



CONCEPT NOTE:

WFP in Action: Showcasing Technologies in Humanitarian Action

14 - 17 November 2016

From conflict in Syria, to the hurricane in Haiti, as the world's largest humanitarian agency the World Food Programme (WFP) provides assistance to help people rebuild their shattered lives.

As the United Nations frontline agency in the fight against hunger, we are continually responding to emergencies. We save lives by getting assistance to the affected populations fast. In 2015, WFP assisted 76.7 million people in 81 countries around the world.

To ensure we continue to meet urgent humanitarian needs efficiently and effectively, WFP has developed expertise in a range of areas including Food Security Analysis, Nutrition, Procurement, Logistics and Information Technology.

During the Second Regular Session of the WFP Executive Board, 14 – 17 November, a humanitarian scenario will be brought to Headquarters allowing the Membership of the Executive Board to see, hear, and feel in real-time the work of WFP in a simulated emergency response.

Simulation Outline

From the moment the earthquake in the fictitious country of Tukastan 'strikes', WFP Headquarters will switch to emergency mode, and the range of WFP tools, services and solutions will be deployed to showcase of **WFP in Action**.

Conducted on the margins of the EB session, the simulation seeks to increase awareness and understanding of how the technology solutions developed and deployed by WFP enable efficient delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Board participants will have the opportunity to experience tools and solutions from SCOPE, WFP's corporate platform to assist in the standardization of beneficiary and transfer management; Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM); Supply Chain; Security; Administration; Emergency Preparedness and Support Response; and IT (Information Technology).

As global lead of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC), WFP will demonstrate the vital contribution of ETC members during an emergency, including the provision of internet connectivity services in partnership with the Government of Luxembourg and Ericsson Response. The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Coordination Model, under development with the support of the Government of Belgium, will also be shared.

Simulation Structure

Starting after the closure of the EB on Monday, 14 November, the simulation will run until the end of Thursday, 17 November. Over these days, the entire Board Membership will be invited to visit and to experience various elements of an emergency response, all within the grounds of WFP. Across the sites, they will be able to observe progress being made by the response team in real-time – from establishing the humanitarian hub and deploying communications services, to understanding needs and electronically delivering assistance.

Board representatives will have the opportunity to use the deployed systems and receive briefings from WFP personnel, helping them to visualize the impact of WFP solutions on delivering humanitarian assistance.

For the purpose of this concept note, the sections below give a snapshot of some of the events to take place during the simulation.

Monday, 14 November – Emergency Strikes

Earthquake strikes the fictional country of Tukastan, and the WFP in Action simulation begins. The Board receive information about the disaster and are informed of the WFP response team deployed.

Tuesday, 15 November – Setting up the Infrastructure

Before the Membership arrives on Tuesday morning, WFP and ETC first responders will be on the ground, setting-up the humanitarian hub in the garden of Headquarters. Throughout Day 1 vital communications services – such as internet connectivity and radio communications networks to support the security of responders – will be established. These services can be used by the Membership.

High-Speed Internet services will be established by deploying satellite terminals such as ‘emergency.lu’ Rapid Deployment Kit from the Government of Luxembourg, and connectivity managed and distributed using Ericsson Response’s ‘WIDER’ system.

Wednesday, 16 November – Understanding Needs

With internet and security communications networks established, and WFP responders deployed, Day 2 of the response will see establishment of mapping, supply chain, administration and security services. The Membership will be registered on the SCOPE platform and issued with **SCOPECARDS** which can be redeemed at the coffee shop for different food items – simulating cash-based transfer activities.

Thursday, 17 November – Delivering Life-Saving Assistance

Adhering to the WFP Corporate Mandate of providing urgent assistance within 72 hours of an emergency, by Day 3 and humanitarian hub will be solidly established and cash-based transfers commenced. At the closing session of the Executive Board, results will be announced.

Coordination

The WFP in Action simulation is being coordinated by the IT Emergency Preparedness and Response Branch, in close collaboration with Emergency Preparedness & Support Response, SCOPE, VAM, Communication, Security, Administration and Supply Chain, and with the support of the Government of Luxembourg and Ericsson Response.