



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Supporting Ukraine's National School Feeding Programme

WFP WORKS WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE DAILY MEALS TO CHILDREN AND SUPPORT SCHOOLS

The destruction of school buildings, attacks on energy infrastructure, and constrained state budgets continue to limit the capacity of local governments and schools to fund and prepare school meals. Since 2023, WFP has been working with the Government and local authorities to help implement the National School Nutrition Reform, led by the First Lady, which aims to provide every child with daily nutritious meals.

Project goals

Strengthen local governments' capacity to provide free school meals and promote full attendance at school canteen by supporting budgets and providing resources for the school feeding for all primary school students.

Improve the nutritional quality of school meals in line with the standards set by the National School Nutrition Reform, including by enhancing the knowledge and capacity of school administration and canteen staff.

Support winter preparedness of rural, frontline schools by providing energy-efficient kitchen equipment and fuel cards for generators and school busses.

Planned coverage

2025-26 school year

250,000
children

2,500
schools

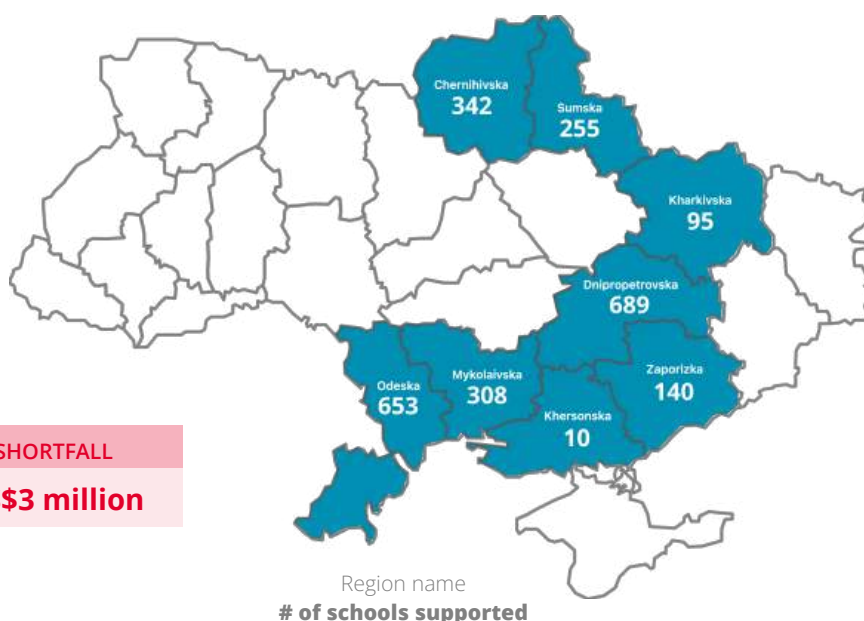
8
regions (oblasts)

2025-26 FUNDING NEEDS

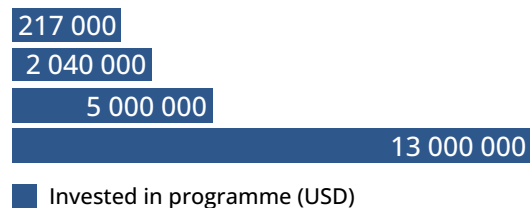
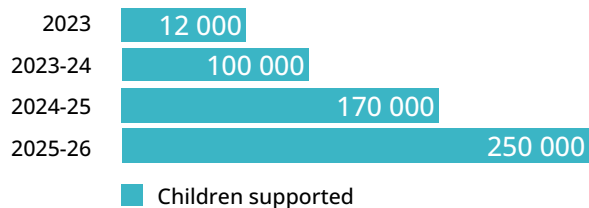
US\$13 million

SHORTFALL

US\$3 million



In numbers



Our approach

WFP co-funds school meals in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES).

This funding helps provide free school meals and improve their nutritional value.

This support is particularly critical in regions close to the frontline where many schools have recently reopened and local administration budgets remain low. Areas where children now **study in-person in underground schools**, particularly benefit from this assistance.

Building on the positive outcome during the previous years, in May 2025, WFP and MoES signed a **new school meals agreement for the 2025-26 academic year**. The funds will be allocated to 364 communities in 8 border and frontline regions, providing daily meals for more than 250,000 primary school students. To better align with government priorities and strengthen support, WFP has increased and standardized the unit cost of a school meal to UAH 50 (US\$1.20) nationwide, while maintaining its 30% co-financing share, as a testament to the commitment to push forward the national school nutrition reform.

Achievements

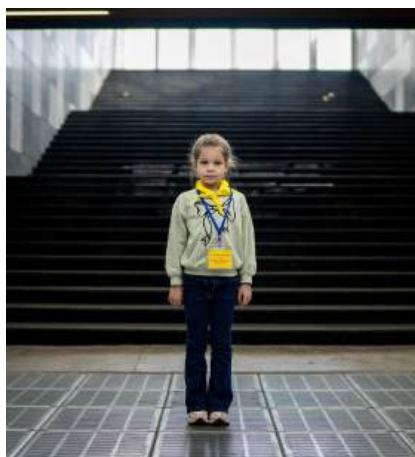
- Provided co-financing to support school meals in **16 regions**.
- Provided **in-kind emergency assistance** to frontline rural schools, including 79,000 litres of fuel for generators, and energy-efficient kitchen equipment.
- Strengthened the MoES's capacity to lead the School Nutrition Reform through **dedicated staff** and global knowledge network.
- Facilitated **Ukraine's membership in the School Meals Coalition (SMC)**, including supporting Ukrainian delegation visit to the 2023 and 2025 Global Summits in France and Brazil. With WFP support, Ukraine hosted the SMC European Regional Summit in Kyiv in 2024.

Transparency and Reporting

To digitalise reporting, WFP introduced School Connect, a reporting platform to collect and analyse data on the usage of funds, with positive feedback from schools. For long-term sustainability, WFP will support the MoES in integrating these functions into the government's AIKOM-2 platform. School Connect will remain available as a backup in case of delays with the rollout of AIKOM-2.



A typical school lunch includes vegetables, meat, and fruit.



7-year-old Eva arriving at school in the Kharkiv metro.



Students having lunch in their underground classroom.