

Highlights

- WFP has finalised its operations in Ukraine by the end of February. WFP will keep a limited presence in Ukraine over the coming months, monitoring the food security situation there.
- Since January 2017, WFP and its cooperating partners assisted total 232,750 people through in-kind and cash-based transfer food assistance entitlements.
- WFP prioritised available resources to support severely food insecure conflict-affected people in the east of Ukraine over winter months with multiple rounds of food assistance.
- WFP has finalised all food distributions in NGCA in 2017. However, WFP team remains in close contact with the de facto authorities to monitor food security situation in the area.



WFP Ukraine Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Assistance for Food-Insecure and Vulnerable Populations Affected by Conflict and Loss of Livelihoods in Eastern Ukraine	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200953 (Jan 2017–March 2018)	37.9 m	13.1 m** (35%)	--

* January – March 2018

GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200953

WFP began its operations at the request of the Government of Ukraine in August 2014, to deliver emergency assistance to the people affected by the conflict in the eastern part of the country. To date, WFP has provided food assistance to more than 1 million vulnerable people, through a range of cash-based transfers (CBT), both cash and vouchers, and locally-procured food commodities, contributing USD 60 million into the local economy. Around 300,000 food insecure people affected by the conflict in eastern Ukraine received food assistance using CBT modality, with an amount of more than USD 20 million. At the same time, 788,000 people trapped in the conflict zone, mostly non-government controlled areas (NGCA), have received 17,528,789 mt of WFP in-kind food assistance.

National and international partners, including the Government of Ukraine at national and local level, UN agencies, NGOs, and the donor community are making joint efforts to reduce the level of food insecurity in eastern Ukraine.

Food assistance under the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) has been finalised in February, after being extended for two months covering January and February 2018, in order to support affected population during the winter when the food insecurity traditionally increases. WFP prioritised the available resources and extended the assistance targeting 13,000 of the most food-insecure people for a 2-month period (January-February 2018) when people are traditionally the most vulnerable. They continued to receive cash and vouchers to buy food from local markets up to end of February 2018, the time WFP wound up its operations in Ukraine.

Despite increased levels of food insecurity in eastern Ukraine in 2017 and the positive impact of humanitarian assistance, limited resources and access constraints have made it impossible for WFP to maintain its operation in Ukraine.

Logistics Cluster Support to the Humanitarian Response in Ukraine	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)
SO 200821 (March 2015 - Mar 2018)	5.7 m	4.1 m (72%)

Logistics Cluster

The Logistics Cluster has been coordinating humanitarian logistics in order to ensure the delivery of life-saving humanitarian assistance to the affected populations in eastern Ukraine.

Earlier this year, the Logistics Cluster announced its core objectives under the transition strategy for 2018 which foresees the creation of sectoral working group to take over the coordination functions from the Logistics Cluster in Ukraine, as well as capacity building to empower individual organisations.

In Numbers

4.4 m people affected by the conflict (OCHA)

3.4 m people in need of humanitarian assistance (HRP 2018)

1.2 m people in need of food assistance (HRP 2018)

17,600 People Assisted in February 2018



Main Photo Credit: Photo © WFP
Caption: Severely food insecure elderly woman affected by the conflict in eastern Ukraine received CBT assistance from WFP.

Operational Updates

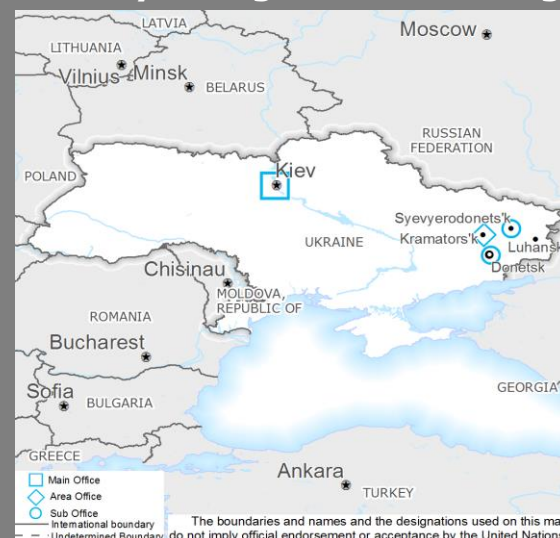
- In February 2018, WFP finalised its assistance in Ukraine through distribution of food assistance through CBT to 17,600 of the affected population in the government-controlled areas (GCA) under the PRRO. People were able to redeem cash through the ATMs, at the bank, and to buy critically needed food in the supermarkets through WFP electronic vouchers. Immobile and bed-ridden people received cash through home deliveries by the state post office.
- WFP provided food vouchers or cash to food-insecure, conflict-affected people in areas with functioning markets. The value of vouchers amounted to 700 UAH (about US\$27) per person per month to meet 75 percent of recommended daily nutritional requirements.
- WFP is coordinating closely with other UN agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian actors to leverage access and resources to ensure continued assistance to the most vulnerable.
- Humanitarian access to NGCA still remains significantly restricted, while the population residing there is assessed as the most vulnerable with the overall environment being highly volatile.
- In February 2018, WFP Ukraine, through its third party monitoring partner, collected 302 post distribution monitoring surveys in GCA. Final monitoring data have been received, and food security outcome indicators are pending analysis. Results are expected to update 2017 monitoring and evaluation report covering assisted areas in GCA during winterisation activities.

Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster

WFP is co-leading the [Food Security and Livelihood Cluster](#) (FSLC) in Ukraine together with FAO. The FSLC was established to coordinate the assistance provided by humanitarian partners to the people affected by the crisis in Ukraine.

FSLC completed inputs for the HRP 2017 end year report providing an overview of the Cluster's achievements and performance, changes in context and sector needs. The report also highlights the challenges faced in Ukraine – serious limitations in terms of the ability of humanitarian actors to reach people in need, especially in NGCA, as well as funding shortfalls during 2017. Cluster partners were forced to revise plans and decrease either the rounds of assistance provided or the number of planned beneficiaries; several planned seasonal activities had to be cancelled. The security situation on the 'contact line' was also of concern with regular flare ups and active fighting affecting the civil population and limiting access for humanitarian partners. This impacted the progress of HRP partners' operations but also non-HRP partners with significant activities in the NGCA, who saw their operations curtailed in 2017. To reflect this access restriction, partners and consequently, FSLC overall had to revise targets and funding requirements.

Country Background & Strategy



Ukraine entered into its fourth year of conflict. Fighting and sudden escalation of the hostilities indicate the unpredictability of the conflict. [OHCHR](#) estimates that total number of civilians killed since the start of the conflict (14 April 2014 to 15 November 2017) to be over 2,500 people, while number of civilian injuries is estimated at 7,000-9,000 people.

As a food exporting nation, food availability is not a concern in most of Ukraine; however, recent political and economic constraints further threaten food security in affected areas. Hundreds of thousands of civilians in conflict or former conflict areas have limited access to basic sustenance and services. Government support to public services has stopped in some areas; this includes funding to schools and hospitals, as well as the payment of social benefits and pensions. Many of the displaced people are unemployed, and their financial resources are thought to be depleted. Food inflation is among the highest in the world. The significant devaluation of national currency in 2015 has caused consumer prices growing at a faster pace than families' incomes, limiting their purchasing power and general access to food.

According to [HRP 2018](#), 1,200,000 people in eastern Ukraine are estimated to be food insecure, and additional 500,000 have little or no options for livelihood.

Population: **45.6 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
84 out of 188

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2016 Gender Inequality Index:
55 out of 157

Donors: Germany, Italy and USA.

Cooperating Partners:

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), CO Network, Donbass Development Centre (DDC), Mariupol Youth Union (MY), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), People in Need (PIN), Responsible Citizens (RC). *(alphabetically ordered)*

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