Operation Overview as of 15 October 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, 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.
- Logistics Cluster Cells have been established in Kathmandu, Deurali, Chautara, Charikot 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, 322 Information Management (IM) products have been published, and 7,444 unique users have visited the site, producing 24,451 page views. 783 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 15 October, over 300 participants from around 130 organisations have attended coordination meetings in Kathmandu, Deurali, Chautara, Charikot and Dhading Besi.
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 (Kabhirepalanchok District), Bidur (Nuwakot District), Dunche (Rasuwa District), Charikot (Dolakha District) and Dhading Besi (Dhading District).
- A total of 1,200mt of cargo is currently stored across the nine Logistics Cluster warehouses.

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 m³, are currently operational at this site. The hub is managed by Handicap International on behalf of the humanitarian community.
- 12 MSUs have been provided to organisations and the Nepal government to assist with their logistics operations.
- To date, a total of 64,899 m³ (28,522 mt) of cargo has been handled through the Logistics Cluster on behalf of 151 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;
  - Dunche (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 8,000 trucks and tractors have been dispatched from Kathmandu, Deurali, Chautara, Charikot and Dhading Besi.
- Road transport with both origin and destination in the six priority districts of Gorkha, Dhading, Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Sindhupalchok and Dolakha continues to be provided free of charge.
- In light of the adequate commercial capacity available on the market in Kathmandu and other main areas, road transport outside of the six priority district van be provided by WFP on a full cost-recovery basis as of 01 October.
Air Transport

Given the peculiar geographical conformation 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 under the list of priorities established by the Humanitarian Country Team and the Humanitarian Coordinator in accordance with the mandate of the common services.

Current UNHAS assets include one AS350 helicopters for assessment missions and evacuations (max 4 passengers) and three Mi8 helicopters (2-2.5 mt cargo capacity) for cargo transport.

Services have been provided free of charge to the whole humanitarian community until 31 August. However, due to severe funding constraints, and following the suggestion of donors, UNHAS started implementing a partial cost-recovery system since 01 September. Under this system, the cost for the utilisation of air transport services provided by UNHAS is USD200 per person per leg and USD1 per kg of cargo moved.

Between the beginning of the operations on 29 April and 12 October, UNHAS has carried out a total of 4,156 sorties to 173 different locations; 3,183 passengers have been moved and 2,225mt of cargo have been transported on behalf of 116 organisations.
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 not only to provide essential supplies to the most remote locations in Nepal, many of which lie above the altitude of helicopter access, but also to rehabilitate 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.
- As of 12 October:
  - 77,747 people were reached with relief via RAO.
  - 20,085 people have been employed by RAO.
  - 783km (189 trails) have been rehabilitated and re-opened.
  - 75 km (13 Trails) are currently under rehabilitation.
  - 789mt of cargo has been delivered, 394mt of which were food items and 394mt Non-Food Items (NFIs).