



**WFP DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
SPECIAL OPERATION SO 200747**

Country:	Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
Type of project:	Special Operation
Title:	Logistics Cluster Coordination and Information Management, Democratic Republic of Congo
Total cost (US\$):	US\$2 325 332
Duration:	24 months (01 December 2014 – 30 November 2016)

Executive Summary

- The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) presents one of the most complex humanitarian crises in the world. Since 2009, some 2.7¹ million people have been displaced. Humanitarian needs remain high, with the southern and eastern provinces being the worst affected by continuing instability and violence. The December 2012 IPC² analysis revealed that 6.4 million people are in acute and livelihood food security crisis and need humanitarian assistance, up from 5.4 million in June 2012. Despite countrywide movements of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) returning to their areas of origin in 2014, significant conflict-related displacements are still occurring in North and South Kivu (in eastern DRC), Katanga (in southern DRC), and in the north-eastern Province Orientale. The UN mission MONUSCO and the Congolese army (FARDC) continue attempts to demobilize and disarm armed groups in the eastern part of Province Orientale and North Kivu. DRC was classified as an L2 emergency by WFP in December 2013.
- With the deterioration of the political, social and security situation in the country over the past two decades, the Government has been unable to maintain or rebuild the national road network³, while the feeder road network has fallen into a state of serious disrepair. The extremely poor condition of road, bridge, and airstrip infrastructure is identified by the humanitarian community as one of the main obstacles to the effective delivery of relief items to vulnerable populations in remote areas.
- DRC is a high-risk country for Ebola. The country experienced an outbreak in August 2014, localized in the Equateur province, resulting in the quarantine by the Government of some 30,000 to 40,000 people, from September to November 2014. The Government declared the outbreak officially over on 15 November 2014.
- WFP is the lead agency of the Logistics Cluster operating in DRC and is responsible for identifying and addressing logistics bottlenecks while providing coordination of the overall humanitarian logistics response in eastern and

¹ WFP PRRO Democratic Republic of Congo 200540

² Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

³ DRC total road network of 152,400km; of which 58,000 km are national and provincial roads under the responsibility of the *Office des Routes*; 87,000 km are agricultural or feeder roads under the responsibility of the *Direction des Voies de Desserte Agricole*; and 7,400 km are urban roads under the responsibility of the *Office des Voiries et Drainage* (office des routes, rapport annuel d'activités, exercice 2013).

southern DRC, including for any emergencies that may occur throughout the country.

- An evaluation of the WFP country portfolio in DRC⁴ found that WFP logistical operations in the country combine a good structure with solid support from sub-offices. The evaluation noted that logistics services for the humanitarian community meet genuine needs, and that WFP is in a strong position to play a progressively larger role in inter-agency logistics services.
- Special Operation 200747 succeeds SO 200456 (July 2012 – November 2014) in providing logistical support and information management to the humanitarian community through the Logistics Cluster.

Project Background

1. According to the 2014 Humanitarian Action Plan (HAP), 6.3 million people (8.1 percent of the total population) in DRC require humanitarian assistance. Some 4.8 million people are food insecure and require food and non-food assistance.
2. Despite various efforts to bring peace to the eastern provinces through the implementation of stabilization programmes such as STAREC (Stabilization and Reconstruction Plan for Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo) and ISSS (The International Security and Stabilization Support Strategy) initiated in 2009, armed conflict and internal displacement persist.
3. Limited and poor infrastructure and transport networks and continuing insecurity and conflict mean the delivery of food and non-food items to vulnerable populations continue to present major logistical challenges to the humanitarian community. During the rainy season⁵ in particular humanitarian efforts are further hampered by increased deterioration of roads.
4. As the lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, WFP supports the identification of logistics gaps and bottlenecks and ensures that there are effective coordination mechanisms and information systems in place to provide assistance to the humanitarian community in solving and /or alleviating logistics obstacles.
5. SO 200747 aims at improving the efficiency of emergency response by providing logistical and information support to the humanitarian community and the Government, through logistics cluster activities under WFP's leadership. Please see Annex II for the outputs of the Logistics Cluster under SO 200456.

Project Justification

6. WFP, as the lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, identifies and addresses logistics bottlenecks while providing coordination of overall humanitarian logistics response in eastern and southern DRC. These provinces in particular present major logistical challenges to the humanitarian community, with the delivery of food and non-food items hampered by limited infrastructure, weak transport networks, and ongoing armed conflict. Logistics Cluster activities support a better coordinated logistics

⁴ Country Portfolio Evaluation, September 2014.

⁵ Rainy season typically falls from March to May and September to December each year.

response by the humanitarian community in DRC and enable the effective and efficient delivery of humanitarian assistance.

7. DRC was designated an L2 emergency by WFP in December 2013. Given ongoing instability and food insecurity in the country, the Logistics Cluster is vital to the provision of logistics support and services to the humanitarian community.
8. DRC is a high-risk country for the Ebola virus. The country experienced an outbreak in August 2014, localized in Djera county, Boende district, Equateur province. The Government initiated an emergency response for three months, from September to November, 2014 and established a quarantine area around Djera county, inhabited by 30,000 to 40,000 people. WFP, as lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, provided transport, storage and information management activities in support of the Government emergency response, until the epidemic was officially declared over on 15 November 2014.

Project Objectives

9. The primary objectives of this Special Operation are:
 - To ensure a coordinated logistics response among humanitarian actors working in the country, enabling the delivery of food and non-food items to vulnerable populations; and
 - The provision of relevant logistics information to the humanitarian community to enable the timely and effective identification and resolution of logistics bottlenecks.
10. To achieve these objectives, SO 200747 will have two main components: Logistics Cluster Coordination and Information Management.

Project Implementation

Logistics Cluster Coordination

11. The Logistics Cluster has been instrumental in identifying and addressing logistics bottlenecks and gaps, especially regarding road and air access. The Logistics Cluster is operational in Kinshasa and in the provincial capitals of Bukavu, Goma, Bunia, Mbandaka and Kalémie, to coordinate logistics response for the humanitarian community. Around forty organizations participate in the Cluster's activities and attend regular coordination meetings at national level and technical forum at provincial level. The Logistics Cluster will provide information which will contribute towards the informed decision making of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).
12. The Logistics Cluster is led by a Logistics Cluster Coordinator based in Kinshasa, supported by five provincial cluster leads. In addition, one Civil Engineer will be based in Goma to monitor road rehabilitation projects funded through the humanitarian common mechanism (Pooled Funds) and implemented by humanitarian organizations (UN agencies and NGOs). Additionally, one Geographical Information Service (GIS) Assistant and one Information Management Officer will be based in Kinshasa, and one travel liaison officer will be based in Goma to facilitate the Humanitarian Community air passenger's transport booking with MONUSCO flights.

13. Based on needs identified by the humanitarian community in responding to emergency situations, the Logistics Cluster will provide common transport and storage facilities using RITA (Relief Items Tracking Application) as the central tracking and reporting tool.
14. The Logistics Cluster will continue to engage with key humanitarian partners through different fora, such as the CPIA (Comité provincial Inter Agence), the inter-cluster meeting, and the RCM (Road Coordination Meeting of MONUSCO) to enhance the coordination between all involved actors.

Logistics Cluster Coordination for Ebola response

15. Throughout the 2014 Ebola outbreak in DRC, WFP, through the Logistics Cluster, provided common storage facilities for UN agencies and the Government; facilitated road and river transport to the quarantined area using available means of transport such as tractors and barges; and provided logistics information to the humanitarian community, enabling the delivery of food and non-food items. Upon declaration of the end of the epidemic on 15 November, WFP commenced the preparation of a report on lessons learned, to inform any future Ebola contingency plans. See map of Ebola response in Annex III.
16. The overall coordination and implementation of the Ebola response was carried out by the national Government, through the Comité National de Coordination (CNC) chaired by the Minister of Health and seven technical sub-groups⁶ chaired by Government representatives reporting directly to the Minister of Health. Each sub-group includes between two to four technicians / experts from the Government and UN, and NGOs. Similar mechanisms were in place at provincial level in Mbandaka and Boende.

Information Management

17. Under this SO, the national Logistics Cluster coordination cell based in Kinshasa and five WFP provincial offices will continue to provide a wide range of logistics information and mapping services to the humanitarian community and all government entities involved in humanitarian responses.
18. Regular Logistics Cluster coordination meetings will be held at both national and provincial level. Information Management products are also updated regularly and made available to partners.
19. A consultant will be recruited for an annual three month consultancy to update the Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) report (last revised April 2014). The LCA is shared amongst all Logistics Cluster members.
20. The GIS assistant will be an active member of the “Cellule Infrastructure” of the Référentiel Géographique Commun (RGC) for improving the quality and accuracy of the data on infrastructure, including roads, bridges, railways, waterways, aerodromes, and ports. The data model used will be compliant with WFP Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) standards, in order to allow

⁶Commission de surveillance, Commission de prise en charge médicale, Commission de prise en charge psychosociale, Commission logistique, Commission hygiène, Commission laboratoire et recherche, Commission communication et sensibilisation.

the use of Geonode and other WFP corporate tools to share geographical information with partners.

21. GIS activities will include capacity building for Logistics Cluster partners on the use of GPS and data collection in all the main locations and where a need has been expressed by partners. The data collected will be shared with the RGC authorities through the “Cellule Infrastructure”. The GIS assistant will also provide a mapping service to partners including printing customized maps.

Project Cost and Benefits

22. This Special Operation has a total cost of **US\$2,325,332** and will enable the Logistics Cluster, under WFP leadership, to provide qualified expertise in order to enhance the logistics response of the humanitarian community, to reduce bottlenecks and logistics gaps, and to facilitate an integrated and coordinated response to the requirements of the humanitarian community.

Project Management

23. The WFP DRC Country Director will be the fund manager for this Special Operation, and the Finance Officer will be the allotment manager.

Monitoring & Evaluation

24. The key performance indicators are:

- Number of agencies and organizations using the coordination services of the Logistics Cluster (Target: 25)
- People trained in collecting GPS information on access (Target: 50)
- Coordination of logistics assessments (LCA updated) (Target: 1)
- Number of bulletins, maps and other logistics information produced and shared (Target: 100)
- Coordination meetings held at national and sub national level (Target: 144)
- Number of technical workshop organized in Kinshasa or provinces (Target: 28)
- MT of cargo transported by the Logistics Cluster to remote areas following NGO / UN agency request (Target: 3000)
- User satisfaction rate among the humanitarian community (based on user satisfaction surveys) (at least 80 percent)
- Number of SRF (Service Request Forms) issued and handled through RITA (Target : 100 percent); and
- User satisfaction MONUSCO booking services for the Humanitarian Community (Target: 100 percent)

Exit Strategy

25. It is anticipated that SO 200747 will end in November 2016. At this time, it is difficult to predict whether or not further activities will be needed past this end date. The Logistics Cluster will ensure coordination and information sharing through regular contact with partners, regular coordination meetings, until the Logistics Cluster are cleared by the HCT for deactivation.

RECOMMENDATION

This Special Operation covering the period from 01 December 2014 to 30 November 2016 at a total cost to WFP of **US\$2,325,332** is recommended for approval by the Deputy Executive Director with the budget provided.

APPROVAL

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Amir Abdulla
Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer

- Annex I** – Project budget plan
- Annex II** – Outputs of Logistics Cluster under SO 200456
- Annex III** – Map of Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations
- Annex IV** - Map of Ebola response

Annex II - Outputs of Logistics Cluster under SO 200456

Coordination

- In conjunction with the Pooled Fund, the Logistics Cluster conducted the technical analysis of 20 road rehabilitation proposals in North Kivu, South Kivu, Oriental and Maniema provinces. The Logistics Cluster recommended five proposals out of 20 to be funded by the Pooled Fund.
- GIS activities: publication of 54 access maps (including demand from Air Transport operators); training of 42 persons from 13 NGOs in GPS data collection technics; contribution to the SDI-T's edition (Spatial Data Infrastructure for Transport) under the 'Referentiel Geographique Commun' (RGC) by participating in 12 meetings held at Cellule Infrastructure; Data infrastructure transport for DRC has been updated in the Geonode database;
- The LCA was updated with the support of Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC);
- The Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations (ConOps) for Kivu provinces has been completed as a preparedness tool for the eastern part of DRC;
- The Logistics Cluster contributed to the development of the WFP ConOps for Central African Republic (CAR) refugee's response in Orientale & Equateur provinces;
- The Logistics Cluster attended air operators' meetings aiming at coordinating humanitarian air transport operations and avoiding duplication;
- The Logistics Cluster advocated for tax exemption for humanitarian partners;
- Additionally, the Logistics Cluster advocated the DRC Pooled Fund unit for an urgent project by Premiere Urgence (PU) for the rehabilitation of 189 km of road in Oriental province, and the repair of the Ango ferry on Uere river (Ango territory in the district of Bas Uele, Oriental province);
- A civil military liaison officer joined the Logistics Cluster to ensure coordination between Monusco, FARDC and the Logistics Cluster in East DRC.

Information Management

- Publication of more than 31 Logistics Cluster meeting minutes, both at national and provincial levels; 4 Flash info; and 4 humanitarian air operation regular flight schedule (RFS);
- Regular contribution to the IM/GLCSC in Rome for the monthly consolidated sitrep.

Air Transport

- Under the Department For International Development (DFID) fund more than 200 mt of commodities have been transported by air from Bukavu to Shabunda, South Kivu; as well as 40 mt of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) transported from Goma, North Kivu, to Kindu, Maniema province.

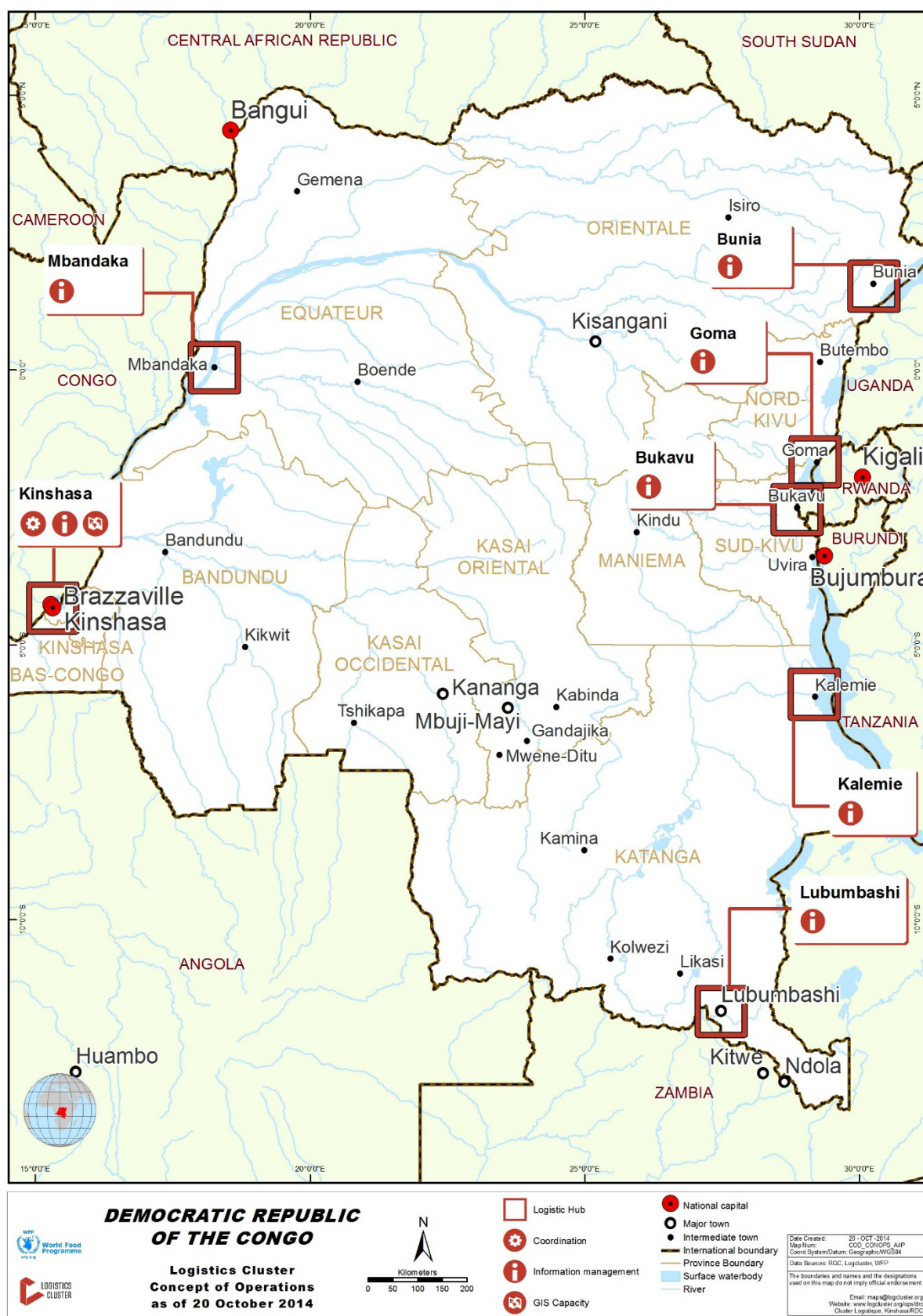
Surface transport

- Under the DFID fund, WFP truck convoys were organized for the transport of 215 mt of commodities from Goma to the remote and isolated territories of Walikale and Masissi, North Kivu, in support of the Logistics Cluster partners.
- As implementing partner of the Logistics Cluster, the WFP Service Provision transported 6.021 mt of NFIs from 14 humanitarian organization and embassies.

Infrastructure and Assessments

- The Dongo, Equateur province, and Katinga, Maniema province, airstrips are being repaired by AIRD and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) under funding from the Howard G. Buffett donation.

Annex III – Map of Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations



Annex IV - Map of Ebola Response

Map of

Ebola Response

