

Logistics and resource mobilization

Logistics is a key professional element in successful disaster management. It aims to establish the required capacities to move goods and people where and when required. It is a key support service to both disaster relief operations and ongoing programmes of the International Federation and the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.



Key data

The logistics and resource mobilization department of disaster management and coordination division manages the complete logistics supply chain for operations, which is approximately 50 per cent of all emergency appeal budgets. In 2002 there were:

- 375 procurements handled by logistics, valued at approximately 50 million Swiss francs;
- 220 consignments mobilized, delivered and tracked for five major emergency operations;
- 700 vehicles managed in more than 50 countries by the International Federation's fleet base in Abu Dhabi;
- 51 monitoring and support missions;
- one regional logistics unit operational in Panama; and
- three regional logistics units to be developed in 2004.

The FIVE rights

Logistics is a support service that provides the means required to move goods, people and manufacturing capacity:

- To the right place
- At the right time
- In the right quantity
- At the right quality
- At the right price

The FIVE functions

To be able to fully control the supply chain management, logistics has the responsibility for the following functions:

- Assessment and planning to support programmes
- Mobilization
- Transport management
- Warehouse management
- Reporting

The FIVE key words

■ Identity

Logistics is recognized as a professional and complex function that needs to be established as a regular part of organizational capacities of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

■ Beginning

Logistics is involved from the start of both relief operations and programmes.

■ Global

Logistics is a global function with related responsibilities.

■ Preparedness

Logistics response is vastly improved by active logistics preparedness.

■ Standardization

Logistics standards ensure services that are simplified, fast-tracked, cost effective and efficient.