

**WFP Alumni Network Publication Release
Innovations at the World Food Programme – Oral History Project II**

Side event on the margins of the annual session of the Executive Board
Thursday, 21 June 2018 from 8:30 – 9:45
Aula I, Aula Delegatis – WFP Headquarters



Innovations at the World Food Programme
Personal experiences of Alumni Innovators

Context

The World Food Programme Alumni Network has published the second volume of its Oral History series in June 2018. The theme of this publication is innovations at WFP. The first volume was published in 2017 on the personal experiences of Alumni in the Southern African drought emergencies from the 1960s to 2017. The publication was released at an event during the annual session of the Executive Board and was shared with WFP management and leaders. Managers throughout the organization, as well as members of the Executive Board, appreciated the effort to share and preserve the experiences of WFP Alumni, and encouraged the Alumni Network to continue with its Oral Histories series.

Accordingly, a second series has been put together – Innovations at WFP – which was considered to be the most relevant topic given the development of the organization. This volume is a compendium of evidence on innovation at WFP over the past four decades. It provides proof of how the organization has progressed in a sustainable manner due to strong leadership and personal motivation of many creative minds. It contains 19 innovation stories, including contributions from four former Executive Directors. Innovations have shaped the future and standing of WFP as the leading humanitarian organization that saves and changes lives for the better.

Objectives

This side event has the following primary objectives:

- to provide an historical perspective on how innovations have become an integral culture at WFP;
- to highlight the contributions of the past and the present in building blocks through creative approaches to save, improve and change lives; and
- to register the institutional memory of the development of the organization.

Agenda

8:30 – Breakfast in the Aula Delegatis

9:00 – Opening of the session by the Deputy Executive Director, Mr Amir Abdulla

9:05 – Introduction by Mr Suresh Sharma, President, Alumni Network Steering Committee

9:10 – Remarks by Mr Robert Opp, Director, Innovations and Change Management Division

9:15 – Presentation of the publication innovations at WFP by Mr Joseph Kaifala, Editor

9:25 – Questions and answers

9:45 – Closing remarks by the Deputy Executive Director, Mr Amir Abdulla