



Dear Sir/Madam,

The Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the International Organizations in Rome along with the World Food Programme's Innovation and Change Management Division are honoured to invite you to an Executive Board side event on the importance of leveraging innovation to help achieve a world without hunger.

### **How Innovation Drives #ZeroHunger**

Side event in the margins of the second regular session of the Executive Board on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Innovation Accelerator

Tuesday, 14 November 2017, 13:00 – 14:45  
Aula Delegatis – Aula I, WFP Headquarters  
Interpretation will be provided  
(the event will be preceded by a light buffet)

### **Achievements, challenges and lessons learned from the WFP Innovation Accelerator and 33 supported innovation projects**



*The WFP Innovation Accelerator is generously supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Bavarian State Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry*

## Programme

### 13:00 Doors open – light buffet

### 13:15 Welcome

- H.E. Ambassador Dr. Hinrich Thölken, *Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the International Organizations in Rome*
- Mr. David Beasley, *Executive Director, WFP (TBC)*
- Mr. Robert Opp, *Director of Innovation and Change Management, WFP*

### 13:25 WFP Innovation exposition – Presentations and Q&A

- Building Blocks: *How WFP leverages blockchain technology to enhance cash-based transfers.* Mr. Rob Van der Zee, Deputy Director, Finance and Treasury Division and Mr. Mageed Yahia, Country Director, Jordan
- Tech for Food: *Connecting food-insecure populations to the digital economy.* Mr. Dominik Heinrich, Country Director, Lebanon and Ms. Sandra Ertel, Project Manager at the WFP Innovation Accelerator
- Hydroponics: *Helping refugees grow food in the most extreme environments.* Ms. Nina Schroeder, Hydroponics Project Manager for the WFP Innovation Accelerator and Mr. Romain Sirois, Country Director, Algeria

### 13:55 Panel discussion – How innovation drives #ZeroHunger

- Moderator: Mr. Bernhard Kowatsch, Head of the WFP Innovation Accelerator
- Panellists:
  - H.E. Ambassador Dr. Hinrich Thölken, *Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the International Organizations in Rome*
  - Mr Robert Opp, *Director of Innovation and Change Management, WFP*
  - Mr Dominik Heinrich, *Country Director, Lebanon, WFP*
  - Ms Enrica Porcari, *Director, Information Technology Division, WFP*

### 14:25 Mapping the future of innovation at WFP

- Mr Robert Opp, *Director of Innovation and Change Management, WFP*

### 14:30 Reception and networking

During the project presentations, audience members can directly share their questions and feedback via a live audience interaction tool called sli.do (more information is available on their website: [www.sli.do/](http://www.sli.do/)). Details on how to access the interactive tool using either your laptop or mobile phone will be provided on the screens of the Aula I as guests enter.

## About

Established in 2015 with the support of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Bavarian State Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry, WFP's Innovation Accelerator identifies, nurtures and scales bold solutions to end hunger globally from its base in Munich, Germany. The team of the Accelerator supports WFP entrepreneurs, external start-ups and companies through funding, hands-on entrepreneurial support, access to expert networks as well as leveraging WFP's global presence and operational capacity.

WFP believes that innovation is key to helping us achieve our goal of a world without hunger – faster and more efficiently. By applying best practices in innovation, such as lean start-up and human-centred design, the Accelerator helps entrepreneurs find out what works and what does not in addressing hunger and malnutrition. It is a place where new ideas can be tested ‘outside the box’, allowing us to think big and fail as well as succeed. Once innovations have achieved clear results, sustainability and potential for large-scale impact, WFP aims to roll them out across our global operations and beyond.

The side event will serve to highlight Germany’s position at the forefront of new technologies and innovation. The event will showcase the achievements, challenges and lessons learned from the WFP Innovation Accelerator after two years of operation and provide an outlook on future plans and requirements for humanitarian and development innovation – within and beyond WFP.

### **LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WFP INNOVATION ACCELERATOR**

