Quarterly update, April -June 2019

Pacific Preparedness

Highlights

- The first Logistics Preparedness Workshop and Pacific Logistics Mapping (PALM) platform training was undertaken in Papua New Guinea (PNG). The workshop is one of the first activities to be implemented in the region following the completion of the WFP Pacific interim Multi-Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021).
- Development of Preparedness Roadmap for Emergency Logistics (PRELog) and National Action Plans in Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu.
- Development of the public facing website (conceptualised as part of the Pacific Unsolicited Bilateral Donation (UBD) project) continues to gain momentum, with support from key regional partners.

Background

The Pacific is one of the world’s most vulnerable regions to risks posed by natural disasters. Of the 20 states with the highest average disaster losses scaled by GDP, eight are Pacific Island Countries (PICs). In September 2015, WFP opened its first office in the Pacific region, leading the regional Pacific Logistics Cluster, and supporting preparedness initiatives across an initial five priority countries: Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

Following two years of preparedness activities, last year the Pacific Logistics Cluster realigned its 2018-2020 strategy to further emphasise localisation. Recognising the varied profiles, and unique challenges and operational capacities of each PIC, the cluster moved its focus to implement activities and preparedness advocacy initiatives through a sub-regional approach. Moreover, the revised strategy also saw a consolidation of the cluster’s initial seven areas of focus into four core logistics pillars: Coordination, Information Management, Prepositioning and Training & Simulation. Preparedness activities are currently taking place across the following countries: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Coordination

- The Pacific Logistics Cluster Coordinator undertook successful missions to Tonga, Vanuatu and Kiribati to support the ongoing implementation of national logistics coordination structures. As part of the missions, the coordinator worked with

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local actors on the development of country-specific PRElog documents and national action planning. Documents will be published over the coming month. The latest updates on Pacific preparedness initiatives can be found here.

Information Management (IM)

- Ongoing engagement with regional and national stakeholders on the development of a website for UBD and disaster donation messaging continues to gain momentum. The Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and New Zealand National Disaster Relief Forum (NDRF) have expressed interest and potential support for the project. Such support is pivotal to ensure a harmonised and collaborative approach towards UBD communication and messaging across the region.
- The next step for the UBD project will be the commencement of website development, due to start in August.
- WFP Pacific and OCHA will host a workshop in August to support the collection of Provincial LCA (PLCA) data collection. Roll out of Provincial LCA data collection will begin in Vanuatu, Tonga and Tokelau from September–November.
- Fact finding mission on a logistic data repository for the Pacific started to ensure that all relevant data is housed in an accessible and local owned way.
- A blog post on the first logistics training between the Tokelau National Disaster Management Unit and Samoa Red Cross was published online. Read it here.

Prepositioning

- A fund extension for the IFRC-WFP preparedness initiative will enable the project to support the prepositioning of relief items in RMI. Moreover, planning is also underway for a prepositioning workshop in Fiji to further advance the implementation of a newly-designed stockholding template at national level.
- The Pacific Logistics Cluster Coordinator continued to do follow up training for the PALM platform. Ongoing advocacy efforts for the platform across the region has led to an additional 10 new organisation registrations for stockpile reporting this quarter.
- PALM training manual (available both on and offline) has been developed and will be available in hard and soft coy by end of July.
- A user survey on the PALM platform was circulated with Pacific partners. Results available here.
- The stockholding template devised through the IFRC-WFP partnership was officially endorsed by the Kiribati Red Cross. Talks have kickstarted discussion in-country of a national prepositioning strategy and the potential for common storage in Kiribati.

Training & Simulation

- A Logistics Preparedness Workshop and PALM Training was held in PNG, with 22 participants from across the humanitarian sector attending. The workshop is one of the first activities to be implemented in the region following the completion of the WFP Pacific interim Multi-Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021). Report can be found here.
- Trainings across the Pacific have been planned for the reminder of the year. Details on the Pacific Logistic Cluster page.

Contacts

Jenna Lusaka  Logistics Cluster Coordinator  jenna.lusaka@wfp.org

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