Quarterly Update, [OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2022]

KENYA Preparedness

Highlights

- Reconstitution of government departments and agencies following the general elections in August 2022 completed across many counties and national government.
- Successful on-boarding of the National Preparedness Officer (NPO) following conclusion of the recruitment process and resumption of technical guidance discussions on the Institutional Capacity Strengthening Framework by Global Logistics Cluster (GLC)/Field-Based Preparedness Project (FBPP) teams.
- Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting convened in November 2022 to discuss the project progress and plan for resocialization of the new county executives on the project initiatives.

Background

Kenya continues to be exposed to a broad range of hazards, both man-made and natural. Whilst the most common disasters are hydrometeorological (floods and drought), others may occur such as geomorphic and geo-tectonic, technological, and epidemic disasters. Their magnitude and frequency, aggravated by climate and man-made factors, have become more severe in the recent past, strongly impacting lives and livelihoods. It is estimated that three to four million Kenyans are affected by disasters disrupting livelihoods and resulting in liabilities exceeding USD 500 million annually.

The recently concluded long rains assessment (LRA) estimated that nearly 3.5million[1] Kenyans mostly located in the arid counties, need immediate food assistance. Further, more than 900,000 children under five years old require nutrition treatment for acute or severe acute malnutrition. The number of people in need of food assistance is projected to grow further in the coming months given the failed long rains seasons, shocks on the global supply chains for cereals and fertilizer occasioned by the conflict in Ukraine, soaring inflation and the persistent waves of COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, the Government of Kenya and stakeholders at national and county level – including WFP Kenya – are implementing various emergency response activities in the country ranging from food distribution, cash transfers and water trucking to affected communities.

The Logistics Cluster Field-Based Preparedness Project is centred on strengthening national supply chain resilience, enhancing coordination between stakeholders, and promoting a common methodology towards logistics preparedness. The core concept of logistics preparedness is to support local and international stakeholders before an emergency occurs. This is best achieved by working together to identify and address systemic challenges in local supply chain systems in a sustainable way, driven by national government. Globally, the project promotes a common framework. At the national level, this framework is tailored to each country's unique operational context.

In the fourth quarter of 2022, the newly elected national and county governments focused on reconstitution and reorganisation of ministries, departments and agencies. This extensive exercise resulted in a new set of government counterparts in Garissa County, but there were no adverse changes in Tana River. The project TWGs in both counties are planning resocialization to the new executives in January 2023, following which project implementation is expected to advance rapidly.

Coordination

- Technical Working Group Meeting convened in November 2022. The meeting attended by county stakeholders from Government departments, NGOs and WFP representatives provided a platform for discussing project progress and priorities for 2023.

[1] Government of Kenya: THE 2021 SHORT RAINS SEASON ASSESSMENT REPORT.
Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG), February 2022

- Coordination meetings with the GLC desk officer held consistently through the period to address all aspects of project implementation.
- Co-funding discussions with Kenya Country Capacity Strengthening and Supply Chain Managers concluded to facilitate project continuity and integration with broader Supply Chain and Logistics Capacity Strengthening activities.

Information management

- The Kenya Project channel is updated with all reports relevant to the project, accessible to all stakeholders on need basis.
- Kenya web page on the GLC website went live in November 2022. The website is available on the link Kenya | Logistics Cluster Website (logcluster.org)

Advocacy

- Project advocacy activities are prioritized along with sensitization of new executives later in January 2023 for both Tana River and Garissa Counties.
- Internally, continuous engagement with relevant managers – Supply Chain and Capacity Strengthening – is a priority. This has resulted in strategic and technical level alignment and enabled co-funding from the country office for some activities that are mutually prioritised.

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