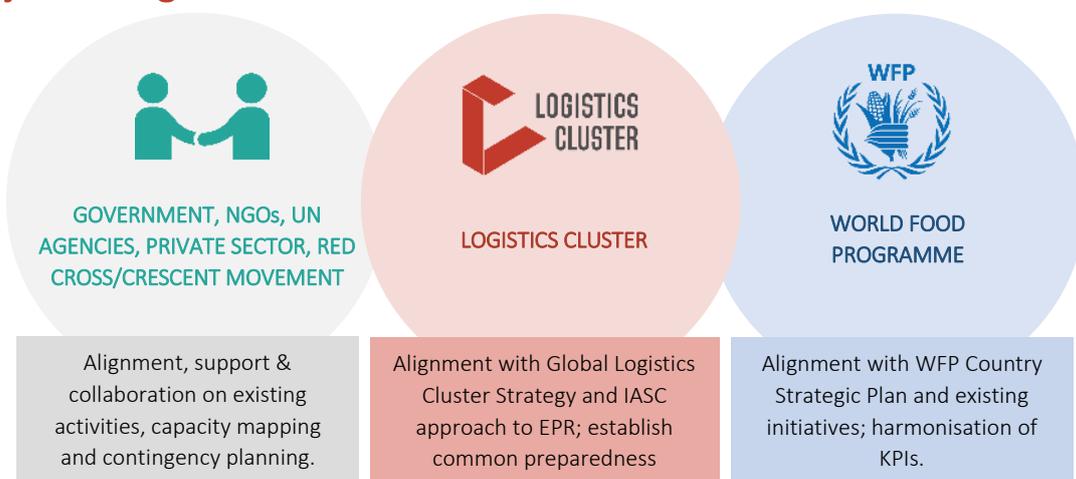
## Community-driven preparedness

The project's objective is to enable and support local governments, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, development partners and the private sector, to have a coordinated approach towards improved local supply chain resilience and ensure actors are well prepared for joint humanitarian logistics responses and information exchange in emergency-prone countries. A key output of the project is the formation and/or reinforcement of a National Logistics Preparedness Working Group, which brings stakeholders together before an emergency. A simulation-based analysis will be conducted to pinpoint supply chain weaknesses and vulnerabilities. Collaboratively, the Working Group then identifies potential solutions, drafting a common action plan and building an operational environment built on teamwork.

While the national approach is tailored to the unique operational context, through synergies it also contributes to a common framework for logistics preparedness worldwide, capitalising on common systems and best practices. The field-based project comprises a 'kick start' phase (approximately 12 months), including a fact-finding period; deployment of a short-term Logistics Preparedness Expert to support the development of strategic planning; and increased capacity in information exchange, through a dedicated country preparedness page on the Logistics Cluster website and rollout of the Logistics Cluster Preparedness and Response platform in-country.

Where WFP and/or partner organisations have a presence in-country, the Logistics Cluster leverages on this experience to ensure activity and strategic alignment, and promote shared ownership of preparedness initiatives.

## Project linkages



<sup>1</sup> Studies carried out by HELP Logistics & Kuehne Logistics University, analysing expenditures of 5 organisations across 23 operations between 2005 -2018.

<sup>2</sup> Based on Cooperative Studies undertaken by HELP Logistics, Kuehne Logistics, ACF France, IFRC, Logistics Cluster, Save the Children International and UNICEF between 2017-2019. See <http://bit.ly/2lmazuF>

## Programmatic Framework

The following table represents the Logistics Cluster Preparedness Programmatic Framework and proposed staffing resources for country implementation. The categories were defined through extensive consultations. The staffing plan is based on pilot project recommendations whereby a Preparedness Expert is recruited for the initial period, working together with a Preparedness Officer towards a harmonious and holistic logistics preparedness plan.

