



DIGITAL SKILLS AND RESEARCH METHODS BMSW4003

Technology Changes at the Red Cross

Student name: Student ID:

Tahmid Shahriyar 1905209

Awinnie Ferreira 1905625

Paloma Araujo 1907291

Winfred .N. Diane 1905864

Rohey Saine 1907300

Lecturers Name: Christopher Mafuva

University of Wales St trinity David

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Introduction to the Red Cross

- The red cross is a international organisation with subsidiary organisations within.
- It has been around over a hundred years.
- Provides aid to many countries including Syria, Afghanistan and European countries.
- The aid the red cross provides includes: emergency aid, aid during wartime, help and rescue as well as other forms of aid.



Background of the Red Cross

- The origin's of the Red cross started off in 1863.
- The Red cross was inspired by Henry Dunant.
- He had a idea of creating relief organisations consistent of volunteers who can provide neutral relief to people who are suffering.
- Henry witnessed a horrific incident in the battle of solferino which prompted him to help people. (Cavendish, 2013)
- Due to the ideas he had a committee that is now known as committee of the red cross was created.

History of the Red Cross

- Solferino was the first key event for the red cross as this was the motivation of the founding of the organisation. (Mowbray, 2017)
- The Geneva convention when 12 countries signed a agreement to aid and protection injured soldiers.
- The American red cross was founded when the idea travelled to America and thus founding the American red cross.
- Henry awarded the noble peace prize.



**British
RedCross**

Challenges before modern technology

- Lack of IT tools such as computers and smartphones.
- Refugees, victims and missing persons needing technological help to communicate and find family members. (Microsoft news centre Europe, 2017)
- Paper based system assigned to specific routes to collect relevant information. (Trimble, 2009)



Insights of modern technology

- Cloud was used in Red Cross to safely locate health and care data , including patient information .
- Cloud network are able to easily transfer data between each other .
- Cloud network allow healthcare professional to store all the data they use off site to avoid the cost and strain of maintaining physical server. (Red Cross, 2017)

Impacts of modern technology at Red Cross

Transfer Data:

- Red Cross built there data base in cloud and information is spread around different location that has been merged together

Digital meeting point:

- Wi-fi at first seem like an usual request, Red cross found out that rescuers are increasingly asking for it for example Syrian refugees.

Storage: (trace the face)

- Red Cross stores people's information in cloud storage and makes accessing file easier, information is available from one central and secure place in cloud.

Awareness:

- People have access to the internet and its an initiative set up by the Red Cross. It's a database in which refugees can search for their loved ones. eg 39 Vietnamese...

Negative impacts

Being expensive:

Red Cross finds difficulty with the Local people where they need access to technology to survive disasters e.g. using Smart phones, internet

Rapid changes in technology and lack of knowledge:

- The Red Cross emphasises that during the first critical hours after an emergency, most lives saved are actually by local people.

The Red Cross warned that as humanitarian agencies increasingly turn to new technologies:

- As a source of information about disaster-affected communities' needs, they run the risk of only listening to those who are connected

Back ups: loosing of information

Hacking and Privacy

Lessons drawn from the Red Cross

- 1) Differences between traditional and modern technology
- 2) Why modern technology is important for the organisation
- 3) Consequences of not using modern technology in the organisation



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Q & A

