Operation Overview as of 15 May 2015

The Logistics Cluster, when activated in an emergency, is responsible for providing logistics coordination, information management; and, where there is a gap in logistics infrastructure, it acts as a ‘Provider of Last Resort’ by offering common logistics services to support the humanitarian community in their response operations.

Logistics Coordination, Information Management and GIS

- The Logistics Cluster was formally activated on 27 April.
- Logistics Cluster Cells have been established in Kathmandu, Deurali and Chautara. Meetings are held on a regular basis in all locations.
- Information is disseminated on a daily basis both through the mailing list of organisations on the ground and via the Logistics Cluster website. http://logcluster.org/ops/nepal
- The Logistics Cluster has a dedicated GIS officer able to take requests from the humanitarian community for any logistics mapping required. Relevant maps are available for download on the Logistics Cluster website, including a new road access map that will be continuously updated according to the changing situation.
- As of 14 May, over 189 participants from 97 organisations have attended coordination meetings in Kathmandu.

KTM Airport Capacity Augmentation

- From the start of the operation, the Logistics Cluster established regular coordination with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) to avoid logistics bottlenecks, and a representative has been made available to advise the humanitarian community on customs procedures in Kathmandu.
- To enable rapid rotations of aircraft on the landing strip, equipment including forklifts, tele-handlers and tractors have been deployed by DFID and IOM to enable faster offloading of humanitarian cargo. Shunting services are available from the Kathmandu International Airport (KTM) apron to the Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA).
Air Transport

- UNHAS currently has one Mi8 and one AS350 helicopter providing cargo and passenger transport for the humanitarian community. A second Mi8 is expected to be operational as of May 16.
- There is a high need for airlift in the Nepal response due to severe access constraints into many of the affected areas, and at present there is a substantial backlog of requests. In response, three additional Mi8s as well as one more AS350 have been deployed and are expected to be operational by the end of next week. These aircraft will be used for both cargo and passenger transport as well as assessment missions and emergency evacuations.
- As of May 15, UNHAS has airlifted essential humanitarian cargo to 18 different locations. 217 passengers have been transported on behalf of 14 organisations to 26 destinations.
- UNHAS has flown 170 sorties since the start of the air operation.

Civ/Mil Coordination

- The Logistics Cluster is facilitating cargo operations and providing logistics support through the deployment of Civ/Mil Coordinators in Kathmandu to liaise regarding the use of Civ/Mil assets on behalf of the humanitarian community.
- The Logistics Cluster is coordinating with partners for air transport provided by US Air Forces helicopters to deliver relief supplies. Destinations are based on needs.

Road Transport

- To augment transport capacity, a 25 truck fleet is available from Kathmandu for common cargo transport to the hubs and those affected areas that can still be reached by heavy vehicles. To date, 180 transports have taken place for 41 different organisations.
- 40 off-road trucks are positioned between the field logistics hubs of Deurali and Chautara.
- Additional means of transport into hard-to-access areas are currently being assessed, including the possible use of quad bikes or porters.
Storage

Humanitarian Staging Area - Kathmandu

- As part of the Logistics Response Plan drafted in 2013, WFP, as lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, established a Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA) as a contingency plan in the event of a natural disaster. This avoids congestion at the main entry points of affected areas and eases the flow of life-saving commodities during large-scale relief operations. 8 Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) are currently operational at this site.
- A storage facility in Deulikel (Kavre district) has been established to increase HSA capacity and offer longer-term storage for international air shipments before onward movement. Four MSUs are currently operational at this site.
- 5 MSUs have been provided to partners to assist with their logistics operations and one was given to a local orthopaedic hospital to increase their treatment facilities.
- As of May 14, 7,400 m3 of relief items (the equivalent of 180 full C130 aircraft) have been facilitated by the Logistics Cluster through the airport for 49 organisations.

Regional logistics hubs

- Staging areas and logistics hubs have been established at strategic locations in the affected areas where the road infrastructure still allows access by larger trucks, and which can also support local air operations to hard-to-access locations. These hubs currently include:
  - Chautara (Sindhupalchok district) - 4 MSUs;
  - Deurali (Ghorka district) - 4 MSUs;
  - Bharatpur, - 4 MSUs.
- Additional smaller hubs with storage facilities and helicopter landing pads will also soon be established.
- To date, relief items stored in the hubs have encompassed everything from shelter items, food and medical supplies to forklifts and generators on behalf of partners.