KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT OF FLOOD DISASTER IN SOCIAL MEDIA

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ABSTRACT

Social media sites are playing a significant role in rapid propagation of information when disasters occur. This effective communication platform is a great useful tool for emergency management agencies during all phases of disaster management life cycle which is prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. Effective knowledge management is promising to improve organizational and personal performance. It has been widely recognized that information and communication technologies may contribute to knowledge management if they can be suitably utilized. Thus, this study is carried out to identify the utilization of knowledge management processes for flood disaster management in social media. Quantitative method is chosen for collecting data in this research.

ABSTRAK

Media sosial memainkan peranan penting dalam penyebaran maklumat ketika bencana berlaku. Platform komunikasi yang berkesan ini adalah alat yang berguna bagi membantu agensi-agensi pengurusan bencana semasa fasa pengurusan bencana iaitu pencegahan, persediaan, tindak balas, dan pemulihan. Pengurusan pengetahuan yang berkesan menjanjikan untuk meningkatkan prestasi organisasi dan peribadi. Ia telah diiktiraf secara meluas bahawa teknologi maklumat dan komunikasi boleh menyumbang kepada pengurusan pengetahuan jika ianya digunakan dengan sebaiknya. Oleh itu, kajian ini dijalankan untuk mengenal pasti penggunaan proses pengurusan pengetahuan bagi pengurusan bencana banjir di media sosial. Kaedah kuantitatif dipilih untuk mengumpul data dalam kajian ini.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BCP Business Continuity Plan

DRMC Disaster Management and Relief Committee

ERP Emergency Response Plan

ESSAWTM Emergency Situation Awareness – Automated Web Text Mining

GDACS Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System

HA/DR Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief

ICT Information and Communication Technology

KA Knowledge Audit

KD Knowledge Dissemination

KI Knowledge Integration

KT Knowledge Transfer

KM Knowledge Management

MNSC Malaysia National Security Council

UTM Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

SPSS Statistical Package for Social Sciences Programme

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This chapter briefly explained the overview of the study and how the research will be conducted. It is included the research background, problem statement, research objective, scope of study, significance of study and expected contribution. Firstly, the introduction of the topic and explanation about the background study. Problem statement obviously shows the rationale behind leading the research. Objective and scopes are needed as it is a guideline to conduct the research. Lastly, significance of study is for understanding the implication of this research. The purpose of this research is to study about knowledge management of flood disaster in social media.

Flood is an overflow that comes from river or any source of water that covered all over land yet it is not usually submerged. Various countries on the Earth confront flooding events, including Indonesia, Malaysia, China, Australia and Thailand. Flood is one of the natural disasters that frequently occur in Malaysia. Normally, flood happened during the monsoon season due to prolonged heavy rain. It can cause destruction of property and loss of life (Abdul Latif & Arshad, 2014). The rising water caused the road routes were closed. Many daily activities disrupted by flood.

Therefore, information is the most significant item amid emergencies or disaster (Barrantes, RodrIguez, & Pérez, 2009). Information is needed in order to make decisions. Most importantly, it is essential for quick and effective emergency assistance for those affected by disaster. Plus, information is the core components in the damage and needs assessment process. Moreover, it is the basis for coordination and decision making in crisis circumstances. It also important for after-event analysis, assessment and lessons learned. Thus, public and social communication and media relation have ended up as key components in efficient emergency management.

Today, social media had ended up as a worldwide phenomenon. More than 80% of Internet's users are social media users. Social media becomes one of the favored medium to gain and broadcast information regarding natural disaster such as flood. In Indonesia, social media is one of famous information resources when disaster occurred (Oktafiani, Jariyah, Fitri, & Takako, 2012). While in Australia, flood happened between September 2010 and March 2011. During that time, many people used social media as an approach to get and share information about flood (Charlwood, 2012). Social media users were active in sharing the official messages to spread warnings and information. Besides that, social media users were willing to report relevant situational information to emergency management agencies. The Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) Facebook page received various direct posts from social media users with detailed information including road closures, images and videos of local flood conditions.

Malaysia still lack of experience in using social media, particularly during disaster events (Wan Hussin, 2016). People does not recognize social media as their first source information. Thus, a few researchers and analyst have begun to propose some techniques and framework for disaster management by evaluating social media data (Sakaki, 2013). The researcher proposed a knowledge management framework in order to enhancing the usage of social media during flood disaster.

1.2 Problem background

Malaysia has experienced various type of natural disaster. Flood disaster becomes synonymous with our country since it happened almost every year. Usually it happens during the monsoon season due to prolonged heavy rain. In December 2014, Malaysia makes a history when three of the state makes a hit with massive flood happened in Kelantan, Terengganu and Pahang. Kelantan was found out the most affected when eight of the territories are severely damage (Wan Ahmad & Abdurahman, 2015). This incident happens for seven days from 26 December 2014 to 2 January 2015. Flood disaster makes local people suffering from loss of their property such as house, cars and schools. Besides that, flood can cause loss of life.

Disaster related agencies, humanitarian assistance associations and the affected citizens require information as data, figures, reports and circumstances analysis or recommendations. The problem is on how the communication and information management lead to more powerful and timely response. With effective information management, lives can be saved and reduce the effect of disaster and crisis. Plus, it can xenhance the quality of life of affected citizens. They should be perceived as key components in organizing resources, trigger solidarity and support.

With the rise of social media as broadly utilized information and communication technologies (ICT), it becomes a tool that providing a real – time data about the circumstance at the disaster area from the influenced individuals themselves (Mukkamala & Beck, 2016). Social media draw in consideration for their data sharing abilities, particularly Twitter, which is a trendy social medium utilized during disasters (Sakaki, 2013). Thus, people use their social media during the disaster to get and sharing the information. The information is focused in real- time data which originating from endusers through social media. Malaysia have facing many challenges in order to practice disaster management.

Social media keep people alert with their areas. It is a powerful platform to disseminate information but it also can disseminate false information which will cause problem later (Abedin, Babar, & Abbasi, 2014). Social media provided real time information updated from the user. People looking up for a real-time information during flood disaster. The importance of the disaster related information is it give real time alerts and warnings, agencies can detect the survivors and victims, gather volunteer, and raise fund.

Social media is a pool of public knowledge. It is either in a form of text, pictures or videos. The knowledge are regularly unstructured, inaccurate or redundant. Lack of control in social media lead the knowledge becomes in various forms and unfiltered (Mohd. Rodzi, Ahmad, & Zakaria, 2015). Hence, knowledge management process can transform the knowledge into a knowledge that can benefit the public, agencies and others.

Knowledge management (KM) has been perceived as an important instrument for the procurement of disaster related data (Seneviratne, Baldry, & Pathirage, 2010). It is to understand the basic need to oversee past encounters and information to guarantee noteworthy upgrades in future disaster relief operations. The innovation of technology that link the world in a worldwide system has the potential to advance the trading of information on disaster-related among organizations, areas, states and public. Disaster management highlight the accuracy and speed requires a compilation of information for decision making and forecasting purposes. Research into the significance of organizing, sorting out and speaking to disaster related knowledge has been expanding recently (Othman & Beydoun, 2013).

1.3 Problem statement

Based on the research background that have conducted, there are some problem statement that have been identified and should been highlighted through the study. The problem statement has been identified as below:

- a) How are KM processes currently practiced in flood disaster management?
- b) How are social media used in KM processes of flood disaster management?

1.4 Research objectives

Research objective is to solve the problem statement. So, the objective that been identified are as below:

- a) To identify KM processes currently practiced in flood disaster management.
- b) To examine the usage of social media in KM processes of flood disaster management.

1.5 Scope of study

In order to complete the research, the scope of the research is determined and will be focused on. The scope in this study are:

- a) The area of study is in Malaysia, where usually flood is occurring.
- b) The respondent is the youth of the victims or those who have experience regarding flood.
- c) The social media is focused on Facebook and WhatsApp application.

1.6 Significance of study

The significance of study is to increase the awareness of people towards the usage of social media as a medium of broadcast information during flood disaster. Plus, the industry or agencies can take part in creating or enhancing application for disseminates information of flood. Besides that, the committee can take action by creating a group application in social media. When flood is occurred, the committee can know who still being trapped in flood and needed a help. So, the bond within the community becomes stronger. This research can be a future reference for academic purposes.

1.7 Summary

This chapter is an overview about the research by introducing the problem statement, objectives, scopes and significance of study. Hence, through this chapter, people can understand and have a rough idea about what will discussed in this research. At the beginning of this report, it discusses about the introduction and problem background. Meanwhile chapter two discusses the literature review of previous studies by other researchers. Afterwards, chapter three shows how this study was conducted. For chapter four, it explains the finding of this study. Lastly, chapter five discuss about conclusion, limitation of study and future work.

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