



*WFP Alumni Network*



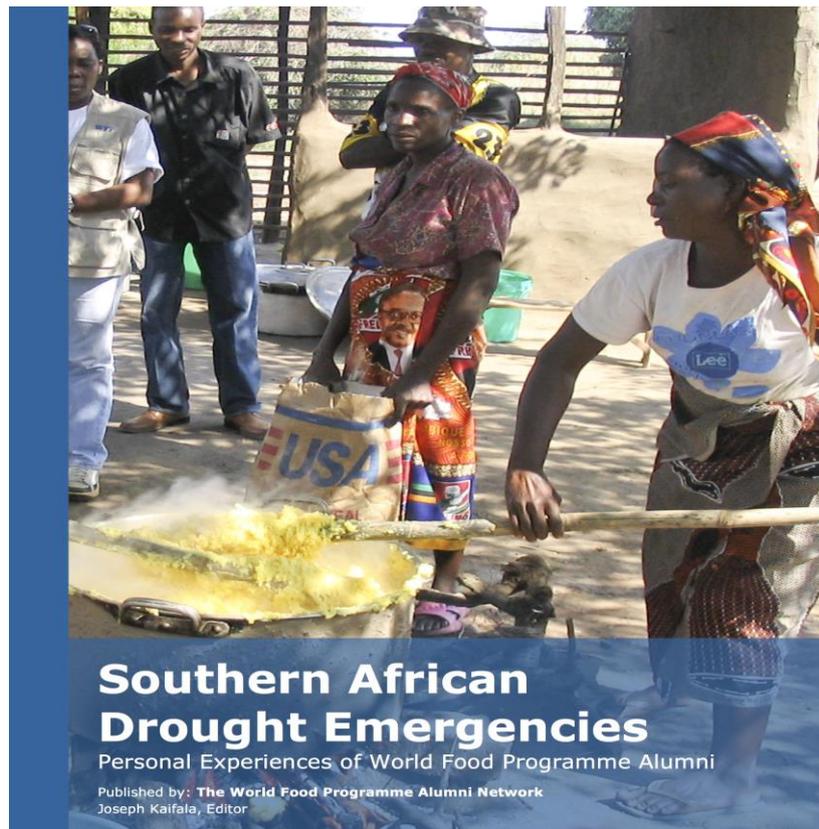
**World Food Programme**

## **Launch of a WFP Alumni Network Publication**

Side event on the margins of Annual Session of the Executive Board

15 June, 2017, 13:00 – 13:30

Auditorium, WFP Headquarters



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### **Context**

Initiated on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of WFP in 2013 and formally established in June 2015, the WFP Alumni Network (AN) has the following five specific objectives: (a) to promote the mission and activities of WFP through social networking, meetings, conferences, and fund-raising events; (b) to arrange speaking engagements and to participate in events to promote WFP work; (c) to maintain and strengthen personal and professional ties between the Alumni and current WFP staff so as to be informed about current activities and bring them to public attention; (d) to coordinate with the international emergency relief and development community to facilitate Alumni involvement in humanitarian actions; and (e) to keep AN members informed of the activities of the Alumni and WFP. One of the activities the AN undertook in 2016-2017 was to collect personal experiences of WFP Alumni in Southern African Drought Emergencies over the past five decades – from the first intervention in 1967 to the present time. Twenty-two Alumni, including four former Executive Directors and a Deputy Executive Director, contributed to the volume.

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the event are (a) to formally release the publication and (b) to inform the Executive Board of the initiative of the Alumni Network in creating institutional memory through personal experiences of former staff.

## **Agenda**

Deputy Executive Director Amir Abdulla will chair the session. The President of the AN Steering Committee, Suresh Sharma, will introduce the project. The editor of the book, Joseph Kaifala, will give an overview of the contributions. Two contributors and members of the Editorial Panel - Angela Van Rynbach and Georgia Shaver - will provide their perspectives, and Lola Castro, Acting Regional Director, Regional Bureau for Southern Africa, will provide some insight on the project. The presentation will be followed by a brief discussion and the event will then be closed by the Deputy Executive Director.

Hard copies of the book will be available for attending Executive Board members; a digital copy will be placed on the WFP Alumni website after the event ([www.wfpalumni.wfp.org](http://www.wfpalumni.wfp.org)).