Logistics Response Team Training (LRT)
7 – 14 May 2022, Neuhausen, Germany

Concept note

Background

Several Lessons Learned Exercises across the humanitarian community indicate that duplication of efforts and remaining gaps in emergency logistics response are based on limited understanding of joint inter-agency logistics approaches, familiarity with other actors and mechanisms' portfolios and therefore missed opportunities to create synergies. The main purpose of this training is to foster cooperation between the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and humanitarian emergency logistics actors, to improve the efficiency of joint emergency logistics response and create synergies in leading agency of the Logistics Cluster, and the European Commission, DG ECHO, a closer cooperation in training in the field of humanitarian logistics shall be fostered.

Introduction

In the Logistics Response Team Training (LRT), skilled logistics professionals are tested in a rigorous 7-day simulation, providing immediate operational logistics surge capacity as part of Logistics Response Teams. This training is designed to give participants a realistic emergency experience through working in field-like conditions (in tents and with limited connectivity). Participants must overcome obstacles presented by local authorities (military, police, customs etc.) and other logistical challenges in order to complete their objective. The LRT training aims to develop the emergency response management knowledge and capacities of senior logistics managers and first responders. The objective of the training is to prepare skilled Logistics Response Teams who can be deployed to provide immediate operational logistics surge capacity and assume an initial coordination role during the onset of an emergency.

The course is recommended for UCPM Member and Participating States' experts wishing to deepen their knowledge on emergency logistics. The course is also open to logisticians from the humanitarian community.

Objective

The main objective of this training is to increase the efficiency of logistics response in humanitarian emergency settings. A key element of the LRT is to establish a network between UCPM members and participants from the humanitarian community and to foster joint inter-agency logistics learning and the sharing of best practices among the participants by:

- having a common understanding of the principles, attitude, skills and knowledge required to operate as inter-agency logistics experts within the international emergency response architecture;
- applying best practices, tools and methodologies to achieve mission objectives;
- designing an emergency humanitarian logistics response strategy;
- practicing logistics assessments and information management;
- establishing and maintaining partnerships, including application of a service mindset.

Additionally, the course will serve to develop a community of practice by:

- bringing together UCPM and humanitarian responders with different technical focus and levels of experience to the course, to promote cross-fertilization of perspectives and competencies around the topic of humanitarian logistics in emergency response.

Key learning objectives

Key Objective: After the training, participants will understand the role and mandate of the Logistics Cluster and the functioning of joint inter-agency emergency logistics operation concepts. Furthermore, participants will have increased confidence to apply knowledge by practicing the implementation of a full Logistics Cluster programme cycle.

UNDERSTANDING AND LEARNING	NETWORKING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING	BUILDING CAPACITY
Participants will understand the Logistics Cluster role and mandate within the humanitarian architecture and emergency response context through hands-on knowledge and trial based consequential learning, to prepare participants to be part of a joint emergency logistics response.	After the training, participants will have shared best practices from previous emergencies and technical skills. Furthermore, participants will have established a peer network and be a member of a built community of practice to enhance coordination and optimize the use of assets in future emergency logistics response.	Logistics response capacity at international, regional and local levels will be built to enhance preparedness and ensure an improved emergency logistics response.

During the training, participants will develop key technical skills and adopt proactive attitudes through participation in interactive discussions and practical activities in a simulation.

Methodology

The Logistics Response Team Training follows Adult Learning Principles. Adults are autonomous learners; they undertake trainings for many, varied reasons and come to trainings with a wealth of life/work experience. The LRT aims to trigger the motivation of participants to develop an increased understanding of the cluster system and coordinating mechanisms, by the opportunity to develop a network and build relationships. Furthermore, participants should be motivated by their technical capacity development. The approach of the Logistics Cluster Training Programme is to support and empower learners, recognizing that they will engage with learning on their own terms.

Following Adam Knowles principles that learners need to see an added value in the participation, self-directing the learning process and apply previous "life experience" the LRT is a simulation-based training. Previous experience has to be modified/developed by exposing learners to simulated real-life situations and by letting participants fail, re-adjust, and finally succeed with their own approach. The responsibility of the Logistics Cluster Training Programme is to create an environment where previous experience can be applied and used as a learning resource. The LRT provides an environment in which "learning through exposure" and understanding of consequences of their approach is facilitated. This is enabled by keeping any simulation flow flexible and to have facilitators (real actors) adapting to the situation as they would do in real life. Thus, interactive approaches provide the opportunity to participants to discuss challenges and learn best practices from the Training Programme and from each other. This approach is embedded in the framework of 70/20/10 (70% learning by doing, 20% from peers, 10% course learning). For the Logistics Cluster, this means that trainings should create "real world" learning environment, enabling the creation of networks that enables peer-to-peer learning beyond that environment. A flexible approach to the simulation exposes participants to a situation in which they can try different approaches to solving problems and issues. Participants are allowed (and encouraged) to fail and to try it again. Real time feedback is provided by facilitators (real actors). This basically simulates the 70% on the job training.

Phase 1: Self-paced completion of following e-learnings:

- BSAFE (https://training.dss.un.org/course/category/6)
- Online Logistics Cluster Induction Training (E-LCI)
- Service Provision Training
- Service Mind-Set Training (SMT) Basic Humanitarian Logistics Course (BHLC)
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All trainings (except BSAFE) are available via the Logistics Cluster Learning Platform. Please register here.

!!!!Please note: it is mandatory for participants to complete the listed online sessions and failure to complete this will result in cancellation of your participation!!!!

Phase 2: Simulation Exercise

Target audience

For this specific Logistics Response Team Training, in the framework of the European Union Civil Protection (UCPM) Training Framework, 12 Participants from the UCPM and 12 participants from the broader humanitarian community will be selected.

The target audience of the Logistics Response Team Training are Logistics Officers/Coordinators, Information Management Officers or Humanitarian Responders with sufficient knowledge of Emergency Logistics Concepts.

The aim of the Logistics Response Team Training is NOT to qualify participants to become Logistics Officers, but rather to develop skills in inter-agency emergency logistics management (building on existing capabilities).

Selection criteria

For participants to achieve the most out of the training we request that wherever possible they meet the following criteria:

- Participants should have a basic understanding of Logistics (management/sea/air/surface/other)
- Previous emergency experience and/or positions in their organization with experience in emergency response is essential
- English language skills at minimum B2 level (C1 level desirable)
- As the Logistics Cluster is a network/group of currently over 700 different organisations, it can only live from active participation and contribution. Hence, participants should have the opportunity of deploying to a Logistics Cluster operation either for their own organisation or as a secondee into the Logistics Cluster or are a member of the Union Civil Protection roster (with a probable exposure to cooperation with the Logistics Cluster in future emergencies)
- Inter-agency and coordination experience
- Participants should be willing to work outside their comfort zone and accept working in international teams with different approaches
- Participants must have completed the mandatory online courses when the training starts;
- It is essential that participants are stress resistant, with a high frustration tolerance and comply with the Code of Conduct (WFP or IFRC).
- Strong personal motivation, including willingness to deploy, as expressed in the applicant's cover letter.

NB: We expects participants to work in teams in a variety of roles during the simulation and therefore, be willing to be flexible in their working roles and enthusiastic with the simulation.

Participants should be aware that:
- the training is designed as a full simulation exercise, in which participants are learning by doing (including failing) – guidance will be provided through facilitators;
- the training is **intensive and as such working hours will likely be long (e.g. 6 a.m. – 3 a.m.; with little or no sleep) – stress resistance is key! There is no chance to work on activities linked to their regular position/job.**
- the training will be carried out in an inter-agency/NGO context, references to one Agency or NGO should be avoided and willingness to accept different working cultures and approaches is necessary.
- **it is an emergency scenario-based training – this includes poor living conditions which will be in an emergency setting (tents, limited access to sanitation facilities, MRE food). Participants have to commit to live in this set-up for a full week!**

COVID-19

- Please read carefully the latest entry rules/regulations regarding C19 in Germany
  https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/visa-service/EinreiseUndAufenthalt
- Regulations for UNLP holders might be different – please liaise with your protocol unit.
- If you are traveling from a country where German authorities ask you to undergo a self-isolation, it has to be completed before the training starts and any costs during this period will not be covered by the training organisers.
- Follow strictly any rules and regulations of the host country and the hosting organisation.
- At the venue we will offer a mandatory molecular test (PCR) each day.
- We kindly ask you to wear FFP2 masks throughout the training.
- Keep distance to others of at least 1m.

Any costs related to quarantine, health care or other costs related to C19 will not be covered by the training organizers. Please make sure you have a covering insurance or a coverage from your organization. You will have to sign consent forms on daily molecular testing, wearing FFP2 masks and cost coverage in case of quarantine/health care regarding C-19.

COURSE DURATION & LOCATION

- The Logistics Response Team training will be held at the Training Centre of the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) in Neuhausen a.d.F (close to Stuttgart), Germany, from 7 May – 14 May 2022. Arrival is required on 7 May NO later than 11:30 at Stuttgart Airport (STR) – either by plane or by train. In case no flights/trains are available to reach Stuttgart on 7 May by 11:30, participants can also arrive on 6 May afternoon. Departure will take place on 14 May from Stuttgart Airport (by train or plane), where participants will be dropped of at latest 14:30. A shuttle from/to the Airport will be provided. A detailed admin note will be shared with the selected participants.

AGENDA

Logistics Cluster Logistics Response Team Training (LRT - ECHO), 07 - 14 May 2022, Neuhausen, Germany

Day	Start Time	Activity
Saturday 7 May		Arrival of participants (or in case of limited flight availability, arrival possible on Friday 6 May)
	12:30	Lunch
	13:30	Welcoming and introduction
	14:30	Humanitarian Architecture and Cluster Approach
	15:00	Coffee Break
	15:15	Humanitarian Architecture and Cluster Approach
	16:15	Logistics Bottlenecks and best practices
	18:00	Debrief / Daily wrap up
	20:00	Informal gathering
Sunday 8 May	9:00	Exercise: Selling the Cluster
	9:15	Introduction to Cluster Coordination
	10:30	Coffee Break
	10:45	Humanitarian Access
	11:30	Introduction to Information Management
	12:30	Lunch
	13:30	Operational planning
	15:00	Coffee Break
	15:15	Tools for humanitarian logistics
	17:30	Start of Simulation
Monday 9 - Thursday 12 May	06:00 - 02:00 am (earliest)	Simulation
Friday 13 May	06:00 - 18:00	Simulation
	19:00	Closing Dinner
Saturday 14 May	9:00	Debriefing and Evaluation
	12:30	Lunch
	13:00	Departure