

UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

UMT

**Crafting Humanitarian Supply Chain Management Framework
For a Developing Nation**



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Table of Contents

List of Figures	iv
1. Abstract.....	v
2. Introduction.....	1
2.1. Previous Studies and Gap Identification	2
2.2. Significance of Study	9
2.3 Purpose of the Study	13
2.4. Research Objectives	15
2.5. Research Questions	16
3. Literature Review.....	17
3.1. Supply Chain & Supply Chain Management	17
3.2. Humanitarian Supply Chain Management	19
3.3. Disaster Management in Pakistan	21
3.4. Disaster Management Problems.....	26
3.5. Humanitarian Supply Chain Management Framework.....	34
3.6. Proposed HSCM Framework for Pakistan.....	42
4. Research Methodology	50
4.1. Research Design.....	50
4.2. Case Determination and Selection	53
4.3. Data Collection and Analysis.....	55
4.4. Research Quality	58
5. Analysis and Results	61
5.1. Demographic Attributes	61
5.2. Theory Building and Findings.....	68
5.3. HSCM Framework Development.....	86
6. Discussion.....	112

7. Conclusion.....	118
8. Limitations and Future Research.....	120
9. References.....	122
10. Appendix A1.....	138
11. Appendix A2.....	143
12. Appendix A3.....	148

List of Figures

Figure 1. Basic HSC	07
Figure 2. Disaster Management Process	20
Figure 3. Last Mile Relief Distribution Logistics Framework	36
Figure 4. SAP-LAP Framework for HSCM	38
Figure 5. Generalized HSCM Model	39
Figure 6. Basic Disaster Management Model	44
Figure 7. Proposed Humanitarian Supply Chain Management Framework	49
Figure 8. Research Route Map	51
Figure 9. Textual Analysis	70
Figure 10. Thematic analysis of HSCM mechanism that highlights inter and intra connections of effectiveness and approach adoption	73
Figure 11. Associations between HSCM effectiveness and approach adoption with respect to case comparisons	74
Figure 12. Coding analysis for HSCM effectiveness	75
Figure 13. Coding analysis for HSCM approach	76
Figure 14. Interaction of HSCM mechanism elements with secondary sources	77
Figure 15. Key HSCM factors and their interplay	80
Figure 16. Textual analysis of HSCM problems and challenges	82
Figure 17. Basic association between HSCM factors and problems	85
Figure 18. Outcome based interaction of HSCM factors and problems	86
Figure 19. Disaster Management Cycle	88
Figure 20. Comparative analysis of pre-disaster stages in context of recognition by coded sources	88
Figure 21. Comparative analysis of post-disaster stages in context of recognition by coded sources	89
Figure 22. Inter-relationship of DM stakeholders	91
Figure 23. Closed-Loop Humanitarian Supply Chain Management framework developed for Pakistan	101

1. Abstract

Natural disasters have started increasing both in terms of frequency and magnitude. Most of the Asian countries, including Pakistan, are very much prone to natural disasters especially to the floods and earthquakes resulting in extremely vulnerable aftermaths. The purpose of this study is to investigate the efficacy of existing disaster management approaches in context of a developing country and to propose a systematic Humanitarian Supply Chain Management (HSCM) Framework in order to overcome the challenges faced regarding relief operations management.

Case study methodology has been adopted for detailed examination of phenomenon of interest. A single case of HSCM has been selected along with embedded units including NGO, Government Disaster Management Authority (GDMA) and disaster victims. Data has been collected from multiple sources in order to triangulate data including primary and secondary sources. Semi-structured interviews have been conducted to collect primary data from sub-units of case.

It has been found that poor mechanism has been prevailing in Pakistan in terms of pre-disaster contingency planning, disaster time emergency response and post-disaster consequence management. Such erratic and unsystematic approach drives reactivity and ineffectiveness of disaster management. This study proposes a comprehensive HSCM framework to address underlying endogenous and exogenous challenges.

The significance of this study is that it will add to the scarce literature available on HSCM from perspective of developing countries. Secondly, this study will also facilitate all involved parties including those that act voluntarily as well as those that are liable for relief operations management, as it lays down basic foundation for all stakeholders of HSCM to understand

factors that hamper their abilities to manage natural disasters as well as guide them to treat such events in ex-ante manner in the light of proposed holistic and flexible HSCM framework.

Keywords: Disaster Management, Supply Chain Management, Humanitarian Supply Chain Management, Pakistan.

2. Introduction

Although the nature has been bestowed by the creator which becomes cause of fascinations for the mankind, but on the other side mankind is also being suffered by the same nature due to occurrence of disasters since its creation. Man himself can also become the cause of disasters by acting in a way that opposes the laws of nature. Disaster is defined as an abrupt and catastrophic event that results in severe disruption of the functioning of the affected community causing massive losses in terms of human, material, economy and/or environment that surpass the capability of the community to overcome using its own capacities and resources (Mayner and Arbon, 2015).