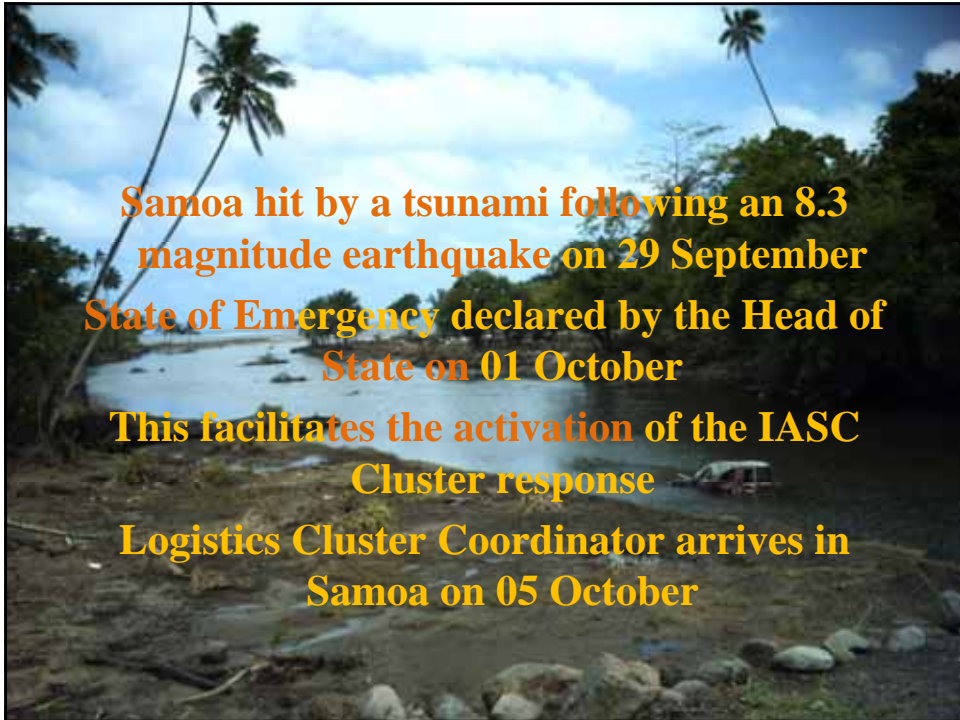


WFP Logistics Cluster Samoa Tsunami Response



**Samoa hit by a tsunami following an 8.3
magnitude earthquake on 29 September
State of Emergency declared by the Head of
State on 01 October
This facilitates the activation of the IASC
Cluster response
Logistics Cluster Coordinator arrives in
Samoa on 05 October**



Logistics Cluster Support

First Logistics Coordination meeting held on 07 October at NDMO Emergency Operations Centre in Apia. Emphasis on facilitating NDMO overall management of operation

Regular meeting schedule engages and involves Government Departments, State Corporations, Humanitarian Organizations, Bilateral Government Assistance and local Commercial Company representatives

Working Group formed to establish procedures for receipt of first aid vessel arriving on 15 October

Simple data entry sheet devised to record both solicited and private aid expected to arrive in-country

Lessons Learned / Challenges

The logistics meetings provided NDMO with a wider forum for information exchange and planning, which strengthened their overall management and coordination of the disaster response

Issues discussed at the meetings helped to identify gaps in the logistics support structures at a policy level, that will feed into revision of the National Disaster Management Plan

Procedures and guidelines established for the handling of the HMNZS Canterbury (this picture) assisted NDMO in preparing for the arrival of future aid consignments

The role of the Logistics Cluster was not widely understood within the humanitarian community and the region as a whole. It is not simply to be "a provider of last resort" for additional equipment and services

NDMO's breadth of responsibility for the operational functions of the disaster response placed strain on their overall management of the emergency relief programme



Recommendations

WFP and Logistics Cluster have an important role to play working with National Governments in the region to strengthen the operational elements of Disaster Management Plans

Integrating Logistics into the preparedness elements of the regional plan is essential for future response in the region

The service provisions and functions of the Logistics Cluster as part of the humanitarian response capacity need to be clarified