

Getting Started

Who is this manual for?

This user manual supports LogIE editors, primarily Information Management Officers (IMOs) and other professionals, update and maintain logistics-related information in LogIE.

What can you find in this manual?

This manual mainly explains:

- How logistics-related information in LogIE is divided into baseline and situational information.
- How to update and edit information in LogIE.
- How to monitor and ensure the information you share is up to date using LogIE.
- Additional functionalities available to editors in LogIE

This manual does not provide guidance on (among others):

- The conditions used to assess infrastructure status, such as determining when an airport is open or restricted, or whether a border crossing should be classified as closed or restricted.
- How to assess the accuracy of received information.
- How Logistics Cluster Maps should look like, or which information should they contain.
- How to source or find information to keep the logistics information up to date.

For guidance on these topics, please contact your HQ IMO for standard information management procedures.

Why updating and editing information in LogIE matter?

See LogIE as a tool for sharing logistics-related information in near-real-time with the Logistics Cluster partners and the broader humanitarian community. By updating the status of logistics data—such as access constraints, cross-border supply corridors, and the Logistics Cluster concept of operations—LogIE editors ensure that up-to-date information is available to support the humanitarian response.

The information maintained in LogIE is not limited to a single country or operation; it is part of a globally structured dataset across all Logistics Cluster operations, countries, and activities. This data is accessible and utilized in multiple ways. While it is available on the LogIE platform, it is also embedded on the Logistics Cluster website and LC App, and its datasets are downloaded through LogIE or shared via API, enabling partners to integrate this information directly into their own systems.

For example, OCHA has incorporated LogIE data into one of its information products for Lebanon in 2024. The information displayed is pulled directly from the updates maintained in LogIE.

Basics of LogIE

LogIE datasets are GIS layers

LogIE maintains and shares structured logistics datasets across all LC countries. This data is geo-referenced, meaning each dataset is linked to specific coordinates. In the GIS (Geographic Information Systems) community, these datasets are referred to as layers.

Built on GIS technology, LogIE organizes all its datasets into layers. The main layers in LogIE include aerodromes, ports, crossings, road statuses, bridges, supply corridors, and the LC concepts of operations.

The Module Approach

LogIE structures information into modules, each designed for a specific use case. Unlike traditional GIS software, which displays all available layers on a single page, LogIE groups layers into modules that present only the information relevant to a specific need. This approach ensures users can easily find the data they are looking for faster and more intuitively.

Think of LogIE's modules as different ways to interact with logistics data depending on the situation. For example:

- **Physical Access Constraints Module:** Helps partners assess infrastructure accessibility by displaying the current status of roads, bridges, ports, and aerodromes.
- **Partner Storage Capacity Module:** Supports organizations in identifying available storage facilities and potential shared spaces.
- **Concept of Operations (CONOPS) Module:** Provides an overview of the services and support offered by the Logistics Cluster.

In the GIS community, these are all considered layers. However, LogIE organizes them into modules, adjusting how the layers are grouped, displayed, and symbolized. This modular approach makes LogIE more intuitive and user-friendly, ensuring logistics partners can quickly access relevant information without navigating through all available layers.

For more information on the modules available on LogIE see: <http://logcluster.org/logie/about>

Baseline and Situational Information

In LogIE, logistics-related information is organised into two different categories to ensure data remains accurate and up to date: baseline information and situational information..

- **Baseline information** refers to the static, long-term characteristics of logistics infrastructure—details that typically remain unchanged over time. For example, when it comes to roads, baseline information could include attributes like the shape and location of the road, the type of road (primary, secondary, tertiary, path, trail, etc.), the road name, or its road number. These are just examples of the kinds of baseline details for roads that generally don't change frequently. Similarly, for airports, baseline information might include attributes such as the number of runways, their dimensions, IATA/ICAO codes, the number of helipads, and the presence of facilities like customs offices, cargo terminals, or ground handling services. These are

also just examples of the baseline details related to airports.

- **Situational information**, on the other hand, refers to the current status of logistics infrastructure, which can change more frequently. For example, a road might be impassable today due to flooding in a specific area but could become passable again in a week. Similarly, due to the same flooding, an airport might remain closed for all flights for the first three days. These are examples of situational information which changes in response to ongoing events.

Most of the baseline information related to logistics infrastructure is already maintained through the LCA (Logistics Cluster Assessment), which LogIE integrates and links. This means that when you click on an infrastructure element, such as a port, airport, or border crossing, the relevant baseline information will automatically display.

As an IMO, your main focus will typically be on updating situational information, as the baseline data is already maintained and linked within LogIE. While you may occasionally need to update baseline information, your primary responsibility will be ensuring that situational data remains current and accurate.

Situational Information in LogIE

Understanding Situational Information in LogIE

Situational information in LogIE generally refers to the current status of logistics infrastructure and needs to be updated frequently during a humanitarian response. The key attributes of situational information are:

- **Current Status:** Describes the operational state of the infrastructure at present. Common statuses include "Operational," "Restricted," and "Not Operational." The specific options available vary by infrastructure type (e.g., roads, ports, entry points).
- **Comments:** Provides additional context or clarifications that might not be captured by the predefined status options. Comments help explain the nuances of the situation, ensuring that users fully understand the context.
- **Source of Information:** Specifies where the information originated, such as a local government agency or a field team. This enhances transparency and credibility.
- **Reliability of Information:** An optional field that allows users to rate the credibility of the source. This is helpful when conflicting information arises or when multiple updates come from different sources.
- **Date of Situational Information:** Indicates the most recent verification or update date, ensuring that users are aware of how current the information is. Timeliness is especially important for situational data that can change rapidly.

These attributes are common to the main infrastructure layers in LogIE. As an IMO, part of your responsibility is to regularly update or confirm the situational status of infrastructure elements

Updating Methods

Situational information can be updated in two primary ways:

- **One-by-One Updates:** Ideal for quick, specific changes to individual infrastructure elements.
- **Bulk Updates:** Useful when multiple infrastructure elements are affected by the same event, such as the closure of several airports due to a natural disaster. This allows users to apply changes to multiple elements at once, streamlining the update process.

Frequency of Updates

To ensure information remains up to date, LogIE provides a mechanism to track updates based on a predefined frequency (e.g., weekly updates). If an update is not made within the specified time frame, the infrastructure element will be flagged as outdated.

A checklist feature in LogIE helps editors monitor, update, and confirm the status of infrastructure elements. This checklist makes it easy to track which infrastructure needs an update, confirm its current status, or make direct changes. It all happens in a single, unified interface, ensuring efficient and organized information management.