OVERVIEW

- The Government of Nigeria continues to lead the emergency response. On 27 September 2016, an Inter-Ministerial Task Force was created and has assigned responsibility for specific Sectors to a named Minister. For the Logistics Sector, it is the Minister of Interior.

- The WFP-led Logistics Sector group is supporting relief efforts with logistics coordination, information management, and service facilitation on behalf of the Humanitarian Community. A Logistics Response Team, which was deployed from 20 to 30 August 2016, had identified these needs together with humanitarian actors and government entities already working in the response.

- WFP issued Special Operation (SO) 201032 ‘Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Sector Coordination and Services to augment the Humanitarian Response in Northeast Nigeria’ on 07 November 2016 for a period of six months and a budget of USD 1.3 million for the logistics component of the project. The SO already underwent a budget revision in December 2016 in order to extend it until the end of 2017; activities were adjusted according to additional needs identified by participants of the Logistics Sector 2017 Strategy Workshop that was held in Maiduguri on 12 November 2016. The new budget is USD 4.2 million for the logistics component.

- Funding: The logistics component of the SO (USD 4.2 million) is currently 50% funded thanks to contributions received from USAID/OFDA and the German Foreign Office. Additional funding is being sought from ECHO.

- The 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan by the Humanitarian Community and the Government of Nigeria was launched in early December 2016. The logistics section includes UNHAS and highlights a financial requirement of USD 12.2 million.

LOGISTICS SECTOR ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

Coordination: to minimize duplication of efforts

- The Logistics Sector provides support for government-led coordination and to the Humanitarian Community by maintaining a forum for discussion and addressing logistics issues as they arise; by providing logistics guidance and advice; and by promoting joint planning. As an example, a Customs workshop was held for partners in Abuja on 15 December 2016, which was co-chaired by UNICEF and WHO. 27 colleagues from 11 organisations were briefed on challenges/bottlenecks, waiver issuance process, customs clearances and lead times.

- Logistics Sector coordination meetings take place every two weeks in Maiduguri. Between August 2016 and January 2017, 14 meetings were held with an average of 15 different UN agencies and NGOs attending.

- In addition, Logistics Sector interests are being represented in other fora, such as the Inter-Sector Working Group chaired by OCHA, the Humanitarian Access Working Group chaired by OCHA, and the Medical Supply Chain Working Group, co-chaired by the Ministry of Health and WHO.

- The Logistics Sector supports the Civil/Military coordination mechanisms established by OCHA. This includes the consolidation of cargo movement requests and escort requirements on behalf of the Humanitarian Community. This activity started in November 2016 and since then, the Logistics Sector has facilitated 805 truck movements carrying relief cargo, out of which 534 with military escort, on behalf 7 organisations.

Information Management: to support operations and decision-making

- The Logistics Sector provides support to the Government of Nigeria and the Humanitarian Community with updated information on the operating environment. Regular information products include fortnightly
coordination meeting minutes, updates on market capacity for transport and storage, infrastructure and access updates, as well as operational briefs.

- Access to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)/mapping tools and products is being facilitated and is available to organisations upon requests. Since August 2016, 14 Logistics Sector maps were produced and another 17 maps made available through OCHA. 334 print-outs were delivered so far to partners.
- Through its mailing list the Logistics Sector communicates to actors involved in the emergency response and serves as a repository of logistics information. The list has 155 subscribers from various UN agencies, NGOs, Government representatives and donors.
- Another established information sharing platform to disseminate relevant and up-to-date logistics information to the humanitarian community is the dedicated Nigeria Operation webpage on the Logistics Cluster website: http://www.logcluster.org/sector/ngr16a

Service Provision - temporary storage: to supplement existing capacity

Maiduguri

- In response to the need for augmented temporary storage, the Logistics Sector has been working with INGO Première Urgence International (PUI) to identify an inter-agency storage facility and cargo consolidation base in Maiduguri, to facilitate the movement of relief cargo to the affected population.
- A Service Level Agreement between WFP and PUI was signed on 24 November 2016, in order for PUI to manage the site on behalf of the Logistics Sector. Partners agreed to this in a Sector meeting convened on 01 November 2016. Services are provided on a free-to-user basis.
- This facility (approx. 1500 m² / 4500 m³) has been operational since 14 December 2016 and is located opposite the WFP warehouse complex. 60% of the volume of the warehouse is already filled. Therefore, two Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) will be set up in early February to increase storage capacity (640 m² / 2240 m³) and cater for the growing needs.
- Five organisations are currently using the site: DRC, NRC, IOM, WFP and WHO/Ministry of Health, in order to cope with their operational scale up in Borno State.
- The use of the site is for temporary/transit storage only – maximum 3 months – and not for any long-term use. Non-Food Items will be stored there. Rehabilitations for future temperature controlled storage is ongoing.
- The Logistics Sector provided the SOPs and implemented the corporate tool ‘Relief Item Tracking Application’ (RITA) for consignment reporting. PUI is providing casual labour for truck on/offloading and also registration for all incoming and outgoing goods, as per their management of the warehouse.

Outside Maiduguri

- Following a recommendation from the Inter Sector Working Group and the Government of Nigeria, the Humanitarian Country Team determined the gradual establishment of Humanitarian Hubs in Borno State. These hubs will provide a common base of operations for humanitarian actors present in selected areas with critical enablers, including security, radio, internet, office space, accommodation, as well as logistics support and warehousing. Furthermore the hubs will provide a unified framework for coordinating the overall assistance.
- A ’2017 Logistics Sector Strategy Workshop’ was held in Maiduguri on 12 November 2016, in which participants also identified the need for common storage sites outside Maiduguri.
- The Logistics Sector procured 20 MSUs from the UNHRD in Accra. The status of setting these up as temporary storage in field locations for the Humanitarian Community is as follows: two in Ngala (set up), two in Gwoza (one set up; one deployed); one in Dikwa (planned), two in Monguno (planned) and two in Pulka (planned). Prepositioning of life-saving relief items will be crucial as more locations are reachable and before the rainy season, when main roads are cut off.
- The Logistics Sector is encouraging a common approach for storage in hard to reach areas and will empower partners already present in those locations to manage logistics hubs on its behalf. Therefore, the Logistics
Nigeria

Sector is looking for (I)NGOs who are willing to manage shared temporary storage sites in key locations, according to their logistics capacities to scale up and in field implementation.

- MSUs are also being made available on loan to organisations requesting additional storage space outside the humanitarian hubs. So far MSF-B, MSF-F, MSF-E, DRC, Christian Aid, and Mercy Corps have expressed interest.

**NEXT STEPS**

**Access**
- The volatile security situation and ongoing military operation make it difficult to organize properly movements of cargo and personnel, therefore delaying interventions.
- Humanitarian access issues, cargo and staff movement plans, and requests for military escorts are being addressed at the weekly Civil-Military Coordination Forum, which take place at the Theatre of Command in Maiduguri.
- The Logistics Sector is planning to take over the humanitarian access mapping from OCHA starting February 2017.
- The Logistics Sector team is still looking to recruit a dedicated Civil/Military Liaison Officer to support the overall Civil/Military coordination, which is becoming more and more critical with new accessible areas.

**Temperature-controlled storage**
- As the need for temperature-controlled solutions in inter-agency storage facilities is escalating, further investment in generators, isolation units for MSUs and refrigerators, as well as customized containers is required, especially for medical items and specialised nutritious food. The Logistics Sector is planning to procure this equipment and support rehabilitation in collaboration with Health Sector partners.
- Also in close collaboration with the Health Sector, efforts are underway to refurbish two warehouses operated by the Nigerian National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in Maiduguri, which will have to be upgraded to accommodate Government pharmaceutical commodities.

**Logistics Sector Contacts:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logistics Coordinator</td>
<td>Incoming Feb 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roving Logistics Officer</td>
<td>Armand Adon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:armand.adon@wfp.org">armand.adon@wfp.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Management Officer</td>
<td>Katja Hildebrand</td>
<td><a href="mailto:katja.hildebrand@wfp.org">katja.hildebrand@wfp.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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