UNUNITED NATIONS
HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE
DEPOT (UNHRD)

Supply chain solutions for the humanitarian community

WHO WE ARE

When United Nations agencies, NGOs and governments, look to respond quickly and efficiently to an emergency, they call on supplies that are readily available in UNHRD depots.

UNHRD is a network established by WFP, as mandated by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, to support the humanitarian community by buying, storing and sending emergency supplies on behalf of its partners.

WHAT WE DO

UNHRD is a ‘one-stop shop’ for its partners, offering procurement, free storage, transport, handling, and a field team with technical field expertise. Partners can request services in any region via the UNHRD centralized customer service that is available 24/7.

Being part of the Network also allows partners to coordinate their response efforts, lend and borrow stock, and immediately access unbranded items through a flexible sourcing structure.

WHERE WE ARE

UNHRD’s six depots are all located near disaster-prone areas and have easy access to airports, seaports and main roads for rapid response purposes. The locations are: Accra (Ghana), Brindisi (Italy), Dubai (United Arab Emirates), Panama City (Panama), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and Las Palmas (Spain).

WHO ARE OUR PARTNERS

There are currently 90 humanitarian organizations that partner with UNHRD. These are United Nations agencies, as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations.
WHAT WE STORE

UNHRD currently manages around 400 different types of emergency items; ranging from storage tents to ablution units, from refrigerated medicines to ready-to-eat food. The most commonly stored items are prefabricated office/accommodation units, tents, storage units, medical supplies and blankets.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

UNHRD provides comprehensive supply-chain solutions to respond faster, better and more cost-effectively

Preparedness
Prepositioning equipment and relief items at UNHRD warehouses, the humanitarian community can swiftly respond at the onset of emergencies, providing rapid support to the affected population ultimately saving lives.

Response
UNHRD dispatches vital supplies and equipment immediately and offers partners the option to combine cargo so transport costs are shared and bottlenecks reduced, making it more efficient for all responders.

Field Team
A UNHRD team is available for deployment to support partners in the field in setting up equipment, office space and treatment units, installing mobile warehouses, managing cargo and training local staff.

THE UNHRD LAB

Working on challenges identified in the field by humanitarian organizations, the UNHRD Lab in close collaboration with the Field Team, partners with universities and suppliers to research and develop innovative the supply chain solutions in emergency response.

Some of the innovative projects the Lab is working on include integrating solar, wind and hybrid powered solutions to mobile storage units (MSUs) and generators; developing efficient transport and storage solutions to maintain the cold chain during delivery and in remote field locations; reducing waste from relief items by reusing and recycling packaging.

TECHNICAL ADVICE
Providing partners with detailed specifications for logistic equipment.

INNOVATION
Finding new, tailor-made solutions to field challenges.

STANDARDIZATION
Standardizing relief items to maximize economies of scale and encourage loan between partners.

GREEN TECHNOLOGY
Providing easy-to-set-up and cost-effective green solutions.