



WFP Innovation Exhibition: Innovation Rooted in Humanity

Exhibit on the margins of the second regular session of the Executive Board, 2025

Tuesday, 18 November 2025, 08:45–09:30

Red Foyer, WFP headquarters

We are delighted to invite you to the launch of the WFP Innovation Exhibition – “Innovation Rooted in Humanity”, taking place on Tuesday, 18 November 2025, from 08:45 to 09:30 at the Red Foyer, WFP headquarters (Rome).

This new exhibition celebrates field-driven innovation and collaboration across WFP and with our partners, showcasing how human-centred innovative solutions are transforming the way we deliver food assistance, strengthen resilience and create lasting impact at scale.

The launch event will feature opening remarks from Ms Rania Dagash-Kamara, Assistant Executive Director, WFP Partnerships and Innovation Department, and addresses from Ms Cindy McCain, WFP Executive Director (TBC), H.E. Andreas von Brandt, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations in Rome, and Ms Margot van der Velden, Regional Director, WFP Western Africa Regional Office.

Together, they will highlight how innovation, rooted in humanity and powered by partnership, enables WFP to respond faster, work smarter and deliver sustainable solutions for the people we serve.

Following the remarks, guests will be invited to explore the exhibition, featuring 12 innovation stations that bring to life stories from the field, WFP tools and technologies, and collaborative initiatives developed with governments, the private sector and local innovators.

We would be delighted for you to join us for this special occasion as we celebrate the people, solutions and partnerships driving WFP’s innovation journey.

Draft Agenda

Master of ceremonies: Dominik Heinrich, Director, WFP Innovation Division

08:45–08:48 Opening and welcome remarks (3 minutes)

Speaker: Ms Rania Dagash-Kamara, Assistant Executive Director, WFP Partnerships and Innovation Department

- Welcomes visitors, donors, partners, and colleagues.
- Introduces the exhibition as a celebration of innovation rooted in humanity, co-created with people, powered by partnership.
- Highlights the role of collaboration between WFP, governments and the private sector.
- Introduces the Executive Director.

08:48–08:53 Keynote address (5 minutes)

Speaker: Ms Cindy McCain, WFP Executive Director (or alternate)

- Underscores innovation as a top priority for WFP and a cornerstone of the current strategic plan, enhancing efficiency and effectiveness across the organization.
- Highlights the urgency of responding to everyday crises worldwide and the vital role of innovation in enabling WFP to deliver faster, smarter and at greater scale.
- Emphasizes how innovative approaches reduce costs, improve delivery and create sustainable solutions that uphold dignity and generate lasting impact.
- Recognizes WFP innovators, field teams and partners for driving transformative change through collaboration, creativity and shared commitment.

08:53–08:57 Remarks from the Federal Republic of Germany (4 minutes)

Speaker: H.E. Andreas von Brandt, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations agencies in Rome

- Highlights Germany's long-standing partnership with WFP and its commitment to innovation for humanitarian and development impact.
- Showcases Germany's pioneering role in advancing innovation and invites other partners to join in driving transformative solutions.
- Underscores how collaboration with WFP enables scalable and sustainable responses to global food challenges.
- Emphasizes how WFP innovations are already generating significant cost savings and impact at scale.

08:57–09:01 Regional perspective: innovation in action (4 minutes)

Speaker: Ms Margot van der Velden, Regional Director, WFP Western Africa Regional Office

- Showcases how innovation is delivering real impact across the region — from anticipatory action and digital cash transfers to supply chain and logistics, school feeding and food systems transformation.
- Highlights inspiring stories of collaboration with local changemakers and field teams driving innovation on the ground.
- Demonstrates how WFP’s innovation approach empowers communities to design and lead solutions rooted in their own realities.

09:01–09:05 Official opening of the exhibition (3 minutes)

Speaker: Mr Dominik Heinrich, Director, WFP Innovation Division

- Introduces the exhibition concept and theme: “Innovation Rooted in Humanity”.
- Invites guests to explore the 12 innovation stations.

09:05–09:20 Guided tour of the exhibition (12 minutes)

Led by: Mr Bernhard Kowatsch, Director, WFP Global Accelerator and Ventures

- Guests are invited to explore up to 12 innovation stations, featuring:
 - Field stories and portraits showcasing human-centred innovation in action.
 - WFP tools and technologies.
 - A hero video on WFP Innovation.

09:20–09:30 Networking and optional deep dive into innovations exhibited

Location: Red Foyer exhibition area

Exhibition materials and donor recognition display available for guests.