
Highlights

- The Zimbabwe National Logistics Sector for logistics preparedness and response continued to meet fortnightly over quarter at the request of partners.
- Humanitarian Import Clearance Guidelines were developed.
- Disaster warehousing with flood overlay were developed to identify risk areas and gaps in emergency warehousing in preparation for flood and lean season.
- Health Logistics Rapid Assessment guidelines were created to assess logistics gaps and needs for health emergencies, with the anticipated COVID-19 vaccine in mind.

Background

Following the support for Cyclone Idai, a joint Scoping Mission between the Global Logistics Cluster (GLC) and the World Food Programme (WFP) Zimbabwe Country Office Supply Chain Unit was conducted from 30 October to 1 November 2019 to introduce and layout the groundwork for the rollout of the Preparedness Project in Zimbabwe. The Scoping Mission team met with the Department of Civil Protection (DoCP), various United Nations (UN) and INGO/NGO actors, national societies and the private sector.

Emergency Preparedness is one of the core objectives of DoCP that they would like to strengthen and integrate to other ongoing humanitarian activities. As such, DoCP was keen to see the Preparedness Project rolled out in Zimbabwe as soon as possible.

A Logistics Preparedness Expert was deployed to Zimbabwe late January 2020 to set up the project foundations of a National Logistics humanitarian Sector for the government, the national stakeholders and the private sector. Under the lead of DoCP, a gap analysis and action planning workshop was scheduled for early April with 76 participants, including 15 line ministries, sub national representatives, humanitarian agencies representatives and private sector representatives. The aim of this workshop was to identify key gaps, strengthen the logistics emergency response in Zimbabwe and develop an action plan to enhance national capacity.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in line with WHO's directives and the social distancing regulations, the workshop has been postponed until it was safe to convene. DoCP has requested the Workshop planning to resume during the end of October 2020.

Coordination

- The Zimbabwe National Logistics Sector continued to meet fortnightly over the last quarter to continue preparedness work and to share information and constraints on the COVID-19 emergency response.

- With a reduction in some COVID-19 restrictions, the project is coordinating with the Department of Civil Protection to support logistics capacity building for flood preparedness and lean season next quarter. Three activities are scheduled for October, one being the Logistics Preparedness workshop. The re-convening of the workshop is at the request of DoCP to better engage Provincial government and Line Ministries on preparedness, as this is challenging online.

Contacts

Patricia Thornhill

Logistics Preparedness Expert

patricia.thornhill@wfp.org

Penny Chikumba

National Preparedness Officer

penniless.chikumba@wfp.org