

Background

Since late February 2014, the Pakistan armed forces have intensified their military offensive against armed groups with strongholds in the North Waziristan region of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). This offensive, preceded by the breakdown of peace talks between the Government of Pakistan and Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), has resulted in increasing population displacement in this area.

According to Pakistan's Inter-Services Public Relations office (ISPR), logistics and administrative arrangements for IDPs are being made by the Political Administration and Disaster Management Agencies and a registration centre for the displaced has already been established at Saidgi in neighbouring Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Province. While the situation remains fluid, recent reports indicate displacement of some 500,000 people. An official IDP camp has been established at Bakka Khel, but threats are forcing displaced families to seek refuge in neighbouring Bannu (KP) and further afield in Lakki Marwat, Tank and D.I.Khan. Additionally, an exodus of approximately 981 families has been reported in neighbouring Khost Province in eastern Afghanistan.

Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks

Initial assessments, subsequent to interagency logistics meetings held in Islamabad on 18 June 2014 between WFP, a wide range of humanitarian partners and local authorities, have established the following gaps and needs for the humanitarian response to the IDP operation:

1. Gap: Lack of interagency logistics coordination for NWA humanitarian response.
Need: Effective logistics coordination and augmentation efforts in support of humanitarian actors and the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP).
2. Gap: Insufficient storage capacity and interagency cargo tracking system.
Need: Augment existing warehouses in Peshawar and D.I. Khan, and establish a new logistics hub in Bannu. Establish Relief Item Tracking Application (RITA)¹.
3. Gap: Lack of coordinated transport support.
Need: Provision of a logistics coordination platform and an information management (IM) system through the establishment of a provincial, interagency logistics center in Peshawar alongside hubs in Bannu and D.I. Khan.

¹ <http://logcluster.org/cargo-tracking>

Objectives

To provide strategic operational support to all humanitarian actors in order to ensure humanitarian access to the affected population is improved.

Planned Activities

The following range of activities and services are not intended to replace the logistics capacities of individual agencies or organisations, but rather to fill identified gaps in the humanitarian supply chain and supplement the response of the humanitarian community through the provision of common services, based on need.

The Pakistan Provincial Logistics Cluster aims to augment the humanitarian community's capacity to deliver life-saving and life-sustaining relief assistance to the most affected populations in the areas of displacement in a rapid and coordinated manner. Based on the above, the following list of Logistics Cluster activities, neither definitive nor exhaustive, aims to mitigate the gaps identified above:

1. Coordination: The Logistics Cluster will facilitate regular coordination meetings with the humanitarian community and government counterparts to share information on the logistics situation, bottlenecks, gaps and records of decisions taken. The following coordination services will be provided to minimise duplication.

- The Provincial Logistics Cluster Coordination Cell will be activated in Peshawar/KP with a dedicated Logistics Cluster Coordinator who will ensure coordination of the logistics response in support of the humanitarian community and PDMA, FDMA, DDMA's.
- The Logistics Cluster may also conduct coordination meetings in Islamabad if the situation requires it.

2. Information Management: The Logistics Cluster will provide information management services with the aim of supporting operational decision making to improve the efficiency of the logistics response to the IDP operation. These services will include:

- Consolidating information from the humanitarian community and local authorities on the overall logistics situation, including logistical gaps and bottlenecks.
- Provision of updated operational information, such as road conditions, warehouses and customs procedures as well as the publication of SitReps, bulletins, snapshots, flash news and briefings.
- The Logistics Cluster will develop information management capacity, which will include a dedicated Information Management Officer who will be based in Peshawar.
- Provide a platform for the sharing and dissemination of logistics information at <http://www.logcluster.org>, as well as through a targeted email circulation list.

This Concept of Operations is a live document and the activities will be adapted and revised as the situation unfolds and further assessment results become available, including the possible provision of additional logistics common services as required by the humanitarian community.

- A dedicated operation page will be available on the Logistics Cluster website to disseminate vital information products to the humanitarian community (<http://www.logcluster.org/ops>)
- The Logistics Cluster will provide logistics related Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and mapping tools and products. Mapping products will include, but are not limited to, general maps, road accessibility maps, and maps of logistics infrastructure.

3. Logistics Services: The services made available by the Logistics Cluster are not intended to replace the logistics capacities of the agencies or organisations, but rather to supplement them through the provision of common services. Access permitting, the following services may be provided at no cost to the user, or on a partial/full cost-recovery basis, depending on the availability of funds.

Warehousing and Land Transport

- Augment two pre-existing WFP warehouses, Peshawar and D.I. Khan, for temporary storage of relief items belonging to humanitarian responders.
- Establish a new warehouse in Bannu by installing four mobile storage tents capable of storing 2,000 MT of bagged items, or 1,296 m³ of non-food relief items.
- Temporary storage services will include handling, consolidating and tracking systems through the Relief Items Tracking Application (RITA).
- In case of critical need, and upon request, the Logistics Cluster may coordinate and support land transport services for the delivery of urgent relief items to affected areas.
- Subject to the situation, the Logistics Cluster may also be called on to support humanitarian convoys in NWA.

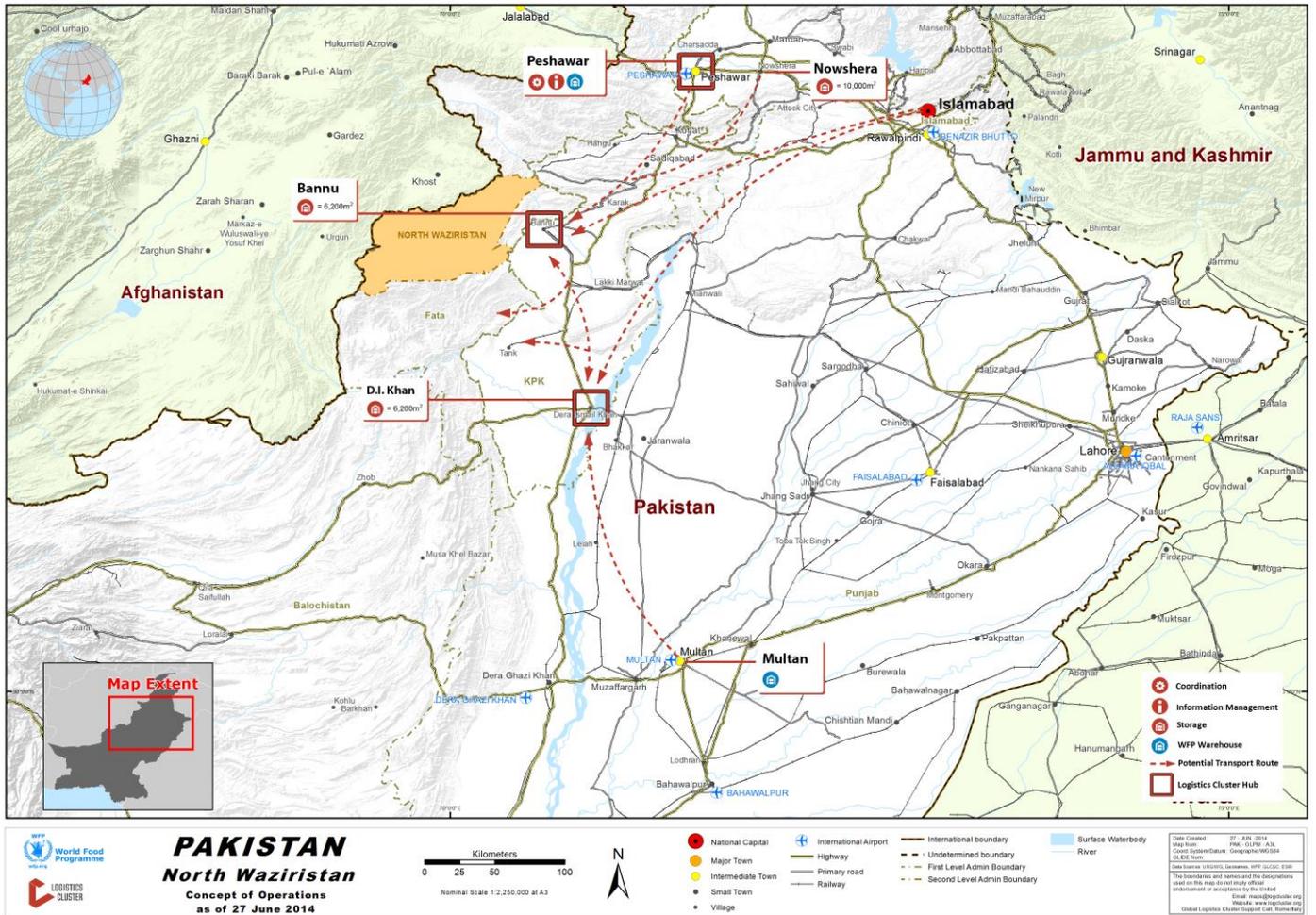
All cargo transported and stored will be handled according to the priorities set by the Humanitarian Country Team.

This Concept of Operations will be updated as the situation on the ground evolves. The services outlined above are expected to be offered for a limited period of time. The duration for the provision of these services will be dependent on the situation on the ground, operational needs and funding.

As “Provider of Last Resort” (PoLR) WFP, through the Logistics Cluster, is responsible only to provide logistics services that fill identified gaps in logistics capacity, where access and funding permit and where these gaps limit the ability of the humanitarian community to meet the needs of the affected population.

This Concept of Operations is a live document and the activities will be adapted and revised as the situation unfolds and further assessment results become available, including the possible provision of additional logistics common services as required by the humanitarian community.

Annex I ConOps Map



This Concept of Operations is a live document and the activities will be adapted and revised as the situation unfolds and further assessment results become available, including the possible provision of additional logistics common services as required by the humanitarian community.