Project Highlights

Coordination

- As per the revised 2018 Pacific Logistics Cluster strategy, the second subregional workshop was held in Tonga in November. The week-long event brought together 40 participants from countries across the Polynesia sub-region including Tonga, Samoa, Cook Islands, Tuvalu and Tokelau. Regional representatives from Fiji, Australia and New Zealand were also present. The following objectives were achieved during the workshop:
  - Identification of the similarities and differences in risks, challenges and operating environments of each attending country, strengthening collaboration amongst responders, and ensuring better targeted support at the regional level.
  - Increased engagement and dialogue between responders at all levels, nurturing synergies between agencies and partners, and promoting discussion on common areas of interests and potential support.
  - The opportunity for participants to apply their skills, knowledge and lessons learned during a simulation exercise.

- A full workshop report will be published on the Pacific Logistics Cluster webpage in January 2019.

- National Logistics Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are being developed by Tonga’s National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) following a joint NEMO/WFP Lessons Learned workshop held in Nuku’alofa in October.

- Consultations have begun in Vanuatu to also develop National Logistics SOPs. Lessons Learned from the emergency evacuations of Ambae Island (following the Manaro Voui volcano eruption), as well as challenges faced during past South Pacific cyclone seasons will be discussed in-depth during the consultations.

- The Samoa Logistics Unit is in the final stages of endorsing the country’s National Logistics SOPs. This follows a National Logistics Workshop in May and extensive consultations through 2018. A simulation exercise is planned in Samoa in Q1, 2019.

- As cited in the Q3 Pacific Logistics Cluster report, WFP and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) have signed an agreement aimed at supporting capacity building initiatives for National Red Cross Societies across the Pacific region. As part of the agreement, the project’s first intern began in November, and has undertaken extensive work to create a consistent template for National Red Cross Societies and partners to document emergency relief item stock holdings.

- Jenna Lusaka was appointed Logistic Coordinator for the WFP Pacific office.
Trainings and Simulations
- Trainings on the newly released stockpile mapping tool, PALM, continued over the final three months of the year. National trainings took place across Tonga and Vanuatu. A training was also delivered during the Polynesian subregional workshop, boosting user numbers and capturing stockpile data for three additional countries – Tuvalu, Tokelau and Cook Islands.

Information Management
- The Palau and Cook Islands Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) has now been uploaded. Updates to the Samoa LCA have also been uploaded on the online platform. LCAs are now available for nine Pacific Island Countries.
- Funding was received to begin development of the MODER (Matching of Donations) platform. The platform aims to address one of the three pillars for the overall UDB project. WFP Pacific Office will continue work with Australian Private Sector firm, Yume, on the development of the technology throughout Q1. For more information please contact Jenna Lusaka.
- Communications strategies for UBD messaging have been developed at the national level across the Polynesia region. This follows the successful endorsement and implementation of messaging in Samoa during 2018.

Throughout 2018, several Pacific Logistics Cluster preparedness initiatives continued to gain momentum, with noted developments and achievements across provincial, national and regional levels. As can be seen, some activities across the four projects are either ongoing or could not be started due to a lack of resources. An annual infographic is being prepared and will be circulated as a summary.

As we look towards 2019, Pacific Logistics Cluster activities will continue to centre on localisation and sustainability within an empowered-focused framework. This approach seeks to promote longer-term actions and ensure responders at community, provincial and national level have the tools, resources and knowledge to prepare for and respond to disasters effectively.

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