

Highlights

- The first Provincial Humanitarian Logistics Preparedness Workshop (PHLPW) in Cambodia was conducted in Siem Reap between 8-9 February 2021 for 55 participants across Government agencies from eight provinces, NGOs, UN agencies, Red Cross and the private sector. The PHLPW, chaired by the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), led to the action plan outlining humanitarian logistics gaps and actions proposed by the participants.
- The Preparedness Expert finished her mission in February 2021 and has handed over the Field-Based Preparedness Project tasks to the National Emergency Preparedness & Response (EPR) Officer who will continue supporting national disaster management organisation as well as national and sub-national partners in enhancing humanitarian logistics preparedness capacity in country.



The first Provincial Humanitarian Logistics Preparedness Workshop was held in Siem Reap in February 2021.

Background

Based on risk indices and national-level logistics performance and capacity indicators, in 2018 Cambodia was identified as one of 24 country candidates for the Global Logistics Cluster's Field-Based Preparedness Project ("the Project"). The primary aim of the Project is to support and empower national actors to strengthen their capacity to autonomously prepare for and respond to humanitarian crises. A key element of this is the facilitation of a coordinated approach towards improving the resilience of local humanitarian supply chains and supporting effective information exchange between the government, national actors and the private sector, to ensure all actors are well prepared for joint humanitarian logistics responses. In the event of a large-scale disaster event and should the Government of Cambodia request international humanitarian assistance, the Global Logistics Cluster capacities can support national actors in facilitating a coordinated response.

In March 2020, a Preparedness Expert was deployed to Cambodia to commence the process of mapping national logistics capacities and identifying existing national disaster management structures and frameworks. She has worked with national responders to augment information sharing and exchange and provided technical support and guidance towards establishing a coordinated and localised approach to humanitarian logistics preparedness activities.

Cambodia is exposed to yearly recurrent floods that place rural population and their agriculture-based livelihoods in significant risk. In October 2020, Cambodia experienced severe flooding as a result of multiple tropical storms in the

South China Sea, affecting 800,000 persons over 19 provinces. With key infrastructure damaged and multiple donations received, the importance of the National Committee for Disaster Management's coordinating role, to secure rescue and delivery of relief items in the government assistance efforts to the provinces affected, was manifested.

Cambodia is further exposed to extreme weather events triggered by El-Niño causing severe drought. The hottest year recorded in 2016 triggered drought that was described by Prime Minister Hun Sen as the "worst natural disaster occurring in Cambodia in 100 years".

Coordination

- Following severe flooding in October 2020, the **importance of logistics preparedness and the coordinating role of the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)** in enhancing rescue and delivery efforts was demonstrated. This led to the initiation of the **first Provincial Humanitarian Logistics Preparedness Workshop** in Siem Reap on 8-9 February 2021. Led by NCDM and attended by 55 participants across Government agencies from eight provinces, namely Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, Kampong Thom, Oddar Meanchey, Pailin, Preah Vihear, Pursat, and Siem Reap), NGOs, UN agencies, Red Cross and the private sector, the workshop aimed to enhance understanding of humanitarian logistics preparedness and its relevance to the development and operationalisation of provincial contingency plans as well as establishing a provincial-level humanitarian logistics preparedness network.

Through Gaps Analysis, the participants have mutually identified logistics gaps and focus areas for future simulation exercises expanding upon current contingency planning. A humanitarian logistics preparedness action plan outlining proposed activities was also agreed upon by participants. It will be further consolidated and developed into a workplan by NCDM, following the next two provincial preparedness workshops, covering all 25 provinces.

- The **WFP National Emergency Preparedness & Response Officer** has taken over the Field-Based Preparedness Project tasks from the Preparedness Expert who completed her mission in February 2021. The national officer will support NCDM-WFP Joint Activity Plan 2021, including elements of the FBPP such as the remaining two Provincial Humanitarian Logistics Preparedness Workshops, one National Humanitarian Logistics Preparedness Workshop and support to NCDM in the coordination of the humanitarian logistics preparedness network.
- Due to a sudden rise in the number of COVID-19 cases and subsequent lockdown measures, all activities and discussions planned with NCDM have been postponed until further relaxation of the restrictions, and where physical gathering is allowed. Possibility to resume the online conduct of stakeholder and resource mapping with humanitarian partners is also being explored.

Information management

- The quarterly update and infographic for October-December 2020 were published on the [Cambodia Preparedness webpage](#).

<https://logcluster.org/preparedness/cambodia>

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