

**THE INFLUENCE OF HUMANITARIAN LOGISTICS ON DISASTER
RELIEF OPERATIONS IN TANZANIA: A CASE OF RED CROSS SOCIETY
TANZANIA**

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**DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
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2025

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that they have read and hereby recommends for acceptance by the Open University, a dissertation titled: **“The Influence of Humanitarian Logistics on Disaster Relief operations in Tanzania”**, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Transportation and Logistics Management of the Open University of Tanzania.

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Signature

.....

Date

DEDICATION

I dedicate this dissertation to my family. This dissertation is the result of their sacrifice and commitment to supporting my education and career.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Primarily, I express my gratitude to the Almighty God for bestowing upon me the strength and fortitude to complete my education and undertake this research.

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ABSTRACT

This research investigated the influence of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief efforts in Tanzania. The study was guided by three objectives; examined the influence of logistical coordination, transportation, and information sharing on disaster relief operations. Stakeholder theory was used. Positivity philosophy was used, as well as a quantitative approach. The study employed an explanatory research design and included a population of 120 Red Cross personnel, from whom a sample of 108 was selected using a simple random approach. Questionnaires were employed in the data collected process. Descriptive statistics and multiple regression analyses were employed for the quantitative data analysis. The study revealed that disaster relief efforts were significantly and positively impacted by logistical coordination, transportation and information sharing. Finally, it was discovered that information sharing significantly improved the effectiveness of disaster relief efforts. Generally, the study concludes that disaster relief effort was positively influence by logistical coordination, transportation, and information sharing. The study recommends that the government enhance the laws governing private-public partnerships. Enhancing public-private partnerships specifically addresses catastrophe and crisis-related challenges. This study may also suggest to the government and policymakers create laws and regulations that address the aforementioned aspects of information sharing, transportation, and logistics coordination.

Keywords: *Humanitarian logistics, disaster relief effort, logistical coordination, transportation, and information sharing.*

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ANRS	-	Amhara National Regional State Disaster Prevention and Food Security
BWM	-	Best-Worst Method
DSM	-	Dar es Salaam
HQ	-	Headquarter
HRO	-	Humanitarian Relief Organization
ICT	-	Information and Communication Technology
INGOs	-	International Non-Government Organizations
IRC	-	International Rescue Committee
IT	-	Information Technology
NDRF's	-	National Disaster Response Forces
NGOs	-	Non-Government Organizations
ORDA	-	Organization for Rehabilitation and Development Agency
SCM	-	Supply chain management
SPSS	-	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
SRM	-	Supplier Relationship Management
UAVs	-	Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
UAVs	-	Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
WFP	-	World Food Program

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

This chapter delineates the background to the study, problem statement, objectives, research hypotheses, significance, scope, and organization of the dissertation.

1.2 Background to the Study

Humanitarian logistics is the process of organizing, coordinating, and managing the affordable and effective transportation and storage of supplies, resources, and related data from the point of origin to the consumption site (Ab Malik et al., 2020). The objective of this process is to alleviate the suffering of vulnerable individuals, especially during times of crisis. Planning, purchasing, shipping, warehousing, tracking, tracing, and customs clearance are important logistics tasks. Reducing the impact of disasters requires effective humanitarian logistics, which guarantees that impacted populations receive the necessary supplies at the appropriate time and place (Thomas, 2021). Health-related emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic have brought attention to how important this is (Sanchez, 2020).

Worldwide, calamities such as the 2010 Haiti earthquake, the 2014 Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, the 2017 Japan earthquake, and the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami have caused significant devastation (Khan et al., 2020). Global stakeholders, comprising governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), humanitarian agencies, and the economic sector, reacted to these natural disasters (Pasman et al., 2020). Agencies such as Doctors without Borders (MSF), the

International Federation of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the United Nations Office for the coordination of Emergency Situations (UNOCHA) were pivotal in directing relief operations. A wide range of stakeholders worked together to deliver humanitarian help in response to man-made disasters like the 2020 Beirut explosion and the 2001 World Trade Centre attacks (Pasman et al., 2020).

In Africa, coordination of disaster response efforts is still difficult. For instance, the 2009 National Disaster Response Plan made clear the logistical coordination challenges faced by Kenyan humanitarian groups (Karanja, et al., 2020). Inadequate coordination was identified as a significant impediment to the effective implementation of aid in this initiative, formulated by the Ministry of Provincial Administration and Internal Affairs and the Office of the President's Ministry of State for Special Programmes (MSSP) (Mweiga, 2021). Committees were formed to synchronize resources with stakeholder groups during the COVID-19 and Ebola epidemics that occurred in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), although these initiatives yielded minimal success (Nachega et al., 2020).

In Tanzania, the absence of infrastructure and procedures for disaster management has long been a problem. According to Stephano (2020), the nation has had difficulty responding to and managing calamities. Despite the involvement of several stakeholders such as the Tanzanian Red Cross Society, government agencies, and local non-governmental organisations in disaster relief efforts, coordination issues persist. Saleh and Karia (2020) stress the importance of humanitarian logistics in

disaster management and the need for improved stakeholder communication and resource allocation.

Humanitarian logistics is essential in the design, execution, and management of relief operations. Stakeholder theory posits that coordination, transportation, and information exchange among stakeholders are essential for the efficacy of relief activities (Freeman, 2010; Gunasekaran *et al.*, 2023). Disaster relief operations rely largely on coordination, information flow, transportation, and other tasks, hence effective humanitarian logistics are critical claims that inadequate planning, poor communication, disorganised leadership, and resource limitations are common problems in disaster relief efforts. Collaboration among stakeholders is essential to overcoming these obstacles. The idea of stakeholders posits that the efficacy of relief operations is contingent upon the seamless coordination, exchange of information, and coordination among diverse entities such as governments, non-governmental organisations, donors, and private enterprises (Panda, 2024; Sahay *et al.*, 2020).

Establishing unambiguous channels of communication and providing frequent updates on relief activities are essential to improving coordination and teamwork. During disaster response, technology in particular, information management systems can be extremely helpful in facilitating the flow of information and supporting decision-making (Kovács & Spens, 2020). In order to conduct successful disaster relief operations, additional work must be done to enhance transportation infrastructure and the proactive sharing of information, even in the face of advancements in humanitarian logistics.

Despite efforts to improve humanitarian logistics methods, further actions are necessary to ensure the efficacy of disaster relief initiatives. Enhancing transport infrastructure for catastrophes and establishing effective coordination and proactive information sharing are essential to effective recovery operations, as highlighted by Nergi (2022). Few studies have particularly addressed disaster like pandemic by humanitarian logistics, despite the fact that several have emphasized the significance of humanitarian logistics in disaster relief efforts (Mpanju, 2018; Mazrui, et al. 2020). Furthermore, Tanzania has little research on humanitarian logistics in disaster relief activities.

Humanitarian logistics can be challenging, and existing literature emphasizes the factors and challenges in humanitarian logistics on disaster relief (Mazrul *et al.* 2020, and Nergi, 2022), while ignoring the effect of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief operations including coordination, transportation, and information flow on both the horizontal and vertical levels is essential to efficient humanitarian logistics. Consequently, the study evaluated the impact of humanitarian supplies on relief efforts for disasters in Tanzania. This study focuses on the essential aspects of cooperation, transportation, and information flow to assess the impact of logistics for humanitarian assistance on disaster relief efforts in Tanzania.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

Humanitarian logistics plays a vital role during disasters, especially when conventional logistics systems fail to maintain the flow of goods and services. It ensures the timely delivery of critical supplies to affected areas, reducing the impact

of a crisis (Schiffling et al., 2020). Yet, developing countries like Tanzania continue to face major challenges in organizing effective humanitarian logistics Mazrul *et al.* 2020).

The Tanzanian government has taken initiatives to improve logistics systems, such as preparedness programs, partnerships with relief agencies like the Red Cross, and training programs for logistics officers to enhance disaster response. Despite these efforts, the systems remain fragmented and insufficient due to weak transport infrastructure, poor coordination, and limited information flow, particularly in remote areas (Nergi, 2022). These limitations continue to hinder effective response operations.

Although most existing studies have emphasized the importance of humanitarian logistics, they have primarily focused on natural disasters and failed to examine how coordination, transportation, and information sharing collectively influence disaster relief operations (Mazrul et al., 2020; Nergi, 2022). This limits understanding of their combined impact in the Tanzanian context. This study addresses that gap by assessing the joint effect of these logistics functions on disaster relief operations during pandemics in Tanzania.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

1.4.1 General Objective

To examine the influence of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief operations in Tanzania.

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

This study specifically focuses on the following objectives;

- i. To determine the influence of logistical coordination on disaster relief operations in Tanzania
- ii. To examine the influence of information flow on disaster relief operations in Tanzania.
- iii. To assess the influence of transportation on disaster relief operations in Tanzania.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The effect of this study on public resources is very crucial, mostly in adding value through humanitarian organization and disaster relief operations specifically to the Government, humanitarian organizations, and other researchers as detailed here: -

1.5.1 To the Government

The findings can aid the government in prioritizing public-private partnerships, improving infrastructure reliability, and enabling logistics companies and humanitarian organizations to enhance the efficacy of humanitarian logistics in responding to disasters.

1.5.2 To the Policy Makers

The study can assist policymakers in formulating frameworks to enhance collaboration among stakeholders and logistical systems in disaster relief operations. Policymakers can utilize the study's findings to improve the efficacy of disaster relief

operations and the operations of organizations that specialize in humanitarian logistics.

1.5.3 To the Humanitarian Organizations

This study can furnish valuable insights to humanitarian organizations for establishing and enhancing collaborations with other international disaster relief entities and humanitarian organizations, thereby fortifying logistics for disaster relief activities.

1.5.4 To the Researcher

This study adds to the existing knowledge on theory and strengthening the humanitarian logistics systems. This study creates motivation for academics and researchers in carrying out further studies of the gaps to contribute to the humanitarian logistics and disaster relief operations in their new findings regarding the detailed analysis of logistics coordination, information flow, and transportation about humanitarian logistics.

1.6 Scope of the Study

The study focused to evaluate how Tanzania's disaster relief efforts are impacted by humanitarian logistics. It specifically looked at how transportation, information sharing, and logistics coordination affect disaster relief efforts, with data being gathered using the Red Cross Society Tanzania as a case study. These factors were chosen because they are essential to the first response to a disaster. The study not included certain variables, like inventory management, warehousing, and customs

clearance. Even though they are crucial to logistics as a whole, these areas are more pertinent to long-term supply chain management than to disaster relief efforts. Their exclusion enables the study to concentrate on the logistical variables that are most important for prompt disaster relief efforts.

However, there are various restrictions on the study. The limited timeframe for data gathering makes it more difficult to record logistics responses for various disaster scenarios. Geographically, the study is limited to the Red Cross Society Tanzania; as a result, the results might not accurately reflect the difficulties associated with logistics in other locations, especially rural ones. While the sample size, which come from Red Cross employees, offers insightful information, its limited size may limit how far the findings may be applied. Structured questionnaires were used to gather data; while this enabled quantitative analysis, it may also restrict the breadth of responses.

Last, because the study only used quantitative data analysis, statistical methods may not fully reflect the complexity of logistics difficulties in disasters circumstances, even though they may highlight links between logistical factors and disaster relief operations.

1.7 Organization of the Study

This dissertation comprises five chapters. The introductory chapter encompasses an introduction, research context, problem statement, general and specific objectives, research hypotheses, significance of the investigation, scope of the study, and

structure of the study. Chapter two comprises the literature review, encompassing the introductory section, definitions of concepts and terminology, theoretical literature analysis, empirical study examination, and conceptual framework. Chapter three outlines the research methodology, including the method of inquiry, design, study area, population, sample size, sampling tactics, data collection techniques, reliability and validity, data processing techniques, and ethical considerations. Chapter four presents and analyzes the data, while the final chapter includes a summary, conclusions, and suggestions of the study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Overview

This chapter includes a review of empirical as well as theoretical research. The theoretical portion analyzes the literature on key term definitions and the study's theories, while also addressing empirical literature and the conceptual framework in this chapter.

2.2 Definition of Key Terms

2.2.1 Disaster

A disaster is an event that severely disrupts the functioning of a society or community, causing human, material, financial, or environmental damage that exceeds the management capabilities of local agencies using standard procedures (Jiang & Yuan, 2024). A disaster is a substantial disruption of a community or society's operations, leading to considerable human, material, financial, or environmental losses and effects, exceeding the ability of the affected community or society to cope with its own supplies (Wood et al. 2020). This study defines a disaster as a substantial event that unfolds over time, causing harm to individuals, property, the economy, or the environment, which the affected community or society cannot manage alone.

2.2.2 Disaster Relief Operations

Wood et al. (2020) characterize relief as external participation in society intended to aid local inhabitants. Disaster relief operations entail coordinating the transportation

of first aid supplies, food, equipment, and personnel for rescue from supply locations to various geographically dispersed sites within the disaster zone, along with the prompt and secure evacuation as well as transfer of affected people to nearby healthcare facilities (Barbarosoğlu et al., 2022). This study characterizes disaster relief operations as a series of actions that include the establishment of communication infrastructures, the implementation of rescue operations, and the delivery of essential first aid services.

2.2.3 Humanitarian Logistics

Humanitarian logistics encompasses the strategic planning, coordination, execution, and supervision of economical and efficient transportation and storage of materials, information, and funds from the origin to the destination, with the objective of meeting the fundamental needs of victims, including food, shelter, medicine, and equipment, arising from natural or anthropogenic catastrophes (Altay, et al., 2023). Humanitarian logistics entails the deployment of resources, manpower, information, and knowledge to aid individuals affected by natural or anthropogenic disasters and intricate situations (Thomas, 2021). This study characterizes logistics for humanitarian assistance as the mobilization of assets, knowledge, and financing for the delivery of goods from the point of origin to the point of consuming to support disaster relief efforts.

2.2.4 Information Flow

The flow of information is an effective transmission of data from a source to a destination (Vitasek, 2024). The transmission of information may traverse many

locations, resulting in the aggregation of additional data integrated into the information flow. Yohana (2022) asserts that information flow encompasses the access, dissemination, and documentation of information among individuals, making information sharing a crucial component of this process. Various information flows among enterprises in a supply and logistics chain encompass order status, inventory levels, sales data, sales projections, production schedules, and delivery timelines. In this study, information flow denotes the interchange of disaster-related information between a community and a humanitarian organization, or vice versa.

2.2.5 Logistics

Vitasek (2024) characterizes logistics as a facet of the management of supply chains (SCM) that involves the planning, execution, and oversight of the effective and efficient movement of materials, information, and financial resources (both forward and the opposite direction) from the origin to the consumption point, aimed at fulfilling customer demands promptly. Logistics is intricately associated with the planning and management of material and information flow. The basic purpose of logistics is to ensure the timely delivery of goods in the correct quantity and according to the company's strategy to the customers (Schiffling et al., 2020). This study defines logistics as the transportation of procured commodities and supplies from the origin to the end users to facilitate disaster activities.

2.2.6 Logistics Coordination

Yohana (2022) characterizes logistics coordination as the management of the interrelated actions undertaken to attain a specific objective. This notion underscores

the interdependence between response organizations and disaster relief entities, as they share the common goal of safeguarding human life. Logistic coordination is a collaborative endeavor among distinct units or organizations aimed at integrating activities to facilitate the efficient and effective transportation of commodities, hence attaining common objectives (Nergi, 2022). In this study, logistic coordination denotes the joint execution of actions associated with the transportation of commodities from the point of origin to the end users.

2.2.7 Transportation

Atshipara (2024) discusses the transportation of commodities and individuals between locations and the diverse methods employed for this movement. Transportation of individuals and commodities from one site to another (Yusuf, 2021). Transportation occurs across multiple modalities, including air, rail, road, water, cable, pipelines, and space. In this study, transportation denotes the activities related to the transfer of commodities and individuals from the impacted zone to a secure location during disaster operations.

2.3 Theoretical Literature Review

Theoretical literature review involves the connection that is developed between elements as well as the rationale behind the respective connection built. It is normally reached after a thorough literature review on the intended subject (Saunders, *et al.*, 2019). This section includes the theory concerning the respective study as follows:

2.3.1 Stakeholder Theory

Edward R. Freeman established the concept of stakeholders in 1984. The stakeholder theory posits that disasters can affect all stakeholders and their daily operations, resulting in supply shortages and price fluctuations (Freeman, 2010; Gunasekaran et al., 2023). According to Ademola and Adebayo (2014), stakeholders are individuals or groups with a vested interest in a corporation or business, who can affect or be affected by the organization's operations. Organizations providing aid to disaster-affected areas rely on downstream logistical and supply chains, while victims depend on relief organizations and agencies (Carter, 2015).

The cooperation, coordination, and communications among stakeholders are vital for the effectiveness of relief activities. To address these issues, it is crucial to enhance collaboration among stakeholders involved in disaster relief efforts and humanitarian logistics (Gunasekaran et al., 2023). This collaboration would enable a coordinated endeavor and the amalgamation of resources for efforts to rescue people. Private and public stakeholders can participate in disaster and humanitarian operations through various methods, with information exchange and collaborative planning being essential for effective relief efforts.

Coordinating logistics includes organizing, supervising, and controlling the flow of people and supplies during disaster relief efforts (Ademola & Adebayo, 2014). In order to expedite logistics procedures and maximize resource usage, supply chain specialists, transportation providers, and warehouse managers are among the stakeholders with logistics experience that should be involved, according to

stakeholder theory. Aid may be delivered to impacted communities more quickly by working with stakeholders to build supply chains, distribution networks, and inventory management systems. This will improve logistics coordination and minimize bottlenecks. Improved responsiveness and resilience of logistics operations in dynamic crisis scenarios can be achieved through the implementation of agile logistics strategies, contingency planning, and risk mitigation techniques.

Corporate stakeholders must acknowledge the impact of disasters on their operations and supply chains and may indirectly support disaster and relief efforts through contractual arrangements (Carter, 2015). Organizations can promote economic growth in war-torn or post-disaster areas and improve employment prospects for impacted communities by collaborating with the international aid network and local authorities (Bray & Crockett, 2012). Effective logistical coordination, information dissemination, and public transportation can improve long-term disaster and humanitarian response as well as recovery (Nkamnebe & Idemobi, 2011; Yates & Paquette, 2011). When it comes to disaster relief operations, transportation logistics are crucial to the prompt supply of personnel, equipment, and supplies to affected areas. Quickly reaching affected communities and resolving logistical issues are made possible by effective transportation systems.

Stakeholder theory can assist organizations in identifying important stakeholders, including local communities, governmental bodies, and transportation companies, in order to form alliances and efficiently manage transportation resources. Organizations can improve transport routes, prioritize deliveries, and guarantee that

resources are efficiently dispersed to areas in need by incorporating stakeholders in the planning, decision-making, and implementation phases of transportation projects. This theory will assist in directing this study as it posits that coordination, transportation, and information exchange among stakeholders are essential for the efficacy of relief efforts. To tackle these problems, it is essential to facilitate coordination among stakeholders engaged in disaster relief operations and humanitarian logistics. Effective information flow is critical to enable coordination, decision-making, and resource allocation during disaster relief efforts.

The stakeholder theory highlights the significance of involving diverse stakeholders, such as governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, volunteers, and impacted communities, in the exchange of information. Enhancing coordination and collaboration among stakeholders can be achieved through establishing unambiguous communication channels, exchanging up-to-date information on requirements and priorities, and offering updates on relief operations.

Technology, including information management systems and communication platforms, can improve information flow, provide stakeholders with access to vital information, and aid in well-informed decision-making throughout the reaction stage (Carter, 2015). Therefore, in order to provide affected communities with timely and significant relief, organizations can improve their ability to respond to emergencies, maximize resource management, and fortify stakeholder relationships by incorporating transportation, information flow, logistics coordination, and stakeholder theory into disaster relief operations.

The effectiveness, coordination, and results of disaster relief efforts can all be enhanced by using a comprehensive approach that considers how these components are related to one another. Stakeholder theory has numerous concrete advantages, such as improved reputation, risk management, sustainability and longevity, and informed decision-making, making it more than simply a theoretical idea (Freeman, 2010). It serves as a pragmatic guide for achieving success in contemporary enterprises. Nonetheless, the stakeholder theory possesses inherent complexity. It involves balancing diverse stakeholder interests while conforming to resource constraints, often leading to contradictory demands. It compels firms to embrace long-term sustainability, often necessitating ethical considerations when interests conflict and cultural shifts occur. Implementing this strategy can be difficult, particularly in formulating specific techniques for stakeholder engagement, understanding complex regulations, and exhibiting swift financial results.

2.4 Empirical Literature Review

2.4.1 The Effect of Logistic Coordination on Disaster Relief Operation

Negi (2022) assessed the obstacles of humanitarian logistics in responding to disasters in Oman, specifically delineating the function of humanitarian initiatives in disaster management and the difficulties encountered by humanitarian groups in overseeing logistics and supply chains during these operations. The study employed a qualitative methodology to investigate the problems affecting emergency logistics and supply chains using a literature analysis on managing disasters and disaster supply chains. The literature on humanitarian logistics was analyzed, and the conclusions are thereafter presented. An extensive evaluation of both foundational

and contemporary literature on humanitarian logistics identified many issues, highlighting the necessity for more research into humanitarian logistics processes to enhance existing conditions. Uncoordinated logistical activities result in the failure of disaster relief operations. Furthermore, it will establish a foundation for diverse players, including humanitarian and non-profit groups, governments, and policymakers, to devise and implement suitable solutions.

Mazrul et al. (2020) investigated humanitarian logistics and the coordination challenges between government entities and NGOs (non-governmental organizations) during disaster relief efforts in Malaysia to promote healthy communities during the Covid-19 epidemic. This study employed prior literature to establish a conceptual framework and found two pivotal factors: trust with coordination, as fundamental elements of an effective humanitarian logistics system. The study indicated that the involvement of NGOs during a crisis is crucial for alleviating the strain on government authorities in overseeing the distribution of humanitarian supplies.

Mazrul et al. (2020) investigated humanitarian logistics and the coordination challenges between government entities and NGOs (non-governmental organizations) during disaster relief efforts in Malaysia to promote healthy communities during the Covid-19 epidemic. This study employed prior literature to establish a conceptual framework and found two pivotal factors: trust with coordination, as fundamental elements of an effective humanitarian logistics system.

Robby et al. (2021) assessed the coordination of regional disaster management agencies in Indonesia for logistics and equipment provision, focusing on time management, synchronization, shared interests, and common objectives in coordination. This research employs a qualitative methodology. Data collection methods include interviews, observation, and document analysis. Simultaneously, data analysis was conducted through three interconnected activity streams: data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing.

The research findings demonstrate that the Regional Disaster Management Agency has efficiently handled coordination in logistics and equipment provision, focusing on time management, timeliness, synchronization, mutual interests, and common objectives. The pattern and pertinent rules suggest that during the pre-disaster, aftermath, and post-disaster phases, the main obstacle to coordination is the presence of divergent lines of command or separate operational units among several interconnected entities.

This research concludes that the coordination of the Disaster Management Agency of the Region of Gunung Mas Regency in the provision of logistics and technology for disaster management has been effectively synchronized with the established system and relevant rules. The coordination challenges are significantly affected by the insufficient comprehension among other pertinent agencies concerning their roles, authorities, and obligations in disaster management. The subsequent inhibiting issue is the absence of a hierarchical relationship (chain of command) among various work units within the service/agency/other entity, leading to suboptimal coordination.

Rutaba (2023) outlines the fundamental components of humanitarian groups that could improve the effectiveness of disaster relief efforts. The study employed a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, including surveys and interviews. The researchers employed multiple regressions to examine the relationship between independent and dependent variables. The findings indicated that coordination among stakeholders and vertical logistics cooperation can enhance the effectiveness of disaster relief operations.

The research established that the effectiveness of humanitarian logistics is crucial for disaster relief efforts and recommended that the government foster public-private partnerships, ensure reliable infrastructure, and improve the competencies of logistics service providers and humanitarian organizations. The research may aid policymakers in developing frameworks to improve coordination among participants and logistical structures for disaster relief initiatives. Moreover, it augments the existing comprehension of stakeholder theory and strengthens humanitarian logistics frameworks.

Yussuf (2021) assessed the challenges of humanitarian logistics in disaster management in Tanzania, emphasizing the significance of coordination, transport, and information and communication technology in augmenting the effectiveness of humanitarian efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, and offered suggestions for enhancement. The data was collected by a questionnaire distributed to a sample of six hospital referral centers in Dar es Salaam and the Coastal Region, utilizing quantitative methodologies and an explanatory study design. Descriptive data

analysis was utilized to calculate the mean and standard deviation of the results, which were then displayed in frequency distribution tables prior to analysis through a multiple regression model. All independent factors had a significant positive association with the performance of humanitarian assistance, including coordination, transportation, and information technology for communication ($p=0.05$). To improve the effectiveness of humanitarian relief operations, the study recommended that referral hospital management ensure adequate facilities for the distribution of relief supplies, prompt delivery of essential materials, and sufficient ICT resources for facilitating the collaboration of all stakeholders involved in the relief effort.

Yohana (2022) assessed the essential domains of humanitarian organizations to improve effectiveness in disaster relief operations. The research employed a sequential explanatory methodology, deliberately combining quantitative and qualitative data from a sample of 150 participants associated with humanitarian organizations. Data were gathered using questionnaire and key informant interviews. The correlation and strength of the association between independent and dependent variables were assessed by multiple regression analysis.

The study determined that the elements affecting humanitarian logistics efficacy in disaster relief operations include skilled personnel, a dedicated humanitarian organization, supportive laws, sufficient financial resources, and specialized logistics service providers. Thus, it was concluded that the overall effectiveness of disaster relief operations depends on suitable frameworks in humanitarian logistics that guarantee efficiency in logistics coordination and the involvement of logistical services in executing disaster relief efforts.

2.4.2 Effect of Transportation on Disaster Relief Operation

Atshipara (2023) evaluated the effectiveness of humanitarian logistics in the management of drought relief delivery in Namibia. The study utilized a case study design incorporating both qualitative and quantitative methods. The research population consisted of 2,675 households, five staff members from the Prime Minister's Office, and five individuals from constituency offices. A random sample of 130 houses was chosen, and eighty-eight (88) questionnaires were distributed. Furthermore, three (3) officers representing the Prime Minister's Office and three (3) officers in constituency offices were deliberately selected, culminating in a total of ninety-four (94) respondents. The data was solely collected by questionnaires and analyzed using descriptive statistics in Microsoft Excel. The results revealed that transportation constraints and inadequate financial resources are the principal barriers hindering the effectiveness of humanitarian logistics in delivering materials to relief settlements in Namibia.

Nautiyal et al. (2021) investigated the optimal conveyance of relief items following the disaster in India. The work introduces a mathematical model as a multi-objective linear programming problem aimed at optimizing relief distribution from airports by minimizing total operational costs and trip time. The solution methodology and analytical findings have also been examined. The primary objectives at the preparedness stage are to identify and establish facilities that could serve as effective operation centers during a disaster. The study also presents determinations regarding the type and quantity of vehicles for each impacted location. Airports can serve as hubs for the collecting and distribution of relief supplies. Nonetheless, relief missions

conducted via airports frequently encounter issues like as stockpiling. Additionally, other modes exist for the transportation of relief goods, principally including air, maritime, and terrestrial transit. Although aircraft and helicopters exhibit superior speed, their operational expenses are excessively high. Trucks are cost-effective yet considerably slower than aircraft.

Yussuf (2021) assessed the obstacles of humanitarian logistics in disaster management in Tanzania, emphasizing the importance of coordination, transportation, and information and communication technology in augmenting the effectiveness of humanitarian operations during the coronavirus pandemic, and offered suggestions for enhancement. The data was collected by a questionnaire distributed to a sample of six referral hospitals in Dar es Salaam and the Coastal Region, utilizing quantitative methodologies and an explanatory study design. All independent factors had a significant positive link with the performance of humanitarian assistance, including coordination, transportation, and information communication technology ($p < 0.05$). To improve the effectiveness of humanitarian relief operations, the study recommended that referral hospital management ensure adequate facilities for the distribution of relief supplies, prompt arrival of essential materials, and sufficient ICT resources for the coordination of all stakeholders involved in the relief effort.

2.4.3 Effect of Information Flow on Disaster Relief Operation

Zain et al. (2023) investigated the current humanitarian logistics landscape and identified issues related to inter-agency information-sharing coordination for

humanitarian logistics assistance in urban disasters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. A Focus Group Discussion was conducted with officials from six government departments responsible for providing humanitarian logistics support for urban disasters in Kuala Lumpur. This study also examined existing disaster management practices and the agency's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The findings revealed issues with information redundancy, inadequate tools for organizing and disseminating information, and coordination difficulties among agencies in sharing and managing real-time information during a crisis. An exhaustive assessment of existing regulations and the formulation of clear guidelines are crucial to address challenges and improve the overall coordination of humanitarian logistical support.

Jamison et al. (2019) identify barriers to knowledge dissemination within supply chains following significant catastrophic events in the United States. Due to the paucity of research on this subject, a grounded theory case study was conducted to examine an extreme scenario. The study examines the efforts of many organizations and individuals that provided aid during Hurricane Katrina, which impacted the Gulf Coast of the southeastern United States in late 2005. Data was gathered from diverse sources, including governmental entities, for-profit and non-profit organizations, and individuals, during and after to the catastrophe.

Our data analysis identifies obstacles to information flow, such as inaccessibility, inconsistent data and formats, insufficient information streams, low information priority, challenges in source identification, misalignment of storage media, unreliability, and unwillingness. We also identify potential sources of these obstacles

and evaluate their effect on firms' catastrophe recovery initiatives. The swift advancement of supply chains following a disaster is considerably hindered by a sluggish information flow, which obstructs the coordination of resource allocation vital for disaster relief efforts. This paper proposes prospective design ideas for creating solutions that can mitigate the effects of information flow barriers in future disasters.

Melkiory (2020) analyzed the factors influencing the effectiveness of humanitarian logistics in Tanzania. This research is founded on three theories: relationship management theory, resource-based view theory, and information theory. The research employed a descriptive approach, integrating both quantitative and qualitative methods. The subjects were selected using stratified and purposive approaches. Quantitative data were collected by questionnaires administered to participants and analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics, including factor analysis and regression analysis.

Qualitative data were collected through in-person interviews and analyzed using content analysis. The findings indicate that governmental regulations and legislation substantially affect the effectiveness of humanitarian logistics in Tanzania. The findings demonstrate that information flow substantially affects the effectiveness of humanitarian logistics in Tanzania. The study results indicate a strong positive association between financial resources and the effectiveness of humanitarian logistics. The results demonstrate a strong positive association between relationship management and the effectiveness of humanitarian logistics.

2.5 Research Gap

Few studies have particularly addressed disasters like pandemics through humanitarian logistics, even though several have emphasized the significance of humanitarian logistics in disaster relief efforts (Mazrul *et al.* 2020, Nergi, 2022). Furthermore, ignoring the effect of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief operations including coordination, transportation, and information flow on both the horizontal and vertical levels is essential to efficient humanitarian logistics.

Moreover, the current body of literature has neglected this geographical and methodological context, leaving significant gaps in understanding how humanitarian logistics influence disaster relief operations. Through positivism and quantitative approach, a specific focus on Tanzanian humanitarian organizations, and the inclusion of simple random sampling techniques, this study offered tailored solutions to improve humanitarian logistics in improving disaster relief operations.

2.6 Conceptual Framework

Given the literature, the following conceptual framework is developed to examine the influence of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief operations. Specifically, the study conceptualizes that coordination, transportation, and information flow are the three independent variables whereas disaster relief operations are a dependent variable. Figure 2.1 below presents the conceptual framework of the study.

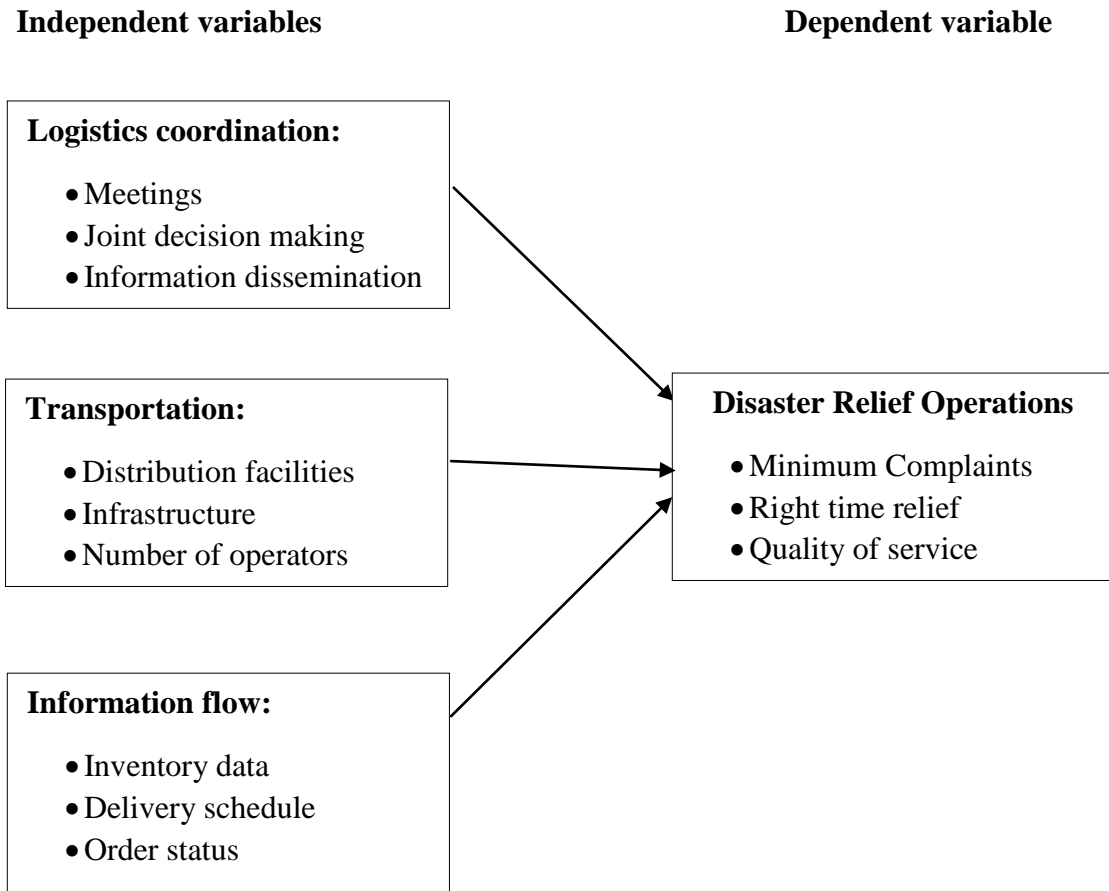


Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework of the influence of Humanitarian Logistics on Disaster Relief Operations

Source: Empirical review

2.7 Operationalization of the Variables

2.7.1 Logistics Coordination and Disaster Relief Operations

Yohana (2022) defines coordination as the process of controlling the interdependence of actions taken to achieve a goal. This concept highlights the mutual reliance between response organizations and disaster relief organizations, as they all have the same objective of preserving human life. Sanchez (2020) elucidates that although the objectives of all parties involved in disaster aid are same, their experiences, backgrounds, and viewpoints differ. Effective coordination is necessary

to prevent misunderstandings, inconsistencies, and effort duplication. Each stakeholder's roles must be clearly stated and understood from the viewpoint of the other stakeholders. Furthermore, efficient coordination facilitates the exchange of experiences and knowledge, which boosts productivity, lowers expenses, enhances quality, and expands operational flexibility and speed (Bealt et al., 2020).

H₁: Effective logistical coordination positively influences disaster relief operations in Tanzania.

2.7.2 Transportation and Disaster Relief Operations

Transportation plays a critical role in humanitarian logistics. Effective transportation improves the overall performance of humanitarian relief because it makes up a sizeable portion of supply chain costs and is essential to meeting customer expectations (on-time delivery, short lead times) (Balcik et al., 2022). It facilitates the movement of facilities, equipment, and supplies to the proper areas. This coronavirus epidemic has created a great need for moving people, commodities, and equipment from one place to another. Transporting medical supplies and medications from a manufacturer or warehouse to hospitals is in great demand (Sanchez, 2022). Furthermore, it is necessary to gather and prepare patients or deceased corpses that have passed away at home for burial (Arellanam et al., 2020).

H₂: Effective transportation positively influences disaster relief operation in Tanzania.

2.7.3 Information Flow and Disaster Relief Operation

At every stage of the disaster management cycle, information sharing has emerged as a key resource for information exchange and coordination among stakeholders (Raymond et al., 2021). There are numerous different ways that people can share information: from social media sites and online forums for humanitarian causes to two-way radios and cell phones. According to Bjerge et al. (2020), these platform qualities are essential for the quick transfer of information during disaster relief activities. In the fight against the disaster, information exchange is becoming more and more important. The importance of getting timely and correct information cannot be emphasized.

H₃: Effective information flow positively influences disaster relief operation in Tanzania.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Overview

This chapter addressed the approach and procedures pertinent to this specific investigation. It comprises the research approach, research design, study area, study population, sample size and sampling techniques, data collection methods, reliability and validity, data analysis techniques, and ethical considerations.

3.2 Research Philosophy

This study utilized a positivist perspective, allowing the researcher to collect and evaluate data objectively. Research philosophy, as articulated by Saunders, Lewis, and Thornhill (2023), represents the researcher's perspective on knowledge creation. A research philosophy is a perspective on the optimal methods for collecting, assessing, and interpreting data pertaining to a topic. Positivism is very scientific in its approach and assumes that everything can be known and verified because it is associated with only quantitative research. Positivism was employed in this study using science rather than common sense to remove bias from the results.

This research philosophy employed a questionnaire to collect quantitative data from employees of the Red Cross Tanzania Society. The quantitative data was examined utilizing quantitative methods such as descriptive statistics and multiple regression analysis to elucidate the relationship among logistical coordination, information exchange, transportation, and disaster relief operations.

3.3 Research Approach

This study utilized solely a quantitative research approach, as the hypotheses under investigation are grounded in the empirical findings of prior studies and theories. Furthermore, a study on the link between variables can be strengthened and expanded by using this approach to provide a more comprehensive picture. Quantitative research focuses on gathering and organizing numerical data for statistical computation and analysis (Balcik et al., 2022). The study intends to use this method to analyze the influence of logistical coordination, information sharing and transportation on the disaster relief operation. Results will be displayed using tables.

3.4 Research Strategy

This investigation employed an explanatory research strategy to evaluate a hypothesis formed from the empirical data of prior studies. This research design enabled to apply structured questionnaire to obtain quantitative data on the influence of logistical coordination, information sharing and transportation on the disaster relief operation which was easily statistically analyzed. In this research design also, the multiple regression analysis was applied to test hypotheses. Utilizing this research design. Research design constitutes the framework or parameters for data collection and analysis, striving to harmonize procedural efficiency with the relevance to the study's objectives (Kothari, 2019).

3.5 Area of the Study

The area of the study was Red Cross Tanzania which is humanitarian and development organization that was able to get the required information on the

influence of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief efforts. The area of the study is created when starting research to ensure the researcher acquire data necessary for the problem under the study and analysis (Fowler, 2023).

3.6 Study Population

Amin (2023) defines "target population" as the complete group of individuals or entities to which a researcher intends to generalize the findings. The study population was 120 employees at Red Cross (Red Cross, 2024). Employees from management, procurement departments, supplies departments, logistics departments, and operations at Red Cross who are familiar with disaster relief operation is the target population, which are regarded as having extensive experience that aided in envisioning the potential advantages humanitarian logistics on disaster relief operation (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: Study Population

No	Category	Population	Percentage
1	PMU	12	10%
2	Supplies	24	20%
3	Logistics	17	14.2%
4	Tender board	8	6.7%
5	Operations	59	49.2%
	TOTAL	120	100.0

Source: Red Cross Tanzania (2024)

3.7 Sampling Design

3.7.1 Sample Size

A sample size of 108 is selected from the Red Cross employee population across all organizational levels, encompassing top management and lower-level personnel

directly involved in disaster activities, including leadership, procurement, supplies, logistics, and operations departments (Table 3.2). An optimal sample meets the criteria of efficiency, flexibility, and representativeness. The sample size was calculated using Yamane's formula.

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e^2)}$$

Whereby; n = Sample size

N = Total population

e = Precision

1 = Constant

$$n = \frac{120}{1 + 120(0.03^2)}$$

$$n = 108$$

Therefore, the sample size was 108 staffs

Table 3.2: Sample Size

No	Category	Population	Sample Size	Percentage
1	PMU	12	11	9.2%
2	Supplies	24	22	18.3%
3	Logistics	17	15	12.5%
4	Management	8	7	5.8%
5	Operations	59	53	44.2%
	Total	120	108	90%

Source: Red Cross Tanzania (2024)

3.7.2 Sampling Procedure

Sampling is the process of picking a specified number of individuals to represent a particular community (Saunders et al., 2019). In this study, participants were chosen

by a basic random selection method. A random selection employs chance exclusively to ascertain which members or elements of the population are chosen for inclusion in the sample (Kothari, 2019). The research utilized a simple random sample method to choose 108 participants from the management, procurement, supplies, finance, and operations departments. In this case, the researcher obtained a list of 120 employees from the human resources department at Red Cross, particularly those who are working in the mentioned departments. The researcher then wrote the names of these employees on pieces of paper, cut them into small pieces, and mix them. Afterward, someone was asked to randomly select 108 pieces of paper from the 120 papers for the collection of quantitative data through questionnaires regarding the influence of humanitarian logistics on the disaster relief operation, specifically the influence of logistical coordination, information sharing, and transportation on the disaster relief operation.

3.8 Type of Data and Data Collection Methods

3.8.1 Type of Data

This study utilized exclusively primary data gathered from a primary source, specifically a questionnaire, in accordance with the study's nature, which solely employs a quantitative methodology. The optimal data collection approach is contingent upon the specific information the researcher intends to obtain (Hamed, 2023).

3.8.2 Data Collection Method

The study used structured questionnaire to obtain primary data which then was statistically examined. The questionnaire was developed to be simple for respondents

to fill and less time consuming. This tool helped the researcher to produce correct data when respondents take time to respond questions accordingly (Kothari, 2019). It allowed the respondents to respond freely without researcher's influence also enables the researcher to collect data that was not otherwise available. The researcher ensured that each questionnaire was returned fully completed by self-administration and close supervision.

3.9 Data Processing and Data Analysis

3.9.1 Data Processing

Data processing involves several steps aimed at making the quantitative data accurate and reliable (Kothari, 2019). Data cleaning was undertaken to handle missing values, outliers, or inconsistency in the data set, and the data was coded if need be, ensuring that proper categorization has taken place and that the same aligns with the variables of interest, as well as data processed was entered into some statistical software for further validation and preparing for analysis.

3.9.2 Data Analysis Technique

The data was analyzed by quantitative analysis by using a descriptive statistical analysis to compute frequencies, percentages, and mean scores, as well as summarize, organize, analyze, and interpret the quantitative data, and compare all the facts acquired from other respondents via questionnaires. Multiple regression analysis is a statistical tool employed to examine the strength of the association among variables. The subsequent model was utilized for the multiple regressions:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \varepsilon$$

Whereby;

Y = is the dependent variable (Disaster relief operations)

α = is the constant figure estimated in the regression model

β_1 , β_2 , and β_3 , of independent variables showing its influence on the dependent variable

X_1 = Logistics coordination

X_2 = Transportation

X_3 = Information flow

3.10 Regression Assumptions

Before employing multiple regression analysis, the assumptions of the instrument were evaluated: nominal, outlier, and multicollinearity (Pallant, 2020). Outliers are assessed by skewness and kurtosis values to verify data normality; skewness and kurtosis values below 3 and 10, respectively, signify the absence of outliers, a prerequisite for multiple regression analysis (Kline, 2023). Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) and tolerance metrics are employed to assess multicollinearity issues; VIF should range from 10 to 0.2 for tolerance to remain within permissible limits and not contravene the multicollinearity assumption (Pallant, 2020). The objective was to determine the model's suitability for this study.

3.11 Measurement of Variables

The operationalization of study variables is essential since it enables the researcher to quantitatively assess the variables, facilitating hypothesis testing. The summary of the table indicates that the independent variables in this study were assessed using

suitable indicators (Kothari, 2019). The research aims directed the operationalization of the studied variables.

Table 3.3: Measurement of Variables

Variables	Indicators	Scale	Measure
Logistic coordination	✓ Meetings	Ordinal scale	5-point Likert scale
	✓ Joint decision making		
	✓ Information dissemination		
Transportation	✓ Distribution facilities	Ordinal scale	5-point Likert scale
	✓ Infrastructure		
	✓ Number of operators		
Information flow	✓ Inventory data	Ordinal scale	5-point Likert scale
	✓ Delivery Schedule		
	✓ Order Status		
Disaster relief operation	✓ Minimum Complaints	Ordinal scale	5-point Likert scale
	✓ Right time relief		
	✓ Quality of service		

Sources: Empirical review

3.12 Reliability and Validity of Data

3.12.1 Data Reliability

The reliability coefficient was assessed using Cronbach's alpha, which evaluates internal consistency by examining the interrelations among test items and their correlation with the overall test, with a minimum acceptable threshold of 0.7, alongside a comparison of qualitative data. James (2023) asserts that a study must demonstrate that the results would have been the same if it had been carried out on a comparable population in a comparable environment. This analysis was done with the help of SPSS, whereby the researcher entered all sets of designed questions in each variable logistical coordination, information sharing, and transportation and disaster relief operations into the variable box, and run the statistic tool to test the reliability of each item and scale was used.

Table 3.4: Reliability of the Data

Variable name	Variable codes	Reliability	Items
Logistics Coordination	V200	0.833	6
	V201		
	V202		
	V203		
	V204		
	V205		
Transportation	V300	0.716	6
	V301		
	V302		
	V303		
	V304		
	V305		
Information sharing	V400	0.704	6
	V401		
	V402		
	V403		
Disaster Relief Operations	V404	0.769	6
	V405		
	V500		
	V501		
	V502		
	V503		
	V504		
	V505		

Sources: Researcher (2024)

3.12.2 Data Validity

The study incorporated member checking, guidance, and assistance from supervisors. Moreover, additional professionals significantly contributed to the validation of the study instruments. Validity refers to the degree to which a test accurately measures its target construct (James, 2023). In conjunction with this, the study ensured that the questionnaire's validity was verified by the supervisor and other research professionals prior to data collection from the entire sample, with items of low content being eliminated and other items revised as necessary.

3.13 Ethic Consideration

This research addressed ethical considerations by complying with the Open University's Code of Ethics for Research. Furthermore, the subsequent measures were enacted: The researcher initially secured a letter from Open University to introduce themselves to the administration of Red Cross before to the study's initiation. Informed agreement was secured from all participants before the administration of the questionnaires, and the acquired data was utilized only for the study; individuals were apprised of their rights during the consent process.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS

4.1 Overview

This chapter aims to present and analyze the study findings concerning the acquired data. Data analysis provides organization, structure, and significance to the gathered data. The primary objective of data analysis is to address research inquiries and elucidate the relationships among study variables. The analysis in this study is grounded on specific aims and employs descriptive statistics, factor analysis, and inferential statistics.

4.2 Data Cleaning

Before the analysis, the collected data were cleaned to ensure quality and consistency. The process involved checking for missing values, eliminating incomplete responses, and correcting entry errors. Duplicate entries and outliers were also reviewed and handled accordingly. After cleaning, the valid responses were coded and transferred to SPSS for analysis.

4.3 Response Rate

The researcher distributed 108 questionnaires, of which 100 were fully completed and returned, resulting in a response rate of 92.6%. This response rate facilitated findings regarding the impact of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief management. A response rate of 50% is sufficient for analysis and reporting; a rate of 60% is commendable; and a rate of 70% or higher is exceptional (Mugenda, 2024).

4.4 Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

Consideration of the respondent's attributes has to come before consideration of the study objectives. This section involved a thorough analysis of the respondent profiles to ascertain how the respondents saw and comprehended the application of humanitarian logistics in disaster relief management. The respondent's gender, age, educational attainment, and work experience were characterized by descriptive analysis employing frequency and percentage metrics. The research was conducted using Version 22 of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) and presented as frequency distribution tables. The next paragraphs provide an explanation of the demographic information that was pertinent to this investigation.

4.4.1 Gender

The researcher aimed to evaluate the impact of logistics for humanitarian assistance on disaster assistance management while also determining the sex makeup of the study participants. The findings of the investigation are encapsulated in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Gender

Gender	N	%
Male	61	61
Female	39	39
Total	100	100

Source: Researcher (2024)

Table 4.1 indicates that the majority of respondents, 61 (61%), were male, while a minority, 39 (39%), were female. This indicates that employees in Tanzanian and global public organizations comprise both genders who ensure compliance with the

public procurement principle, which mandates the maintenance of equality among suppliers and employees. Therefore, when both men and women are involved in the execution of humanitarian logistics activities, efficiency is increased through collaboration and information sharing, which results in effective disaster relief management and, ultimately, boosts disaster relief. The findings align with Mwambafula's (2020) study, which indicated that women were motivated to partake in national development by being provided opportunities to engage as targets across many industries. While males may seem to outnumber females, this is not inherently negative, as females constitute half of the male population, indicating that women are contributing to the nation's development in numerous ways.

4.4.2 Age

The researcher aimed to examine the respondents' ages, as age is typically utilized to elucidate the employment enrollment culture across various sectors. The employee pyramid exhibits a normal distribution, with a significant concentration of employees aged between 26 and 45 years. Table 4.2 delineates the results.

Table 4.2: Ages of Respondents

Ages	n	%
26-35 years	41	41
36-45 years	47	47
Above 45	12	12
Total	100	100

Source: Researcher (2024)

The age of respondents is a critical factor in data analysis, influencing decision-making processes. Consequently, the researcher aimed to examine the age

demographics of the respondents. The responders were inquired about their age groupings. Table 4.2 indicates that the majority of respondents were aged between 26 and 45 years. The respondents aged 26 to 35 years comprised 41%; those aged 36 to 45 years accounted for 47%, while respondents over 46 years represented 12%.

This indicates that the data were gathered from a mature population capable of making informed decisions, therefore ensuring that the responses were appropriate and focused. Aziz (2020) asserts that individuals aged 30 to 50 are seen as significant due to their greater experience compared to other age cohorts. Individuals over 50 are perceived as less productive and less eager to work due to their impending retirement.

4.4.3 Education Level

Because of the respondents' opinions regarding the influence of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief management, it was crucial to ascertain the respondents' educational background. In order to present the accurate results, it was done on purpose to evaluate their responses according to their educational attainment. Table 4.3 provides the study results.

Table 4.3: Education Level

Education level	n	%
Diploma level	20	20
Bachelor Degree	50	50
Master level	30	30
Total	100	100

Source: Researcher (2024)

Table 4.3 reveals that the respondents possess diplomas 20 (20%), bachelor's degrees 50 (50%), and master's degrees 30 (30%). This indicates that most participants possessed either a bachelor's or master's degree, signifying they had attained adequate education to understand humanitarian logistics in disaster relief management. This knowledge and understanding improve the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian logistics, advance disaster relief management, and ultimately increase disaster relief efforts. The findings of this investigation corroborate the observations provided by Mwambafula (2020).

4.4.4 Working Experience

The validity and accuracy of the respondents' job experience were evaluated by investigation and analysis. The evaluation of humanitarian logistics' impact on disaster relief management was intentionally conducted to analyze their reactions based on their professional expertise within the organization. Table 4.4 presents the findings of the investigation.

Table 4.4: Working Experience

Working experience	n	%
1-3 years	16	16
3-6 years	20	20
7-10 years	30	30
Above 10 years	34	34
Total	100	100

Source: Researcher (2024)

Table 4.4 reveals that 16 respondents (16%) possessed 1-3 years of experience, 20 respondents (20%) had 3-6 years, 30 respondents (30%) had 7-10 years, and 34

respondents (34%) had above 10 years of experience. The findings reveal that the majority of employees possessed over a year of experience; therefore, the data were gathered from relevant and specific respondents. The responders consequently supplied significant information that enhanced data clarity and confidence throughout the research. Chaponde (2023) asserts that, as most respondents reported seven to ten experiences, the researcher is confident that the personnel have adequate competence in disaster management, hence enhancing disaster relief operations.

4.5 Descriptive Statistics for Specific Objectives

Descriptive statistics were utilized to assess data according to the study's unique aims. Descriptive statistics were employed to illustrate and condense the study's results, as demonstrated in Tables 4.5–4.7. The researcher utilized descriptive analysis to determine the level of agreement with the proposed propositions. The researcher employed the mean and standard deviation to assess the level of agreement and provide the outcomes of this data analysis. A five-point Likert scale constitutes an interval scale. The mean is of significant importance. Pimentel (2022) indicates that individuals exhibit strong disagreement between 1 and 1.8, disagreement between 1.81 and 2.60, uncertainty between 2.61 and 3.40, agreement between 3.41 and 4.20, and strong agreement between 4.21 and 5.

4.5.1 The Influence of Logistics Coordination on Disaster Relief Operations

The researcher evaluated the impact of logistics coordination on disaster relief efforts in the initial aims. This delineates the findings about the impact of logistical coordination on disaster relief efforts, as evidenced by the accompanying statements presented below;

Table 4.5: The Influence of Logistics Coordination on Disaster Relief Operations

Responses	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Information regarding the relief effort is communicated to all stakeholders promptly.	100	4.12	1.057
There are adequate meetings to discuss the relief operation which will help to increase disaster relief.	100	3.92	1.032
All stakeholders participate in the decision making which enhance great disaster relief.	100	3.91	1.102
Quality of services is attained by the adequate meetings on discussion of disaster relief operation.	100	3.83	.829
Right time relief of disaster is achieved by the effective information disseminations.	100	3.69	.940
Complaints in disaster operation is minimized by the joint decision making on the disaster relief operation.	100	3.62	.951
Aggregate Mean	100	3.85	0.985
Valid N (listwise)	100		

Sources: Researcher (2024)

The respondents concurred that information on relief operations is communicated to all stakeholders promptly, evidenced by a mean of 4.12 and a standard deviation of 1.057. The respondents concurred that sufficient meetings are held to deliberate on the relief operation, which will augment disaster relief efforts. Furthermore, all stakeholders engage in the decision-making process, thereby significantly improving disaster relief, as evidenced by a mean of 3.92 with a standard deviation of 1.032, and a mean of 3.91 with a standard deviation of 1.102, respectively.

The respondents concurred that service quality is achieved through sufficient meetings regarding disaster relief operations, evidenced by a mean of 3.83 and a standard deviation of 0.829. The respondents concurred that timely disaster relief is

facilitated by effective information dissemination, and that complaints during disaster operations are reduced through collaborative decision-making, evidenced by a mean of 3.69 with a standard deviation of 0.940, and a mean of 3.62 with a standard deviation of 0.951, respectively. The data reveal that disaster relief operations in Tanzania are influenced by logistical coordination, which mitigates risks, as evidenced by an aggregate mean of 3.85 and a standard deviation of 0.985.

4.5.2 The Influence of Transportation on Disaster Relief Operations

In the second aim, the researcher evaluated the impact of logistics on disaster relief activities. This outlines the conclusions about the impact of logistics transport on disaster relief activities, supported by the accompanying comments below;

Table 4.6: The Influence of Transportation on Disaster Relief Operations

Responses	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
The road infrastructure facilitates the relief operation.	100	4.42	.768
Complaints in disaster operation is minimized by the adequate numbers of operators who facilitate.	100	4.00	.804
The sufficient number of operators who conduct the relief operation	100	3.93	.946
There are sufficient facilities for the timely distribution of relief necessities, facilitating prompt disaster relief.	100	3.81	.895
Right time relief of disaster is achieved by the good road infrastructure facilitates the relief operation.	100	3.81	.971
The quality of services is achieved by sufficient facilities for the provision of humanitarian necessities..	100	3.81	.837
Aggregate Mean	100	3.96	0.870
Valid N (listwise)	100		

Sources: Researcher (2024)

The respondents unanimously concurred that the road infrastructure enhances the relief operation, evidenced by a mean of 4.42 and a standard deviation of 0.768. The respondents concurred that complaints during catastrophe operations are reduced by a suitable number of operators, with a mean of 4.00 and a standard deviation of 0.804. The respondents concurred that the sufficient number of operators facilitating the relief operation is indicated by a mean of 3.93 and a standard deviation of 0.946. The respondents concurred that sufficient facilities exist for the timely distribution of relief necessities, which facilitates prompt disaster relief. The effectiveness of relief operations is enhanced by robust road infrastructure, and the quality of services is supported by adequate distribution facilities, as evidenced by a mean of 3.81 with standard deviations of 0.895, 0.971, and 0.837, respectively. The findings suggest that humanitarian logistics significantly impact disaster relief operations in Tanzania, as seen by a mean of 3.96 and a standard deviation of 0.870 in transportation metrics.

4.5.3 The Influence of Information sharing on Disaster Relief Operations

In the third objectives, the researcher assessed the influence of information sharing on disaster relief operations. This outlines the findings about the impact of information sharing on assistance activities, as demonstrated by the accompanying statements below;

Table 4.7: The Influence of Information Sharing on Disaster Relief Operations

Responses	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Quality of services is attained by the order status information are communicated to respective stakeholders in the humanitarian logistics.	100	4.20	.778
Order status information are communicated to respective stakeholders in the humanitarian logistics to facilitate disaster relief operations.	100	4.13	.580
Delivery schedules are shared to all stakeholders in humanitarian logistics to facilitate disaster relief operations	100	3.83	1.064
Inventory levels data are shared throughout the humanitarian logistics to facilitate disaster relief operations	100	3.62	1.071
Right time relief of disaster is achieved by the proper delivery schedules are shared to all stakeholders in humanitarian logistics.	100	3.37	1.178
Complaints in disaster operation is minimized by the inventory levels data are shared throughout the humanitarian logistics.	100	3.24	1.232
Aggregate Mean	100	3.73	0.984
Valid N (listwise)	100		

Source: Researcher (2024)

The respondents unanimously concurred that the quality of services is achieved through the communication of order status information to relevant stakeholders in humanitarian logistics, which is essential for facilitating disaster relief operations, as evidenced by a mean of 4.20 and a standard deviation of 0.778, alongside a mean of 4.13 and a standard deviation of 0.580, respectively. The respondents concurred that delivery schedules are disseminated to all stakeholders in humanitarian logistics to enhance disaster relief operations, and that inventory level data is shared across humanitarian logistics for the same purpose, as indicated by a mean of 3.83 with a standard deviation of 1.064, and a mean of 3.62 with a standard deviation of 1.071, respectively. The respondents expressed neutrality regarding the timely relief of

disasters, contingent upon the dissemination of proper delivery schedules to all stakeholders in humanitarian logistics. Additionally, they indicated that complaints during disaster operations are mitigated when inventory level data is shared across the humanitarian logistics network, as evidenced by a mean of 3.37 and a standard deviation of 1.178, and a mean of 3.24 with a standard deviation of 1.232, respectively. The data indicate that disaster relief activities are influenced by humanitarian logistics, which is governed by information exchange, reflected by an aggregate mean of 3.73 and a standard deviation of 0.984.

4.6 Inferential Statistics

This section was completed in order to draw conclusions that go beyond the descriptive statistics' initial findings. This study's main goal was to evaluate role of ethical practice on procurement performance. A five-point rating system was used to evaluate the impact of three independent variables transparency, fairness, and compliance on procurement performance.

Furthermore, every one of the three predictors (independent variables) possessed a variety of characteristics or sub variables. To ascertain the statistical link between the predictors and the dependent variable, regression analysis was used. Multiple linear regressions were employed in this analysis's inferential statistics procedure to test hypotheses pertaining to the particular goals. But, before running the multiple regression, the study considered the assumption of multiple regression.

According to Pallant (2020) there are three assumptions of multiple regression analysis. The researcher examined the three assumptions: normalcy, outliers, and

multicollinearity, as Table 4.8. The study assessed skewness and kurtosis values as precondition for multiple regressions to assure data normality and identify outliers. Kline (2023) determined that skewness and kurtosis levels below 3 and 10, respectively, signified the absence of an outlier issue (Table 4.8).

Table 4.8: Normality and Outlier

Variables	N	Skewness		Kurtosis	
	Statistic	Statistic	Std. Error	Statistic	Std. Error
Logistical coordination	100	-1.059	.177	.942	.353
Transportation	100	-.915	.177	.914	.353
Information sharing	100	-.970	.177	.528	.353
Disaster relief operation	100	-1.005	.177	.422	.353
Valid N (listwise)	100				

Sources: Researcher (2024)

The results indicated that all variables exhibited a normal distribution, permitting us to infer its validity. Logistical coordination, transportation, and information sharing on the disaster relief operation had skewness values of less than 3 and kurtosis values of less than 10, meeting the required criteria. Moreover, Pallant (2020) states that the objective of the multicollinearity test is to verify that the independent variables exhibit only little correlation ($r > 0.90$). This study analyzed the multicollinearity issue utilizing Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) and tolerance metrics. To remain within acceptable limits and avoid violating the principle of multicollinearity, the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) and the tolerance measure must fall between 10 and 0.2 (Table 4.9).

Table 4.9: Multicollinearity

Model	Collinearity Statistics	
	Tolerance	VIF
1 Logistical coordination	.690	1.250
Transportation	.635	1.450
Information sharing	.725	1.700

a. Dependent Variable: Disaster Relief Operations

Sources: Researcher (2024)

This was done to make inferences beyond what the available descriptive statistics instantly revealed. A major objective of this study was to assess the influence of humanitarian logistic on the disaster relief operations. In this regard, three independent variables that improve disaster relief operations in Tanzania were rated on a scale of 1 to 5. The three independent variables are logistical coordination, transportation, and information sharing.

4.6.1 Multiple Regression Analysis

Kothari (2019) asserts that regression analysis was utilized to examine the relationship between one dependent variable and multiple predictor variables. The F-Test was employed to evaluate the model's validity, while R-squared was utilized to determine its goodness of fit. An independent variable significantly contributes to the prediction of the dependent variable if its p-value is less than 0.05; conversely, if the p-value exceeds 0.05, the variable does not significantly contribute to the prediction.

Table 4.10: Model Summary

Model	R	Change Statistics							
		R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.602 ^a	.362	.356	1.96645	.362	62.618	3	97	.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), logistics coordination, transportation, and information sharing

b. Dependent Variable: Disaster relief operations

Source: Researcher (2024)

The correlation coefficient, denoted as R, characterizes the link among the examined variables. The findings from Table 4.10 suggest a potential correlation between the study's variables, as evidenced by a R value of 0.602, or 60.2%. Additionally, the R square value of 0.362, or 36.2%, in Table 4.10 indicates that the three independent variables account for 36.2% of the variation in the impact of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief activities. This signifies that alterations in logistical coordination, transportation, and information dissemination all impact disaster relief efforts.

Table 4.11: ANOVA

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	726.410	3	242.137	62.618	.000 ^a
Residual	1279.948	97	3.867		
Total	2006.358	100			

a. Predictors: (Constant), logistics coordination, transportation, and information sharing

b. Dependent Variable: Disaster relief operations

Source: Researcher (2024)

The results in Table 4.11 indicate that the model exhibits a significance level below 5%, with a calculated F value of 62.618, having 3 degrees of freedom for the numerator and 97 for the denominator. The regression model demonstrates statistical significance. This indicates that it is a valid predictive model for the impact of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief activities, as the P-value is 0% (0.000), which is below the 5% (0.05) threshold.

Table 4.12: Regression Coefficient

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	1.395	.711		1.962	.051
Logistics coordination	.309	.043	.459	2.560	.011
Transportation	.289	.039	.412	4.854	.000
Information sharing	.284	.054	.311	3.394	.001

a. Dependent Variable: Disaster relief operations

Source: Researcher (2024)

The logistics coordination in Table 4.12 demonstrated a favorable influence on the adoption of mobile banking (Beta value = 0.459, $P=0.011<0.05$). This indicates that a one-unit enhancement in logistical coordination results in a 45.9% rise in disaster relief activities, assuming all other variables remain constant. The data indicate that the variable's significance for logistics coordination was substantial at a 5% level. As a result, the results show that high logistics coordination are correlated with high levels of disaster relief operations, which is consistent with the alternative hypothesis that logistics coordination positively influences disaster relief operations in Tanzania.

In Table 4.12, it was discovered that the transportation had a positive influence on the disaster relief operations (Beta value= 0.412, $P=0.000<0.05$). This implies that a one-unit improvement in transportation causes a 41.2%-unit increase in disaster relief operations when all other variables remain the same. The findings show that, in terms of the variable's importance, the value of transportation was significant at a level of 5%. As a result, the results indicate that greater improvement in transportation promotes high levels of disaster relief operations, which is consistent with the alternative hypothesis that transportation influence effective disaster relief operations in Tanzania.

Table 4.12 indicated that information sharing positively impacts disaster relief activities (Beta value = 0.311, $P = 0.001 < 0.05$). This indicates that a one-unit augmentation in information exchange leads to a 31.1% increase in disaster relief efforts, assuming all other variables remain constant. The results indicate that the significance of information sharing was less than 5% regarding the variable's importance. The data indicate that a high degree of information sharing enhances the efficacy of disaster relief operations, corroborating the hypothesis that information sharing in Tanzania will escalate in response to increased disaster relief efforts. As a result, the null hypothesis was disproved and the alternative hypothesis was accepted.

Conclusively, the regression equation is disaster relief operations = $1.395 + 0.309$ (Logistics Coordination) + 0.289 (Transportation) + 0.284 (Information Sharing). This equation summarizes the linear relationship between the independent variables and dependent variable, which implies that a unit increase in logistics coordination,

transportation, and information flow improves disaster relief operations by 0.309, 0.289, and 0.284 units, holding other variables constant.

4.7 Discussions

This section discusses the conclusions derived from the aforementioned analysis. This discussion was done regarding each specific objective on the assessment of the effect of logistical coordination, transportation, and information sharing on the disaster relief operation. The discussion is also supported by previous literature to validate the findings.

4.7.1 Effect of Logistical Coordination on the Disaster Relief Operation

The study aimed to investigate the impact of logistical cooperation on disaster relief operations. The descriptive statistics analysis indicated that respondents concurred that effective logistical coordination enhances disaster relief operations through timely dissemination of information to all stakeholders, sufficient meetings to discuss the relief efforts, and the inclusion of all stakeholders in the decision-making process.

The result aligns with the findings of Robby et al. (2021), who observed that the Regional Disaster Management Agency effectively coordinated logistics and equipment provision through time management, timeliness, synchronization, shared interests, and common objectives. The research conducted by Mazrul et al. (2020) contended that coordination measures will enhance trust among agencies participating in disaster relief efforts. Consequently, establishing confidence among

parties engaged in disaster relief efforts can be improved by implementing a contractual agreement to ensure efficient collaboration and coordination, hence mitigating potential risks. Collaboration between government entities and NGOs is sought during the mitigation and long-term recovery phases, where decisions are made judiciously, and NGO tactics are adapted to align with others without time constraints.

In regression analysis, it was also noted that disaster relief operation is influenced positively by logistical coordination, implying that increase in logistical coordination leads to increase in disaster relief operation. This study aligns with James's (2021) results, which indicated a substantial positive correlation between logistical coordination and humanitarian relief performance. The findings are further corroborated by stakeholder theory, which posits that effective coordination among stakeholders is essential for the success of disaster relief operations including humanitarian logistics. This coordination would facilitate a unified effort and resource consolidation for rescue operations. The results are substantiated by stakeholder theory, which asserts the need of coordinating among stakeholders engaged in disaster relief operations and humanitarian logistics. This cooperation would facilitate a unified effort and the aggregation of resources for rescue efforts. Private and public stakeholders can engage in disaster and humanitarian operations through many means, with information sharing and collaborative planning being crucial for efficient relief initiatives. Coordinating logistics include arranging, overseeing, and managing the movement of individuals and resources during disaster relief operations.

4.7.2 Effect of Transportation on the Disaster Relief Operation

The study aimed to investigate the impact of transportation on disaster relief operations. The descriptive statistics analysis indicated that respondents strongly concurred that road infrastructure enhances relief operations, minimizes complaints during disaster response through sufficient operators, ensures timely distribution of relief supplies, and achieves quality service through adequate facilities for distribution.

The results align with Atshipara's (2020) study, which posited that transportation restrictions and limited financial resources are the primary obstacles impeding the efficacy of humanitarian logistics in material delivery for relief communities. George (2021) observed that for optimal performance in humanitarian relief operations, the administration of referral hospitals must assure the availability of suitable transportation facilities and the timely arrival of necessary materials and resources for the relief effort. The regression research indicated that transportation positively affects disaster relief operations, signifying that an increase in transportation correlates with an enhancement in disaster relief efforts.

The result aligns with Melkiory's (2020) study, which observed a robust positive correlation between transportation within humanitarian logistics and disaster relief activities. The results also are supported by stakeholder theory states that transportation logistics are crucial to the prompt supply of personnel, equipment, and supplies to affected areas. Quickly reaching affected communities and resolving logistical issues are made possible by effective transportation systems.

The results are also supported by the stakeholder theory which states that when it comes to disaster relief operations, transportation logistics are crucial to the prompt supply of personnel, equipment, and supplies to affected areas. Quickly reaching affected communities and resolving logistical issues are made possible by effective transportation systems. Stakeholder theory can assist organizations in identifying important stakeholders, including local communities, governmental bodies, and transportation companies, in order to form alliances and efficiently manage transportation resources. Organizations can improve transport routes, prioritize deliveries, and guarantee that resources are efficiently dispersed to areas in need by incorporating stakeholders in the planning, decision-making, and implementation phases of transportation projects.

4.7.3 The Effect of Information Sharing on the Disaster Relief Operation

The regression research indicated that transportation positively affects disaster relief operations, signifying that an increase in transportation correlates with an enhancement in disaster relief efforts. The result aligns with Melkiory's (2020) study, which observed a robust positive correlation between transportation within humanitarian logistics and disaster relief activities. The results align with James's (2021) study, which posited that information sharing is a crucial tool for coordinating and exchanging information among stakeholders throughout all phases of the crisis management cycle, hence facilitating effective disaster relief operations. The research conducted by Mazrul et al. (2020) indicates that information sharing is becoming increasingly vital in disaster response efforts. Various entities could enhance the efficiency of the humanitarian mission by utilizing information

exchange to ensure effective disaster relief activities. In regression analysis, it was noted that information sharing has a positive influence on the disaster relief operation, indicating that increase in information sharing leads to increase in disaster relief operation. The outcome is consistent with a study by Melkiory (2020) who noted that there is strong positive relationship between information sharing as part of humanitarian logistics and disaster relief operation. The results also are supported by stakeholder theory states that enhancing coordination and collaboration among stakeholders can be achieved through establishing unambiguous communication channels, exchanging up-to-date information on requirements and priorities, and offering updates on relief operations.

The presented results are also supported by stakeholder theory highlights that to support coordination, decision-making, and resource allocation during disaster relief operations, effective information flow is essential. The stakeholder theory highlights the significance of involving diverse stakeholders, such as governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, volunteers, and impacted communities, in the exchange of information. Enhancing coordination and collaboration among stakeholders can be achieved through establishing unambiguous communication channels, exchanging up-to-date information on requirements and priorities, and offering updates on relief operations.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Overview

This chapter presents the summary of the study, conclusion of the findings and recommendations related to the influence of humanitarian logistics on the disaster relief operations in Tanzania.

5.2 Summary of the Findings

The primary objective of this research was to investigate the impact of humanitarian logistics on disaster relief operations in Tanzania. The study focused on assessing the impact of three particular elements of humanitarian logistics: logistical coordination, transportation, and information exchange. The research followed a cross-section research design will be backed up by qualitative and quantitative approach, and the study population was employees at World Vision Tanzania. Data collection relied entirely on primary sources, involving the distribution of questionnaires to employees at Red Cross Society Tanzania, and interview method. The analytical techniques utilized comprised descriptive statistics, factor analysis, and multiple regression for quantitative data, alongside content analysis for qualitative data.

The findings of the study were enlightening: logistics coordination had a significant and positive influence on disaster relief operations with (Beta= 0.459, P=0.011). In simpler terms, as logistics coordination increased, effective disaster relief operations also increased. Similarly, transportation had a positive and significant influence on disaster relief operations, indicating that greater improvement in transportation led to

increased disaster relief operations when other factors remained constant with (Beta= 0.412, P=0. 000).

Lastly, information sharing was found to have a significant positive influence on disaster relief operations with (Beta= 0.311, P=0.001). Essentially, higher levels of information sharing were associated with increased disaster relief operations, even when other factors were held constant.

5.3 Conclusion of the Study

The study reveals a robust and affirmative association between logistics coordination and the impact of disaster relief efforts. This indicates that an increase in logistical coordination correlates with an enhancement in disaster relief activities. Establishing confidence among parties engaged in disaster relief operations can be improved by using a contractual agreement to facilitate efficient collaboration and coordination, hence mitigating potential risks.

Transportation plays a crucial role and exerts a beneficial impact on disaster relief operations. This indicates that an increase in transportation correlates with an increase in disaster relief efforts. To enhance the efficacy of humanitarian assistance operations, the government, in conjunction with NGOs, must guarantee the availability of sufficient transportation facilities for relief supplies, ensuring that necessary items arrive promptly for the operation. Information sharing significantly and positively contributes to the disaster relief operations. This signifies a robust correlation between information dissemination and disaster relief efforts, wherein an

escalation in information sharing immediately results in an augmentation of disaster relief operations. The utilization of information dissemination in combating disasters is becoming progressively essential. The importance of obtaining timely and accurate information cannot be emphasized. Various entities could enhance the efficiency of the humanitarian mission by facilitating information sharing to enable effective disaster relief activities.

5.4 Implications of the Study

5.4.1 Implication to the Policy Makers

The study emphasizes that logistics coordination, transportation, and information-sharing mechanisms in disaster management frameworks need to be underlined by policymakers. The policies should, therefore, allow the creation of a centralized coordination hub, invest in resilient transportation infrastructure, and adopt advanced communication technologies that will help simplify the operations of disaster relief.

5.4.2 Implication to the Industry

For the organizations that take part in disaster relief, it outlines the need to develop logistical strategies and transportation capabilities. The advanced management system of logistics, optimization of routes, and technologies that will ensure proper sharing of information in real time can be undertaken by companies for effective and timely disaster response.

5.4.3 Implication to the Academia

These findings set a foundation for further research in disaster management, particularly in logistics coordination, transportation, and information-sharing

practices. Scholars may explore innovative models and frameworks that can be used to further enhance disaster relief operations. The findings also present the need for cross-disciplinary studies to be conducted due to the gaps that exist in the current strategies for disaster management.

5.5 Recommendations

5.5.1 Recommendation to the Government

Based on the findings about the impact of logistics cooperation on disaster relief operations, the report proposes that the government enhance regulations governing public-private partnerships. The enhancement of public-private partnerships specifically addresses matters concerning disasters and crises.

5.5.2 Recommendation to the Policymakers

This study may also advise policymakers and the government to establish a legal framework and regulations that encompass logistics coordination, transportation, and information sharing, while compelling humanitarian organizations to form alliances in disaster relief efforts. This will enhance the main participants' awareness of government initiatives on relief operations and facilitate resource collaboration.

5.5.3 Recommendation to the NGOs

The study recommends that organizations ensure sufficient facilities for the distribution of relief necessities, timely receipt of required materials, and adequate information systems for coordinating all stakeholders in the relief operation to enhance humanitarian relief performance.

5.6 Suggestions for the Future Studies

The report suggests additional research be done to look into the various facets of humanitarian logistics such as inventory management, information and communication technology that affect disaster operations. Finally, additional study should be conducted the same study in the same theme in other NGOs to determine whether the results are applicable to all.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Questionnaire

Dear respondent,

The study recommends that organizations ensure sufficient facilities for the distribution of relief necessities, timely receipt of required materials, and adequate information systems for coordinating all stakeholders in the relief operation to enhance humanitarian relief performance.

PART A: General Information

1. What is your Gender?
 - a. Male () b. Female ()
2. What is your age group/range?
 - a. 18-25 () b. 26-35 () c. 36-45 d. above 45 ()
3. What is your level of education?
 - a. Diploma level () b. Bachelor's degree () c. Masters level ()
 - d. PHD level ()
4. What is your level of experience?
 - a. Below 5 years () b. 6-10 years () c. 11-15 years () d. 15-20 years
 - e. 20 and above ()

PART B: Specific Objectives

Objective 1: The Influence of Logistics Coordination on Disaster Relief Operations

This section addresses the impact of logistics cooperation on disaster relief activities.

Kindly place a check mark (√) to signify your level of agreement or disagreement that most accurately reflects your opinion.

1 = strongly disagree 2 = dissent 3 = Neutral 4 equals agreement 5 = Strongly Agree

There are adequate meetings to discuss the relief operation which will help to increase disaster relief.	1	2	3	4	5
All parties engage in the decision-making process, hence improving disaster relief efforts.	1	2	3	4	5
Information regarding the relief effort is communicated to all parties in a timely manner.	1	2	3	4	5
Complaints in disaster operation is minimized by the joint decision making on the disaster relief operation.	1	2	3	4	5
Right time relief of disaster is achieved by the effective information disseminations.	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of services is attained by the adequate meetings on discussion of disaster relief operation.	1	2	3	4	5

Objective 2: The Influence of Transportation on Disaster Relief Operations

This section addresses the impact of transportation on disaster relief activities.

Kindly place a check mark (✓) to signify your level of agreement or disagreement that most accurately reflects your opinion.

1 = strongly disagree 2 = dissent 3 = Neutral 4 equals agreement 5 = Strongly Agree

Sufficient facilities exist for the timely distribution of relief necessities, facilitating prompt catastrophe assistance.	1	2	3	4	5
The transportation infrastructure enables the relief operation.	1	2	3	4	5
The sufficient number of operators who conduct the relief operation	1	2	3	4	5
Complaints in disaster operation is minimized by the adequate numbers of operators who facilitate.	1	2	3	4	5
Right time relief of disaster is achieved by the good road infrastructure facilitates the relief operation.	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of services is attained by the adequate facilities for distribution of relief requirements.	1	2	3	4	5

Objective 3: The Influence of Information sharing on Disaster Relief Operations

This section addresses the impact of information sharing on disaster relief activities.

Kindly place a check mark (✓) to signify your level of agreement or disagreement that most accurately reflects your opinion.

1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Neutral 4 signifies agreement 5 = Strongly Agree

Inventory levels data are shared throughout the humanitarian logistics to facilitate disaster relief operations	1	2	3	4	5
Delivery schedules are shared to all stakeholders in humanitarian logistics to facilitate disaster relief operations	1	2	3	4	5
Order status information are communicated to respective stakeholders in the humanitarian logistics to facilitate disaster relief operations.	1	2	3	4	5
Complaints in disaster operation is minimized by the inventory levels data are shared throughout the humanitarian logistics.	1	2	3	4	5
Right time relief of disaster is achieved by the proper delivery schedules are shared to all stakeholders in humanitarian logistics.	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of services is attained by the order status information are communicated to respective stakeholders in the humanitarian logistics.	1	2	3	4	5

Dependent Variable: Disaster Relief Operations

This section addresses the inquiry regarding catastrophe relief activities. Kindly place a check mark (✓) to denote your level of agreement or disagreement that most accurately reflects your opinion.

1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = dissent 3 = Neutral 4 equals agree 5 = Strongly Agree

The quality of services is of the required standard.	1	2	3	4	5
There are minimum complaints from the victims/ patients.	1	2	3	4	5
The affected person received the relief / aid at right time.	1	2	3	4	5
Complaints on disaster are reduced by the effective logistic coordination.	1	2	3	4	5
Right time relief is achieved by the good transportation infrastructure.	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of relief services is achieved by the effective information flow in disaster relief operation.	1	2	3	4	5

RESEARCH CLEARANCE LETTER



Ref. No OUT/PG 202001150

28th October, 2024

Tanzania Red cross Society,
 Director of Medical Professional and Service Providers,
 P.o Box 1133 ,
DAR-ES-SALAAM.

Dear Director,

**RE: RESEARCH CLEARANCE FOR MS. GRACE MEAJEKA. REG NO PG
 PG2022001150**

2. The Open University of Tanzania was established by an Act of Parliament No. 17 of 1992, which became operational on the 1st March 1993 by public notice No.55 in the official Gazette. The Act was however replaced by the Open University of Tanzania Charter of 2005, which became operational on 1st January 2007. In line with the Charter, the Open University of Tanzania mission is to generate and apply knowledge through research.

3. To facilitate and to simplify research process therefore, the act empowers the Vice Chancellor of the Open University of Tanzania to issue research clearance, on behalf of the Government of Tanzania and Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology, to both its staff and students who are doing research in Tanzania. With this brief background, the purpose of this letter is to introduce to you **Ms. Grace Mwajeka Reg. No (PG2022001150)**, pursuing **Master of Transport and Logistic** . We here by grant

4. In case you need any further information, kindly do not hesitate to contact the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) of the Open University of Tanzania, P.O.Box 23409, Dar es Salaam. Tel: 022-2-2668820. We lastly thank you in advance for your assumed cooperation and facilitation of this research academic activity.

Yours sincerely,

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA



Prof. Gwahula Raphael Kimamala

For: **VICE CHANCELLOR**



Tanzania Red Cross Society, Mwai Kibaki Road, Plot 53, Block C, Mikochuni
P.O. Box 1133, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Tel: +255 (0) 800 750 150 / +255 (0) 800 750 151
Email: info@trcs.or.tz, Website: www.trcs.or.tz

TRCS/Intern/Vol.1/027

28/10/2024

Ms. Grace Mwajeka,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Dear Ms. Grace Mwajeka,

**RE: ACCEPTANCE TO CONDUCT RESEARCH AT TANZANIA RED
CROSS SOCIETY**

Reference is made to the mentioned heading and letter dated 28th October 2024 with reference Number OUT/PG 2022001150.

We are glad to inform you that your request to conduct research with Tanzania Red Cross Society is accepted. The period of research with TRCS will be one month - from 28th October, 2024 to 30th November 2024. Your research allocation will be with Tanzania Red Cross Society – Nyarugusu RC.

Please take note that TRCS will not offer you any payment during your research period.

Tanzania Red Cross Society is wishing you all the best during your research period.

Yours,


Hilary Ngude

Ag. SECRETARY GENERAL



All Correspondences should be addressed to the Secretary General, Tanzania Red Cross Society

THE INFLUENCE OF LOGISTICAL COORDINATION ON DISASTER RELIEF OPERATIONS IN TANZANIA; A CASE OF RED CROSS SOCIETY TANZANIA

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1 Open University Graduate

2 senior Lecturer Open University of Tanzania

3 Lecturer Open University of Tanzania

ABSTRACT

This research investigated the influence of logistical coordination on disaster relief operations in Tanzania; a case of red cross society Tanzania. Stakeholder theory was used. Positivity philosophy was used, as well as a quantitative approach. The study employed an explanatory research design and included a population of 120 Red Cross personnel, from whom a sample of 108 was selected using a simple random approach. Questionnaires were employed in the data collected process. Descriptive statistics and linear regression analyses were employed for the quantitative data analysis. The study revealed that disaster relief efforts were significantly and positively impacted by logistical coordination. The study concludes that logistical coordination significantly influences the effectiveness of disaster relief operations in Tanzania. Specifically, factors such as information sharing, transport coordination, inventory management, and inter-agency collaboration within the Red Cross Society of Tanzania play a critical role in ensuring timely and efficient response during disasters.

Keywords: *Logistical Coordination, Disaster Relief Operations, Emergency Response*

INTRODUCTION

The influence of logistical coordination on disaster relief operations is critically important because effective logistics ensure timely delivery of aid, reduce resource wastage, and enhance response efficiency during emergencies. As disasters become more frequent and complex due to climate change and urban vulnerability (UNDRR, 2023), robust logistical systems are essential to mitigate impacts. According to Shashi et al. (2020), coordinated logistics enable real-time information sharing, optimal route planning, and efficient allocation of relief supplies, which are vital during the critical first 72 hours of disaster response. Moreover, Yadav and Barve (2021) emphasize that poor logistical coordination often leads to duplication of efforts, delayed responses, and unmet needs, particularly in resource-constrained settings like Tanzania. This study is vital for humanitarian organizations, government agencies, and logistics managers who are directly involved in disaster preparedness and emergency response, as it offers insights into improving inter-agency coordination and supply chain resilience for better outcomes.

Current findings from various countries underscore the critical role of logistical coordination in enhancing disaster relief operations. In the UK, Christopher and Holweg (2020) found that integrated logistics systems significantly improved

response times during COVID-19 emergency distribution. In India, Yadav and Barve (2021) highlighted that inter-agency collaboration and transparent information flow reduced duplication and improved supply allocation during flood relief. Malaysian studies by Alias et al. (2020) revealed that coordination among government, NGOs, and logistics providers accelerated aid delivery and minimized bottlenecks. In China, Zhang et al. (2020) found that digital tracking and centralized logistics hubs during the Wuhan lockdown led to efficient resource management. In the USA, Van Wassenhove and Pedraza Martinez (2020) emphasized the importance of agile logistics networks and pre-positioned resources in disaster-prone areas. In Canada, Kovács and Tatham (2020) noted that decentralized logistics systems helped maintain service continuity during wildfires. Meanwhile, in Australia, Bealt and Mansouri (2020) reported that public-private logistics partnerships were key to overcoming supply chain disruptions during bushfire crises. Collectively, these findings reinforce the global consensus that logistical coordination is a vital determinant of success in disaster relief operations.

Recent findings across several African countries confirm that logistical coordination plays a pivotal role in enhancing disaster relief operations, particularly in resource-constrained environments. In Nigeria, Akinyemi and Adeola (2020) found that weak coordination among relief agencies led to delays in aid distribution during flood disasters, underscoring the need for centralized logistics systems. In Ghana, Osei-Kyei et al. (2020) emphasized that inter-agency coordination and stakeholder engagement were key to improving efficiency during pandemic response logistics. In Ethiopia, Desta et al. (2021) revealed that poor infrastructure and fragmented logistics systems hindered timely delivery of food aid in drought-prone areas. Rwanda's experience, as reported by Uwitonze and Kalisa (2020), showed that the use of digital platforms and government-led coordination significantly improved COVID-19 relief distribution. In South Africa, Mofokeng and Chikobvu (2020) highlighted that partnerships between public and private logistics actors helped manage relief operations effectively during the pandemic. In Zimbabwe, Ndlovu and Mhlanga (2020) found that lack of data sharing and poor warehousing practices undermined disaster response. In Kenya, Mwangi and Wanjiru (2020) identified that coordinated transport systems and emergency supply hubs reduced response times during locust invasions. Finally, in Uganda, Kato and Katongole (2020) reported that logistical preparedness and community-level coordination improved response outcomes in refugee-hosting districts. These findings demonstrate that improved logistical coordination is critical to effective disaster relief across diverse African contexts.

Current findings from Tanzania emphasize that effective logistical coordination is fundamental to improving disaster relief operations, particularly in managing response speed, resource allocation, and communication among actors. Mwakalobo et al. (2020) found that delays in flood response in Kilosa were due to poor transport logistics and lack of pre-positioned supplies. Kihombo and Mwamkinga (2020) highlighted that overlapping mandates among disaster agencies often caused confusion and inefficiencies in coordination efforts. According to Komba (2020), weak information-sharing systems between local governments and humanitarian organizations hindered real-time decision-making during disaster events. Msuya and Mchomvu (2020) noted that during the COVID-19 pandemic, lack of digital logistics

tracking led to bottlenecks in the distribution of medical supplies. In their study, Mgumba and Maleko (2020) pointed out that the absence of integrated warehousing systems contributed to stockouts and uneven distribution of relief materials. Lastly, Charles and Mwaijande (2020) found that collaboration between the Tanzania Red Cross Society and local authorities was effective only when formal logistical frameworks were clearly established and followed. These findings collectively underline that strengthening logistical coordination, particularly in planning, communication, and infrastructure, is essential to enhance Tanzania's disaster response capabilities. This study will use the Supply Chain Coordination Theory to examine how improved logistical coordination enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of disaster relief operations in Tanzania.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Disaster relief operations

Wood et al. (2020) characterize relief as external participation in society intended to aid local inhabitants. Disaster relief operations entail coordinating the transportation of first aid supplies, food, equipment, and personnel for rescue from supply locations to various geographically dispersed sites within the disaster zone, along with the prompt and secure evacuation as well as transfer of affected people to nearby healthcare facilities (Barbarosoğlu et al., 2022). This study characterizes disaster relief operations as a series of actions that include the establishment of communication infrastructures, the implementation of rescue operations, and the delivery of essential first aid services.

Humanitarian Logistics

Humanitarian logistics encompasses the strategic planning, coordination, execution, and supervision of economical and efficient transportation and storage of materials, information, and funds from the origin to the destination, with the objective of meeting the fundamental needs of victims, including food, shelter, medicine, and equipment, arising from natural or anthropogenic catastrophes (Altay, et al., 2023). Humanitarian logistics entails the deployment of resources, manpower, information, and knowledge to aid individuals affected by natural or anthropogenic disasters and intricate situations (Thomas, 2021). This study characterizes logistics for humanitarian assistance as the mobilization of assets, knowledge, and financing for the delivery of goods from the point of origin to the point of consuming to support disaster relief efforts.

Stakeholders Theory

Stakeholder Theory, originally proposed by Edward Freeman in 1984, emphasizes that organizations should consider the interests of all stakeholders not just shareholders in decision-making processes. According to Freeman (1984), stakeholders include any group or individual who can affect or is affected by the achievement of an organization's objectives. The theory assumes that long-term organizational success is better achieved by acknowledging the needs and influences of various actors, such as employees, government agencies, NGOs, donors, and affected communities. In the context of disaster relief operations, particularly within the Tanzanian Red Cross Society, this theory highlights the need for inclusive

logistical coordination that incorporates diverse stakeholder inputs to enhance effectiveness and responsiveness (Freeman, 1984; Donaldson & Preston, 1995).

Stakeholder Theory is built on key assumptions, including the belief that stakeholder interests are interdependent and that ethical considerations should guide organizational actions. Donaldson and Preston (1995) expanded the theory by categorizing it into descriptive, instrumental, and normative aspects, arguing that organizations perform better when they manage stakeholder relationships responsibly. Mitchell, Agle, and Wood (1997) contributed further by introducing a framework for identifying stakeholders based on their power, legitimacy, and urgency essential elements in the high-stakes environment of disaster response. In such contexts, local authorities, international donors, logistics suppliers, and affected communities all have distinct but interconnected roles that need to be synchronized for relief efforts to succeed (Clarkson, 1995; Harrison & Wicks, 2013).

In this study on the influence of logistical coordination on disaster relief operations in Tanzania, Stakeholder Theory is used to analyze how the Red Cross Society and its partners interact with various internal and external stakeholders during emergency responses. The theory guides the examination of how coordination between actors such as government institutions, international NGOs, community leaders, and supply chain partners affects decision-making, resource allocation, and service delivery. For instance, involving local communities in logistics planning not only improves the relevance and acceptance of aid but also enhances the speed and accuracy of distribution. By using Stakeholder Theory, the study frames logistical coordination as a shared responsibility, emphasizing that inclusive collaboration leads to more efficient disaster relief outcomes (Eskerod & Huemann, 2013; Parmar et al., 2010).

One of the key strengths of Stakeholder Theory is its ethical orientation and its applicability in complex, multi-actor environments such as disaster relief, where moral and operational obligations extend beyond profit motives (Harrison et al., 2010). It promotes transparency, inclusiveness, and responsiveness values that are crucial during emergencies. However, its weaknesses lie in operationalization challenges: determining whose interests should be prioritized when stakeholders have conflicting goals can be difficult. In disaster relief, for example, balancing donor expectations with local community needs or navigating government bureaucracy can complicate coordination. Despite these limitations, the theory provides a robust framework for understanding and improving the interconnected dynamics of logistical coordination in humanitarian settings (Phillips, Freeman & Wicks, 2003).

Negi (2022) assessed the obstacles of humanitarian logistics in responding to disasters in Oman, specifically delineating the function of humanitarian initiatives in disaster management and the difficulties encountered by humanitarian groups in overseeing logistics and supply chains during these operations. The study employed a qualitative methodology to investigate the problems affecting emergency logistics and supply chains using a literature analysis on managing disasters and disaster supply chains. The literature on humanitarian logistics was analyzed, and the conclusions are thereafter presented. An extensive evaluation of both foundational and contemporary literature on humanitarian logistics identified many issues, highlighting the necessity for more research into humanitarian logistics processes to enhance existing conditions. Uncoordinated logistical activities result in the failure of

disaster relief operations. Furthermore, it will establish a foundation for diverse players, including humanitarian and non-profit groups, governments, and policymakers, to devise and implement suitable solutions.

Mazrul et al. (2020) investigated humanitarian logistics and the coordination challenges between government entities and NGOs (non-governmental organizations) during disaster relief efforts in Malaysia to promote healthy communities during the Covid-19 epidemic. This study employed prior literature to establish a conceptual framework and found two pivotal factors: trust with coordination, as fundamental elements of an effective humanitarian logistics system. The study indicated that the involvement of NGOs during a crisis is crucial for alleviating the strain on government authorities in overseeing the distribution of humanitarian supplies.

Mazrul et al. (2020) investigated humanitarian logistics and the coordination challenges between government entities and NGOs (non-governmental organizations) during disaster relief efforts in Malaysia to promote healthy communities during the Covid-19 epidemic. This study employed prior literature to establish a conceptual framework and found two pivotal factors: trust with coordination, as fundamental elements of an effective humanitarian logistics system.

Robby et al. (2021) assessed the coordination of regional disaster management agencies in Indonesia for logistics and equipment provision, focusing on time management, synchronization, shared interests, and common objectives in coordination. This research employs a qualitative methodology. Data collection methods include interviews, observation, and document analysis. Simultaneously, data analysis was conducted through three interconnected activity streams: data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing.

The research findings demonstrate that the Regional Disaster Management Agency has efficiently handled coordination in logistics and equipment provision, focusing on time management, timeliness, synchronization, mutual interests, and common objectives. The pattern and pertinent rules suggest that during the pre-disaster, aftermath, and post-disaster phases, the main obstacle to coordination is the presence of divergent lines of command or separate operational units among several interconnected entities.

This research concludes that the coordination of the Disaster Management Agency of the Region of Gunung Mas Regency in the provision of logistics and technology for disaster management has been effectively synchronized with the established system and relevant rules. The coordination challenges are significantly affected by the insufficient comprehension among other pertinent agencies concerning their roles, authorities, and obligations in disaster management. The subsequent inhibiting issue is the absence of a hierarchical relationship (chain of command) among various work units within the service/agency/other entity, leading to suboptimal coordination.

Rutaba (2023) outlines the fundamental components of humanitarian groups that could improve the effectiveness of disaster relief efforts. The study employed a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, including surveys and interviews. The researchers employed multiple regressions to examine the relationship between independent and dependent variables. The findings indicated that coordination among stakeholders and vertical logistics cooperation can enhance the effectiveness of disaster relief operations.

The research established that the effectiveness of humanitarian logistics is crucial for disaster relief efforts and recommended that the government foster public-private partnerships, ensure reliable infrastructure, and improve the competencies of logistics service providers and humanitarian organizations. The research may aid policymakers in developing frameworks to improve coordination among participants and logistical structures for disaster relief initiatives. Moreover, it augments the existing comprehension of stakeholder theory and strengthens humanitarian logistics frameworks.

Yussuf (2021) assessed the challenges of humanitarian logistics in disaster management in Tanzania, emphasizing the significance of coordination, transport, and information and communication technology in augmenting the effectiveness of humanitarian efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, and offered suggestions for enhancement. The data was collected by a questionnaire distributed to a sample of six hospital referral centers in Dar es Salaam and the Coastal Region, utilizing quantitative methodologies and an explanatory study design. Descriptive data analysis was utilized to calculate the mean and standard deviation of the results, which were then displayed in frequency distribution tables prior to analysis through a multiple regression model. All independent factors had a significant positive association with the performance of humanitarian assistance, including coordination, transportation, and information technology for communication ($p=0.05$). To improve the effectiveness of humanitarian relief operations, the study recommended that referral hospital management ensure adequate facilities for the distribution of relief supplies, prompt delivery of essential materials, and sufficient ICT resources for facilitating the collaboration of all stakeholders involved in the relief effort.

Yohana (2022) assessed the essential domains of humanitarian organizations to improve effectiveness in disaster relief operations. The research employed a sequential explanatory methodology, deliberately combining quantitative and qualitative data from a sample of 150 participants associated with humanitarian organizations. Data were gathered using questionnaire and key informant interviews. The correlation and strength of the association between independent and dependent variables were assessed by multiple regression analysis.

The study determined that the elements affecting humanitarian logistics efficacy in disaster relief operations include skilled personnel, a dedicated humanitarian organization, supportive laws, sufficient financial resources, and specialized logistics service providers. Thus, it was concluded that the overall effectiveness of disaster relief operations depends on suitable frameworks in humanitarian logistics that guarantee efficiency in logistics coordination and the involvement of logistical services in executing disaster relief efforts.

H1; Logistical coordination has a significant positive influence on the effectiveness of disaster relief operations in Tanzania by the Red Cross Society.

METHODOLOGY

The study on the influence of logistical coordination on disaster relief operations in Tanzania adopts a positivist research philosophy, which emphasizes objective measurement and quantification of variables to establish causal relationships (Creswell, 2014; Saunders, Lewis, & Thornhill, 2019). This philosophy is

appropriate for examining how specific aspects of logistical coordination affect the effectiveness of disaster relief, as it allows for hypothesis testing and generalization of findings. By focusing on observable phenomena, the study aims to produce reliable and valid results that can inform practical improvements in disaster management within the Red Cross Society Tanzania.

A quantitative research approach is employed, aligned with the positivist paradigm, facilitating the use of numerical data to analyze the relationships between variables such as information sharing, transport coordination, inventory management, and disaster relief outcomes (Bryman, 2016). The study uses a descriptive survey design to collect data from relevant stakeholders involved in disaster relief operations, including Red Cross staff, government officials, and partner NGOs. This design is chosen for its ability to gather extensive data within a defined population and to describe the current state of logistical coordination practices (Kothari, 2020). Stratified random sampling is applied to ensure representation across different stakeholder groups, enhancing the generalizability and minimizing sampling bias (Sekaran & Bougie, 2019).

3.14 Study Population

Amin (2023) defines "target population" as the complete group of individuals or entities to which a researcher intends to generalize the findings. The study population was 120 employees at Red Cross (Red Cross, 2024). Employees from management, procurement departments, supplies departments, logistics departments, and operations at Red Cross who are familiar with disaster relief operation is the target population, which are regarded as having extensive experience that aided in envisioning the potential advantages humanitarian logistics on disaster relief operation (Table 1).

Table : Study Population

No	CATEGORY	Population	Percentage
1	PMU	12	10%
2	Supplies	24	20%
3	Logistics	17	14.2%
4	Tender board	8	6.7%
5	Operations	59	49.2%
	TOTAL	120	100.0

Source: Red Cross Tanzania (2024)

Data collection involves structured questionnaires distributed to participants, enabling standardized responses that can be quantitatively analyzed (Cooper & Schindler, 2014). The questionnaire includes items measuring key logistical coordination components and relief operation effectiveness using Likert scales. For data analysis, descriptive statistics summarize participant demographics and variable distributions, while inferential statistics such as regression analysis assess the strength and significance of relationships among variables (Field, 2018). Statistical software like SPSS or Stata is utilized to ensure accuracy and facilitate detailed analysis. This methodological approach provides a robust framework for testing hypotheses and generating evidence-based recommendations for enhancing disaster relief logistics in Tanzania (Creswell & Creswell, 2017).

RESULTS

4.7.4 The Influence of Logistics Coordination on Disaster Relief Operations

The researcher evaluated the impact of logistics coordination on disaster relief efforts in the initial aims. This delineates the findings about the impact of logistical coordination on disaster relief efforts, as evidenced by the accompanying statements presented below;

Table 2: The Influence of Logistics Coordination on Disaster Relief Operations

Responses	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Information regarding the relief effort is communicated to all stakeholders promptly.	100	4.12	1.057
There are adequate meetings to discuss the relief operation which will help to increase disaster relief.	100	3.92	1.032
All stakeholders participate in the decision making which enhance great disaster relief.	100	3.91	1.102
Quality of services is attained by the adequate meetings on discussion of disaster relief operation.	100	3.83	.829
Right time relief of disaster is achieved by the effective information disseminations.	100	3.69	.940
Complaints in disaster operation is minimized by the joint decision making on the disaster relief operation.	100	3.62	.951
Aggregate Mean	100	3.85	0.985
Valid N (listwise)	100		

Sources: Researcher (2024)

The respondents concurred that information on relief operations is communicated to all stakeholders promptly, evidenced by a mean of 4.12 and a standard deviation of 1.057. The respondents concurred that sufficient meetings are held to deliberate on the relief operation, which will augment disaster relief efforts. Furthermore, all stakeholders engage in the decision-making process, thereby significantly improving disaster relief, as evidenced by a mean of 3.92 with a standard deviation of 1.032, and a mean of 3.91 with a standard deviation of 1.102, respectively.

The respondents concurred that service quality is achieved through sufficient meetings regarding disaster relief operations, evidenced by a mean of 3.83 and a standard deviation of 0.829. The respondents concurred that timely disaster relief is facilitated by effective information dissemination, and that complaints during disaster operations are reduced through collaborative decision-making, evidenced by a mean of 3.69 with a standard deviation of 0.940, and a mean of 3.62 with a standard deviation of 0.951, respectively. The data reveal that disaster relief operations in Tanzania are influenced by logistical coordination, which mitigates risks, as evidenced by an aggregate mean of 3.85 and a standard deviation of 0.985.

Regression assumptions

Normality of residuals was evaluated using the histogram (Figure 2) and P-P plot (Figure 3). The histogram displays a bell-shaped curve closely resembling a normal

distribution, indicating that the residuals are approximately normally distributed (Field, 2018). Additionally, the P-P plot shows the points falling closely along the diagonal line, which further supports the assumption of normality, meaning that the deviations of observed from predicted values are randomly distributed without skewness or kurtosis issues (Tabachnick & Fidell, 2019).

Linearity was checked by inspecting the scatter plot of residuals (Figure 3). The residuals appear clustered randomly and symmetrically around the horizontal zero line without forming any distinct pattern or curve. This pattern suggests a linear relationship between the independent variables (logistical coordination factors) and the dependent variable (disaster relief operation effectiveness) as expected in linear regression (Osborne & Waters, 2002).

Finally, homoscedasticity—the assumption that the variance of residuals is constant across levels of the independent variables—was supported by the scatter plot as the spread of residuals remains fairly uniform across the predicted values range. There is no funneling or systematic change in the scatter of residuals, which indicates that the model's errors have constant variance, thereby meeting the homoscedasticity assumption required for valid inference (Cohen, Cohen, West, & Aiken, 2013).

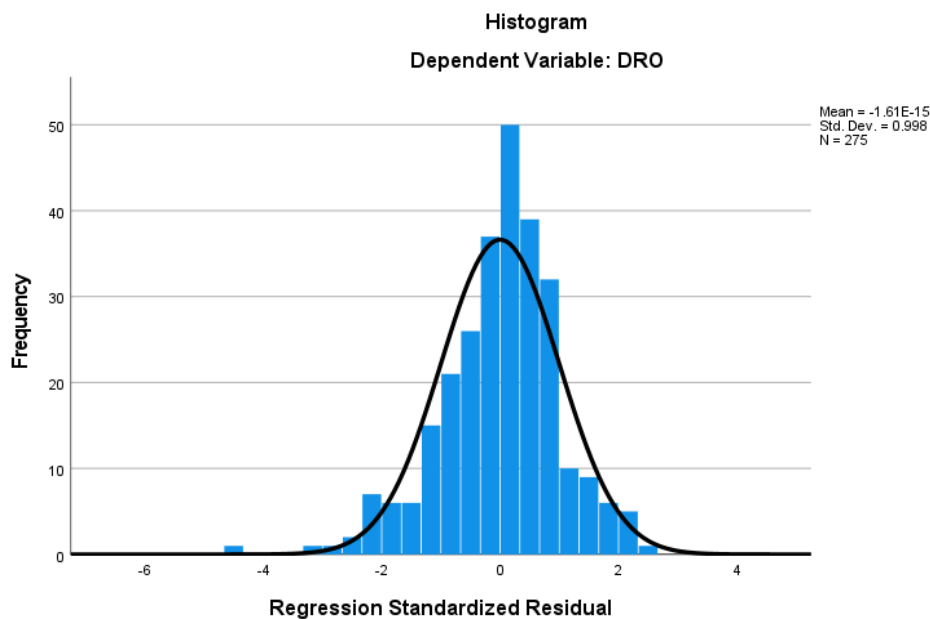


Figure 2: Histogram
Source, Data Analysis, 2025

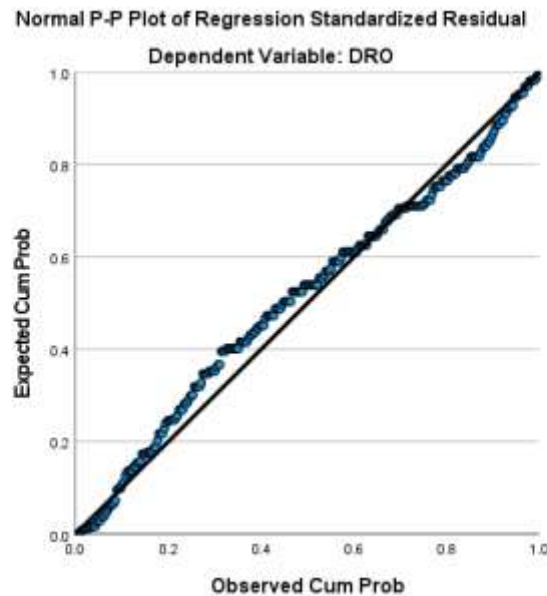


Figure 3: P – P – Plots for the Unstandardized Residuals
Source: Data Analysis, 2025

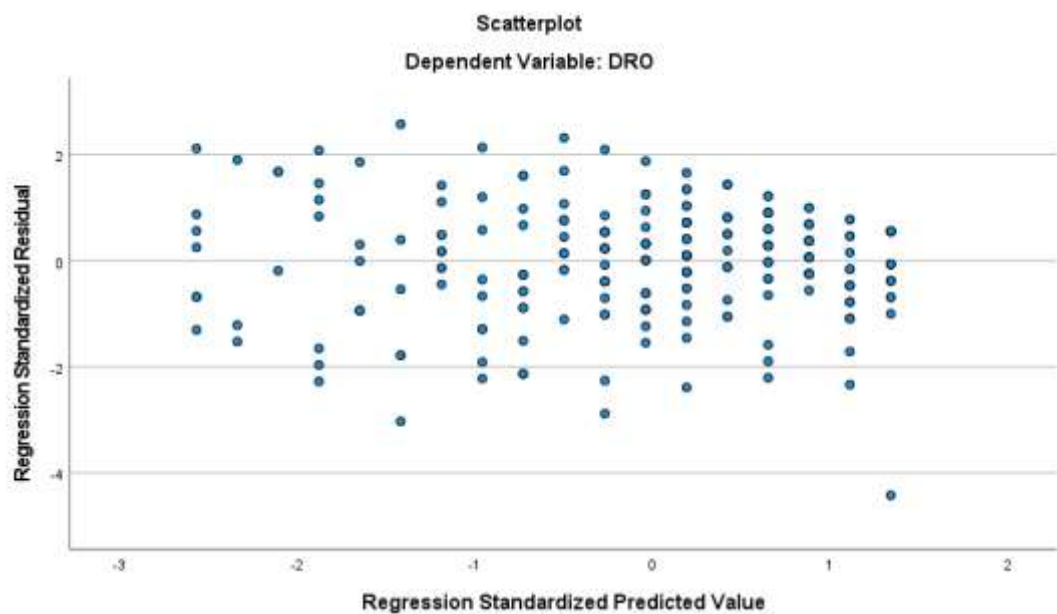


Figure 3: Scatter Plots
Source: Data Analysis, 2025

Model Summary

Table 3 presents the model summary of the regression analysis examining the influence of Logistical Coordination (LC) on Disaster Relief Operations (DRO). The correlation coefficient ($R = 0.692$) indicates a strong positive relationship between LC and DRO, suggesting that improvements in logistical coordination are associated with better disaster relief outcomes. The R Square value of 0.479 shows that 47.9% of the variance in disaster relief operations is explained by logistical coordination, highlighting its substantial impact. The Adjusted R Square of 0.477 confirms the

model's robustness after adjusting for the number of predictors. The standard error of the estimate (0.64254) reflects the average deviation of observed values from the regression line and indicates a reasonable level of prediction accuracy. Overall, the model demonstrates that logistical coordination is a significant predictor of effective disaster relief operations within the Red Cross Society of Tanzania.

Table 3: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.692 ^a	.479	.477	.64254
a. Predictors: (Constant), LC				
b. Dependent Variable: DRO				

Note: LC = Logistical Coordination, DRO = Disaster Relief Operations

Source: Data Analysis, 2025

ANOVA Results

Table 4 displays the ANOVA results assessing the overall significance of the regression model examining the influence of Logistical Coordination (LC) on Disaster Relief Operations (DRO). The F-statistic value of 251.262 with a significance level (p-value) of .000 indicates that the regression model is statistically significant at the 0.05 level. This means that the variation explained by the model is not due to chance, and LC significantly contributes to predicting DRO. The regression sum of squares (103.734) compared to the residual sum of squares (112.709) further confirms that a substantial portion of the total variance in DRO is explained by LC. Therefore, the ANOVA results strongly support the hypothesis that logistical coordination has a significant positive effect on disaster relief operations in Tanzania.

Table 4: ANOVA Results

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	103.734	1	103.734	251.262	.000 ^b
	Residual	112.709	273	.413		
	Total	216.443	274			
a. Dependent Variable: DRO						
b. Predictors: (Constant), LC						

Note: LC = Logistical Coordination, DRO = Disaster Relief Operations

Source: Data Analysis, 2025

Regression Coefficient

Table 5 presents the regression coefficient results, showing the impact of Logistical Coordination (LC) on Disaster Relief Operations (DRO). The unstandardized coefficient ($B = 0.707$) indicates that for every one-unit increase in LC, DRO is expected to increase by 0.707 units, assuming other factors remain constant. The standardized beta coefficient ($\beta = 0.692$) confirms a strong positive effect of LC on DRO, reinforcing its significant contribution. The t-value of 15.851 and the p-value of .000 indicate that this relationship is statistically significant at the 0.05 level. Moreover, the collinearity statistics show a tolerance of 1.000 and a VIF of 1.000, indicating no multicollinearity issues. Overall, these results confirm that logistical coordination is a strong and statistically significant predictor of effective disaster relief operations in the Red Cross Society of Tanzania.

Table 5: Regression Coefficient Results

		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	Collinearity Statistics	
		B	Std. Error	Beta			Tolerance	VIF
1	(Constant)	1.107	.175		6.319	.000		
	LC	.707	.045	.692	15.851	.000	1.000	1.000

a. Dependent Variable: DRO

Note: LC = Logistical Coordination, DRO = Disaster Relief Operations

Source: Data Analysis, 2025

DISCUSSION

Based on the study findings, the results confirm a strong, statistically significant influence of logistical coordination (LC) on the effectiveness of disaster relief operations (DRO) within the Red Cross Society of Tanzania. The positive and significant correlation ($R = 0.692$), the coefficient of determination ($R^2 = 0.479$), and the regression coefficient ($B = 0.707$, $p < 0.001$) all indicate that efficient LC significantly contributes to the success of DRO. These findings align with a global body of literature emphasizing the critical role of logistics coordination in humanitarian contexts. For example, in Malaysia, Mazrul et al. (2020) found that trust and coordination between NGOs and government entities significantly enhanced the performance of humanitarian logistics during the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, Robby et al. (2021) in Indonesia emphasized that effective synchronization, mutual objectives, and inter-agency coordination significantly improved disaster equipment provision and response times.

In Oman, Negi (2022) concluded that inadequate coordination and poor supply chain visibility were primary contributors to the failure of disaster response, pointing to the urgent need for stronger logistics planning frameworks. Rutaba (2023), in a cross-national study, highlighted that vertical logistics cooperation among stakeholders improved the overall efficiency of humanitarian efforts. These international findings closely resonate with the results of this Tanzanian study, reinforcing the idea that structured logistics coordination frameworks are essential for reducing delays, minimizing resource duplication, and ensuring the right aid reaches the right people at the right time.

From an African perspective, and particularly within Tanzania, several studies support these conclusions. Yussuf (2021), in a study involving referral hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic, found that logistical coordination, transportation efficiency, and ICT integration had a significant positive effect on the performance of humanitarian operations. Similarly, Yohana (2022) emphasized that logistical frameworks, skilled personnel, and stakeholder collaboration significantly enhance the efficiency of disaster relief efforts. Mwakalobo et al. (2020) also highlighted how poor transport logistics and a lack of pre-positioned resources hindered timely flood response in Kilosa District, calling for a robust logistics coordination mechanism. These local findings confirm that logistical coordination is not only a theoretical

framework but a practical and strategic necessity for improving DRO outcomes in Tanzania.

In summary, this study adds to the global and national discourse by empirically validating that logistical coordination significantly influences disaster relief success. The Tanzanian Red Cross Society, like other humanitarian agencies worldwide, must adopt integrated logistics systems, improve inter-agency communication, and invest in capacity building to optimize their disaster response mechanisms. Strengthening logistics coordination will not only improve operational efficiency but will also enhance the resilience and responsiveness of humanitarian systems during crises.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study established that logistical coordination (LC) has a significant and positive influence on the effectiveness of disaster relief operations (DRO) in Tanzania, particularly within the Red Cross Society. The regression results demonstrated that nearly 48% of the variance in DRO performance could be explained by LC, with strong statistical support confirming that improved coordination in areas such as information sharing, transport, inventory management, and inter-agency collaboration enhances response speed, resource allocation, and service delivery. These findings underscore the critical need for structured, integrated, and stakeholder-inclusive logistics systems to strengthen disaster preparedness and response in humanitarian settings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the study findings, several key recommendations are proposed to enhance disaster relief operations through improved logistical coordination. First, the Tanzania Red Cross Society and similar agencies should invest in integrated logistics information systems to facilitate real-time communication and data sharing among stakeholders. Second, capacity-building programs should be implemented to train personnel in supply chain management, coordination, and emergency preparedness. Third, it is essential to strengthen partnerships and collaboration between government agencies, NGOs, private sector actors, and local communities to ensure synchronized efforts during disasters. Additionally, establishing pre-positioned warehouses and transport networks in disaster-prone areas can significantly reduce response time. Lastly, policymakers should develop and enforce national logistical coordination frameworks and standard operating procedures to guide multi-agency disaster response efforts and ensure accountability and efficiency.

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