Background
The Logistics Cluster has been active in Iraq since 2014 to support the humanitarian community in responding to the country’s ongoing needs. Logistics constraints, mainly caused by limited access, an unstable security situation and damaged/destroyed infrastructure in affected areas, remain a leading cause triggering the need for Logistics Cluster intervention.

Since the operation to retake Mosul began in October 2016, the Logistics Cluster has significantly scaled up activities across the country, mainly in the Ninewa Governorate. During 2017, the cluster extended activities to cover the responses in Telafar, Hawija and West Anbar, and increased its involvement in access and importation issues surrounding the September Kurdish referendum. The Logistics Cluster has continued conducting a range of activities aimed at addressing bottlenecks and gaps to enhance the response capacity of the humanitarian community through the provision of logistics services, coordination and information management.

Highlights
- In December, the Logistics Cluster received for storage 2,353 mt, equivalent to 7,717 m³, of humanitarian relief items on behalf of seven organisations. As of 31 December, the Logistics Cluster is facilitating 24,200 m³ of common storage space in 16 locations in key operational areas for the use of humanitarian actors in Iraq.
- Two mobile storage units (MSUs) have been deployed to Anbar, one to Ana and one to Ramadi, as loans to individual organisations for their specific operational use.
- Throughout December and in response to changes in the operational environment, the Logistics Cluster worked with a number of cooperating partners on responsible exit strategies from the majority of the in-camp common storage facilities. Depending on the consolidation plans for each camp, the mobile storage units (MSUs) in place are either being dismantled and returned to stock, or loaned to individual organisations still in need of the facilities.
- The Logistics Cluster has been laying the groundwork for a dedicated project to enhance the customs clearance process for shipments entering federal Iraq, particularly through the Baghdad International Airport (BIAP).
- The Logistics Cluster and the Joint Crisis Coordination (JCC) centre have extended the One Stop Shop (OSS) for customs clearance within the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) for a further six months (until June 2018). In its first ten months, the OSS processed 933 requests, representing 10,433 mt of humanitarian cargo worth over US$ 133 million.

Coordination & Information Management
- Logistics Cluster coordination meetings were held in Baghdad, Dahuk and Erbil to discuss logistics bottlenecks, share information and develop common solutions for an improved humanitarian response.
- The Logistics Cluster has produced an interactive online map outlining key access elements, including border crossing points, inaccessible/alternative routes and bridges. This tool is regularly being updated with information received by different actors operating in the field, and has been accessed more than 900 times in the first two weeks since its release.

Contacts:
Cameron Kiss
Logistics Cluster Coordinator
cameron.kiss@wfp.org

Georgia Farley
Information Management Officer
georgia.farley@wfp.org