

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 displaced persons (DPs) 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 neighboring Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Province. The Pakistan National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) have verified 52,986 DP families. An official IDP camp has been established at Bakka Khel, but the TTP has issued threats to people attempting to stay there forcing displaced families to seek refuge in neighboring Bannu (KP) and further afield in Lakki Marwat, Tank and D.I.Khan. Additionally, an exodus of approximately 981 families has been reported in neighboring Khost Province in eastern Afghanistan.

Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks

Initial assessments, subsequent to interagency logistics meetings held since 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 the 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.

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

Need: Provision of a logistics coordination platform and an information management (IM) system through the establishment of a provincial, interagency logistics centre in Peshawar alongside operational hubs in Bannu and D.I. Khan.

4. Gap: Lack of dedicated capacity to manage unsolicited bilateral donations (UBDs).

Need: Technical support and 'last mile' trucking capacity to manage the re-packaging, onward distribution and accountable tracking of UBDs to humanitarian distribution partners.

Objectives

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. Logistics Cluster activities will include:

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 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 Government Disaster Management Agencies.
- 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.

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- 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.

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 and manage a dedicated Logistics Cluster warehouse facility in Bannu and coordinate with Logistics Cluster partners to identify and utilize storage capacity as a common facility on behalf of the humanitarian logistics community.
- Temporary storage services will include handling, consolidating and tracking commodities 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, including where necessary, unsolicited bilateral donations (UBDs) for distribution by humanitarian partners as selected by the Food Security Cluster.
- Subject to the situation, the Logistics Cluster may also be called on to support humanitarian convoys in NWA.

Geographic Information Systems

- 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, maps of logistics infrastructure and road distance matrices.

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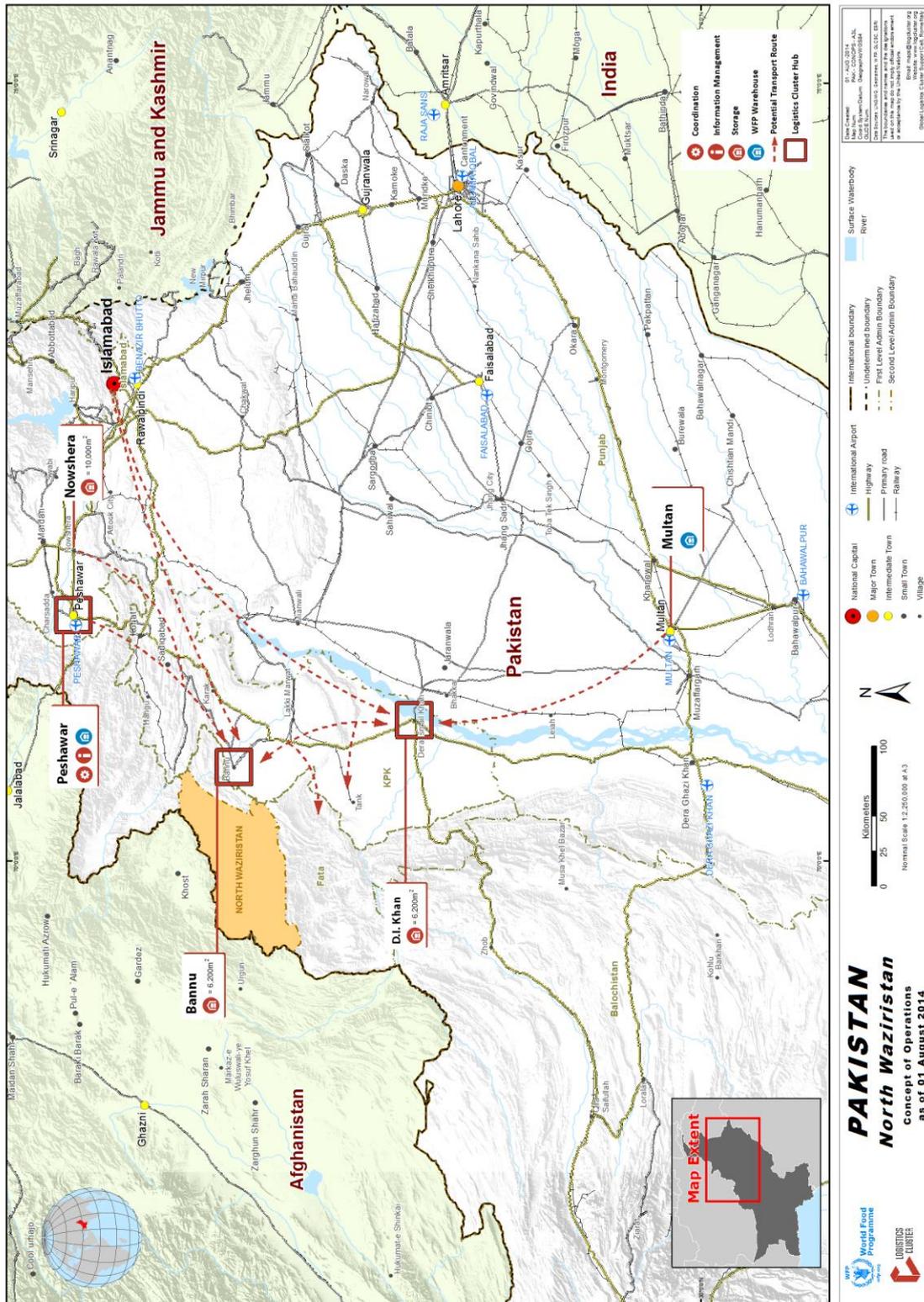
All cargo transported and stored will be handled according to the priorities set by the Humanitarian Country Team.

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.

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Annex I ConOps Map



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