



WFP Ukraine Country Brief

WFP Assistance

| Emergency Assistance to Civilians Affected by the Conflict in Ukraine | Total Requirements (in USD) | Total Received (in USD) | 6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)* |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| EMOP 200765** Nov 2014 - Dec 2016 | 127.7 m | 54.5 m (43%) | 35.3 m (74%) |

*October 2016 - March 2017

**Project ending in December, new project under preparation.

WFP's Emergency Operation in Ukraine provides food assistance to internally displaced people (IDPs), returnees and people who are suffering as a result of the conflict in eastern Ukraine (Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts). Many of them have not only lost homes and livelihoods, but also access to land to grow food. WFP prioritizes the most vulnerable - mainly elderly people, single mothers, and large families. WFP provides monthly food parcels and cash-based transfers (CBT) to ensure access to sufficient food to vulnerable populations. The type of assistance depends on local conditions such as availability of food at local markets and whether financial institutions are functioning.

WFP's food basket includes: pasta, wheat flour, beans, sugar, salt, buckwheat, canned sardines and vegetable oil equivalent to approximately 1,600 kcal per person per day. People who receive CBTs are provided with UAH 550 (approximately USD 20 per month), calculated to cover the food needs of one person for one month. WFP gives special attention to patients in hospitals who receive a minimum daily requirement of 2,100 kcal per person per day.

WFP takes into account gender inequalities when assessing food needs and programming assistance. Women in Ukraine are considered to be more vulnerable due to lack of employment options and their traditional household and care-giving responsibilities. Therefore, 60 percent of those reached on average by WFP, between January and June 2016, were women and girls.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/ Deborah Nguyen
Caption: A retired lady from Toretsk, Donetsk region GCA, who raises alone two grandchildren and receives WFP food.

Highlights

- A renewed ceasefire was announced on 01 September; despite a significant de-escalation in the conflict, incidents of breaches continue to be reported daily, in particular along the contact line.
- WFP urgently requires USD 35.3 million to provide food assistance to people affected by the conflict until March 2017. Should funding not be readily available in the coming months, WFP will be forced to prioritize the most vulnerable people.
- In September, WFP provided food assistance (with food or cash based transfers) to 55,484 people in eastern Ukraine, a hard-to-reach area. This included 31,894 (57 percent) women and girls and 23,590 (43 percent) men and boys.

| Logistics Cluster Support to the Humanitarian Response in Ukraine | Total Requirements (in USD) | Total Received (in USD) |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| SO 200821 Mar 2015 - Dec 2016 | 4 m | 3.7 m (93%) |

Logistics Cluster

As the lead of the Logistics Cluster, WFP acts as a 'provider of last resort' by offering common logistics services where there are critical gaps in the humanitarian response.

The Logistics Cluster facilitates joint humanitarian convoys to the most hard-to-reach locations in non-government controlled areas (NGCA). In total, more than 6,542 mt (11,521 m³) of humanitarian assistance have been delivered to Donetsk and Luhansk since February 2015. In September, the humanitarian convoy of 426 mt (744 m³) was facilitated to Donetsk.

Food Security Cluster (FSC)

In August, FSC partners provided assistance to more than 3,000 people with projects aimed at improving access to food. In total, FSC partners (including private foundations) provided assistance to more than 434,000 people. Since January 2016, 9,267 households have received livestock inputs and 7,871 households were involved in asset creation activities, both facilitated through the FSC.

In Numbers

3.7 million people affected (OCHA)

600,000 people food insecure

57,923

People Assisted

September 2016



September 2016

Operational Updates

- On 21 September, the Trilateral Contact Group in Minsk working on a settlement of the conflict in eastern Ukraine agreed on the withdrawal of troops from three small towns on the front line in eastern Ukraine: Stanytsia Luhanska and Zolote in Luhansk Government controlled areas (GCA), and Petrovske in Donetsk NGCA. Under the terms of the agreement, armed forces from both sides are banned from entering the three areas, which are four square km each in size. The withdrawal must start within a month and be completed within three days.
- The latest Market Update covering June-July 2016 was released in August. Although food prices remain stable in NGCA, the food basket value in markets remains 25 percent higher compared to the national average (July 2016).
- According to focus group discussions conducted by WFP partners, humanitarian assistance plays an important role in providing access to food for vulnerable people in eastern Ukraine. The largest concern for the people in the region continues to be high rates of unemployment, with Luhansk and Donetsk oblast notably higher in comparison to other regions.
- In July, a scheduled audit conducted by a WFP supplier indicated a food quality issue related to canning quality. As a mitigation measure, WFP withdrew canned meat from the current food basket and subsequently suspended food distribution in July and August.
- Food distributions resumed in September; WFP provided food assistance to 55,484 people in both GCA and NGCA through provision of food parcels and cash based transfers.

Challenges

- WFP urgently needs USD 35.7 million to cover operational needs for the next six months until March 2017. With this lack of funding and available food stocks running low, WFP has prepared a prioritization plan to ensure that the most vulnerable populations affected by the conflict will receive food assistance in case no funding is received in the coming months. This means that WFP will only be able to assist a total of 180,000 people until end of December 2016 compared to initial plans of 280,000 people. Under this plan, WFP will prioritize the following groups: elderly people (living alone or as a couple) not staying with their relatives, households led by women with more than two children, people living with chronic diseases (Tuberculosis, HIV or cancer) and people living with disabilities.

Partners

- WFP currently works with seven key NGO partners: Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), AICM (Aide International a la Cooperation Medicale), Donbass Development Center, Mercy Corps, People in Need (PIN), Responsible Citizens and Save the Children.

Country Background & Strategy



The humanitarian crisis in Ukraine remains a protracted humanitarian emergency. Since the conflict began two years ago, fighting has never ceased completely. To date, 22,137 people have been injured and 9,553 people have been killed, among them are 2,000 civilians. While humanitarian agencies are fully committed to helping the most vulnerable, a political solution to the conflict is the only way to stop human suffering.

As a food exporting nation, food availability is normally not a concern in most of Ukraine; however, recent political and economic constraints further threaten food security in affected areas. The significant devaluation of its national currency (estimated as much as 50 percent) has seen consumer prices growing at a faster pace than household income, limiting family purchasing power and general access to food.

WFP assists people affected by the crisis in eastern Ukraine through its Emergency Operation, providing food assistance to the most vulnerable groups including IDPs, returnees, host families and those trapped in conflict hotspots.

WFP has been present in Ukraine since 2014.

Population: **45.6 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **81 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2014 Gender Inequality Index: **81 out of 188**

Donors

Canada, CERF, Denmark, ECHO, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, and USA.