

# WFP Ukraine and Neighbouring Countries

## External Situation Report #17

16 May 2022

### Highlights

WFP assisted over 3.8 million displaced and conflict-affected people with food and cash throughout Ukraine.

WFP is working closely with the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine to scale up cash transfers. Around USD 15.9 million cash assistance have been transferred to more than 237,000 IDPs across Ukraine.

WFP's Ukraine emergency response faces a net funding shortfall of USD 259 million to sustain its operations through the month of August 2022.

### In Numbers



**3.83 million** (cumulative)  
conflict-affected people assisted by WFP



**10.2 million**  
people in need for food and livelihood assistance  
(UN Flash Appeal, April 2022)



**8 million**  
internally displaced persons (IOM, 3 May 2022)



**6.2 million**  
people displaced to neighbouring countries (UNHCR, 15 May 2022)



**201 WFP staff**  
on the ground in Ukraine and neighbouring countries

### WFP Emergency Response



Since the beginning of the conflict, WFP has reached over 3.8 million people with in-kind and cash assistance and will continue scaling-up its response to assist up to 4.5 million people. WFP continues to monitor the food security situation in Ukraine and refugees movement into neighbouring countries, to adjust its assistance and accommodate surging needs.



In addition, WFP is providing logistics and emergency telecommunications services to the humanitarian community, facilitating the timely provision of assistance inside and outside of Ukraine.



### Situation Update

Active fighting in Ukraine and the destruction of civilian infrastructure have triggered critical humanitarian needs and disrupted access to food and basic services, as well as the livelihoods of a growing proportion of the population. WFP has established a remote food security monitoring system in Ukraine to inform its response.

Parts of eastern and southern Ukraine reported the highest levels of food insecurity in the latest [WFP Food Security Report](#) and the same areas remain hard to reach by the humanitarian community due to conflict. Larger households that are displaced and separated in these areas showed the highest level of food insecurity and inadequate food consumption.

The survey found that close to two thirds of the households interviewed use cash to buy food. Around 34 percent of the respondents, however, reported that they no longer have a regular income source or rely on assistance. One quarter of respondents reported that they already borrowed money to meet their needs. These findings demonstrate that households are in urgent need of a sustained source of income to cope, maintain an acceptable level of food consumption and improve their food security.

Moreover, disrupted markets and lack of commodities impede further people's access to food. Grains, bread, dairy and milk products, sugar, vegetables, and meats were amongst the foods most often mentioned as being scarce. Fuel and medicine were also among the reported scarce products in the WFP survey.

Food prices have been also increasing, pushing more people to feel worried about not having sufficient food to eat. Analysis of the national food supply chain indicates that after the initial shock, food retailers have managed to adapt their sourcing and transportation strategies to remain functional, despite the decreased warehouse capacity and lack of fuel and manpower.

With over one third of Ukraine's population being displaced, the food security situation is likely to continue to evolve over time. Continuous monitoring will be carried out to capture changes as the situation unfolds.

## WFP Ukraine Response

Overall, WFP has assisted over **3.8 million conflict-affected and displaced people** across Ukraine with food and cash since the beginning of the conflict. In May, WFP assisted over 630,000 people with food and cash, of which 40 percent were reached with bread.

Over 60 percent of WFP assistance is delivered in the most conflict-affected east and south oblasts of Ukraine to date. Namely, Kharkivska oblast, which showed high levels of food inaccessibility, continue to receive the biggest share of WFP aid, where around 1.4 million vulnerable people were supported with food and cash since 24 February. Over one third of WFP distribution is taking place in the north and center of Ukraine, in oblasts that were previously the site of active fighting. These areas currently host around 36 percent of the country's internally displaced persons (IDPs).

WFP maintains an agile and adaptive emergency response, combining food and cash where suitable to meet the diverse needs and particular contexts of Ukraine's cities and oblasts. In oblasts and cities where markets and the financial system are functional, WFP provides cash and vouchers to support those who lost their incomes and livelihood opportunities.

### Food and Nutrition Support

WFP continues to ensure the availability of bread for crisis-affected people through its support to bakeries, reaching over 2 million people mostly in Kharkiv, as well as Sumy, Poltava, Chernihiv, Odesa, and Mykolaiv among other cities. More than 3.7 million loaves of bread have been distributed across eight cities in Ukraine, equivalent to 1,850 mt. Daily bread distribution has also been supplemented with the provision of canned meat in Kharkiv and Dnipro. Bread distribution in Chernihiv, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Poltava, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia represent 60 percent of the total bread distributed since 6 April.

Rapid response rations (RRRs) were also delivered where markets were highly constrained and where people fled conflict, reaching over one million vulnerable people in Kharkiv, Dnipro and Kyiv in addition to other cities, to help meet immediate food needs. General Food Distribution (GFD) has been scaled-up in areas where supply chains are disrupted but commercial transport is still functional, assisting over 443,000 residents and IDPs to sustain their access to nutritious food for up to 30 days.

Child nutrition remains one of the key priorities of WFP's emergency response in Ukraine, through an integrated approach whereby nutrition commodities are distributed along GFD and RRRs. A total of 167 mt of complementary cereal has been procured to date out of which 37 mt were distributed to around 18,500 children aged 6 to 23 months in Poltava, Dnipro, Chernihiv and Zaporizhzhia to support their growth and development. The remaining quantities are in-stock, transit or expected to deliver soon and will be dispatched to partners for distribution, with the aim of scaling up to an estimated 67,500 children in May and double this target throughout August.

### Cash Assistance

Building on its expertise and operational agility, WFP continues to scale up its cash assistance in Ukraine, focusing on internally displaced and vulnerable people to support their access to food and other essential needs. Following the signature of the *Memorandum of Understanding* with Ukraine's Ministry of Social Policy, WFP is working closely with the Government and the Cash Working Group to ensure deduplication with the Government assistance, complement the existing national social protection system and strengthen its shock-responsiveness.

To date, WFP has transferred nearly **USD 15.6 million to more than 231,000 IDPs in 14 oblasts across Ukraine**. Eligible families receive between USD 75 to USD 225 per month, as determined by household size. Families apply using WFP's online enrolment system and receive cash assistance within 48 to 72 hours after enrolment. Two-thirds of the USD 75 Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) transfer value caters to people's food needs. Cash allows people to purchase food and satisfy a variety of needs in a volatile environment. By spending cash directly, families support their local economy. In addition, vouchers (worth USD 50 per person) were distributed to 6,000 displaced persons (1,677 households) in Kyivska oblast. In this respect, WFP is exploring the potential to expedite its cash assistance to support up to one million vulnerable people in areas under hostilities.

### Protection & Accountability to Affected Populations

WFP continues to engage with local organizations working with marginalized groups to target women, men, children, older people with disabilities and without disabilities with food and cash assistance across various oblasts in Ukraine. WFP is coordinating with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) to identify networks and organizations to reach people living with HIV/TB with food and cash assistance.

WFP reached more than 1,000 Roma women, men and older people with a GFD package, along with the daily distribution of bread in Zaporizhzhia. WFP is in the process of designing and developing WFP's Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) to ensure beneficiaries can share their feedback with WFP. In addition, WFP continues to coordinate with Protection Cluster and Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) Task force to streamline efforts.

### Monitoring

WFP's global third-party monitor contacted 382 MPC beneficiary households by phone to survey the assistance. The respondents confirmed receipt of the cash transfers. Around 59 percent of beneficiaries primarily used the cash assistance to purchase food, followed by some 16 percent who used most of the assistance for shelter.

WFP has contracted a Ukrainian third-party, who will begin systematic monitoring activities, using both face-to-face and remote approaches.

## Neighbouring Countries

On 10 May, the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, visited Moldova, where he met with a family benefitting from WFP cash assistance. He commended UNHCR and WFP's cash assistance as one of the most effective programmes implemented by the humanitarian community in the country.

WFP has delivered 329,233 hot meals (three meals per day) to Ukrainian refugees in 97 centers across 31 different localities in Moldova through cooperating partners (CPs). These meals reached an average of 1,901 people per day.

Under the cash assistance for host communities programme, 9,802 eligible households have been registered for assistance (self-registered or through the Government) and almost 87 percent of the households have received their cash transfers (valued at USD 190) via Western Union. The WFP hotline is operational and 1,583 calls were received as of 12 May. Callers remain predominantly women (74 percent), living in Chisinau. Most of the calls (86 percent) pertain to requests for information on registration for assistance.



## Supply Chain



Some 9,552 mt of food commodities have been handed over to cooperating partners in Ukraine. A further 96,800 mt of food commodities are in the pipeline (12,100 mt of food in storage, 4,800 mt of food in transit, and 79,700 mt of food pending supplier delivery).

The second WFP Roll-On-Roll-Off vessel voyage of the Ukraine operation successfully arrived in Constanța (Romania) on 8 May 2022, loaded with 122 trailers containing more than 2,300 mt of food. Following offloading, the RoRo is being reloaded with chassis for the return journey to Turkey, ahead of an upcoming third voyage.

**WFP Moldova** continues to provide management services and cargo dispatch in the Government of Moldova's warehouse in Varta, collaborating with commercial partners DHL and DB SHENKER. From 8 to 11 May, WFP managed twelve shipments delivering 45 pallets of assorted humanitarian cargo to Refugee Accommodation Centres (RACs) and municipalities on behalf of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP).

Photo caption: Vladimir (72 years old) from Chisinau, Moldova currently hosts Ukrainian refugees at home. He registered for WFP Moldova cash assistance.  
©WFP/Cassandra Prena

As part of WFP Moldova's contingency plan, Linella, a retail chain, confirmed its capacity to print 5,000 - 7,000 vouchers per day for a total target of 20,000 vouchers.

**WFP Romania** is also coordinating humanitarian cargo movements between Romania and Ukraine. As of 7 May, WFP Romania hit a milestone of 250 trucks dispatched to Ukraine. The total quantity of commodities dispatched from Romania to Ukraine (Chernivtsi and Dnipro) is over 5,000 mt of food for a value of USD 6.3 million via 285 truckloads.

## Funding Outlook



Funding requirements are expected to significantly grow as a result of increasing humanitarian needs. To date, WFP has received USD 567 million in confirmed contributions. WFP faces a net funding shortfall of **USD 259 million** to sustain its cash and food operations over the next three months through August 2022.

## Logistics Cluster



Since the onset of the Ukraine crisis, the Logistics Cluster has held 22 coordination meetings to strengthen information sharing among humanitarian actors with the participation of over 150 partners. In addition, the cluster has handled a total of 10,100 m<sup>3</sup> of humanitarian cargo on behalf of 22 partner organisations across both Poland and Ukraine.

Based on identified needs, the cluster expanded its common storage services to include warehousing in Ternopil. Overall, the cluster, through WFP, is facilitating access 35,000 m<sup>2</sup> of storage space to the humanitarian community in nine locations across both Poland and Ukraine.

Fuel shortages are starting to impact operational capacities of responding organizations. The Logistics Cluster is working to identify possible solutions.

## Emergency Telecommunications Cluster



As of 11 May, the ETC is providing secure internet connectivity services to 109 staff from ten humanitarian organisations, including UN agencies and INGOs, in two interagency office locations in Dnipro and Lviv in Ukraine.

## Contacts

**Corinne Fleischer**, WFP Ukraine Corporate Response Director

**Matthew Hollingworth**, WFP Ukraine Emergency Coordinator

**Soha Farouk**, Operational Information Management and Performance Reporting Officer | [soha.farouk@wfp.org](mailto:soha.farouk@wfp.org)

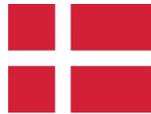
For further information, visit:

[www.wfp.org/emergencies/ukraine-emergency](http://www.wfp.org/emergencies/ukraine-emergency)

# WFP UKRAINE Assistance Overview



WFP would like to thank its partners for their timely support to WFP Emergency Response in Ukraine and Neighbouring Countries



European Union



From the People of Japan



Multilateral Funds

The Private Sector Companies, Foundations and Individuals

