

COMMON SERVICES IN GUINEA, LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE

Highlights

- The ET Cluster is providing Internet connectivity in 45 locations across the three affected countries.
- WFP, in coordination with the Government of Liberia, UNMEER and UNICEF, will provide logistics support to transport WASH supplies for the re-opening of schools in Liberia.
- Three additional free-to-user inter-agency flights will be provided from the Europe Staging-Area to meet the urgent cargo movement needs of the humanitarian community.

Numbers

Overall requirements: **US\$ 178.5 million**

Overall shortfall: **US\$ 47.7 million**

6,121 passengers & **54mt** cargo transported by UNHAS

1,632mt dispatched by UNHRD

Logistics Cluster facilitated across Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia as of 25 January 2015 (since 4 September 2014):

*the transportation of over **35,000m³*** of cargo on behalf of **52** organisations*
*the storage of over **52,000m³*** of cargo on behalf of over **46** organisations*

*The Logistics Cluster aims to report the most accurate data possible, based on the information available at the time of reporting.

WFP, due to its expertise and vast field capacity, was mandated to be the global lead of the Logistics Cluster.

The Logistics Cluster is responsible for coordination, information management, and, where necessary, logistics service provision to ensure an effective and efficient logistics response takes place in each and every operation, through the lead agency, WFP.

STAGING AREA

- The Logistics Cluster continues to coordinate free-to-user inter-agency flights, from the Europe Staging Area at Cologne Bonn Airport, in order to facilitate the delivery of essential cargo to the affected countries. On 21 January, a flight arrived in Freetown transporting relief items on behalf of MSF-H, IFRC, PIH/Wellbody Alliance, MSF-B, WHO, MedAir, NOSLINA/MOH SL, World Vision, Save the Children, IMC, MSF-S, and UNMEER. On 25 January, a flight landed in Monrovia transporting cargo on behalf of IRC, ICRC, Concern, WHO, Aragua, PIH, MSF-B, IMC, Afya, THW, and UNICEF. The next flight is scheduled to depart on 27 January for Freetown and Conakry. The Logistics Cluster has communicated to partners that it will provide up to an additional three flights to meet urgent needs in the next few weeks.
- The Logistics Cluster, via the two C-160 aircraft, whose flight services have been donated by the Government of Germany, have been coordinating airlifts of essential items and logistics equipment from Accra to, and between, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. During the reporting period, over 30mt of cargo was dispatched from Accra including 36 motorbikes, a pick-up truck, VSAT equipment and pallets on behalf of UNMEER and almost 6mt of plastic sheeting on behalf of USAID/OFDA.
- The Logistics Cluster has also been coordinating the transport of 400 motorbikes, donated by the Government of Germany to UNMEER on behalf of the humanitarian community. The motorbikes have proved essential to the implementation of the response operation, providing a mechanism for additional surveillance, social mobilization, and the collection of lab samples. 253 motorbikes have been dispatched to the three countries: 45 to Guinea, 98 to Liberia, and 110 to Sierra Leone.

GUINEA

- Since 04 September, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of 7,323m³ of cargo on behalf of 21 organisations and facilitated the storage of 18,765m³ on behalf of 18 organisations.
- On 24 January, the Logistics Cluster held a meeting with its partners and the Coordinator of the Government’s Logistics Ebola Cell in order to discuss and clarify custom clearance procedures.

LIBERIA

- Since 04 September, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of 20,451m³ of cargo on behalf of 32 organisations and the storage of 25,755m³ on behalf of 18 organisations.

- Through regular supply chain meetings held in Liberia with partners including WHO, UNMEER, UNICEF, USAID and the Ministry of Health, the decision has been made that WHO will become the supply focal point coordinator for Liberia, and will interface with partners to identify available stocks and owners, and provide them with the relevant release form. WHO will work with the Logistics Cluster to ensure efficient coordination with partners. There are 157 known Ebola Relief items in the Ebola Response Supply Chain in Liberia. Since all partners are bringing in the same items, but with slightly different specifications and names, the Logistics Cluster has shared a “Standard Item List” and requested all partners to continue to utilise the standard terminology in order to streamline the Ebola Response, which will improve the accuracy and speed of the process, and ensure all organisations have the right tools to perform their critical mission in support of the overall Ebola Emergency Response.
- To ensure an uninterrupted level of response operations, the Logistics Cluster will be holding Relief Item Tracking Application (RITA) training for each Forward Logistics Base (FLB) manager and staff operating at the FLBs. RITA is the Logistics Cluster’s online commodity tracking tool, which tracks the movement of humanitarian partner cargo as facilitated by the Logistics Cluster.



SIERRA LEONE

- Since 04 September, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of 7,307m³ of cargo on behalf of 19 organisations and facilitated the storage of 7,310m³ on behalf of 15 organisations.
- The Logistics Cluster, through WFP, continues to coordinate the transportation of 36 WHO containers from the Port in Freetown to the Central Medical Store (CMS) in Kingtom; WFP has set up two MSUs at CMS on behalf of WHO.
- The Logistics Cluster has been coordinating the allocation of 21 donated containers from Maersk. Eleven have been allocated and the last ten were delivered during the reporting week to THW, NERC, Plan International, CDC, WHO, UNMEER and the Sierra Leone Police School.

Various updated maps and information products are available on www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14

Due to its expertise in logistics, engineering and telecommunications, WFP has been requested to provide dedicated Common Services to the Ebola Response. All activities are being implemented under **Special Operation 200773**.

GUINEA

- On 25 January, WFP provided support to UNMEER with the offloading of the vessel ARK FUTURA that delivered 53 vehicles and four containers to the port in Conakry.
- Last December, 'last mile' Transport Services through WFP were offered to support the government in the distribution of universal protection gear. The support activities, including the renting of light vehicles with driver and fuel for the Regional Health Offices in Boké, Mamou, Labé and Kankan will start soon. The FLBs with their fleet of light vehicles will cover Kissidougou and Nzérékoré.
- The inauguration of the Centre for the Treatment of Health Care Workers located on the premises of the Military Airport in Conakry and managed by the French Army took place on 19 January. The Centre has the capacity of ten beds and is dedicated to the treatment of Ebola healthcare workers and humanitarian personnel involved in the fight against Ebola. WFP has provided the Centre with an incinerator and will also provide medical evacuation via the dedicated Bell 205 helicopter.

Focus on: Preparedness Measures in Guinea

WFP is securing contingency stocks of fuel in Guinea as a preparedness measure in case of another minor fuel shortage in the Western part of the country. 5,000 litres of fuel will be secured at fuel stations in Macenta, Beyla and Nzérékoré. Discussions for similar solutions are ongoing for fuel stations in Kissidougou, Gwekedou, Kerouane and Kankan. In addition, stock will also be secured in the Forward Logistics Bases (FLBs) in Kissidougou and Nzérékoré.



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LIBERIA

- WFP continues to support the Government of Liberia via a dispatch plan of approximately 1300m³ of Ebola relief supplies per month to 83 health facilities (regular hospitals and health centres) throughout the country. All dispatches for the first "wave" of dispatches have now been completed for top 10 priority counties' Hospitals and Health Centres (69 facilities). Starting in February, all dispatches for health facilities will be pre-positioned in the five WFP FLBs, and, for the nine counties where no FLB is present, an additional Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) will be erected to store and pre-position the Ebola relief items. The first of these MSUs are being erected this week and the overall plan is supposed to be completed by end of February. Starting in February, transport for 'last mile' (from the FLB directly to the facility) will be completed by the Government of Liberia Ministry of Health partner, JSI (Jon Snow International).
- WFP is supporting the Rapid Intervention and Treatment of Ebola (RITE) response initiative in Liberia for the movement of blood samples via air transport: Logistics support is being provided to the RITE strategy, covering three main areas 1) Transport of RITE passenger missions 2) pre-positioning and transport of RITE supply kits by air and overland transport 3) transport of blood samples. The planned RITE test flight, as part of a mock exercise took place successfully last week (Monday 19 January), in coordination with UNMEER, CDC, UNICEF and WHO. Based on the four RITE missions already taken place, and the lessons learned from the mock exercise, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the logistics support of WFP/UNMEER are currently being established.
- WFP and the Logistics Cluster are currently working with partners to assess additional needs for aviation support to locations in Liberia, for the upcoming addition of a second UNMEER Mi8 helicopter into the regular integrated schedule.

WFP COMMON SERVICES



Logistics: *we deliver*

SIERRA LEONE

- The WFP-chartered Bell 412 helicopter for medical evacuations of humanitarian staff arrived on 21 January in Freetown, Sierra Leone. Medical evacuation exercises are scheduled for next week. This is the second dedicated Medevac helicopter that WFP has deployed to the region; the other is stationed in Conakry, serving Guinea.
- WFP reactivated and rehabilitated the helipad at the RSLAF Cockerill Barracks Airport site for the Medical Evacuation helicopter. It is operational, with minor works scheduled for the coming week.



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- WFP Engineering Support Team continues to support the vehicle decontamination centre at Hastings that routinely cleans about 40 ambulances, trucks and minibuses transporting patients or commodities as well as the motorcycles used for specimen transport. During the reporting week, a septic tank was installed for the previously constructed ablution units. Additional support included a lighting system with led lights, two MSUs, three 5000-litre water tanks and two containers.

Focus on: Clearing Cargo in Sierra Leone

The rapid clearance of cargo is fundamental to the efficiency and effectiveness of any humanitarian response. At the most recent Logistics Cluster coordination meeting in Freetown, partners were informed that the previous delays faced with customs clearance at Lungi International Airport had been resolved. The National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) issued a letter to the customs authority on 21 January, asking to facilitate the clearance and forwarding of their consignments; the letter lists all the organisations bringing in cargo for the Ebola Response and has been disseminated to all organisations.

Focus on: Support to the Reopening of Schools in Liberia

As the cases of Ebola decrease and the focus of response strategies moves to early recovery activities, WFP, in coordination with the Government of Liberia, UNMEER and UNICEF, will be supporting the re-opening of schools in Liberia. Starting in February 2015 WFP will facilitate the transport of WASH supplies to ensure that schools, as they open, have all supplies necessary to prevent the transmission of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).



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- Since the start of operations in Sierra Leone, the lack of cranes and forklifts to lift 20 and 40ft containers, both at entry ports and in deep field locations, has presented a significant challenge to the rapid implementation of the response. To meet these needs, DIFD has donated a forklift to WFP, which will be deployed to serve the main logistics hub in Port Loko.
- 16 generators of varying capacity have been donated by THW to WFP; the generators have been allocated to humanitarian organisations based on needs and the specifications of the generators, with transport scheduled to continue next week.
- The capacity at the FLB at Kailahun has been reduced from three to two MSUs, with 480m2 storage capacity, due to low level of activity.
- WFP continues to maintain a level of operational flexibility to meet the storage needs of partners. Of the two MSUs at Lungi airport, one has been dismantled and will be shipped to meet the gap at Port Loko. The second MSU has been moved closer to the cargo handling area in order to accommodate urgent storage requests from incoming inter-agency cargo flights. Ground preparation (levelling, compacting, drainage), followed by the erection of the MSU was completed on 24 January.



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WFP COMMON SERVICES



UNHAS Humanitarian Air Service

UNHAS provides safe and reliable passenger and cargo air services to the humanitarian community, especially to remote locations where there are no commercial alternatives.

- Since 16 August 2014, UNHAS has performed 1,215 takeoffs, transporting 6,121 passengers and 54mt of cargo.
- During the reporting period, UNHAS transported 519 passengers and 2.2mt of cargo.
- The second helicopter (Bell 412) for the Medevac of EVD symptomatic aid workers arrived in Freetown on 21 January.
- On 21 January, a Consultation took place in Dakar with all base managers of helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft involved in the Ebola response.
- The UNHAS WAC fleet currently consists of three fixed-wing aircraft, three helicopters (two out of these three are specially equipped for medevac of health and humanitarian personnel with EVD) and one ad-hoc aircraft
- UNHAS continues to coordinate with UNMEER and UNMIL to optimise the use of resources and ensure greater operational efficiency. A joint flight schedule is published regularly and maintained with necessary flexibility. An updated version of the integrated flight schedule, effective as of 24 December 2014, has been shared with users.
- A Flight Status Overview of UNMEER, UNMIL, UNHAS and Commercial flights in West Africa is continuously updated
- An updated UNHAS/UNMEER/UNMIL route map as of 31 December 2014 is available on the Logistics Cluster website.



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UNHRD Humanitarian Response Depot

UNHRD is a network of depots around the world that procures, stores, manages and transports emergency supplies for the humanitarian community.

UNHRD response teams continue to provide technical assistance and training across the region:

- Since March, UNHRD has dispatched 1,632mt of relief items and support equipment to the region on behalf of WFP, WHO, UNHCR, UNDP, JICA, Irish Aid, UNICEF and the Swiss Red Cross.
- Weekly dispatches are ongoing.



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Check also for updated flight schedules and procedures! Available on www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14

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WFP COMMON SERVICES



The Emergency Telecommunications (ET) Cluster provides timely Information, Communications and Technology services to support humanitarian community in carrying out their work efficiently, effectively and safely.

- The ET Cluster is providing Internet connectivity in 45 locations across the three affected countries, ensuring reliable Internet access for 876 inter-agency and humanitarian staff.
- In Sierra Leone, 30 inter-agency site locations now have reliable Internet connection.
- 17 inter-agency locations are having their electrical wiring upgraded.
- In Kenema, Sierra Leone, the WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster has established connectivity for inter-agency partners at the UN Compound, IRC Compound and GOAL's Observation and Interim Care Center, where staff are caring for orphaned children and Ebola survivors.
- In Sierra Leone, the ET Cluster led a mission to complete the VSAT installation at the UN common office. ET Cluster will also provide Wi-Fi connectivity to all agencies including WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNDP and UNDSS.
- In Guinea, the ET Cluster is installing Internet connection in the Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) in Keroune in order to meet the needs of health workers treating Ebola patients at this facility.
- Secure Radio equipment has been installed in 100% of planned locations, which now cover all common operational areas with secure radio communications.
- In Liberia, the set-up of Internet access at Buchanan is pending because of the need for a telecommunications tower to establish line-of-sight.
- The ET Cluster has been conducting telecommunications capacity assessments in remote locations in Liberia, in order to determine the level of need for a scale up of operations in these areas. So far, assessments have been conducted in five locations.
- The ET Cluster has been responding to a request from WHO regarding the linking up of three new sites.



Focus on: Wider Internet Coverage across the Affected Countries

The ET Cluster is constructing Communications Towers (17 - 24m in height) across the three affected countries, in order to widen the coverage of Internet in hard to reach locations. This will mean more Wi-Fi hotspots will now be available to the humanitarian community. The ET Cluster is in the process of constructing the Towers in six locations in Guinea; in three locations in Liberia; and six locations in Sierra Leone.

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