



WFP Ukraine

External Situation Report #44

27 November 2023

In 2023 to date, a total of **147,422 mt** of food and **USD 227 million** of cash has been delivered.

Year/ Month	Transfers		Beneficiaries										Total Beneficiaries	
	Food Delivered (MT)	Cash Transfer Value (USD)	In-Kind Food Assistance					Cash-Based Assistance						
			Bread	Rapid Resp. Rations	30-Day Ration	Suppl. Feeding	Instit. Feeding	Multi- Purpose Cash	Value Vouchers	Compl. Social Benefits	Market- based Trans. support	School 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	20,702	45,847,318	261,770	375,747	1,179,649	55,450	403,080	729,730	25,000	-	-	12,095	-	3,042,521
March	16,479	43,228,961	690,230	215,999	852,222	49,633	478,867	681,435	30,344	-	-	12,095	-	3,010,825
April	13,957	39,023,190	422,236	309,345	706,251	6,230	296,098	630,595	15,388	-	-	12,095	-	2,398,238
May	14,128	15,421,127	378,820	249,662	714,758	-	293,405	235,163	16,305	-	-	12,095	-	1,900,208
June	10,111	4,889,854	359,819	265,577	499,267	-	272,865	83,615	-	-	-	2,982	-	1,484,125
July	9,554	9,705,780	389,831	75,207	503,500	-	262,300	165,046	-	-	-	-	-	1,395,884
August	9,232	9,191,032	157,045	102,638	510,981	-	252,742	102,267	-	268,629	-	-	-	1,394,302
September	10,233	7,773,238	144,780	80,667	608,040	-	222,231	79,960	-	261,499	-	-	-	1,397,177
October	10,433	4,127,666	159,010	101,322	599,621	-	231,000	-	-	259,587	27,317	-	-	1,377,857
November	11,607	4,189,143	120,549	59,731	666,828	-	338,529	27,580	-	-	39,906	-	-	1,253,123

Key Highlights

- The WFP Representative and Country Director of Ukraine [briefed the UN Security Council](#) on 21 November on **the status of food insecurity in the country, where proximity to conflict drives hunger**.
- On 25 November, **the second international Grain from Ukraine (GFU) summit in Kyiv**, convened by the President of Ukraine, garnered pledges amounting to USD 60 million and was attended by various dignitaries, including Heads of State and Government, as well as the Secretary General of UNCTAD. Potential pledges of some USD 36 million made during the first GFU Summit in 2022 are under consideration to be utilised imminently.
- 25 November also saw the largest drone attack on Kyiv since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, involving 75 drones.

- On 16 November, WFP expanded its support to school feeding for **more than 60,000 children in 420 schools** across the country. Agreements have been signed with participating Oblasts.
- On 14 November, the **first of the three locally manufactured mine rollers** were handed over to WFP.

Situation Update

Frontline communities rely on humanitarian assistance as the proximity to the war prevents them from accessing food. Physical damage to the community infrastructure leads to unavailability of food in the market. The loss of livelihoods is another barrier even when the food is available. Land strewn with mines and unexploded ordnances prevent people from growing their own food. In response, more than 80 percent of WFP's food assistance is distributed near the frontline. This is critical support to rural

communities, which was emphasized to [the UN Security Council by the WFP Representative and Country Director of Ukraine](#).

As temperatures plummet below freezing, the second winter since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine has officially arrived. **Severe weather conditions have caused power outages across 386 settlements in ten Ukrainian regions** on 26 November, including Odesa, Mykolaiv, and Kirovohrad oblasts. Large parts of Ukraine are under a severe weather warning, with wind gusts of up to 30 meters per second, with continued forecast of heavy snowfall. The harsh weather conditions accompanied the largest drone attack on Kyiv since the full-scale war on the same weekend; the aerial assault of 75 Shahed drones began early 25 November and continued past sunrise.

Persistent attacks on civilian infrastructure and civilians appear to have increased over the last weeks, bringing another layer of challenges to front-line communities in Ukraine. Medical facilities, patients, and health workers in Donetsk and Kherson oblasts are targeted, with the latest attack on 21 November, on the hospital in Selydove of Donetsk Oblast.

On the same day, through the amendment to the resolution № 1222 by the Cabinet Minister of Ukraine, the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP) was added to the list of Governmental bodies specifically designated to cooperate with WFP. This is expected to enhance the efficient implementation of many WFP programmes in Ukraine, as direct engagement with one of the most significant existing Government partners is now also supported by the administrative process. The Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economy (MoE), and the State Emergency Service of Ukraine are the others already on the list.

Building on last years' experience¹, **WFP is planning to assist 2.4 million people this winter, and more if the needs change on the ground**. Providing assistance based on specific market conditions in different war-affected regions near the frontline, WFP's aim remains to alleviate immediate hunger needs, help stabilize and recover economic activity and food systems, and augment long-term resilience by supporting national social protection systems.

WFP Ukraine Response

WFP continues to refine its **market-based approach** to deliver the appropriate types of assistance, according to the market circumstances, providing different options via diversified modalities.

Preliminary discussions are underway for the development of the next strategic plan for WFP Ukraine, which will operate for the 3-year period from 2025, following the current transitional interim country strategic plan (T-ICSP) that ends in 2024. A theory of change exercise was carried out during the past week, outlining potential strategies, actions, conditions, and resources to facilitate change and achieve outcomes. In the coming months through consultations with

internal and external stakeholders, the ideas will be refined, culminating in the approval of the new ICSP expected in November 2024.

Cash-based Assistance

In November so far, WFP disbursed almost **USD 4.2 million** through various cash-based assistance modalities to **over 67,000 people in need**.

At the 2023 European Social Services Awards (ESSA) ceremony in Zagreb, Croatia, held between 16 and 17 November by the European Social Network (ESN), the WFP-supported MoSP project on United Information System of the Social Sphere (UISSS) won the 2023 digital Transformation Award. This recognition underscores the significant contribution towards the capacity enhancement of the national social protection system, by improving efficiency through automation and secure data management.

The **complementary social benefits cash programme**, introduced in August, serves war-affected retirees and persons with disabilities receiving less than the minimum sustainable Government pension. Since its launch, the programme has supported on average 260,000 people per month. The minimum sustainable Government pension was previously set to 3,000 UAH (equivalent to USD 81) per month per person. However, on 24 November, this was increased to 3,250 UAH (equivalent to USD 87) per month per person by the cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, in an amendment to the July resolution № 781, outlining WFP's support under the complementary social benefit cash programme. The changes will come into effect during the last remaining days of November, increasing both the support amount and the number of beneficiaries as the new list is received.

The **market-based transitional support programme** launched in October, assists the beneficiaries shift from food to market-based support (1,500 UAH equivalent to USD 40 per month per person), in areas where previously destroyed food shops have begun to recover. Helping people regain their autonomy during the recovery, in November so far, almost 40,000 people have been assisted in Mykolaiv, Zaporizhzhia town and surrounding areas.

The **multi-purpose cash support programme** has resumed in November, following the increase in transfer value in October from 2,220 UAH (USD 60) to 3,600 (USD 97). This programme supports people who suffered a sudden shock such as a sudden loss of income, damaged homes, sudden displacement, or the war-related death of a family breadwinner, in the 11 most conflict-affected oblasts in Ukraine.

For the **school feeding programme**, WFP signed agreements with the Heads of Oblast administrations on 16 November, in a formal ceremony attended by the Deputy Minister of Education. The programme will cover 30 percent of the financial needs to serve daily hot meals to more than 60,000 children in over 420 schools in 11 oblasts, for the

¹ WFP served on average 3 million people every month during the 2022/2023 winter season.

2023-2024 academic year, started in September. The Hromada-level agreements are currently being finalized to complete the agreement process. Once the vendor registration process is completed and further necessary documents are received, the transfer of financial resources will follow, which would lead to incremental changes to the number of beneficiaries served under this programme since September of this year. A potential winter scale-up is currently being discussed with regional authorities from oblasts both old and new to the programme.

In-Kind Food Assistance

So far, WFP reached over **1,146,000 people** in November through a combination of bread, rapid response rations, 30-day rations, and institutional feeding. In-kind assistance is designed to serve people living in hard-to-reach areas, where a local market is deemed not functional, due to ongoing hostilities, damaged infrastructure, mine contamination, or limited power supply.

On 24 November, a French delegation led by the H.E. ambassador visited a rehabilitation center for children with disabilities, and psycho-neurological diseases in Odesa, supported by WFP's institutional feeding programme. The institutional feeding programme aims to address critical gaps at the community levels by providing 30-day rations to local administrations to distribute in collective centers for IDPs, hospitals, orphanages, and food banks.

In another visit, ECHO representatives visited Maksymivka settlement in the Shevchenkivskiy district of Kharkiv Oblast on 13 November, where 60 people received food boxes. Kharkiv oblast has been consistently targeted with frequent damage to civilian infrastructure. The donor representatives also interacted with beneficiaries of the complementary social benefits cash assistance since August, who expressed appreciation for the programme, allowing them to cover the bills for medicine or utilities.

On the same day in Odesa, WFP provided ready-to-eat rations to 40 Ukrainian evacuees from the Gaza strip, hosted at a collective center, responding to the request received from the local authorities through OCHA. WFP is considering continued support for those among the evacuees who require further temporary assistance.

The 2024 Cooperating Partners (CPs) selection process is under way. A total of 43 expressions of interests from both local and international NGOs is currently under review.

Accountability to Affected Populations

On 26 November, the "16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence (GBV)" campaign started with an activity called "Acting for Survivors run", organized by UNFPA, UN in Ukraine and the Office of Ukrainian Vice-Prime Minister for European Integration. By running together with the Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Social Policy, representatives of UN agencies and NGOs, WFP reiterated its commitment to stand together with the victims of GBV, including those who suffer from war-related trauma. Awareness and discussion sessions for both WFP and CPs have been planned in collaboration with UNFPA and the National Assembly of People with Disabilities.

During the last two weeks, WFP's toll-free hotline received 10,543 calls (10,013 during the working hours), of which 7,690 came from unique phone numbers. In total, 7,113 calls were processed by the hotline operators. 86.3 percent of processed cases were closed as First Case Resolution (FCR) without referral, while the remaining 13.7 percent were referred to relevant programme focal points. Almost all (97.7 percent) of the processed calls were CBT-related, such as requests for information on the amount of cash assistance and dealing with Money Transfer Control Number codes. The remaining (2.3 percent) requested information about food and value vouchers, in terms of entitlements, timing, and location.

WFP Supply Chain and Support to Food Systems

So far, in November, over 11,600 mt of food was dispatched to CPs. By 24 November, an additional 51,513 mt of food commodities are in the pipeline (16,344 mt of food in storage, and 35,169 mt of food in transit or pending supplier delivery).

On 10 November, WFP and FAO met with the French Minister of Agriculture to discuss the short and long-term plans to support Ukrainian farmers and the agriculture sector. As one of the largest contributors to WFP for the export of grain, the importance of Ukrainian food exports, especially through the Black Sea, was re-emphasized.

On 8 November, Polish transporters began a strike on the Polish-Ukrainian border blocking truck movement into Ukraine at three largest crossing points. Since 23 November, the blockage has extended to four points. While the protesters promised to allow humanitarian aid to cross the border, significant delays are observed, and higher cost is expected. While there is no immediate impact on WFP's pipeline, the situation is being closely monitored.

Warehouse management

The rodent migration season has started as they move from the fields to human dwellings and outbuildings in search of food. As such, WFP strengthened pest control, visual inspections of the commodities both stored and arriving from suppliers, and vigilance on gate control, minimizing potential opening for the unwanted pests to enter the warehouse premises.

Local Food Systems

Following the latest WFP scoping missions, 13 bakeries in Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, and Mykolaiv oblasts have been recommended as part of the local bakery project. While food safety and quality assessments and support continue, two bakeries have been included in the roster of potential vendors so far.

Food Safety and Quality (FSQ)

Between 20 and 25 November, five local suppliers of canned products (both meat and beans), and Meals-Ready-to-Eat (MREs) have been assessed for the food safety and quality. The food production processes were examined in detail, accompanied by the global technical expert from the HQ.

Three suppliers for canned products have been preliminarily approved with recommendations for corrective action related to hygiene conditions, sterilization process, and quality control of the packaging. Trial batches will be tested before signing the full-scale contract.

Such signing will signify the first local contracts for canned and MRE products with multiple foreseen benefits, such as contributing to improved industry standards in the country, supporting the local economy, and stabilizing the commodity pipeline by securing local sources, all while providing food aligned to the local preference of the beneficiaries.

Agricultural Mine Action Project

As heavy land mine contamination remains a critical concern among farmers and rural communities in Ukraine, FAO and WFP are jointly **helping restore livelihoods and revitalize rural communities affected by mines and explosive remnants of war**. The project works to release agricultural lands and provides key agricultural resources and inputs, prioritizing Ukraine's breadbasket regions including Kharkiv, Kherson and Mykolaiv oblasts.

On 16 November, a Swiss delegation visited Kamianka village in Kharkiv Oblast to observe the household plots' clearance. During the visit, the agricultural priorities for the region was discussed with the deputy governor.

On 14 November, the first of the three locally manufactured ground preparation roller machines, MP3100, was handed over to WFP. Once the operator training is completed, it will be provided to WFP technical partner, *Fondation suisse de déminage (FSD)* for their technical surveys related to the FAO-WFP project.



Photo Caption: The first of the three locally manufactured roller machines in Kharkiv Oblast on 14 November. ©Kharkiv Oblast Military Administration

Seven Non-Technical Survey (NTS) teams have been targeting 76 prioritised farms under 300 ha in size. As of 12 November, 299 land plots (total combined area of 33.39 km²) have been surveyed out of which seven plots (total combined area of 4.31 km²) have been declared free from any evidence of mine or explosive ordnance contamination so far. These land plots were identified as ready for productive use, with no further mine action interventions necessary. Remaining areas will require further technical surveys and clearance. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education has now reached almost 22,000 beneficiaries through 618 sessions conducted in the project area of Kharkiv Oblast.

Clearance operations started in both farms and household agricultural plots in the villages of Kamianka and Korobochkyne, both in Kharkiv Oblast. So far, mechanical

preparation using roller machines was performed for the area of 75,352 m² (7.5 ha) with a total of 52 hazards identified, 770 m² of lands were marked and 20.5 m² were cleared. Currently the clearance activities have been temporarily paused, due to weather conditions.

Grain movement

While attacks on both Black Sea and Danube River ports continue, with the latest direct attack on Odesa port reported on 21 November, movement through the alternative corridor also continues.

On 25 November, the second international summit on Food Security was held in Kyiv, marking the second year of the Grain from Ukraine (GFU) humanitarian initiative. In its first year, WFP supported countries such as Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya and Yemen with more than 170,000 mt of Ukrainian grain, through the GFU initiative. Attended by many world leaders and representatives, the initiative received pledges close to USD 60 million at the event. WFP remains a strong partner of the Government, helping the support under the initiative to reach countries in need. On 24 November, the first trucks of the total 25,000 mt of wheat for Nigeria were loaded and are on their way to Odesa. Potential pledges of some USD 36 million made during the first GFU Summit in 2022 are under consideration to be utilised imminently.

Investment in Ukraine's Economy

So far, WFP's total monetary investment into Ukraine's economy is estimated at **USD 1 billion**, with about USD 12 million invested during the last month. Much of this investment is attributed to cash assistance, strengthening individual purchasing power, and allowing beneficiaries to support the domestic market. The estimated value of the locally procured food is another big contributor, distributed in Ukraine and globally. 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)

In October, over 2.9 million people were reached by FSLC partners through food and livelihood assistance across Ukraine. Kharkiv (over 720,000 people), Donetsk (nearly 570,000 people), Kherson (over 410,000 people), Zaporizhzhia (nearly 340,000) and Dnipro (over 300,000 people) are the top five oblasts with the greatest assistance reach.

Assessment criteria are being developed along with other clusters for applications to the second round of the standard allocation for Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF), closing at the end of November. The allocation is prioritized for multi-sector projects lasting 12 months, with overall availability between USD 55-65 million.

On 17 November, five partners (ERC, Help, ZOA, Save the Children, FAO) who will be implementing livelihoods projects

during the 2023 winter season (UHF winter projects' allocation) in the South, agreed to use 5Ws (who/what/when/where/to whom) reporting tool to deduplicate beneficiaries from targeted Hromadas.

Between 13 and 17 November, the Cluster held two two-day training sessions for 27 Partners from Mykolaiv and Dnipro on Gender, Inclusion and Accountability to Affected Population, to raise Partners' awareness of the subject.

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-charge to the user.

The 100th inter-agency convoy of 2023 is planned for 30 November to Chasiv Yar in Donetsk oblast. The Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator and the Head of OCHA will be accompanied by the WFP Representative and Country Director of Ukraine, delivering shelter, water, medicines and food, among other necessities.

On 15 November, the sub-national coordination meeting for the southern oblasts took place for the first time in Mykolaiv, bringing together 47 partners online and offline.

Between 6 and 19 November 2023, 346 m³ of humanitarian relief items were received in common storage on behalf of five partners (equivalent to 7 truckloads). As of 19 November, the Cluster is storing 2,263 m³ of humanitarian cargo (54 percent WASH, 38 percent shelter, 4 percent logistics and 4 percent other cargo) on behalf of 12 partners (equivalent to 48 truckloads).

During the same period, 47 mt of humanitarian commodities (47 percent WASH, 38 percent shelter and 15 percent other cargo) were dispatched on behalf of six partners to four locations across Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia Oblasts.

Of the relief items transported, cargo was consolidated, and transport facilitated for two inter-agency convoys, delivering 43 mt of relief items on behalf of five partners through four WFP trucks to Prymorske in Zaporizhzhia Oblast and Kurakhove in Donetsk Oblast.

By 19 November, 3,108 mt of relief items were delivered on behalf of 11 partners through 96 inter-agency convoys (419 WFP trucks) to 111 locations across Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia Oblasts.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

So far, secure internet connectivity services have been provided to 14 humanitarian organisations including UN agencies and INGOs in humanitarian inter-agency workspaces in Lviv, Kharkiv and Odesa.

On 16 and 17 November, the Cluster provided radio equipment maintenance, added power supply modules, and finalized the rack installation in UNDSS Dnipro office.

Between 14 and 16 November, the ETC successfully installed a Very High Frequency (VHF) radio repeater and started mapping the coverage in Kharkiv. During the same week, the connection issues with the previously installed repeater in

Luch, Mykolaiv oblast were fixed, enhancing the VHF coverage in operational areas. Installation of two repeaters in Dnipro and Lviv is planned next.

On 7 November, the Security Information Operation Center (SIOC) in the newly established UNDSS permanent premises in Kyiv was set-up with communications and connectivity equipment.

Reprogramming of all handheld and mobile radios for all UN agencies is continuing, to be completed by the end of November. So far, 66 percent of handheld and 41 percent of mobile radios have been reprogrammed. The ETC is collaborating with each agency's ICT staff to speed up the reprogramming process. The Cluster also works on the security communications training plan for Ukraine according to the new network design.

The ETC continues to support enhanced coordination of humanitarian action through provision of technological solutions. To provide internet connectivity to bomb shelters and invincibility points in Mykolaiv oblast, the team conducted an assessment mission last week, identifying specific points for implementation. The concept to develop a chatbot for the Cash Working Group (CWG) is to be presented at the next CWG meeting to identify the next steps. Technical support is provided to WFP and other UN agencies in their technical assessment and installation of the Remote Site on Vehicle (RSoV) solution.

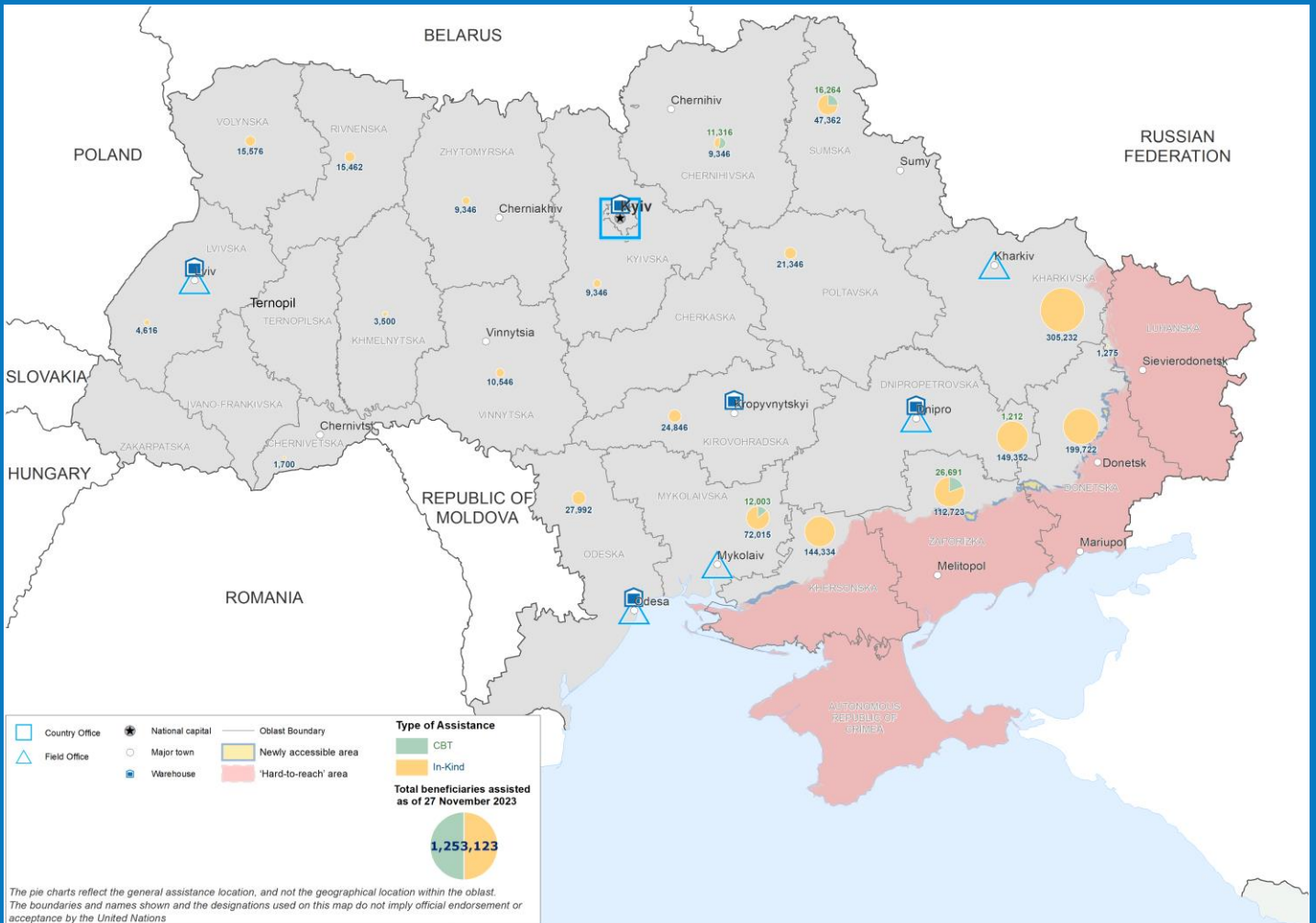
Funding Outlook

Thanks to the generosity of 30 donors and partners, WFP continues to provide lifesaving food and cash assistance to conflict-affected and most vulnerable populations, as well as support the humanitarian community with common logistics and telecommunication services.

On 13 and 15 November 2023, WFP received two generous allocations from the German Federal Government. Germany is WFP's largest donor for the operation in Ukraine, supporting its crisis response and support to national systems simultaneously.

Currently funded at 36 percent, WFP requires an additional **USD 262 million** for the next six months until May 2024 to sustain its operations. The funding priorities remain food procurement for the emergency response, as well as support for national social safety nets and agricultural mine action.

WFP UKRAINE Assistance – November Overview



WFP would like to thank its partners for their timely support to WFP Ukraine



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