

To date, a total of 119,679 mt of food and USD 320,452,596 of cash has been delivered.

Month	Transfers		Rations/Transfers to Beneficiaries						
	Food	Cash	Bread	Rapid Response Rations	<b>General Food Distribution</b>			Cash-	Total
	Delivered (MT)	Transfer Value (USD)			30-Day Ration	Suppl. Feeding	Instit. Feeding	Based Transfer	Beneficiaries
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 to date	592	_*	41,522	1,042	12,701	_*	17,859	-*	73,125

# Key Highlights

- As power outages and disruptions in basic services amidst cold temperatures threaten livelihood of civilians nationwide, WFP faces a **funding shortfall of USD 664** million until April 2023 to sustain its assistance levels.
- More than **2.7 million beneficiaries** have been assisted with food and cash assistance in October.
- Last month, WFP reached the milestone of surpassing USD 300 million of cash distributed since March to the most vulnerable and war affected families of Ukraine.
- A few days after the initial announcement to pull out of the Black Sea Grain Initiative on 29 October, Russia reversed its decision on November 2 to rejoin the deal, allowing the resumption of operations after a brief halt.
- During 31 October to 2 November, WFP Representative and Country Director in Ukraine joined the WFP Regional Director for the Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia, and Eastern Europe in a mission to the United States, to address senior officials from the US government on the dire need for further humanitarian support in Ukraine.
- WFP has opened a call for proposals for partnerships in the upcoming 2023 period.

\*Figures are in line with November distribution plan.

# WFP Ukraine Response

As the war in Ukraine dragged into a ninth month, hostilities in the frontline areas of eastern and southern Ukraine remain dynamic, while aerial bombardments and explosions targeting densely populated urban areas and critical infrastructure continue at high intensity. As a result, despite the effort to swiftly repair damaged key utility infrastructure (estimated 40% of infrastructure in energy sector alone), basic services such as electricity and water have been severely disrupted. In addition to the announced schedule of power outages and water cuts, which are planned in multiple blocks of few hours daily on rotational basis per administrative area, unannounced ad-hoc disruptions are frequently observed, affecting daily lives of all people across the country including Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa, Dnipro and Kherson.

To make things worse, the cold and damp winter season started to set in, with longer dark hours, leaving those who were already vulnerable due to the war with heightened risk, exacerbated by the power outages.

As the people displaced from their homes, living without reliable access to food, electricity and water, brace for

extraordinarily tough winter months, WFP continues to appeal to international communities for support, with an aim to provide uninterrupted assistance to those who are in need in these challenging times.

During 31 October to 2 November, WFP Representative and Country Director joined the WFP Regional Director for the Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia and Eastern Europe in a mission to the United States to address senior management and staffers from the US government about the dynamic nature of the conflict, and reiterated the need for further support.

On 3 November, two US senators, Democrat Chris Coons of Delaware and Republican Rob Portman of Ohio visited a WFP operations site in Kyiv, spoke with conflict-affected Ukrainian families, and reassured their continued humanitarian support.

With the support from its partners, WFP remains committed to respond to the needs of the people whose lives have been ravaged by the war, prioritizing the frontline and newly accessible areas including Kharkiv, Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv and Odesa.

#### Assistance in Newly Accessible Areas

As more areas become accessible little by little, the market assessments repeatedly reveal the harsh ground realities with a few common traits: non-functional markets, reliance on WFP's humanitarian assistance to meet the food needs, and inaccessibility to electricity, water, gas and telecommunications.

To alleviate hunger and food related difficulties among the conflict-affected people of these areas, blanket food distributions continue to take place. During October, WFP has delivered almost 700 mt of food commodities to nearly 65,000 people in Donetsk (including frontline cities of Yampil, Bakhmut, Toretsk, Kurakhove) and Kharkiv oblasts, in places where the security situation remains volatile. Beneficiaries received bread, rapid response rations as well as 30-day rations. Meanwhile in southern Ukraine in the newly accessible areas of the Kherson oblast, 57,000 people were assisted with close to 650 mt of food in October.

The outlook based on assessments of the areas that recently became accessible paints the picture that a great number of people in need are awaiting support in those hard-to-reach areas, highlighting the importance of expanding the humanitarian reach. WFP remains agile and ready to meet those needs as soon as they become accessible.

#### **Cash Assistance**

Under the cash assistance program, WFP disbursed over **USD 42.8 million in cash assistance** to almost **715,000 beneficiaries** in October. WFP cash assistance program continues to prioritize the most vulnerable population affected by the war in locations where food is accessible in shops, which in turn supports recovery and revitalization of local markets.

Furthermore, last month WFP achieved the milestone of surpassing the USD 300 million cash distribution with more

than **USD 320 million** since March. 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-Kind Assistance**

In October, WFP reached close to 2 million people through a combination of Bread, Rapid Response Rations, and General Food Distribution (GFD) comprising a 30-day rations, Supplementary Feeding (Infant Cereal) and Institutional Feeding (IF).

October presented a higher operational figure for Institutional Feeding for the second month in a row, as local and national authorities are increasingly interested in partnering through this modality. As a result, several memorandums of understanding have been signed with regional and local authorities, and WFP reached more than 300,000 people through the IF program in October alone.

On 26 October, a new agreement between WFP Ukraine and the Ministry of Reintegration launched an operation to provide support to internally displaced people with lowmobility from conflict-affected regions including elderly people, people with disability, and people with chronic illness. The Deputy Prime Minister, Iryna Vereshchuk shared her appreciation for the partnership on the start of this project through a <u>Facebook post</u>.

As 2023 draws near and related planning is entering its finalization stage, WFP has opened a **call for proposals** for **partnerships** in 2023. Emphasis will be given to partnerships with local Non-Governmental Organizations and Community Based Organizations; however, all partners, including international partners, are invited to send their proposals and ideas for food assistance support in 2023.

WFP is continuing the work on the set up of a **school feeding programme** with the support of the Office of the First Lady. Throughout this week, WFP held meetings with both Regional and District level Education departments as well as the School Feeding Administrative Umbrella to understand legal processes, reporting and monitoring procedures. Additionally, a school level survey has been completed to finalise the needs-based analysis that targeting of schools will be based on.

#### **Monitoring Activities**

Two analyses from process monitoring have become available during the last week: One on the multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) beneficiaries who received a first transfer of MPCA in the August or September period of 2022, and another on the in-kind food assistance beneficiaries from the month of September.

In detail, 503 interviews were conducted during 4-9 October among the MPCA beneficiaries who received the first round of cash in either August or September 2022. The **monitoring** 



**results of cash assistance** has showed that 99% of the beneficiaries did not encounter any challenges with redeeming the cash entitlement and **98% responded being satisfied** with the assistance. The most common expenses reported were related to food (79%) and health (68%). 67% of beneficiaries stated that, overall, the amount of assistance was enough to cover their households needs.

In addition, for the latest (finished on 30 September) process **monitoring results of in-kind assistance**, 218 interviews were conducted from 8-30 September to cover 40 food distribution points by six Cooperating Partners in the eight regions. The survey presented that distribution has started on time in 99% of occasions. Also, 73% of the respondents stated that they waited less than 30 minutes to receive the entitlement. **91% of respondents are**, overall, **satisfied** with the quantity and quality of the assistance.

For outcome monitoring purposes, another survey was conducted; the 30-day food ration recipients were asked about their food consumption level and related behavioural patterns. Two-thirds of the respondents were receiving the 30-day ration for the first time at the time of their interview, hence, results reflect the early stage of intervention. Preliminary analysis suggests that 74% had acceptable food consumption, while overall reliable income sources were reportedly scarce. Almost half were spending savings, while a fifth of households were borrowing or have abandoned their household assets for safety reasons. Almost half rely on pension (45% of male- and 50% of female-headed households) while others rely on humanitarian assistance (13%) or they do not have current income source (14%).

#### Accountability to Affected Populations

The Protection, Gender, Accountability to Affected Populations (PGAAP) team has been working to address challenges received through the Community Feedback Mechanisms to ensure people with disabilities, low-income families and other vulnerable groups including retirees can benefit from WFP's cash program. Focusing on 600 random cases, the reported reasons of difficulty in receiving cash support are being analysed.

In the last two weeks, information sessions aimed to strengthen the capacity of cooperating partners have continued. To date, 300 field workers focusing on the most affected and newly accessible areas have benefited from the sessions online, where half of the participants (field workers and volunteers) are female.

WFP's toll-free hotline received 88,431 calls during the last two weeks. Around 24% of all processed calls were addressed through the well-functioning Interactive Voice Record (IVR) system while the remaining 76% were channeled to operators. 69% of the processed cases were closed as First Case Resolution (FCR), while the remaining 31 % 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.

To strengthen the capacity of the call center operators, the PGAAP team conducted trainings for the first team of 20 operators. While more are planned for the following weeks, the trainings are expected to boost effective engagement with the beneficiaries by efficiently addressing their needs and challenges.

# WFP Supply Chain and Support to Food Systems

Since the start of WFP operations in Ukraine in February 2022, **nearly 120,000 mt of food** has been delivered to CPs for those war-affected people in need. In October alone, 17,897 mt of has been dispatched to CPs, while a further 47,766 mt of food commodities are in the pipeline (12,400 mt of food in storage, and 34,704 mt of food in transit or pending supplier delivery).

#### Buffer stock to secure healthy pipeline

Local markets remain highly unstable affected by the volatile power supply and the security concerns due to the increased shelling. To mitigate subsequent impact on food security of the vulnerable people, WFP supply chain team is incorporating a buffer stock (25 percent of the monthly program implementation plan) into its overall planning to cover possible constraints and shortfalls in the operations.

#### **Overland Transport**

140 trucks were in transit to Ukraine by road over the past two weeks, including 57 trucks from Romania, 33 from Poland, and 50 trucks from Türkiye, carrying 2,565 mt (canned meat, salt, rice, cereals, and pasta) of cargo to Ukrainian warehouses for further kitting and dispatching.

Additional 129 trucks arrived directly from Ukrainian suppliers, mostly with vegetable oil and wheat four.

#### The Black Sea Grain Initiative

Following the Russian announcement to suspend its part in the initiative on 29 October, the UN secretariat at the Joint Coordination Center (JCC) reported no plans to move vessels on 2 November, briefly halting activities. Thanks to facilitation from the Turkish delegation at the JCC, the Russian Federation reversed its decision on the same day and announced its participation back in the grain deal. By 3 November, the Russian Federation delegation resumed its work at the JCC and joined vessel inspections.

WFP chartered vessels continue to ship wheat from Ukrainian ports to support global humanitarian efforts; To date, seven WFP charted vessels transported over 220,000 mt of wheat through various Black Sea ports supporting Ethiopia (38%), Yemen (30%), Afghanistan (18%) and Somalia (14%) since the BSGI deal commenced.

According to the latest operational figure published by the Joint Coordination Centre of the BSGI, as of 4 November, the total tonnage of grain and other foodstuffs exported from the three Ukrainian ports is over 10 million mt.



Although Ukraine's export capacity is expected to increase significantly with the resumption of cargo shipping, leading to a decrease of grain prices in the global market, WFP continues to explore alternative corridors (e.g., via the Danube River), as the opening of these seaports is still short of meeting the country's full export level, prior to the conflict. Coordination support to boost capacities in the Danube corridor, in particular, continues as part of contingency planning.

#### Investment in Ukraine's economy

WFP continues to prioritize scaling-up the procurement of food, locally sourced from Ukraine. In line with this effort, on 28 October, three bakeries with a production capacity of 60-100mt of bread per day have been visited in Mykolaiv for possible partnerships.

Overall, the estimated value of the locally procured food amounts to nearly USD 254.1 million worth of food commodities, distributed in Ukraine and globally (mainly in Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia). Of the total, USD 56.8 million was used for humanitarian programmes incountry, and USD 197.3 million was exported to other WFP operations in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen, through Romanian and Ukrainian ports.

In addition, cash-based transfers of more than USD 320 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 18.2 million) and other goods and services (USD 0.9 million) within the country. The total monetary investment value into Ukraine so far is estimated to be **well above USD 593 million**.

On 27 October, WFP Ukraine's Deputy Country Director for Operations presented at the International Business Conference on Ukrainian bread, cereal, flour and pasta in Lviv, in a session focusing on Ukrainian economy during the war and prospects for its recovery. Meeting with representatives of Pasta, Baker and Miller associations as well as various ministries of the Government, current activities and ways forward were discussed to restore, sustain, and stabilize the local economy through partnerships.

# Clusters Update –International Humanitarian Response

#### Food Security and Livelihoods cluster (FSLC)

Within two weeks, 20 partners of FSLC reached 1.1 million people with in-kind food parcels, emergency rations, hot meals, and livelihood activities and assets across 24 oblasts in Ukraine.

The biggest amount of food assistance was provided in three oblasts: Kharkiv (over 275,000 people), Mykolaiv (over 210,000 people), and Donetsk (over 129,000 people), which covered 26%, 19%, and 12% from the entire amount of aid provided, respectively.

In addition, the work continues to prepare the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), as well as setting food assistance and livelihoods targets for 2023. Furthermore, Cluster's partners have raised a common concern on the decreasing amount of food assistance to the vulnerable population due to the lack of funding and the shift of the focus on the Eastern oblasts.

#### **Logistics Cluster**

On 1 November, the Logistics Cluster met the Ambassador of Ireland to Ukraine, Ms Therese Healy. During the meeting, the Ambassador was briefed about ongoing Logistics Cluster activities in support to the humanitarian community, including winterisation preparedness efforts.

Between 17 and 30 October, three coordination meetings were held across Dnipro, Kyiv and Odesa with its partners.

During the last two weeks, four inter-agency convoys delivered 144 mt of essential items related to nutrition, medicine, WASH and shelter to the newly accessible areas in Kherson, Donetsk and Kharkiv oblasts as part of the joint humanitarian effort.

As of 30 October, the Logistics Cluster stored 4,580 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian cargo on behalf of 13 partners across four common storage sites across Ukraine. In the last two weeks 738 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian relief items have been received in the common storage, while 349 m<sup>3</sup> been released.

In coordination with the WFP Fuel Team, the Logistics Cluster has also carried out a second fuel survey, to identify changes in the availability and consumption levels, and/or constraints for humanitarian partners in accessing fuel.

#### **Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)**

Through ETC, WFP continues to provide support to UN staff and has resolved a total of 1,452 ICT-related cases for humanitarian personnel across Ukraine since the launch of the Ukraine IT Service Desk on 29 April. As of 28 October, ETC is providing secure internet connectivity services to 267 staff from twelve humanitarian organizations including UN agencies and INGOs in two humanitarian interagency workspaces, in Dnipro and Lviv. Moreover, ETC team is following up with the regulatory agency for a Very High Frequency (VHF) license approval.

WFP TEC is implementing alternative power backup options to mitigate the impact of power outages in the field offices. A generator has been installed in the Odesa office to provide backup power for critical assets. The team is also planning to install an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) system in the warehouse in Odesa next week, to protect WFP corporate equipment.

The team has completed a remote assessment of voice and data coverage of three Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) in the newly accessible areas: Kupiansk, Izium, and Lyman. Findings show that "Lifecell" has comparatively better coverage in terms of calls, SMS, and 4G data connectivity in the newly accessible areas. Furthermore, on 28 October, ETC conducted a voice and data connectivity services assessment in the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) site in Ternopil.



On 25 October, the Services for Communities team held a meeting with the Coordination Centre for Legal Aid Provision (CCLAP), a content provider for the ETC Chatbot Chatbot, vBeztpesi (BEe3neui in Ukrainian, which translates to "safe spaces") to discuss the content. Initial content is currently being translated. On 26 October, the team had a meeting with the Ministry of Social Policy as a precursor to a technical discussion of the program's role and contribution in the overall emergency response operation in Ukraine.

## **Funding Outlook**

Overall, thanks to the generosity of all 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.

During the last two weeks, WFP received additional contributions from Germany of EUR 13 million.

WFP still requires around **USD 664 million** to sustain cash assistance and in-kind food support throughout the winter months until April 2023.

### Contacts

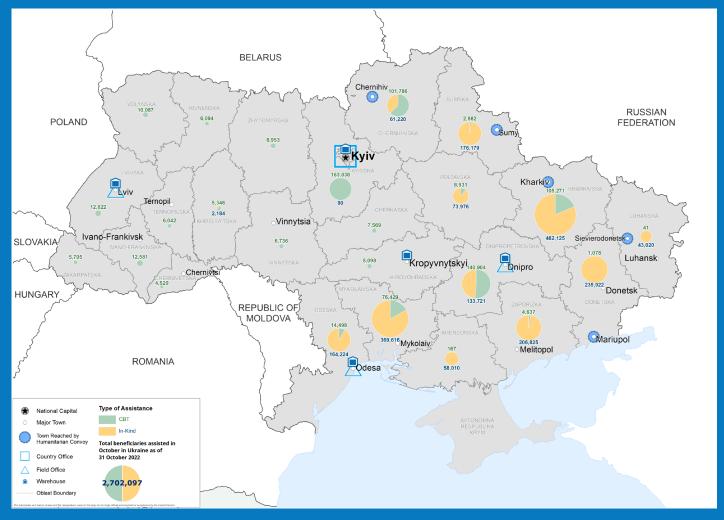
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For further information, visit: www.wfp.org/emergencies/ukraine-emergency



# **WFP UKRAINE Assistance - October Overview**



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

