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.

With the end of the rainy season in October, road access to some of the key operational areas has markedly improved, although some localised security and access challenges remain. The Ngala-Rann road remains closed due to floods, tentatively until mid-January. Despite restricted access to Rann, some supplies continue to get through by using smaller vehicles. The Logistics Sector continues to work closely with military commanders in Ngala and Rann, and local partners on the ground, to actively monitor the access situation and humanitarian needs in Rann and elsewhere.

December Highlights

- In December, the Logistics Sector facilitated the storage of 2,200 m$^3$ (600 mt) of humanitarian relief items at the three common storage sites in Maiduguri, Monguno and Banki on behalf of 18 organisations. The Inter-Agency Logistics Base in Maiduguri (2,460 m$^3$), which is managed by Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) on behalf of the Logistics Sector, facilitated also the consolidation of 10 m$^3$ (4 mt) of air cargo in coordination with UNHAS on behalf of 8 organisations to 8 locations. The common storage site in Banki (240 m$^3$) is managed by INTERSOS, while the site in Monguno (1,280 m$^3$) is managed by Solidarités International (SI).

- A mission was conducted to Banki to assess the management of the common storage site. A new plot of land was identified next to the planned IOM-led Humanitarian Hub. Once the construction of the hub is complete, the common storage site will be shifted from the military compound to the new location adjacent to the Humanitarian Hub.

- A mission was conducted to setup a prefabricated office for the planned common storage site in Ngala (640 m$^3$). The Logistics Sector facilitated also a training on Relief Item Tracking Application (RITA) for eHealth Africa staff who are going to manage the common storage site. A construction team completed the requested revisions of MSU upgrades.

- INTERSOS, who already manages the common storage site in Banki, has been selected for the management of the future common storage site in Bama. An MoU will be signed for an initial period of 5 months, starting on 1 February 2018. A mission to Bama was conducted to assess the plot of land identified for a setup of the common storage and a meeting was held with the Bama LGA Secretary in Maiduguri in order for site preparations to start in January 2018.

- The Logistics Sector supports the Civil/Military coordination (CMCoord) mechanisms established by OCHA in facilitating cargo movements and coordination of military escort arrangements where required. In December, the Logistics Sector facilitated 843 truck movement requests carrying relief cargo, of which 336 were with an armed military escort, on behalf of 20 organisations. This also requires close coordination with the Nigerian Union of Road Transport Workers which provides a shared vehicle recovery service on certain routes as mandated by the Nigerian Armed Forces. In response to a deteriorated security situation on the Dikwa-Ngala road, the Logistics Sector is working to strengthen the cooperation and engagement between humanitarian actors and military counterparts, to ensure timely availability of information and clarifications on events/incidents occurring on the ground.

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• The Logistics Sector participated in two joint inter-agency missions:
  o An OCHA-led road mission to Tanguushe in order to assess the reports of increasing population displacement along the Maiduguri / Monguno axis and enable sectors to assess the locations for a roll-out of a larger strategy in early 2018.
  o A joint, inter-agency scoping mission to assess the proposed site for the Humanitarian Hub in Damasak with MSB and UNDSS. The aim was also to build a strong relationship with the local Garrison Commander and meet with the local community leader.

Coordination & Information Management
• One coordination meeting was held in Maiduguri, with 15 participants representing 12 organizations.
• The second round of consultations for all sector coordinators with their respective line Ministries was held at the Government’s Emergency Coordination Centre in Abuja. The Logistics Sector met one of its focal points from the Ministry of Interior for the endorsement of the 2018 Logistics Sector section of the Humanitarian Response Plan.

• Logistics Sector staff participated in an Emergency Response Preparedness training in Abuja from 12 to 14 December, which was organised by the WFP Regional Bureau in Dakar.

• Logistics Sector attended several inter-agency meetings: RRM meeting, Access Working Group, Inter-Sector Working Group, Humanitarian Hub Task Force, weekly Civil/Military Coordination Forum, all chaired by OCHA; as well as the weekly technical Humanitarian Hub meeting, chaired by IHP/MSB, the monthly CMCoord conference chaired by the Nigerian Armed Forces and the UNHAS User Group meeting, chaired by UNHAS.

• Since September 2016, 17 Logistics Sector maps were produced and 719 map print-outs have been 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 December, the list had 241 subscribers from various UN agencies, NGOs, Government representatives and donors.

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