

# ESUPS

## EMERGENCY SUPPLY PRE-POSITIONING STRATEGY

to reduce gaps and overlaps in emergency preparedness

### Who We Are:

The Emergency Supply Pre-Positioning Strategies (ESUPS) Working Group was created by a group of stakeholders interested in improving pre-positioning of relief items as a preparedness measure. ESUPS is funded by USAID and governed by a Steering Group which is co-chaired by Welthungerhilfe and UNHRD. The Steering Group further includes Action Against Hunger, The British Red Cross, The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), The International Organization for Migration (IOM), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Save the Children, USAID/OFDA, the Logistics Cluster WFP Pacific, Pennsylvania State University. OCHA Geneva acts as ESUPS Secretariat.

ESUPS is open to all Member States, UN Agencies, Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, NGOs, Clusters, International and Regional Organizations who are dealing with emergency logistics, preparedness and prepositioning activities. The enlargement of organizations participating in ESUPS at regional levels, will contribute to develop an emergency supply pre-positioning strategy worldwide.

### Issue Statement:

The humanitarian community, pre-position emergency supplies as a preparedness measure to deploy life-saving emergency supplies in response to emergencies after major natural disasters. Although, the lack of communication between actors might lead to an inadequate preparedness and coordination to properly respond to emergencies.

### Challenge:

- Humanitarian actors respond to emergencies based on individual past respond experiences. However, beneficiaries are still not completely served since stakeholders are missing information on available pre-positioned stock so, procurement decisions are not coordinated among the humanitarian community,
- Moreover, the lack of a tried, tested and accepted information and stock – sharing strategy between stakeholders, risk collective over/under-stocking and threatens coordination, cooperation, efficiency and effectiveness for the right relief items to be allocated in the right quantities, right timing and in the right places,
- Furthermore, there is a relative lack of researched evidence on the Return on Investment (RoI) and Value for Money (VfM) rising donor awareness in support of funding decisions,
- The lack of uniformity in nomenclature and standard specifications linked to innovation of products and quality assurance, have been identified as an issue,
- Branding and lack of standardization hinder sharing of RIs although, considerations should be made before moving forward since branding helps small INGOs with respect to accountability and helps track and reduce reselling goods on black market, also, it can help foster good competition in terms of who can provide best goods and quality to beneficiaries.

## Why is the Emergency Supply Pre-positioning Strategy (ESUPS) different?

- ESUPS facilitates communication among stakeholders on a pre-set of relief items (*Blankets, Hygiene kit, Kitchen sets, Latrines, Mosquito nets, Plastic sheets, Shelter repair kits, Tents, Water collecting and storage vessels, Water Purification units and Solar light and Battery generator*) also, incorporates and showcases the work that partners do as a good practice to avoid the multiplication of existent initiatives,
- Stakeholders can showcase their work under the ESUPS umbrella and gain visibility e.g. The Pacific Stockpile Mapping ([PALM](#)),
- ESUPS brings together stakeholders, governments, donors, the private sector, suppliers and academia to discuss and achieve agreements to develop together the pre-positioning strategy at regional levels and improve preparedness to better respond to emergencies.

## What is the Emergency Supply Pre-positioning Strategy (ESUPS) Working On?

- ESUPS is currently focused in Asia and the Philippines is the pilot country,
- In February 2018 OCHA hosted the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW) in Geneva where ESUPS targeted around 60 stakeholders responding to emergencies in Asia,
- As a follow up of the HNPW, the Project Manager went to Manila and had some meetings with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), The Office of Civil Defense (OCD), Action Against Hunger, Save the Children, the Red Cross, ChildFund, NASSA/Caritas, Save the Children, IOM, World Vision, FAO, WFP, The Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF), Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and OCHA Manila to promote the sharing of information on current available stocks in order to increase transparency on pre-stocked items and quantities,
- ESUPS is using the Pacific Stockpile Mapping (PALM) developed by the LogCluster Pacific Office to gather and share information on current available stock in the Philippines. This is an opportunity for stakeholders to analyse their own stock and make better procurement decisions,

- As an outcome of this mission, stakeholders in the Philippines are supporting the project by sharing data on current available stock and warehouses locations,
- PennState University mapped 34 warehouses in the Philippines and is currently analysing the received data by using models and metrics to identify if the right quantities of the most critical RIs are pre-positioned in the right places to minimize duplication/lack, distance and transportation of relief items to be deployed during emergencies,
- The next step should be to include the HCT to further develop the “ESUPS country-specific ToR in the Philippines” and review the “Consolidated list of pre-positioned items” that exist in the country,
- Currently, ESUPS is becoming an opportunity for donors to identify the stakeholders interested in improving their procurement activities in order to avoid duplicity of RIs so organizations have the opportunity to be more accountable to their donors,
- ESUPS is having discussions with USAID/OFDA in order to define the extension of the grant to continue the work of the project,
- We are looking for having the opportunity to establish a mechanism for sharing, loaning and borrowing stocks, the standardization of documentation of humanitarian commodities and for a solution for the branding relief items issue.

## Contact Us

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