Meeting Minutes, 13 February 2020
Harare, Zimbabwe

LOCATION: Harare, Zimbabwe
DATE: 13 February 2020
LEADS: GLC, WFP (DoCP unavailable)


AGENDA
1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Overview of GLC supported Logistics Preparedness Project
3. Round table discussion logistics challenges, needs, current activities
4. WFP update
5. Way forward

OUTCOMES
1. Formation of a Working Group (essentially a National Logistics Cluster)
2. Identification of the immediate logistics issues and needs
3. Agreement for formation of sub working groups for:
   - Warehousing
   - Fuel
   - Import Clearance and Govt licences
   - Flood preparedness and prepositioning
   - Transport
   - Health logistics

1. Welcome and Introduction

The GLC representative welcomed the participants and explained that this new working group was replacing the UN led Logistics Cluster which is now closed. The working group will be co-led by the Department of Civil Protection (due to the exceptional circumstances of the Binga flood, the Civil Protection Department representative was not present at this meeting and sent his apologies), WFP Supply Chain and a GLC representative.

The group is:
- led by national government and partners to address national issues according to context.
- addressing the immediate needs as well as preparing for future events such as floods and next year’s anticipated lean season.
- outcome and action focused.

Participant details will be captured in a contact list and distributed.
2. Overview of GLC supported Logistics Preparedness Project

The GLC gave a quick overview of:

- The mandate of the Logistics Cluster (where operations play a central role), the reasons for which it was closed and will remain as such.

- How the GLC is now supporting an eighteen months nationally led and driven Logistics Preparedness Project to strengthen the local logistics capacity, reduce the need for international support and reach beneficiaries quicker. The methodology includes:
  - Developing the working group.
  - Holding a workshop including all relevant government participants, UN, partners, and private sector to identify needs based on recent and current responses
  - Developing an action plan with activities and identify lead agencies to address the logistics gaps and needs
  - Appointing a national staff member to work with the Government to implement the plan.

- The recognition that current logistics coordination and information sharing needs are required.

- How, if immediate activities are identified, these may be initiated before the finalization of the action plan (with the support of the Government, and if funding can be found).

- It was later clarified the WG is essentially a National Logistics Cluster that is supported by GLC for 18 months and then solely continued by the Department of Civil Protection.

3. Round table discussion logistics challenges, needs, current activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHALLENGES</th>
<th>NEEDS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finding short term storage space in districts</td>
<td>Warehouse/temporary warehouses in districts (high priority)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Custom clearance processes and import delays at borders</td>
<td>Enhancement of import clearance processes (medium priority)</td>
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<td>Food delivery delays due to access issues, security, unreliable suppliers and transporters.</td>
<td>More reliant transport services (medium priority)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Procurement issues due to unreliable suppliers, stock levels and fluctuating prices</td>
<td>Improved access to fuel (high priority)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuel shortages/access</td>
<td>Standardised/ fixed pricing/ reliable contracts for warehousing, transport and suppliers (medium priority)</td>
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<td>Rains/Floods – no storage, unload, offload, and access issues</td>
<td>Prepositioning before floods (medium priority)</td>
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<td>Transport delays, supply chain limitations/bottlenecks,</td>
<td>Budget for flood season preparedness</td>
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<td>Logistics information sharing/ materials/training</td>
<td>Engage local communities for temporary storage options</td>
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<td>Map relief items and warehouses in country</td>
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- Cash based transfers/ payment/ limited mobile network in districts
- Inflation costs in all aspects of supply chain
- Poor information dissemination to communities.

**CURRENT PARTNER ACTIVITIES**
- UNICEF developing a workflow for import clearance
- WFP and IRC working on fuel contingency plans
- IRC and OXFAM working with BoM on flood mapping and early warning activities
- WVI delivering Warehouse management training.

**RELEVANT EXISTING CLUSTERS/WG’s**
- Food Security Cluster
- Procurement WG
- Cash WG

4. **WFP update**

WFP faces the same challenges outlined in the group discussion. WFP is responding to the current drought through its Lean Season Assistance in both rural and urban areas with food support with a target to reach 4.1 million people.

- **WAREHOUSING** – WFP is assessing buildings in the districts of target populations. It was suggested to propose to the community to utilise current structures such as community buildings for temporary storage if possible. WFP is also procuring MSUs for temporary storage for EPD’s. WFP may be able to facilitate the purchase of MSUs through UNHRD but partners will need to provide the funding.

- **SUPPLIERS** – Local suppliers are currently unreliable in both stock availability and pricing due to inflation. To close the gaps, suggestions were to meet the supplier, insist on seeing the product before signing any contract (to ensure that they have it), and to work with a combination of local and international suppliers to ensure effective sourcing of products.

- **TRANSPORT** – WFP stated that there is sufficient road transport available for partners to contract. WFP has been assessing and contracting more last mile transport providers with relative ease. WFP will share their Transport Shortlist. However, WFP encouraged partners to seek their additional transport capacities from more suppliers. The WFP shortlist does not reflect the market capacity, but it is made up of those suppliers who responded and met WFP requirements/criteria for contracting, so the list is not exhaustive.

- **FUEL** – WFP has a supplier on contract to provide fuel for both WFP needs WFP as well contracted transporters. However, this does not guarantee fuel will always be available. A strategy to have a contingency stockpile is needed to ensure distributions to beneficiaries can continue during shortages.

- **IMPORT CLEARANCE** – WFP encourages partners to meet with the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA) and all the other agencies/stakeholders involved in the importation of goods into the country at border offices to build relationships and determine exactly what documents and licences are required to clear supplies with minimal delays.
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- BUDGET – WFP encourages the participants to make sure that they take inflation, storage needs, etc. are considered in their next budget.

5. Way Forward

Sub working groups and members were identified to begin working on planning and tools for priority issues:

- **Warehousing** – WFP, UNICEF, WVI, Zimbabwe Council of Churches, HOCIC, EFZ, IRC
- **Fuel** – WFP, IRC, WHO, GOAL, Zimbabwe government and private sector
- **Import clearance and Govt licences** – UNICEF, WFP, FAO, EFZ, ADRA, WVI, GOAL, OXFAM, UNFPA, Govt,
- **Flood preparedness/prepositioning** - Oxfam, IRC, UNICEF, Red Cross, ADRA, ZCC, Zimbabwe government
- **Transport** – WFP, ADRA, EFZ, GOAL NAZ, CRS CBM, private sector
- **Medical Logistics** – UNICEF, WHO, Zimbabwe government.

Relevant line ministries and government department to be engaged by working groups with proposals, rather than individual agencies taking up time with meetings.

The Zimbabwe LCA will be updated with relevant new information submitted by agencies and working groups. This will be partners first point of call for local logistics information.

There is a large Logistics Preparedness Workshop which is planned for March including Line ministries, UN, partners, sub national government, and private sector.

- **PROPOSED. Next meeting**
  - 2 March 2020
  - Adoption of the name “Zimbabwe National Logistics Cluster”
  - Start with updates and then break into working groups to work on planning.

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