

# Driving *progress* and *hope*



**INNOVATION  
ACCELERATOR**





**Innovation is not optional. As needs rise faster than resources, we must work differently.**

Innovation in WFP is how we maximize the impact of every dollar we receive. With our focus on innovation, artificial intelligence, innovative financing, partnerships and new technologies, we ensure we stay agile in a rapidly changing world.

**Rania Dagash-Kamara**

Assistant Executive Director  
Partnerships and *Innovation*



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# Why innovation *matters*

Innovation is at the heart of WFP's mission. As humanitarian needs continue to rise and crises become more complex, WFP is strengthening its ability to adapt, respond and deliver impact at scale. Innovation plays a central role in this transformation, enabling more efficient, effective and inclusive solutions for the communities WFP assists.

Today, WFP country offices are the engines of innovation, adapting global strategies to meet the needs of local communities. Innovation activities are active across **19 WFP units**, supported by a global community of around **600 Innovation Champions in 165 duty stations**, helping innovation permeate every WFP region, country and operation.

This system-wide approach ensures that innovation is not a standalone function, but a shared capability that empowers WFP teams to deliver better global assistance and bring us closer to a world free of hunger.





# About innovation *at WFP*

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# Across WFP, innovation is embedded in daily operations.

The WFP Innovation Accelerator works with country office and global headquarter teams to identify challenges, implement solutions and accelerate approaches that improve efficiency and effectiveness, and reduce future needs.

It leverages cutting-edge technologies like **artificial intelligence** and **blockchain** and catalyses solutions with **innovative finance** mechanisms, scaling solutions across the organization and encouraging their adoption by governments and other UN agencies and humanitarian actors.

Over the past decade, the WFP Innovation Accelerator has grown into one of the world's leading social impact startup accelerators, building a global platform that helps WFP reach people needing assistance efficiently, changing lives when it matters most.



# Key results

In 2025, our portfolio of WFP-supported innovations:

Reached **132.5 million** people in 75 countries

Improved efficiencies, saving:

**\$23 M**  
across WFP

**\$301.8 M**  
across other humanitarian organizations

Contributed to the broader humanitarian community, being implemented by:



**102**

Humanitarian and Development Organizations



**32**

Governments

And, since 2015, has raised **additional investments totaling:**

**\$313 million**

2023

**\$323 million**

2024

**\$383.3 million**

2025



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Innovation **spotlight**

# SCOUT

SCOUT is an **artificial intelligence** tool that optimizes supply chain planning.

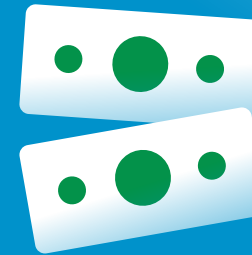
It helps WFP make informed decisions about where best to buy food, where to send it, where to store it and how to deliver the food needed on time. By precisely timing purchases and choosing optimal storage locations, SCOUT helped replan the corporate inventory supply chain.



Learn about SCOUT **in this interview!**



© WFP/Michael Castofas



Saved WFP  
**USD 6.2 million**  
in 18 months

Globally, set to save  
**USD 25 million**  
annually



The return on investment on SCOUT has been impressive so far, and we are looking forward for these efficiencies to further grow in the future. All of this wouldn't have been possible without the continued support that the Accelerator has given to this project.

**Claudio Delicato**, SCOUT

Innovation spotlight

# Sanku

Sanku addresses the lack of essential nutrients in many diets by equipping small maize flour mills in Africa with fortification tools, training and premix dosifiers to ensure precise nutrient addition.

By offsetting costs, leveraging the **Internet of Things** for monitoring and providing nutrient premix and other key inputs, Sanku enables sustainable, large-scale fortification.



© WFP/Sanku



Reached  
**59.3 million**  
people in 2025  
filling micronutrient gaps and  
improving nutrition outcomes

Nearly  
**doubled  
its reach**  
compared to 2024



Our engagement with the WFP Innovation Accelerator was a turning point for Sanku. The Bootcamp sharpened our model, and the Scale-up program helped us validate and expand it in real operating environments. That partnership accelerated our path from innovation to infrastructure at scale, now reaching 59.3 million people across Eastern Africa with critical nutritious food.

**Felix Brooks-Church**, Co-founder and CEO, Sanku

Innovation **spotlight**

# School Connect

School Connect helps school employees or other users manage and monitor school feeding programmes.

It allows school-level users to record food deliveries, stock issues, attendance and meal consumption in real-time. Developed by WFP alongside local offices and governments, School Connect streamlines **data collection** and syncs it to a centralized dashboard for reporting and insights. School Connect reduces reporting time and improves decision-making, enhancing accountability and showing the results of school feeding investments.

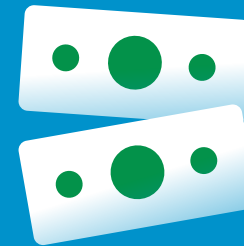


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Scaled to  
**11,000**  
schools in  
**26 countries**

Monitors  
**350 million**  
school meals  
for  
**3.6 million**  
children



Saved  
**USD 3.6 million**  
in 24 months



The innovation and more specifically your contribution has been instrumental in driving innovation in our teams. Participating in this effort allows School Connect to stay in a performance evaluation approach. It favors streamlining and product refinement that parallels market efficiency driven by KPIs and ROI.

Hugo Marchand, Programme policy consultant and School Connect rollout manager, WFP

Innovation spotlight

# People Portal

People Portal is WFP’s self-registration platform that enables people in crisis areas to register for WFP assistance, update details and get real-time updates, improving speed, accuracy and data control while **working in low-connectivity settings.**

By enabling people to register themselves directly, People Portal reduces reliance on costly, labour-intensive field processes and accelerating access to assistance. People can view and manage the data we hold about them, strengthening transparency and trust.



© WFP/People Portal



At scale in access-constrained areas, could save **USD 115 million** annually

Saved **USD 9.4 million** in WFP’s operations in Gaza by digitally registering **2 million people** in need of assistance



I would also like to sincerely thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation in helping us improve the solution. Your support and collaboration have been invaluable in strengthening our work and ensuring it delivers greater impact.

**Servet Avci**, Programme policy and supply chain consultant, WFP



A collaborative, well-supported use of Building Blocks will foster more effective and transparent humanitarian assistance in Ukraine, with partners adopting the system for funded activities, ensuring beneficiaries receive proper aid without duplication.

**Dmytro Mykhailusenko**  
Programme policy officer  
leading the Building Blocks  
rollout in Ukraine, WFP

[Building Blocks Webpage](#)

# Meet Building Blocks

@WFP/Adamawa

# Building Blocks is the world's largest blockchain-based humanitarian platform.

Developed by WFP colleagues, it enables multiple organizations to coordinate assistance while protecting personal data, see what aid has been provided and avoid unintended assistance overlap.

Building Blocks continues to expand, with plans in Syria and Palestine, as a shared, privacy-preserving service that helps **humanitarian actors deliver more equitable and efficient support.**



Follow Building Blocks' journey below and see how it came to work with the WFP Innovation Accelerator, who championed its work along the way.

2016

Building Blocks launches its blockchain-based solution with use cases in Pakistan, Jordan and Bangladesh.



The WFP Innovation Accelerator sees Building Blocks' early potential. It joins one of its first innovation bootcamps and receives sprint support for its use case in Pakistan.

2019



Building Blocks joins the Scale Up Enablement programme.

Building Blocks continues scaling. It delivers **USD 325 million of cash transfers to 1 million refugees** in Bangladesh and Jordan.

2022

Building Blocks launches in Ukraine to support humanitarian organizations organizing **assistance saving USD 270 million.**

2025



The WFP Innovation Accelerator Frontiers team helps Building Blocks improve their internal infrastructure and services.

Building Blocks joins the 2025 WFP Innovation Forum for renewed visibility.

In 2025, **159 organizations across Ukraine, Syria and Palestine used Building Blocks** to align assistance and improve transparency.

2026 +

After 10 years of scaling, Building Blocks is now used by **159 organizations** in five countries

Learn more about Building Blocks in this interview!



# Where we work



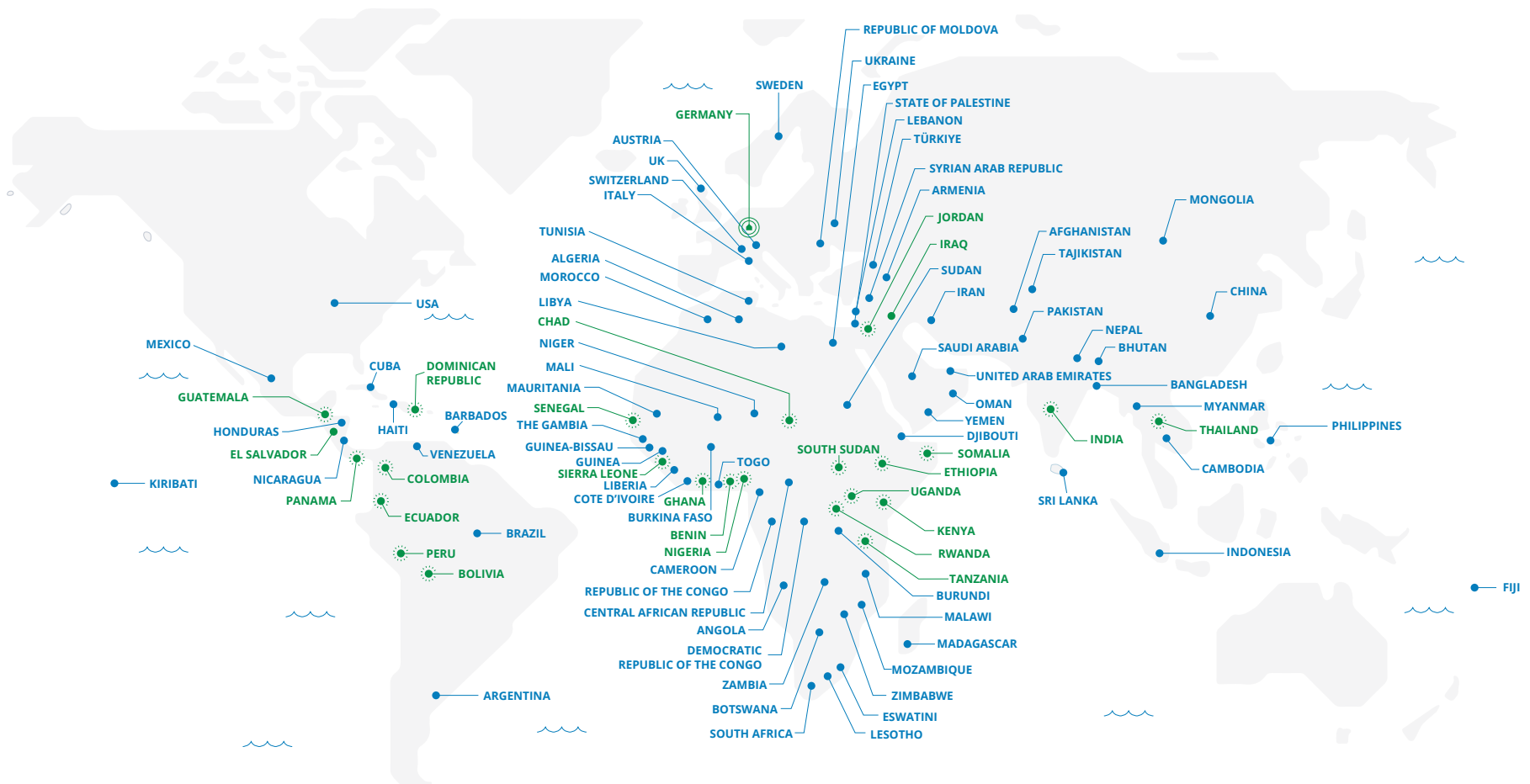
WFP INNOVATION ACCELERATOR



WFP INNOVATION TEAMS



WFP INNOVATION PORTFOLIO





# Looking ahead

**In 2026, we will launch the first-ever WFP Innovation Strategy, which charts a path towards making innovation a force multiplier across the entire organization.**

The strategy enables WFP to systematically scale innovations across WFP. With the strategy, innovation will be at the heart of every employee, every programme, every country office and every partnership.




# Partners and *collaborators*



The WFP Innovation Accelerator was launched in 2015 in Munich, Germany, with support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and the Bavarian State Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Tourism (StMELF).

Its mission is to source, pilot and scale high-impact innovations that can transform the fight against hunger and accelerate progress toward Zero Hunger.

## Connect *with us*

-  @wfpinnovation
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-  innovation.wfp.org/apply