Background
In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the most vulnerable communities live in very remote areas. Due to the deterioration of the road network these areas often have very limited connections to the rest of the country. The Logistics Cluster has been active in DRC since 2006, to ensure a coordinated logistics response to the crisis, to facilitate access to affected communities, and to support the timely and continued sharing of relevant logistics information.

Logistics Coordination
- The Logistics Cluster is coordinated from Kinshasa, with four provincial hubs: Goma, Bukavu, Bunia and Kalemie.
- From January to April 2017, 18 coordination meetings were held: five in Kinshasa and 13 in the provincial hubs. Following the mission of the Global Logistics Cluster to the DRC in January 2017, a survey was distributed to organisations currently operating in the country to assess the logistics support provided by the Logistics Cluster, so that the cluster could define its new strategy for July 2017. The overall feedback suggested that the current Logistics Cluster services should be maintained: more details on this survey can be found here.
- Through Logistics Cluster coordination, partners are encouraged to pool their resources in order to respond to identified logistics needs. The most recent example is AVSI, a local partner providing Internet and VHF Radio communication services to other partners present in Kolula where there is no network coverage for GSM and internet communication services.
  - In Kalemie, the Logistics Cluster advocated for appropriate garage services for the maintenance of vehicles and generators. UNHCR recently began providing these services through AIRD: used by more than 30 organisations.
  - The Logistics Cluster has also supported partners through cartography and GIS services. As of 20 April, 10 maps have been developed and 264 maps printed.
  - Between January and April 2017, the Logistics Cluster took part in evaluating six bridges and one airstrip for rehabilitation, to support the delivery of relief items to beneficiaries in remote areas. In Kalemie, the Logistics Cluster followed up on the rehabilitation of the Kituku bridge by the provincial government of Tanganyika. The work has been completed and the road was reopened on 17 April.

Information Management/Knowledge Management (IM/KM) Project
- The Logistics Cluster has been supporting the Government, its provincial authorities and organizations present in field locations in preparation for natural disasters. In this framework, the Logistics Cluster has contributed to the development of a contingency plan in the case of a volcanic eruption in Goma.
- The Logistics Cluster has also facilitated the organization of trainings in data collection, data management and first aid for partners in the Kinshasa region. Both activities aim to build local capacity and enable an effective response to natural disasters.

Access to Common Services
- The Logistics Cluster has facilitated access to humanitarian air services, provided by UNHAS and ECHO Flight (EF). Between 1 January and 31 March, 8,610 passengers and 173 mt of relief items have been transported.
Additionally, the Logistics Cluster has also facilitated access to transport services provided by Handicap International and WFP Service Provision. More than 1,091 mt of cargo was transported by road, of which 1,019 mt by Handicap International and 72 mt by WFP Service Provision.

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