

Logistics Emergency Teams' (LET) engagement with the World Humanitarian Summit

The LET partners are extremely interested in participating at the World Humanitarian Summit. They would appreciate the opportunity to engage with humanitarian actors in advocacy for **greater private sector engagement** and **improved cross-border trade relations**. The LET strongly believes that these two issues represent important opportunities to **reduce disaster risk** as well as **improve disaster response and recovery**.



The LET initiative was created at the World Economic Forum in 2006. It is one of the first multilateral public-private partnerships created to support the humanitarian community after large-scale natural disasters by providing pro bono logistics expertise, human resources, and in-kind services often in the form of logistics assets.

Partners include some of the largest global logistics and transportation companies: UPS, Maersk and Agility, which work together to support the Logistics Cluster which is led by United Nations World Food Programme.

Since 2007, the LET has supported the humanitarian community with emergency response logistics in 18 operations, either responding to natural disasters (Philippines, Indonesia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Haiti, Chile, Japan, Mozambique and the Horn of Africa) or participating in emergency preparedness activities.

Public-Private Partnership Advocacy: There is a need for more and better public-private partnerships to support humanitarian efforts. The LET partnership is unique in that it represents a very successful, ten-year model of a cooperative, industry-based approach to private sector engagement in humanitarian assistance. The LET members have developed many of the tools required to establish and operate these partnerships, including ground rules, MOUs, agreements, recruiting and training materials, operations processes, communications tools and many other resources. We would like to share our experiences and encourage attendees to establish and run effective humanitarian partnerships.

Trade Policy & Business Continuity Advocacy: The LET members also recognize the benefits suitable trade policy can have when responding to humanitarian crises. We would like to advocate for more open and appropriate trade policy to help minimize the impact of humanitarian disasters and improve disaster response and recovery. Each LET response to a disaster has identified the positive impacts that suitable trade regulations can have on humanitarian cargo importation, storage and distribution, including lower supply chain costs and more efficient use of logistics resources. Freer and more effective trade regulations and private sector commitment to business continuity and continued open trade during natural disasters and pandemics can reduce supply chain interruptions; and countries that are more open and integrated into global trading networks are in a better position to mitigate the effects of sudden disasters.

