



# WFP Ukraine

## External Situation Report #49

2 May 2024

In 2024 to date, a total of **50,198 mt** of food and **USD 73.8 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	Instit. Feeding	Multi-Purpose Cash	Compl. Social Benefits	Market-based Trans. support	School Feeding		
2024												
January	13,287	21,194,156	284,630	7,089	727,468	498,725	873	639,969	212,535	52,459	2,423,748	
February	12,332	21,920,584	303,136	10,453	649,959	505,605	569	700,109	220,312	52,234	2,442,377	
March	14,296	20,453,491	267,200	1,844	785,790	471,438	-	672,692	220,410	53,552	2,472,926	
April	10,282	10,272,277	364,141	2,125	645,942	172,147	707	354,219	159,823	-	1,699,104 <sup>1</sup>	

### Key Highlights

- On 29 April, WFP joined the **27<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of Mine-Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers** in Geneva, along with FAO, highlighting the importance of mine-action activities for food security in Ukraine.
- On 22 April, WFP's [value chains analysis on Wheat flour and Sunflower oil in frontline areas](#), developed in collaboration with the Kyiv School of Economics, was published.
- On 18 April, during the Ukraine Mine Action Donor Coordination Workshop, a tripartite **Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, WFP, and FAO.**
- On the same day, a separate MoU was signed with Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

### Situation Update

In April, the heightened intensity of daily aerial attacks across Ukraine and ground assaults persisted, while the frontline inched closer westward particularly in Donetsk region. Regular bombardment on Ukraine's second-largest city, Kharkiv is continuing, but also areas along the frontlines near

Kupiansk are being targeted, areas that have been under control of Ukraine since late summer 2022.

In the past week, evacuation of civilians continued in several affected communities; 49 people, including 15 children were evacuated in Donetsk, and 29 children in Kharkiv region. WFP is currently double distributing its in-kind food assistance in such areas at risk of access constraints.

In addition to energy infrastructure being the target of attacks, railway stations are increasingly targeted, raising concerns for movements. WFP continues to closely monitor humanitarian needs to provide the necessary assistance.

### WFP Ukraine Response

In April, WFP reached **1.7 million people** in need, mostly along the frontline.

On 22 April, WFP published the report, ['Wheat Flour and Sunflower Oil Value Chains: Analysis of Value Chains with a Focus on Smaller farmers and Processors near the Frontline'](#). Following several months of data collection and in-depth analysis performed by the Kyiv School of Economics (KSE) in collaboration with WFP, the report highlights the challenges faced by the wheat grain and flour, and sunflower oil and seeds' value chains since the full-scale invasion in 2022. Wheat grain and flour, and sunflower oil are key

<sup>1</sup> This number will increase, once the pending payments for the School Meal Programme are processed.

commodities in WFP's humanitarian food procurement and response, within Ukraine and globally.

On 16 April, the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) on Ukraine took place in Brussels. The persistent humanitarian needs and uncertainty about the frontline movements over the coming months were highlighted in the SOM.

### Cash-Based Assistance

WFP's cash programmes and its cash transfer mechanism continue to provide reliable and timely support to those in need. In April, WFP disbursed over **USD 10 million to more than 500,000 people in need through various cash-based assistance modalities.**

Between 17 and 19 April, as part of its monitoring missions, WFP visited Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv and Zakarpattia regions. Here WFP is hand-delivering cash to vulnerable people through Ukrposhta, a Ukrainian postal service. These beneficiaries live in hard-to-reach mountainous areas, and do not have bank accounts, under the complementary social benefits programme. People with disabilities since childhood, and children with disabilities are included under the programme, according to the February Resolution of the Cabinet of ministers of Ukraine.



Photo caption and credits: *An elderly woman living with disability since childhood is provided with cash assistance through Ukrposhta in a remote village, Yasenytsia of Lviv region on 17 April.*

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In areas where local market conditions are sufficiently restored, WFP has been transitioning the modality of support from in-kind food assistance to cash support. Currently, an estimated 160,000 people are being registered in Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv and Mykolaiv regions for the market-based transitional support programme. Pokrov and Zelenodolsk towns in the Dnipropetrovsk region were visited on 16 April along with ECHO, where the transition from in-kind to cash assistance is planned based on recent assessments.

Under the **School Meal Programme (SMP)**, WFP covers 30 percent of the financial requirements to provide hot meals to primary school children aged 6 to 11, through monthly reimbursements to schools. The initiative is aimed to alleviate the financial strain on local administrations and parents, whose resources were stretched due to the ongoing war. Currently 14 regions are included in the programme for the 2023-2024 academic year, which started in September.

As of 26 April, the SMP completed transfers for March to 12 out of 14 regions. The only pending payments for this year are to Dnipropetrovsk (for January, February, and March) and Khmelnytskyi (for February and March) regions.

On April 17, WFP participated in the presentation of the Policy Brief on the School nutrition reform in Ukraine, arranged by WHO. In the meeting, the Government representatives highlighted the importance of WFP's contribution through its school meal programme.

On 11 and 12 April, an introduction training on the SMP was held for 12 schools in Zakarpattia region, where Roma children study. These schools joined the programme in April 2024.

Discussions are ongoing to improve technical aspects of the SMP implementation for the 2024-2025 academic year, as well as how to integrate the SMP data with the existing state-owned portal of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine through a digital invoicing platform.

### In-Kind Food Assistance

WFP reached **1.2 million people** in April 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 not functional due to ongoing hostilities, damaged infrastructure, mine contamination, or limited power supply. The vast majority of WFP in-kind assistance is provided in areas near the frontline with the most severe needs.

Double distributions of 30-day rations continued in several frontline areas where potential access constraints are anticipated due to worsening security conditions. In April, around 4,700 beneficiaries were reached with double distributions in the towns of Vovchansk and Velykyi Burluk in Kharkiv regions, while double distributions are continuing in Kurakhivska and Novogrodivska communities in Donetsk region for over 12,500 beneficiaries. A new round of double distributions for Maryinska and Ocheretinska communities is planned for May.

### Accountability to Affected Populations

Between 15 and 19 April, food distribution points in Donetsk, Kharkiv and Zaporizhzhia regions were visited to monitor Cooperating Partner (CP)'s practice in the field in accordance with WFP's guidance, where Training of Trainers sessions were previously conducted on Protection, Gender, and Accountability to Affected Populations (PGAAP)-related topics.

During the last two weeks, WFP's toll-free hotline received 11,763 calls (10,979 during the working hours), of which 8,144 came from unique phone numbers. In total, WFP hotline operators processed 7,123 calls. Over 86.9 percent of processed cases were closed as First Case Resolution (FCR) without referral, while the remaining were referred to relevant programme focal points. Almost all (97.5 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 requested information about in-kind food support

programme, in terms of entitlements, timing, and location.

## Social Protection

On 12 April, WFP, jointly with the Ministry of Social Policy (MoSP), delivered a technical training on how to use the Unified Information System of the Social Sphere (UISSS) software, a digital social benefits registry data management system improved with the support from WFP, currently used by the MoSP. The focus of the training was on 10 additional functionalities. The direct feedback from participating local practicing officials in the field were received by the MoSP and the software developer for future improvement.

## WFP Supply Chain and Support to Food Systems

In April, WFP dispatched 10,000 mt of food to CPs. By 30 April, an additional 34,221 mt of food commodities are in the pipeline (19,290 mt of food in storage, and 14,931 mt of food in transit or pending supplier delivery).

Just two days after the pause of the partial blockade of the Polish-Ukrainian border-crossing points (BCPs) on 16 April, Polish farmers resumed blocking of 2 other BCPs. As of 18 April, around 1,500 trucks were reported waiting in lines to enter Ukraine. While humanitarian cargo is allowed to pass, fewer commercial trucks are available. Although WFP's delivery of assistance remains unaffected, largely thanks to local sourcing, the situation is closely monitored.

## Local Food Systems

The local bakery project is an initiative to increase contributions to the local economy within WFP's humanitarian operations by further increasing engagement with local bakeries. On 23 April, WFP selected seven small bakeries for contracting after a tender process. Those include two new bakeries in Dnipropetrovsk and Donetsk regions as well as five bakeries to be renewed.

Starting from May, 12 small bakeries in total will supply bread, and will cover 32 percent of the total bread needs for May.

WFP is also strengthening capacities of the small bakeries by supplying appliances related to pest control and hygiene. Based on the analysis of capacity assessment missions held to 10 small bakeries in past few months, the needs for additional items, such as dough machines, baking equipment, and slicing and packing machines were identified. WFP plans to provide such equipment support equivalent to USD 800,000 in total to the involved bakeries.

## Agricultural Mine Action Project

Heavy landmine contamination remains a critical concern among farmers and rural communities in Ukraine. Hence, 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. The project has been operational in Kharkiv region, while expansion in Mykolaiv is planned this year.

Since the start of the project in 2023, seven teams have completed 381 non-technical survey (NTS) reports for the total of 4,671 ha. Out of those, 14 land plots (655 ha) have been declared free from explosive ordinance, 266 land plots (total 2,792 ha) were defined as suspected hazard area (SHA), and 101 plots (1,124 ha) as confirmed hazard area (CHA). So far, Explosive Ordinance Risk Education has reached over 28,500 beneficiaries through 828 sessions conducted in the project area of Kharkiv region.

On 29 April, WFP's Country Director ad interim attended the 27<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers organized by Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). In a panel chaired by the FAO Director of the Liaison Office in Geneva, the situation in Ukraine, and the joint FAO-WFP mine action project, as well as the general food security outcome of mine action were discussed, together with the Deputy Minister of Economy of Ukraine and other speakers. During the event, potential technical cooperation was discussed with several demining partners.

Between 23 and 24 April, WFP met with local administrations and community organisations in Kharkiv and Mykolaiv regions to identify settlements where livelihoods support can be carried out. Such activities will augment the mine action activities of the WFP technical partner Fondation suisse de déminage (FSD) and farm support provided by FAO.

On 18 April, A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the First Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Economy, WFP, and FAO to recognize and facilitate the inter-agency Mine Action and Livelihood project aligned to the national mine action strategy, particularly for food security and production restoration. During the Mine-Action Donor Coordination Government event organized by the Ministry of Economy and GICHD, a separate MOU was signed with GICHD for information sharing and training.

As the project is planned to scale up in Kharkiv region and expand to Mykolaiv region, a Framework Agreement for Collaboration on the mine action and livelihoods is being prepared for engagement with Halo Trust, MAG, and Norwegian People's Aid (NPA).

## Grain Movement

WFP continues to facilitate grain movement whenever possible. Currently, 2,000 mt of pulses are being shipped to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mozambique, and Mauritania under the Grain from Ukraine (GFU) initiative.

In preparation for more GFU shipments, a tender for vegetable oil was awarded to a Ukrainian supplier, while discussions continue with the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food on the upcoming consignments.

On 11 April, during his visit to the Odesa port, the French Ambassador for the Eastern Partnership and Black Sea was briefed of WFP's ongoing food procurement and export efforts. France remains one of the key donors, supporting the GFU initiative.

## Investment in Ukraine's Economy

So far, WFP's total monetary investment into Ukraine's

economy is estimated at **USD 1.14 billion**, with about USD 11.8 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, agreements with NGO partners, and other goods and services purchases within the country.

## Inter-Agency Humanitarian Response Coordination

### Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC)

In March, around 2.8 million people were reached by the FSLC partners across Ukraine. Top five regions on numbers of assistance provided are Kharkiv (over 445,000 people), Donetsk (around 390,000 people), Zaporizhzhia (around 330,000 people), Dnipropetrovsk (over 300,000 people), and Kherson (over 220,000 people) regions.

On 16 April, the FSLC Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) meeting was held to review the past performance and plan future actions. The results of the 2023 Country Cluster Performance Monitoring (CCPM) and partners' response during January-February 2024 were discussed. Strategic objectives for the cluster's 2024 Work Plan and action points were outlined as well as key areas of focus for the Technical Working Groups.

On 11 April, the meeting organized by the Cluster brought together over 30 participants from WFP, FAO, OCHA, and other organizations to discuss harmonization of assistance response, focusing on deduplication issues.

The online [dashboard](#) on FSL cluster People in Need and Target by Cluster Objectives, Ukraine 2024 was published in April.

### 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.

On 16 and 17 April another round of the Logistics Cluster Induction (LCI) Training took place in Dnipro with 25 participants representing 17 humanitarian actors from the eastern regions. This marked the culmination of the entire series with two other LCI sessions previously conducted in Kyiv and Odesa to enhance the logistical capacities and collaboration between humanitarian responders in Ukraine.

Between 15 and 28 April, 145 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian relief items were received in common storage on behalf of seven partners (equivalent to 3 truckloads). As of 28 April, the Cluster is storing 1,490 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian cargo (59 percent shelter, 31 percent WASH, 4 percent protection, 3 education, and 3 percent other cargo) on behalf of 13 partners (equivalent to 32 truckloads).

During the same period, 41 mt of humanitarian commodities (96 percent WASH, 3 percent shelter, and 1 percent other

cargo) were dispatched on behalf of eight partners to eight locations across Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kherson, Odesa, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia regions.

Of the relief items transported, cargo was consolidated, and transport facilitated for two inter-agency convoys, delivering 11 mt of relief items on behalf of six partners through three WFP trucks to Prymorske in Zaporizhzhia region.

By 28 April 2024, 178 mt of relief items were delivered on behalf of 11 partners through 18 inter-agency convoys (consisting of 37 WFP-managed trucks) to 18 locations across Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions.

### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

The ETC continues to support enhanced coordination of humanitarian action through provision of technological solutions. 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.

#### Security communications services

On 18 April, Security Communications System (SCS) training was delivered to 20 participants from UNICEF, UNOPS, IOM, and UNFPA. Also, two five-day training sessions on Telecommunications Security Standards {TESS+} are planned in May for 12 UN agencies.

#### Very High Frequency (VHF) and Radio

The recent aerial attacks damaged a number of Ukrainian Broadcasting, Radiocommunications & Television Concern (BRT) towers, some of which were previously identified as potential sites to install VHF repeaters for the network expansion. While BRT focuses on the recovery works, ETC is engaging with a third-party BRT-recommended supplier who is authorized to perform works in BRT premises to carry on.

ETC continues providing support to UN agencies in programming and reprogramming of VHF radios, maintenance of the Remote Sight on Vehicle (RSOV) solution, holding regular radio-check exercises.

#### Services for communities

Following the meeting with Mykolaiv regional authorities on 24 April, where the lack of technical infrastructure, internet connectivity, and other communication services to support remote communities were highlighted, ETC initiated an assessment to establish telecommunication services to link mental health and rehabilitation centres with local medical and social services.

## Funding Outlook

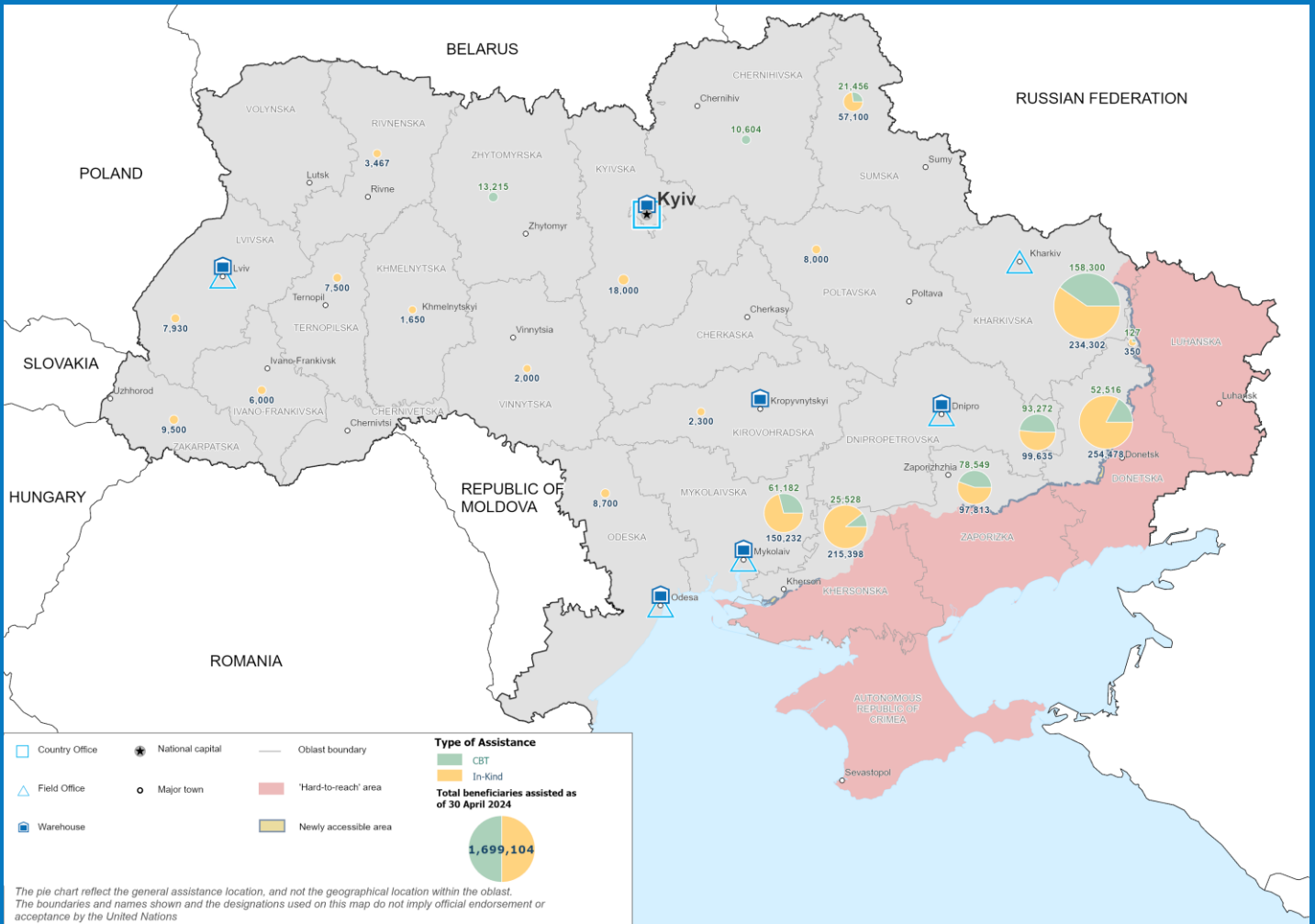
Thanks to the generosity of 30 donors and partners, WFP continues to provide lifesaving food and cash assistance to conflict-affected and most vulnerable people, as well as support the humanitarian community with common logistics and telecommunication services.

On 16 April, the Foreign Minister of Norway, during his first visit to Odesa, announced a new contribution of NOK 705 million (USD 68 million) to the humanitarian response, of

which NOK 170 million (USD 15 million) to be received by WFP Ukraine and Moldova under the Nansen support programme.

Currently funded at 35 percent, WFP requires an additional **USD 241.3 million** for the next six months until October 2024 to sustain its operations. The funding priorities remain food procurement for the emergency response, continuation of the Complementary Social Benefits programme, as well as to pilot livelihood programmes in areas in recovery.

# WFP UKRAINE Assistance – April Overview



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

