Background

Following the establishment of solid foundations for the regional Logistics Cluster work in the Pacific in 2016, the cluster’s strategic objective for 2017 is to work towards logistics self-sufficiency within national capacity and strengthen the effectiveness and efficacy of international support. Much progress has been made in the first quarter of 2017 towards achieving this strategic objective. A summary of the progress of the project and project highlights can be found below.

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Project Highlights

Unsolicited Bilateral Donations (UBDs)
- A global UBD network featuring the Pacific project was created at the HNPW in Geneva in February.
- An FAQ document was created concerning UBDs in the Pacific. This was then translated into French to support the Madagascar cyclone and in Spanish for the ongoing floods in Peru.
- Terms of reference have been created for the regional UBD working group and for the UBD communication strategy sub-working group. The first meeting was held at the end of March.
- A first draft of a regional Communications strategy regarding UBDs is being finalised.

Standardisation
- WFP continues to collect the different specifications and terms used by various agencies for their relief items, in order to create a register of specifications which will enable further discussions. Organisations that have their own specifications and have not yet shared them are invited to do so.

Stockpile Mapping and Information Sharing
- Progress has been made on mapping tools moving towards establishing a digital platform through the Global Logistics Cluster website, as well as with regional private sector partners and OCHA.

Training and Simulations
- Training Needs Assessments (TNAs) have been undertaken in Samoa and Fiji, completing the three others undertaken in 2016 in Vanuatu, Solomon and Tonga.
- Progress has been made on the Pacific Emergency and Response Logistics (PEARL) project. The Registered Training Organisation (RTO) is in the process of compiling and contextualizing humanitarian agencies logistics trainings currently underway.

http://www.logcluster.org/preparedness/pacific-0
Shared Warehousing and Prepositioning

- A proposal was submitted to donors to trigger the construction process of three warehouses in the region: Port Vila and Santo in Vanuatu, and Suva in Fiji. The construction will start once management mechanisms in each location have been agreed upon.
- A tender to identify Preliminary Assessment engineering companies was finalised in Vanuatu. The contracts to engage the process are being finalised.
- WFP is participating in the Global Emergency Supplies Prepositioning project led by OCHA, with the support of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The project works towards the creation of an algorithm to support decision-making on maximising efficiency as to where stock should be prepositioned.
- Additional discussions on this matter were held with Oxfam New Zealand and private sector actors, to develop tools aimed at defining quantities to be held utilizing computerized scenarios.

Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCAs)

- The LCAs for Tonga and Solomon Islands updated and published
- The LCA for Fiji finalised and in the process of being published
- The LCA for Vanuatu being finalised

Coordination & Information Management

- A draft concept note was sent to the CAN-DO network to discuss how to work with the Logistics Cluster on logistics matters. Areas discussed included the coordination of mapping available assets.
- A one day workshop was held between WFP and the IFRC to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen coordination on logistics matters. The MoU is being drafted and will focus on issues such as LCAs, Standardisation, Training, strengthened Communication, peer-to-peer support, and prepositioning strategies.
- Invitations to the second Regional Logistics Cluster (and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster) workshop have been sent. The workshop will be held from 12 to 17 June 2017 in Vanuatu.
- A Pacific Region operations page has been created here on the Global Logistics Cluster website, and a Pacific Region page created on the Global Logistics Cluster preparedness platform (under development – accessible here).
- The 2016 Pacific Logistics Preparedness Infographic is available here

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