



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Ukraine

Humanitarian response update

12 December 2023

- Through its 2023 Response Programme for Ukraine, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) required a total of USD 205 million to assist rural households and small-scale farmers residing in the front-line oblasts by distributing agricultural production inputs to ensure that these communities can rely on their own production. As of 30 November 2023, FAO has mobilized USD 45.3 million, leaving a gap of USD 159.7 million.
- Since the escalation of the war in February 2022, FAO has supported over 185 000 rural families with vegetable seeds, animal feed, poultry, vouchers and cash and 10 000 farmers with temporary grain storage equipment, cereal seeds and generators.
- Under its Emergency Response Programme (ERP) for 2024, FAO requires USD 151 million to address and reduce the humanitarian needs of 315 800 vulnerable rural families (821 080 people) in ten frontline oblasts. FAO's Programme for 2024 focuses on securing spring and winter crop harvests, maintaining healthy and productive livestock, augmenting food and income sources and covering basic needs while restoring production.

Impact of the war on the agriculture sector and food security in Ukraine

- Findings from a nation-wide survey on **the impact of the war on agriculture and rural livelihoods in Ukraine (December 2022)** revealed that more than one in four respondents have reduced or ceased agricultural production, with one in every three respondents having done so in the front-line oblasts.
- According to the results of the analysis of **the impact of the war on agricultural enterprises cultivating up to 250 hectares of land (April 2023)**, the surveyed enterprises reported a 9 percent decrease in cereal crops cultivated area compared to the previous year. Enterprises along the front-line experienced a 20 percent decrease. Additionally, 12 percent of these enterprises reported potential contamination of their lands by unexploded ordnances, and one in every three respondents (32 percent) reported so in front-line oblasts.
- The preliminary findings of the damage and loss assessment in fisheries and aquaculture (October 2023) depict a significant challenge in accessing markets, especially in the front-line oblasts. The evacuation of the local population has led to the loss of vendors and buyers, causing an increase in market prices.
- The preliminary results of a report on the impact of the war on commercial crop producers (December 2023) revealed a 2.3 percent decrease in cultivated land area in Ukraine compared to pre-war figures, totaling 266 400 hectares loss. The front-line oblasts appeared to be the most affected, accounting for up to 70 percent of this total reduction.
- Approximately 10 percent of surveyed enterprises reported having part of their land potentially contaminated by unexploded ordnances, rising to over 21 percent in the front-line oblasts with a higher share of damaged agricultural machinery and equipment.
- Around 11 percent of surveyed enterprises increased their direct exports compared to pre-war levels, with western oblasts close to European Union markets recording a 25 percent rise. Front-line oblasts experienced a 6 percent increase due to logistical challenges.
- The surveyed enterprises' average storage capacity increased by 10 percent, with nearly half benefiting from FAO's sleeves distribution. Input disruptions affected 15 percent of surveyed enterprises facing challenges in securing availability of seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, fuel, and machinery. Front-line oblasts reported the highest disruptions at 19 percent.
- Around 70 percent of surveyed enterprises highlighted market access as their top concern, with access to fertilizers, pesticides, and seeds being vital for 65 percent, 65 percent, and 30 percent, respectively.
- FAO has contributed to the **Post-Disaster Needs Assessment**, which calculated damages and losses related to the Kakhovka Dam disaster. FAO co-led the agriculture sector analysis part, which revealed that the disaster led to flooding, affecting approximately 1 000–1 500 hectares of actively cultivated agricultural land. The drainage of the dam has not only destroyed a critical fisheries source but also likely destroyed spawning grounds, impacting potential recovery. The disaster affects over 500 000 hectares of agricultural land connected to irrigation canals in southern Ukraine.

FAO's ongoing and planned response

Pillar 1: Restore food security and self-sufficiency in front-line communities

- As of 30 November, around 65 000 rural families from ten oblasts of Ukraine received an assistance package consisting of 120 g of 12 types of vegetable seeds and 50 kg of seed potatoes.
- Over 46 000 rural households from 13 oblasts of Ukraine received poultry and/or pig feed.
- More than 7 300 rural families from nine oblasts of Ukraine received 204 000 one-day-old poultry along with 182.5 tonnes of poultry feed.
- FAO has provided multi-purpose cash assistance to almost 13 500 families from rural areas of the most affected oblasts. The value of the cash transfer is based on household size, covering basic needs for three months.
- FAO has provided sectoral cash payments of USD 100 to 2 000 rural families from Dnipropetrovska and Donetsk oblasts for purchasing animal feed, and payments worth USD 500 to 35 rural families from Chernihivska oblast for purchasing fuelwood.
- FAO has provided vouchers to 4 700 families from five front-line oblasts to enable them to repair livestock shelters and to 2 150 families from Lvivska oblast to purchase agricultural production inputs. Each family has received a voucher worth USD 325.
- FAO has supported around 11 000 rural families engaged in small-scale livestock production with vouchers worth USD 140 to ensure the well-being and health of the livestock.

Pillar 2: Restore critical agricultural production and value chains

- More than 2 600 farmers received 2 tonnes of either spring barley, spring wheat or spring peas seeds each to sow 10 hectares of land. In total, 4 000 tonnes of spring barley, 610 tonnes of spring wheat, 587 tonnes of spring peas seeds were distributed.
- Around 3 500 farmers received either seeds of sunflower or maize to sow 25–30 hectares of land. In total, 285 tonnes of maize and 254 tonnes of sunflowers seeds were distributed.
- Around 75 agrifood processors have received power generators to support energy supply needs in areas near the frontline, where power supply was disrupted.
- Over 40 small-scale farmers from western Ukraine received matching grants to sustain production, improve efficiency and profitability, and ultimately strengthen national value and supply chains. In total, 138 applicants will be supported within the first call.
- FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP) launched

a joint project focusing on clearance of Ukrainian agricultural land of 300 hectares or less from explosive remnants of war to help small-scale farmers resume production. The activities have been already launched in Kharkivska oblast and will be potentially extended to Khersonska and Mykolaivska oblasts. At the same time, based on the results of the different analyses and release of lands, FAO will provide cash, vouchers, seeds, animal feed and other agricultural inputs to enable farmers to resume agricultural production.



Pillar 3: Enhance coordination and technical support to the functioning of critical food system services

- FAO is assisting the National Academy of Agrarian Sciences to preserve a unique national collection of plant genetic resources, which is not only of national but also of global importance in terms of the volume and diversity of genetic materials. The relocation of unique genetic materials was successfully carried out from war-affected Kharkiv to the doublet depository in the west of Ukraine.
- FAO is providing technical support to the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection to strengthen the Government's capacity to carry out testing and certification of food commodities for export at border facilities. The reconstruction of the existing premises and infrastructure of two laboratories has been finalized. New laboratory equipment and materials were procured, which will allow for conducting a full range of tests of grain quality in the coming months.
- FAO has supported six national laboratories by delivering and installing the equipment required for the detection of nucleic acids of infectious diseases by the method of real-time polymerase chain reaction.



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Funding

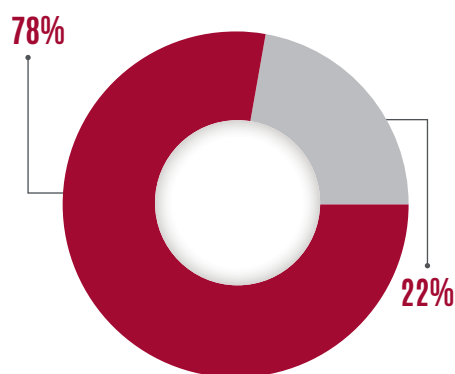


FAO requires
USD 205 million



to assist
1 353 000 people

FUNDING GAP
USD 159.7 million



FUNDING TO-DATE
USD 45.3 million

Partnerships

- FAO works in close collaboration with the Government of Ukraine, particularly the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food and local administrations, as well as with United Nations partners and non-governmental organizations.
- Through the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC), FAO, in collaboration with the WFP, is coordinating inter-agency work on food security and agriculture. As of 5 December 2023, there are a total of 163 FSLC partners, comprising 74 reporting partners, 122 implementing partners, and 35 partners who are both reporting and implementing.
- FAO works closely with implementing partners who play a crucial role in assisting with beneficiary selection, distributions, monitoring, and engagement with communities throughout the implementation of activities to ensure accountability and inclusion.

Resource partners

Australia, Belgium, Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance of the United States Agency for International Development, Canada, Central Emergency Response Fund, the European Union, France, Germany, Japan, Ireland, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation, Luxemburg, the Minderoo Foundation, Norway, the Sustainable Development Goals Fund, the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund.

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