

GIUSEPPE SABA Chief Executive Officer of International Humanitarian City Founder of UNHRD Network and former Network Coordinator giuseppe.saba@ihc.ae

Appointed as CEO of Dubai's International Humanitarian City in early March 2017, Giuseppe Saba brings more than 35 years of extensive experience in the humanitarian field within the International Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the United Nations, and international organizations.

Saba is a leading logistics and support services expert. He is the founder of the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot Network (UNHRD); in 2000, he set up under the UN World Food Programme (WFP) the first UNHRD in Brindisi, south-east of Italy, as a consortium of UN Agencies, International Humanitarian Organizations, Governmental and Non-Governmental Organization.

Following the lessons learned from the emergency response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004, he developed and expanded UNHRD into the current network by opening hubs and negotiating agreements with various hosting governments in Dubai, Malaysia, Ghana, Spain, and Panama. As a result of his efforts, UNHRD became one of the largest humanitarian organizations platforms counting around 90 partners operating in emergency preparedness and response.

Saba is an Italian citizen, born on the 29th of October 1951 in Ozieri (SS), Sardinia. He graduated as a Professional Nurse in 1974, specializing in Surgical Assistance in Operating Theatre in 1976 within the Hospital of Sassari. He is married and has two daughters, one living in Italy and the other in Ireland. Since he retired from the UN-WFP in 2013, he has served as a consultant to various humanitarian agencies, including the Norwegian Refugee Council and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre).

About the Humanitarian Logistics Databank:

The Humanitarian Logistics Databank provides the humanitarian community and countries affected by emergencies with a shared database platform on prepositioned aid stocks and flows, thus enhancing emergency preparedness and response. It gives both affected countries and humanitarian actors in crisis-torn areas access to updated information on the availability of relief items in respect of their quantity, location, ownership, and movement so that they can plan their actions and respond accordingly. The Humanitarian Logistics Databank is a unique platform set up by IHC Community and launched in 2018.