

Abstract

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Factors affecting the Performance of Humanitarian Logistics Activities in Egypt

Purpose of this paper: Humanitarian logistics is critical during disasters, crises and emergency cases, to prevent loss of lives and property. The aim of HL is to alleviate the suffering of vulnerable people during disasters and crises by transporting people supply the reliefs. The number of people affected by disasters with negative consequences for humans, has risen to get global attention. Developing countries, and their most vulnerable populations, are especially at risk. Therefore, the main objective of the study is to address factors that affect the performance of humanitarian logistics activities in response, recovery phases in Egypt. These factors are financial resource, human resource & institutional learning, use of information technology, collaboration and communication, government situational factors, adequate donors funding, socio-economic situational factors and environmental and infrastructure situational factors. Design/methodology/approach: This research is mixed between descriptive and explanatory research. It describe the factors that affect the performance of humanitarian logistics and explain to what extend these factors have impact on the HL performance. The research had applied the deductive approach (quantitative) using a questionnaire survey. The population for this research is the Egyptian business experts engaged in humanitarian logistics in local and international humanitarian in Egypt. The researcher used a convenience sampling technique of 80 Egyptian experts of being engaged in human logistics activities in Alexandria, Egypt. Findings: The research revealed that professional staff and institutional learning is the most important factor among the internal factors that showed statistically significant associated with humanitarian logistics activities. However, infrastructure and environmental situational factors is the most important factor among the external factors showed statistically significant associated with humanitarian logistics activities Value: The value of this study is to fill the gap in previous and relevant practitioners' studies through addressing the different factors that affect the logistics humanitarian performance in response and recovery phases. In the last several years, most publications have focussed on strategic decision making, humanitarian logistics models, criterial success factors and challenges. Despite of those contributions of the existing literature reviews, the need for more studies into the disaster recovery phase and the need for closer relationships between academia and humanitarian organizations to generate more applied research. Research limitations/implications (if applicable): The study opens new opportunities for researchers for further investigation for conducting comparative study targeting corporate sectors, development projects and specific emergencies in other geographical areas. Practical implications (if applicable): This study is a useful guidance for humanitarian organization managers and all stakeholders to concern with those factors to avoid any delays to transport and supply reliefs. This is done by addressing and highlighting the factors that effect on the humanitarian logistics in response and recovery phases.