IRAQ
Operation Overview
February 2018

Background
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 also extended activities to cover the responses in Telafar, Hawija and West Anbar, and increased its involvement in access and importation issues surrounding the September 2017 Kurdish referendum.

Moving into 2018, the Logistics Cluster is working to implement a customs project in federal Iraq and to conduct intensive logistics trainings aimed at government and national actors, while continuing to enhance the response capacity of the humanitarian community through the provision of coordination, information management and logistics services.

Highlights
- In February, the Logistics Cluster received for storage 1,137 mt, equivalent to 5,121 m³, of humanitarian relief items on behalf of eight organisations. As of 28 February, the Logistics Cluster is facilitating access to 17,160 m² of common storage space in six locations in key operational areas for the use of humanitarian actors in Iraq.
- The Logistics Cluster has dispatched 100 plastic pallets to an NGO requiring additional capacity in Kirkuk.
- The Logistics Cluster met with a number of relevant stakeholders and assessed possible locations for two comprehensive logistics trainings planned for May and June 2018. The national Logistics Response Team training will be an intensive five-day simulation training where participants are required to set up an inter-agency logistics response. This will be followed by an Emergency Logistics Induction Training, four days of mostly theory-based sessions that outlines common bottlenecks, best practices, operational planning and warehousing in emergency humanitarian contexts. Both trainings will include operational decision makers from the government, NGOs and UN agencies operating in Iraq and across the region. These trainings are aimed at government capacity building and at developing links between government and humanitarian agencies.
- A team from Erbil represented the Logistics Cluster at the Ninewa Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) meeting held in Mosul in February. The cluster is working to get a comprehensive overview of warehouse availability in the area, as more organisations move their operations into the city proper. In addition, the cluster has reached out to all partners to update a Humanitarian Community Storage Capacity map, that will be used to encourage cooperation and the sharing of assets, as well as to support decision making regarding the provision of cluster services.

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.
- A new snapshot has been published highlighting the achievements of the One Stop Shop (OSS) for customs clearance throughout its first year of operation.
- In January, the OSS processed 53 clearance requests, representing 1,110 mt (USD 7,852,400) of humanitarian cargo.

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