

Background

Throughout 2019, the economic, social and political context in Haiti continued to deteriorate and in September, civil unrest led to widespread protests of the population and road blocks. As of mid-November 2019, the precarious security situation is affecting both the public and private sectors' supply chain capacity to provide essential services: private transporters are unwilling to operate, waves of severe fuel scarcity have been experienced throughout the country, and customs operations have been delayed. The ongoing demonstrations also pose significant constraints to the implementation of humanitarian programmes, with the Health sector seemingly being the most affected as hospitals face significant challenges to operate.

Against this backdrop, the 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) identified approximately 2,6 million people in need of humanitarian assistance¹ and according to the 2019 Climate Risk Index, Haiti is fourth among the countries most affected by severe weather events. While the HNO for 2020 is still ongoing, preliminary data suggests an increase in humanitarian needs: the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) alert on Haiti released in October 2019² estimated that over 1 million people are in an Emergency food security situation (IPC Phase 4) and over 2.6 million people are in a Crisis food security situation (IPC Phase 3), representing approximately 3.7 million people in need of urgent action to protect and save lives and livelihoods.

Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks

A Gaps and Needs Exercise (GNE) was conducted in November 2019 among humanitarian organisations in Port-au-Prince to assess existing and potential logistics gaps, constraints, and needs, including those pre-existing and those that emerged from the current crisis, as well as to identify mitigating activities.

Results of the GNE indicate that the implementation of humanitarian programmes is hampered by the security situation: security and resulting access constraints are the major operational challenges for responding organisations across the country, and they are hampering the ability of organisations to deliver relief items in an effective and efficient manner.

However, a key need that emerged is logistics coordination among humanitarian actors in Haiti to ensure a coordinated and efficient response from the international community, to overcome logistics bottlenecks and possible overlaps in efforts. In addition, the GNE indicated a general lack of, and a need for verified, consolidated logistics information available to humanitarian responders regarding downstream supply-chain operations, including access constraints, alternative transport options, storage services and best practices to support operational decision making.

Overall, coordination and Information Management (IM) were identified as the two areas in which the support of the Logistics Sector to the humanitarian community is required.

¹ [Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2019.](#)

² <http://www.ipcinfo.org/ipcinfo-website/ipc-alerts/issue-14/en/>

Objectives

The World Food Programme, as co-lead agency of the Logistics Sector together with the Département de protection Civile (DPC), aims to continue providing logistics coordination and information management support, to ensure that information on logistics access and best practices are shared timely with all stakeholders.

In addition, the Logistics Sector will monitor the need to facilitate access to sufficient and reliable logistics services, where common logistics gaps are identified.

Planned Activities

The Logistics Sector will make the following activities available to the humanitarian community, and they will be reviewed according to changes in context and the results emerging from ongoing gaps and needs exercises conducted with humanitarian organisations in country.

The following range of activities and services are not intended to replace the logistics capacities of individual agencies or organisations, but rather to fill identified gaps in the humanitarian supply chain and supplement the response of the humanitarian community through the provision of common services, based on need.

1. Coordination

The following coordination services will be provided to facilitate an efficient and effective response, and to minimise duplication of efforts:

- A Logistics Sector coordination cell in Port-au-Prince to coordinate the inter-agency efforts in collaboration with national counterparts.
- Regular coordination meetings in Port au Prince, and in other field locations as required and as possible, to facilitate the exchange of information among actors.
- The Logistics Sector will liaise with authorities and relevant national and international actors on behalf of the humanitarian community to raise common logistics issues and advocate for solutions.
- The Logistics Sector will coordinate with other sectors and agencies, including through participation in the inter-sector and inter-agencies fora, on strategic planning and pipeline information to enhance preparedness and response actions.

2. Information Management

The information management role will be undertaken in the interests of promoting and facilitating the sharing of logistics information among all humanitarian organisations via:

- The collection, consolidation and sharing of logistics information related to ongoing activities, best practices, key infrastructure, customs procedures and available storage and transport capacity across the country.
- The maintenance of information sharing platforms such as a common mailing list and a dedicated Haiti Operation webpage maintained on the Logistics Cluster website to disseminate relevant and up-to date logistics information to the humanitarian community: <https://logcluster.org/sector/hti19>.
- The mapping and assessment of logistics infrastructures (roads, airports, ports, border crossing points), to be circulated and made available on the Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) portal: <https://dlca.logcluster.org/>.

3. Monitoring of the need to facilitate Logistics Services

Although common logistics services are not required currently by the humanitarian community, as no critical gaps in logistics capacity have been identified, the Logistics Sector will continue to carry out regular gaps and needs analysis with humanitarian organisations in country to monitor changes in the context and if a need for common logistics services arises.

Annex I ConOps Map



This Concept of Operations is a live document and the activities will be adapted and revised as the situation unfolds and further assessment results become available, including the possible provision of additional logistics common services as required by the humanitarian community.