
LOCATION	Addis Ababa, online
DATE	29 December 2020
CHAIR	Ato Tadesse Bekele, Senior DRM Adviser Annemaud Drugeon, Deputy Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS	Action Against Hunger (ACF), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Food Security Cluster, GOAL, NALA Foundation, National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), OXFAM, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP).
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 updated information sharing mechanism.• The Logistics Cluster will share standard operating procedures (SOPs) for filling out the SRF to partners.• The Logistics Cluster will share an updated Concept of Operations with partners, clearly highlighting the mandate and services of the Logistics Cluster.• 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">1. Physical Road Constraints2. Multi-sector assessment for Western and Southern Tigray3. Operation Update4. Information Sharing Mechanism5. FAQs and Partner Discussion

1. Physical Road Constraints

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.
- 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.
- The corridor from Berbera to Jijiga/Ethiopia is accessible for all types of traffic movements and there are no issues on the border crossing at Togwajale.
- The Mustahil bridge is now accessible for big trucks.
- 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.

2. Multi-sector assessment for Western and Southern Tigray

- A multi-sector assessment, headed by OCHA, has been conducted in prioritized locations in Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions where the humanitarian situation is reported to be dire. Two teams were sent out to Western and Southern Tigray.
- **Team 2** (Southern Tigray) visited Woldiya (in Amhara), Alamata and Mehoni and Mekele and has successfully returned to Addis Ababa.
 - **Physical access:** They have found roads to be physically accessible to Mekele. The road from Kombolcha to Alamata is 221 km, it is mountainous and in good condition. The road from Alamata to Mehoni is 51 km and in good condition. The road from Mehoni to Mekele is 125 km, it is mountainous and in good condition.
 - **General Observations:** In Mekele, wholesale markets are operational. Food supplies are available but at increased prices. Wholesale and consumer markets in South Tigray are recovering and more shops resume activities on daily basis. Commercial truck deliveries to southern Tigray were resumed during the first and second week of December. As more stock is arriving, prices are decreasing. **Banks** remains closed in Tigray's interim government controlled woredas. **Internet access** remains blocked with reports of unstable mobile communications on the outskirts of major towns. **Fuel** stations are operating on stocks that have been there since November. It is unclear when the next consignment will be received.
- **Team 1** (Western Tigray) visited Dansheha town and Humera town. They are facing challenges in reaching Shire.
 - **Physical access:** The road from Dansheha to Humera is in good conditions and accessible by heavy trucks. It is 102 km, with a travel time of around 1 hour and 40 minutes for a four-wheel drive. There are 10 bridges on the road. There are no fuel station or banks on the road. Humera airport is located 46 km from Dansheha and 68 km from Humira.
 - **General observations:** The local market is functional in the towns. Commercial banks are operational. One telecom company provided coverage between and inside both the towns.
- OCHA will share the assessment findings once it has been completed.

3. Operation Update

- Four trucks carrying 40 mt of cargo on behalf of six partners are stationed in Gondar, awaiting clearances for Shire.
- For the third round of cargo movements, 53 mt of cargo on behalf of 8 partners is stationed in Kombolcha, awaiting clearances for Mekele. This cargo is planned to move within the next 48 hours. Partners will be informed once any movements are made.
- In Kombolcha, Semera, and Gondar, the Logistics Cluster has stationed logistics officers. Their contacts are now available on the Ethiopia operation page and they are available for direct coordination.

As a reminder, below are the storage and transportation services that can be facilitated by the Logistics Cluster for the Tigray response:

- There is 3900 m² of warehouse space available in Adama as common storage for partners, and 2400 m² in Gondar. The Logistics Cluster is also facilitating access to a warehouse with 900 m² storage capacity in Kombolcha. Currently, 700 m² is available for partners.
- The warehouse in Addis Ababa (1000 m²) currently has 250 m² available. This warehouse is used for the consolidation of cargo that is to be dispatched to Gondar, Kombolcha, and Semera.
- Ground levelling assessments have started this week in Semera in preparation for setting up two mobile storage units (MSUs).
- Partners requesting storage services are invited to fill in the [Service Request Form](#) (SRF) and send it to Ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org.
- 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 commercial transport between logistics hubs, free-to-user. The Logistics Cluster can facilitate convoys for cargo into Tigray at the request of partners through the SRF.

4. Information Sharing Mechanism

- Discussions are ongoing with colleagues from OCHA, NDRMC, and the Ethiopia Ministry of Peace (MOP) on the information sharing mechanism used to submit requests for access clearance. The request for a new mechanism has been submitted but has not yet been validated. The Logistics Cluster will share updates once available.
- For now, the clearance process remains the same. Partners are requested to submit their cargo movements to the Logistics Cluster using the [Service Request Form \(SRF\)](#), sending the form to

ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org by every Friday COB, and the Logistics Cluster will coordinate with OCHA and relevant authorities.

- Personnel movement requests are to be submitted to OCHA directly.
- The Logistics Cluster reminded partners on the importance of filling in the SRF correctly. SOPs for filling out the SRF will be shared with partners to ensure that the units are entered correctly.

5. FAQs and Partner Discussion

- The Logistics Cluster currently does not facilitate access to temperature controlled or cold chain storage. However, coordination support can be provided to partners who require this service. Partners requesting cold chain storage are encouraged to reach out bilaterally.
- NDRMC presented their recent cargo movements. They have successfully moved trucks carrying assistance from Adama to Mekele. Currently, they are planning to transport 20,000 mt of food out of Mekele to the north.
- NDRMC updated partners on the status of the government assessment team from Mekele heading North. The team is currently in Mekele, coordinating with regional government authorities to ensure the smooth movement of necessary resources.
- NDRMC stressed the urgency of the humanitarian situation and the urgency of finding a more efficient and coordinated clearance process between humanitarian partners and the relevant authorities.
- The Logistics Cluster presented the responses received so far on the User Feedback Survey:
 - For the quality and content of coordination services overall, 37% of partners responded very good. 63% responded good.
 - For the quality and content of information management services overall, 25% of partners responded very good. 75% responded good.
 - For the common services provided overall, 25% responded very good. 62% responded good, the remaining responses were "I don't know". One response rated the storage services as poor.
 - For the level of value of the Logistics Cluster in partners' operational response, 37% responded extreme value. 63% responded much value.
- Through the user feedback survey, partners suggested to introduce field experts to present on their respective industries during the coordination meetings and requested more land transport capacities. The Logistics Cluster will take these suggestions into consideration to ensure all partner needs are met.
- Partners expressed a lack of clarity on the mandate of the Logistics Cluster. An updated Concept of Operations clearly outlining the capacities and services of the Logistics Cluster in Ethiopia will be shared with partners. Partners are also encouraged to reach out bilaterally with any concerns or suggestions they may have.
- Partners who have not done so yet are requested to complete the User Satisfaction Survey to provide feedback on Logistics Cluster support to their operations. The deadline has been extended to 8 January 2021. The survey has been shared via email and can be found [here](#).
- The new Logistics Cluster Coordinator will be joining next week's coordination meeting.

Meeting Minutes, 29 December 2020

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



The next Coordination Meeting is scheduled for 5 January at 11:00 EAT.

Contacts

Andrea Rosales	<i>Acting Logistics Cluster Coordinator</i>	andrea.rosales@wfp.org
Anne-Maud Drugeon	<i>Logistics Cluster Deputy Coordinator</i>	annemaud.drugeon@wfp.org
Robin Andrew	<i>Information Management Officer</i>	robin.andrew@wfp.org
Alia Zaki	<i>Information Management Officer</i>	alia.zaki@wfp.org