
Current Context

- El Niño and La Niña are important natural water temperature oscillation phenomena that represent two of the main climate drivers impacting East African weather adversely. While La Niña brought severe and prolonged drought from 2020-2022, El Niño often results in heavy rainfall in the East Africa region.
- The conjunction of El Niño and a positive Indian Ocean Dipole phenomenon will result in a rare weather event, characterized by above-average rainfall with a high likelihood of flooding in riverine areas and flash flooding in other parts of Somalia.
- In response to the flood risk in Somalia, the Logistics Cluster is contributing to the OCHA-led Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan to address the likely operational requirements and logistics challenges induced by the El Niño floods.



Operational Highlights

Coordination

- The Somalia Logistics Cluster support team convened two National Logistics Cluster Coordination meetings on 12 and 26 September 2023.
- The Somalia Logistics Cluster support team, in collaboration with the “IMPortation and Customs Clearance Together” (IMPACCT) initiative, remains at the forefront of the Import and Customs Clearance Technical Working Group in Somalia. Throughout September, the Somalia Logistics Cluster support team, IMPACCT and the Technical Working Group worked together to prepare for the Import and Customs Clearance Workshop, scheduled to take place from 15 to 18 October 2023. The objective of this workshop are to:
 - Emphasize the importance of collaborative inter-agency efforts and highlight the benefits of a well-coordinated approach to streamline customs clearance processes for humanitarian aid and emergency shipments.
 - Engage in discussion about the primary challenges recognized by the humanitarian community and government entities, particularly those that act as bottlenecks in the process.
 - Facilitate the identification of potential solutions that can be put into action, taking into consideration the distinctions between humanitarian aid and trade-related imports.
 - Oversee the implementation of recommendations within the framework of the national mechanism designed for the coordination and facilitation of humanitarian aid imports.
- The expected outcome of the workshop are:
 - Gaining a better understanding of the roles fulfilled by various government entities engaged in the importation of humanitarian aid into Somalia.
 - Acquiring a better understanding of the procedures and regulations set forth by cross-border agencies.
 - Strengthening comprehension of the challenges confronted by both humanitarian organizations and government entities in import and customs clearance processes.
 - Formulating a clear roadmap for the implementation of the recommendations and potential solutions identified during the workshop.

- The Somalia Logistics Cluster support team facilitated a ‘Basic Humanitarian Logistics Course’ in Mogadishu on 12 and 13 September 2023. The training covered important topics including procurement, transport, warehousing, and inventory management. It took place in Mogadishu and brought together a total of 20 participants representing diverse humanitarian organizations such as UNFPA, FAO, WHO, GREDO, Islamic Relief, SOS, ACF, Concern, Medair, Somalia Red Crescent, Trocaire, and World Vision.



Information Management

- Throughout September 2023, the Logistics Cluster published six information products, including meeting minutes, maps and situation updates on the [operational website](#). The key products were:
 - Meeting minutes from the Logistics Cluster National Coordination meetings, which were held on [12 September](#) and [26 September](#).
 - The monthly operation overview for [August 2023](#), providing an overview of key Logistics Cluster highlights under Coordination, Information Management and Common Services.
 - The monthly operation overview infographic summarising key achievements of the Logistics Cluster in [August 2023](#)
 - Weekly joint market and supply chain updates, monitoring the market price variations among different products across different regions (42 locations) and providing analytical insights to humanitarian logisticians.
 - The monthly fuel report for [August 2023](#), a document that analyses the trends in fuel prices across the various regions and also provides an overview of the evolution of jet fuel prices.
- In addition to the regular weekly and monthly reports, the Somalia Logistics Cluster support team revised the [Concept Note of Operations \(CONOPS\)](#) in close coordination with its partners. This CONOPS serves the purpose of a well-defined and all-encompassing strategy that outlines the Logistics Cluster’s operational framework for the upcoming year.
- Moreover, in collaboration with its partners, the Logistics Cluster has revised the data for the warehouse capacity map and the tax exemption tracking sheet. Both assessments will be made available in October.
- Finally, the Somalia Logistics Cluster support team is currently in the process of conducting a Gaps and Needs Assessment (GNA). The objective of the GNA is to:
 - Evaluate and provide insights into the existing logistics challenges encountered by the humanitarian community.
 - Determine the support that the Logistics Cluster can provide to the humanitarian community based on the identified gaps.

Common Logistics Services

- Since 02 September 2023, humanitarian partners have been unable to transport humanitarian commodities from the Mogadishu airport. This is because humanitarian organizations were informed of the implementation of a new fee

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structure at Mogadishu airport, which mandates that humanitarian partners pay a fee of 1.05 USD per kilogram for cargo transported from Mogadishu airport, regardless of the cargo type. This directive led to the suspension of humanitarian cargo flights operated by commercial actors. The entity responsible for implementing this new fee structure remains is still to be appointed.

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