

# Rapid response to natural disasters



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

## RapidResponse[c1]

One of the most important features of logistic support management is a quick response following a natural disaster. With the recent improvement of information technology, the logistical operation has been able to be conducted on time and the delivery of the required materials to the victims has been more efficient than ever. A rapid response towards the natural disaster is crucial in order to minimize the damage being done and also reduce the number of lives lost, especially in the aftermath, which could be due to lack of medical coverage or insufficient food or water. This is why transportation method such as land, air and water transport is the most important before, during and after the disasters struck. In providing a rapid response towards a disaster, there come certain challenges with it such as[1];

### 1. Relocating critical equipment and commodities when a disaster warning is given

1. Relocating[c2]the critical equipment and commodities needs to be carefully structured and planned as it needs to as far away as possible from the disaster location, to be completely safe from its effect radius. But it needs to be as close as possible to the disaster in order to provide a quick relief to those who are affected by the disaster.
2. (suggestion – buat assessment tentang disaster effect radius, and put away from that radius)

### 2. Evacuation plans

1. If a disaster struck a nation in all of a sudden, the people will all be still in the location and facing the disaster as it happens. This kind of situation will require a perfect evacuation plan as it involves a massive chaos and difficult to get things done in order. A chaotic situation in an already badly struck location will cause further damage and an increasing number of loss as it hastens the process of rescuing the people and providing an effective disaster aid.
2. (suggestion – training and educating people about evacuating safely and in order. Rehearsal)
3. Clearing path for the movement of people and materials after the disaster
  1. Related to the evacuation plans is the path or road being used to move the people out of the disaster area, as it might not be as in good condition as it were before. It might be congested with traffic of the people wanted to get out of the area, or full of rubbles from the destructions of the buildings and facilities, or being filled with mudslides or submerged in floodwater. These are the problems faced when a disaster relief operation is trying to provide a rapid response towards a disaster.
  2. (suggestion – )
4. Method and procedures in the movement of casualties
  1. As a disaster struck, it normally causes a lot of casualties, with most of them involving major injuries that may lead to death. As rapid response is aiming towards reducing the number of death, it requires a proper management in terms of the

method and procedures of dealing with the casualties. Not all personnel involved in the disaster aid relief operation are well trained with the procedures as it also involves volunteers from around the world. Though their intention is good, it may also hasten the process and thus the effort of trying to provide rapid response is diminished.

2. (suggestion – provide more training for volunteering bodies around the world of a standard operating procedure and methods being used)

5. Bringing in rescue and repair team, together with their facilities and equipment

## Transport

In the event of a disaster, the resources needed as part of a relief operation must be transported to the affected area as quickly as possible to attend to the casualties and also reduce the number of deaths and prevent further damages to that area. But providing the amount of transport for all that in such a short time is a big challenge as part of the logistic support group. It is key to use whatever transportation left in the affected area, especially as bigger and better transport from outside is being delayed with the route being cut off as a result of the disaster. And getting the cooperation from the agencies, companies or any organization with any method of transportation is also a challenge as it might involve funds, assets and other matters that need time to be coordinated.

(suggestion – deal with local organizations, agencies or companies as part of their own disaster plan)

(suggestion – create a networking system between all agencies and organizations for cooperation in terms of transportation to increase the efficiency of the relief operations)

### Coordination and Collaborations

Dealing with the event of a natural disaster, it is hard for the affected nation to handle the matter on its own, as their system is crippled and the organization is in chaos. This is why it will need help and support from other nation, especially their neighboring countries or member countries of a regional organization. During a disaster relief, part of the logistic matter is moving and distributing the commodities in as short time as possible to the victims, and this normally involves huge transportation coordination and is a very expensive matter. And certain processes or procedures are too complex to be used in such a critical time where everything needs to be done in such a short space of time.

(suggestion – more detailed cooperation between member countries of any organization must be made (OIC, NAM, etc.), not focusing only on regional organization. Better coordination brings better process standardization – better cooperation and better results)

(suggestion – information sharing on the critical needs, then easier to coord)

### Understanding Environments

For the coalition or regional organization, a disaster relief operation mostly involves working in a very different environment and also limited to several constraints. For example, in a disaster that involves conflicts, the distribution

<https://assignbuster.com/rapid-response-to-natural-disasters/>

and transportation of goods might not be as smooth as it should be. Even with good conditioned roads and transport vehicles, they might be susceptible to attacks, ambushes or mines. Their supply center and relief workers might also be targets for these attacks, which might hamper the process of reaching out to the victims. Political situation might also pose a problem to the success of the relief operation as different groups try to take advantage of the distribution process in the name of their own organization for political gains. Though it has nothing to do with the disaster relief operation organization, it does hamper the initial objective of delivering the goods as quickly as possible to the right community.

(suggestion – local capabilities must be identified, as the utilization of their capacities will provide benefits to the relief operation. must identify mana proses yg boleh cepat, mana yg akan lambat. Siapa yg boleh tolong, siapa yg akan menyusahkan.)

### Sustenance Support

Even though the initial support or relief is crucial in saving lives and minimizing damages, it needs to be sustained for a longer period of time in order for it to be completely functioning as it is supposed to be. Resupplies must be coordinated so that the right amount is delivered, as it might vary from the initial quantity and specifications, as adjustments on the commodities are being made from time to time.

(suggestion – after receiving the initial support, local authorities must work out the on adjustments and on providing resupplies. Not totally depending on supports from others only.)

## Packaging

xxx

(suggestion – The aspect of the logistic support that must be given the importance is the Packaging of commodities. Handling equipment, determine the bulk of the unit package should be done accurately as to protect it from damaging. However, Storage and transport circumstances determine the strength of the package unit. For example medicines in plastic bottles survive rough road transport. Other related aspect that should be kept in mind is Shelf-life Climate, Spoilage, Pest resistance (FEMA, 2013, NDMA, 2010).

### Protecting Important Provisions

After the episode of disaster large-scale, relief logistics require consistent and sustained supplies of critical and fast-moving products such as fuel, oil, lubricants, tires, and essential spare parts. In addition, expansion of an operation requires shipments of high value specialist equipment. The time of disaster condition is critical any need may rise therefore before during and after the disaster the protection, handling and provision of the related supplies must be done carefully, such as; Fuel import, refining, and storage, Materials handling and storage at ports , Unloading and bagging equipment, container handling, and secure Storage, Handling and storage at Airport , Storage at developing regional airfields, local assembly and secure packing of tires and spares parts ( UNDP, 2006; NDMA, 2010).

### Security

Time taken to get clearance or permission will cause delay.

Commercial airfields & ports might be damaged as a result from the disaster. So need to use unconventional ways such as military infrastructure as nearest point of entry. This will need special clearance & requires more time to get permissions

Security arrangements should be reviewed as soon as the disaster hits. Access to some routes and airfields may be destructed to reach the location or clearance and permits may be needed by the logistic supply teams, especially in emergencies. Hence, Arrangements should be made to obtain the relevant documents before, rather than after, the onset of a disaster (Iqbal et al., 2007; UNDP, 2006).

### Distribution

Distribution of products to victims at the disaster location is distinct from transport and handling bulk package of commodities. The assignment of distribution is commonly decentralized to a distinct agency. It includes the physical and non-physical transfer or distribution from their point of production to the point at which they made available to the victims. The effectiveness of distribution systems depends largely on how recipients are selected and identified in the first place. Often this is a complex and highly political activity, over which external implementing agencies has only limited influence (UNDP, 2006).



## **Bibliography**

United Nation Development Program (UNDP). (2006). *Logistics: Disaster Management Training Program*. New York.

---

[1]UNDP. (2006)

---

[c1]Dah siap rephrase

[c2]Yang nombor (i) semua chong sendiri.. nak kena bubuh reference ke?

[c3]Yang nombor (i) semua chong sendiri.. nak kena bubuh reference ke?

[c4]Yang nombor (i) semua chong sendiri.. nak kena bubuh reference ke?

[c5]Yang nombor (i) semua chong sendiri.. nak kena bubuh reference ke?