LOCATION
Cox’s Bazar - WFP Meeting Room

DATE
16 March 2020

CHAIR
Logistics Sector

PARTICIPANTS

ACTION POINTS
- Partners to share information/content on contracting and managing locally hired trucks for the fleet management training course.
- The Logistics Sector to follow up with the WASH sector coordinator on sanitation item stocks and storage needs.
- The Logistics Sector to obtain a supplier overview of the general situation for the supply of sanitation items in the national market.
- The Logistics Sector to stand by ready to maintain, adapt and possibly expand common logistics depending on the needs, as the government and the humanitarian community study their COVID-19 contingency plans.
- The Logistics Sector to re-share WHO request to partners for PPE (i.e.: Personal Protective Equipment) stocks information.
- Partners are requested to share experiences, constraints and points of interest in procurement of common items from the national market, for relevant WASH and medical consumables (Non medicine).

AGENDA
1. Logistics Sector Updates
2. Covid-19 Preparedness
3. AOB

1. Logistics Sector Updates

- Medical Commodity and Warehouse Management training planned in mid-April is postponed until further notice.
- Partners are requested to share information/content on contracting and managing locally hired trucks for the fleet management training course.

https://logcluster.org/sector/bang17
• Common storage space currently available in Madhu Chara Logistics Hub: 550m³; in Balukhali Logistics Hub: 60m³; and in Teknaf Logistics Hub 300m³.

2. Covid-19 Preparedness

• A WHO-team briefed partners on ongoing preparation measures:
  • Various plans are in progress through WHO/ISCG and Preparedness working group, currently still in ‘no cases in camps’ planning phase.
  • WHO has now realigned its scenarios with the four phases defined by the Government. These phases include:
    o **Country Level 1:** No case is detected in the country; During this level, no lab-confirmed case is detected in Bangladesh.
    o **Country Level 2:** Only imported cases but no local transmission; during this level only imported case(s) is/are found; no local transmission has occurred.
    o **Country Level 3:** Limited local transmission; when few clusters are identified with 10 or less lab-confirmed cases in each cluster.
    o **Country Level 4:** Widespread local transmission; when there is an increased number of clusters with more than 10 cases in each cluster.
    o **Declining Phase:** Decreasing trend within the country; when the incidence of disease starts to decline.
    o **Post Epidemic/Pandemic Recovery:** Infection within the country ceased to occur and the World Health Organization (WHO) declares that the pandemic is over.
  • Types of priority commodities required in large quantities in a phase four response include health/medical items, WASH/sanitation items and infrastructure items.
  • The health sector reported that in terms of infrastructure required, they are mainly focusing on patient isolation spaces and treatment units. Although government and health sector infrastructure are already in place in most locations, there may be an increase in temporary need for expanded hospitals and isolation posts in a phase four scenario. Since building materials and tents can be obtained nationally, it is unlikely that international procurement would need to be initiated for these commodities.
  • WHO is in the final stages of mapping existing partners’ PPE stocks (i.e.: non – medicine preventative materials required for staff and the population). 13 responses have been received to date, however, more responses are required to develop a comprehensive understanding of stock levels. Partners in possession of PPE stocks who have not yet responded are requested to respond.
  • The PPE stocks mapping shows sufficient quantities are available for the time being, but shortages are anticipated during a phase four scenario. Partners seeking guidance on what type of items to procure for the response may use the WHO list for their planning purposes, to determine items in line with their specific programmes.
  • WHO has reported shortages of health items in the local and national market. According to them, it is important to be flexible with product specifications in the event of shortages. For example, soap or chlorine solution could easily serve as a substitute for hand sanitizer.

https://logcluster.org/sector/bangl17
• Larger agencies such as WHO and IOM are moving forward with the initiation of worst-case no-regrets procurements of required materials.
• Partners will be responsible for increasing their health item stocks, as WHO will not be able to assist with procurement and supply.
• There is a consensus amongst the partners that the local Cox’s Bazar market has dried up with regards to sanitation items. The local market price of hand sanitizers has already increased, in some cases by 400%. Although the national market is still active, it is experiencing government restrictions on quantities that can be obtained in order to ensure that the products reach the most vulnerable communities. The international market may experience delivery delays due to the global demand for the same products and national import procedures/restricted items list.
• It is recommended for partners to share procurement planning or coordinate large scale procurements with other partners to avoid competition and duplication. Partners’ stocks of WASH/sanitation items are being mapped by the WASH sector which will assist in estimating overall procurement needs. This activity is considered urgent as price increases and shortages in the national market are anticipated.
• In the phase four scenario heavy camp access restrictions will likely be put in place. Supply and logistics must be considered a priority activity in any response planning, to allow for delivery and management of response materials.
• Anticipating supply chain disruptions and shortages on market, the forum of partners present recognizes the need to call forward any Health/WASH items in their pipelines, and plan/initiate urgent procurements for a phase four scenario.

3. AOB

• UNHCR raised potential issues related to AIT (Advance Income Tax) and international sourcing and importations. Partners represented in the meeting had not faced such problems for the time being as most of the procurement is done locally.
• The QUAMED meeting is scheduled to be held 18 March 2020. The meeting is targeted to the medical logistician who has an interest in the outcome of the QUAMED medicines quality assessment.

The next Logistics Sector Coordination meeting will be held on Monday, 30 March 2020 at 11:00 in the WFP Meeting Room, Cox’s Bazar

Contacts

Cameron Kiss    Logistics Sector Coordinator   cameron.kiss@wfp.org
Priya Pradhanang Information Management Officer   priya.pradhanang@wfp.org
Ashim Shrestha   Logistics Officer- Operations Support   ashim.shrestha@wfp.org
Sahand Tahir    Information Management Officer (GIS and Assessment)   sahand.tahir@wfp.org
Srabasti Sarker    Information Management Associate   srabasti.sarker@wfp.org

https://logcluster.org/sector/bangl17