Strategy Questions, Answers and Talking Points

Why is the Global Logistics Cluster involved in Preparedness?

Preparedness has been part of the Logistics Cluster mandate since inception. It is however becoming more important than ever to enhance Preparedness activities and response planning together with Governments. This has necessitated further dedicated and structured Preparedness work by the GLC.

What have Global Logistics Cluster partners requested and agreed to on Preparedness?

Following the GLC 2016-2018 Pillar 1: PREPARE, partners have requested the GLC to prioritize preparedness for the next 3 years. Strategy objectives and activities agreed with partners are:

Objective 1: Strengthen logistics capacities on national and cross-border levels
Objective 2: Encourage active collaboration and ownership of tasks by LC community involving various actors such as civil protection, public and private sectors and other clusters.

The objectives above, centre on the following activities:
- Identify and prioritise 6 disaster-prone countries
- Map capacities and gaps with local stakeholders using existing and new protocols
- Develop scenarios based on risk analysis
- Assess disaster impacts on infrastructure & capacities
- Support government and stakeholders to address gaps
- Identify organisations & local actors to address gaps

The above objectives and activities have been incorporated into the GLC Preparedness Strategy Note – Annex 6, and stems from the GLC Preparedness Concept Note from Q1 2016. As per the initial workplan, stages from 2016-2018 are Strategy Conception, Design and Development, Planning, Implementation and Refinement, Roll-out, Review and Institutionalisation.

Where is the Global Logistics Cluster reaching to conduct Preparedness?

Field Clusters have been working on various preparedness activities and contingency planning in varying capacities eg. the activated Pacific Preparedness Cluster for Logistics under WFP lead. 6 Pilot countries were chosen by GLC partners under the new strategy: Bangladesh, Myanmar, Indonesia, Nigeria, Madagascar, Haiti. Apart from these 6, wherever easily achievable Preparedness measure can be championed globally or other Preparedness initiatives can be enhanced through GLC involvement – strategy elements and focus will be hence directed eg. recently in East Africa (Great Lakes EP) and planned for West Africa (corridors) (Chad Basin) plus Central Asia and Caucasus are also an area where GLC Preparedness has had limited investment.

Who, under the Logistics Cluster is involved in Preparedness?

Activities should be facilitated with all stakeholders as much possible. The global approach remains generic and contextualised for country application. Partners best placed to respond and already conducting
Preparedness initiatives continue as such, with the GLC Platform elevating the visibility, status and effectiveness of initiatives.

**How is the Global Logistics Cluster conducting Preparedness?**

GLC currently has one dedicated staff as the project manager and a Global level Working Group of 16 partner organisations plus 2 observers. GLC’s role is to bring all the stakeholders together, create linkages where appropriate and find untapped synergies - in order for all to get engaged in the preparedness areas that need addressing. Preparedness, Scenario and Response Planning strategies and priorities are jointly identified and commonly addressed by best place partners. The Cluster platform provides the scale and scope to raise the profile of Preparedness projects as well as the common identification and justification for initiatives.

The 3 main Activities ie. Mapping + Engagement + Assessment/Analysis are to be conducted within and between the GLC Preparedness stakeholders (see Annex 2).

- **Mapping**: To capture the current initiatives, activities in a country. This gap analysis shows where coverage is ongoing and where coverage is lacking.
- **Network Engagement and Expansion**: Find where relationships should be fostered, generated, strengthened or divested and where appropriate capacity and capability building activities are required.
- **Assessment/Analysis**: To achieve the above, assessments and analysis of capacities are to be undertaken to find appropriate risks for mitigation and define and draft Preparedness and Response plans.

A Framework and strategy note has been developed to:

- Providing a Rationale for Engagement
- Explaining the Delivery of Processes (Structure & Communication Flows)
- Clarifying Expected Results (Outputs/Outcomes/Indicators)
- Providing Timeline of Key Milestones
- Promoting Risk Sharing Partnerships (Cluster Ownership: Enabling capacity tasking and capacity reservation)
- Providing a Business Case

**Common Outputs and Common Outcomes**

A jointly executed GLC Resiliency Driven Preparedness Programme will:

- Build soft assets, knowledge and processes to manage events that have not yet happened;
- Better inform(update the generation of Preparedness/Response/Contingency Plans per country;
- Map partner supply and demand scenario-set expectations and pre-identify logistics channels;
- Identify gaps in existing initiative integration for treatment and investment;
- Pre-define response arrangements & supply chain configurations at:
  - Strategic (Global)
  - Tactical (Regional) &
  - Operational (National/Local) levels;
- Help:
  - Support and integrate National Clusters and NDMO/RDMO/LEMA into the Logistics Cluster system;
  - Support UNCT/HCT and other clusters;
**PREPAREDNESS**

- Engage with and better collaborate with multi-level Private Sector Networks;
- Localise Preparedness with Business Continuity Principles;
- Increase Readiness levels (early detection, early warning and early action);

- Increase sectoral network effects through:
  - Provision of a Preparedness Platform
  - Provision of trainings and simulations based on predetermined scenarios and response plans;

- Generate/update Cluster MPA’S and APA’s (applicable to non-priority countries);
- Bridge the response-development divide;
- Incorporate DRR in Preparedness, Response and Recovery stages;
- Further professionalize the sector.

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**What the GLC Preparedness Strategy DOES NOT Do:**

- It does not replace existing Preparedness and Response initiatives already ongoing or planned
- It does not replace existing Preparedness and Response planning leadership
- It does not remove donor focus from field based initiatives
- Create more negative competition around Preparedness

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**What the GLC Preparedness Strategy DOES:**

- It maps the current Preparedness landscape to find untended initiative gaps
- It creates a repository of Preparedness initiatives
- It provides a platform for joint supply chain/logistics planning
- It increases stakeholder visibility and network linkages
- Provides a common framework under which GLC Preparedness can be conducted in the future – by capturing lessons and methods across contexts.
- Generates and stress test preparedness and response plans;
- Strengthens collaborative decision making prior to an emergency, instead of after an emergency arises;
- Assigns roles and responsibilities as well as promote clarity and understanding regarding those different roles and responsibilities;
- Increases and strengthen networking amongst response teams and partners;
- Improves relationship links with governments and NDMO’s at national level;
- Improves governments and NDMO’s capacity to respond to small and medium crises themselves, and eventually, large crises with predefined international intervention;
- Decreases local vulnerabilities and raises resiliency of localized systems on the basis of knowledge transfer from global to local levels;
- Increases visibility within communities of the partnerships and linkages;
- Increases early detection, early warning and early action capabilities;
- Increases readiness levels of communication, collaboration, cooperation and coordination in preparation of a potential response.

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**What funding is required for GLC Preparedness and current status.**

The project requires dedicates resources. WFP is already providing one full time staff as the project manager. US$3.4m over the 3 year period is required to design, test, proof, rollout, monitor and institutionalise the strategy for regular cluster workload post-pilot. Upon completion, GLC would have a holistic, firm and robust methodology, methods, digital platform, guidance, tool, techniques and
linkages for conducting further Preparedness activities. GLC Preparedness Strategy Note (available upon request) contains the budget.

**What is the GLC Preparedness Platform?**

Data preparedness and information readiness are key enablers of the GLC Preparedness pilot project strategy. *Annex 3: GLC Preparedness Platform Concept*, expands and elaborates on the concept and provide rationales, benefits and beta-platform screenshots. The Platform will be embedded in the Logistics Cluster Preparedness webpage.

It aims to provide:

- Current Preparedness Initiative visibility and repository
- Dynamic Mapping Geo-Form: User Driven Information Gathering and Sharing
- New Perspectives for Enhanced and Common Challenge Solving
- Scenario Building and Response Planning: Coordinated and Collaborative Supply Chain Configuration Setups and Testing in a Sandbox Environment
- Geo-tagging, Supply Chain Modelling and Logistics Network Configuration Simulation data

**What are some examples of activities under GLC Preparedness?**

**Guidance and Knowledge Series**

The GLC Preparedness strategy - *Annex 2: Strategy Visualisation* - will produce a Guidance and Knowledge Series under project themes eg. *Annex 4: Private Sector Engagement*. Through Global level Working Group co-authoring, guidance would be used to create shared understandings and knowledge gained to conduct the projects Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation strategy.

**Draft Menu of Project Activities - Practical Implementation & Outputs**

Centred on activities that can be conducted within and between GLC Preparedness Ecosystem stakeholders (*Annex 1*), practical implementation and outputs are specified below – in no particular priority or sequence and briefly elaborated in *Annex 5*:

- **Hosting Logistics Sector Working Group Meetings and Joint Field Assessments/Analysis**
- **Common Preparedness Activity Identification and Responsibility (Capacity Gap Assessment + Progress Tracking)**
- **Private Sector Engagement**
- **National Cluster Systems/National Disaster Management Organisations Visibility and Engagement**
Strategy Questions, Answers and Talking Points

Annex 1: GLC Preparedness Ecosystem

The GLC Preparedness Ecosystem shows the range of stakeholders that could be involved, contribute to and consulted with, regarding concerned activities within the projects framework.
Annex 3: GLC Preparedness Platform Concept & Visuals

GLC PREPAREDNESS PLATFORM CONCEPT
Preparedness Pilot Project 2016 – 2018

Logistics Cluster Preparedness
Strategy Goal 1 - Strengthen Logistics Preparedness of National Actors

Preparedness saves lives and money during disasters and crises. Adequate preparedness for national actors can also significantly improve initial response at the local and national level, and reduce the need for international mobilization. This goal focuses on supporting the national logistics capacity of identified disaster prone countries.
**Annex 4: GLC Preparedness Knowledge and Guidance Series – Private Sector Engagement**

**PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT**
Preparedness Pilot Project
2016 – 2018

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Annex 5

- **Hosting Logistics Sector Working Group Meetings and Joint Field Assessments/Analysis:** Output – ConOps/Scenarios/Contingency Plans
  Purpose - Gathering country level partners together and identifying common approaches, themes and Preparedness activities to pursue, minuted and published on the country level Preparedness page. Data can be uploaded to the Preparedness Platform once up and running.

- **Common Preparedness Activity Identification and Responsibility (Capacity Gap Assessment + Progress Tracking):** Minimum and Advanced Preparedness Actions (MPA/APA) developed, agreed and pursued by multiple partners including NDMO’s. Common identification, targeting mitigation and advocacy of supply chain and logistics risks and value-added logistics projects are to be championed at this level. Best placed organisations are allocated identified projects. Other projects identified but un-touched are escalated to the Global level and advocacy papers drawn up to raise awareness of commonly identified risk.

- **Private Sector Engagement:** Output & Purpose – Gathering knowledge (and agreements if possible) on available private sector capacities/capabilities in a specific country. Also understanding any private sector humanitarian platforms in place and how the humanitarian and private sector would work together or in parallel based on common scenarios in regards to actions and assets. Trainings and joint capacity assessments are possible outputs.

- **National Cluster Systems/National Disaster Management Organisations Visibility and Engagement:** Output & Purpose – Gathering knowledge, understanding, agreements and fostering relationships on country level coordination mechanisms and country Incident Command Systems/Standing Orders. Engagement with such should be aimed at creating a mutual understanding between stakeholders of who does what, how, when etc. and where we could provide capacity building for Governments. The interface between national cluster systems and international cluster systems should become evident to all stakeholders.

Common forums run under the project should have 3 key elements in attendance:

1) Humanitarian sector leader (LC/partner organisation best placed to facilitate forum)
2) Private sector leader (eg. Connecting Business Initiative/ Private sector humanitarian platform lead company, SME4H)
3) Government counterpart (incl. national cluster leads, chamber of commerce, etc.)

A 4th, Regional response counterpart should be involved where possible – as contingency and response plans are not always ring-fenced within countries. Regionally spread emergencies are also the impetus to improve cross border collaboration, cooperation and coordination on logistics.
Annex 6: GLC Preparedness Strategy Note

The Global Logistics Cluster’s Preparedness Path to Resilience
Pilot Project 2016 – 2018

Further Information
For further information, please contact:

Faheem Araie
Global Logistics Cluster Preparedness Officer, WFP Rome, Italy: Faheem.araie@wfp.org

Stephen Cahill
Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator, WFP Rome, Italy: Stephen.cahill@wfp.org