**Recent major activities**

The activities of the Dubai stockpile in 2013:

- Core Relief Items (CRIs) were sent to 36 countries including Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and other countries in Africa and Asia. The items included 1,266,815 blankets, 73,850 buckets, 238,486 jerry cans, 197,972 kitchen sets, 310,515 sleeping mats, 60,736 mosquito nets, 283,053 plastic tarpaulins and 25,226 family tents.

- A total of 13 charter flights were sent from the UNHCR Dubai Stockpile, most of which were Boeing 747 or 777.

- The following items were also shipped out of Dubai: 95 vehicles which included 4 x 4 vehicles, pick ups, 4 UNHCR trucks, and 5 armored vehicles. Accessories for these vehicles included 85 vehicle bull bars, 80 vehicle HF radios, 40 vehicle VHF radios, 63 bullet proof vests and helmets, 61 boxes of building window’s protective films, 300 body cover suits, 300 gas masks, 120 foot covers and 60 emergency travel kits were also sent from the warehouse’s stock of safety and security items.

**Spotlight**

- From modest beginnings in late 2006, the Dubai office has seen a significant increase in volume of operations.

- In 2013, UNHCR Dubai served 36 countries with 103 outgoing shipments and handled 60,410 m$^3$ of relief items. This was a 24% increase compared to 2012. Within the last two years, the total volume has increased by over 100%.

- The number of vehicles dispatched in 2013 has increased by over 25% when compared to the previous year.
With Dubai’s strategic location in mind, the UNHCR established a global emergency stockpile in the city in 2006. UNHCR’s office and warehouse are situated in the International Humanitarian City (IHC), a landmark initiative chaired by the UN Messenger of Peace, HRH Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein, wife of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. With ready access to all continents and allowing for a rapid emergency response, UNHCR Dubai is equipped to meet the basic relief needs of 350,000 destitute people.

UNHCR has 20,000m² of closed warehouse space which is used to store resources that can be used by 350,000 people. Other than this, we also have 7,000 m² of open warehouses. ©UNHCR

**Excellent logistics facilities**

UNHCR Dubai enjoys a seamless supply chain by sea and air which is ensured through its proximity to Jebel Ali, the Middle East’s biggest and busiest seaport. From Jebel Ali, cargo vessels sail weekly to ports worldwide including remote destinations. Also, six international airports are located within a three hour driving radius where charter planes can be deployed in 24 to 48 hours. Dubai’s logistics services are renowned for its professionalism and cost efficiency.

**Global emergency stockpile**

The emergency stockpile in Dubai is the largest of several UNHCR global stockpiles; it can cater Core Relief Items such as tents, blankets, plastic sheeting, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, and more for up to 350,000 people anywhere in the world. Pre-fabricated warehouses and other safety and security equipment for staff and office support are also available.

Vehicles are stocked in the warehouses and shipped to areas of need when necessary. ©UNHCR

The current 5 member team in Dubai also manages a stock of vehicles, mainly four wheel drives. The stock holds up to 100 units and shortens the delivery time for operations from several months to a maximum of few weeks. Many of the vehicles are equipped with specific safety and radio equipment in order to protect staff and ensure adequate communication. Installations are done to order within 48 hours.

**Partnerships in emergency response**

Efficient humanitarian response in an emergency is dependent on speed, teamwork and coordination. For any dispatch from the global emergency stockpile in Dubai, the team works closely with the UNHCR Supply Management Service in Budapest, UNHCR’s global freight forwarder, local authorities and, of course, the UNHCR office in the receiving country. Partnerships also extend to other UN agencies and NGOs, in particular the World Food Programme (WFP) which is also located in the International Humanitarian City in Dubai.