
LOCATION	Addis Ababa, online
DATE	15 December 2020
CHAIR	Andrea Rosales, Acting Logistics Cluster Coordinator Annemaud Drugeon, Deputy Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS	Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Concern Worldwide, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Food Security Cluster, GOAL, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), NALA Foundation, National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Save the Children, ShelterBox, United Nations Children's fund (UNICEF), US Agency for International Development (USAID), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO).
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Partners are requested to submit their transportation and storage requests using the Service Request Form (SRF) and send the form to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org by every Friday COB.The Logistics Cluster will inform partners on the access clearance process once it has been agreed on.Partners are kindly invited to share their feedback on the Logistics Cluster activities through the annual User Feedback Survey.
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Physical Road ConstraintsRapid Logistics Capacity Assessment SemeraOperation UpdateService Request Forms and Cargo Movement FormsFAQs and Partner Discussion

1. Physical Road Constraints and Logistics Assessment

The recent physical road constraint reports were presented using the [Interactive Physical Road Constraints Map](#):

- The main corridors from Djibouti to Addis Ababa are open.
- The road from Dewele to Dire Dawa is in good condition with two-lane asphalt. There is a checkpoint in Dewele that allows a maximum of 10 trucks at a time, with a 10-minute check and disinfection time to be considered.
- No issues have been reported for the road from Berbera to Jijiga, the entry point of Togwajale (Somalia border), and the border crossing from Kenya via Moyale.

- In the Afar region, the main road to Asaita is accessible. The Gewane, Gewaro, and Awash Fentale roads are accessible until the woreda (district) capital, leaving some kebeles (wards) flooded by the Awash river.
- A bridge near Melka Werer is still reported collapsed, an alternate route via Wachile to Hudet and Mubarek is available.
- In Oromia, the Negele bridge towards Hudet and Mobarek remains down; the alternative route is via Wachile.
- In Mustahil, the bridge is still down, limiting access to many kebeles (including Mirdis and Cagadurwa). Alternative roads to reach affected kebeles are Kelafo-Gode-Kebri Dehar-Ferfer.
- Reports from Gambella indicate that the road via Nekemte and Jimma is accessible, but challenges in access are reported for the route via Gedi Adis from Dembi Dollo to Gambella. The corridors from Gambella to the border points of Pagak and Raad (South Sudan) are accessible and the flooding that was previously preventing access to Mater Port has now subsided.

2. Rapid Logistics Capacity Assessment Semera

As part of the process to update the Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA), a rapid assessment has been conducted in Semera. The findings conclude:

Road assessment

- The Semera – Afdera – Erebti – Abala tarmac road is suitable for 40 mt trucks, and the speed limit is 60km/hour.
- The Semera – Teru – Megale – Abala road is not recommended.
- On the road from Semera to Abala, authorisation from local authorities is required.

Fuel assessment

- There are fuel stations every kilometre on the road from Djibouti to Semera. From Semera to Abala (Tigray border) there are no fuel stations before Abala. There are two fuel stations in Abala.

Warehouse assessment

- There is only one warehouse, currently under construction, with a capacity of 2100 m². It belongs to the Disaster Prevention Food Security Program Coordination Office (DPFSPCO).
- There is an abundance of empty land to establish warehouses on in the surrounding areas of Semera.
- Additional secure warehousing would need to be acquired.

Air transport assessment

- The airport in Semera is not actively used, but is fully operational. It is in good condition with an asphalt airstrip with taxiway, parking areas, cargo handling and security available.
- Emergency flights could be arranged from Addis Ababa for passengers or humanitarian cargo depending on needs and resources available. Potential onward flights to airstrips in Tigray could be facilitated by the Logistics Cluster, if access and resources allow.

3. Operation Update

The Acting Logistics Cluster Coordinator presented a summary of established and planned activities for the Logistics Cluster:

Storage

- There is 3900 m² of warehouse space available in Adama as common storage for partners.
- The warehouse in Addis Ababa (1000 m²) currently has 250 m² available.
- The Logistics Cluster is facilitating access to a warehouse with 900 m² storage capacity in Kombolcha and a warehouse with 2400 m² storage capacity in Gondar.
- The warehouses in Gondar and Kombolcha can be used by partners for prepositioning purposes.
- There is a planned ground levelling assessment this week in preparation for setting up two mobile storage units (MSUs) in Semera.
- Partners requesting storage services are invited to submit [Service Request Form](#) (SRF) and send them to Ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org.

Transport

- The Logistics Cluster facilitates access to two dedicated fleets. Two trucks with the capacity of 10 mt are being positioned in Adama for any zone in Afar, while three trucks with the capacity of 5 mt are being positioned in Semera for any zone in Afar. Partners are requested to submit their needs using the SRF.
- Besides the two fleets in Adama and Semera, the Logistics Cluster facilitates access to an additional fleet to move cargo from Addis Ababa to Gondar. The fleet is currently sufficient for the cargo received, but additional funding is required to have expanded capacity. The Logistics Cluster can facilitate access to air transport when air space is permissible and depending on resources.
- The Logistics Cluster can facilitate convoys for cargo into Tigray at the request of partners through the SRF.

Coordination and access clearance

- In order to obtain access clearance, the Logistics Cluster consolidates SRFs by Friday. The SRF needs to contain cargo details, weight, volume, and specifications of items. For partners using their own trucks, plate numbers and drivers' phone numbers are required.
- Last week, seven organisations submitted SRFs for their cargo to be delivered in Shire. The cargo was loaded on three trucks, which are currently stationed in Gondar, awaiting clearance from the relevant authorities in order to proceed into Shire.
- This week, six partners submitted SRFs for their cargo to be delivered to Mekele, and two partners submitted forms in order to obtain clearance for their own movements. The Logistics Cluster consolidated the requests and has submitted them to OCHA.
- The Logistics Cluster is coordinating with OCHA and NDRMC to obtain access clearance to move cargo of partners.
- 10 prefabs are being shipped through a UPS donation flight to be used as mobile office spaces at the Logistics Cluster hubs to coordinate partners' movements and clearance processes.

- The Logistics Cluster is advocating for additional funding from the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund in order to enable the preparedness plan.

4. Service Request Forms and Cargo Movement Forms

- Partners were advised to submit requests for services using the [Service Request Form](#) and sending it to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org.
- Partners were presented with an example of a correctly filled out SRF and reminded of the necessary details, especially weight and volume. Incomplete forms cannot be accepted and will result in delays until all the information is correctly provided.
- It is necessary to clearly indicate food and non-food cargo including quantity as well as the partners who are engaged in food/non-food activities. This is important in order to prioritise in any logistical arrangement the Logistics Cluster has set up. It is not necessary to use separate SRFs for food and non-food cargo.
- In the case of different destinations of the cargo, one SRF per destination is required.
- After the feasibility has been confirmed and the request approved, cargo will be tracked by the Logistics Cluster through the Relief Item Tracking Application (RITA).
- Partners are reminded to submit SRFs before delivering their cargo to storage facilities. Cargo delivered without an approved SRF cannot be accepted.
- The Logistics Cluster presented the Humanitarian Cargo Movement Form that needs to be submitted as part of the Information Sharing Mechanism to request access clearance. The form requires information on the agency, driver name and number, vehicle number, cargo type, and cargo weight. It also requires the exact destinations and a map of the route. This form is essential to request access clearance and must be submitted by the Logistics Cluster on behalf of partners wishing to deliver cargo to the Tigray region, whether transporting by their own means or through the Logistics Cluster facilitated transport.

5. FAQs and Partner Discussion

- ICRC shared that they have been able to deliver a convoy of six trucks carrying medical items, food and non-food items (NFIs) into Mekele. The ICRC management has been in discussion with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Peace, and the Office of the Prime Minister for the past month in order to obtain the clearance.
- It was inquired why the Logistics Cluster has not moved cargo into Tigray yet. WFP, as the lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, informed partners that there are ongoing discussions on how to proceed with the conditions of the delivery that have not been agreed on by all partners of the Logistics Cluster. A risk assessment must be conducted in order to understand the possibility of delivering assistance into Tigray. OCHA and humanitarian partners were invited to agree on the conditions of their delivery, given the access constraints and challenges on the ground.

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- NDRMC shared that they have ongoing operations in Tigray and are planning to establish a common coordination platform. NDRMC suggested establishing a team with all parties involved in obtaining access clearance in order to coordinate more efficiently.
- The Logistics Cluster will take part in these coordination efforts and represent the interest of all partners.
- The Logistics Cluster will be participating in a planned intersectoral assessment in Tigray in order for all sectors to gain better understanding of the situation.
- The Logistics Cluster and OCHA reiterated that the cluster will coordinate the cargo movements, and OCHA will coordinate the movement of humanitarian personnel and missions.
- In order to facilitate access to additional services, the Logistics Cluster needs information from partners on the potential destinations where assistance will be required. The Cluster can facilitate access to mobile storage units and transportation as needed and if funds allow.
- The Logistics Cluster confirmed to partners that they have access to their stored cargo in common storage space facilitated by the Logistics Cluster whenever they need.
- Partners are requested to complete the User Satisfaction Survey to provide feedback on Logistics Cluster support to their operations by 22 December. The survey will be shared via email and can be found [here](#).

The next Coordination Meeting is scheduled for 22 December at 11:00 EAT.

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