



# WFP Ukraine Limited Emergency Operation

## External Situation Report #32

4 December 2022



To date, a total of **137,447 mt** of food and **USD 370,969,896** of cash has been delivered.

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		
March	2,343		600,000	221,095	175,277			1,000	997,372
April	4,244	9,195,450	1,180,776	665,551	178,277	6,440		143,286	2,174,330
May	10,205	64,411,875	724,255	197,302	221,502	44,835	169,013	846,431	2,203,338
June	18,787	66,585,675	744,945	38,819	897,327	50,599	57,372	924,148	2,713,210
July	22,387	59,546,250	781,372	144,053	920,032	63,391	164,759	860,142	2,933,747
August	23,319	33,851,295	967,819	32,071	1,134,716	20,500	48,318	560,215	2,763,639
September	19,905	44,023,225	525,609	142,686	1,094,566	74,780	239,751	738,317	2,815,709
October	17,897	42,838,826	583,292	98,335	894,272	70,227	340,976	714,995	2,702,097
November	18,359	50,517,300	383,316	338,964	929,644	-*	299,436	841,978	2,793,338

\* The infant cereal under the supplementary feeding program will be distributed in December after its routine food safety inspection.

### Key Highlights

- Despite the challenges due to conflict-induced lack of basic services, close to **2.8 million people in need** have been assisted with food and cash in November.
- A pilot is taking place under the cash transfer program to send Money Transfer Control Number codes via Ukrainian postal service, to address risks associated with unstable telecommunications connectivity and power cuts.
- On 3 December, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, WFP Representative and Country Director participated in the 'Philosophy of Capacity' forum, an initiative to effectively provide social services to people with disabilities, supported by the President and the First lady.
- On 26 November, on behalf of the Executive Director, WFP Representative and Country Director attended the **Grain from Ukraine** summit organized by the Ukrainian Government, a new initiative to move grain to food insecure countries to counter food shortages.

### WFP Ukraine Response

With a turn of a calendar page, December would have typically marked the beginning of year-end celebrations decorated with lights. In a stark contrast to peaceful times, the Ukrainian streets are cold and dark, as the country is fighting double battles. The heavy armed conflict is continuing, and the energy crisis is sweeping across the whole country. During the last two weeks, intense fighting continued in Donbas, including Bakhmut, Avdiivka and Marinka, and heavy shelling took place across the frontline regions from North to South; Sumy, Nikopol, Dnipro and Kherson are among the list of areas affected. Repeated attacks on critical infrastructure, and subsequent damages delaying repair, as well as the impact of mines and explosive remnants of war in de-occupied areas, are causing continued power outages. As a result, many people are without electricity, central heating, and potable water. Power outages also negatively affect the overall food supply chain, causing production shutdowns and disruptions in value chain and deliveries, also impacted by unreliable telecommunications services.

Despite the mounting challenges, close to **2.8 million** needy people have been served with food and cash in November.

The main priority for December remains on consistently responding to the dire needs of people in the worst impacted areas, delivering timely life-saving assistance with support from partners.

### Assistance in Newly Accessible Areas

In November, an estimated **325,499 people** have been served by WFP with bread, rapid response rations, and 30-day food rations in the newly accessible areas of the following oblasts: 188,037 people in Kharkiv, 124,084 in Kherson, 2,716 in Donetsk, and 10,662 in Mykolaiv oblasts.

Immediately following the nation-wide large-scale attack on 23 November, from 24-27 November, a joint assessment mission with Programme, Supply Chain and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster took place to Kherson and Mykolaiv Oblasts to better inform assistance in the heavily conflict-affected areas. During this mission, various consultations with farmers, and local administrations took place in Chornovaivka (Kherson), and Bilozirk (Mykolaiv). Many areas are without water and electricity with slow return of regular basic services expected, leading to **struggles in bringing back livelihoods, making humanitarian assistance crucial**. Wide-spread unexploded ordinances and mines exacerbate difficulties for farmers to harvest 2022 crops but also to plant for 2023 crops, as farming has been the main economic livelihood.

In the last week, the findings of a second market assessment of Izium and Kupiansk in the newly accessible areas of Kharkiv oblast were compiled from the 10 and 11 November mission. Since the rapid assessment in early October which revealed severe lack of basic services with poor market functionality, the assessment showed significant improvement in one month; Basic services (electricity, centralized gas, and water supply) have been either fully or partially restored, and the market is slowly returning. Cash and banking services are accessible in both towns, although their capacity and coverage are not sufficient to meet the current population's needs.

Based on the assessment, WFP is focusing on meeting the immediate humanitarian needs identified in the newly accessible areas in December, but also looking for ways to contribute to revitalization of the local livelihoods. WFP's bread program in Mykolaiv by partnering with local bakeries has been welcomed by many, as it helps local residents to reopen their bakeries. Beyond the people who are served with bread, the partnership with local bakeries provides the investment needed to get going which feeds into the market ecosystem, changing lives of many in the community. The local bakery program is to be expanded to Kherson working with suitable partners.

In addition, on 26 November, a meeting was held with the Agricultural Department of Kherson Oblast where potential joint support with the Food and Agriculture Organization was discussed to improve access to the agricultural land in an integrated way.

### Cash Assistance

Under the cash assistance program, WFP disbursed nearly **USD 51 million in cash assistance** to almost **842,000 beneficiaries in November**. This includes over 10,000 beneficiaries in Sumy oblast, who received value vouchers to be redeemed against products of choice in contracted retail outlets, helping to support the re-opening of key retail food outlets.

WFP cash assistance program continues 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.

In the wake of ongoing energy crisis, and to mitigate the risk associated with unstable telecommunications connectivity on sending and receiving Money Transfer Control Number (MTCN) codes for cash assistance, a pilot is taking place to mobilize the **Ukrainian postal services to deliver codes to beneficiaries**. This does not require connectivity or access to a phone as people face charging problems due to power cuts.

To prepare for the coming year, the procurement process has commenced to select qualified retailers to join the voucher program for March 2023 onwards. Retailers with outlets in Chernihiv, Dnipro, Kharkiv, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Sumy or Zaporizhzhia oblasts are invited, as the focus is on recently de-conflicted markets to foster market rehabilitation and direct investment towards markets which are only partially functional.

### In-Kind Assistance

In November, WFP reached **almost two million people** through a combination of bread, rapid response rations, and General Food Distribution (GFD) comprising 30-day rations, and institutional feeding. Infant cereal under the supplementary feeding program received in November is currently under its routine food safety inspection, to be followed by distribution in December.

The 2023 partner selection process for the food assistance program is ongoing. The WFP Ukraine Technical Review and Assessment Committee (TRAC) is reviewing a total of 42 bids received.

### Accountability to Affected Populations

On the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (03 December 2022), WFP Representative & Country Director attended the official launch of the Government of Ukraine's forum 'Philosophy of Capacity', an initiative sponsored by the President's Office and the First Lady, who attended the event and described the initiative as



a new approach relating to the provision of social services to people with disabilities and their families.

The Protection, Gender, Accountability to Affected Populations (PGAAP) team has been addressing challenges reported via the Community Feedback Mechanisms to ensure that people with disabilities, low-income families and other vulnerable groups including retirees, have access to WFP cash program.

On 22 November PGAAP team had a consultation meeting with the National Assembly of People with Disabilities, to discuss the barriers people with disabilities are facing during registration and accessing cash, to improve the beneficiary access to the program.

Furthermore, WFP Ukraine is supporting the global initiative PSEA at the Frontline aimed at providing frontline workers and partners with critical knowledge on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) in an accessible and easy-to-understand way. Tailored information sheets in the Ukrainian language were printed in the amount of 6000 posters to cover all food distribution points.

During the last two weeks, WFP's toll-free hotline received 215,344 calls. The high number is attributed to repeated calls made by the same number (52,874 unique callers); power outages and unstable mobile signals cause increased repeat call volume and high wait time, which again increases call backs. 55% of the processed cases were closed as First Case Resolution (FCR), while the remaining 45% were referred to relevant programme focal points. Almost all (99%) 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 (1%) requested information about in-kind food support programme, in terms of entitlements, timing and location.

## WFP Supply Chain and Support to Food Systems

Since September, **89% of food commodities for in-country operations have been procured locally** (42,727 mt out of 48,181 mt), surpassing the overall goal to achieve 85%. This trend will remain throughout December as local procurement continues to be prioritized.

Overall, since the start of WFP operations in Ukraine in February 2022, **over 137,000 mt of food** has been delivered to Cooperating Partners (CPs) for people affected by war and in need living across the country. In November to date, 18,359 mt of food has been dispatched to CPs, while a further 38,628 mt of food commodities are in the pipeline (12,328 mt of food in storage, and 26,300 mt of food in transit or pending supplier delivery). New purchase orders are expected to be extended for 18,600 mt food commodities in the coming months.

### Delivery Undeterred by Challenges

Packing of wheat into retail sized 5kg bags, a key item in the 30-day ration food baskets, was seriously interrupted due to

nation-wide electricity outages. WFP Logistics Unit mitigated the impact and continued deliveries of 30-day ration food packages by dispatching 50 kg bulk flour to CPs, for assembly at distribution sites.

### Overland Transport

150 trucks were in transit to Ukraine by road over the past two weeks, including 77 trucks from Romania and 73 trucks from Türkiye, carrying 2,586 mt (canned meat, canned beans, and pulses) of cargo to Ukrainian warehouses for further kitting and dispatching.

An additional 343 trucks delivered 5,969 mt (sugar, pasta, canned meat, wheat flour, and vegetable oil) to the warehouses directly from Ukrainian suppliers.

### WFP Dedicated Fleet

Among the eight new and four second-hand trucks procured to support Odesa and Dnipro Field Offices, the four second-hand trucks arrived in Ukraine this week. Currently under maintenance, the first truck is expected to be operational starting next week. The additional fleet will provide increased flexibility and consistency needed to increase dispatches to the hard-to-reach and newly accessible areas, not only for WFP Ukraine's food assistance but also for the interagency humanitarian convoys facilitated by the Logistics Cluster.



*One of the four newly arrived second-hand trucks, will further facilitate flexibility required for timely assistance. ©WFP*

### Overland Corridor Management

WFP presence in Romania supports the Ukraine operations. Apart from managing logistics operations from the Romanian corridor, operations of Bulgarian, Polish and partial Turkish overland corridors are managed from here, responsible for coordination of deliveries of food commodities procured from regional suppliers. WFP presence in Romania has been extended for three additional months to facilitate continuation of overland corridor management.

### Grain Export from Ukraine

On 26 November, the Ukrainian government organized a summit in Kyiv, with high-level participation of donors and governments, to launch the '**Grain from Ukraine**' initiative. It is designed to support exports of grain purchased by the Ukrainian government to help vulnerable countries. The

government aims to procure up to 60 vessel loads of grain from farmers to be shipped from Ukrainian ports to countries facing the threat of famine and drought, such as Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, and Yemen. Launched on the anniversary of Ukraine's Holodomor famine, it raised USD 150 million of twinning funds from more than 20 participating countries and the EU to cover the costs of transportation and distribution of food to people living in those countries.

WFP Representative & Country Director attended the event on behalf of the Executive Director, as WFP can play a key role in facilitating the grain movement from Ukraine and subsequently distributing food to prioritized, targeted food-insecure communities around the world.

Necessary agreements are being prepared to coordinate swift movement of cargo. Two vessels chartered by the Ukrainian government, the MV Rubymar and MV Kerem, are expected to be loaded with grain and depart from Ukrainian ports the week of 05 December. The food is destined to WFP operations in Sudan and Yemen, and custody will be handed over to WFP in Port Sudan for the first one, and in Türkiye for Yemen.

### The Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI)

On 4 December, MV BC Callisto, a WFP-chartered vessel carrying 30,000 mt of wheat left Chornomorsk to Somalia, for onward delivery to Ethiopia. On 28 November, another WFP chartered vessel, MV Neva passed inbound inspection to load 25,000 mt of wheat in support of the humanitarian response in Somalia. Both vessels are part of the launch of the Grain from Ukraine initiative.

To date, 13 WFP chartered vessels transported **over 380,000 mt** of wheat through various Black Sea ports supporting Ethiopia (36%), Yemen (31%), Afghanistan (18%) and Somalia (14%) since the BSGI commenced.

According to the latest operational figure published by the Joint Coordination Centre of the BSGI, as of 1 December, **the total tonnage of grain and other foodstuffs** exported from the three Ukrainian ports is **12,713,836 mt**. A total of 1,031 voyages (515 inbound and 516 outbound) have been enabled so far.

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 under the BSGI has been hailed by the international community. Meanwhile, WFP continues to explore alternative corridors (e.g., via the Danube River), as BSGI alone is still short of meeting the country's full export level, prior to the conflict. WFP continues to coordinate with partners to augment capacities in the alternative corridors also as a contingency.

### Investment in Ukraine's Economy

Overall, the estimated value of the locally procured food amounts to USD 265 million worth of food commodities, distributed in Ukraine and globally (mainly in Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia). Of the total, USD 68 million

(87,827 mt) was used for humanitarian programmes in-country, and USD 197.3 million (515,244 mt) was exported to other WFP operations in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Yemen, and Sri Lanka through Romanian and Ukrainian ports.

In addition, cash-based transfers of more than USD 371 million have been injected into the local economy strengthening individual purchasing power and allowing Ukrainians to spend in their domestic markets. Additional investments into the local economy continue through logistics contracting (USD 18 million), field level agreements with CPs (USD 8 million) and other goods and services (USD 1 million) within the country. The total monetary investment value into Ukraine so far is estimated to be **around USD 663 million**.

## Inter-Agency Humanitarian Response Coordination

### Food Security and Livelihoods cluster (FSLC)

Within last two weeks, 21 partners of FSLC reached 1.4 million people with in-kind food parcels (72%), emergency rations (25%), hot meals (3%), and livelihood activities across (0.1%) across 24 oblasts in Ukraine.

The biggest amount of food assistance was provided in three oblasts: Kharkiv (over 420,000 people), Mykolaiv (almost 260,000 people), and in Donetsk (over 214,000 people), and which covered 30%, 18%, and 15% from the entire amount of aid provided, respectively.

From 16 to 23 November, the Cluster received requests to address the food needs of 12,860 people. During the same period, the Cluster responded to the requests to reach 3,950 people with monthly food kits, while five Cluster partners served people living in 15 communities of the newly accessible areas in Kherson oblast.

### Logistics Cluster

During the last week, the Przemysl/Medyka rail border crossing point was visited to collect information on humanitarian aid dispatched through the rail border crossing points into Ukraine, and to confirm customs clearance procedures with the Polish customs authorities.

On 21 November, an Inter-Agency Convoy delivered 69 mt of relief cargo (Food Security, Health, Protection, Shelter, WASH) to Kherson city. The Logistics Cluster team participated in the mission, which was the first convoy with trucks departing jointly from Dnipro and Odesa, and which saw the participation of INGOs contributing both with supplies and trucks.

As of 27 November, the Cluster is storing 4,426 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian cargo on behalf of 13 partners. During the last two weeks, 1,020 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian relief items were received in common storage on behalf of eight partners, and 845 m<sup>3</sup> of cargo were released to 11 partners. In total, 160 mt of humanitarian commodities were dispatched on behalf

of 15 partners to eight locations in the same period.

Between 14 to 27 November, three coordination meetings were held across Dnipro, Kyiv and Odesa. More detailed information is published on the [Ukraine operation webpage](#).

### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

To mitigate the ongoing impact of power cuts across Ukraine, power back-up equipment has been sent to the UNDSS Security and Information Operations Centre (SIOC) in Mukachevo, including high-capacity batteries, during the last week.

The joint assessment mission from 24 to 26 November to non-urban areas of Kherson and Mykolaiv in the newly accessible areas confirmed severe lack of electricity and telecommunication needs. The telecommunications findings are being summarized.

Since the launch of the ETC Chatbot “vBezpezi” (вБезпеці in Ukrainian, which translates to “safe spaces”), on 20 June, 16,991 unique users in Ukraine have accessed information relating to humanitarian assistance. The latest statistics are available on the [monitoring tool](#). Additional content related to shelter is being prepared for the chatbot, in coordination with the Shelter Cluster.

## Funding Outlook

Thanks to the generosity of all partners, WFP continues to provide lifesaving food and cash assistance to conflict-affected most vulnerable populations, as well as support the humanitarian community with common logistics and telecommunication services.

In the last two weeks, the **German Federal Foreign Office** confirmed an additional contribution of USD 18.5 million.

The swift confirmation of additional high-likelihood contributions from donors such as USA (BHA), Sweden, Japan, ECHO, Finland, France and private donors will enable provision of uninterrupted assistance to millions of war-affected Ukrainians through the harsh winter until April 2023, leading to a funding shortfall of USD 257 million.

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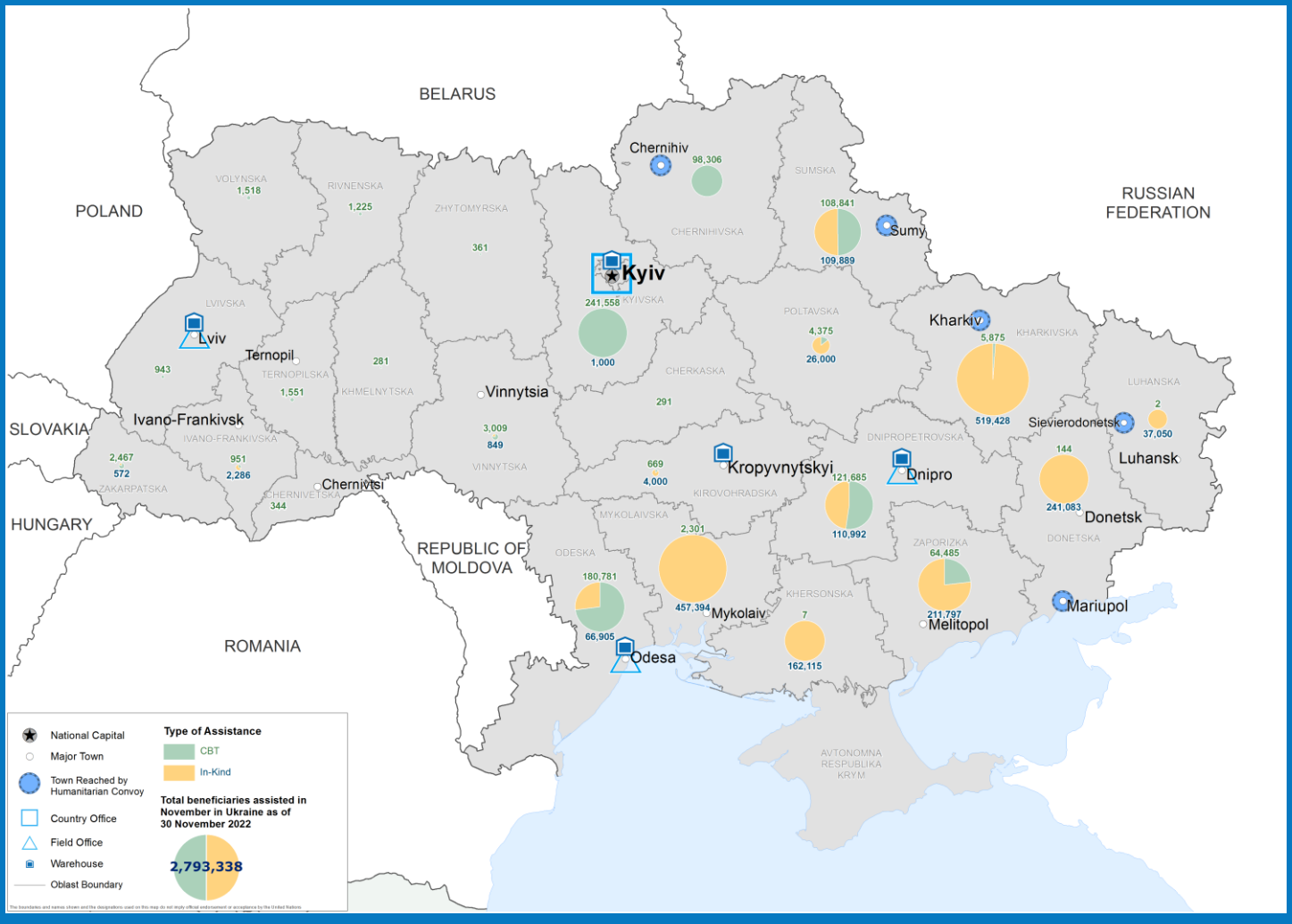
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For further information, visit:

[www.wfp.org/emergencies/ukraine-emergency](http://www.wfp.org/emergencies/ukraine-emergency)

# WFP UKRAINE Assistance - November Overview



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

