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LIVES

Project Number: 200953 | Project Category: **Single Country PRRO**  
Project Approval Date: November 17, 2016 | Planned Start Date: January 01, 2017  
Actual Start Date: January 01, 2017 | Project End Date: March 31, 2018  
Financial Closure Date: N/A

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**Further Information**

<http://www.wfp.org/countries>  
**SPR Reading Guidance**



**Protecting and Restoring Sustainable Livelihoods in  
Conflict-Affected Eastern Ukraine  
Standard Project Report 2018**

World Food Programme in Ukraine (UA)

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# Country Context and WFP Objectives



## Achievements at Country Level

Five years since the eruption of hostilities between the Government of Ukraine and de-facto authorities in eastern Ukraine, humanitarian needs have manifold on the back of prevailing political impasse and armed conflict. In 2018, at least 4.4 million people were affected by the crisis, of which 3.4 million required humanitarian assistance and protection [1]. Despite multiple ceasefire agreements and peace efforts, violations continued to be recorded, resulting in insecurity and mass displacement among the vulnerable populations, particularly in densely populated urban areas in the Donbas oblast. Consequently, basic life-saving public services such as state pensions were disrupted, and the price of food and non-food items increased significantly.

In response to the humanitarian crisis and following a request from the Government of Ukraine, WFP launched its Emergency Operation (EMOP 200765) in November 2014 until December 2016, assisting 830,000 of the most vulnerable internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, and residents with food parcels and cash-based transfers (CBT) in eastern Ukraine. This was achieved despite the volatile security situation during the period that restricted humanitarian staff movement.

In January 2017, WFP shifted its operation from an emergency response to addressing medium-term food security needs, as the conflict entered protraction and the de-facto authorities in non-government controlled-areas (NGCAs) established as politically independent. Additionally, findings from an inter-agency vulnerability assessment (2016) [2] and the WFP Ukraine Food Security Assessment (FSA), published in June 2016 [3], revealed that the conflict in eastern Ukraine had led to a significant increase in food insecurity in NGCAs. At least 1.2 million people were found to be food-insecure, of whom 150,000 were severely food-insecure (5 percent of the population in Donbas). As a result, under the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO 200953, January 2017 – March 2018), WFP supported 216,358 people of the most vulnerable people in eastern Ukraine with in-kind immediate relief rations and CBT, while also enhancing the resilience and improving social cohesion within the conflict-affected communities through asset-creation and individual capacity-strengthening activities.

As the conflict in eastern Ukraine became more entrenched in 2017, state infrastructure, which facilitates access to food, healthcare, and education, was further beleaguered by the continued political unrest, restricting WFP's operational environment and hindering the full achievement of its humanitarian mandate. Furthermore, despite

increased levels of hunger in eastern Ukraine and the positive impact of humanitarian assistance, dwindling resources made it impossible for WFP to maintain its operation in Ukraine.

Consequently, WFP made the difficult decision to phase out its operations in Ukraine for March 2018 and keep a limited presence to support the Food Security and Livelihood Cluster (FSLC) until the end of 2018. Following the recommendations of the FSLC on winterisation [3], WFP assisted the conflict-affected populations during the harsh winter months, distributing its final assistance in January and February [4] [5], reaching more than 19,500 people residing in the government-controlled area (GCA) [6]. With additional confirmed contributions, WFP was able to increase the CBT value from UAH 550 (USD 20) per person to UAH 700 (USD 26), helping minimise the impact of increased food and non-food prices, and a deteriorated socio-economic situation [7]. WFP recipients were able to redeem their entitlements electronically at the bank and purchase food in the supermarkets through WFP electronic vouchers. Those physically incapable of redeeming their cash assistance in person received home deliveries through the State Post Office.

Overall, WFP's humanitarian assistance in Ukraine reached a total of 1,088,000 beneficiaries from November 2014 to February 2018. WFP provided assistance through CBT (both cash and vouchers) and locally-purchased in-kind food entitlements, operating in both GCAs and NGCAs, respectively. Furthermore, WFP contributed USD 60 million into the local economy through cash and vouchers, and locally-procured food commodities.

Throughout WFP's operation in Ukraine from 2014 to 2018, WFP supported its cooperating partners, predominantly non-government organizations (NGOs) working directly with the beneficiaries to implement the food assistance activities and to engage in dialogue with the donor community to pursue direct funding. In addition, WFP coordinated closely with other United Nations agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and other humanitarian actors with fewer access constraints and more resources to ensure life-saving support reaches those people most vulnerable to food insecurity.

Prior to WFP closing its operation in March 2018, WFP ensured that an adequate handover strategy was in place. WFP agreed with other United Nations agencies, NGOs, and other cooperating partners to align their projects with those that would continue after WFP's phase out of Ukraine.

As of 2018, the conflict in Ukraine continued to prevail and humanitarian access to NGCAs remained significantly restricted. As the high volatility of the operational environment persists, the populace residing in these areas continued to be the most vulnerable to the societal and economic impacts of the conflict. Following this, WFP will continue to monitor the food security situation in Ukraine and remains on stand-by for any future intervention.

[1] 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview, November 2017:

[https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/ukraine\\_humanitarian\\_needs\\_overview\\_2018\\_en\\_1.pdf](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/ukraine_humanitarian_needs_overview_2018_en_1.pdf)

[2] Ukraine Inter-Agency Vulnerability Assessment, November 2016:

[https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ukr\\_report\\_interagency\\_vulnerability\\_assessment\\_november\\_2016.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ukr_report_interagency_vulnerability_assessment_november_2016.pdf)

[3] WFP Food Security Update, June 2016:

[https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ena/wfp285351.pdf?\\_ga=2.263253708.1327023611.1552803175-1944100901.1524394863](https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ena/wfp285351.pdf?_ga=2.263253708.1327023611.1552803175-1944100901.1524394863)

[4] FSLC Winterisation Guidance Note for 2017-2018 on Food Security:  
<http://fscluster.org/ukraine/document/fslc-winterisation-guidance-note-2017>

[5] Summary Report on Joint Food Security Assessment on GCA & NGCA at Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster in Ukraine: <http://fscluster.org/ukraine/document/joint-food-security-assessment-gca-ngca>

[6] Corresponding to 150 percent of the of target for the extension period, WFP was able to exceed the planned figure by prioritising the food needs of those traditionally most reliant on food assistance during the winter months.

[7] Analysis of Impact of Conflict on Socio-Economic Situation in Eastern Ukraine at Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster in Ukraine: <http://fscluster.org/ukraine/document/analysis-impact-conflict-socio-economic>

## Country Context and Response of the Government

A lower-middle income country, Ukraine is ranked 88 out of 188 countries in the 2018 Human Development Index. Currently facing its most serious challenge since it achieved independence in 1991, Ukraine has seen a complete reversal in its geo-political and socio-economic status. Civil unrest began in late 2013, when a turnaround in the national political line led to the countrywide civil Euromaidan' protests, the dismissal of the former President, and resultant early parliamentary and presidential elections. In April 2014, historical tensions between the West and East of the country escalated and erupted into a full-scale military conflict, with non-state armed groups seizing power in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions (referred to as the Donbas) of eastern Ukraine.

Five years after the start of the conflict, the security situation in eastern Ukraine remained fragile and highly volatile. Competing with large-scale global conflicts, Ukraine disappeared from global headlines and subsequently failed in attracting the necessary resources to address many of the humanitarian needs. Ceasefire agreements between both parties to the conflict often faced direct and indirect violations. Exchanges of fire and shelling were common in densely populated areas along the 'contact line' between government-controlled areas (GCA) and non-government controlled areas (NGCA) of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. The protracted crisis caused large-scale displacement of people. More than 7,000 km of land close to the contact line is contaminated with landmines and unexploded ordinances which endanger civilian lives and deny farmers access to arable land. The central Government transferred its responsibilities to departments of the local government such as the Emergency Services, and Ministry for Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), which was established in April 2016, to respond to the challenges and needs caused by the armed conflict.

Ukraine has a strong agricultural sector and is one of the world's largest grain exporters. As a food surplus nation, food availability in Ukraine was not a concern for the majority of the country prior to the start of the conflict. The Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts have been most affected by the losses of control over territory, state infrastructure, markets, and resources. Since the onset of the crisis, consumer prices have steadily increased faster than incomes, limiting household purchasing power and general access to food. This situation is worse in single-headed and pre-pension aged (51-60 years) adult-headed households, where families are most likely to be moderately or severely food insecure (28 percent and 32 percent, respectively). A ban on the trading between GCAs and NGCAs, introduced by the Government, as well as continuous fighting, further isolated civilian populations living in the east of the country. Some 1.6 million IDPs do not have access to their social benefits, including pensions, due to bureaucratic impediments. These factors further compounded civilian suffering, cutting off their access to areas such as food markets, medical care, and education, preventing people from meeting their basic needs. Poor performance of the national economy and one of the highest global food inflation rates contributed to further weakening of households' ability to maintain food security, as does a decrease in income and rising unemployment.

An increase in food prices, higher unemployment rates, and a sharp decline in state assistance undermined the populations' ability to access sufficient food. Based on the latest Joint Food Security Assessment (September 2017), and reflected in the Humanitarian Response Plan 2018, the number of food-insecure people in 2017 significantly increased in NGCAs and GCAs to approximately 1.2 million people, compared to 621,000 in mid-2016. This represents both severely and moderately food-insecure people in NGCAs and GCAs of Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts. Households headed by women, households with a person living with disabilities, and single-parent households were identified among the most vulnerable to economic shocks. Through the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), launched in 01 January 2017 and extended into 2018, WFP took into consideration existing social safety nets of the national government when selecting the beneficiaries. Specifically, WFP and its cooperating partners prioritised assistance to people not captured by the social security system, including IDPs who were in the process of restoring their documents supporting their eligibility for social support.

[Source] [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/reach\\_ukr\\_situation\\_overview\\_winter\\_assessment\\_february\\_2018\\_0.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/reach_ukr_situation_overview_winter_assessment_february_2018_0.pdf)

## WFP Objectives and Strategic Coordination

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Road Map prioritized three areas for short, medium, and long-term consideration. To support the Government in implementing the 2030 Agenda and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), WFP focused its operations on two key areas: i) humanitarian response for conflict-affected regions and internally displaced persons (IDPs), and ii) recovery, stabilization and rehabilitation for eastern Ukraine and other affected regions.

Following an assessment of the operational environment, including an ever-shrinking sphere of humanitarian access, as well as available resources, WFP began to phase-out its Ukraine operation in November 2017 and concluded on March 2018. WFP systematically informed the beneficiaries, partners, donors, and the Government on the phasing out as a result of funding constraints and lack of access to the non-government controlled areas

(NGCAs) where food insecurity was more prominent. This was achieved through official communication, and bilateral meetings and press releases. WFP agreed with other UN agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs), and other cooperating partners that its remaining Food Assistance for Assets activities would be completed in alignment with their own water, sanitary and hygiene (WASH), and Shelter activities, ensuring the sustainability of previous achievements. WFP operations in Ukraine were aligned with WFP's Strategic Plan (2017-2021), which includes guidelines on gender and protection, and addressing emergency and protracted relief food needs caused by conflict in the eastern Ukraine. The protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) was guided by SDGs 2: Zero Hunger and 17: Partnerships for the Goals, fostering partnerships and national plans and strategies to achieve zero hunger.

Through PRRO 200953, WFP aimed to provide food assistance through unconditional resource transfers (cash-based transfer, CBT) to 13,000 of the most vulnerable and food-insecure people in government-controlled areas (GCA) of conflict-affected eastern Ukraine. Target beneficiaries included elderly people (living alone or as a couple), households headed by women with more than two children, chronically ill people (people living with Tuberculosis, HIV or Cancer), people living with disabilities, and unaccompanied minors. WFP utilised available coordination mechanisms and liaised with Government bodies, as well as with the International Committee of the Red Cross, private foundations and other organizations, to ensure that the remaining conflict-affected people will be targeted by other food assistance actors.

In 2018, WFP strengthened partners' capacity by facilitating trainings on beneficiary selection, food security, monitoring and reporting, and integrating cross-cutting themes such as protection and gender when implementing activities. Through its partners, WFP raised awareness at the community-level and promoted the participation of affected populations while ensuring safe and dignified food assistance. In parallel, WFP engaged with other UN agencies to conduct food assistance activities, reaching people in need of food assistance in government-controlled areas (GCA). WFP also continued to cooperate with third-party monitors, who conducted 302 post-distribution monitoring surveys in GCA during 2018. Results from these surveys will be used to inform the food security outcome indicators analysis and better align humanitarian assistance to the needs of those most affected by the conflict.

WFP led the Logistics Cluster and co-led the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC), cooperated in and coordinated efforts of more than twenty organisations, including national NGOs, international NGOs, and local private foundations, and engaged in food security and early recovery livelihoods interventions in Ukraine. The FSLC and cluster partners continued to promote the jointly developed common targeting criteria and update transfer values, considering results of joint assessments and the evolving situation on the ground. To maximize resources and ensure a well-coordinated response, the FSLC continuously engaged with national and local authorities, United Nations agencies, NGO partners, and other key stakeholders. This was achieved with the FSLC's appointment of district focal points to assist with humanitarian coordination in the event of sudden increase in negative impacts resulting from the crisis.

The Logistics Cluster provided coordination and information management services, contributing to improved efficiency for the logistics response to the operation. Given the food needs identified beyond the contact line in the NGCA, WFP supported the Logistics Cluster in its activities, assisting the humanitarian community through the delivery of essential humanitarian cargo in the NGCA across the contact line. Roads and access points to the NGCA were regularly assessed and monitored, with the results presented in a road access constraints map.

WFP coordinated with UNAIDS, United Nations Population Fund, and UN Women to streamline its response to ensure some of the most vulnerable groups affected by the conflict, such as people living with HIV/AIDS/TB patients, were included in the humanitarian response. In line with UNAIDS' strategy on eliminating HIV, WFP contributed to the effectiveness of the treatment by improving access to food to support adherence to anti-retroviral therapy (ART). Through its cooperating partner, WFP prioritised its emergency food assistance project in the form of electronic food vouchers to conflict-affected people living with HIV, identified as being particularly vulnerable to food insecurity. WFP is also member of the United Nations Gender Theme Group led by UN Women.

In 2018, WFP strengthened its communication with the Government of Ukraine for a maximally effective coordination of the phase-out plan, while maintaining its effectiveness in activities on the ground. This included coordination with the Ministry of Ukraine for Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons (MTOT), to ensure WFP activities continued to be aligned with MTOT priorities.

WFP operations in Ukraine were supported by new technologies for improved beneficiary data management and better targeting including WFP's data management system, SCOPE, a digital platform for managing beneficiary information. SCOPE has been successfully implemented in Ukraine as a beneficiary database, with 27,000 people registered in the system.

[1] Logistics Cluster 2018 End Report:

## [2] WFP Press Release

# Country Resources and Results

## Resources for Results

In part, due to the protracted and low-intensity nature of the conflict in Ukraine, in 2017 WFP changed its strategy to focus on longer-term recovery through a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO, January 2017 - March 2018). The overall project targeted 220,000 people through recovery activities (150,000 beneficiaries) and a smaller relief component (70,000 beneficiaries), for a total budget of USD 37.8 million. Contributions from historical donors (Germany, Italy, and USA) and the private sector, excluding multilateral and Strategic Resource Allocation Committee's (SRAC) funds, covered 20.4 percent of the planned budget.

After a funding peak in 2015, donor interest decreased, attracted by more complex regional crises, which resulted in a challenging funding environment for WFP in Ukraine. This was compounded by access constraints to non-government controlled areas (NGCAs) and persisting humanitarian needs. A similar downwards funding trend affected other UN agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), resulting in a number of humanitarian programmes being reduced or closed, as well as in WFP's operation being phased-out.

In addition to Germany's multi-year contribution for 2016 and 2017, which was a reliable and predictable source of funding for WFP's operations in previous years, two contributions from the United States and Italy were confirmed towards the end of 2017. Following an assessment on winter-related needs [1], these contributions allowed WFP to plan for the winterization response, and to extend the PRRO, whose implementation was initially planned for one year, for additional three months (January-March 2018). The contributions enabled WFP to provide affected people with cash assistance from end-2017 through February 2018, as well as to adjust the transfer value from 20 USD to 26 USD to mitigate the effects of the increased prices and deteriorated socio-economic situation.

To assist the severely food-insecure beneficiaries at a time of limited resources, WFP focused its food assistance on the most vulnerable categories of the population identified by WFP's food security monitoring systems, utilising the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC) vulnerability criteria. In addition, WFP worked with cooperating partners, the Government, and local authorities to address food needs in areas with higher food insecurity, where no other food assistance programs were present.

Amidst insufficient resources, WFP Ukraine was able to provide unconditional resource transfers (URT) through cash-based transfers (CBT) to over 19,500 food insecure beneficiaries in 2018, corresponding to 150 percent of the of target for the extension period. WFP was able to exceed the planned figure by prioritising the food needs of those traditionally most reliant on food assistance during the winter months, including households headed by women residing in NGCAs and elders (aged 60 years+). At the same time, WFP reduced the number of food assistance rounds per-person in both government-controlled areas (GCAs) and NGCAs. However, the reduction in the number of rounds of WFP food assistance in NGCA continued as a result of restrictions from local de-facto authorities. The position of the de-facto authorities was to ensure food assistance for as many people as possible by providing fewer rounds to a larger number of people, including to avoid social tensions.

WFP continued to ensure cost-efficiency in the implementation of CBT assistance in Ukraine. During the cooperating partners' (CP) selection process, WFP put emphasis on cost-sharing, technical and operational capacity, including valuing CP's presence in the area of intervention. As part of its strategic planning and because of the imminent phase-out, WFP reallocated savings from support costs to provide food assistance to additional conflict-affected people. WFP maintained its commitment to value for money; efficiency was sustained through the finance and administration departments, with the introduction of an invoice tracking system (ITS) for finance department and fleet management system (FMS). ITS minimised the frequency of errors and improved performance of invoice processing, while FMS optimised cost and efficiency of fuel consumption and tracking of vehicles.

Throughout the PRRO, WFP took an active role in the joint UN committees, as well as maintaining donors' interest through field visits to the conflict-affected areas in eastern Ukraine, in order to raise awareness and understanding of humanitarian needs on the ground. Despite the gradual phase-out from Ukraine in 2018, WFP continued advocacy efforts with the donor community to mobilise resources for the direct benefit of local first responders and ensure programme sustainability and continuity.

[1] Guidance note on winterisation (2017-2018) in food security, July 2017.



## Annual Country Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Children (under 5 years)	353	353	706
Children (5-18 years)	862	764	1,626
Adults (18 years plus)	4,410	12,856	17,266
<b>Total number of beneficiaries in 2018</b>	<b>5,625</b>	<b>13,973</b>	<b>19,598</b>



## Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher Distribution (USD)

Project Type	Cash	Value Voucher	Commodity Voucher
Single Country PRRO	1,415,074	479,603	-
<b>Total Distributed in 2018</b>	<b>1,415,074</b>	<b>479,603</b>	<b>-</b>

## Supply Chain

The logistics infrastructure in Ukraine is well-developed across four main shipment options air, sea, surface, and rail. Road infrastructure covers the entirety of the country with a total length of 165,000 km of roads, of which approximately 80 percent are covered with hard surface (asphalt). With the exception of the international class highways, road surface conditions are often below acceptable standards, which reduces speed of the traffic and increases cargo transit time. Unpaved roads connecting remote villages present potential access challenges in winter. Road surface viability is highly dependent on the season; in winter the roads are blocked with snow, while in spring and autumn they are often washed out by seasonal rains.

As part of the phase out plan, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster continued to strengthen the capacity of national partners and other humanitarian actors by holding workshops for Logistics Officers from the Humanitarian Community. Trainings focused on convoy facilitation and standard operating procedures were designed to streamline the sharing of information and best practices among key Logistics Cluster partners.

## Implementation of Evaluation Recommendations and Lessons Learned

Following a lessons learned exercise and a food security assessment, protracted relief and recovery activities were extended to deliver the assistance in January and February 2018, when needs were higher due to the harsh winter months.

As part of its phasing out strategy, WFP continued to support to the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster Coordination in Ukraine and the food security assessment that feeds into the UN Country Team's (UNCT) Humanitarian Response Plan. WFP decided that beyond June 2018, Ukraine will be treated as an oversight country. WFP's Regional Bureau, based in Egypt, will continue to monitor the food security situation and support assessments of the UNCT's Humanitarian Response Plan. Additionally, WFP's Emergency Preparedness team will support the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster's coordination activities in Ukraine as an oversight country.

# Project Results

## Activities and Operational Partnerships

During 2018, WFP maintained its partnership with the Government of Ukraine at both central and local levels and, through its cooperating partners, continued providing food assistance to food insecure people affected by the armed conflict in eastern Ukraine, residing in government-controlled areas only. People received monthly assistance through unconditional resource transfers through cash-based transfer modalities; using e-vouchers or direct cash transfers. People were able to redeem cash electronically, at the bank, and to buy critically needed food in the supermarkets through WFP electronic vouchers. People physically incapable of leaving their homes received cash through home deliveries facilitated by the state post office service, which has the comprehensive geographical coverage to provide this assistance.

As part of the phase out implantation plan, WFP continued to provide financial and technical support the Food Security and Livelihood Cluster (FSLC) until the end of 2018. As the co-lead agency for the FSLC alongside FAO, WFP maintained its coordination support towards the overall Humanitarian Response Plan in Ukraine. In addition, WFP targeted the most vulnerable groups specified in the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation prioritization plan under the FSLC's vulnerability criteria. These are elderly people living alone or as a couple, households headed by women with more than two children, chronically ill people living with tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS or cancer, people living with a disability, and unaccompanied minors, with an emphasis on households headed by single women with children. WFP's monthly food assistance provided for 75 percent of daily minimum food requirements of 2,100 kcal.

## Results

**Strategic Objective 1:** End hunger by protecting access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1.1:** Maintained/enhanced individual and household access to adequate food

**Activity:** Unconditional Resource Transfer

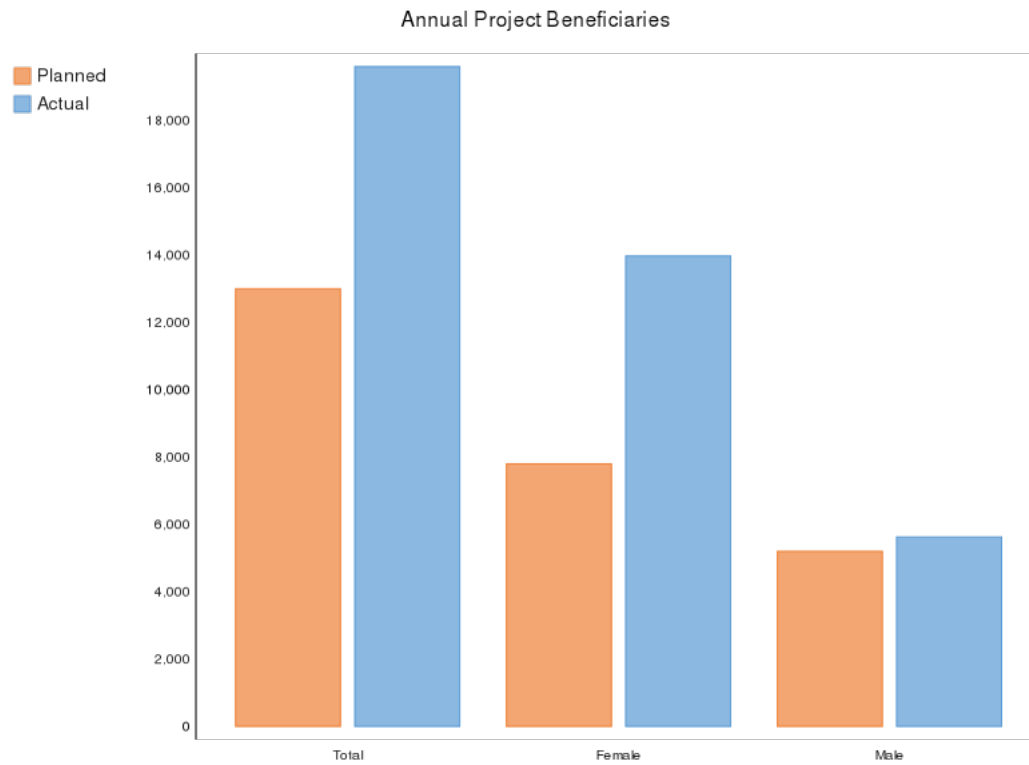
WFP's unconditional resource transfer through cash-based transfer (CBT, cash and vouchers) provided the most vulnerable people in government-controlled areas (GCA) of eastern Ukraine, including the elderly and those living with a disability with the means to access food throughout the winter. WFP Ukraine was well-funded and able to exceed planned output figures over January and February 2018. A generous receipt of funding from the United States after the budget revision was approved, as well as a small amount of carryover funds cooperating partners had not spent in 2017, led to more beneficiaries being reached (150 percent) and therefore more value transferred (140 percent) than planned in 2018. Through CBT, WFP injected some USD 1.9 million into the local economy over January and February. Cash assistance was prioritized over vouchers, with 72 percent of beneficiaries receiving cash and 28 percent vouchers. The Ukrainian Postal Service could deliver it direct to households of the most vulnerable, namely the elderly, people living with a disability, and HIV patients.

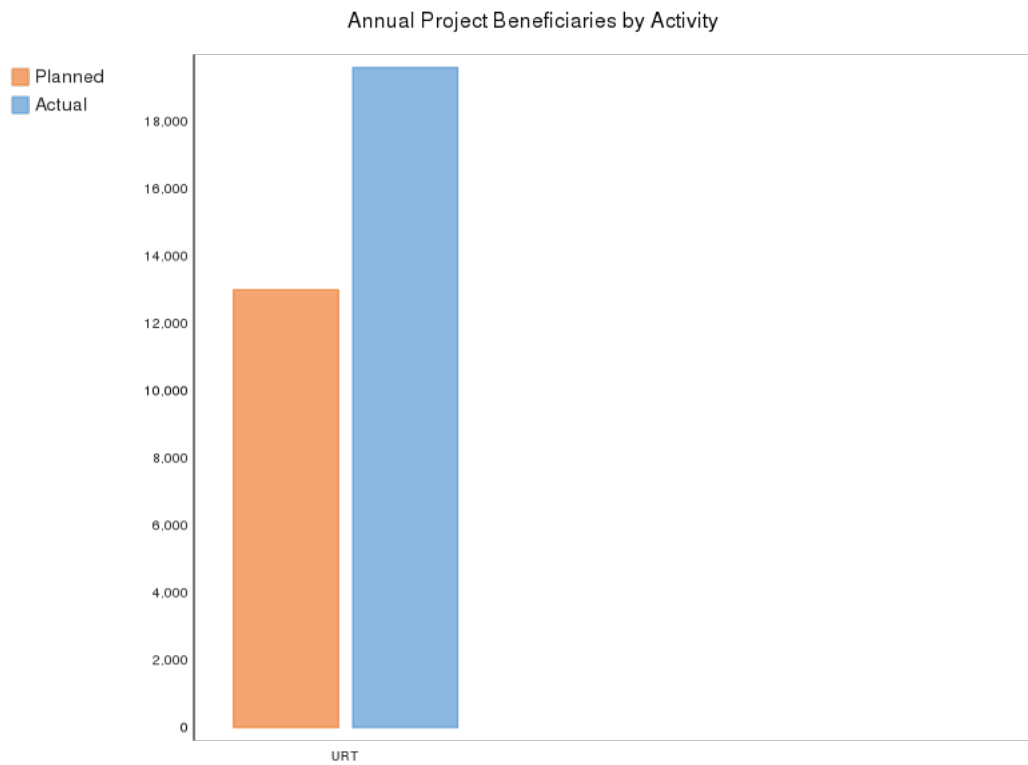
Based on data received from around 30 partner shops participating in the voucher programme, 96 percent of the money spent through vouchers was on food items. There was also a shift in commodities purchased over the winter compared to summer months, in that expenditures on meat and cereals decreased over the winter and beneficiaries more often purchased canned goods, fish and sweets.

While WFP was able to reach more than the planned number of beneficiaries through the planned assistance, food consumption declined compared to prior quarters and baseline. In comparison to prior post-distribution monitoring (PDM) rounds among those receiving CBT in GCA, the proportion of families with acceptable food consumption decreased from the June 2017 baseline by 10 percentage points (79 to 69 percent). There are multiple reasons as to why food consumption decreased; it is likely due to challenges in locating stable income sources during the winter and a decline in assistance provided by other humanitarian actors. Food remained a main need, given that on average nearly half of all household expenditures were on food, followed by rent and health expenses. However, after receiving assistance, beneficiaries had to adopt negative coping strategies less often to meet basic food needs in 2018 compared to the quarter prior in 2017 (from a coping strategy indicator of 14 to 10). Therefore it was feasible to assist with CBT to prevent a further decline in food security outcomes over the cold winter months.

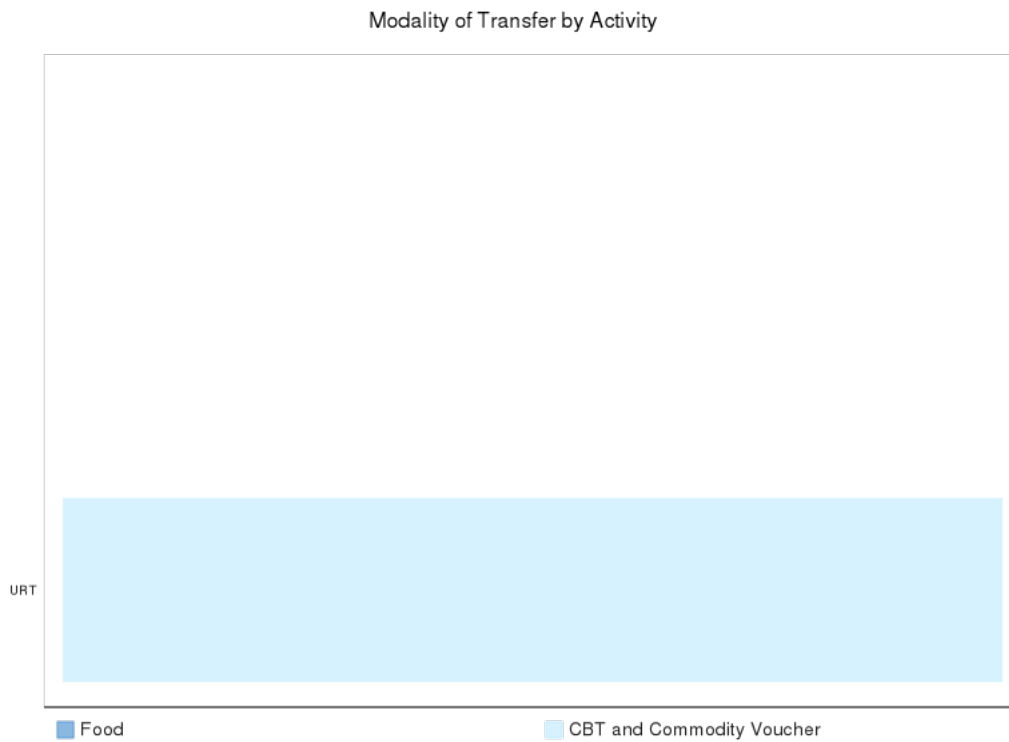
Due to a smaller sample size of households headed by men compared to households headed by women, the following can be considered indicative but not representative of the population. Households headed by women had

higher food consumption at baseline than households headed by men; and following WFP assistance in 2016 and 2017 both had similar levels of food consumption. However, in February 2018 the proportion of households headed by women with acceptable food consumption decreased among those receiving CBT in GCAs. Moreover, findings indicate that households headed by women more often adopted negative coping strategies over time to maintain similar levels of food consumption than households headed by men. This could be related to the increasing wage gap where men earn on average 25 percent more than women. In focus group discussions men also often noted that it was easier for them to find work than women.





URT: Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food



URT: Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food

## **Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher Distribution for the Project (USD)**

Modality	Planned (USD)	Actual (USD)	% Actual v. Planned
Cash	-	1,415,074	-
Value Voucher	1,353,904	479,603	35.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,353,904</b>	<b>1,894,678</b>	<b>139.9%</b>

## Performance Monitoring

WFP and the third-party monitor (TPM) partner Kiev International Institute of Sociology (KIIS) continued to monitor the processes and outcome results of WFP activities respectively, while at the same time scaled down monitoring systems together with the size of the operation over 2018, in preparation for the close of operations. Since unrestricted resource transfers (cash-based transfers, CBT) were the only assistance provided in 2018 - all in government-controlled areas (GCA), WFP field monitors assessed distribution sites of vouchers as well as partner shops where this assistance can be redeemed. WFP also received purchase data from partner shops and was able to monitor changes in purchasing patterns over the seasons. All cooperating partners continued to operate their beneficiary feedback hotlines to ensure equitable access to assistance and answer any questions regarding issues related to WFP assistance.

The TPM collected Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) outcome data in WFP's area of operations. This information was regularly cross-checked, and WFP conducted ad-hoc field visits to verify PDMs for quality and completeness. Sex disaggregated data was always collected and reported on through monitoring products. A sample of 302 households was randomly selected from cooperating partner lists who received CBT assistance over January and February for the PDM. This information is therefore not completely comparable to 2017's Standard Project Report data in that only a sub-group of CBT beneficiaries received assistance in 2018, compared to the previous year where a greater number of beneficiaries received in-kind entitlements in Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCA). Half of the surveys were collected in Donetsk and the other half in Luhansk oblasts within GCA. While WFP's partnership with the TPM ended in 2018, regular capacity building through trainings and shared missions likely helped them to obtain a new contract to conduct a nationwide survey for a national non-profit.

One limitation affecting WFP's monitoring and evaluation (M&E) in 2018 was the downsizing of the office and challenges with the workload, given that the few staff in the office had to complete all programmatic and monitoring requirements. In addition, increased access constraints in the NGCA by de-facto authorities prevented WFP from meeting its operational commitments. WFP Regional Bureau Cairo M&E supported remotely and deployed staff to ensure operational continuity and timely reporting.

## Progress Towards Gender Equality

After four years of armed conflict, the security situation in eastern Ukraine remains precariously fragile. Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 20053 received a gender marker code 2A, achieved when an integrated gender approach is applied to ensure that the project contributes significantly to gender equality. WFP continued providing life-saving food assistance to the most vulnerable groups among internally displaced persons, returnees, host families and those trapped in conflict hotspots, in particular single women with children, including in the non-government controlled area (NGCA) of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. The situation for conflict-affected women in Ukraine is of a particular concern, as the majority of the displaced population in government-controlled areas (GCA) and non-government controlled areas (NGCA) are women. Moreover, the conflict has disproportionately affected pre-pensionable (51-60 years) and elderly people, of which are predominately women and in dire need of food assistance.

2018 findings show that there was a shift in who makes decisions about WFP assistance at the household level. However, the 2017 baseline includes those receiving in-kind assistance and is thus not completely comparable since beneficiaries in 2018 only received cash-based transfers (CBT). Though it does appear that when CBT is provided, beneficiaries are more likely to share decision making over assistance in eastern Ukraine, compared to

in-kind, where women more often controlled assistance.

The significant deterioration of the socio-economic situation has increased the vulnerability of women and girls to sexual and gender-based violence on both sides of the contact line. Conflict-affected populations in the East of Ukraine, including children and pregnant women, have become dependent on international humanitarian supplies of food, medications and commodities for their lives and survival. Based on WFP food security monitoring systems, market updates and indicator analysis, food consumption levels analysed from a gender perspective show that, in 2017, households headed by women remained more affected by inadequate food consumption levels due the general socioeconomic context in the country, in addition to the fact that women usually receive lower incomes than men.

## Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

No beneficiaries reported any safety or protection issues at-, going to-, or coming from WFP sites, whether distribution sites or shops. One reason for this was the lack of distributions taking place over the two months since most were already registered and would receive cash by the post office mailed to their place of residence. The latter particularly relates to elderly adults and people living with a disability.

The overall proportion of beneficiaries that were fully informed on the programme was similar to 2017, at 18 percent. The change in value, coupled with a slight shift in targeting of the most vulnerable for winterisation assistance in government-controlled areas over 2018, likely contributed to a low proportion being fully informed of the programme. These issues led to 32 percent being informed of the selection criteria and 57 percent knowing how much they are entitled to receive. Interestingly, female interviewees were more likely to be fully informed than male interviewees (20 and 12 percent respectively).

# Figures and Indicators

## Data Notes

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Beneficiaries receiving food parcels at a WFP distribution in Mironovskiy, Ukraine. Many take them home on sleds. WFP prioritises elderly people and women here, as they are the most food insecure.

## Overview of Project Beneficiary Information

**Table 1: Overview of Project Beneficiary Information**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Total Beneficiaries	5,200	7,800	13,000	5,625	13,973	19,598	108.2%	179.1%	150.8%
<b>By Age-group:</b>									
Children (under 5 years)	390	520	910	353	353	706	90.5%	67.9%	77.6%
Children (5-18 years)	520	650	1,170	862	764	1,626	165.8%	117.5%	139.0%
Adults (18 years plus)	4,290	6,630	10,920	4,410	12,856	17,266	102.8%	193.9%	158.1%
<b>By Residence status:</b>									
Internally displaced persons (IDPs)	312	468	780	991	2,826	3,817	317.6%	603.8%	489.4%
Residents	4,888	7,332	12,220	4,634	11,147	15,781	94.8%	152.0%	129.1%

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality

**Table 2: Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality**

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food	-	13,000	13,000	-	19,598	19,598	-	150.8%	150.8%



Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Asset creation and livelihood support activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Individual capacity strengthening activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

## Annex: Participants by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food	-	13,000	13,000	-	19,598	19,598	-	150.8%	150.8%
Asset creation and livelihood support activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Individual capacity strengthening activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)

**Table 3: Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food</b>									
All	5,200	7,800	13,000	5,625	13,973	19,598	108.2%	179.1%	150.8%
Total participants	5,200	7,800	13,000	5,625	13,973	19,598	108.2%	179.1%	150.8%
Total beneficiaries	5,200	7,800	13,000	5,625	13,973	19,598	108.2%	179.1%	150.8%

## Project Indicators

## Outcome Indicators

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>SR1 Everyone has access to food</b>				
<b>Maintained/enhanced individual and household access to adequate food</b>				
<b>Consumption-based Coping Strategy Index (Average) / Female</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<4.94	4.94	15.07	10.35
<b>Consumption-based Coping Strategy Index (Average) / Male</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<3.15	3.15	12.03	8.03
<b>Consumption-based Coping Strategy Index (Average) / Overall</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<3.95	3.95	14.18	9.75
<b>Food Consumption Score / Percentage of households with Acceptable Food Consumption Score / Female</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	≥74.40	74.40	76.20	66.50
<b>Food Consumption Score / Percentage of households with Acceptable Food Consumption Score / Male</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	≥82.00	82.00	78.10	75.60
<b>Food Consumption Score / Percentage of households with Acceptable Food Consumption Score / Overall</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	≥77.30	77.30	76.80	68.90
<b>Food Consumption Score / Percentage of households with Borderline Food Consumption Score / Female</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<18.60	18.60	14.20	24.60
<b>Food Consumption Score / Percentage of households with Borderline Food Consumption Score / Male</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<14.10	14.10	13.50	21.80

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Food Consumption Score / Percentage of households with Borderline Food Consumption Score / Overall</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<16.90	16.90	14.00	23.80
<b>Food Consumption Score / Percentage of households with Poor Food Consumption Score / Female</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<7.00	7.00	9.60	8.90
<b>Food Consumption Score / Percentage of households with Poor Food Consumption Score / Male</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<3.90	3.90	8.40	2.60
<b>Food Consumption Score / Percentage of households with Poor Food Consumption Score / Overall</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<5.80	5.80	9.20	7.30
<b>Food Expenditure Share / Female</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	=10.50	21.10	12.70	14.40
<b>Food Expenditure Share / Male</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	=12.20	24.40	14.50	9.10
<b>Food Expenditure Share / Overall</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	=11.45	22.90	13.20	13.00
<b>Livelihood-based Coping Strategy Index (Average) / Female</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<2.63	2.63	3.21	4.66
<b>Livelihood-based Coping Strategy Index (Average) / Male</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<1.73	1.73	3.09	4.65
<b>Livelihood-based Coping Strategy Index (Average) / Overall</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, WFP survey, Baseline Survey, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<2.13	2.13	3.18	4.66

## Gender Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of food assistance decision-making entity – committees, boards, teams, etc. – members who are women				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	=100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality / Decisions jointly made by women and men				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	>23.00	23.00	33.00	29.00
Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality / Decisions made by men				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	≤5.00	5.00	6.00	6.00
Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality / Decisions made by women				
<i>UKRAINE, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	≤72.00	72.00	61.00	65.00

## Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance) / Female				
<i>UKRAINE, GFA, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	=80.00	4.00	19.00	7.00
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance) / Female				
<i>UKRAINE, FFA, FFT, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=80.00	28.00	28.00	-
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance) / Male				
<i>UKRAINE, GFA, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	=80.00	5.00	23.00	7.90
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance) / Male				
<i>UKRAINE, FFA, FFT, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=80.00	25.00	16.00	-

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance) / Overall</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, GFA, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	=80.00	5.00	20.00	7.00
<b>Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance) / Overall</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, FFA, FFT, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=80.00	27.00	24.00	-
<b>Proportion of project activities for which beneficiary feedback is documented, analysed and integrated into programme improvements</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, GFA, Project End Target: 2018.02</i>	=100.00	-	-	-
<b>Proportion of project activities for which beneficiary feedback is documented, analysed and integrated into programme improvements</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, FFA, FFT, GFA, Base value: 2017.06, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.03</i>		100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Proportion of project activities for which beneficiary feedback is documented, analysed and integrated into programme improvements</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, FFA, FFT, Project End Target: 2017.12</i>	=100.00	-	-	-
<b>Proportion of targeted people accessing assistance without protection challenges / Female</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, FFA, FFT, GFA, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.08, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	>90.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Proportion of targeted people accessing assistance without protection challenges / Male</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, FFA, FFT, GFA, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.08, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	>90.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Proportion of targeted people accessing assistance without protection challenges / Overall</b>				
<i>UKRAINE, FFA, FFT, GFA, Project End Target: 2018.02, Base value: 2017.08, Previous Follow-up: 2017.11, Latest Follow-up: 2018.02</i>	>90.00	100.00	100.00	100.00