



WFP Ukraine

External Situation Report #36

22 February 2023

In 2023 to date, a total of **32,756 mt** of food and **USD 63,475,200** of cash has been delivered.

Year/ Month	Transfers		Rations/Transfers to Beneficiaries						Total Beneficiaries
	Food Delivered (MT)	Cash Transfer Value (USD)	Bread	Rapid Response Rations	General Food Distribution			Cash-Based Transfer	
					30-Day Ration	Suppl. Feeding	Instit. Feeding		
2023									
January	20,741	43,638,960	395,658	410,753	1,100,545	5,374	372,848	731,406	3,016,585
February	12,015	19,836,240	162,666	256,800	679,242	15,270	199,061	331,578	1,644,617

Key Highlights

- WFP started **prepositioning of food and providing double distributions** as an anticipatory action to people in frontline areas at risk of potential lost access or being displaced.
- On 15 February, WFP chartered vessel, **MV Valsamitis** docked into the port of Chornomorsk to be loaded with **30,000 mt of wheat** for further food assistance in Kenya and Ethiopia.
- 11 newly procured WFP Fleet trucks arrived in Dnipro on 15 February ready to be mobilized, to augment overall WFP and Logistics Cluster delivery capacity, bringing our total dedicated fleet to 21.
- Six out of nine WFP's Cooperating Partners in 2023 are Ukrainian national partners, as they have been prioritized.

WFP Ukraine Response

With the one-year mark since the 24 of February 2022 invasion in just a few days, ground fighting, artillery and

airstrikes are escalating. During 9-10 February, more than 100 missiles entered Ukrainian airspace, severely damaging once again energy infrastructure across the country. As a result, many Ukrainians were left without heating in temperatures well below -10 degree Celsius. More cruise missiles continued to be fired over Ukraine from land and sea, further heightening security concerns.

WFP operations are also affected by the attacks; On 14 February, a warehouse of one of the Cooperating Partners (CPs) in the Kherson city was hit, injuring one person, and damaging the premises. Meanwhile on the same day in Kostyantynivka, Donetsk oblast, a building used as a humanitarian distribution center by another CP was damaged during an attack.

Following the increased security concerns, WFP has been implementing prepositioning and double distributions for people in areas at risk of potential lost access near the frontline. From 15 February, **WFP started to preposition food commodities to later double-distribute** among the people in need, particularly those living in or fleeing from the areas along the frontline with foreseen difficulty in access in the next months.

WFP with partners is facilitating 12 convoys in total to deliver food and other urgent non-food items related to shelter, hygiene, and medical kits, to communities close to the frontline. The convoys complement WFP's ongoing distributions to ensure that all needs are met in the case of increased fighting close to the frontline. In total, 1,000 mt of assistance is planned for approximately 120,000 people in Donetsk, Kharkiv, and Zaporizhzhia oblasts. The first convoy to Kurakhove, Donetsk oblast, took place on the 15 February.

Demining for Food Systems

Discussions are continuing between the Ministry of Agrarian Policy, WFP, FAO and Fondation Suisse de Deminage (FSD) on revitalizing local livelihoods in deconflicted areas through land clearance including demining for small-sized farmers and local producers.

Aimed at **helping phase out the need for humanitarian relief for thousands of farmers**, the demining project is based on a three-phased approach. The first phase is targeting and transparent prioritization of farmers with a focus on small-size farmers regaining their livelihoods. The second phase is demining work consisting of non-technical assessments, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and mine clearance and post clearance soil-assessments. The final step is land rehabilitation, where FAO will provide seeds, machinery or access to credit and WFP could link farmers to WFP's procurement.

Assistance to the Newly Accessible Areas

In 2022, WFP delivered **close to 11,000 mt of food assistance to the newly accessible areas (NAAs)** of Kharkiv, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Donetsk, and Luhansk oblasts, of which 765 mt was delivered through interagency convoys. The Logistics Cluster also facilitated access to NAAs on behalf of 11 organizations, delivering 751 mt of relief items in 2022.

Partnerships

On 7 February 2023, WFP organized a briefing to inform partners about the ongoing emergency response and preparedness efforts to ensure food is provided to people whenever access is restored or before it is completely lost.

WFP also presented its plans to support the national social protection systems and to carry out a project with FAO focused on demining of agricultural land and restoration of food systems and livelihoods.

A total of 19 partners participated, including Kyiv-based donors, such as Belgium, Austria, Ireland, Slovenia and Slovakia, as well as International Financial Institutions (World Bank and IMF).

Cash Assistance

Under the cash assistance program, WFP disbursed nearly

USD 20 million in cash assistance to 331,578 people in need in February, to date. WFP cash assistance programs continue to serve the most vulnerable population affected by the armed conflict in areas where food is available in grocery stores, which promotes rehabilitation of local market conditions. WFP's cash program remains consistent with the previous month. Up to five individuals per household receive a monthly cash transfer equal to 2,220 UAH (USD 60) through banks, facilitated by the money transfer company, Western Union (WU). Cash transactions are redeemed at banks via WU codes sent to beneficiaries' mobile phones. WFP continues to use block-chain technology to ensure deduplication of beneficiaries, so that these essential cash resources are used effectively.

Moreover, another round of value voucher distribution is being planned to serve 73,000 people in the Kherson hromada. The value vouchers, designed for two-month equivalent assistance, are worth 500 UAH (USD 13.50) each. Prioritized for unemployed people, single mothers, large families with more than four people, and persons with disabilities, each individual receives 6 vouchers.

Distributed electronically and in-person to those unable to collect electronically, can be used at local shops to meet the food needs. By doing so, the programme is also promoting revitalization of the local economy, as it catalyses reopening of more shops. Supported by this planned value voucher activity, two large supermarket chains are reopening stores in the town.

WFP plans to transition to unrestricted cash assistance in the coming months.

In-Kind Assistance

In February, to date, WFP reached more than **1.3 million people** through a combination of bread, rapid response rations, 30-day rations, Infant cereal, and institutional feeding. In-kind assistance is designed to serve people living in hard-to-reach areas, where markets are inaccessible due to the ongoing hostilities, damaged infrastructure, mine contamination, or limited power supply.

Earlier this month, nine field level agreements (FLAs) were signed with CPs for food distribution in 2023. Prioritizing localization, six out of the nine signed partners are Ukrainian national NGOs, while the remaining three are locally registered organisations, with an internal NGO affiliation.

Accountability to Affected Populations

Putting 2023 implementation plans in place, from 30 January to 2 February, WFP carried out a programme alignment exercise between country office and field offices, as well as cooperating partners. These series of workshops outlined WFP's vision and plan for 2023, also provided an opportunity to discuss challenges observed in 2022 and the way forward. As part of this, a dedicated session was held with cooperating partners to incorporate Protection, Gender, Accountability to Affected Populations (PGAAP) priorities into practice.

An additional Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) dedicated session was delivered to improve alignment and coordination between offices in the county. The main purpose was to ensure that affected populations have a way of contacting WFP and partners. Continuing this effort, staff at field offices and cooperating partners working directly at distribution sites are engaging in PGAAP sensitization sessions this week.

During the last two weeks, WFP's toll-free hotline received 81,071 calls (66,178 calls during the working hours), of which 47,299 calls came from the unique phone numbers. In total, 67,597 of all calls were processed by the hotline operators. 60% of the processed cases were closed as First Case Resolution (FCR), while the remaining 40% were referred to relevant programme focal points. Almost all (99.6%) of the processed calls were CBT-related (i.e. requests for information on amount of cash assistance, and dealing with Money Transfer Control Number codes), while the remaining (0.4%) requested information about in-kind food support programme and value vouchers, in terms of entitlements, timing and location.

WFP Supply Chain and Support to Food Systems

In February so far, 12,015 mt of food has been dispatched to CPs, while further 58,200 mt of food commodities are in the pipeline (20,700 mt of food in storage, and 37,500 mt of food in transit or pending supplier delivery).

Preparation for Foreseen Increased Needs

Due to the escalation of hostilities across the frontline, a potential increase in the number of affected people as well as the overall size of the hard-to-reach areas is foreseen. Hence, WFP has geared up for rapid shipment of over 90,000 food boxes in Kyiv and Dnipro warehouses for Donetsk, Kharkiv and Zaporizhzhia oblasts. They will be sent via a series of WFP/Logistics Cluster-led inter-agency convoys and commercial transporters.

Food Safety and Quality Assurance

The food safety and quality (FSQ) team, jointly with the procurement unit, continues to regularly assess the food safety and quality at suppliers' production facilities to initiate possible corrective measures and improvements, when needed. During 15-17 February, one of the two key pasta suppliers has been visited to monitor the production ahead of the possible increase in regular supply volume in subsequent contracts.

Contract Management

Existing direct contracts are being revised and replaced by new competitive contracts to improve efficiency. Updated

contracts include details on systemized warehouse management, such as key performance indicators and conditional warehouse specifications. Details such as loading/unloading capacity, order management capacity (kitting), picking accuracy and inventory accuracy are to be tracked and monitored, leading to improved accountability.

The changes in contract terms will digitize key performance indicators, enabling streamlined vendor management. As well, the renewed contracts for the new period with the existing vendors are bringing in great savings. Estimated monthly savings from reduced pricing of boxes for kitting, handling, and rent is close to USD 129,000 for orders of a significant volume contracted in advance, to be re-directed to serving people in need.

Arrival of a Dedicated Fleet

Seven new Renault and four Iveco trucks departed from Kyiv on 14 February and arrived in Dnipro warehouses on the following day, bringing our total dedicated fleet to 21. In addition, one more truck is expected to become operational by the end of this week. Trucks will support regular WFP food deliveries as well as interagency convoys coordinated by the Logistics Cluster.



11 newly procured WFP owned trucks arrived in Dnipro on 15 February, are expected to increase delivery capacity for timely assistance. ©WFP

The Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI)

On 19 February, WFP-chartered MV Royal Star left from the Odesa port, carrying 25,000 mt of wheat for Afghanistan. On 15 February, another WFP-chartered vessel, **MV Valsamitis** docked into the port of Chornomorsk to be loaded with **30,000 mt of wheat**, of which 25,000 mt will be shipped to support WFP operations in **Kenya**, while 5,000 mt will be offloaded in Djibouti for food assistance in **Ethiopia**. To date, WFP chartered vessels transported over 456,000 mt of wheat through various Black Sea ports supporting Ethiopia (38%), Afghanistan (23%), Yemen (21%), Somalia (12%), and Kenya (5%).

Prior to the BSGI, WFP transported total 90,000 mt of wheat through the port of Constanza in Romania.

According to the latest operational figure published by the Joint Coordination Centre, as of 16 February, the total tonnage of grain and other foodstuffs exported from the three Ukrainian ports is 21,411,838 mt.

As the grain price in the global market is heavily influenced by the level of Ukraine's export, the importance of keeping the Black Sea corridor operational has been hailed by the international community. The continued export of grain is also an important activity for the local economy, as keeping the grain flowing allows farmers to be self-reliant.

WFP continuously engages with the Government on the Grain from Ukraine Initiative, ensuring received pledges and contributions are utilized. On 18 February, WFP supported the event hosted by the Ukrainian Government in Odesa, which observed the latest grain shipment to support WFP operations in Kenya. As part of the Government-led Grain from Ukraine initiative, the funds contributed by United Kingdom, Belgium, Norway, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland, Slovenia and Czech Republic, will cover the cost of procurement, transportation and distribution. The minister of Agrarian Policy and Food, and the ambassadors of Slovenia and Czech Republic were in attendance, representing the donors. WFP will continue to plan future purchases with estimated shipping time in early March 2023.

Investment in Ukraine's Economy

So far, the total monetary investment value into Ukraine's economy by WFP is estimated to be over **USD 790 million**. The majority of this investment is attributed to cash assistance, strengthening individual purchasing power and allowing Ukrainians to spend in their domestic markets. The estimated value of the locally procured food is another big contributor, distributed in Ukraine and globally (mainly in Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia). Approximately 30% was spent for in-country humanitarian programmes, while the rest was utilized to support WFP operations in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Yemen, Kenya and Sri Lanka through Romanian and Ukrainian ports. Additional investments into the local economy continue through logistics contracting, field level agreements with CPs, and other goods and services within the country.

Inter-Agency Humanitarian Response Coordination

Food Security and Livelihoods cluster (FSLC)

Between 10 January and 6 February, 3.6 million people were reached by the FSL Cluster partners through food and livelihood assistance across Ukraine.

Of this, 99.9% of people were reached with the In-kind food distribution, and the largest areas of food assistance took place in Kharkiv oblast (over 809,000 people), Donetsk oblast (729,000), and Kherson oblast (556,144) oblasts. Over 235 people were reached with livelihood assistance across Donetsk and Poltava oblasts, mainly towards the restoration and rehabilitation of key damaged agricultural assets e.g. livestock shelters.

The Cluster partners continue to report funding shortfalls, affecting partners' ability to respond to urgent and emerging

life-saving food needs.

Logistics Cluster

The Logistics Cluster continues to support humanitarian organisations by providing logistics coordination and information management, and by facilitating access to common logistics services free-of-cost to the user.

Three Logistics Cluster coordination meetings were held in Dnipro, Kyiv, and Odesa, bringing together representatives from 33 organisations. Four information management products were published on the operation webpage.

Between 30 January and 12 February 2023, 411 m³ of humanitarian relief items were received in common storage on behalf of eight partners (equivalent to 10 truckloads), and 255 m³ of cargo were released to nine partners (equivalent to 7 truckloads). As of 12 February, the Logistics Cluster is storing 4,181 m³ of humanitarian cargo (51% shelter, 33% WASH, 7% health, and 9% other cargo) on behalf of 17 partners (equivalent to 110 truckloads).

During the reporting period, 223 mt of humanitarian commodities (52% WASH, 39% shelter, 6% food security, and 3% other cargo) were dispatched on behalf of seven partners to 11 locations across Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Odesa and Zaporizhzhia oblasts.

Of the relief items transported, cargo was consolidated, and transport facilitated on behalf of five partners, for four inter-agency convoys which delivered 48 mt to Toretsk in Donetsk oblast on 31 January, 25 mt to Dobropillia in Zaporizhzhia oblast on 2 February, 48 mt to Kherson city on 8 February, and 32 mt to Zhelanne in Donetsk oblast on 10 February.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

As of 30 January, the ETC is providing secure internet connectivity services to 299 staff from 14 humanitarian organizations including UN agencies and INGOs in two humanitarian interagency workspaces in Dnipro and Odesa, as well as in the UN Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) back-up Security Operations Centre in Lviv. Moreover, the cluster completed the installation of the VHF radio base station in the UNDSS office in Odesa on 9 February to enable monitoring of radio communications.

Since the launch of the ETC Chatbot "vBezpeci" (вБезпеці in Ukrainian, which translates to "safe spaces"), on 20 June, 17,927 unique users in Ukraine have accessed information relating to humanitarian assistance. The latest statistics are available on the [monitoring tool](#).

Funding Outlook

Over USD 394 million has been received against the Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2023 – 2024). Generous and predictable funding confirmation allowed WFP to sustain its emergency response throughout the

winter. Nonetheless, additional resources are required for preparedness or contingency as the frontline continues to move. In total, WFP requires USD 355.2 million for the next six months of which some **USD 193 million are urgently needed for emergency response**. Unless provided, WFP will not be able to provide cash as of April nor food beyond early May.

WFP also aims to start supporting the national social protection system through the provision of transitional cash which requires USD 129.5 million.

Finally, WFP and FAO are appealing for support to the joint project for the restoration of agricultural land and support to food systems. The project will be launched next month and while seed funding has been secured, additional resources are needed.

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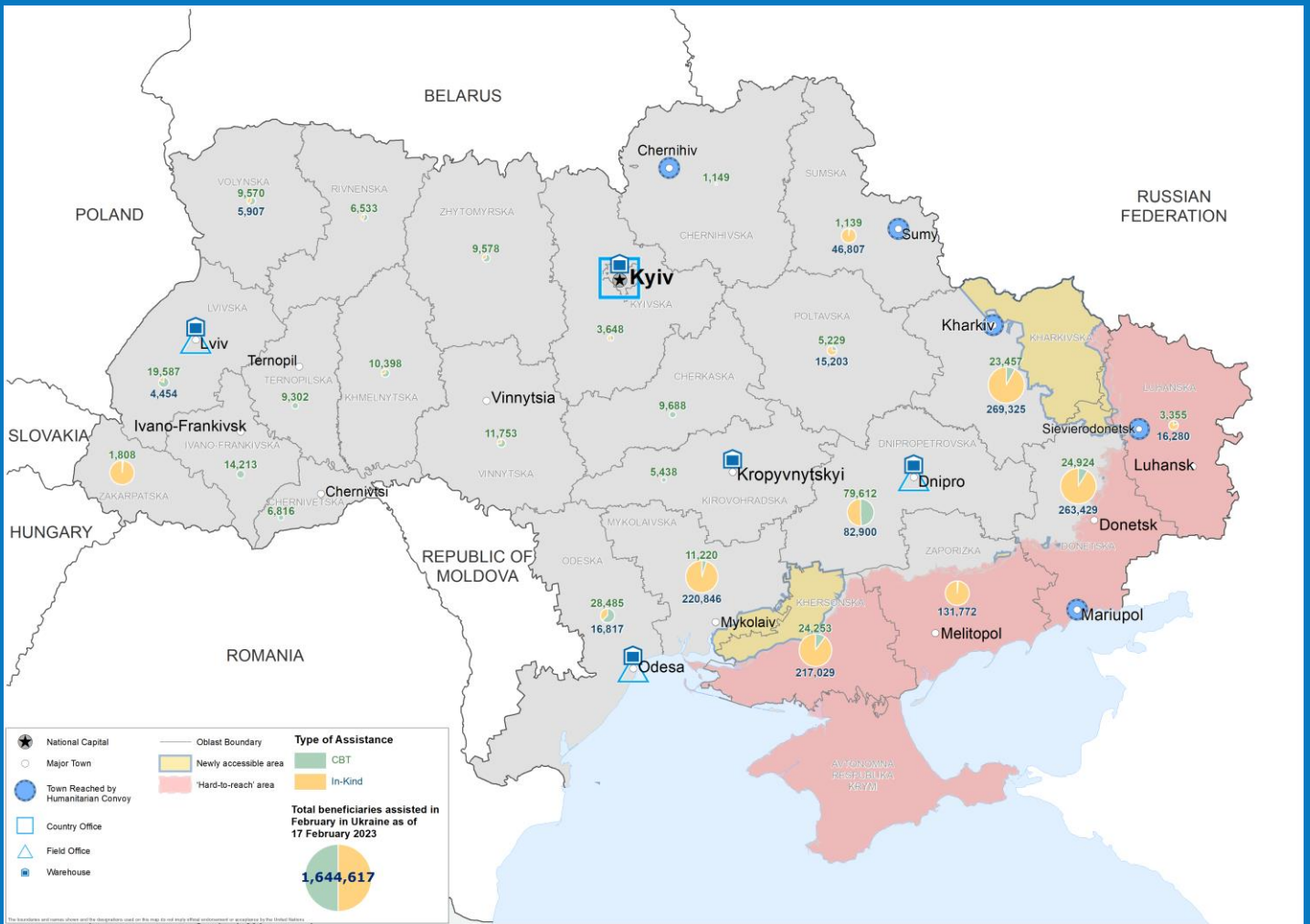
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For further information, visit:

www.wfp.org/emergencies/ukraine-emergency

WFP UKRAINE Assistance - February Overview



WFP would like to thank its partners for their timely support to WFP Limited Emergency Operation, Ukraine

