Situation Update, 28 March 2019
Mozambique: Tropical Cyclone Idai

1. Situation Update

- As per satellite imagery from 25 March, flood water appears to be slowly receding. The main reservoir levels in central Mozambique (Zambezi, Buzi, and Pungwe river basins) remain on alert, along with the Cahora Bassa and Chicamba dams. Rainfall forecasts indicate scattered rainfall for Sofala and Manica provinces.

- According to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the risk of water-borne and vector-borne diseases remains very high and there are reports of increasing cases of acute diarrhea, along with reports of malaria.

- The Logistics Cluster has set up an information management/coordination platform in Chimoio where it facilitates access to common logistics services, including storage and transport. A Logistics Cluster meeting was held on Thursday 28 March to identify logistics gaps and needs from partners and available capacity.

- The Logistics Cluster has published Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for service provision (transport and temporary storage services). Service request forms are available on the Logistics Cluster website. Requests must be submitted at least 24 hours in advance. Cut-off time for requests is 14:00 for services to be provided the following day.

- Partners are encouraged to liaise with the respective cluster to find out about the list of priority destinations/sectors communicated by the National Institute of Disaster Management (INGC) on a daily basis before submitting the SRFs.

2. Logistics Infrastructure

Air operations

- WFP-contracted C-295 cargo plane carried 10 mt of cargo from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) from Maputo to Beira on 29 March.

- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the reception of cargo from partners at Beira airport, comprising of Non-Food Items (NFI), shelter, WASH and health relief items.

- The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) is making available two C-130 aircrafts to the humanitarian community to transport relief cargo from Maputo to Beira. The Logistics Cluster will be facilitating the transport and compiling of requests.

- The handling capacity at Beira airport is stretched. WFP, as global lead of the Logistics Cluster, has reached an agreement with a logistics company in Mozambique to assist with handling, loading and offloading activities at Beira airport. Partners are encouraged to share the pipeline of incoming cargo as well as cargo documentation with the Logistics Cluster to avoid creating bottlenecks and to facilitate offloading of cargo if required.

- WFP was loaned handling equipment from the UK’s Department for International Development (DFID) arrived to support and assist in efficiently managing the increasing operations at the airport due to an increase of humanitarian cargo. This equipment, along with staff (including trainers) arrived in Beira on 27
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March. The Logistics Cluster held a meeting with key actors involved in air operations to coordinate support activities.

Sea ports

- Beira, Maputo and Quelimane sea ports are operational.
- The Logistics Cluster conducted a mission to Buzi on 27 March to evaluate the accessibility of the affected areas by boat.

Road access

- The latest road access constrains map is available here.
- Partners reported that the road between Dombe e Espungabera is not passable.
- The Logistics Cluster conducted a road assessment on N280 road connecting Beira and Buzi. This road is not passable from Km25 to Km29 for trucks and light vehicles (even 4x4). It is passable only for motorcycles and bicycles.

Railway operations

- Railway services between Moatize (Tete province) and Beira are operational.
- The Beira-Chimoio railway services remain not functional. However, repair works have started on this line.
- The Machipanda line to Zimbabwe is operational.

Electricity

- Power services are functional in certain areas of Beira, including some hospitals. The national Mozambique power company (EDM) is working on restoring services in the affected areas and announced that the sub-station of Munhava, the main sub-station in Beira, is operational.

Storage

- As partners are identifying warehousing facilities available on the local market, the Logistics Cluster encourages partners to use local capacity available to ensure sustainability of services.
- The Logistics Cluster is facilitating 3 x 40” containers at Beira airport to ensure an efficient loading of helicopters.
- Three Mobile Storage Units (MSU) are also available for partners at the WFP warehouse with a total capacity of around 1,000 m².
- Logistics Emergency Teams (LET) partners have made available containers for the Logistics Cluster and can provide additional capacity if requested. The Logistics Cluster will facilitate access to these.
- In Chimoio, the Logistics Cluster is facilitating temporary storage services for partners.
- Interested partners in requesting storage services from the Logistics Cluster can refer to the SOPs available on the website.
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Fuel availability

- Stocks of Jet-A1 fuel are reported to be available in Beira, Tete and Quelimane. As there is no stock of Jet-A1 fuel in Chimoio, the Logistics Cluster is evaluating options to store drums.

Other

- Humanitarian partners have not reported any importation/customs constraints since the beginning of the emergency. Customs procedures are available on the Logistics Capacity Assessment and on the Cyclone Idai page of the Logistics Cluster website. The INGC is assisting organisations in fast-tracking relief items from customs at Beira and Maputo airports and sea ports. For more information please contact Erika Iglesias (erika.iglesias@wfp.org).

- The humanitarian community submitted a draft proposal for a blanket waiver to the Government of Mozambique to be applicable to relief items. An official update is expected in the coming days.

- Partners joining the operation in Mozambique are welcome to meet with the Logistics Cluster teams in Beira, Chimoio or Maputo to access the various information-sharing platforms to support coordination activities.

- A Logistics Cluster coordination meeting was held in Maputo on 27 March. The next meeting will be on 1 April at 9:00 at UNDP offices.

- The next Logistics Cluster coordination meeting in Chimoio will take place on 1 April at 08:30 at the Operations Centre (INGC).

- A Logistics Cluster coordination meeting was held in Beira on 27 March. Meeting minutes can be found here. Next meeting will take place on 29 March at 08:00 at the emergency operations centre at the airport in Beira.

Contacts

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https://logcluster.org/ops/cyclone-idai19