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Humanitarian Logistics and Disaster Relief Supply Training Course

30 November – 4 December 2026
Milan

Humanitarian Logistics and Disaster Relief Supply Training Course

Ref: 3057_116039 **Date:** 30 November – 4 December 2026 **Location:** Milan **Fees:** 6200 GBP

Humanitarian Logistics and Disaster Relief Supply is a 1-week training course for relief logistics officers, emergency planners and aid supply coordinators, built around a Relief Supply Pipeline Plan that links needs, stock, transport and distribution for one emergency. Floods, earthquakes and displacement now strike more often and closer to dense settlements, so relief that arrives late or unrecorded costs lives and donor trust. Jupiter Prime Training delivers this course in humanitarian logistics.

Why Humanitarian Logistics Matters Now

Three forces shape humanitarian logistics today. Sudden-onset disasters and long displacement crises overlap, so relief chains must switch between surge and steady supply. Donors and host authorities expect each consignment to be traced from pledge to the household that received it. Many agencies now share warehouses, trucks and flights, which saves cost only when their plans are aligned. An organisation that handles relief supply well reaches affected people within days and can show where every item went. One that handles it badly sees congested ports, spoiled goods and duplicated deliveries. The course rests on accepted humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and accountability to affected people.

Who Gains Most from Humanitarian Logistics

- Staff who estimate relief needs and turn assessment findings into supply requests
- Officers who hold prepositioned stock and decide when to release it
- Coordinators who arrange inbound transport, customs clearance and field warehousing
- Field teams who run distribution points and record what each household receives
- Planners who represent their agency in joint logistics meetings with partners

Relief agencies, civil defence units and charitable foundations gain most when planners and field logisticians attend together.

Humanitarian Logistics Capabilities

Participants leave able to move relief goods from warehouse shelf to affected household.

- Calculate relief item quantities from rapid needs assessment findings — the first supply request
- Specify prepositioned stock levels and release triggers — readiness before the next season
- Design an inbound relief pipeline with entry points and transit hubs — transport and clearance choices
- Build a field warehouse layout with stock cards and loss controls — accountability to donors
- Apply fair targeting and distribution point procedures — affected people and their trust
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Align logistics plans with partner agencies through shared assets — duplication and gaps

Key Humanitarian Logistics Terms

- Rapid needs assessment — a quick field survey estimating how many people need which items.
- Prepositioned stock — relief items stored near likely disaster areas for release within hours.
- Relief pipeline — the full chain of sourcing, transport, storage and distribution that keeps relief goods flowing to an operation.
- In-kind donation — goods given instead of cash, checked for fit and handling cost before acceptance.
- Distribution point — a controlled site where registered households collect relief items against a list or token.
- Waybill — the transport document recording what each consignment loaded and delivered.

Humanitarian Logistics Day by Day

Day 1: The Disaster Relief Context

- Humanitarian Principles in Logistics Decisions — Neutral and Impartial Supply Choices
- Disaster Types and Supply Profiles — Sudden Onset Versus Protracted Crises
- Rapid Needs Assessment Findings — Converting Survey Data Into Item Lists
- Standard Relief Item Kits — Shelter, Water, Hygiene and Food Baskets
- Logistics Capacity Assessment — Roads, Ports, Airstrips and Local Markets

Day 2: Preparedness and Prepositioned Stock

- Prepositioning Site Selection — Distance, Access and Hazard Exposure
- Contingency Stock Levels — Balancing Readiness Against Holding Cost
- Standing Supplier Agreements — Fast Local and Regional Purchasing
- In-Kind Donation Screening — Accepting, Redirecting or Declining Goods
- Stock Rotation and Expiry Control — Food, Medicines and Water Treatment

Day 3: Building the Relief Pipeline

- Pipeline Mapping From Source to Field — Lead Times and Bottlenecks
- Entry Points and Transit Hubs — Air, Sea and Overland Routes
- Customs Clearance for Relief Consignments — Documents and Exemption Requests
- Fleet and Hired Transport Planning — Convoys, Fuel and Driver Safety
- Waybill and Consignment Tracking — Proof of Delivery at Each Handover

Day 4: Field Warehousing and Last-Mile Distribution

- Temporary Field Warehouse Set-Up — Mobile Storage Units and Site Layout
- Stock Cards and Physical Counts — Loss, Theft and Damage Control
- Beneficiary Registration and Targeting — Fair Selection of Households
- Distribution Point Organisation — Crowd Flow, Safety and Dignity
- Post-Distribution Monitoring — Feedback From Affected People

Day 5: Practising the Relief Supply Pipeline Plan

- Inter-Agency Logistics Coordination — Shared Warehouses, Flights and Trucks
- Disaster Simulation Exercise — Applying Needs and Stock Decisions From Days 1 and 2
- Route and Hub Choice Under Disruption — Applying Day 3 Pipeline Mapping
- Distribution Scenario Review — Applying Day 4 Field Procedures
- Relief Supply Pipeline Plan Assembly — Needs, Stock, Routes and Distribution

Applying Humanitarian Logistics After the Course

- Review prepositioned stock against the Day 2 contingency levels and agree release triggers with emergency planners.
- Run a short table-top exercise with partner agencies using the pipeline map to test one entry route and one distribution site.

Humanitarian Logistics Questions FAQ

What is humanitarian logistics and why does it matter now?

Humanitarian logistics is the planning and movement of relief goods to people affected by disasters and crises. It matters now because emergencies are more frequent and overlapping, and donors expect every consignment to be traced to the people it reached.

Which roles gain most from humanitarian logistics training?

Relief logistics officers, emergency planners and aid supply coordinators gain most. Field distribution staff also benefit.

How does a humanitarian logistics course differ from a commercial supply chain course?

A humanitarian logistics course plans for uncertain demand, damaged infrastructure and accountability to affected people. A commercial supply chain course focuses on customer service levels, margin and repeatable demand in stable markets.

What do you bring back from humanitarian logistics training?

You bring back a Relief Supply Pipeline Plan built during a disaster simulation. It links needs, stock, routes and distribution.

Humanitarian Logistics: The Way Forward

The Relief Supply Pipeline Plan gives a relief operation one shared picture of needs, stock, routes and distribution sites. Its first use is the decision on which prepositioned stock to release and through which entry point. Logistics officers, planners and partner agencies all work from it. After the first emergency, revisit the distribution feedback and the bottlenecks found in the pipeline.