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, WFP, as lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, 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 in Nepal on 27 April 2015.
- Logistics Cluster Cells have been established in Kathmandu, Deurali, Chautara and Dhading Besi. Meetings are held on a regular basis in all locations in order to maximise the use of available resources, avoid duplication of efforts and allow an uninterrupted flow of relief material.
- 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](http://logcluster.org/ops/nepal).
- To date, 218 Information Management (IM) products have been published, and 22,989 unique users have visited the site, producing 22,644 page views. 787 users are currently subscribed to the dedicated Nepal mailing list.
- The Logistics Cluster has a dedicated GIS officer able to take requests from the humanitarian community for logistics mapping. Relevant maps are available for download on the Logistics Cluster website, including a road access map, a map of helicopter landing zones to assist air operations, and district trekking trail maps to facilitate porter operations and repairs.
- 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 in Kathmandu, to advise the humanitarian community on customs procedures.
- As of 2 September, over 300 participants from around 130 organisations have attended coordination meetings in Kathmandu, Deurali, Chautara and Dhading Besi.
- The Access Infrastructure Working Group has been established and endorsed by the Government of Nepal, as well as by the Inter-Cluster Coordination (ICC), the Humanitarian Country Team and the Logistics Cluster. The working group aims at gathering available information on rehabilitation projects for road, trails, bridges and suspension bridges both in the short and longer term timeframes and act as a focal point for organisations operating in this sector. If funds allow, repair work will be carried out on damaged roads and bridges in urgent need of rehabilitation and to re-establish access to communities in need.
Storage

- Current total storage capacity offered in country to the humanitarian community amounts to 9,640 m² in Kathmandu, Deurali (Ghorka District), Chautara (Sindhulpachok District), Bharatpur (Chitwan District), Dhulikhel (Kabhrepalanchok District), Bidur (Nuwakot District), Dunche (Rasuwa District), Charikot (Dolakha District) and Dhading Besi (Dhading District).

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. Eight Mobile Storage Units (MSUs), with a total storage capacity of 2,640 m², are currently operational at this site.
- A storage facility in Dhulikhel (Kavre District) has been established to increase HSA capacity and offers longer-term storage for international air shipments before onward movement. Four MSUs, with a total storage capacity of 1,280 m², are currently operational at this site. The hub is managed by Handicap International on behalf of the humanitarian community.
- 12 MSUs have been loaned to organisations and the Nepal government to assist with their logistics operations.
- To date, a total of 52,155 m³ (20,038 mt) of cargo has been handled through the Logistics Cluster on behalf of 143 different 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 - 1,120 m² storage capacity;
  - Deurali (Gorkha District) - 5 MSUs - 1,920 m² storage capacity;
  - Bharatpur (Chitwan District) - 4 MSUs - 1,280 m² storage capacity;
  - Bidur (Nuwakot district) - 1 MSU - 320 m² storage capacity - Managed in collaboration with Handicap International;
  - Duncne (Rasuwa District) - 1 MSU - 280 m² storage capacity - Managed in collaboration with Handicap International;
  - Charikot (Dolakha District) - 2 MSUs - 480 m² storage capacity - Managed in collaboration with Plan International;
  - Dhading Besi (Dhading District) – 1 MSU – 320 m² storage capacity - Managed in collaboration with Plan International.

**Road Transport**

- Over 6,800 truckloads have been dispatched from Kathmandu, Deurali, Charikot, Dhading Besi, Bharatpur, Chautara.
- The fleet in Kathmandu currently consists of five four-wheel-drive trucks, three mini-trucks six-wheelers and three six-wheelers with 10 mt capacity.
- A total of 46 two and four-wheel drive trucks and tractors are available for transport from the hubs.
Air Transport

- Given the geographical location of Nepal, air transport remains the only option to reach many of the most remote areas of the country. The Logistics Cluster coordinates cargo movement requests to be transported by UNHAS. Prioritisation for airlifts is taking place in line with the list of priorities established by the Humanitarian Country Team and the Humanitarian Coordinator in accordance with the mandate of the common services.
- Despite delays and cancellations of flights due to adverse weather conditions caused by the monsoon season, between the beginning of the operations on 29 April and 30 August, UNHAS has carried out a total of 3,382 sorties to 144 different locations, transporting 1,782 mt of cargo on behalf of 153 organisations.
- As of 1 September, UNHAS temporarily interrupted its services. As soon as funding administrative matters are resolved, the services will resume with three Mi8 and one AS350 helicopter operating under a partial cost-recovery system.
- Costs for the user organisations are expected to be as follows: 1 USD per kg of cargo and 200 USD per passenger.
Remote Access Operation (RAO)

- In the framework of the Remote Access Operation (RAO), that is providing last mile transport into otherwise inaccessible and high altitude locations, the goal of the Logistics Cluster is to provide essential supplies to the most remote locations in Nepal, many of which lie above the altitude of helicopter access. Furthermore, rehabilitation works will take place on the main artery trails that remain the lifeline of these communities, thus swiftly reopening market access. The operation will not only provide immediate essential supplies to sustain people through the monsoon season that has now begun, but also to provide livelihood support and help move these stricken areas towards recovery much faster than could otherwise take place.

- The districts currently targeted by RAO are Gorkha, Dhading, Rasuwa, Sindhupalchok and Dolakha.

- WFP, as lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, is working with the Trekking Agencies’ Association in Nepal (TAAN) and the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) to mobilize porters in order to reach people living in the most remote affected areas. Using up to 20,000 porters (approximately 4,000 in each of the five target districts) a common logistics supply chain is being established to bring food, shelter, sanitary health and medical supplies to population in need, living in villages located above the altitude of road access or in areas with a lack of safe landing zones. These skilled personnel are carrying up to 30 kg per person at a time, to strategic locations along the main trekking trails. The porters are being supported with pack animals where local conditions permit it.

- As of 31 August:
  - 100,412 people are now accessible through trails opened by RAO.
  - 45,940 people were reached with relief via RAO.
  - 14,570 people have been employed by RAO.
  - 722 km (177 trails) have been rehabilitated and re-opened.
  - 261 km (68 trails) are currently under rehabilitation.
  - 368 mt of cargo has been delivered, 288 mt of which were food items and 66 mt Non-Food Items (NFIs).