Background
The Logistics Sector Nigeria provides support to the Government-led coordination of the humanitarian logistics response in north-eastern Nigeria by facilitating access to common logistics services, maintaining regular bilateral and collective engagement in an open forum for discussing and addressing logistics issues as they arise, as well as providing guidance on, and promoting, joint inter-agency logistical planning.

March Highlights
- In March, the Logistics Sector facilitated the storage of 2,109 m³ (596 mt) of humanitarian relief items at the four common storage sites in Maiduguri, Monguno, Ngala and Banki on behalf of 15 organisations.
- The Inter-Agency Logistics Base in Maiduguri (2,460 m²) is managed by Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) on behalf of the Logistics Sector, and is utilised by 30 humanitarian organisations. In March, the base also facilitated the consolidation of 5.7 m³ (4.3 mt) of air cargo in coordination with UNHAS on behalf of six organisations to 11 locations.
- The common storage site in Banki (480 m²) is currently managed by INTERSOS and is being utilised by five organisations; the site in Monguno (1,280 m²) by Solidarites International (SI) and utilised by six organisations; and the site in Ngala (880 m²) by eHealth Africa and utilised by seven organisations.
- The preparations to establish common storage sites in additional locations (Damasak, Dikwa, Bama and Rann) are ongoing, however the site in Rann has been delayed due to increased security restrictions. The sites in Dikwa and Damasak will be managed by ACTED, in Bama by INTERSOS, and in Rann by eHealth Africa.
- The Logistics Sector continued to support the Civil/Military coordination (CMCoord) mechanisms established by OCHA in facilitating cargo movements and coordination of military escort arrangements where required.
- In March, the Logistics Sector team conducted three field missions. The first was conducted to gather detailed information on food quality and safety in Kano. The following two were to Ngala and Banki as part of a comprehensive audit activity aimed at enhancing the management of the common storage facilities, as well as the accuracy and effectiveness of the Logistics Sector cargo tracking and reporting.
- The Logistics Sector held two trainings in March with 35 participants from 13 organisations. The first was a GPS training that included theoretical and practical sessions on setting up and using a GPS unit, and using GPS on mobile devices. The second was familiarising partners with the Relief Item Tracking Application (RITA), which is used to track all cargo being stored or transported through the Logistics Sector in Nigeria.
Coordination & Information Management

- Two bi-monthly coordination meetings were held in Maiduguri and one in Abuja, with 38 participants representing 21 different organisations. The Logistics Sector also held a dedicated meeting with partners in Maiduguri to discuss anticipated issues regarding the upcoming rainy season. Areas likely to be the worst affected were identified and mitigation measures, along with organisations’ requirements for warehousing and prepositioning, were discussed.

- Furthermore, a number of bi-lateral meetings were held throughout March; one with Solidarites International to discuss the developments of the common storage site in Monguno, which they are managing on behalf of the Logistics Sector; one with the Secretary of the Borno State Road Maintenance Agency (BORMA) to receive updates on road rehabilitation plans; and one with Premiere Urgence Internationale and ACTED to further discuss the management of the Inter-Agency Logistics Base in Maiduguri and the common storage sites in Dikwa/Damasak respectively.

- The Logistics Sector attended several inter-agency meetings: Information Management Working Group, the Humanitarian Coordination Working Group meeting at the Emergency Coordination Centre (EC) in Abuja, and the weekly Civil/Military Coordination (CMCoord) Forum, all co-chaired by OCHA; the HQ Theatre Command’s CMCoord meeting, and the monthly CMCoord conference chaired by the Nigerian Armed Forces.

- The Logistics Sector provided feedback to the ‘North-East Nigeria-specific guidelines on the interaction and coordination between HCT and Nigerian Armed Forces’, drafted by the Civil/Military Working Group, which is co-chaired by OCHA.

- Throughout March, the Logistics sector facilitated 423 humanitarian cargo movement requests on behalf of 19 organisations, representing 1,319 trucks, out of which 807 required a military escort.

- Since September 2016, 23 Logistics Sector maps have been published and 817 map print-outs delivered to partners.

- Through its mailing list, the Logistics Sector communicates with humanitarian actors involved in the emergency response and serves as a repository of inter-agency logistics information and knowledge. In March, the list had 322 subscribers from various UN agencies, NGOs, Government representatives and donors.

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