



WFP Ukraine

External Situation Report #47

1 March 2024

In 2024 to date, a total of **25,619 mt** of food and **USD 41.95 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		
2023												
September	10,233	7,899,799	144,780	80,667	608,040	222,231	79,960	261,499	-	25,652	1,422,829	
October	10,433	4,257,361	159,010	101,322	599,621	231,000	-	259,587	27,317	27,868	1,405,725	
November	12,025	12,014,305	153,789	67,473	667,078	338,529	54,547	313,539	40,892	27,474	1,663,321	
December	13,584	16,699,239	305,543	53,665	750,313	499,210	27,705	374,228	197,891	27,234	2,235,789	
2024												
January	13,287	21,130,201	284,630	7,089	727,468	498,725	873	639,969	212,535	32,099	2,403,388	
February	12,332	20,819,974	303,136	10,453	649,959	505,605	569	663,959	220,312	-	2,353,993 ¹	

Key Highlights

- On 22 February, WFP Country Director ad interim attended a meeting organised by the office of the President of Ukraine, marking the second-year anniversary of the full-scale invasion.
- By 15 February, the first five small bakeries in Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, and Mykolaiv oblasts started dispatching bread.
- On 11 February, the vessel MV Sky Gate carrying 25,000 mt of Ukrainian wheat arrived in Türkiye, the first vessel under the Grain from Ukraine initiative to use the alternative route since the end of Black Sea Initiative in July 2023.
- On 2 February, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine signed Resolution No.110 to include people with disabilities since childhood, and children with disabilities

under the WFP complementary social benefits programme.

Situation Update

The 24th of February marked the second anniversary of the full-scale war in Ukraine, amid reported advances of the Russian Federation in Donetsk, Kharkiv and Zaporizhzhia regions. On 17 February, the Russian forces claimed Avdiivka in Donetsk region, the largest territorial advance since taking Bakhmut in May 2023. Aerial attacks continue to damage civil infrastructure across Ukraine, causing civilian casualties.

On 22 February, the President of Ukraine marked the sombre occasion of the second anniversary by discussing key priorities with heads of foreign missions and international organizations accredited in Ukraine. In [the meeting](#), attended by the WFP Country Director a.i., the

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

President highlighted his commitment to protect the people of Ukraine and to rally support around the implementation of the Ukrainian Peace Formula, and called for enhanced cooperation among partners.

Increased threats to the safety of humanitarian workers have been noted, with the death of two NGO workers and more injuries reported on 1 February from a drone attack in Beryslav of Kherson region. Just a week before on 26 January, a vehicle carrying humanitarian aid was targeted by a drone in Chasiv Yar of Donetsk region, resulting in the loss of relief items. The Humanitarian Coordinator [condemned](#) the attacks, noting that 50 aid workers had been killed or injured in Ukraine, including 11 killed in the line of duty in 2023.

The protests by Polish farmers against the EU Green Deal which started in early February, have developed into blockades in all 6 Polish-Ukrainian border-crossing points since 20 February. Although the movement of humanitarian cargo is not impacted, associated costs and availability of trucks are affected. The protests by the Polish truckers previously suspended in January, are expected to restart and join the farmers from March. So far, WFP's delivery of assistance has not been affected, also because the vast majority of WFP supplies are sourced in Ukraine.

WFP Ukraine Response

In February, WFP reached nearly **2.4 million people** in need for the third month in a row, aligned to the monthly winter response target of the same number. WFP continues to provide humanitarian assistance according to local market conditions, with a view to supporting the local economy.

The development of the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) for 2025-2027, is continuing, as consultations with regional authorities and partners take place.

Cash-Based Assistance

WFP's cash programmes and its cash transfer mechanism continue to provide reliable and timely support to those in need. So far, in February, WFP disbursed over **USD 20.8 million** through various cash-based assistance modalities to **almost 885,000 people in need**. This number will increase once the pending payments for the School Meal Programme are processed.

WFP's cash transfer mechanism has previously been utilised to support other humanitarian actors to reach beneficiaries, presenting an opportunity for strengthened inter-agency collaboration. Another support mechanism, Building Blocks, WFP's own block-chain-based beneficiary deduplication tool, is used by other Clusters.

The Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI) Cluster started to implement Building Blocks for deduplication of its winterization activities. The platform was launched specifically for the Shelter Cluster on 15 February to prevent unintended overlap of assistance among the partners. This is **the first expansion of Building Blocks beyond multi-purpose cash assistance**. Similar expansion is ongoing with the Food Security and Livelihood Cluster.

On 2 February, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine signed the

Resolution No.110 to include people with disabilities since childhood, and children with disabilities under the complementary social benefits programme. With immediate effect, over 260,000 additional people have been included under the programme.

WFP is also working on extending the partnership with Polska Akcja Humanitarna (PAH) and Ukrposhta, to continue to deliver cash support to beneficiaries without bank accounts.

Under the **School Meal Programme**, 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. The programme is currently running in 14 regions for the 2023-2024 academic year, started in September.

So far, 10 regions received transfers for January 2024 and the preceding months of September, October, November, and December 2023. 4 further payments are pending for January 2024, while the only remaining region for the previous months is Kyiv, pending receipt of signed invoices.

Addendums to the regional agreements for the programme extension have been signed with all 6 previously joined regions (Khmelnitskyi, Kyiv, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Ternopil and Zakarpattia) as well as newly joined Sumy. Dnipropetrovsk and Vinnytsia are still pending.

In-Kind Food Assistance

WFP reached almost **1.5 million people** in February 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. The vast majority of the food assistance is provided in areas near the frontline with the most severe needs.

Accountability to Affected Populations

During the last two weeks, WFP's toll-free hotline received 14,374 calls (12,791 during the working hours), of which 10,192 came from unique phone numbers. In total, 9,548 calls were processed by the hotline operators. Over 90.7 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 (97.6 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.

WFP Supply Chain and Support to Food Systems

In February, over 12,000 mt of food was dispatched to CPs. By 1 March, an additional 46,422 mt of food commodities are

in the pipeline (20,648 mt of food in storage, and 25,774 mt of food in transit or pending supplier delivery).

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 food actors, in this case, local bakeries. By 14 February, the first five small bakeries (with daily capacity less than 10 mt) in Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, and Mykolaiv regions have commenced first dispatches of bread, following signing Field Level Agreements (FLAs) for a pilot period of three months. Four more bakeries are registered as vendors, and one is in the process of registration.

Agricultural Mine Action Project

Heavy land mine 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 including Kharkiv, Mykolaiv and Kherson oblasts.

Due to the weather conditions, all field activities including non-technical surveys (NTS) and land clearance remain suspended. Explosive Ordinance Risk Education, which resumed in January, has reached over 25,000 beneficiaries through 713 sessions conducted in the project area of Kharkiv oblast.

On 22 February, the WFP Regional Director (RD) for the Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe participated in a high-level event titled "Humanitarian Demining in Ukraine and its Consequences for Food Security," at the United Nations Headquarters. The Regional Director provided updates on the progress and 2024 plans for the WFP-FAO joint project on agricultural demining. This event, convened by Italy as G7 President and Chair of the Mine Action Support Group (MASG) in collaboration with Ukraine, included the participation of the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator for Ukraine and other UN representatives.

On 16 February, WFP participated in a joint mission with FAO to Fedorivka village in Iziium rayon. During the mission, the farmers, who participate in the mine action project were provided with vouchers for agricultural inputs to support their livelihoods.

In the last weeks of January, during a joint mission between WFP and FAO in Mykolaiv region, several exploratory meetings took place related to the potential joint project with UNOPS. Several meetings were held with mine action implementation partners in the Mykolaiv region such as NPA (Norwegian People's Aid), Halo Trust, DRC (Danish Refugee Council) and MAG (Mine Advisory Group). The main topics for discussion were capacity of the mine action operators, actual field activities with clearance and plans for follow-up after clearance. In a separate meeting with the heads of Mykolaiv and Kherson regional administrations, WFP and FAO presented the agricultural mine action project. WFP and

UNOPS also participated in the meeting with Danish officials regarding possible funding project in Mykolaiv region.

Also, by the end of January, WFP facilitated a series of discussions with local authorities of Balaklia hromada and Iziium rayon in Kharkiv region on the potential start of Mine Advisory Group (MAG) field activities in the territory. MAG was invited by WFP to provide support to WFP's agricultural mine action project. The partnership with the project's technical partner Fondation suisse de déminage (FSD) is also planned to continue throughout 2024.

Grain Movement

WFP continues to facilitate grain movement whenever possible. On 11 February, the vessel MV Sky Gate arrived in the port of Samsun with 25,000 mt of Ukrainian wheat to replenish the WFP Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF) stock in Türkiye. The same quantity has been previously shipped to Nigeria as part of the Grain from Ukraine (GFU) initiative.

Departing from the port of Chornomorsk on 7 February, MV Sky Gate has become **the first vessel under the Grain from Ukraine Initiative** to sail through the alternative Black Sea corridor.

On 2 February, the WFP Regional Director for the Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe, along with senior management from WFP Ukraine, participated in an event at the Port of Chornomorsk, Odesa. In the presence of the Minister of the Agrarian Policy and Food and the Port Authorities, WFP reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Ukrainian food systems through the Grain from Ukraine Initiative. Emphasis was placed on the necessity of a secure and efficient corridor from Ukrainian sea ports, crucial for connecting Ukrainian farmers to global markets.

Investment in Ukraine's Economy

So far, WFP's total monetary investment into Ukraine's economy is estimated at **USD 1.12 billion**, with about USD 12.7 million invested during the last month. Much of this investment is attributed to cash assistance, strengthening individual purchasing power, 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, FLAs with CPs, and other goods and services purchases within the country.

Inter-Agency Humanitarian Response Coordination

Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC)

On 22 February, in the Food Assistance Working Group meeting, attended by over 70 participants, the results from 2023 and 2024 plans and priorities were discussed. Potential need to increase humanitarian assistance in large cities of Kharkiv and Zaporizhzhia regions was raised.

On 21 February, the new Chair of the Livelihoods Technical Working Group was introduced to around 60 participants of working group meeting, in which recommendations on Vocational Education and Training (VET) programmes were shared.

On 20 February, in the Inter-Cluster Working Group meeting for the South, localization, and humanitarian access were discussed. The cluster partners' access to 53 locations in Kherson regions and the challenges related to the heavy access restrictions imposed by the local administration, especially for international humanitarian workers were tabled.

Also, on 7 February, FSLC published its third [Newsletter](#) covering the period from November till December 2023.

On 6 February, Humanitarian Coordinator agreed to increase the overall budget under the UHF 2024 First Standard Allocation by USD 15 million. This will allow to support the portfolio of 40 projects with the total budget of USD 74.2 million. Under the FSLC, three out of seven submitted proposals with the cumulative value of around USD 3.7 million have been selected for further implementation.

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.

Between 8 and 16 February, Logistics Cluster joined three Security and Logistics Assessment Missions (SLAMs) to do logistics assessment of the route and storage options ahead of potential convoys: to Varvarivka and Huliaipole in Zaporizhzhia oblast, to Kurakhove in Donetsk oblast, and to Prykolotne in Kharkiv oblast.

By the end of January, Logistics Cluster participated to the 2024 Planning Workshop of the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group in Kyiv, facilitated by OCHA, to set up working plans for this year.

Between 12 and 25 February 2024, 421 m³ of humanitarian relief items were received in common storage on behalf of six partners (equivalent to 9 truckloads). As of 25 February, the Cluster is storing 1,636 m³ of humanitarian cargo (46 percent shelter, 45 percent WASH, and 9 percent other cargo) on behalf of 13 partners (equivalent to 35 truckloads).

During the same period, 61 mt of humanitarian commodities (59 percent WASH, 40 percent shelter, and 1 percent health) were dispatched on behalf of seven partners to seven locations across Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kherson, Odesa and Zaporizhzhia oblasts.

Of the relief items transported, cargo was consolidated, and transport facilitated for four inter-agency convoys, delivering 36 mt of relief items on behalf of six partners through nine WFP trucks to Dobropillia and Tavriiske both in Zaporizhzhia oblast, Kurakhove in Donetsk oblast and Mylove in Kherson oblast.

By 25 February 2024, 100 mt of relief items were delivered on behalf of 9 partners through 9 inter-agency convoys

(consisting of 22 WFP-managed trucks) to 9 locations across Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia oblasts. In 2023, in total there were 107 inter-agency convoys consisting of 442 WFP-managed trucks.

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.

Very High Frequency (VHF) and Radio

To further expand VHF network, more installations of the VHF repeaters are planned in 8 potential sites close to the frontline in Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kropyvnytskyi, Mykolaiv, Poltava, Sumy, and Zaporizhzhia regions. Following the completion of technical assessment by the Ukraine Broadcasting, Radiocommunications & Television Concern (BRT) in 7 potential sites (still ongoing in Donetsk region), ETC conducted site assessments in Kropyvnytskyi and Mykolaiv on 20 and 22 February respectively. Assessment missions to the remaining sites are planned for the coming weeks.

On 12 February the ETC finalized the assessment of three potential locations for the new UNDSS premises in Lviv considering the relocation of the backup Security Operations Centre.

Technical support is provided to WFP and other UN agencies in their assessment and installation of the Remote Site on Vehicle (RSoV) solution.

Services for communities

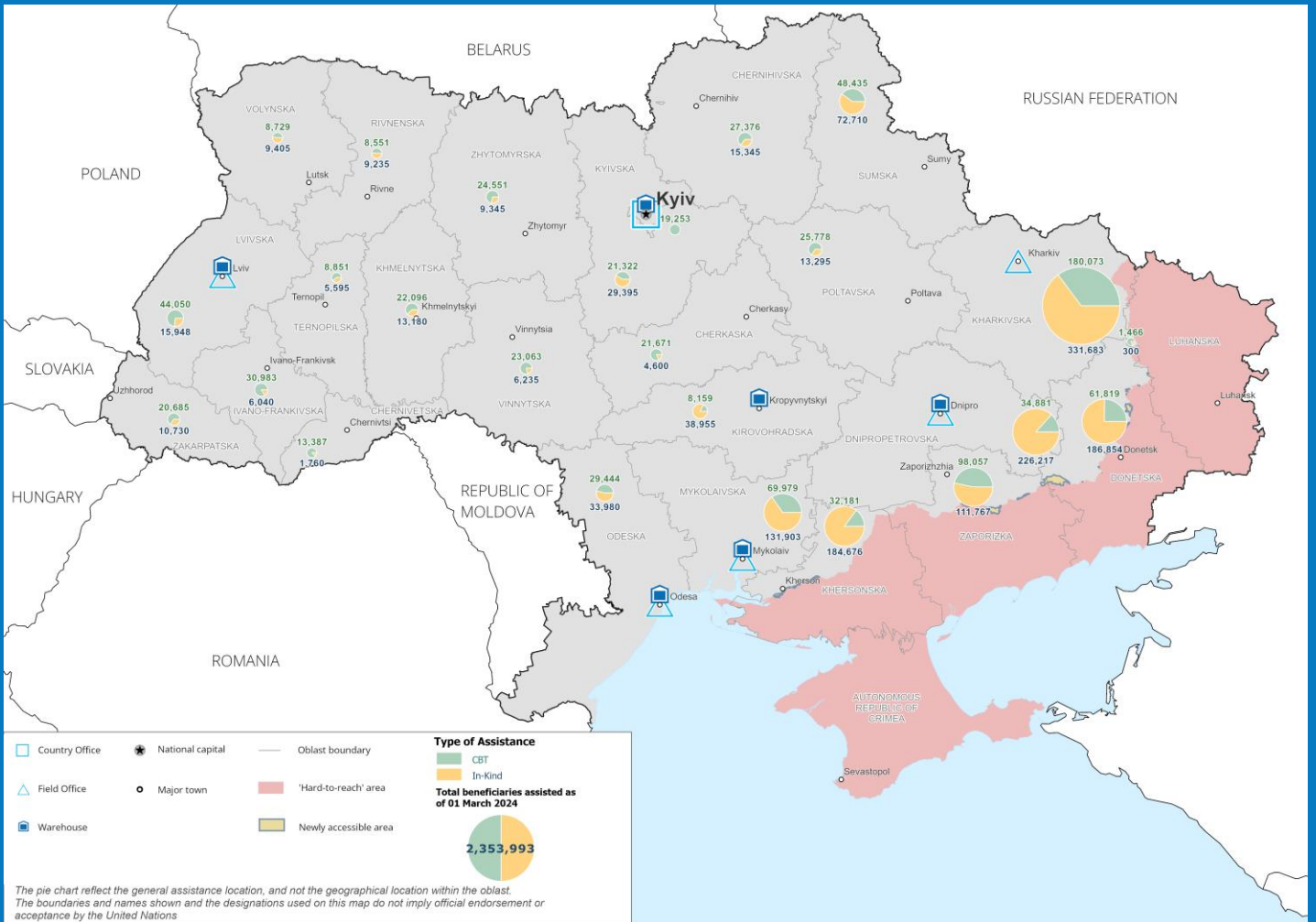
The Cluster is working on further development of the "Invincibility Points" project, to extend internet connectivity to bomb shelters and invincibility points in Mykolaiv oblast. For a similar service support, the Cluster is assessing needs in Dnipropetrovsk and Kharkiv oblasts to assist the affected population.

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.

Currently funded at 47 percent, WFP requires an additional **USD 200.6 million** for the next six months until August 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 – February Overview



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

