

Case study – Advocacy and Civil/Mil Coordination

oPt – Occupied Palestinian Territories 2008 - 2009

The Gaza Logistics Cluster was established less than week after the 23 day conflict in the Gaza Strip began, as increasing numbers of humanitarian organisations began responding with emergency relief supplies for those affected. WFP, as the Logistics Cluster lead, established the Logistics Cluster in Jerusalem with a team of logistics staff drawn from WFP, Global Logistics Cluster Support Cell and standby partners.

However, in this context, the major logistical constraint was not the lack of or destruction of infrastructure, but rather the restrictions on access for humanitarian aid imposed by the Israeli authorities. In response, WFP established a common transport service for the humanitarian community which facilitated a consolidation of the daily requests to the Israeli authorities for access of humanitarian cargo into Gaza, made through a dedicated Civil-Military Liaison Officer who was part of the Logistics Cluster team.

By acting as a conduit for requests for access of humanitarian cargo with the authorities, WFP was able to track all cargos where specific consignment of relief cargo were denied approval to enter Gaza, thereby producing statistical reports that could be used as advocacy tools by the Logistics Cluster and others when lobbying for reversal of denied requests.