

# WFP Ukraine Limited Emergency Operation

## External Situation Report #33

6 January 2023

To date, a total of **155,313 mt** of food and **USD 420,789,006** 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
December	17,867	49,819,110	243,840	433,703	1,033,844	194,499	256,517	843,572	3,005,974

### Key Highlights

- Over **3 million people in need** have received food and cash assistance in December.
- On Christmas day, WFP Representative and Country Director visited the Regional Children's Clinical Hospital and met with three families with children. To support families during this difficult time, WFP coupled its regular food distribution with a delivery of toys for children.
- On 21 December, WFP Representative and Country Director was in the northern part of Donetsk oblast, witnessing food distributions taking place only a few kilometres away from the September contact line.
- WFP, in coordination with FAO, is reaching out to its partners to discuss a project on demining and land clearance for agriculture land.
- On 12 December, the Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief, visited a WFP supported bakery in Mykolaiv, which supplies the local bread program.

- On 13 December, the Ukraine Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP) for 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2024, has been approved.

### WFP Ukraine Response

While what has been an extraordinarily difficult year is over, the war in Ukraine is not slowing down the pace and has marked 300 days on 20 December. In mid-December in Ukraine, a new series of heavy air attacks started. The capital which has been under sporadic attacks, is now continuously targeted damaging critical infrastructure and residential buildings. Systematic barrages on 14, 16, 19, 29 and 31 of December had been country-wide, leading to civilian casualties, and paralyzing many essential services such as heating, electricity, and potable water, while the day-time high temperatures are consistently around 0 degree Celsius.

The immediate priority for WFP is to support as many people in need of assistance as possible through the current winter season in the most war-affected areas such as frontline regions and newly accessible areas. WFP continued to work

seven days per week, without pausing for the holiday season, which ensured serving the number of people in need since March last year. **Over 3 million people** have been **assisted with food and cash** in December alone.

The WFP Representative and Country Director visited Donetsk and Kherson oblasts to cheer up the children of Ukraine by donating the toys along with food items. The mission started on 21 December, when a WFP convoy delivered food assistance to Kramatorsk and Khrestysche, the latter is situated around five kilometres away from where the contact line was just three months ago. The visit included several distribution points in Donetsk oblast where along food rations, the team delivered toys donated by Jakks Toys and the Indiana Pacers basketball team. The distributions were organized through WFP cooperating partners ADRA Ukraine and CO Network in Kramatorsk city and Khrestysche town of Sviatohirsk hromada. The toys were distributed to the children residing in the front-line communities. The mayor of Kramatorsk also visited the distribution point to discuss ongoing activities and the urgent needs of people living in these areas.

On a Christmas Day, 25 December, the WFP Representative and Country Director together with the Head of OCHA headed a mission to Kherson to meet with the Head of Kherson City Military Administration, and oblast officials. The meeting took place at Kherson Regional Children's Clinical Hospital, where the Chief Doctor shared the latest situation update. Moreover, the team visited three families with children to hand over additional toys.

Meanwhile, WFP plans to continue responding to the urgent needs of the people of Ukraine in 2023. On 13 December, the Ukraine Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP) was formally approved, setting out WFP Ukraine's operational framework and priorities, following on the Limited Emergency Operation, which ended on 31 December 2022. The central focus of the T-ICSP continues to be supporting the war-affected people in need to meet their food and nutritional needs; direct provision of food and cash assistance, and facilitation of common logistics and emergency telecommunications support remain, while additional support to the Government of Ukraine and partners is also envisaged to boost the resilience of the vulnerable people and institutions that serve them.

### Assistance in Newly Accessible Areas

In December alone, an estimated **561,136 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: 270,425 people in Kharkiv, 239,578 in Kherson, 29,963 in Mykolaiv, 19,552 in Donetsk, and 1,617 in Luhansk oblasts.

From 8-10 December, WFP Representative and Country Director in Ukraine joined an inter-agency mission led by the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator, to Kherson oblast, where they met with government authorities and humanitarian partners, and assessed the humanitarian situation.

On 12 December, the Under-Secretary-General (USG) for

Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. Martin Griffiths, visited Kherson and Mykolaiv. The USG visited a woman-owned bakery in Mykolaiv which is seen as an example of resilience and economic regeneration. WFP is supporting the bakery by buying bread and distributing it to people in the newly accessible areas in Kherson and Mykolaiv oblasts.

### Demining of Agriculture Land

WFP, in coordination with FAO (The Food and Agriculture Organization) and FSD (Fondation Suisse de Deminage), is reaching out to its partners with a concept note on land clearance including demining and follow-up support for small-sized farmers and local producers in areas most affected by the war. The primary objective is help phase out the need for humanitarian relief for thousands of farmers, support the recovery of agricultural production, including nutritious foods such as fruits, vegetables and dairy and support durable solutions and the return of IDPs by providing safety related to agricultural land.

### Cash Assistance

Under the cash assistance program, WFP disbursed almost **USD 50 million in cash assistance** to nearly **844,000 people in need** in December. Moreover, last month, WFP achieved the milestone of USD **400 million of cash** transfers since March to families displaced by the war, searching for a safety around the country.

WFP cash assistance programs continue 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.

A value voucher program has been delivered during November-December for 10,650 people in Sumy oblast. In 2022, WFP has distributed almost 315,000 value vouchers with an over 97% redemption rate and successfully entered contractual relationships with two of the countries' biggest retail chains. In December, WFP launched an Expression of Interest (EOI) looking for additional retail partners for 2023 and has received 14 responses from national and regional grocery retailers. This will help to continue WFP's market development support in areas close to the frontline. Up to five individuals per household can receive vouchers to be redeemed against products of choice in contracted retail outlets, helping to support the re-opening of key retail food outlets. Designed for two-month equivalent assistance, each voucher is worth 500 UAH (USD 13.50) and each individual receives 6 vouchers. Unemployed people, single mothers, large families with more than four people, and persons with disabilities are prioritized under this program.

Moreover, on 21 December WFP started a remote Market Functionality Assessment of the newly accessible Kherson city to define if market functionality is sufficient to switch up to 65,000 people in need from food to value voucher assistance.

### In-Kind Assistance

In December, WFP reached nearly **2.2 million people** through a combination of bread, rapid response rations, and General Food Distribution (GFD) comprising 30-day rations, Infant cereal and institutional feeding. Distribution of Infant cereal has resumed last month, following its routine food safety inspection.

In-kind assistance remains of significant importance as the results from the post-distribution monitoring outcome survey on 30-day ration is showing worsening food security situation in Ukraine. Based on face-to-face interviews conducted among 320 beneficiaries from June to August 2022, **food consumption scores have worsened, with high prevalence of negative coping strategies**, compared to the results from the March-April period.

### Accountability to Affected Populations

On 9 December, the Protection, Gender, Accountability to Affected Populations (PGAAP) team has conducted a two-hour capacity building session for the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology enumerators who will directly interact with people in the conflict-affected areas. With around **90 enumerators from all over the country**, the team covered a wide range of topics including humanitarian principles and protection in WFP activities, Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption (AFAC), gender and disability inclusion.

In addition, WFP Ukraine continues to increase awareness of **PSEA at the Frontline** among frontline workers and partners, by making tailored information available in the local language and disseminating widely (available on [Facebook](#)). This includes 300,000 leaflets and 18,000 posters of three different kinds.

During the last four weeks, WFP's toll-free hotline received 125,675 calls from the unique phone numbers. 40% of the processed cases were closed as First Case Resolution (FCR), while the remaining 60% were referred to relevant programme focal points. Almost all (99.8%) 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 (0.2%) requested information about in-kind food support programme, in terms of entitlements, timing and location.

To mitigate the increased number of incoming calls, a programmatic decision was taken to increase the number of hotline operators. The call center has already launched recruitment and training of new operators and WFP Ukraine purchased 17 licenses for the case management system. Five more licenses are to be purchased in January 2023.

## WFP Supply Chain and Support to Food Systems

Since September, around 87% of total food commodities have been procured locally (86,500 mt out of 99,360 mt). Local procurement will continue to be prioritized in 2023.

Overall, since the start of WFP operations in Ukraine in February 2022, **155,313 mt of food** has been delivered via Cooperating Partners (CPs) to people affected by war and in need living across the country. In December 17,867 mt of food has been dispatched to CPs, while a further 55,000 mt of food commodities are in the pipeline (13,800 mt of food in storage, and 41,200 mt of food in transit or pending supplier delivery).

### Supporting the WFP Wheat Flour Pipeline

In early December, an assessment of energy needs analysis was conducted with one of the wheat flour suppliers in Dnipro region to determine the demand for generators. To compensate for the lack of power needed to keep a sustainable supply of wheat flour, contracted local flour mills may be provided with generators for the contract duration.

### Ensuring Food Safety and Quality

During 5-9 December, a WFP food safety quality specialist went on a mission to Dnipro. One of the key wheat flour vendor facilities was inspected to ensure the food safety and quality standards of WFP are met at the factory. A food safety condition assessment was also completed at Dnipro warehouse facilities.

WFP conducts two systematic inspections on a regular basis. Quality and Quantity (Q&Q) inspections are provided in vendor facilities to ensure that they meet the contractual specifications, through sampling and analysis. Then, in WFP facilities, superintendents also inspect the quantity and condition of commodities.

Although currently both inspections are carried out by one single vendor, in 2023 WFP plans to separate the inspection tasks to two independent bodies for increased accountability. A Release for Quotation (RFQ) and tender are planned for WFP superintendence inspection.

### Logistics Contract Preparations for 2023

The overall need for overland regional transporters in 2022 had decreased significantly due to prioritization of local procurement. However, although little, the need for regional transporters remains for overland transport in Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Türkiye.

WFP is working to revise the regional transporter roster towards robust partnerships for 2023 through relevant procurement processes.

In addition, performance evaluation for WFP warehouses had been completed. Requests for Quotation are subsequently being prepared for 2023 to cover handling, storage, and kitting of food commodities. The focus for the new contracts is on streamlining warehouse management through instituting appropriate Key Performance Indicators.

## Overland Transport

Since 1 December, 131 trucks were in transit to Ukraine by road, including 65 trucks from Poland, 20 trucks from Romania and 46 trucks from Türkiye, carrying 2,250 mt (salt, canned meat, and canned beans) of cargo to Ukrainian warehouses for further kitting and dispatching.

An additional 860 trucks delivered 14,800 mt (sugar, pasta, canned pulses, wheat flour, oat flakes, and vegetable oil) to the warehouses directly from Ukrainian suppliers.

## Grain from Ukraine

On 8 December, WFP chartered vessel, MV Neva sailed from Odesa port to deliver 25,000 mt of wheat in support of the humanitarian response in Somalia.

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%). An additional quantity of 75,000 mt of wheat is being prepared for shipment to Ethiopia and Afghanistan.

Moreover, WFP is working with the national authorities to finalize contractual and shipping arrangements for the additional export of in-kind grain donated by the Government of Ukraine to countries facing the grain shortfalls.

According to the latest operational figure published by the Joint Coordination Centre, as of 5 January, **the total tonnage of grain and other foodstuffs** exported from the three Ukrainian ports is **16,787,261 mt**. A total of 1,245 voyages (619 inbound and 626 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 has been hailed by the international community. The continued export of grain is also an important activity for the local economy, keeping the grain flow allows farmers to be self-reliant.

## Investment in Ukraine's Economy

Overall, the estimated value of the locally procured food amounts to over **USD 283 million (652,000 mt)** worth of food commodities, distributed in Ukraine and globally (mainly in Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia). Of the total, approximately USD 90 million (around 134,000 mt) was used for humanitarian programmes in-country, and nearly USD 195 million (around 518,000 mt) was spent to support WFP operations in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Yemen, and Sri Lanka through Romanian and Ukrainian ports.

In addition, **cash-based transfers of around USD 421 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 20 million), field level agreements with CPs (USD 11 million) and other goods and services (USD 1 million) within the country. So far, the total monetary investment value is estimated to be **over USD 736 million**.

## Inter-Agency Humanitarian Response Coordination

### Food Security and Livelihoods cluster (FSLC)

Within the last two weeks of December, 21 partners of FSLC reached **over 2 million people** with in-kind food parcels (70%), emergency rations (25%), hot meals (4%), and livelihood activities across (1%) across 24 oblasts in Ukraine. In terms of livelihoods, 3,500 people received agricultural production tools such as seeds, equipment, and grants.

The biggest amount of food assistance was provided in four oblasts: Kharkiv (over 407,000 people), Mykolaiv (352,000 people), Donetsk (over 279,000) and in Zaporizhzhia (around 238,000 people).

From 29 November and 7 December, the Cluster received requests to address the food needs of 600 people. During the same period, the Cluster responded to the requests to reach 41,441 people with monthly food kits, while five Cluster partners served people living in 15 communities of the newly accessible areas in Kherson oblast. Furthermore, last month, the FSLC received three new requests for food assistance to cover the needs of 7,868 people.

### Logistics Cluster

The Logistics Cluster continues to support humanitarian organisations engaged in the humanitarian response by providing logistics coordination and information management, and by facilitating access to common logistics services free-of-cost to the user. Between 12 and 25 December, three coordination meetings were held across Dnipro, Kyiv and Odesa, and 13 information management products were published, including the [generator guidance summary](#) with the various links to the Ukraine authorities sources on the Ukraine [operation webpage](#).

1,209 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian relief items were received in common storage on behalf of seven partners, and 744 m<sup>3</sup> of cargo were released to nine partners. As of 25 December, the Logistics Cluster is storing 4,168 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian cargo (early recovery, education, food security, general operations, general programme, health, logistics, nutrition, protection, shelter, telecommunications, WASH) on behalf of 12 partners.

During the reporting period, 358 metric tons of humanitarian cargo (health, logistics, protection, shelter, and WASH) was dispatched on behalf of 10 partners to locations across Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Mykolaivska, Odeska and Zaporizka oblasts.

Of the relief items transported, cargo was consolidated, and transport facilitated for two inter-agency convoys on behalf of seven partners, delivering 69 mt of relief cargo (food security, health, logistics, shelter and WASH) through 11 trucks departing from Dnipro to Ivanivske on 16 December and to Lyman and Sviatohirsk on 28 December, both in Donetska oblast.

## Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

Since 2 December when ETC received a Very High Frequency (VHF) license to operate in Ukraine, the plan to deploy VHF network has been moving forward in coordination with other UN agencies. Under the current plan, the VHF repeaters and antennas will be installed in five locations: Kyiv, Odesa, Dnipro, Lviv, and Mukachevo.

Since the launch of the ETC Chatbot “vBezpezi” (вБезпеці in Ukrainian, which translates to “safe spaces”), on 20 June, 16,848 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.

## Partnerships and Funding Outlook

Thanks to the generosity of all partners, WFP continues to provide lifesaving food and cash assistance to war-affected most vulnerable populations, as well as support the humanitarian community with common logistics and telecommunication services. Additional resources are required to sustain WFP’s emergency operations during the ongoing winter season.

In December, WFP held bilateral meetings with Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada to update them on WFP operations in country, the progress of the Grain from Ukraine Initiative and to highlight ongoing operational priorities.

Moreover, on 23 December, WFP Representative and Country Director met with the German Ambassador to discuss the ongoing partnership. Germany was donated close to EUR 100 million to WFP Ukraine and neighbouring operations and has been a strong supporter of grain exports.

During the past four weeks, WFP received confirmations of several pledges amounting to nearly USD 320 million against its TICSP (January 2023 – June 2024). This includes generous contributions from the United States Government (BHA) USD 270.5 million, the European Union (ECHO) USD 17.5 million, and from Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Sweden (USD 23.7 million), France (USD 5.1 million), Finland (USD 5.1 million) and Norway (USD 3 million). Last month, WFP received its first donations from Finland and Ireland supporting emergency response and the deployment of Logistics staff.



SEASON'S GREETINGS  
ВЕСЕЛИХ СВЯТ

WITH YOUR HELP, THE  
WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME  
SUPPORTS ALMOST 3 MILLION  
PEOPLE EVERY MONTH WITH  
FOOD AND CASH ASSISTANCE  
IN UKRAINE.  
THANK YOU.

ILLUSTRATION BY UKRAINIAN ARTIST KSENIYA FAST

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