Operation Overview as of 25 September 2014

The current outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in West Africa, because of its magnitude, spread to crowded urban areas as well as rural inaccessible jungle terrain, and its span across international borders presents various logistical and operational challenges for an effective humanitarian response. Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs) are rapidly being constructed, and it is expected that within coming weeks, centres accommodating up to several thousand patients will require Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) supplies on a daily basis. In order to ensure that essentials supplies reach the most vulnerable people affected by the outbreak in a rapid and effective manner, direct logistical reinforcement, coordination, and support are necessary.

In all three affected countries, Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone, WFP, as the Logistics Cluster lead, has been requested to provide Logistics Coordination and Support for the operation. Currently, the Logistics Cluster is providing Information Management and Logistics Coordination to partners involved as well as storage and transport services for medical supplies and humanitarian relief items.

Logistics Coordination and Information Management

- The Logistics Cluster has been activated in Monrovia, Liberia, with WFP co-leading it with UNMIL.
- Inter-agency logistics coordination hubs have been established in Dakar, Senegal, Freetown, Sierra Leone, and Conakry, Guinea supporting over 15 organisations.
- Logistics Coordination Officers are in place in Monrovia, Conakry and Freetown as well as Dakar.
- Logistics Coordination is taking place at the country and at the global level.
- A logistics information sharing platform is in place through the Logistics Cluster website and mailing lists for information sharing as well as transport and storage services in each country.

Storage and Road Transport Services

Liberia

Until now, relevant actors, including the government of Liberia, the World Health Organization (WHO), USAID and the World Food Programme (WFP), among others, have dispatched essential commodities from at least seven different locations in Monrovia. In order to create a consolidated supply chain picture, the Logistics Cluster is establishing a joint logistics hub. The hub is based on a partnership with the Ministry of Health (MoH), the Ministry of Social Welfare (MoHSW) and coordinated by WHO.

- This **common logistics hub** is operational as of 25 September 2014, with about 2,000m² storage, in Monrovia, Liberia.
- **15 Mobile Storage Units** (MSUs) have been provided to Logistics Cluster partners, including the MoH, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and Save the Children.
- On behalf of USAID and MOH, over **115MT** of health cargo was transported and stored in Liberia.
- **615m³** of cargo has been stored in Liberia on behalf of partners, including the Clinton Foundation, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and USAID/OFDA.
- Since the beginning of the operation, over **910 m³** of Ebola relief supplies have been transported on behalf of partners, including USAID/OFDA, JICA, Save the Children, the Clinton Foundation, the MoH and WHO.
- The Logistics Cluster provides as well cargo facilitation at the airport in Liberia.

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**SIERRA LEONE**

- The Logistics Cluster, through WFP, has provided Mobile Storage Units (MSU) to the WHO in Kenema town, in the South East Sierra Leone, and in Freetown.

**GUINEA**

- Mobile Storage Units (MSU) have been provided to MSF in Macenta, in the South East of Guinea, to be utilised as a transit centre.
- The Logistics Cluster has transported two truckloads (80 MT) of Ebola-related items (chlorine, soap, motorbikes) from Conakry to Nzerekore on behalf of the Government of Guinea’s Ebola Response Cell.

**Funding**

The project requirements for an initial duration of six months have a total cost of **US$ 11,315,000**. The operations will be extended as required.