Background

The Logistics Sector Nigeria provides support to the Government-led coordination of the humanitarian logistics response in north-eastern Nigeria. It supports the Humanitarian Community 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.

Security risks along main supply routes and poor road infrastructure, combined with the scale of the need, have created a significant strain on the logistics capacity of humanitarian responders in the affected states Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states. While the road access to some of the key operational areas is improving with the end of rainy season, some further localised security and access challenges are likely to develop as the military activity may increase in dry season.

October Highlights

• In October, the Logistics Sector facilitated the storage of humanitarian relief items at the Inter-Agency Logistics Base in Maiduguri, managed by Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) and at the common storage site (1,280 m²) in Monguno, managed by Solidarités International (SI). The facility in Maiduguri includes a timber shed (170 m²), a dedicated temperature-controlled storage area (150 m²) and a kitting area (675 m²). A training room, which will be available for use to all partners, is under construction.

• The Logistics Sector organised a coordination meeting in Monguno, co-chaired by Solidarités International, to raise partners’ awareness about the opening of the common storage site.

• The preparations to establish the common storage sites in Banki (280 m² to be managed by INTERSOS), Ngala (640 m² to be managed by eHealth Africa), Damasak and Dikwa (both sites to be managed by ACTED) are ongoing. The readiness of the sites is further delayed due to poor quality of work that require additional remedial actions as well as bad performance and unreliability of the hired construction companies.

• In October, the Logistics Sector team conducted three assessment missions to discuss storage needs for Non-Food Items (Bama), review the progress of Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) upgrades and discuss escorts issues for humanitarian convoy movements with the military (Banki), and further assess the land identified for the setup of three MSUs (Rann).

• A prefabricated office has been established for the Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) in Ngala. ETS is working to establish vital connectivity and security telecommunications services in North-East Nigeria for shared humanitarian use.
The Logistics Sector supports the Civil/Military coordination (CMCoord) mechanisms established by OCHA by facilitating cargo movements and coordination of military escort arrangements where required. In October, the Logistics Sector facilitated 990 truck movement requests carrying relief cargo, of which 537 were with an armed military escort, on behalf of 21 organisations. This also required very 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.

The Logistics Sector facilitated a GPS training on 26 October: 16 participants from 13 organisations (COOPI, CRS, eHealth Africa, FHI360, IHP/MSB, INTERSOS, Malteser International, MSF Spain, Oxfam, Save the Children, WFP, WHO, ZOA) were trained in using handheld GPS units.

Delegations from DFID UK and ECHO visited the Inter-Agency Logistics Base in Maiduguri. A tour of the facility was given and new developments such as the timber shed, kitting area and training room explained. Moreover, a Canadian Delegation was on a short visit in Maiduguri and was briefed, among other topics, on the Logistics Sector activities in Borno State.

Coordination & Information Management

- Three coordination meetings were held, two in Maiduguri and one in Monguno, with an average attendance of 10 different UN agencies and NGOs participating.
- The Logistics Sector participated in several inter-agency coordination meetings, including: the Inter-Sector working group, the Civil-Military Forum, the Civil-Military Working Group, the Rann coordination meeting, the Humanitarian Hub Task Force, the Humanitarian Access Working Group, HRP-related training on how to use the new response plan indicator/monitoring tool - all organised by OCHA.
- A GIS Officer from iMMAP (stand-by partner) joined the Logistics Sector team for a period of six weeks, to support mapping, data collection and GPS training for partners. Access to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)/mapping tools and products is being facilitated and is available to organisations upon request. Since September 2016, 16 Logistics Sector maps were produced and 669 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 October, the list had 245 subscribers from various UN agencies, NGOs, Government representatives and donors.

Logistics Sector Contacts

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