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Food Security & Livelihoods Assessment in Eastern Ukraine, GCA

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Introduction

I. Context

East Ukraine is in its eighth year¹ of armed conflict, plunging an economically troubled region into a socio-economic decline. Civilian populations of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts (collectively referred to as Donbas) continue to experience ongoing ceasefire violations along the 428 kilometers of the contact line, effectively dividing the conflict area into government-controlled areas (GCAs) and non-government-controlled areas (NGCAs). Prior to the conflict, the East Ukraine conflict area was the most densely populated and productive part of the country.² Because of the conflict, families have been forced to face daily risks to their lives, suffered limited access to food and essential basic services, lacked livelihood opportunities, and faced a deep economic crisis.

The protracted nature of the conflict has led to an erosion of resilience capacity, significant loss of lives, concerns over the protection of civilians, and extensive damage to critical infrastructure in conflict-affected areas. Within the context of this protracted conflict, many young people of working age have left the region, resulting in a higher concentration of people with vulnerabilities in the 20-km area around the contact line than in other parts of the country.³ The conflict-driven blockade offers limited livelihood opportunities. Most rely on pensions, since a high proportion of the population is elderly (64%).⁴ The closure of the entry-exit checkpoints (EECPs) along the contact line has left hundreds of thousands of people (55% of households) without access to social entitlements, which is especially difficult for people over 60 years old.

The ongoing conflict, coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic, exacerbates the conflict-affected population's pre-existing food security and livelihood challenges. As expected, food and livelihood insecurity has been rising, with 1.5 million people projected to be in need of assistance in 2021, a 51% increase compared to the previous year. Out of this total number of people in need, 42% of the food- and livelihood-vulnerable are food insecure.⁵ The MSNA (Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment) 2020 estimated that a total of 12% of the population was food insecure. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimated that a total of 3.4 million people needed some form of humanitarian assistance in 2021.⁶

The fast-declining projected food and livelihood security in 2021 was attributed to several factors, some of which are interlinked and mutually reinforcing: disrupted access to markets, ongoing restriction of movements of people across the contact line, reduction in industrial production, slow economic growth coupled with high unemployment, and limited livelihood opportunities. On the GCA side, including the Eastern conflict area and internally displaced persons (IDPs) outside Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts,

¹ Since February 20, 2014.

² <https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/acaps-briefing-note-ukraine-conflict-donetsk-and-luhansk-4-november-2019>.

³ https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/REACH_UKR_Report_MSNA-GCA_May-2021.pdf.

⁴ MSNA in GCA, October 2020.

⁵ https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/hno_2021-eng_-_2021-02-09.pdf.

⁶ <https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/ukraine-humanitarian-funding-priorities-august-december-2021-enuk>.

400,000 people were food insecure,⁷ and over 200,000 people require livelihood support.⁸ Overall, women are overrepresented among those in need (70% are women). Women have worse food consumption levels than men, which increases their vulnerability.⁹

The decrease in industrial production has partly aggravated this gap. The average unemployment rate¹⁰ for Ukraine increased from the pre-conflict 2013 period to the beginning of 2021 by 3.7 percentage points, reaching 10.9% in the first quarter (Q1) of 2021. But the unemployment rate doubled in Donetsk Oblast (reaching 16.4% in Q1 2021). In Luhansk Oblast, the rate increased 2.6 times (reaching 16.3%) for the beginning of 2021.¹¹ As expected, about 58% of the population have needs related to the deteriorating living conditions¹² contributing to the deployment of negative coping strategies.

Agriculture (including forestry and fishery) constitutes only 10% of the gross domestic product (GDP) of Ukraine and is mostly oriented towards the production of traded commodities. Ukraine is the world's biggest exporter of sunflower oil, the fourth-largest shipper of corn. Export of agricultural products makes up about 40% of Ukraine's total exports. Despite its economic importance, the agricultural sector could still be improved. Only 9.3% of all capital investments are invested into development of agriculture, the majority of which are private investment. State investment into agriculture constitutes only 0.02% of total state investment.¹³

The importance of food and agriculture for the Ukrainian population goes beyond the agricultural share of the national GDP. According to the State Statistics Service of Ukraine, on average, 43.1% of all household expenditures are on food. The share of food expenditures varies for Donetsk GCA (51.5%) and Luhansk GCA (39.0%).¹⁴

At the same time, the share of the working-age population engaged into the agricultural sector was 18% in 2018–2019 and 17% in 2020. What is more of concern, is that food production is a source of food and/or income for some 35% of people residing in conflict areas, who reported ownership of an agricultural plot.

In this context, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as the lead agency of the Food Security & Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC),¹⁵ took the responsibility of conducting the present study to determine the most recent food security and livelihoods conditions in the area.

The partners of the FSLC are international and national organizations working in the country with programs to improve food security, livelihoods, and resilience, from the immediate relief of people in need to longer-term food production and food security objectives. The aim of the FSLC is to ensure an

⁷ Moderately and severely insecure people, based on 2020 MSNA in the GCA assessment.

⁸ Calculation based on State Statistics Service data on unemployment (based on International Labour Organization (ILO) methodology) and National Monitoring System by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

⁹ https://www.impact-repository.org/document/reach/14fbe661/REACH_UKR_Report_MSNA-in-NGCA_February-2020.pdf.

¹⁰ Assessed based on International Labour Organization (ILO) methodology.

¹¹ <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/>.

¹² https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/hno_2021-eng_-_2021-02-09.pdf.

¹³ Data source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine (2020 data).

¹⁴ http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/druk/publicat/kat_u/2020/zb/06/zb_vrd_19_ue.pdf.

¹⁵ The Food Security & Livelihood Cluster (FSLC) has been established globally to coordinate the food security response during a humanitarian crisis, addressing issues of food availability, access, utilization, and stability. The FSC was established by the Interagency Standing Committee (IASC; <https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/>) and is co-led by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the World Food Programme (WFP) at the global level.

adequate coordination of food security interventions in the country, to avoid overlaps and reduce gaps, to promote the nexus between humanitarian and development interventions, and to strengthen local capacities.

II. Objective of the survey

The objectives of the proposed Food Security Assessment (FSA) were as follows:

1. Identify the food security needs and gaps which will inform the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP),
2. Carry out evidence-based analysis for informed decisions and prioritization of the response,
3. Provide better targeting of the affected population and thus better programming.

As there exists no baseline assessments of the food security and livelihood situation in the target areas, this study will be considered as a baseline for future assessments, using the most relevant tools for food security measurement and evaluation of livelihood conditions.

Methodology

I. Survey design

The FSA is planned to be conducted in two rounds, to cover two seasons (Winter and post-Summer) targeting the population of the Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts. For the first round of data collection in GCA, conducted between May and June 2021, targeted 1,680 HHs distributed as in Table 1 below. The sample was designed to be stratified by location, with the aim to ensure adequate representativeness of the population of interest and was created with the objective of enhancing the data quality and minimizing the statistical errors to the maximum possible extent, considering the modalities adopted for data collection. The sample size is determined based on a maximum expected theoretical statistical error of 5.0% in the most difficult to reach areas (those in the 10km buffer zone between GCA and NGCA).

The actual sample distribution is presented in Table 1 below, while more details are provided in the appendix.

Table 1. Sample Size Distribution for the first round of data collection

Coverage	Sample size	Target population size	Theoretical statistical error (%)
Donetsk GCA 10+ zone	780	1 486 303	2.0
Urban 50+	400	957 835	2.7
Urban 50- & Rural	380	528 468	2.9
Urban (13 districts)	250	375 411	3.6
Rural (8 districts)	130	153 057	5.0
Luhansk GCA 10+ zone	780	628 791	2.0
Urban 50+	380	255 342	2.9
Urban 50- + Rural	400	373 449	2.7
Urban (8 districts)	260	222 120	3.4
Rural (7 districts)	140	151 329	4.6
Donetsk + Luhansk 0-10 km zone GCA	120	239 758	5.0
Total sample size GCA	1680	2 354 852	

Urban 50 +: the populated urban centres with 50 thousand inhabitants or more

Urban 50- + Rural: the smaller urban centres (less than 50 thousand inhabitants) plus rural areas

Donetsk + Luhansk 0-10 km zone NGCA: the areas within 0 to 10 kilometre from the conflict line

Source: KIIS

II. Questionnaire

The study uses some of the most recent and advanced survey-based tools to assess the food security and livelihoods condition of the population.

The **Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)**, the main tool used in this study to assess food insecurity, is a food security measurement system developed by FAO and applied worldwide since 2014.¹⁶ In addition to its primary use to measure the prevalence of annual food insecurity in the context of the global SDG monitoring framework, it is also an effective tool in assessing the recent food security situation in emergency situations, by appropriate adaptation of the reference period. (See Boero et al., 2021).¹⁷

¹⁶ <http://www.fao.org/in-action/voices-of-the-hungry/using-fies/en/>

¹⁷ <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb5623en/>

The FIES survey module is composed of a small set of questions inquiring on the occurrence of conditions that are typically associated with food insecurity. The responses provided are used to derive a quantitative scale of severity and to estimate the probability of being food insecure, at various levels of severity, for each interviewed individual/household. Those probabilities, in turn, are used to estimate the prevalence of food insecurity in the study population, at different levels of severity. Two classes of food security severity described as “moderate” and “severe” in the context of the SDG monitoring framework and intended to be comparable cross countries and over time are used in this report.

Another set of questions used in this study to complement the food security assessment of the target population is based on the livelihood Coping Strategy Index (L-CSI)¹⁸. Those who reported having experienced food insecurity, were prompted to report which livelihood adaptation strategies they used to cope with it, choosing among a set of common ones. Further, relevant information on the socio-economic conditions of the surveyed households is collected and used to contextualize the food security and livelihood assessment. Hence, the questionnaire includes sections on demographic information, main incomes sources and changes in income over the reference period, in addition to the main aspects of agriculture income and production.

The full questionnaire is reproduced in **Annex 2**.

As mentioned, the study is designed to eventually cover two main periods: Winter and post-Summer, which are considered to be, respectively, the most and least problematic ones in terms of economic stress for the population in both areas. For the assessment of the food security situation during the 2020/21 Winter season, reported here, the reference period used for the FIES questions was the month of April 2021, while other information has been collected with reference to the period between February and April 2021. A second round of data collection is planned to collect information that refer to the period from the beginning of June to the end of August.

III. Data collection method

FAO implemented the FSA with the support of a local partner, the **Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS)**¹⁹, a leading sociologic research institution with proven capacity for data collection and analysis in Ukraine. In the recent past, KIIS has been providing survey services to various international organizations in Ukraine, including the World Bank, OSCE and various UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, WFP), using telephone interviews to people selected from a verified database of respondents residing in the GCA and NGCA.

With FAO support, KIIS translated, pre-tested and adapted to the local context the questionnaire provided by FAO in English. The adaptation included discussing and choosing the most appropriate phrasing of each of the questions and of the coded responses to ensure their applicability to the context of Eastern Ukraine. FAO led training sessions with KIIS’s enumerators to assure an accurate common understanding of the overall questionnaire (and of the FIES module in particular) and to agree on the most appropriate way of asking the questions during the interviews.

Considering the ongoing situation with the COVID-19 pandemic and related quarantine restrictions, KISS collected data remotely, through phone interviews. The sampling frame was based on their available phone numbers database. Respondents were selected randomly from that list, and interviews continued until the established number of interviews had been completed in each of the areas as described in Table

¹⁸ https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/manual_guide_proced/wfp211058.pdf

¹⁹ <https://www.kiis.com.ua/?lang=eng>

1. KIIS delivered a final, cleaned, vetted, and weighted dataset in Excel format to FAO including a description of how sampling weights were computed.

IV. Data analysis

The Food Security and Nutrition Statistics Team (FSNST) at FAO headquarters in Rome, in strict coordination with the FAO Ukraine office and members of the Food Security Cluster, has conducted the data analysis and led the writing of this report.

The various sections of the micro dataset have been analysed using customized routines written in R, assuring compliance with international standard methods of analysis for this type of data.

When relevant, appropriate post-stratification weights have been used in the analysis. These were computed to compensate for the difference in the sex and age composition in the realized sample and in the population and to limit the possibility of bias induced by the sample selection procedure and possibly by self-selection linked to refusals and non-response.

V. Study limitations

The context of the study, which has been conducted in the middle of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and which targets areas and populations located in a conflict zone, has determined conditions that required some adaptations and that deserve attention as possible limitations.

First, face-to-face interviews (which would have been the preferred mode of data collection for these type of studies) were not an option, as the target populations are located in conflict areas with limited access, but also because of the restrictions to movements imposed as measures to contain the spread of COVID19. This forced the use of phone interviews, whose main limitation is that the targeted population will not include people who do not have access to a phone. In the context of Eastern Ukraine, we expect phone coverage to be rather complete, and the database of phone numbers used by KIIS to be sufficiently representative of the general population in the areas to exclude large coverage bias. Nevertheless, to the extent that there exist people in the target population who have no access to phone and that those people are more likely found among the food insecure, **results in this study may be somewhat underestimating the actual extent of food insecurity.**

A second limitation is that the beginning of data collection was delayed compared to the initial plan, imposing further adaptations to the originally designed questionnaire in terms of the reference period to be used. Rather than to the “last three months” or the “last 30 days”, as it is the customary with the standard modules included in the study, the questions had to be adapted to refer to specified periods of the past (e.g., “the month of April 2021”, or “the period between February and April 2021”). While we expect such minor adaptation to have negligible effects, if at all, on the results, it is nevertheless an innovation that must be considered in interpreting the results.

Key Results

I. Characterization of the represented population

The total sample of 1680 respondents from the GCA has been stratified by area as described in Table 1 above, and post-stratification weight have been used to reflect the distribution of actual respondents by sex, age, education.

After applying the sampling weights, the represented population will have the characteristics summarized in Table 2 below. (For a description of the actual sample, see the Annex 1).

II. Incomes, Livelihoods and Vulnerability

This section provides an overview of the livelihood profile of the target population as emerged from the analysis of the responses. Data have been processed taking the appropriate sampling weights into consideration so that results refer to the entire target population of the people living in the studied areas. The objective of this section is to present readers with an overall picture of the socio-economic vulnerability.

Main income sources

Respondent were asked to indicate and rank their “main” sources of income, chosen among the categories that can be read on the horizontal axis of the chart in Figure 1 below.

Income derived from “Pensions” is the category reported most frequently (by 39% of households overall) among their main sources of income. The second is “Humanitarian/Social assistance” (reported by 24%) followed by the “Non-agricultural wage” (23%). The “Own non-agricultural” and the “Own agriculture” categories are claimed to be among the main sources of income just by 5% and 3% of the respondents, respectively, which reflects the relatively lower importance of self-employment in the study areas. The distribution of the relative frequency with which these sources of income are reported is rather similar across locations. Notable is the high percentage (46%) of households from the urban area in Luhansk reporting reliance on Humanitarian/Social assistance as one of the main sources of income.

The frequency with which pensions and humanitarian and social assistance are mentioned among the main sources of income, clearly present the picture of a highly vulnerable community.

Diversification of income sources

Diversity of income sources is an important determinant of resilience against possible economic shocks and low diversity can be interpreted as an indicator of economic vulnerability. Figure 2 below shows that slightly more than half of the households in the surveyed areas (52%) have declared to depend on just one “main” source of income. While some degree of diversification on income sources is notable (around 40% of the households have 2 to 3 main sources of income), very few households (only 6%) have declared to rely on four or more “main” income sources.

Table 2. Characteristics of the represented population in the FSLA survey

Coverage	Represented Population	Male/Female		Male/Female (HHead)	% by age (HHead)				% by education of HHead*				% residency type	
		unweighted	weighted		≤ 25	26-45	46-60	> 60	a	b	c	d	Resident	Internally Displaced
Donetsk GCA 10+ zone	1 183 634	30/70	44/56	56/44	3.3	36.3	24.6	35.9	4.4	17.1	46.8	31.6	80.0	18.1
Urban 50+	876 764	33/67	48/52	60/40	2.5	38.5	24.9	34.1	3.0	14.7	44.5	37.6	75.3	22.9
Urban 50- & Rural	306 870	32/68	50/50	59/41	2.6	43.0	28.2	26.2	1.5	11.9	35.4	50.6	68.6	29.8
Luhansk GCA 10+ zone	1 066 263	29/71	45/55	55/45	2.7	33.9	26.4	37.1	4.2	14.7	40.3	39.4	71.6	27.2
Urban 50+	688 388	28/72	42/58	51/49	4.5	35.4	24.2	35.9	5.1	20.2	48.6	26.1	83.8	14.0
Urban 50- + Rural	377 875	28/72	44/56	54/46	3.0	29.3	26.2	41.5	4.5	17.1	43.1	33.4	71.6	27.3
Donetsk + Luhansk 0-10 km zone GCA	127 206	18/82	30/70	47/53	1.4	18.8	21.6	58.2	13.2	16.1	53.9	16.0	93.7	6.3
<i>GCA City/Urban-type settlement</i>	2 041 068	31/69	46/54	56/44	3.1	37.4	25.8	33.8	3.9	15.7	44.5	35.5	76.9	21.3
<i>GCA Village (Rural)</i>	336 035	25/75	38/62	50/50	3.3	24.6	21.2	50.9	7.0	20.5	47.4	24.9	81.3	18.0
Total sample size GCA	2 377 102	30/70	45/55	56/44	3.1	35.5	25.1	36.2	4.3	16.4	44.9	33.9	77.5	20.8

* a: primary education. b: secondary education. c: secondary special/technical school. d: completed higher education/graduate school

Source: FAO analysis of Ukraine FIES data

Figure 1. Households' main sources of income

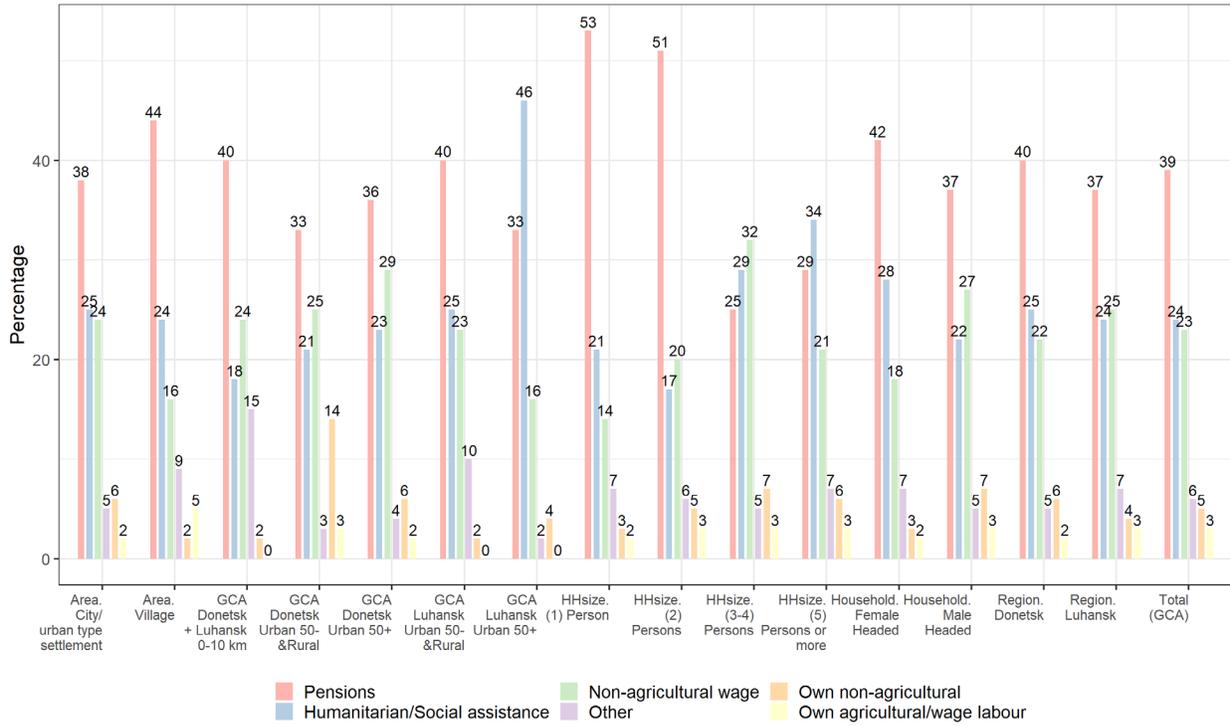
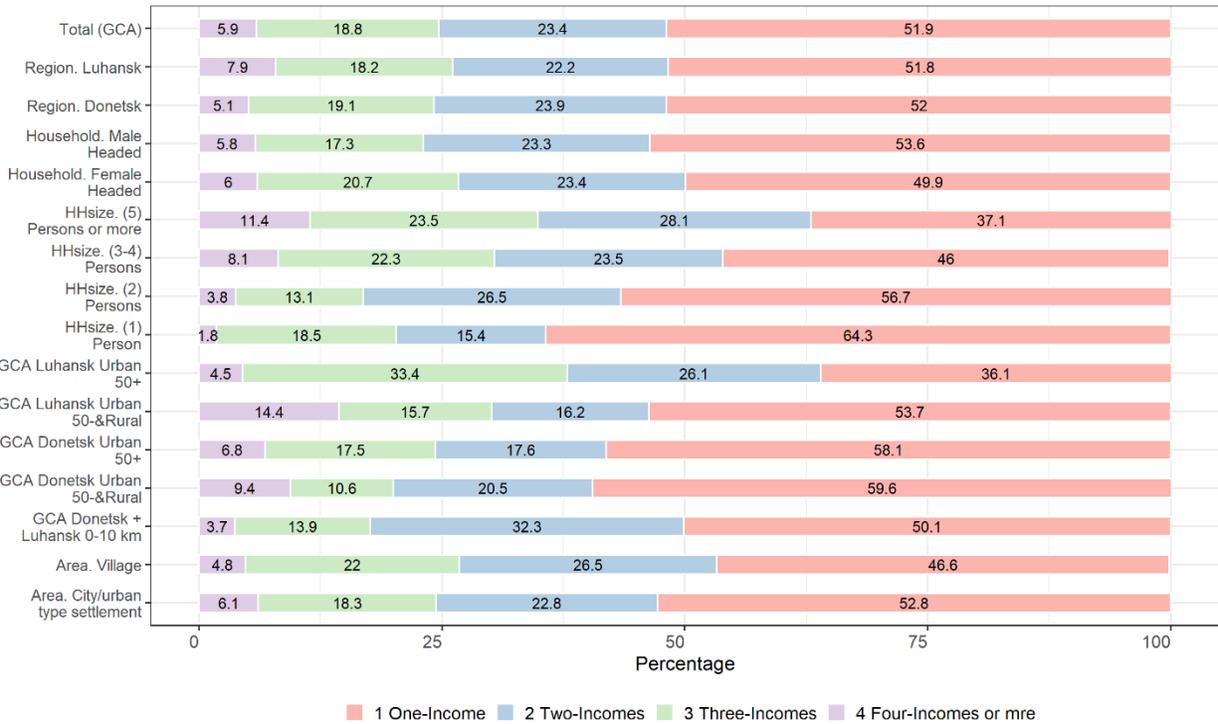


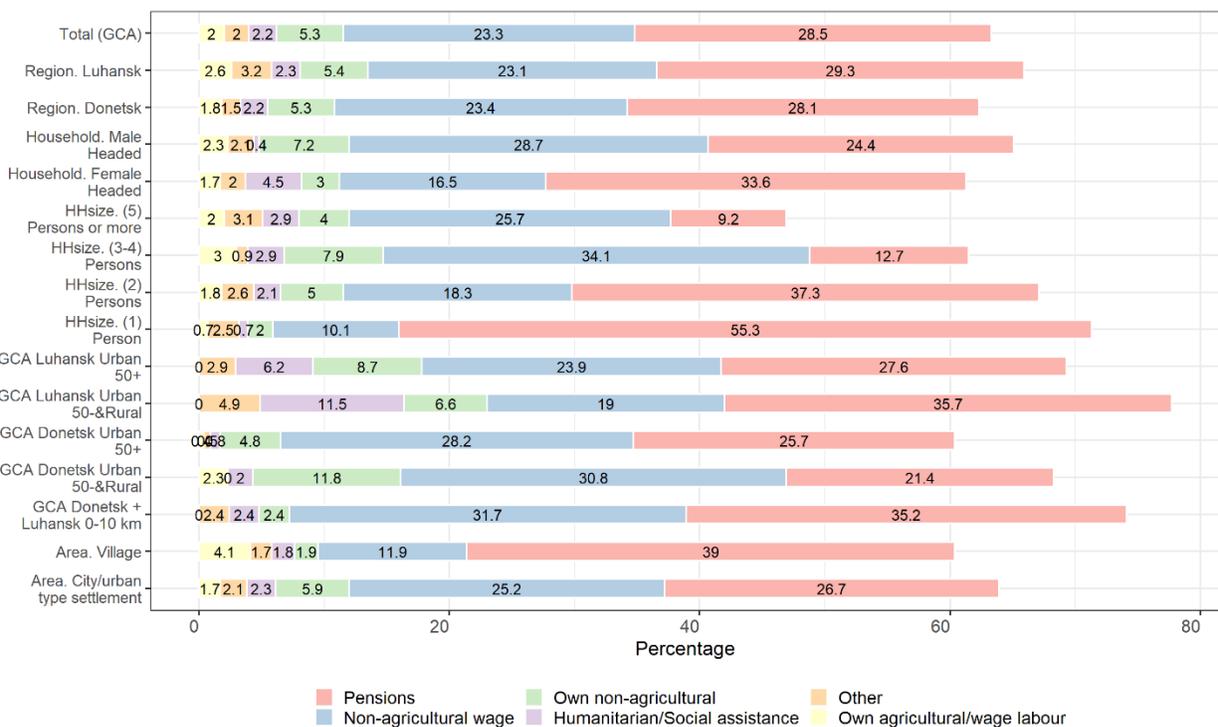
Figure 2. Income sources diversification: distribution of households by reported number of sources



Relevance of the different sources of income

To explore the real importance of the reported main sources of incomes, respondents were asked to indicate the approximate share of total income provided by the main source. Analysis of the responses reveals that “Pensions”, and “Non-agricultural wages” are often major contributors (providing 75% or more of the total household income). Figure 3 shows that, overall, 28.5% of the households in the represented population receive more than 75% of their income from pensions, while 23.3% of them receive 75% or more of their income from non-agricultural wages. The “Own non-agricultural” source of income has been declared as a “major” one by only 5.3% of the HHs. Notably, income sources linked to agriculture have been reported as only marginally contributing (2%) to the households’ major incomes.

Figure 3. Relevance of main sources of income (75% or more of HH income)



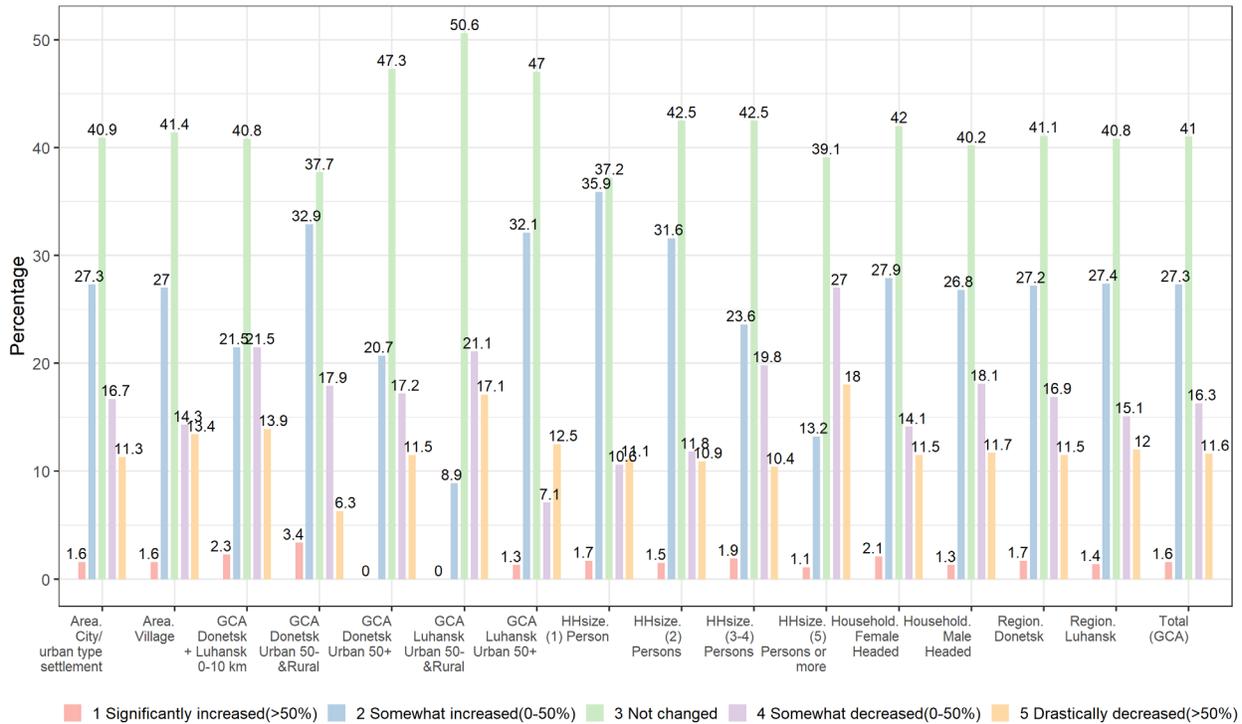
“Pensions” and “Humanitarian and social assistance” are also the two categories most frequently reported among those that provide a decent share (50-75%) of total income (data not shown), which confirms the relevance, in addition to the frequency, of these forms of subsistence in the study area.

Income stability

Self-reported income changes relative to the same period (February – April) of the previous year, as shown in Figure 4, reveal that for most households (70% of the total in GCA) income levels were stable or increased compared to last year. Income stability is more pronounced in “GCA Luhansk Urban 50-&Rural” where 50.6% reported no income change. Only a small share of the households (1.9%) declared having experienced a “more than 50% increase” in their income, compared to 11.6% who declared a “more than 50% decrease”. While a significant share of the households (27.3%) reported a moderate increase (up to 50%) of their income a smaller share (16.3%) reported a moderate decrease (up to 50%), revealing a certain heterogeneity in the income dynamics that seem more oriented toward income increase. In general, while 27.9% reported experiencing income deterioration, 28.9% reported income increase and

the rest of GCA households (41%) have their income not changed. This is not specific to certain locations or population groups but similarly distributed across different categories.

Figure 4. Income stability



The above findings call for a deeper analysis of the characteristics of sources of income for the households that reported different income change dynamics.

Analysis of the households' sources of income for those that show a moderate increase (plus 0-50% of their main income), reveals that pension is the main sources of income for them. that has moderately increased as declared by 15.9%, Figure 5. The "non-agriculture wages" comes in the second place by 8.5% followed by "own non-agriculture" by 1.5%. The remaining main sources of income have hardly changed, instead.

The other main category of households' income change is the "No Change" category shows a slightly different behaviour than the previous one, including slightly bigger shares of other income sources than pension and non-agricultural wages. Figure 6 below shows that all main first income categories have been declared by households not to be changed over the last year at different degrees. Big families show a slightly different picture than other population groups with higher shares of "non-agricultural wages" (24.4% for 3-4 person families) and "own non-agricultural" (4.2%), which reveals a kind of income stability for the bigger households. The small families, instead, seem to have the stability of their income comes mainly form "Pension" by 27.1%.

Figure 5. Income Change (Plus 0-50%) of Main first Income

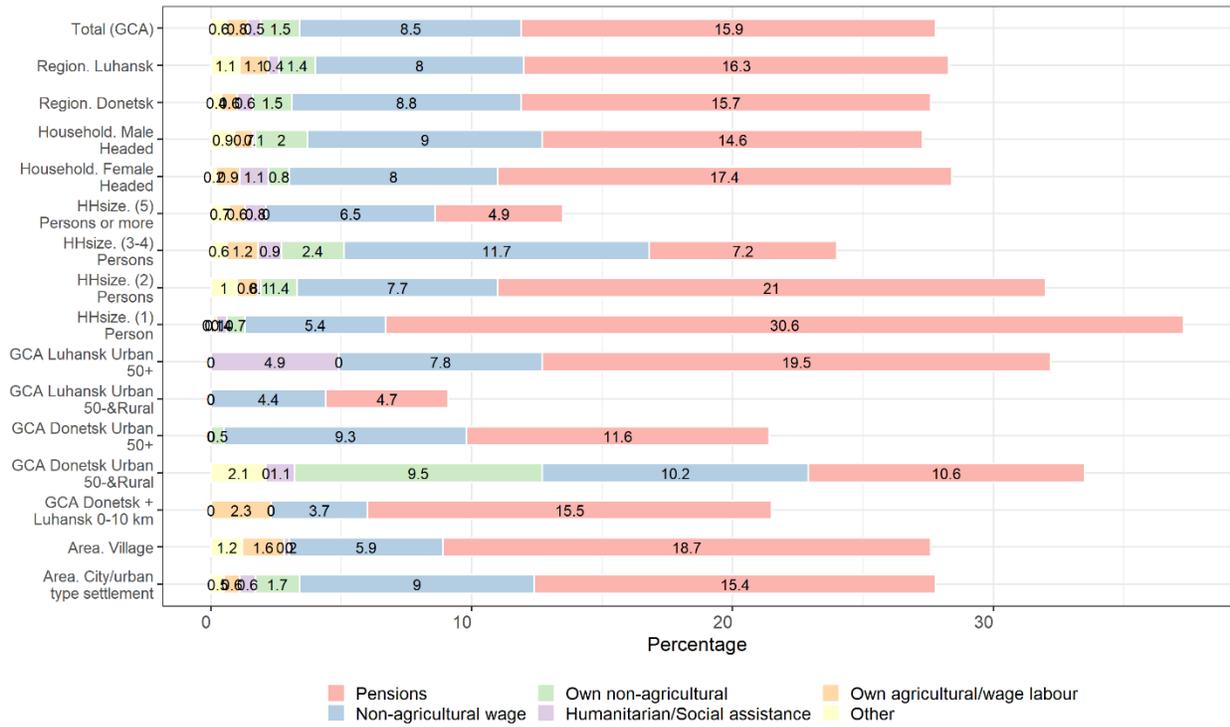
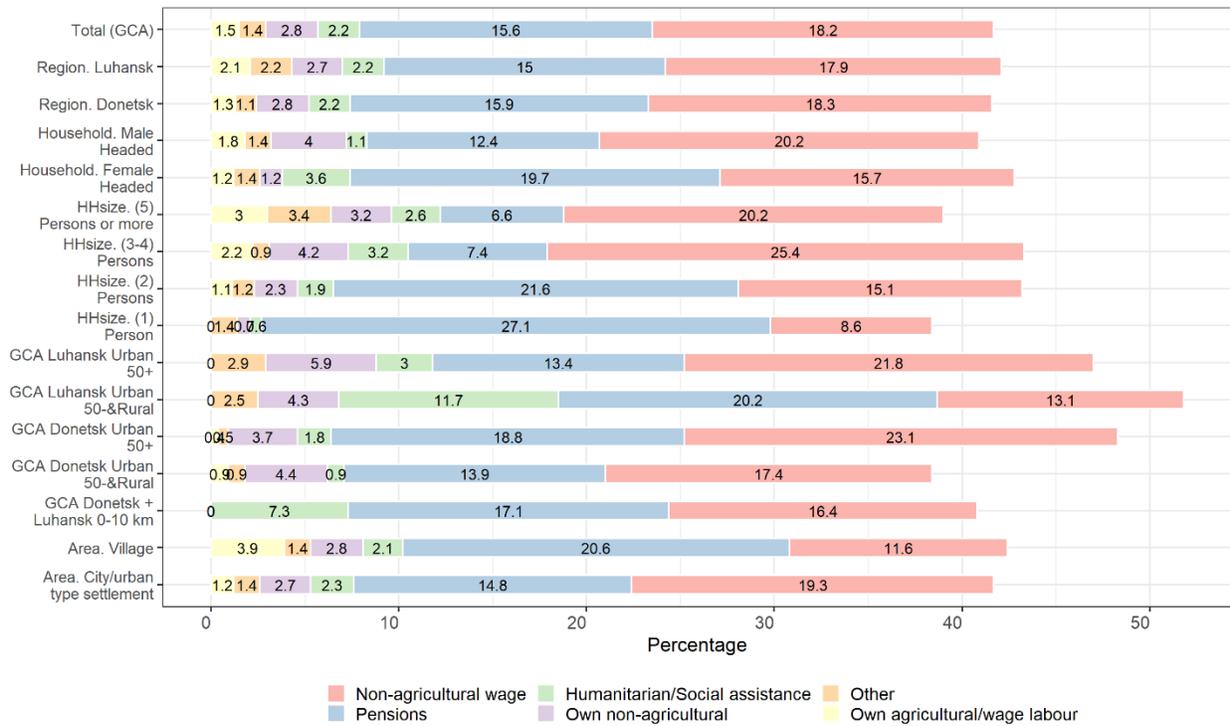


Figure 6. Income Change (No Change) of Main first Income



The number of people engaged in paid work in a household is also a good indication of the household's income stability. Households that depend on only one member engaged in paid work are likely to be more vulnerable to various shocks. Figure 7 shows very clearly that income vulnerability is an issue in GCA area, as the vast majority of respondent reported relying on either no paid work at all (36.9%) or on only one paid work (36.5%). It is required, however, to clarify that households that observe a high share of no paid work might still have different sources of income as pension, for example.

22 % of the respondent, however, reported relying on 2 paid work but only 4.6% declared that three or more members engaged in paid work.

Contrary to other statistics on income reported thus far, the distributions in terms of number of units engaged in paid work seems quite different across areas. Households in villages, the 0-10 Km buffer zone, smaller family sizes and those headed by female appear to be much more vulnerable in terms of paid work, with distributions skewed towards no sources of paid work and lower shares of households relying on more than one source of paid work.

To make better sense of the information provided on the number of the household's members engaged in paid work, it is analysed with regards to the household demographic characteristics to generate its economic dependency ratio. It is the ratio between the number of household members who are not in working age to the number of members who work (pensioners, unemployed, children or minors relative to member in employment).

The age dependency ratio for Ukraine, calculated as the ration of people younger than 15 and older than 64 over people working ages (15-64) was equal to 49.12% in 2020²⁰. The higher the value of age dependency ratio means that employed people need to support extra non-working household's members indicating to higher vulnerability levels.

Figure 8 below shows that the economic dependency ratio of over 100 in GCA (54.3%) is a bit over the age dependency ration of Ukraine that indicates further economic burdens for families in the study area compared to the whole country. Overall, 38.2% of households suffer from higher levels of economic dependency ration (>150), that is where two household members has to sustain three or more non-employed members. This category is more pronounced in big families (87%).

Indebtedness

In general, indebted households are arguably economically vulnerable ones. Figure 9 reveals that 28% of the households in GCA took debts during the three months preceding the interview. Relatively similar portions of HHs suffering under debt in different locations and population groups. Nevertheless, relying on debts were further adopted in the relatively big families (3-4 members), female headed households, "GCA Luhansk Urban 50+" and the villages.

²⁰ https://www.theglobaleconomy.com/Ukraine/Age_dependency_ratio/ 49.12 in 2020

Figure 7. Income from paid work

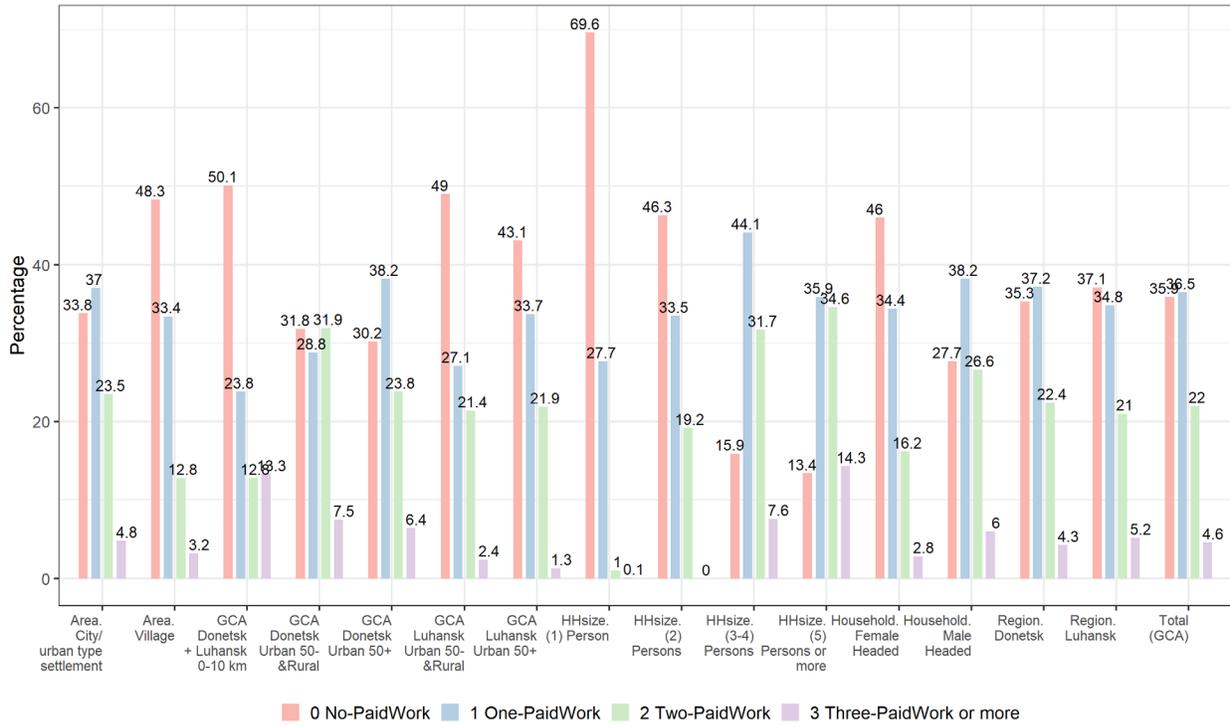


Figure 8. Economic Dependency Ratio

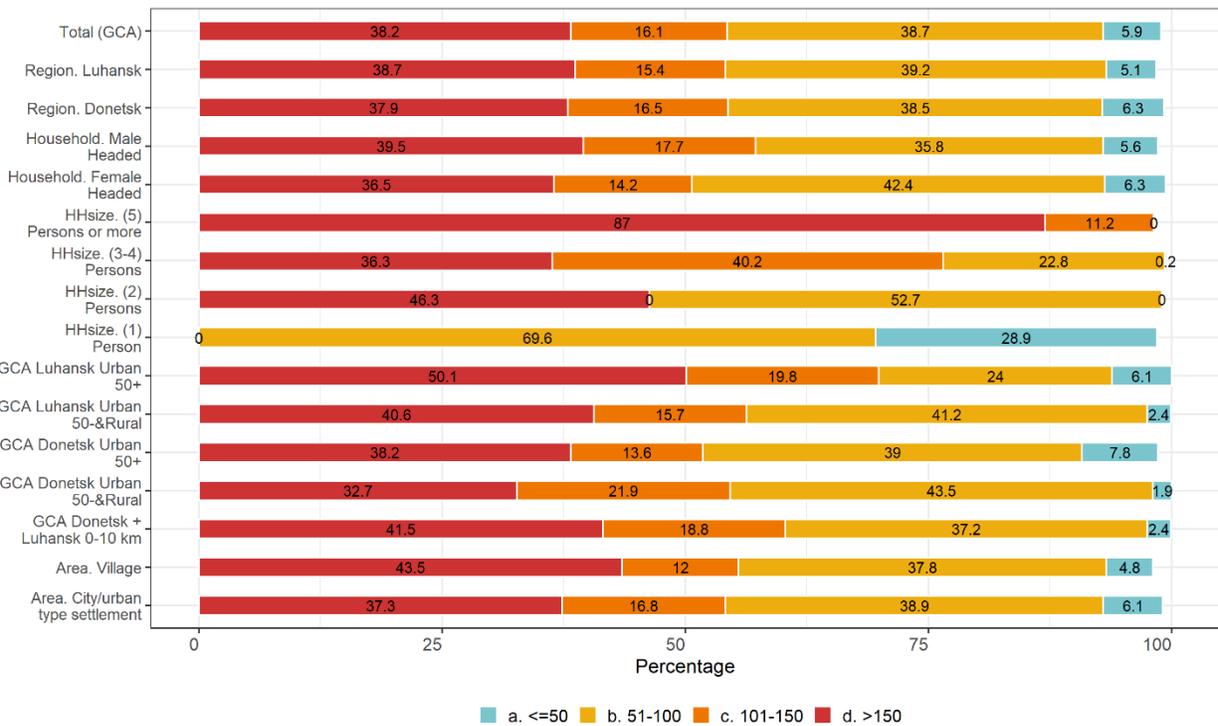
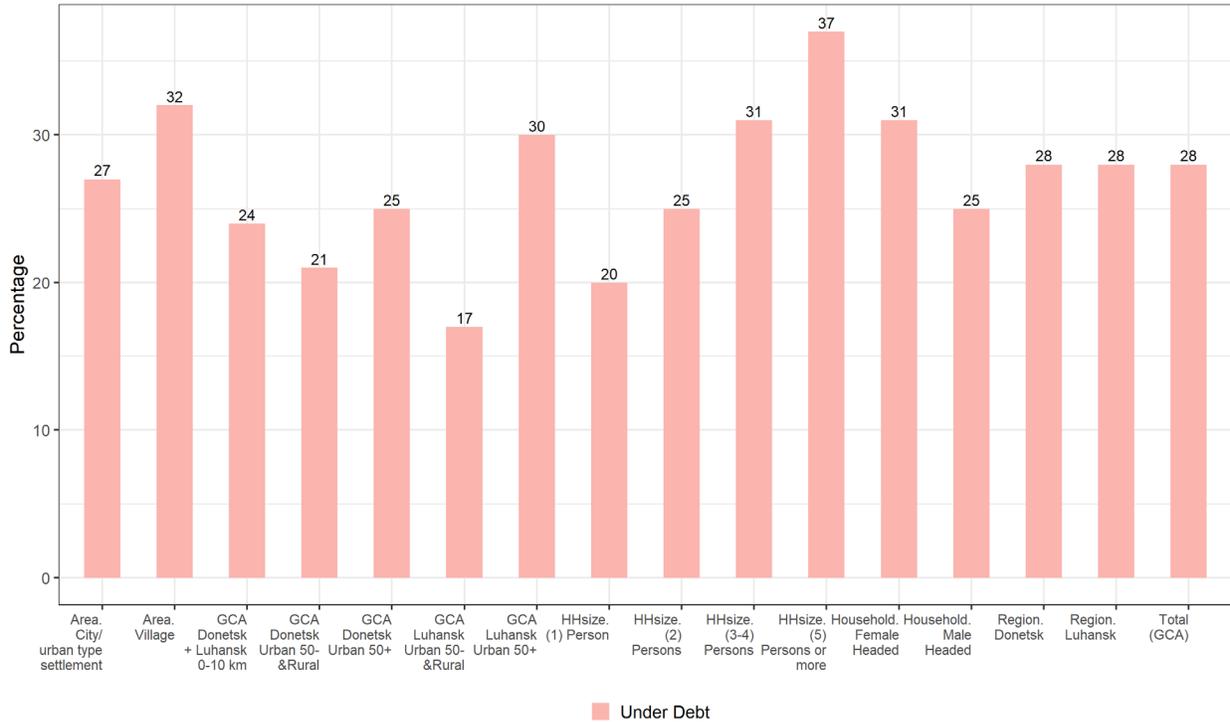


Figure 9. Indebtedness



The main reasons for the households to take out debts are explored highlighting the most urgent financial needs of the households as shown in Figure 10 below. The graph reveals that a significant share of households in GCA (37.5%) took loans in order to fill in monetary gaps to pay for housing utilities or other relevant expenses, e.g., the expenses of heating the house in the cold winter. To pay the housing rent is another similarly related reason for people taking loans declared by 5.2%. The second important reason for households taking loans (25.3%) is because they needed to pay for medical services and/or medicines. This reason is more pronounced in the 0-10km buffer zone by 56.1%, probably because they are mainly elderly persons who extremely need health caring. Other less important reasons to take loans are to pay outstanding debt (7.1%), to pay for education (4.6%) and to pay for agricultural inputs that was declared only by 1.9% of households.

Taking debts to pay for food is reported by non-negligible share of households (10.2%) indicating the need for money in order to acquire food in the study area, especially in the villages by 18%, Luhansk region by 16%. Incurring debt to pay for food is more prevalent in “GCA Luhansk Urban 50-&Rural” by 50%. Fairly heterogeneous percentages for debt reasons are shown across regions and locations and population groups.

Still, 74.5% of the households that took debts during the last three months still need to pay them back. This problem is more concentrated in the 0-10km buffer zone (where 92.1% of the debts are still outstanding) and in “Luhansk Urban 50-&Rural” areas (85.9%) indicating the difficulties faced by households to repay loans that were taken to pay for agricultural inputs (e.g., fertilizers, pesticides, seeds, fuel, etc.) with different extents. Quite varied percentages are revealed by different locations and population groups as seen in Figure 11 below. It also shows high shares for female headed compared to male headed households and big size households compared to smaller ones.

Figure 10. Main reasons for indebtedness

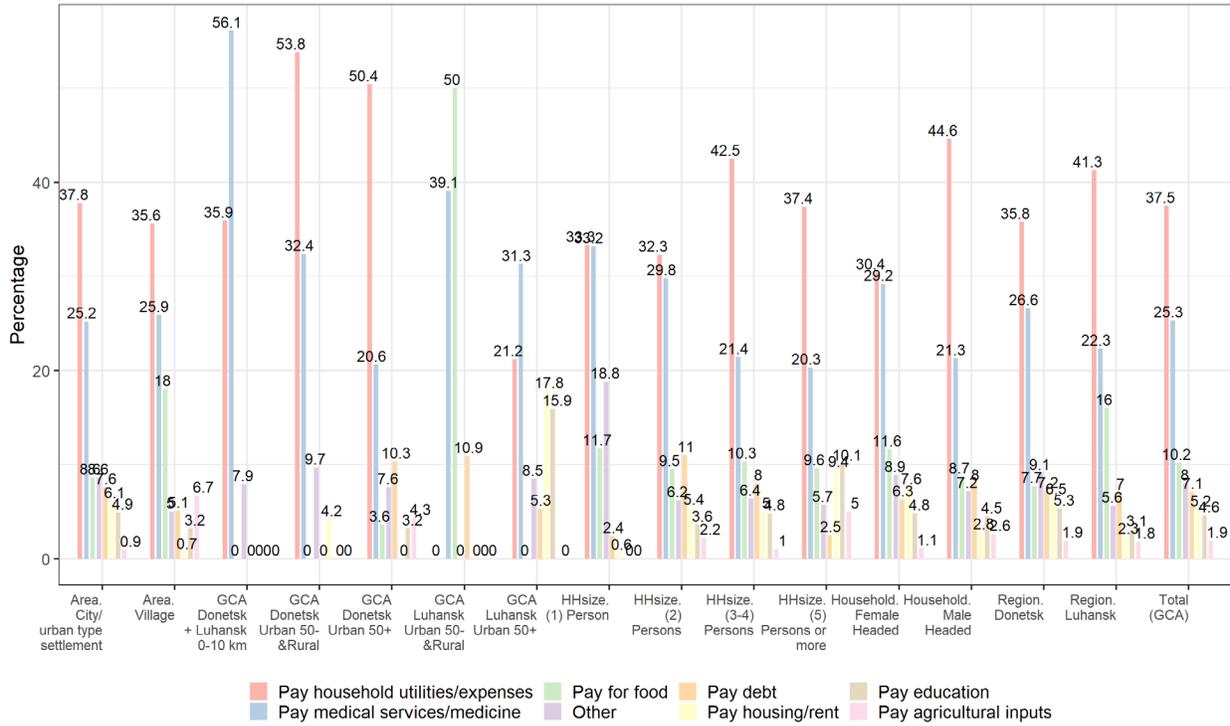
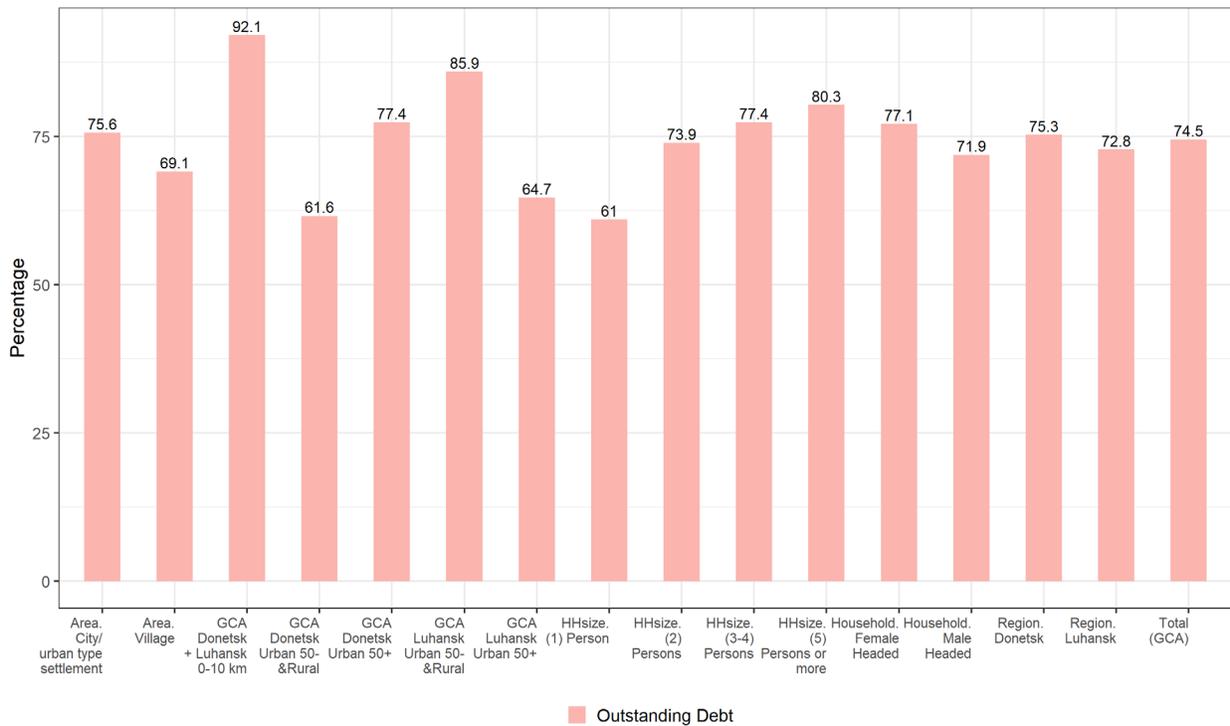


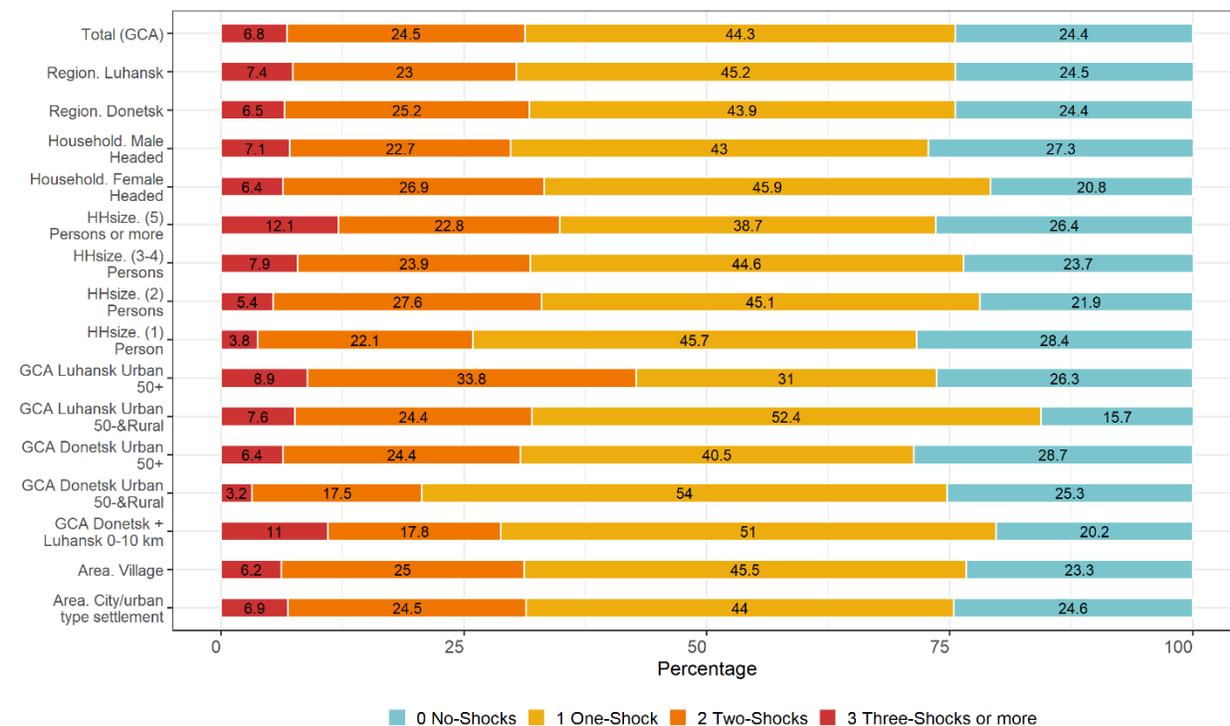
Figure 11. The difficulty to repay debts



Exposure to shocks

Given the conditions prevailing in the study area during the period of the survey, it is unsurprising that households have been exposed to shocks that may imply risks for their livelihoods. Figure 12 shows that 75.6% of the households have been exposed to at least one shock during the previous three months. Of these, 44.3% report one shock, a quarter of the households has been exposed to two different shocks and 7% of them report have been exposed to three shocks or more, a distribution that is quite similar across regions and locations.

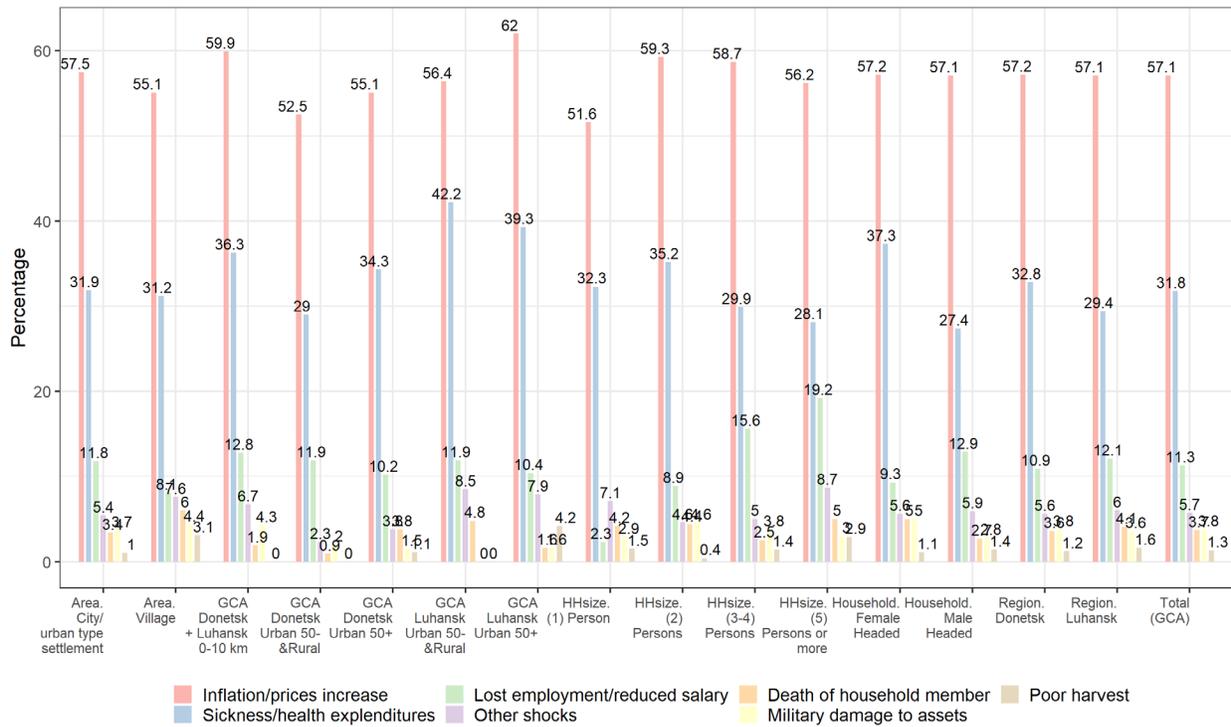
Figure 12. Exposure to shocks



By far the most frequently reported among the shocks observed in the studied areas are related to inflation and increasing prices of basic commodities that was reported by 57.1% (Figure 13). This is consistent with the 2020 high consumer price index in Ukraine (289.4) as reported by the World Bank²¹. Other shocks are reported much less frequently, with a certain prevalence of reported sickness and related health expenditures (31.8%), followed by loss of employment and salaries (11.3%), death of household member 3.7%), asset damage caused by the on-going military operations (3.8%), and poor harvest (1.3%).

²¹ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/FP.CPI.TOTL?locations=UA&view=chart>

Figure 13. Frequency of main shocks reported



III. Food Security

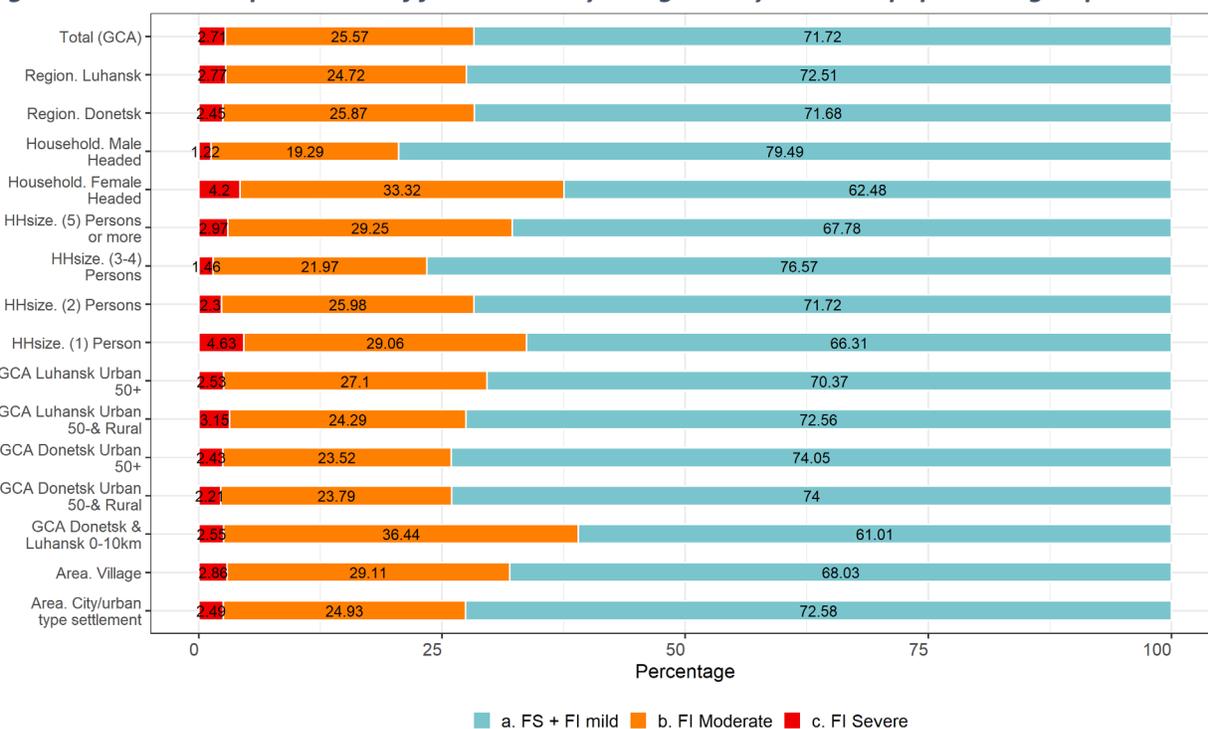
Food security levels of the households have been measured mainly the food insecurity experience scale (FIES). This allows estimating the prevalence of food insecurity at different levels of severity and classifying households into food security categories.

After presenting the results in terms of prevalence of food insecurity, the association between food insecurity status, share of total income spent on food, and livelihood coping strategies will be also explored.

FIES-based measures of food insecurity

To assess the extent and severity of food insecurity levels experienced in the study area in the winter season, data collected with the Food Insecurity Experience Scale module referenced to the month of April have been used to compute the prevalence of food insecurity at different levels of severity. Results (Figure 14) show that a total of 28.3% of the households in the reference population have experienced food insecurity at either “moderate” or “severe” levels during the month of April. The 2.7% of the households that experienced food insecurity at “severe” level has characterised by a non-negligible chance of going for a whole day without eating, at least once over the reference period.

Figure 14. FIES-based prevalence of food insecurity categories by area and population group



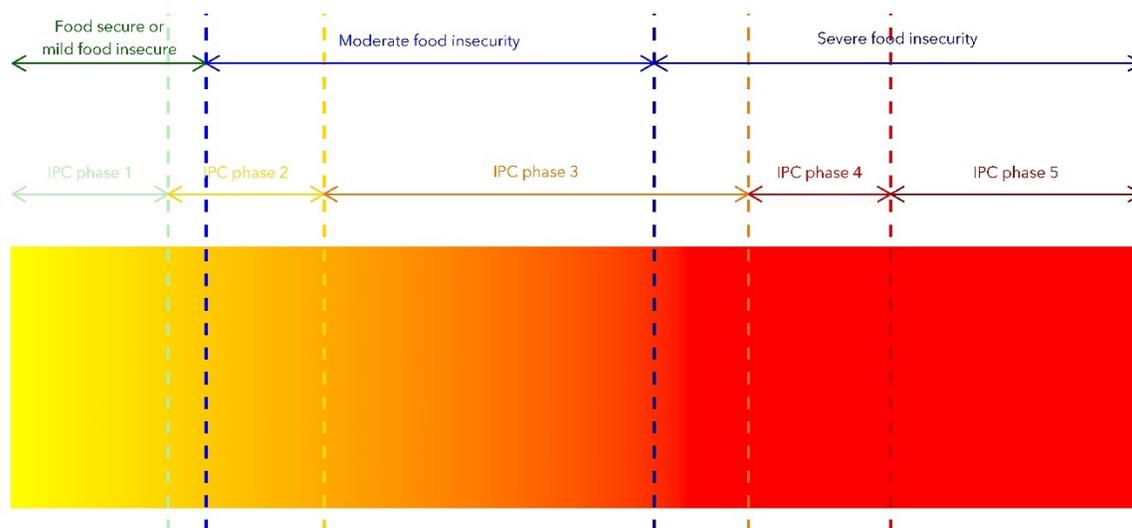
These are quite high levels of overall food insecurity, if compared to current assessments in Ukraine and in other countries. As a reference, consider for example that unpublished results from FAO, based on data collected through the Gallup World Poll since 2014, point to a prevalence of annual combined moderate or severe food insecurity of only about 20% in the overall population of Ukraine, as an average over the 2018-20, a prevalence that increases to about 24% in 2020, with a likely increase due to impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In comparing those results, which refer to prevalence of food insecurity experienced at any moment during the year, with the one reported here, one must consider that, depending on the extent of seasonality and persistence of food insecurity, the prevalence of food insecurity measured with reference to a single month, as in this study, is expected to be significantly lower than the annual prevalence of food insecurity. This implies that the population in the studied area of Eastern Ukraine, in the Winter of 2021, has been significantly more food insecure than in the rest of the country.

Another useful reference is provided by a recent FAO report on access to food in 2020²², which presents estimates of the prevalence of recent moderate or severe food insecurity in twenty food crisis countries, measured with reference to the four weeks preceding the surveys, that range from a minimum of 13.3% to a maximum of 61.9%. The values we record in the study population of Eastern Ukraine are higher than those found, for example, in Myanmar, Iraq, El Salvador and Cameroon and similar to levels experienced in the general population of Ethiopia.

To put the reported FIES-based estimates for Eastern Ukraine in the context of typical assessments conducted to inform humanitarian response, an important reference is the benchmark provided by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) acute food insecurity assessments. To make a correct comparison, consider the chart in Figure 15.

²² <http://www.fao.org/3/cb5623en/cb5623en.pdf>

Figure 15. Comparison between FIES-based and IPC thresholds



Source: Boero et al. (2021, p.7)

When properly considering the differences in severity levels used as thresholds, the class described as “moderate or severe food insecurity” in the context of SDG global monitoring includes all cases classified in IPC acute food insecurity Phase 3 or more and some of those that would be classified in Phase 2. The results presented in this report for the GCA of Donetsk and Luhansk (with moderate or severe combined amounting to almost 30% of the population) would therefore likely support the classification of these areas under “Phase 3 or worse” of the IPC, a benchmark often used by the international community to flag the need for activating emergency response.²³

To the extent that the sample size allows, food insecurity levels can be separately assessed and compared across different locations and population groups. (Table 3 below.)

The area labelled as “GCA Donetsk & Luhansk 0-10 km” reveals the highest prevalence of recent moderate or severe food insecurity [39 (± 13.9)] compared to “GCA Donetsk Urban” and “GCA Luhansk Urban” that revealing a prevalence of 27% (±6.5) and 29.6 (±7.08) respectively. A striking difference is notable among households when classified based on the gender of the household’s head, with female headed households significantly more food insecure [37.5% (±5.12)] than male-headed ones [20.5% (±4.45)].

Overall, prevalence of recent *severe* food insecurity, at 2.7% is not particularly high when compared for example to the indicator published by FAO for Ukraine in the 2021 State of Food Security and Nutrition report (2.5%, as an average over 2018-20) even though, once again, it must be considered that the latter refers to the *annual*, rather than recent food insecurity.

The highest prevalence of recent severe food insecurity is found in the area labelled “GCA Luhansk Urban50-& Rural” where it reaches 3.2%, as opposed to the 2.5% value for the “GCA Luhansk Urban”, Figure 14. These differences must be interpreted with caution, due to relatively wide margins of error associated with samples of the size used in this assessment.

²³ The IPC acute food insecurity classification follows a “20% rule” according to which an area is classified in the most severe category that includes at least 20% of the households.

Table 3. Disaggregated Food Insecurity Levels Based on FIES data

	N of households	FI_mod.sev	MoE_mod.sev	FI_sev	MoE_sev
Overall GCA	1682	28.28	3.76	2.71	1.11
City/urban type settlement	1372	27.42	3.82	2.49	1.03
Village	310	31.97	7.70	2.86	2.12
Region. Donetsk	842	28.32	4.52	2.45	1.19
Region. Luhansk	840	27.49	4.6	2.77	1.39
Household. Male Headed	774	20.51	4.45	1.22	0.91
Household. Female Headed	908	37.52	5.12	4.2	1.73
GCA Donetsk Urban 50+	400	25.95	6.18	2.43	1.65
GCA Donetsk Urban 50-& Rural	380	26.00	6.70	2.21	1.70
GCA Luhansk Urban 50+	382	29.63	7.08	2.53	1.92
GCA Luhansk Urban 50-& Rural	400	27.44	6.69	3.15	2.24
GCA Donetsk + Luhansk 0-10 km	120	38.99	13.9	2.55	2.78
HHsize. (1) Person	358	33.69	7.98	4.63	2.79
HHsize. (2) Persons	508	28.28	6.35	2.3	1.68
HHsize. (3-4) Persons	624	23.43	5.23	1.46	1.12
HHsize. (5) Persons or more	192	32.22	10.85	2.97	2.65

Source: FAO analysis of Ukraine FIES data

Convergence of FIES-based measures with evidence from other indirect measures

To explore the robustness of the FIES-based assessments of food insecurity, we present the result of the association between the FIES raw score, which has proven to be a valid ordinal measure of severity, and two commonly used proxy indicators of food insecurity.

Table 4 shows the cross-tabulation of the 1682 cases in terms of FIES raw score (from 0, corresponding to the least food insecure category, to 8, the most food insecure) against the reported share of income spent on food, on average, over the previous three months. Household expenditure on food is a measure of household food access whereby households with a larger share of expenditure on food are considered more food insecure.

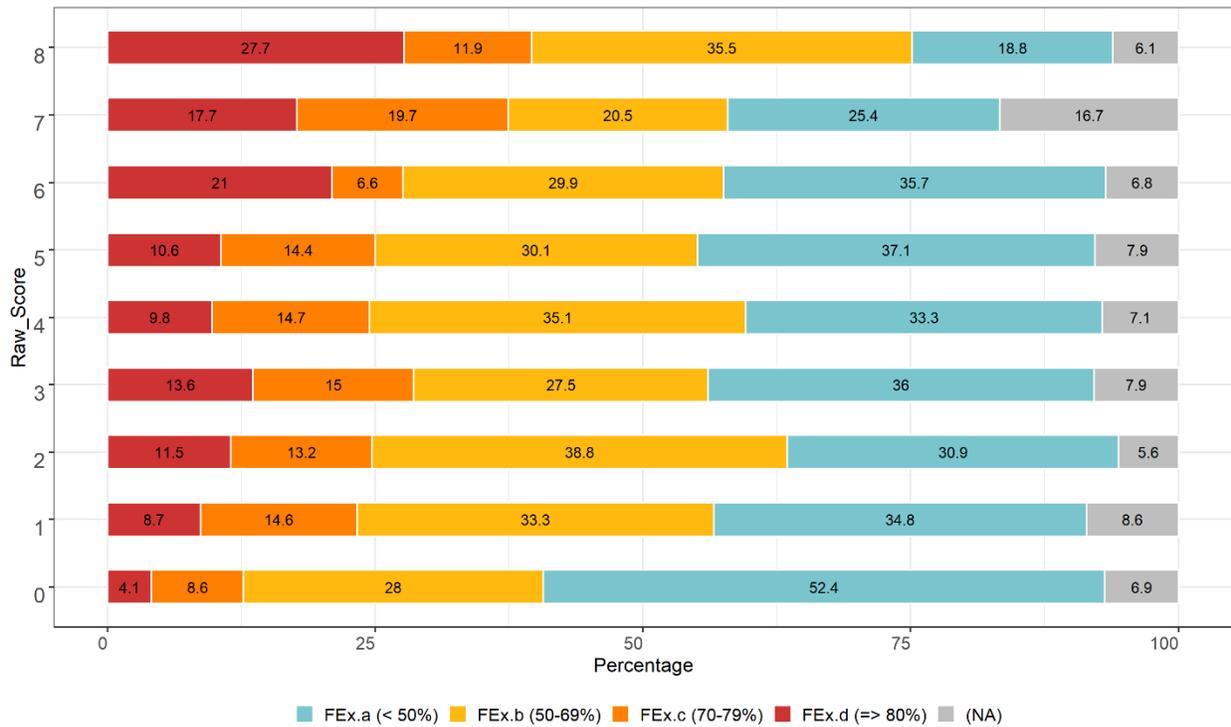
Households are classified by food insecurity severity according to generally accepted thresholds of food expenditure share: 80% or above expenditure on food = “Very high” food insecurity; 70-79% = “high”; 50-69% = “medium”, and <50% = “low”.

Table 4. Association between food insecurity and share of income spent on food

Share of income spent on food	Number of households by FIES raw score									Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<50%	311.0	61.7	61.6	63.6	57.8	57.2	35.8	17.0	7.6	673.3
50-69%	166.0	59.0	77.5	48.6	61.0	46.4	30.0	13.7	14.3	516.4
70-79%	51.2	25.9	26.3	26.4	25.5	22.2	6.6	13.1	4.8	202.1
=>80%	24.1	15.4	23.0	24.0	17.1	16.3	21.0	11.8	11.2	163.8
#N/A	41.0	15.3	11.1	14.0	12.3	12.1	6.8	11.1	2.4	126.3
Grand Total	593.3	177.3	199.6	176.7	173.7	154.2	100.2	66.7	40.3	1682.0

The results (also presented in the chart of Figure 16) clearly show a gradient in the expected direction, revealing that households with raw scores 7 or 8 are significantly more likely to be spending considerable shares (+> 70%) of their income on food, when compared to other groups. Equally significant the observation that reporting a raw score of zero implies spending relatively lower shares on food.

Figure 16. Distribution of households by FIES raw score and share of income spent on food



Another interesting analysis compares the FIES raw score with the reported coping strategies. Respondents who affirmed any of the FIES items (and therefore report a raw score greater than zero) were asked to indicate if they resorted to one or more from a list of possible strategies, to cope with their difficulty in accessing food.

In similar analyses, coping strategies are typically classified by the researchers in three different categories (“stress”, “crisis”, and “emergency”) following the implied increasing level of severity. For example, “buying food on credit” or “borrowing food” would be considered relatively mild, and then included in the group of “stress” level strategies, “selling productive assets”, or “withdrawing children from school” would be considered “stress level”, while very serious, and therefore indicative of an “emergency” level. Based on which strategy was reported, the household is classified in one of four groups, and the results contrasted with the reported FIES raw score. Table 5 and Figure 17 show the results.

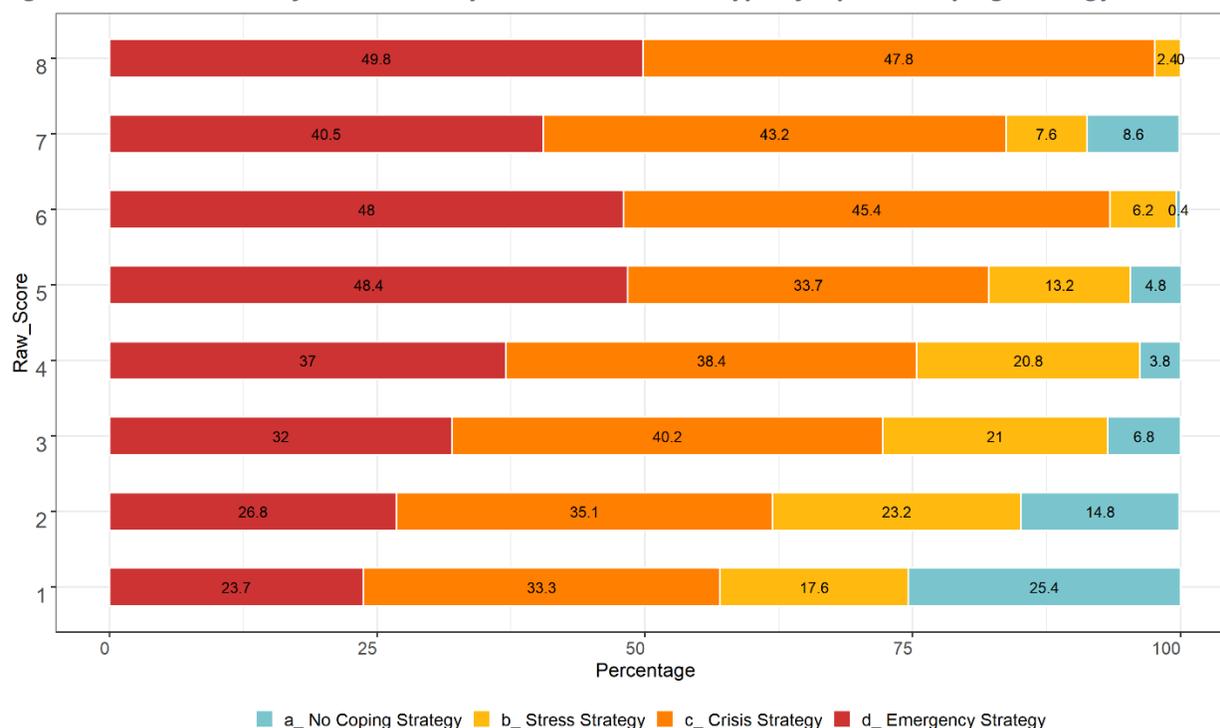
The strong association and the gradient in the expected direction is strikingly evident: the frequency in which more severe coping strategies are reported increases with the reported raw score, to the point that reporting raw score 6, 7 or 8 is pretty much indicative of having had to recur to “crisis” or “emergency level”, and therefore indicative of very severe food insecurity.

It is important to note that even households who report a low FIES raw score demonstrate fairly high levels of coping behaviour. Around 50% of households with a FIES raw score of 1, indicating a low or mild actual experience of food insecurity, report having used emergency or crisis coping mechanisms, suggesting that their food security status would likely have been worse had the household not been able to employ coping strategies to mitigate food insecurity.

Table 5. Association between food insecurity and Livelihood Coping Strategies

Type of coping strategy adopted	Number of households by FIES raw score								Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
No Coping Strategy	44.9	29.6	12.0	6.6	7.3	0.4	5.8	0.0	106.8
Stress Strategy	31.3	46.4	37.2	36.0	20.3	6.2	5.1	1.0	183.5
Crisis Strategy	59.0	70.0	70.9	66.7	51.9	45.5	28.8	19.3	412.2
Emergency Strategy	42.1	53.6	56.5	64.3	74.6	48.0	27.0	20.1	386.2
Grand Total	177.3	199.6	176.7	173.7	154.2	100.2	66.7	40.3	188.7

Figure 17. Distribution of households by FIES raw score and type of reported coping strategy



Overall, these results give strong credibility to the assessment based on the FIES. This is a remarkable result, considering that this was the first time the FIES had been used in the emergency context of a country in Europe.

IV. Assistance

The occurrence that the households received assistance over the reference period and the kinds of assistance received by them are important aspects for households' food security and livelihoods

The extent and impact of the received assistance

Figure 18 shows that only 28.8% of the households in the study areas report receiving any kind of assistance over the last three months. This percentage is quite homogenous across different locations and population groups with a bias towards the urban areas (29%) compared to pure rural (27.6%). Notably, the single person and the female headed ones report receiving more assistance than bigger or males

headed households. People in Luhansk report receiving more assistance than their neighbours in Donetsk (31.3% vs 27.7%).

Highlighting on the impact of receiving any kind of assistance, the assisted and non-assisted households in GCA are analysed in terms of their food security situation. Figure 19 clearly shows the divergence of assisted and non-assisted households' "severe" and "moderate" FIES-based food insecurity levels. The "severe food insecurity" level is significantly different between households that have been assisted (1.1%) compared to those that have not been assisted (3%). The level of the "moderate food insecurity", however, point to higher shares in the assisted households (39.6%) compared with non-assisted ones (25.5%), which indicates that the assistance received was not sufficient to reduce the moderate food insecurity in GCA area.

Figure 18. Assistance: percentages of households receiving assistance

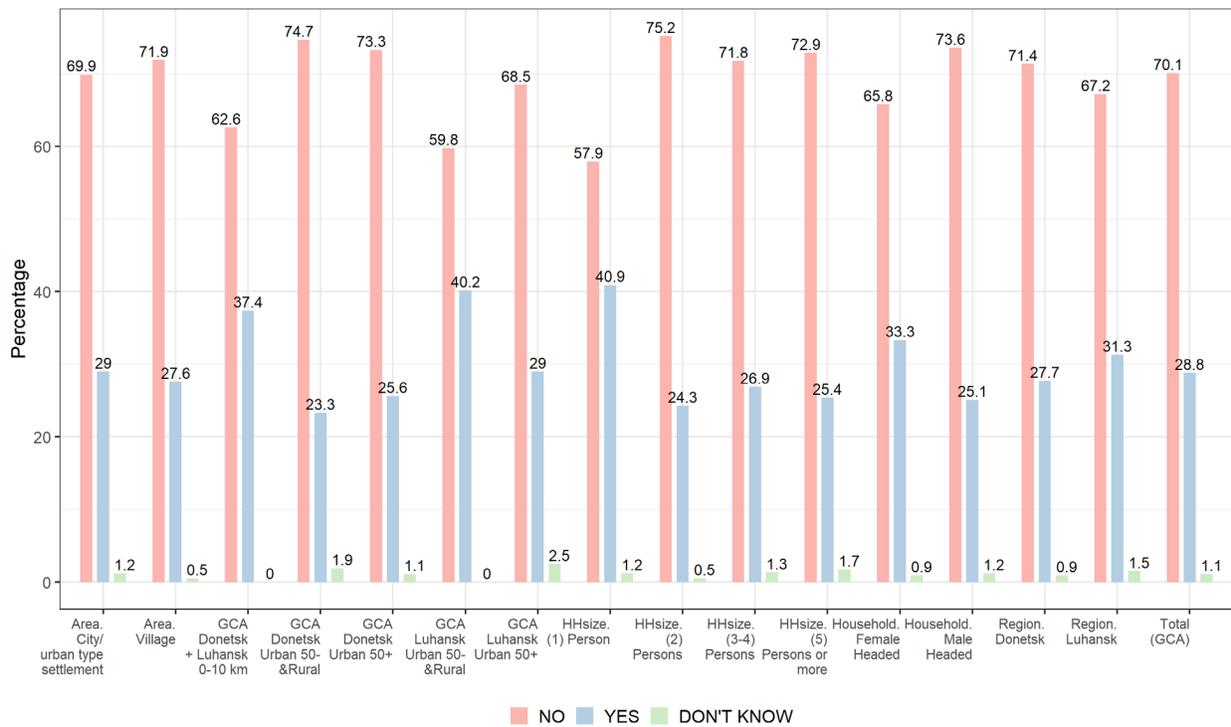
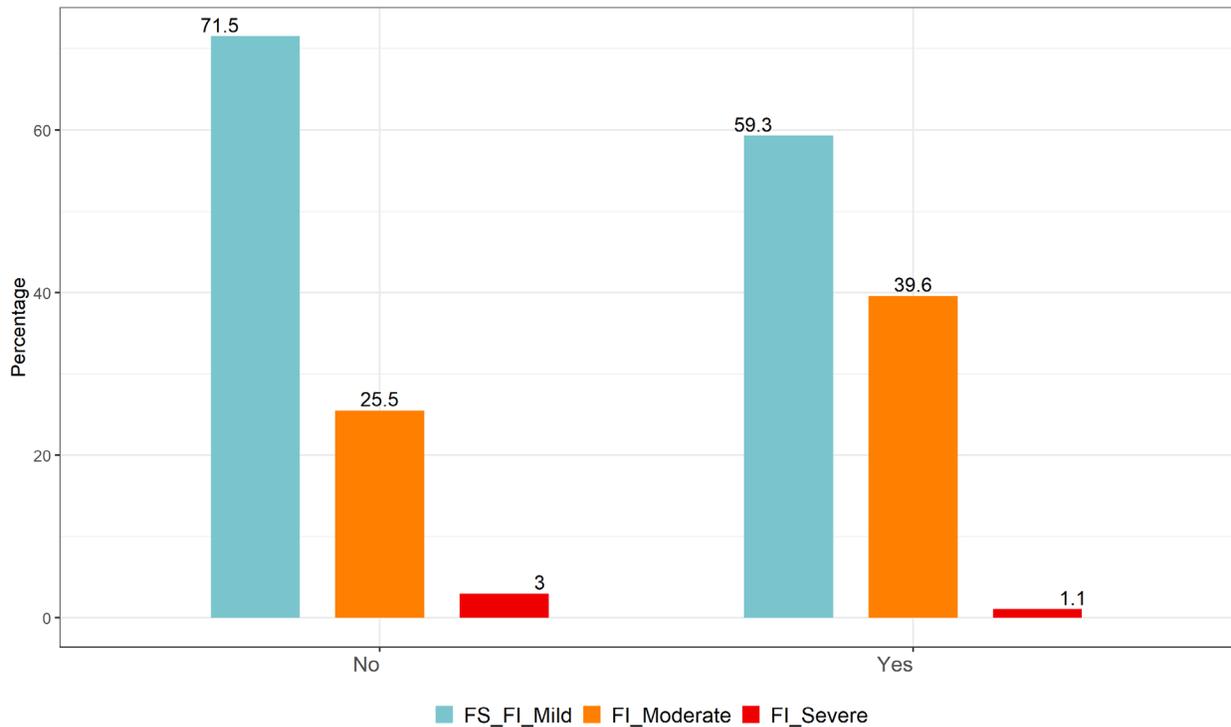


Figure 19. FIES-based food insecurity categories among assisted and non-assisted households



The extent of satisfaction with the received assistance

While a high share of the households (57.3%) expressed moderate satisfaction with the assistance they received, 9% were very unsatisfied with theirs, pointing to the possible need for more or different kinds of assistance demanded by those households. 17% of the households, however, reported being very satisfied with the assistance received. Detailed assistance satisfaction percentages by different locations and population groups are shown in Figure 20 below.

Households perceived needs

The main assistance needs envisaged by the households in the study area for the next period (the coming three months) are categorized as shown in Figure 21. Access to fuel seems to be the first households’ needed assistance (38%) followed by the need to access healthcare and medicines by 16%. Drinking water is claimed to be a need for 14% of the households. The housing repair and housing utility services needs and the need for agricultural and livestock inputs seem to have same level (11%). The need for cash and loans (6%) comes next followed by the need for food that was claimed by 4% of the households.

Analysing the households’ perceived needs against their food (in)security classes does make sense by looking to the moderate/severe food insecurity classes as the 36.8%/12.1% of those who expressed the **need to food** fall into this class followed by 44%/4.7% of households that expressed their needs to **cash money**, Figure 22. This is somewhat consistent with what Figure 19 above shows: households that have been already assisted observe lower levels of severe food insecurity compared to non-assisted households. The distribution of the moderately food insecure households against their expressed future needs in terms of food, drinking water or cash money seem to be consistent as well.

Figure 20. Degree of satisfaction with the assistance received

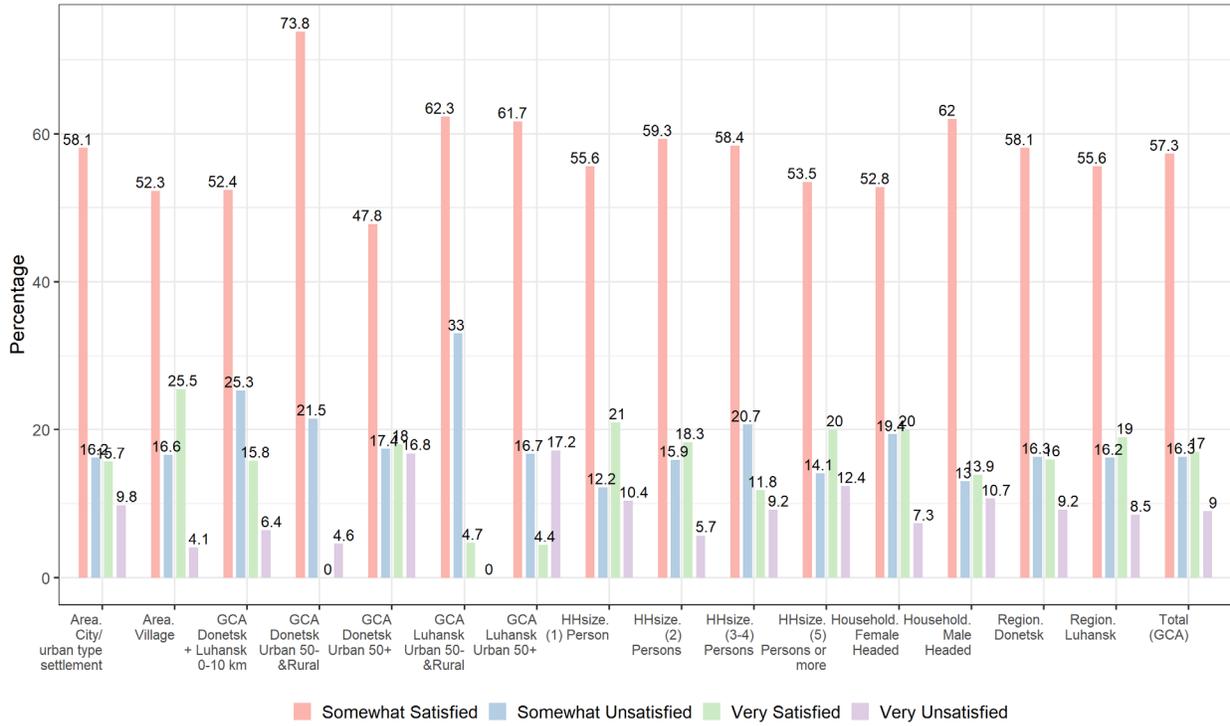


Figure 21. Reported needs for future assistance

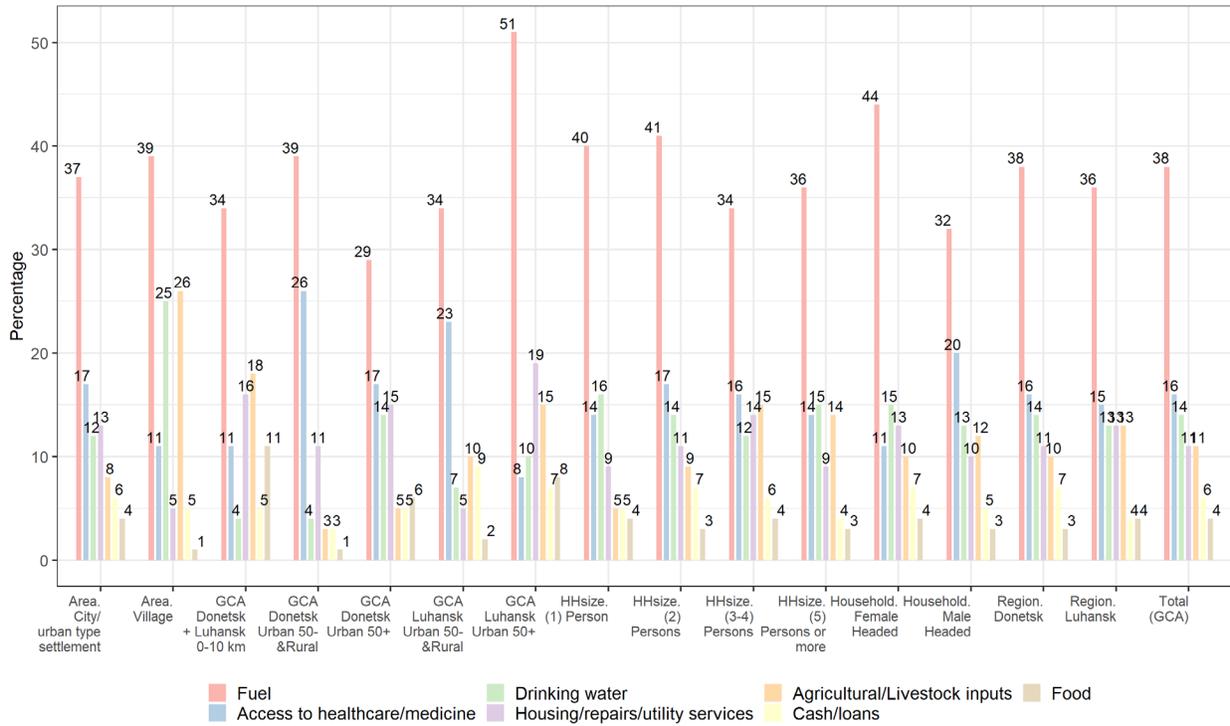
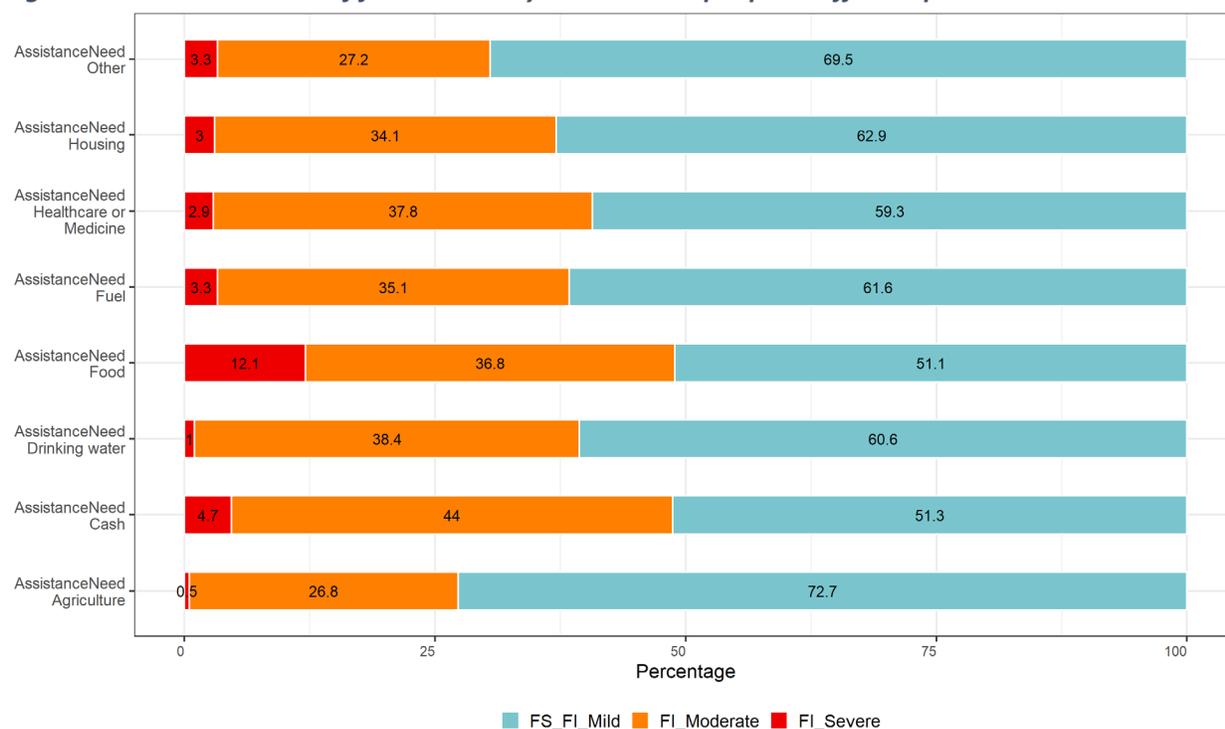


Figure 22. The distribution of food insecurity levels within people's different perceived needs



V. Agriculture

Although engagement in some form of agriculture is declared by a fair share of households in GCA, the agriculture sector seems to be only marginally relevant from the economic point of view as for the majority of respondents (on average 98.1%) it consists mainly of vegetable fruits, field crops and livestock for own consumption. The general aspects of both crop and livestock productions are highlighted in the subsequent sections.

The households that are involved in any kind of agriculture activities forms 44.1% of all surveyed households (Figure 23). Different regions and locations show relatively different levels of involvement in the sector. In general, households in Luhansk appear to have been engaged more in agriculture activities (52.2%) compared to Donetsk's households (40.7%). Not surprising, the location most engaged in agriculture is the villages by 76% followed by "GCA Luhansk Urban 50+", with 50.6% of the households reporting agricultural activities, compared to the lowest share by only 22.1% of households reporting such engagement in "GCA Donetsk Urban50+" area.

Figure 24 shows the households' relative engagement in different types of agricultural activities. The importance of producing fresh food is quite evident, as 88.6% of these households are engaged mainly in vegetable production. The second important set of agricultural activities includes those pertaining to fruits (34.9%), livestock (29.6%) and crop production (29.2%). Bee keeping (3.7%), Fisheries and food gathering (2.6% each) appear to be very marginal. The percentages of the households' engagement in different agricultural activities are somewhat consistent across locations and population groups.

Figure 23. Frequency of households' engagement in agriculture

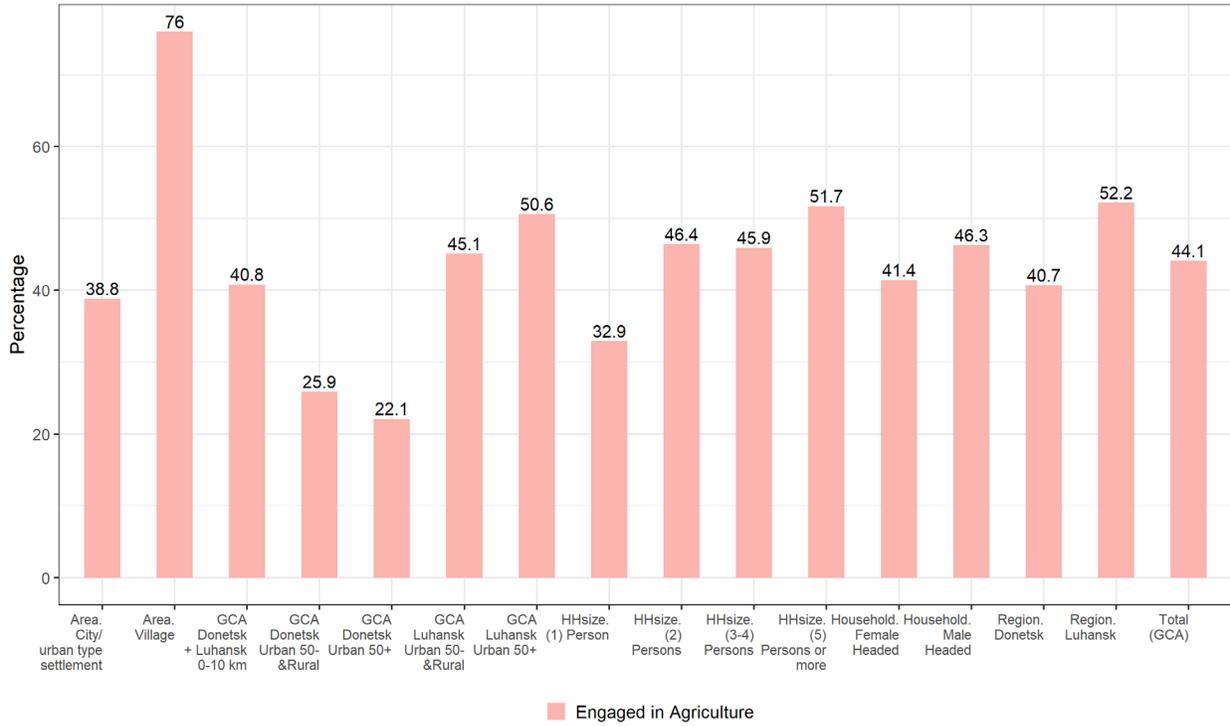
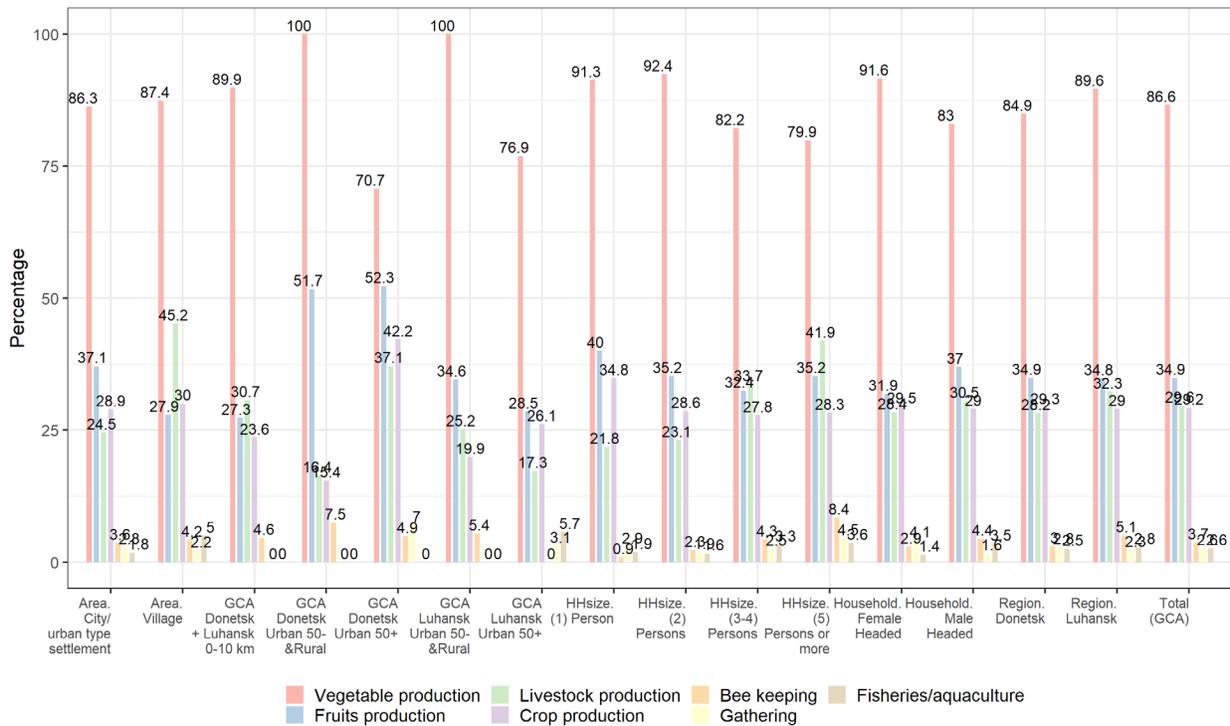


Figure 24. Main agricultural activities reported by those engaged in agriculture



Crop Production

Vegetables are the most frequently grown crop by households involved in any agricultural activities in the study areas as 70% of them declared to produce vegetables. Figure 25 shows that the households' involvement in tuber vegetable production comes secondly but considerably with lower rates (42%). To a rather lower extent 4% of the households reported being engaged in the production of grains. A considerable share of 13% of households are growing cucurbits compared to 2% who grow fodder. Others crops including oilseed production are declared by 7% of households. Similar percentages are observed in different locations and population groups.

It is evident that the main purpose of the households' engagement in crop production is to complement their own consumption needs and not as an economic activity. Figure 26 reveals that almost all households (90.3%) declare growing crops only for own consumption. However, a small proportion (7.8%) of those households are growing crops for income as well. Only a tiny share (1.9%) of the households declared to be growing crops only for income generating purposes. Consistent percentages are shown across different locations and population groups confirming the homogeneity of crop production's purposes within different locations and population groups.

The crop producers faced various difficulties in growing their crops as revealed by the households in the studied areas. Drought comes in the first place as the main difficulty faced by crop producers, being reported by 24.3% of respondents. Figure 27 also shows the other reported difficulties is the outbreak of pests and diseases (17.3%) followed by the environmental adversaries of the form of heavy rain, wind or flood (10.1%). The lower irrigation water services comes next by 9.4% followed by the unavailability or costly labour (8.7%). The sickness of household member manifests itself as common difficulties to crop producers, reported by 7.3% of the households. To a lesser extent, comes the difficulties accessing fertilizers, seeds and pesticides 5.6% each. Similar rates of crop producers' difficulties are common across locations except for GCA Luhansk Urban 50-&Rural that is characterised by excess share of outbreak of pests and diseases (50.7%).

Livestock Production

The main aspect of livestock production in the surveyed areas is its very low relevance. Engagement in livestock activities was declared by 237 households, forming 14.9% of the overall population and only 30% of those who are involved in agriculture.

The main animals raised by agricultural households are poultry, pigs, cattle and others. Figure 28 shows that poultry producers come in the first place (30.8%) of households that declared raising livestock followed by pig producers by 10%. Then comes cattle producers (8.3%) and households who keep small ruminants (2.1%). The rest of livestock producers, however, failed to inform on the main animals they raise.

As for the crops, households' engagement in animal production in this area is essentially a way to complement their own food consumption, contributing to their food security. Figure 29 reveals that the majority of the households (69%) raise animals only for self-consumption. In addition, 26% of those households are raising animals for both income as well as for their own consumption. However, only a tiny share (5%) of the households declared to keep animals only for the income generating purpose. Consistent percentages are shown across different regions and locations. However, 58% of animal producers failed to identify their real purpose of raising animals.

Figure 25. Agricultural activities: Crops reported as the main crop

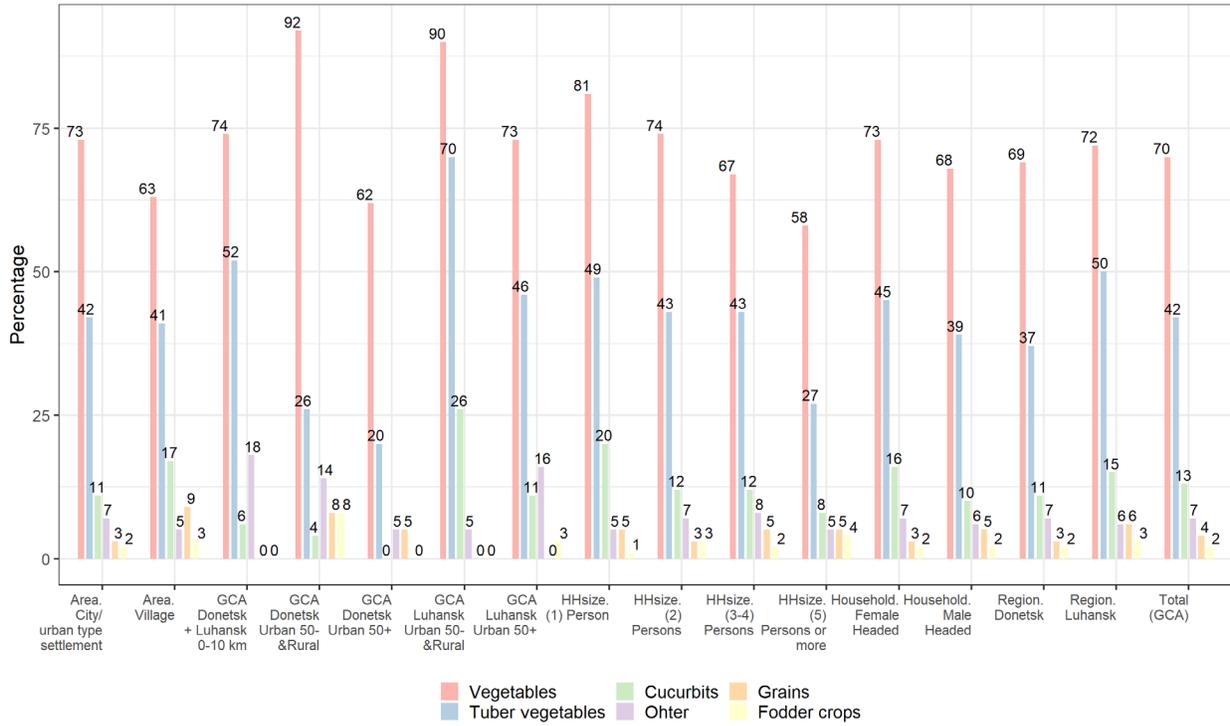


Figure 26. Reasons for growing crops

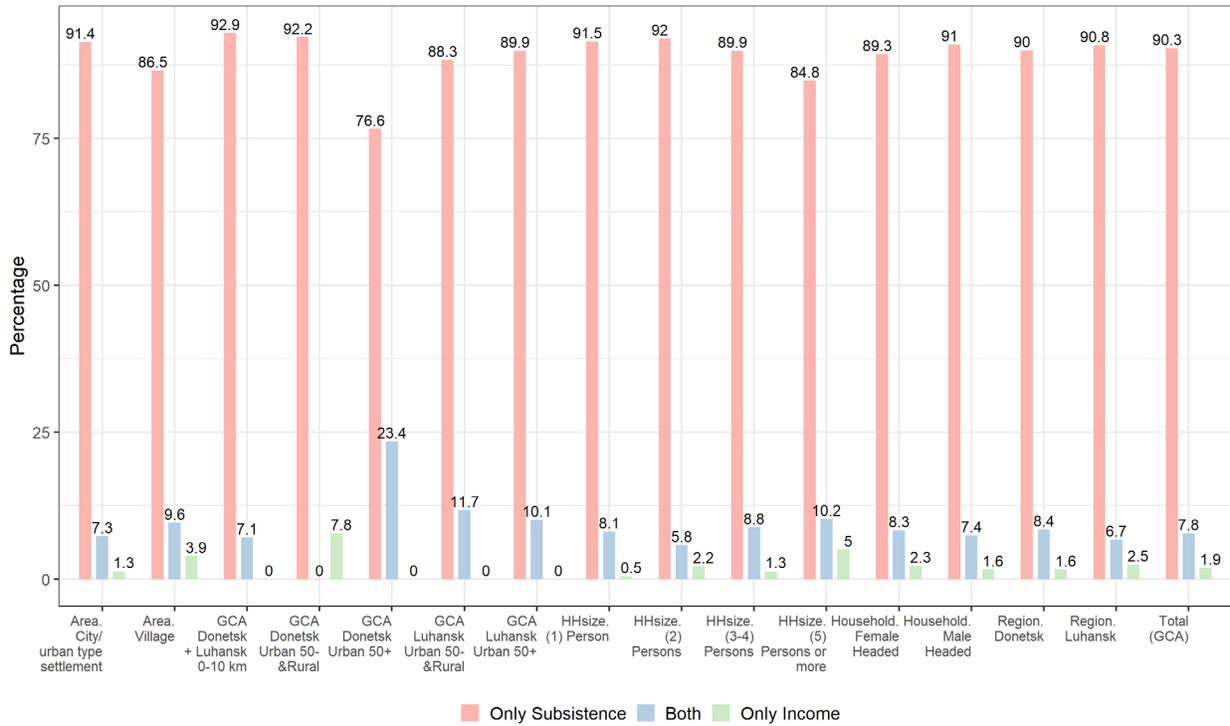


Figure 27. Main reported problems in growing crops

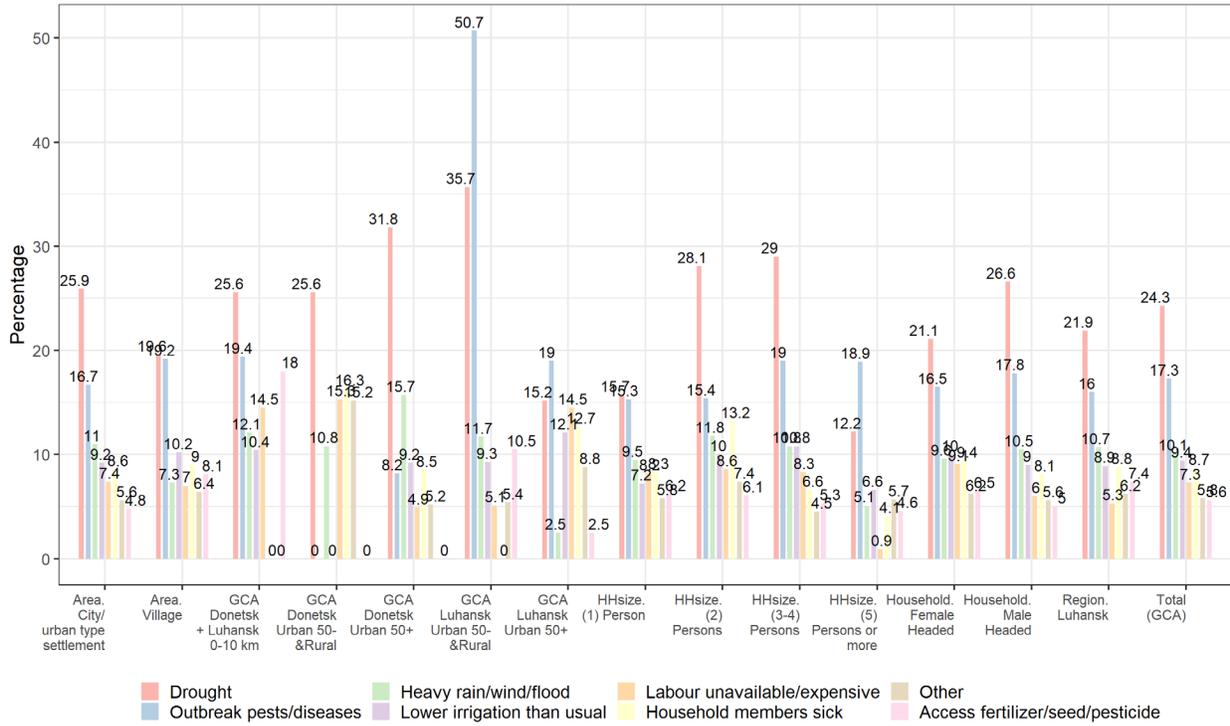


Figure 28. Relevance of livestock raising activities by type of animal

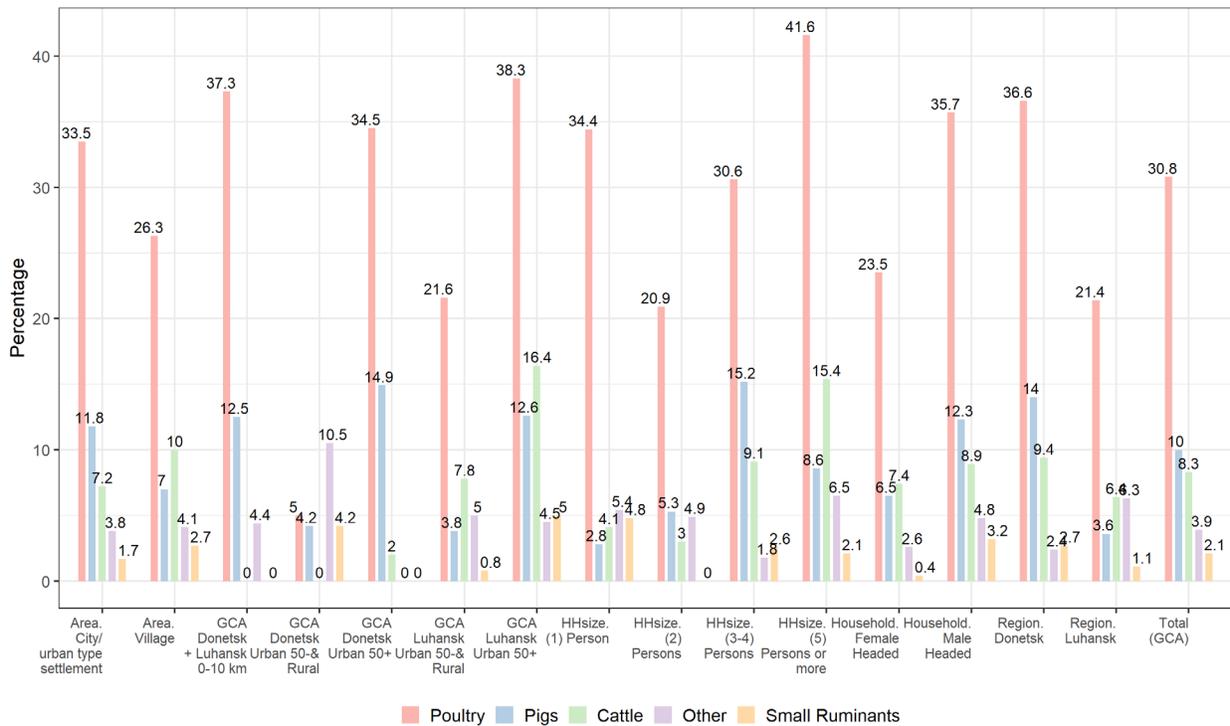
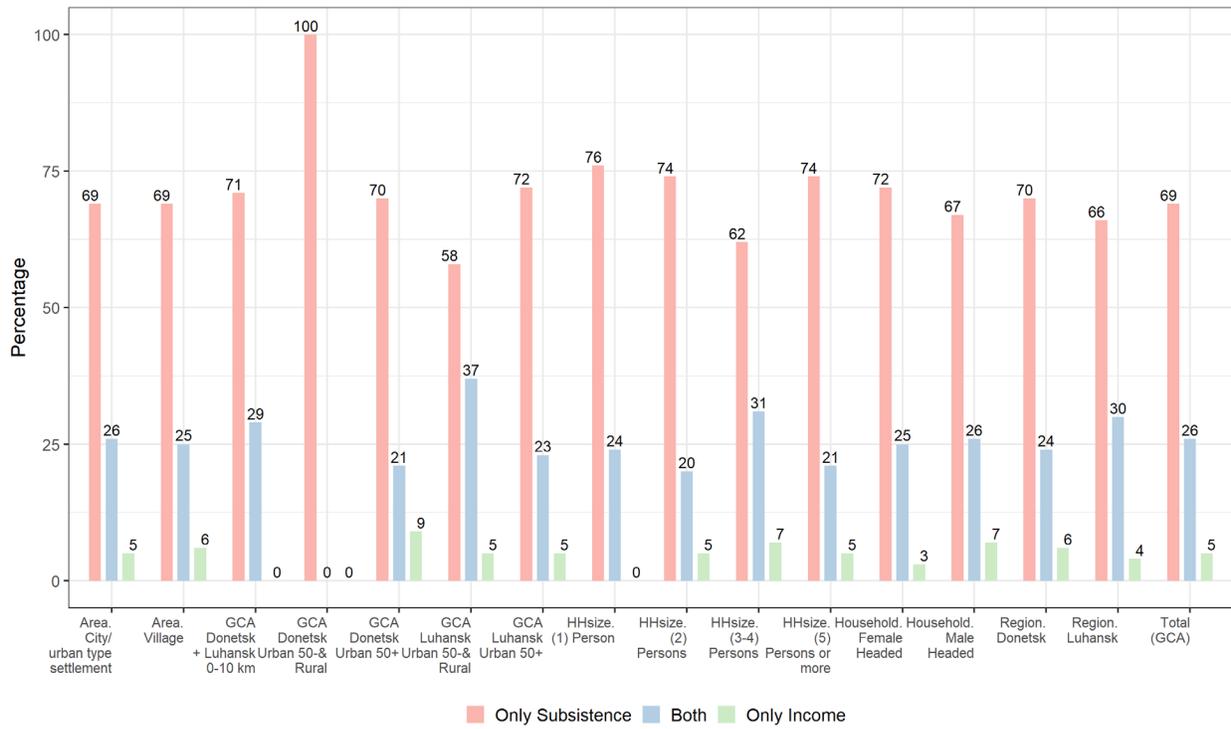


Figure 29. Reasons for raising livestock



Conclusion

The Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) assessment provided a comprehensive overview of households' food security and livelihoods in the Eastern Ukraine conflict area. The armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine underpinned food insecurity aggravating the demographic and economic decline that had been occurring in the region before the conflict.

Some 38% of population rely on pension as the primary income source, and 29% - on humanitarian assistance. Noticeably, own non-agricultural and agriculture are also among the principal sources of income, just by 5% and 3% respectively. The assessment underscore that income vulnerability is a concern with vast majority of respondent reported relying on paid work (35.9%) or only one source of income as paid work (36.5%). Moreover, households are overstressing their coping mechanism to meet their food and essential non-food needs with more than a quarter (28%) took debt during the last three months. Inflation and increasing prices of basic commodities, loss of employment and asset damage due to indiscriminate shelling has further exposed vulnerable household to shocks.

According to the 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview, about 1.5 million people, some 25 percent of the population in the eastern conflict area, are people in need of food security and livelihood support. The assessment revealed that 28.3% of the households in the reference population had experienced food insecurity at "moderate or severe" levels; among the food, insecure female-headed households with significantly more food insecure (37.5%) than male-headed households (20.5%). This food security gender dimension further underpinned a striking difference in vulnerability level between female-headed and male-headed households.

Eastern Ukraine regions face multiple vulnerabilities, a direct result of conflict-related risks, localized trade disruptions, limited economic activities, reduced access to social services, and most recently, the ongoing epidemiological crisis. Its consequence is that the blockade intended to maximize the mobilization of resources protects public health. In addition, all the above factors bring forth a complex household food security and livelihood vulnerability crisis.

With limited livelihood and coping options, exacerbated by years of violent clashes, risks of landmines or unexploded ordinances, especially for people living close to the line of contact and coupled with the ongoing epidemiological crisis and its consequences, localized trade disruptions, poor households in some of the urban areas of Easter Ukraine face food security crisis especially during the winter peak and therefore, would need support. The highest food insecurity rates were detected in locations within 10 km zone along the contact line - estimated around 40% of population there were found with moderate or severe food insecurity.

The revealed close interdependence between propensity to use emergency coping strategies and food insecurity gives a substantial reason to consider investment in livelihoods as a sustainable solution to tackle food insecurity.

The negative socio-economic impacts caused by the measure taken to curtail the pandemic, such as lockdown and physical distancing directives, hindered movement, stain vulnerable households to meet their basic need.

Recommendations

The recommendations are consistent with the list of recommendations in NGCA report and for the purpose of programming, the recommendations are related to short- and medium-term actions.

Short-term

It is highly recommended that vulnerable households who are classified as “moderate” and “severely” food insecure, particularly those that fall in locations within 10 kilometers area along the “contact line,” are priorities for food assistance interventions, based on defined household vulnerability selection criteria especially during winterization months. Subsequently, livelihood interventions can be implemented to further bolster and increase their food supply for vulnerable households and create an additional source of income. The provision of food relief – both in-kind and cash/voucher - should focus the most vulnerable who have not enough capacity to be involved into livelihood activities. Below are suggested activities to increase access to food.

- Provision of unconditional cash transfer to enable the vulnerable population
- Scaling up Multi-Purpose Grants (MPG) to support beneficiaries cover other expense based on their immediate needs. MPG gives the beneficiaries the freedom to address the most needs.
- Implement food voucher and / or cash transfer programming in locations with functional markets.
- All food distribution: in-kind, food voucher, or cash for food should adhered to the agreed food basket value recommended by the cluster²⁴.
- Support alternative livelihoods for moderate and severe food insecure households to enable them to engage in micro enterprise and income generation activities.
- Provide agriculture support for household to contribute to their food needs, including livestock and poultry. A timely and appropriate agriculture support and extension services to improve overall food security situation.
- Cash for work to improve agriculture infrastructure, including irrigation and farmland and markets restoration.
- Advocate and mobilize resources to scale up the humanitarian assistance to the vulnerable households.
- At the stages of programme design and monitoring ensure thorough gender and age analysis to ensure that vulnerable women-headed households are duly covered with the assistance.

Medium-term

The medium-term response will focus on recovery, capacity strengthening, including resilience building of communities, and linking with development actors. Recovery interventions are feasible in locations with relative security especially those beyond 5–10 kilometres away from the” contact line”. Early recovery and livelihood programming must be designed, to factor in winterization, climate changes, and factor in contingency funds to respond to onset emergency. It is crucial that we factor in livelihood capacity building components, extension services and ways to link beneficiaries that are graduating from recovery to development needs. The cluster also recommend a consolidated nexus approach focuses on livelihood diversification, resilience building and market development and restoring infrastructure. The cluster recommends among others the following actions to support livelihood programming:

²⁴ <https://fscluster.org/ukraine/document/food-basket-and-cash-based-transfers>.

- Facilitate people’s ability to start micro and small business enterprise through capacity-building and business grants development.
- Rebuild and strengthen agricultural livelihoods to improve production levels and link farmer to market to sell their products.
- Improve access to skills development including vocational education.
- Establish social protection system to protect the most vulnerable individuals and households from chronic food insecurity.
- Build community resilience to climate change and strengthen agricultural livelihoods through rehabilitation of existing irrigation and agricultural infrastructure, increasing awareness on how to adjust agricultural practice to climate changes and innovations.
- Strengthen the function of public services including agriculture extension services
- Support livelihood diversification and awareness raising on more sustainable agricultural practices.
- Increase access to finance and value chain development.
- Restore agricultural land from mines, recultivation of soils damaged due to the conflict
- Working with communities and academia on safe conservation of abandoned coal mines and their possible usage as farms or other productive facilities.
- Access to non-farm and on-farm income sources.
- Access to household livelihood asset creation.

Continuous Basis Needs Assessment (BNA) on seasonal basis will inform programming based on updated concrete evidence.

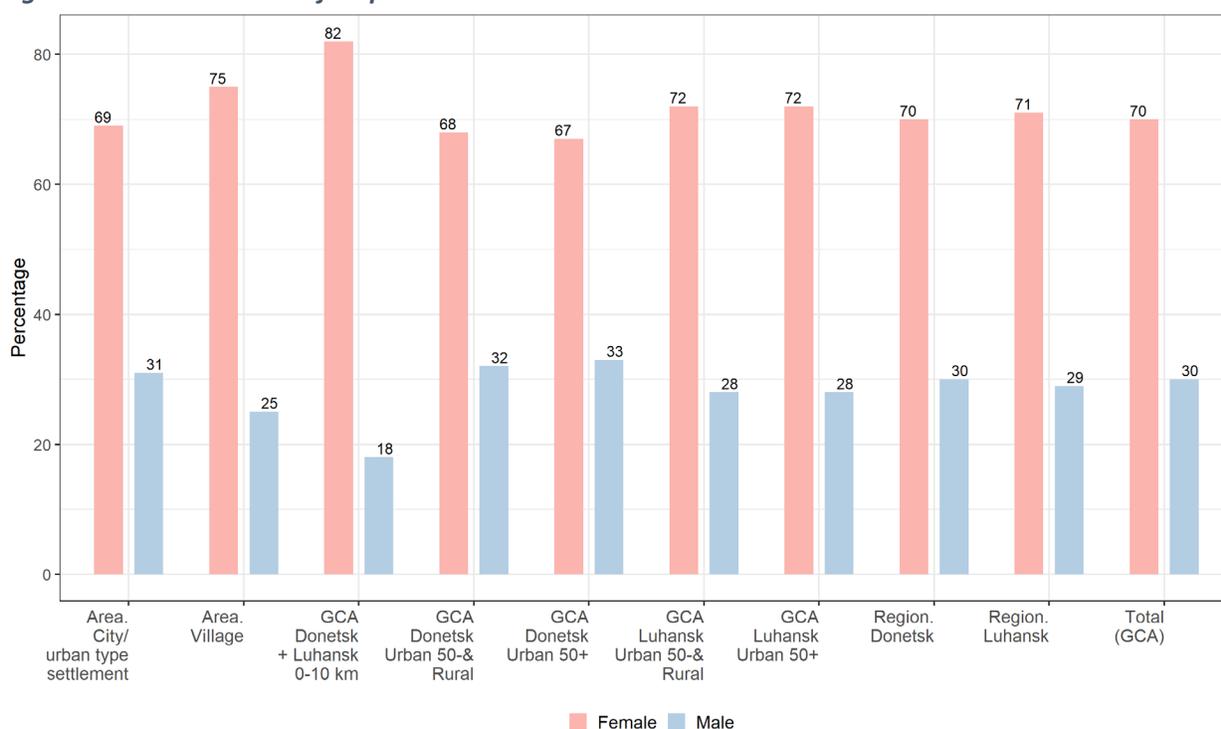
Annexes

Annex 1. Sample and household characteristics

The share of respondents' sex

The random sample favours female 70 percent compared to 30 percent of male respondents who generally answered the call in GCA zone. Figure A1.1 shows that this percentages are quite consistent through different locations with the highest percentage of female respondent (82%) in “GCA Luhansk Urban 50-&Rural” area. The lower percentage of female respondents (67%) is in “GCA Donetsk Urban 50+”.

Figure A1.1. Distribution of respondent sex



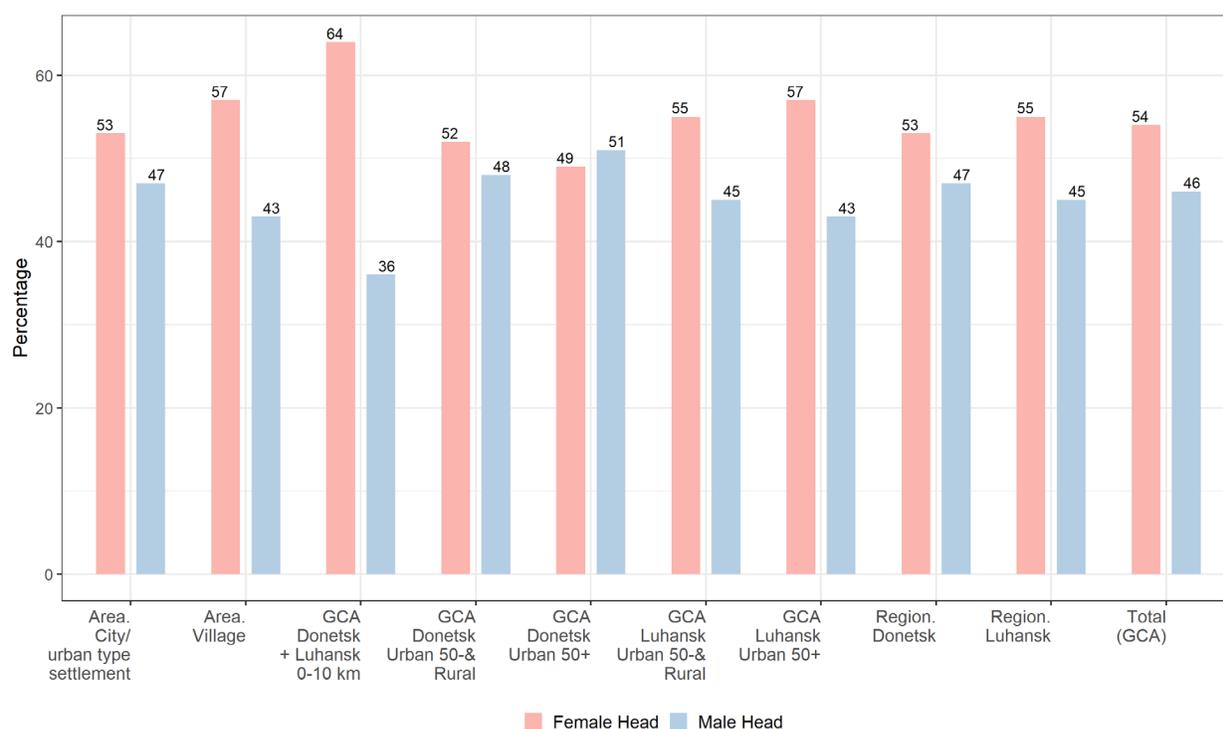
Households Characteristics:

This section is devoted to present the main characteristics of the surveyed households at the whole studied area and disaggregated to the level of each single region (Oblast) and to the target locations across those Oblasts.

The share of the households' head sex

Consistent with the share of the respondents' sex, the sex of the households' head is dominant by females. Figure A1.2 shows that 54% of households are led by females over the whole surveyed areas. However, the most characterised area by male headed households is “GCA Donetsk Urban 50+” (51%).

Figure A1.2. Distribution of the household head sex



The share of households' head age group

The average age of the household head is an important indicator that could be related to the HHs different socioeconomic aspects and their food insecurity levels and coping strategy eventually. Figure A1.3 generally shows that the age category “60 years and above” is the most frequent age group (39.8%) followed by the middle age group that covers 34.1% within the surveyed HHs. The less frequent age group, instead, is the youngest group (25 years and below (1.9%). The only location that observes a kind of extreme characteristics is “GCA Donetsk & Luhansk 0-10 km”, which is clearly dominated by (65.8%) of households head age group of elderly (60 and above).

The share of the households' members' age group

The composition of the households explicitly reveals that the adult category (18-59) is the dominant one within families as it was presented in 72% of the surveyed households. Figure A1.4 shows that older population seems to be dominant in “GCA Donetsk & Luhansk 0-10 km”, where 72% of people were belonging to elderly group above 60 years old. Although they have homogenous distribution, the location that characterised by the highest presence of children below 18 is “GCA Donetsk Urban 50+” by 45%.

The higher education level of the head of the households

An important characteristic of the households that would shape their economic and social conditions is the education level of the household member in general and of the head of the household in specific. Figure A1.5 reveals that generally the most dominant education category is the “Secondary Specialised/technical school” category (43.6%) followed by the “Complete higher/graduate school” education (35%) and the complete secondary education by (15.8%). The distribution of these education levels of the head of the household seems to be fairly consistent in both oblasts Donetsk and Luhansk, with minor difference. Luhansk seems to have more of the higher education category than Donetsk, 38.3%

and 31.2% respectively. “GCA Donetsk Urban 50-&Rural” area, instead, has the highest completed higher education by 47.9%.

Figure A1.3. Distribution of the household head age category

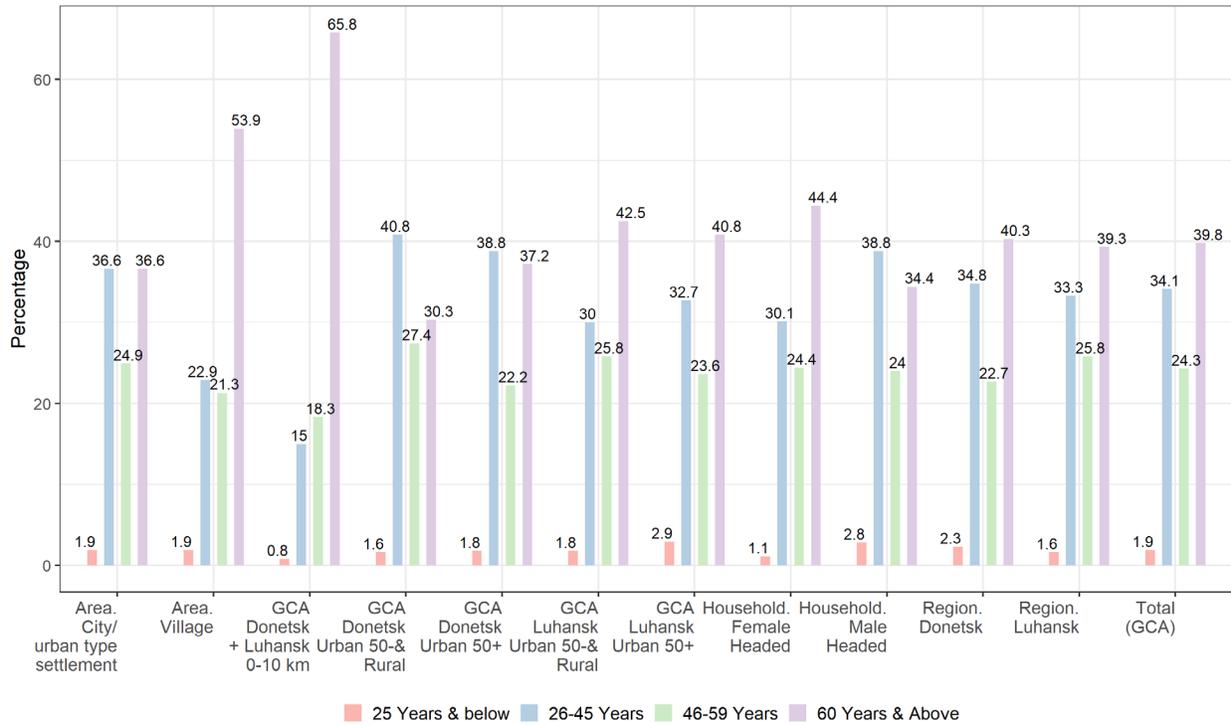


Figure A1.4. Distribution of the household members by age categories

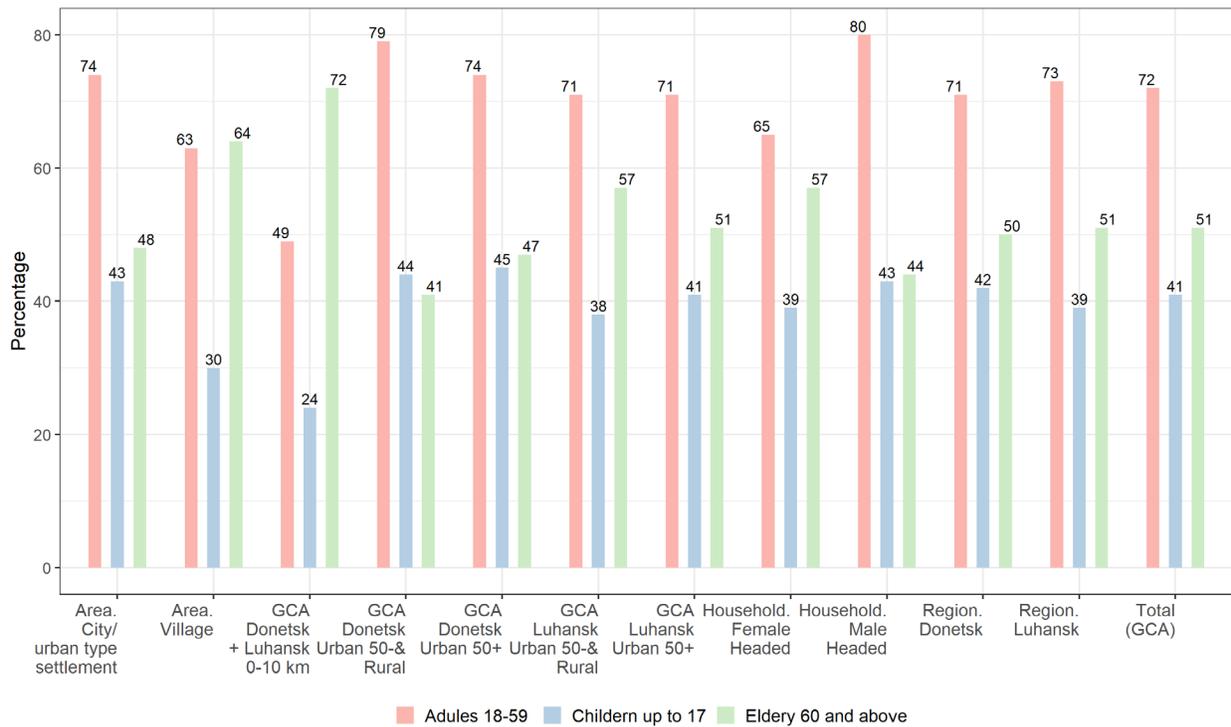
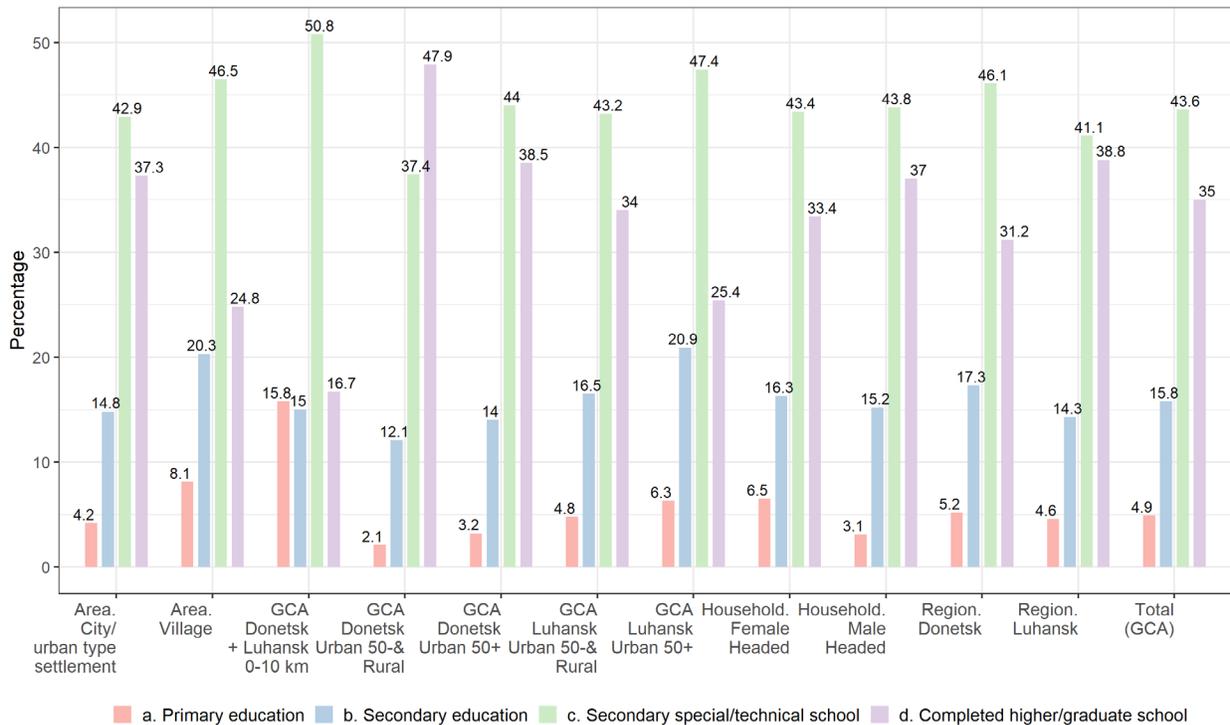


Figure A1.5. Distribution of the household head education categories



The higher education level of the households’ members

Acknowledging the impact of including different generations, the education level categories of households’ member show different distribution than those of the head of the household, putting the higher education category at the top of the rank (44.6%) as shown by Figure A1.6 below. It is notable the presence of almost all categories except the “no education” that seems almost to be missing (2.2%) indicating the presence of minimum education levels in the surveyed areas. The distribution of these education levels seems to be quite different across locations and population groups. While the “Secondary special/technical school” category in Donetsk (35.5%) slightly exceeds the level in Luhansk with 30.7%, the higher education category in Luhansk (48.7%) exceeds its level in Donetsk (40.5%). Other notable differences are the dominance of higher education in “GCA Donetsk Urban 50-&Rural” (57.4%).

Employment of the head of the households

The employment status of the head of the household is another important determinant of the economic conditions and those HHs and their food security levels consequently. The majority of the households’ head (10.2%) are “Retired”, Figure A1.7. The second and third employment categories are “non-government employee” (6.3%) and “government employee” (5.6%). The distribution of these categories is consistent in both oblasts, with a complete dominance of the “Retired” category in “GCA Donetsk & Luhansk 0-10 km” area by (16.7%). Notably, the slight share of household head (1.9%) that is belonging to the “self-employed” category indicate a limited self-employment opportunities especially for female headed households.

Figure A1.6. Distribution of the household members' education categories

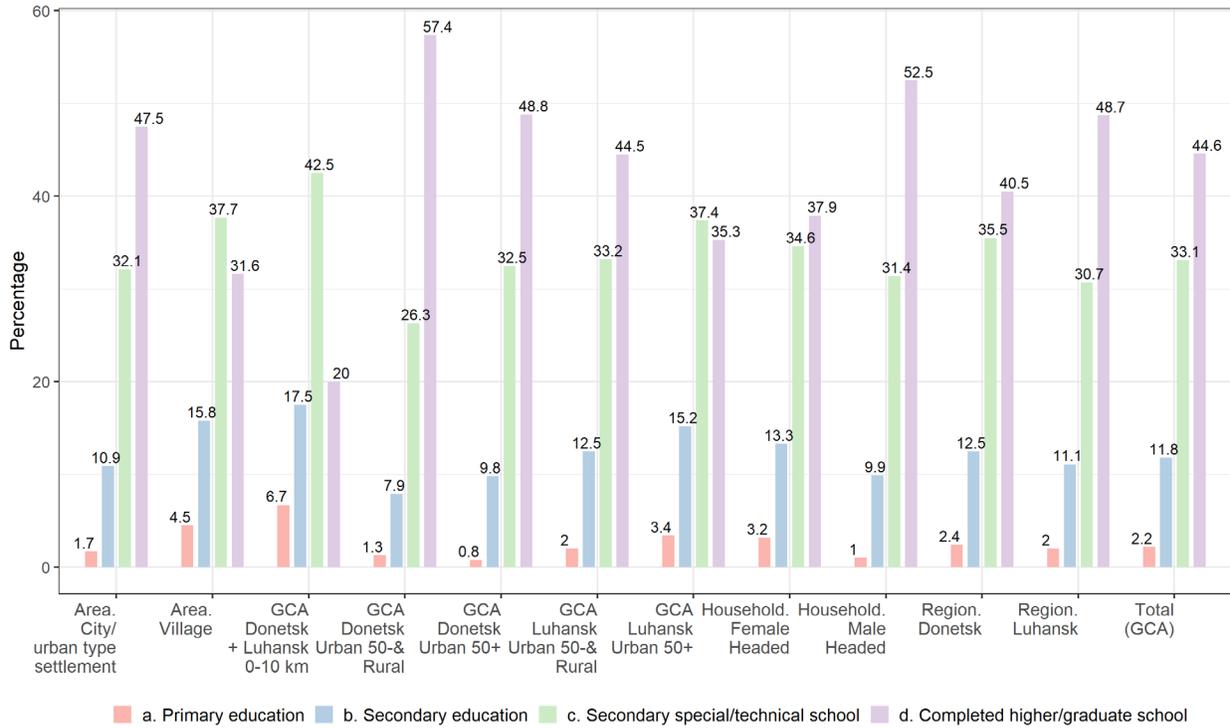
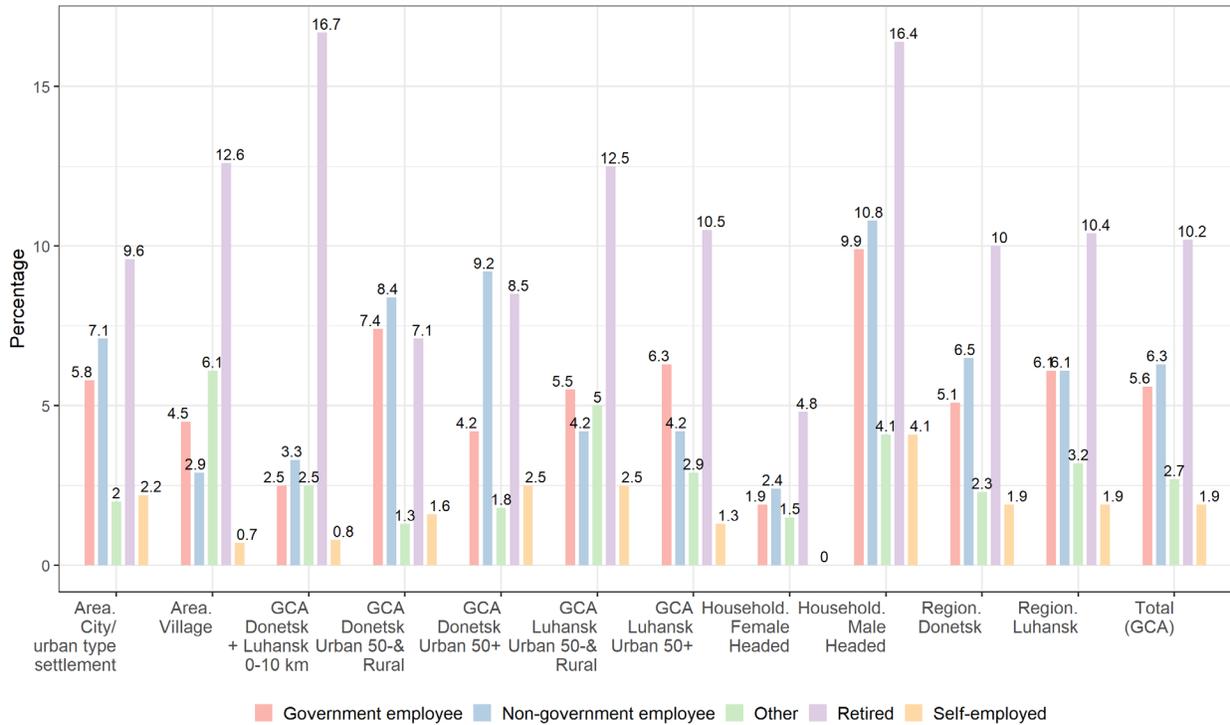


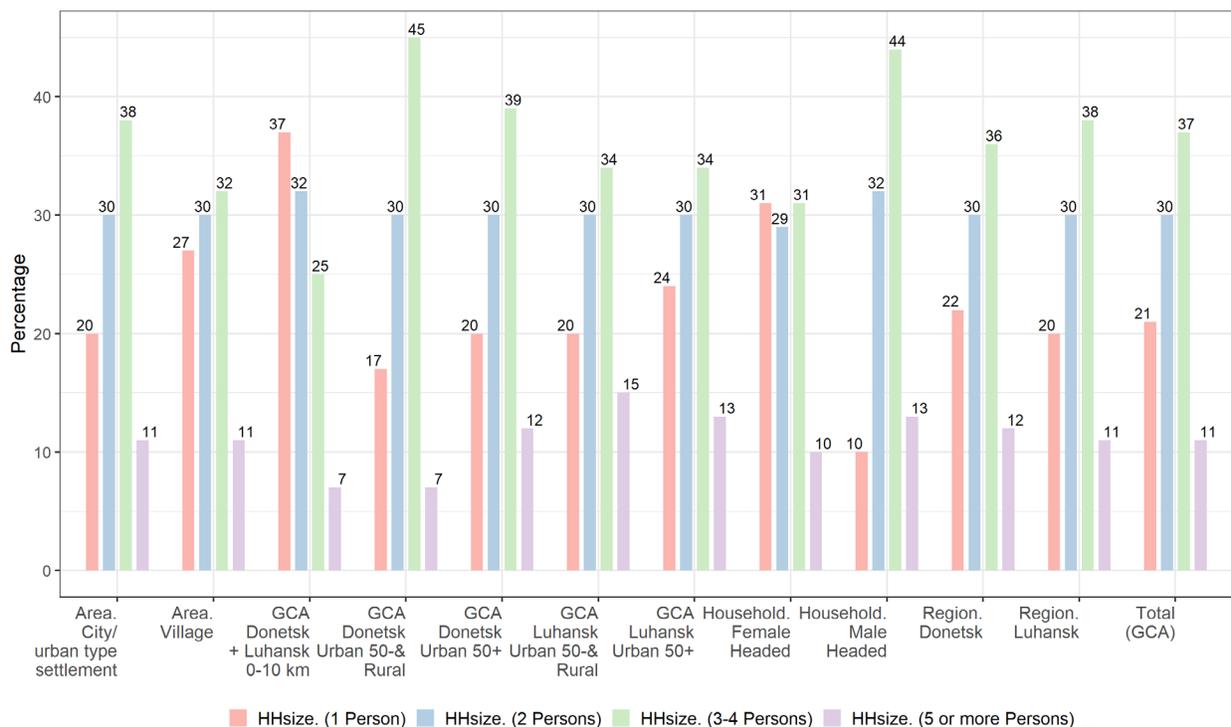
Figure A1.7. Distribution of the household head employment categories



Households' composition

The dominant household type in the surveyed areas are the middle size “3-5 Persons” households (37%). Figure A1.8 also shows that the “Two Persons” household is the second frequent HH’s size (30%) followed by the “One-person” HHs are relatively high (21%). The big households “5 Persons and above” seem to be less frequent instead (11%). More details on the distribution of the household size across locations and population groups in the graph below.

Figure A1.8. Distribution of the household size categories



Households' residency status

The residency structure of the surveyed populations reveals the existence of mainly two categories as shown in Figure A1.9 below. While the “Ukrainian citizen” category is the dominant residency type that constitutes 74.7% of total households, the rest are mainly IDPS (23.9%). This structure is quite homogenous among different locations. Notably, the Ukrainian citizens are the majority in “GCA Donetsk & Luhansk 0-10 km” area of about 93.3%. The majority of IDPs are, instead, located in “GCA Donetsk Urban 50-&Rural” area (31%).

The share of households with vulnerabilities

The households' vulnerability situation is another determinant factor that would impact their food security and livelihoods situation. Figure A1.10 shows the presence of different vulnerabilities that are dominated by “Affected by chronic illness” type (49.3%) that reveals a health problem and/or health care issue in the study areas. While the presence of this kind of vulnerability is more or less consistent among oblasts and locations, it is more pronounced in “GCA Donetsk & Luhansk 0-10 km” area (63.3%). The second group of vulnerabilities is the “Unemployed” and the presence of physical or mental disability “Physically/mentally disability” types of vulnerability that constitute 35.5% and 26% respectively. The third important group of vulnerabilities is the “Single Parent” (13.4%) and the “Veteran of war/ATO” by

7.5%. Almost all these kind of vulnerability categories reveal the effect of the conflict on the households that leaving in the dispute areas.

Figure A1.9. Distribution of the household residency categories

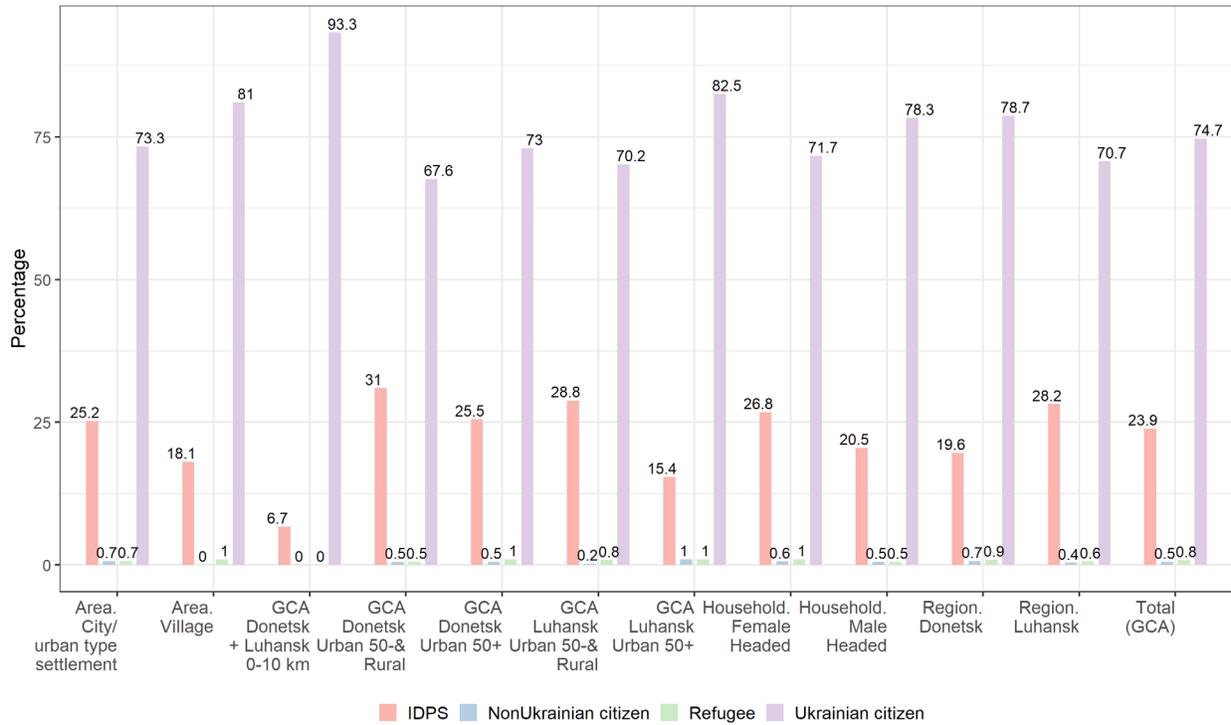
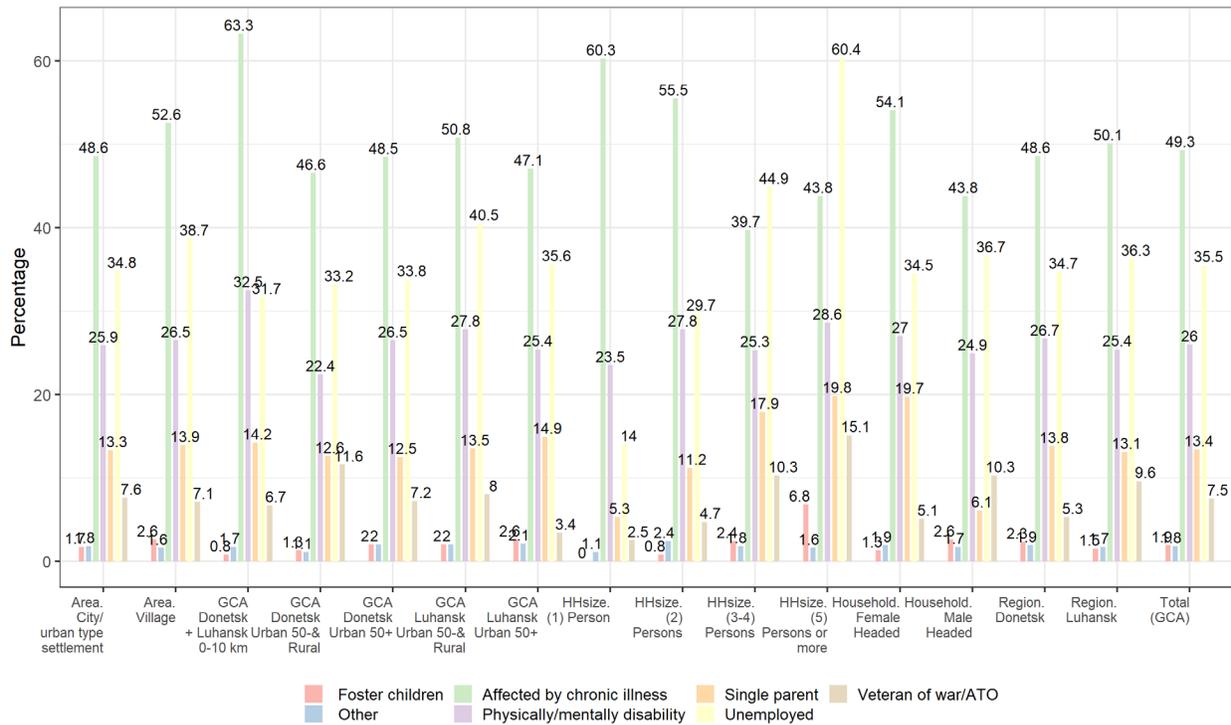


Figure A1.10. Distribution of the household vulnerability categories



Annex 2. FSLA Questionnaire

**FAO Ukraine
Food Security and Livelihood Assessment
Eastern Ukraine**

Note: highlighted questions needs to be discussed with the data collector

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
A. INTRODUCTION AND ELIGIBILITY				
A1	Opting	Opting		Any Response = Call Dispo
A2	Call Dispo	Phone number: #CATI_MOBILENUMBER# 1) Someone answers 2) Answering machine 3) No Answer 4) Hang Up/Refusal 5) Call Back 6) Under Review 7) Disconnected	Single Choice	1 = Language1 2 = End Poll Answering machine 3 = End Poll No Answer 4 = End Poll Refusal 5 = When Callback 6 = End Poll Under Review 7 = End Poll Disconnected
A3	Language1	Which language do you wish to proceed with? [OPERATOR: READ ANSWER CHOICES, SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) Ukrainian 2) Russian	Single Choice	1 = Introduction [] 2 = Introduction []

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
A4	Introduction	<p>Hello sir/ma'am, my name is #OPERATOR#, and I am calling on behalf of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Currently, FAO is conducting a survey in your community to understand issues related to food, agriculture, and livelihoods over the winter period. Your household has been randomly selected. Should you agree to participate, all the information you provide will be strictly kept confidential and be used only for the purpose of the survey. Your decision to participate or not will in no way affect your ability to access any forms of assistance.</p> <p>The survey will take about 15-20 minutes of your time.</p> <p>1) CONTINUE</p>	Single Choice	1 = Agree
A5	Agree	<p>Are you interested in participating in this survey?</p> <p>1) Yes 2) Not now but another time in the week 3) No</p>	Single Choice	1 = RESP Age 2 = When Call Back 3 = Refusal
A6	When Callback	<p>When would it be a good time to call you back?</p> <p>[RECORD HH/MM/DD/MM OF CALLBACK]</p>	Open Ended	Any Response = Callback Message
A7	Callback Message EN	<p>Thank you, we will call you back at #WhenCallBack# you requested. Thank you again and have a great day!</p> <p>[OPERATOR: ENTER CALL NOTES BELOW, WHO YOU SPOKE TO AND WHAT THEY SAID]</p>	Open Ended	End poll callback
A8	RESP. Age	<p>How old are you?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: RECORD THE AGE IN YEARS – ROUND UP TO NEAREST WHOLE NUMBER. IF THE RESPONDENT GIVES BIRTH YEAR, REPEAT THE QUESTION. ENTER 00 for DON'T KNOW]</p>	Range	0-17 = Ineligible Young 18-100 = RESP Name 00 = Ineligible
A9	Ineligible Young	<p>[If age < 18] Is there someone else in your household whose age is 18 or above who would be willing to participate in the survey?</p>	Single Choice	1 = Pass Phone 2 = Ineligible

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
		1) Yes 2) No		
A10	Pass Phone	[If yes] Can you please pass the phone to them? 1) Continue	Single Choice	1 = Introduction
A11	Ineligible	You are ineligible for this survey. Thank you for your time.	Single Choice	End Poll Ineligible
A12	Refusal	Thank you for your time, you will be removed from today's survey.	Single Choice	End poll declined
B. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION				
B1	RESP. Name	What is your name? [OPERATOR: RECORD THE RESPONDENT'S NAME. ENTER 99 FOR REFUSED]	Open Ended	Any Response = ADM1
B2	ADM1	Currently, which oblast does your household reside in? [OPERATOR: DO NOT READ THE OPTIONS. SINGLE SELECTION]	Single Choice	Any Response = ADM2
B3	ADM2	Currently, which raion in #ADM1# does your household reside in? [OPERATOR: DO NOT READ THE OPTIONS. SINGLE SELECTION]	Single Choice	Any Response = Village Name
B4	Village Name	Currently, in which settlement/village in #ADM2# does your household reside in? [OPERATOR: RECORD THE RESPONDENT'S VILLAGE NAME. ENTER 88 FOR DON'T KNOW & 99 FOR REFUSED]	Open Ended	Any Response = Quota_ Reached
B5	Quota Reached	[OPERATOR: DO NOT READ. ANSWER QUESTION BELOW.] THIS RESPONDENT REPORTED THEY LIVE IN: #ADM1# #ADM2# 1) THE GOAL FOR THIS LOCATION HAS BEEN ACHIEVED - END SURVEY 2) THE GOAL FOR THIS LOCATION IS OPEN - CONTINUE SURVEY	Single Choice	1 = End Poll Quota Reached 2 = RESP Sex

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
B6	RESP-Sex	<p>WHAT IS THE GENDER OF THE RESPONDENT?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: LISTEN TO THE VOICE AND CHECK THE BOX WHETHER THE RESPONDENT IS MALE OR FEMALE.]</p> <p>1) MALE 2) FEMALE</p>	Single Choice	1-2 = HH explain
B7	HH-explain	<p>The following questions ask about your household. By household we mean the people who have been living together in the same house, and/or shared the food for the past 6 months. The head of household is the person who makes most of the decisions regarding how to share the available resources and generally is the main earner of the household.</p> <p>[OPERATOR: READ THE EXPLANATORY TEXT, NO ANSWER IS REQUIRED]</p> <p>1) Continue</p>	Single Choice	1 = HH Head
B8	HH Head	<p>Are you the head of the houshold?</p> <p>1) Yes 2) No</p>	Single Choice	1 = HHH Marital 2 = HHH Sex
B9	HHH Sex	<p>Is the head of your household male or female?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: CHOOSE ONLY ONE OPTION]</p> <p>1) MALE 2) FEMALE</p>	Single Choice	1-2 = HHH Age
B10	HHH Age	<p>What is the age of the Head of Household?</p>	Range	Any Response = HHH Marital
B11	HHH Marital	<p>What is the marital status of the head of household?</p> <p>1) Married 2) Widow/Widower 3) Single 4) Common law 5) Other 6) Don't know</p>	Single Choice	1-6= HH. Size

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
B12	HH Size	We would like some information on the composition of your household. How many people in your household belong to each of the following categories? [OPERATOR: READ EACH CATEGORY AND RECORD THE ANSWER]	Range	Any Response = Num. Phones
B12_1		Boys, between 0-4 years of age		
B12_2		Boys between 5 and 17 years of age		
B12_3		Men between 18 and 59 years of age		
B12_4		Men 60 and older	Range	
B12_5		Girls, between 0-4 years of age		
B12_6		Girls between 5 and 17 years of age		
B12_7		Women between 18 and 59 years of age		
B12_8		Women 60 and older		
B13	Num Phones	How many active phones numbers are currently being used by your household?	Range	Any Response = Res. Type
B14	Res Type	How would you describe the residency status of the head of your houshold [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) She/he is a national permanent resident (Ukrainian citizenship) 2) She/he is a foreigner legal resident (non-Ukrainian citizenship) 3) She/he is an Internally Displaced Person 4) She/he is a Refugee 5) Other (specify) 6) DON'T KNOW 7) REFUSED	multiple Choice	1-7 = Vulnerable

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
B15	Vulnerable	<p>Are there people in your household who are?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY</p> <p>1) Physically or mentally disability (not including chronic illness) (YES/NO) 3) Unemployed (YES/NO) 4) Veteran of war/ATO (YES/NO) 5) Single parent 6) Foster children 7) Affected by chronic illness</p> <p>8) Other special needs/disabilities (specify) 9) None</p>	Multiple Choice	1-11 = Education
B16	Education	<p>What is the highest level of education achieved by the Head of Household?</p> <p>[OPERATOR CHOOSE ONLY ONE BASED ON THE RESPONE GIVEN]</p> <p>1) No formal schooling / self-study 2) Incomplete primary education (less than 4 grades) 3) Primary education 4) Incomplete secondary education (less than 10 grades) 5) Complete secondary education (11 grades) 6) Secondary special / technical school 7) Incomplete higher education (3 courses or less) 8) Complete higher education 9) Completed graduate school 10) Don't know / Refusal to answer</p>	Single Choice	1-10= Education 2

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
B17	Education 2	<p>What is the highest level of education achieved by anyone in the Household?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: CHOOSE ONLY ONE BASED ON THE RESPONSE GIVEN]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) No formal schooling / self-study 2) Incomplete primary education (less than 4 grades) 3) Primary education 4) Incomplete secondary education (less than 10 grades) 5) Complete secondary education (11 grades) 6) Secondary special / technical school 7) Incomplete higher education (3 courses or less) 8) Complete higher education 9) Completed graduate school 10) Don't know / Refusal to answer 		1-10 = Employment1
B18	Employment1	<p>What is your current employment status?:</p> <p>[OPERATOR: CHOOSE ONLY ONE BASED ON THE RESPONSE GIVEN]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Government employee 2) Non-government employee 3) Self-employed 4) Student 5) Homemaker 6) Retired 7) Unemployed, able to work 8) Unemployed, unable to work 9) Other. Enter, please: _____ 10) Don't know / Refusal to answer 		1-10 = Employment2

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
B19	Employment2	<p>What is the current employment status of the household head?:</p> <p>[OPERATOR: CHOOSE ONLY ONE BASED ON THE RESPONSE GIVEN]</p> <p>1) Government employee 2) Non-government employee 3) Self-employed 4) Student 5) Homemaker 6) Retired 7) Unemployed, able to work 8) Unemployed, unable to work 9) Other. Enter, please: _____ 10) Don't know / Refusal to answer</p>		1-10 = Main Income Source
C. INCOMES & LIVELIHOODS				
C0	RefPeriodText	<p>We are now moving on to questions about incomes, livelihoods, food, and agriculture. Unless otherwise noted, the following questions refer to the past 3 months and are intended to capture information about the winter period.</p>	String	

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
C1	Main Income Source	<p>Which have been your household's main sources of income over the past three months?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SELECT ALL THAT APPLY BASED ON THE RESPONSE. IF LESS THAN THREE, PROMPT WHETHER THERE ARE OTHERS, CONSIDERING ALL HOUSHOLD MEMBERS]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Income from own agricultural activities 2) Income from own non-agricultural activities 3) Agricultural wage labour (employed by others for farm work) 4) Non-agricultural wage labour (employed in the private or governmental sector outside agriculture) 5) Pensions 6) Benefit from social cash transfer - social benefits - Humanitarian assistance/ charity 7) Remittances from migrants (inside or outside the country) 8) Rents (from owned land or buildings) 9) Returns on financial investments (shareholder related dividends) 10) Other 11) Don't know 12) Refuse 	Multiple Choice	1-17 = Income First Main 18-19 = IncomeChangeP30D
C2	Income First Main	Of these income sources [READ ALL THAT HAVE BEEN REGISTERED IN THE PREVIOUS QUESTION] which one you consider your household's main income source?	Single Choice	Any Response = Total Income Share
C3	Total Income Share	<p>Over the past three months, what share of your household's total income, in percentage, has come from #MainIncomeSource#?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The totality or almost (over 75%) 2) The large majority (50 to 75%) 3) A significant part (25 to 50%) 4) DON'T KNOW 5) REFUSED 	Single Choice	Any Response = IncomeChangeP30D

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
C4	IncomeChangeP30D	<p>Has your household's overall income in the past three months changed compared to the same period last year? Would you say it has...</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) Significantly increased (>50%) 2) Somewhat increased (0-50%) 3) Not changed 4) Somewhat decreased (0-50%) 5) Drastically decreased (> 50%) 6) DON'T KNOW 7) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1-7 = Num Paid Work
C5	Num Paid Work	How many members of your household have engaged in any kind of paid work in the last 3 months?	Range	Any Response = Shocks
C6	Shocks	<p>Has anyone in your household experienced the following shocks in the past 3 months?</p> <p>1)Lost employment/reduced salary 2)Sickness/health expenditure 3)Death of household member/funerals/death of breadwinner 4)Inflation or unexpected price increase (for food, fuel, rent payment, utilities etc.) 4)Court expenditures 5)Insecurity/theft 6)Poor harvest 7)Natural disasters 8)Military damage to the assets 9)Other shock</p> <p>10) None 11) Don't know 12) Refuse</p>	Multiple Choice	Any Response = Debt
C7	Debt	<p>Has the head or any other in f the household taken out any debts over the past three months?</p> <p>1) Yes 2) No</p>	Single Choice	1 = Debt Reason 2 = FOOD SECURITY
C8	Debt Reason	<p>What was the reason for taking out these debts?</p> <p>1) To pay for food</p>	Multiple Choice	1-11 = Debt Outstanding

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
		2) To pay for housing/rent 3) To pay for medical services or medicine 4) To pay for household utilities 5) To purchase agricultural inputs 6) To pay for education 7) To pay for other household expenses 8) To pay debt 9) Other 10) Don't Know 11) Refused		
C9	Debt Outstanding	Are any of these debt(s) still outstanding? 1) Yes 2) No 3) Don't Know 4) Refused	Single Choice	1-4 = FOOD SECURITY
D. FOOD SECURITY				
D1	FS_Introduction	Now I would like to ask you some questions about the food consumed by your household. 1) NEXT	Single Choice	1 = Food Exp Share
D2	Food Exp Share	Approximately what proportion of your household income was spent on food in the last 3 months? 1) 10 - 19% 2) 20 - 29% 3) 30 - 39% 4) 40 - 49% 5) 50 - 59% 6) 60 - 69% 7) 70 - 79% 8) 80 - 89% 9) 90 - 100% 98) Don't know 99) Refuse	Single Choice	1-99 = FoodMainSrc
D3	Food Main Src	In the last 3 months, what has been the main habitual source of food for your household? 1) Own production 2) Small local shops	Single Choice	1-6 = FIES Worried

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
		3) Local farmers' markets 4) In-kind food assistance / humanitarian aid 5) Supermarket or other larger retailer 98) Don't know 99) Refuse		
D4	FIES Worried	During the month of April, was there a time when you or others in your household were worried about not having enough food to eat because of lack of money or other resources? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) YES 2) NO 98) DON'T KNOW 99) REFUSED	Single Choice	1-99 = FIES Healthy
D5	FIES Healthy	During the month of April, was there a time when you or others in your household were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food because of lack of money or other resources? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) YES 2) NO 98) DON'T KNOW 99) REFUSED	Single Choice	1-99 = FIES Fewfoods
D6	FIES Fewfoods	During the month of April, was there a time when you or others in your household had to eat only a limited variety of foods because of lack of money or other resources? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) YES 2) NO 98) DON'T KNOW 99) REFUSED	Single Choice	1-99 = FIES Skipped
D7	FIES Skipped	During the month of April, was there a time when you or others in your household had to skip one of the main meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) because of lack of money or other resources to get food? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]	Single Choice	1-99 = FIES Ateless

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
		1) YES 2) NO 98) DON'T KNOW 99) REFUSED		
D8	FIES Ateless	During the month of April, was there a time when you or others in your household ate less than they thought they should because of lack of money or other resources? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) YES 2) NO 98) DON'T KNOW 99) REFUSED	Single Choice	1-99 = FIES Ranout
D9	FIES Ranout	During the month of April, was there a time when your household ran out of food because of lack of money or other resources? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) YES 2) NO 98) DON'T KNOW 99) REFUSED	Single Choice	1 = FIES Ranout_Freq 2-99 = FIES Hungry
D9_1	FIES Runout_Freq	How often did this happen? Was it only once or twice? Did it happen in some weeks but not every week, or it was every week? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) Rarely (once or twice) 2) Sometimes (in some weeks but not every week) 3) Often (every week)	Single Choice	1-99 = FIES Hungry

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
		98) Don't know 99) Refused		
D10	FIES Hungry	<p>During the month of April, was there a time when you or others in your household were hungry but could not eat because there was not enough money or other resources for food?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES 2) NO 98) DON'T KNOW 99) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1 = FIES Hungry_Freq 2-99 = FIES Wholeday
D10_1	FIES Hungry_Freq	<p>How often did this happen? Was it only once or twice? Did it happen in some weeks but not every week, or it was every week?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) Rarely (once or twice) 2) Sometimes (in some weeks but not every week) 3) Often (every week) 98 Don't know 99) Refused</p>	Single Choice	1-99 = FIES Wholeday
D11	FIES Wholeday	<p>During the month of April, was there a time when you or others in your household went without eating for a whole day because of lack of money or other resources?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES 2) NO 98) DON'T KNOW 99) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1 = FIES Wholeday_Freq 2-99 = Any FIES
D11_1	FIES Wholeday_Freq	<p>How often did this happen? Was it only once or twice? Did it happen in some weeks but not every week, or it was every week?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p>	Single Choice	1-99 = Any FIES

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
		1) Rarely (once or twice) 2) Sometimes (in some weeks but not every week) 3) Often (every week) 98) Don't know 99) Refused		
D12	Any FIES	[OPERATOR: DID THE RESPONDENT ANSWER "YES" TO ANY OF FIES QUESTIONS?] 1) Yes 2) No	Singel choice	1 = Coping Strategies 2 = ASSISTANCE
D13	Coping Strategies	Given the difficulties in getting food you just reported on, did anyone in your household engage in any of the following strategies during last 3 months, in order to be able to get food? 1) NEXT	Single Choice	1 = Sell HH Goods
D14	Sell HH Goods	Sell household assets/goods (e.g., TV set, furniture, etc.)? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) YES 2) NO – because it wasn't necessary 3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it 4) DON'T KNOW 5) REFUSED	Single Choice	1-5 = Take Debt
D15	Take Debt	Purchase food on credit or borrowed food? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) YES 2) NO – because it wasn't necessary 3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it 4) DON'T KNOW 5) REFUSED	Single Choice	1-5 = Send HH Members Away

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
D16	Send HH Members Away	<p>Send households members to eat/live with another family or friends?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES 2) NO – because it wasn't necessary 3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it 4) DON'T KNOW 5) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1-5 = Spent Savings
D17	Spent Savings	<p>Spent savings?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES 2) NO – because it wasn't necessary 3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it 4) DON'T KNOW 5) REFUSED</p>		1-5 = Sell Prod Assets
D18	Sell Prod Assets	<p>Sell productive assets or means of transport (e.g., sewing machine, bicycle, car)?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES 2) NO – because it wasn't necessary 3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it 4) DON'T KNOW 5) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1-5 = Withdraw School
D19	Withdraw School	<p>Withdraw children from school?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES 2) NO – because it wasn't necessary</p>	Single Choice	1-5 = Reduce Health

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
		<p>3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it</p> <p>4) DON'T KNOW</p> <p>5) REFUSED</p>		
D20	Reduce Health	<p>Reduce essential health expenditures (e.g., doctor fees, medicines, etc.)?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES</p> <p>2) NO – because it wasn't necessary</p> <p>3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it</p> <p>4) DON'T KNOW</p> <p>5) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1-5 = Reduce Edu
D21	Reduce Edu	<p>Reduce essential education expenses (e.g., school fees, books, etc.)?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES</p> <p>2) NO – because it wasn't necessary</p> <p>3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it</p> <p>4) DON'T KNOW</p> <p>5) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1-5 = Sell House Land
D22	Sell House Land	<p>Sell a house or land?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES</p> <p>2) NO – because it wasn't necessary</p> <p>3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it</p> <p>4) DON'T KNOW</p> <p>5) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1-5 = Migrate Household

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
D23	Migrate Household	<p>Migrate with the entire household?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES 2) NO – because it wasn't necessary 3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it 4) DON'T KNOW 5) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1-5 = High Risk Job
D23	High Risk Job	<p>Accept high risk, socially degrading or exploitative temporary jobs?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) YES 2) NO – because it wasn't necessary 3) NO - because you already sold those assets or did this activity within the last 12 months and you cannot continue to do it 4) DON'T KNOW 5) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1-5 = Other_coping
D24	Other_coping	<p>Was there any other strategy, not mentioned thus far, you or any other member in your household had to engage to be able to get food?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: RECORD VERBATIM]</p>	Open ended	ASSISTANCE
E. ASSISTANCE				
E1	Assistance Received	<p>Has your household received any kind of aid or assistance in the past 3 months?</p> <p>1) Yes 2) No 3) Don't know 4) Refused</p>	Single Choice	1 = Assistance Satisfied 2-4 = Assistance Need
E2	Assistance Satisfied	<p>How satisfied were you with the aid you received?</p> <p>1) Very satisfied 2) Somewhat satisfied</p>	Single Choice	1-6 = Assistance Need

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
		3) Somewhat unsatisfied 4) Very unsatisfied 5) Don't know 6) Refuse		
E3	Assistance Need	What would be your three GREATEST needs for assistance for your household over the next three months? 1) Agricultural inputs - Seeds, Fertilizers, Pesticides, etc 2) Access to irrigation 3) Livestock support - Veterinary services, Veterinary inputs, Destocking 4) Marketing support 5) Cash assistance 6) Loans 7) Housing 8) Drinking water 9) Fuel 10) Access to healthcare or medicine 11) Other (specify) 12) DON'T KNOW 13) REFUSED	Multiple Choice	1-13 = AGRICULTURE
F. AGRICULTURE				
F1	AgricAny	In the past 3 months, has your household been involved in any agricultural activities? 1) Yes 2) No 3) Don't Know 4) Refused	Single Choice	1 = Agric Activity Involved 2-4 = Closing

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
F2	Agric Activity Involved	<p>Which agricultural activities have you been involved in?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: MULTIPLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) Crop production 2) Vegetable production 3) Fruits production 4) Livestock production (live meat, products, fur) 5) Fisheries/aquaculture 6) Gathering (berries, mushrooms) 7) Bee keeping</p> <p>8) Don't know 9) Refused</p>	Multiple Choice	1-7= Agric Activity Involved Main 8-9 =closing
F3	Agric Activity Involved Main	<p>Which agricultural activity have you been mainly involved in?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) Crop production 2) Vegetable production 3) Fruits production 4) Livestock production (live meat, products, fur) 5) Fisheries/aquaculture 6) Gathering (berries, mushrooms) 7) Beekeeping</p> <p>10) Don't know 11) Refused</p>	Single Choice	1-3= Crops1 4 -7= Livestock1 8- 9 = Closing
F1. CROP PRODUCTION				
F1.1	Crops1	<p>In the -past 3 months, have you been growing crops mainly for the purpose of subsistence (own consumption) or mainly for income?</p> <p>1) Subsistence 2) Income 3) Both</p>	Single Choice	4-5-6= F1.6 1-2-3 = Crop List

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
		4) Not applicable (not the right season for growing) 5) Don't know 6) Refuse		
F1.2	Crop List	What are the main crops that you have been growing in the past 3 months? [OPERATOR: MULTIPLE RESPONSE] 1) Grains 2) Oilseeds 3) Vegetables 4) Tuber vegetables 5) Cucurbits 6) Fodder crops 7) Other (specify) 8) REFUSED	Multiple Choice	1-8 = Main Crop If it was 1 in F1.1 go to F1.6
F1.3	Main Crop	Which crop provides you with the greatest share of your income? [OPERATOR: MULTIPLE RESPONSE] 1) Don't know 2) REFUSED	Single Choice	X-X = Area Planted
F1.4	Area Planted	Compared to the area planted last year, have you planted more or less of #MainCrop# this year?? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) Significantly more 2) Somewhat more 2) Same 4) Somewhat less 5) Significantly less 6) Have not been able to plant this season 7) DON'T KNOW 8) REFUSED	Single Choice	1-8 = Crop Prod Expect

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
F1.5	Crop Prod Expect	<p>What is or what do you expect your crop production of #MainCrop# to be compared to [last year]? Do you think it will be...</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) Significantly more 2) Somewhat more 2) Same 4) Somewhat less 5) Significantly less 7) None or almost none 7) DON'T KNOW 8) REFUSED</p>	Single Choice	1-8 = Main Crop Difficulty
F1.6	Main Crop Difficulty	<p>What are the three major difficulties, if any, that you have faced over the past three months with your crop production?</p> <p>1) No particularly unusual difficulties 2) Outbreak of pests or diseases 3) Heavy rains / floods 4) Hail / storms / strong winds 5) Dry spell / drought 6) Difficulty to access seeds 7) Difficulty to access fertilizers or pesticides 8) Labour not available 9) Labour too expensive or income insufficient to hire labour 10) Access to land restricted by containment measures 11) Lower irrigation than usual 12) Household members sick 13) Lack of markets 14) Access to land 14) Other (specify) 15) DON'T KNOW 16) REFUSED</p>	Multiple Choice	1-16 = Closing

F2. LIVESTOCK

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
F2.1	Livestock1	In the past 3 months, have you been raising livestock mainly for the purpose of subsistence (own consumption) or mainly for income? 1) Subsistence 2) Income 3) Both 4) Don't know 5) Refuse	Single Choice	1-2-3 =F2.2 4-5 = Difficulty Raising Animals
F2.2	Animals Raised	What are the main animals you have been raising for income generation? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) Cattle 2) Small ruminants 3) Poultry 4) Pigs 5) Other (specify) 6) REFUSED	Multiple Choice	1-5 = Main Animal 6 = Difficulty Raising Animals If it was 1 in F2.1 go to F2.7
F2.3	Main Animal	Which animal would you say <u>has</u> provided you with the greatest share of your income in the past 3 months? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) DON'T KNOW 2) REFUSED	Single Choice	Dynamics = Main Animal_Num 1-2 = F2.7
F2.4	Main Animal_Num	How many #MainAnimal# do you have now? [OPERATOR: ENTER 88 FOR DON'T KNOW & 99 FOR REFUSED. ONLY READ ITEMS IN PARENTHESES TO CLARIFY FOR RESPONDENT. MULTIPLE RESPONSE.]	Range	Any Response = Animal Num Comparison
F2.5	Animal Num Comparison	Compared to the same period last year, do you have more or less of your main animals ? [OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE] 1) Much more 2) A bit more 3) The same 4) A bit less 5) Much less 6) DON'T KNOW 7) REFUSED	Single Choice	1-3 = Difficulty Raising Animals 4,5 = Reason Animal Less 6,7 = Difficulty Raising Animals

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
F2.6	Reason Animal Less	<p>Why do you have fewer animals now compared to the same period last year?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: MULTIPLE RESPONSE]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Higher mortality due to lack of veterinary services 2) Better sales than usual 3) Distress sales for urgent cash needed 4) Sold animals because unable to feed them 5) Culled animals for household consumption 6) Other 7) DON'T KNOW 8) REFUSED 	Multiple Choice	1-8 = Difficulty Raising Animals
F2.7	Difficulty Raising Animals	<p>What are your three greatest difficulties, if any, faced over the past three months in terms of raising your animals?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: INSIST ON THE UNUSUAL CHARACTER OF THESE DIFFICULTIES. STRUCTURAL DIFFICULTIES SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED. SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Difficulty to access feed 2) Constrained access to pasture 3) Constrained access to water 4) Difficulty to access veterinary services 5) Difficulty to access veterinary inputs 6) Other (specify) 7) No unusual difficulties faced 8) DON'T KNOW 9) REFUSED 	Multiple Choice	<p>1 = Difficulty Access Feed</p> <p>2-3 = CALLBACK</p> <p>4 = Difficulty Access Vet</p> <p>5 = Difficulty Access Vet Input</p> <p>6-9 = CALLBACK</p>
F2.8	Difficulty Access Feed	<p>Why have you been facing difficulties to access feed for your animals over the past three months?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: SINGLE RESPONSE]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Prices higher than usual 2) Not available from usual vendor 3) Not able to access market to purchase 4) Income insufficient to purchase 5) Other (specify) 6) DON'T KNOW 7) REFUSED 	Multiple Choice	1-7 = CALLBACK

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
F2.9	Difficulty Access Vet	<p>Why have you been facing difficulties to access veterinary services for your animals over the past three months?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: MULTIPLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) Prices higher than usual 2) Not available from usual service provider 3) Not able to access service provider 4) Income insufficient to access service 5) Other (specify) 6) DON'T KNOW 7) REFUSED</p>	Multiple Choice	1-7 = CALLBACK
F2.10	Difficulty Access Vet Input	<p>Why have you been facing difficulties to access veterinary inputs for your animals over the past three months?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: MULTIPLE RESPONSE]</p> <p>1) Prices higher than usual 2) Not available from usual vendor 3) Not able to access market/shop to purchase 4) Income insufficient to purchase 5) Other (specify) 6) DON'T KNOW 7) REFUSED</p>	Multiple Choice	1-7 = CALLBACK
G. CLOSING				
G1	Callback	<p>Thank you for participating in this survey. Your answers will help us to understand and respond to your community needs. May we call you back again in the near future?</p> <p>[OPERATOR: DO NOT READ OPTIONS. CHOOSE ONLY ONE OPTION]</p> <p>1) YES 2) NO</p>		1-2 = Language2

Q#	Q Name	English	Question Type	Skip Pattern
G2	Language2	Select the language that was mostly used to complete the interview. [OPERATOR: DO NOT READ OPTIONS. CHOOSE ONLY ONE OPTION] 1) Russian 2) Ukranian		1-2 = Close-Out
G3	Close-Out	Thank you for your time. The interview has come to an end.		NA