



## **Emergency Preparedness Return on Investment Project**

Side event on the margins of the second regular session of the Executive Board

Tuesday, 14 November 2017, 8:30 – 9:45

Aula Delegatis – Aula I, WFP Headquarters

(with interpretation)

(Breakfast will be served in the bar area of the Aula Delegatis)

You are kindly invited to the side event on the Emergency Preparedness Return on Investment (ROI) project, co-organized by WFP and DFID. In 2014, UNICEF and WFP (later joined by UNHCR and OCHA), supported by DFID, launched a research initiative to produce a humanitarian ROI methodology. The initiative was part of the *Ready-to-Respond* humanitarian preparedness project and aimed to strengthen the case for risk-centred investments. The resulting methodology uses key performance indicators relating to cost, speed, greenhouse gas emissions and quality of a response. It looks at how these are impacted by investments made before a response occurs.

The event will be chaired by Fergus McBean (Humanitarian Adviser, DFID), along with Sheila Grudem (Deputy Director of Emergencies, WFP). Also present are the members from the inter-agency ROI Working Group, who worked closely with Price Waterhouse Coopers (PwC) in developing the methodology: Mari Denby (Humanitarian Research Specialist, UNICEF), John Long (Head of Emergency Response Preparedness Unit, OCHA), Danilo Delfini and Marlies Lensink (OSE Emergencies division, WFP). Pasquale Mari who was part of the Price Waterhouse Coopers team in developing the methodology will be available to answer technical questions attendants may have.

To maximize the impact of funding emergency operations, a paradigm shift is required towards managing risks as opposed to reacting to events. The shift from a funding model focusing on emergency response, to one with a greater focus on emergency preparedness would ensure investments for emergency operations are more risk informed, invest in local capacities, increase efficiencies in protracted crises and incentivize collective outcomes.

Though the humanitarian sector has made considerable advances in risk forecasting and preparedness, the planning and funding instruments have not always kept pace. In part, this is because the sector has not been equipped to systematically quantify the impact that these investments had.

The event will present the ROI project together with the methodology and highlight the results of the pilot phases.

We look forward to welcoming you.