

WFP Ukraine and Neighbouring Countries

External Situation Report #9

29 March 2022



Highlights

WFP has assisted one million vulnerable people affected by the conflict with food and cash in the hardest-hit encircled cities and oblasts in Ukraine.

Based on confirmed funding to date, WFP urgently needs USD 464 million to sustain its operations until the end of June, to avoid an immediate pipeline break.

In Numbers



1 million
conflict-affected people assisted by WFP



12 million
people in need (UN Flash Appeal)



6.4 million
internally displaced persons (IOM, 16 March)



3.9 million
people displaced to neighbouring countries (UNHCR)



168 WFP staff
on the ground in Ukraine and neighbouring countries

WFP Emergency Response

In response to the Ukraine crisis, WFP aims to assist **3.1 million crisis-affected people and IDPs on the move** inside Ukraine with in-kind and cash distributions, as well as **300,000 refugees and asylum seekers** from Ukraine in neighbouring countries. Logistics and emergency telecommunications services are provided to the humanitarian community to ensure a timely assistance inside and outside of Ukraine.

WFP Funding Requirements 590M

(March - June 2022)

Basic Assistance <small>(in-kind, cash, capacity strengthening)</small>	USD 518M
Assistance in Neighbouring Countries	USD 49M
Logistics Cluster	USD 19.4M
ETC Cluster	USD 2.9M
On-demand Services	USD 0.5M

Situation Analysis

The humanitarian situation in Ukraine is worsening with each passing day. The escalating conflict – occurring mainly in the northeast, southeast, and eastern parts of the country – continues to cause loss of lives and massive damage to civilian infrastructure and productive assets, forcing people to move to seek safety. Moreover, around one third of Ukraine's population is still living in areas hit hard by the fighting, where essential necessities are lacking.

Access to adequate food, safe water, health services and durable shelter remain the most dire humanitarian needs. Livelihoods are significantly affected by stalled markets and disrupted supply chains. An increasing proportion of the population is relying on assistance to meet their basic needs.

As the conflict persists unabated, acute food insecurity and malnutrition are likely among vulnerable people in Ukraine. Growing numbers are expected to be unable to meet their minimum food needs and resort to emergency coping strategies.

Humanitarian access to the people in need in the hardest-hit and encircled areas remains impeded by ongoing hostilities. Moreover, congestion at border crossing points and logistics constraints further delay the delivery of humanitarian aid into Ukraine. While a convoy reached Kharkiv on 28 March, attempts to establish humanitarian corridors and interagency convoys remain challenged by heightened security risks.

The human and socio-economic consequences of the conflict are being felt far beyond Ukraine's borders. Global supply chains and delivery of commodities to a number of hunger hotspots are disrupted worldwide. Ukraine and Russia are among the top five exporters of grain while Russia is playing a prominent role in energy markets. Subsequently, the conflict is contributing to higher food, oil and gas prices, thus exacerbating inflation and limiting access to food for millions of the most vulnerable around the world. WFP is monitoring the severe food insecurity implications of the conflict and developing contingency plans to mitigate the conflict's risks on the most vulnerable.

WFP Response

In this unprecedented context, WFP is working around the clock to boost and broaden its assistance to the most vulnerable people throughout Ukraine with focus on encircled and hard-to-reach cities and oblasts. To date, WFP has reached **one million conflict-affected people** with cash and food distributions through cooperating partners.

The agency is also expanding its operational presence towards the south, west and centre of Ukraine while prepositioning food supplies close to areas where needs are significant or expected to increase. In light of the ongoing large-scale displacement in the country, WFP emergency response aims to double its outreach to assist up to 2.3 million conflict-affected people in Ukraine in April, with further scale up to 4 million in May and 6 million in June.

WFP is also multiplying its emergency food assistance delivery mechanisms to turn the tide on hunger. Following its participation in the first interagency humanitarian convoy to Sumy on 18 March, WFP dispatched around 53 mt of canned food to assist **3,325 vulnerable people** (15-days food basket) through a second convoy which arrived safely in Kharkiv on 28 March. The Logistics Cluster is playing an increasing leadership role to support coordination for future convoys, collaborating with OCHA to ensure access and safe passage. WFP is also piloting a number of innovative approaches for last mile direct delivery of assistance to beneficiaries.

WFP continues to plan its cash assistance scale-up for internally displaced and vulnerable resident populations in cities with reduced exposure to the conflict, where markets are still functioning.

Neighbouring Countries

On 28 March, **WFP Moldova** announced its cash-based transfer programme for Moldovan families hosting refugees in the country. With more than 100,000 refugees currently residing with host-communities in Moldova and additional refugee flows expected into the country, the host community has been rapidly overwhelmed with reduced capacity to cope. Hence, the Government of Moldova requested cash support for refugees and hosting families.

In response, and in coordination with UNHCR, WFP has stepped up its cash expertise to empower host families and refugees to meet their essential needs. WFP is providing a one-off payment of USD 190 per household to around 30,000 Moldovan families hosting refugees. The first enrolment took place in Chisinau via Catholic Relief Services while two more non-governmental organizations, People in Need and Helvetas, are being contracted to support the expansion of WFP cash interventions roll-out in Moldova. WFP is deploying SCOPE technology (beneficiary information and transfer management platform) as part of its cash assistance programme in Moldova.

Further, and as chair of the Moldova Food Security sub-working Group, WFP reached **6,651 refugees** with hot meals (three meals per day) in 29 different localities/regions and 94 reception centers since 21 March. The team continues to monitor the hot meals distribution to ensure the food quality meets WFP food safety and quality standards.

WFP UKRAINE Operational Overview

(29 March 2022)



Supply Chain



WFP has prepositioned close to **40,000 mt of bulk food**, wheat flour and food rations in Ukraine and neighbouring countries (Poland and Romania) for dispatch in the coming days.

WFP procures food locally whenever possible. So far, WFP has procured more than 11,800 metric tons of wheat flour, of which 97 percent - or over 11,500 metric tons - has been procured in Ukraine. The remaining amount has been procured from Poland and Romania.

Following the success of WFP's bakery project in Kharkiv, through which over 330,000 loaves of bread (150 mt) have been delivered, the project is expanding to deliver another 990,000 loaves over the coming weeks. WFP is also looking to replicate this arrangement in other locations across the country, with Dnipro production expected to commence shortly. Towards early April, these distributions will also be supplemented with canned food.

For future humanitarian convoys, WFP stocks are prepositioned in Dnipro and ready for transit to encircled areas when access is possible. WFP also continues to deliver to locations throughout Ukraine with close to 18,000 mt of food commodities prepositioned in the country for distribution.

Funding Outlook



To meet increasing needs, WFP requires a total of USD 590 million for its emergency response to the Ukraine crisis through June 2022, of which USD 541 million are needed for humanitarian assistance inside Ukraine and USD 49 million for activities in neighbouring countries.

Based on confirmed funding to date, WFP urgently needs **USD 464 million** to sustain its operations until the end of June, to avoid an immediate pipeline break.

Logistics Cluster



To date, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated access to the transport of 326.8 mt of relief items into and inside Ukraine and facilitated the storage of 2,723 m³ of humanitarian cargo. Ten partners have utilized Logistics Cluster-facilitated common services since the start of the response.

The Logistics Cluster continues to provide coordination for humanitarian organizations working on the Ukraine response, with 15 coordination meetings convened to date for nearly 110 organisations.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster



An ETC Services for Communities Advisor will travel to Ukraine to support with the implementation of the ETC Chatbot and to engage with partners on other opportunities to provide services to the affected populations. The ETC Chatbot will serve as a channel for coordinated information sharing from the humanitarian community to the affected population.

WFP FITTEST completed an assessment of interagency ICT and Telecommunications needs in Vinnytsia on 27 March.

Contacts

Corinne Fleischer, WFP Ukraine Corporate Response Director

Jakob Kern, WFP Ukraine Emergency Coordinator

Soha Farouk, Operational Information Management and Performance Reporting Officer | soha.farouk@wfp.org

For further information, visit:

www.wfp.org/emergencies/ukraine-emergency

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



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