



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Ukraine

Humanitarian response update

5 June 2024

- The Emergency Response Plan (ERP) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for 2024 requires USD 150 million to assist 821 050 people in rural areas through December 2024.
- To date, FAO has raised USD 17.5 million against the total of USD 150 million under the ERP 2024, leaving a gap of USD 132.5 million, which are urgently needed to support vulnerable households and farmers in frontline areas during the production season of 2024 and in order to prepare for the winter season 2024/25.
- In 2024, FAO has already supported 33 430 rural families with cash and voucher assistance and drip irrigation kits to enable them to cover their immediate needs and restore and keep production. Moreover, 3 130 farmers benefited from the distribution of spring crops seeds, generators, temporary storage equipment, animal feed, and cash and vouchers.
- Due to the tense security situation in Kharkivska oblast, FAO will scale up its activities in the region, cooperating closely with the Government of Ukraine, local authorities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). FAO will increase its presence in the region to coordinate needs assessment and timely response, as well as monitor the needs for animal evacuation.

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

- The Third Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (February 2022–December 2023) estimates that the damage and losses amount to USD 80.1 billion in the agriculture sector and USD 1.4 billion in the irrigation and water resources sector. Moreover, the area under cultivation in 2022 fell by around 20 percent, and grain and oilseed production by 30 percent compared to the previous year.
- According to the Ministry of Economy, approximately 17.4 million ha are potentially contaminated. A large size of arable lands was abandoned because it is difficult to harvest or access fields that are either confirmed or believed to be contaminated.
- Critical infrastructure has also been destroyed by the war, notably the Kakhovka Dam and its reservoir, which served as the backbone of the largest irrigation system in Europe, supplying 306 500 ha of agricultural lands in Dnipropetrovska, Khersonska, and Zaporizka oblasts that along with Mykolaivska and Odeska oblasts made up more than 25 percent of all of Ukraine's arable land prior to the war. The Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (October 2023) – supported by FAO – estimates USD 406.6 million in damage and losses to agriculture caused by the breach of the Kakhovka Dam, which impacted not only the actively farmed lands but also fish, fruit and vegetable production that ensured diversity of micronutrients and national food security.
- In 2023, the cultivated area of cereal crops decreased by 9 percent for small agricultural enterprises and by 20 percent for frontline enterprises, in comparison with 2022. Furthermore, 12 percent of small enterprises reported that unexploded ordnance may have contaminated their land; with one in three reporting so in the frontline oblasts.
- Commercial crop producers reported 2.3 percent decrease in cultivated land area in Ukraine compared to pre-war figures, totaling 266 400 ha loss. Approximately 10 percent of surveyed enterprises reported having part of their land potentially contaminated by unexploded ordnance, rising to over 21 percent in the frontline oblasts with a higher share of damaged agricultural machinery and equipment.

Ongoing and planned assistance

- During spring 2024, FAO supported 2 892 small and medium-sized farmers from eight frontline oblasts with 3 847 tonnes of cereal seeds – spring wheat, sunflower and soybean seeds. The seeds provided allow farmers to cultivate 28 500 ha of land.
- An additional 54 farmers from Kharkivska oblast received vouchers to purchase seeds and equipment in order to maintain operations on the unmined lands, as well as building materials to safeguard their premises from destruction. In 2023, these farmers also received cash transfers (USD 1 000 each) for livelihoods restoration.
- Responding to the ongoing energy crisis in the country,

FAO has been distributing generators to agricultural producers and food processors from nine frontline oblasts to ensure power backup source for crucial enterprises for food security in affected regions. In 2024, FAO has already distributed 15 generators to organic producers, and plans to support an additional 151 enterprises by the end of the year.

- FAO has distributed 139 modular storage units (MSU) to farmers from Khersonska, Mykolaivska and Khakivska oblasts in order to provide farmers with temporary storage equipment. In total, 244 MSUs will be distributed to farmers in the coming weeks to cover their grain storage needs. Additionally, 204 grain sleeves have been distributed to 17 enterprises from Khersonska oblast. Because of the war, these farmers have lost their grain storage facilities.
- FAO and General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean provided 50 tonnes of fish feed valued at USD 89 825 to support 13 aquafarmers and is in the process of facilitating training for Ukrainian Fishery experts on feed and processing to enhance their skills.



- FAO has provided 14 355 rural families from Donetsk, Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Zaporizska oblasts with sectoral cash payments worth USD 150 for purchasing animal feed.
- Sectoral cash for livelihoods restoration was distributed to 2 860 mine-affected rural families in Kharkivska oblast, providing each with USD 700 for spring cultivation season. Similar support will be provided to 1 750 mine-affected households – each will receive sectoral cash payments/ vouchers worth USD 800 to restore their livelihoods and continue food production in Mykolaivska oblast.
- FAO has been providing vouchers to 15 715 families to enable them to purchase agricultural production inputs, restore livestock shelters and purchase veterinary medicine. An additional 5 030 families will receive vouchers for veterinary inputs before the end of June.
- FAO has supported 500 rural families from Odeska oblast with drip irrigation equipment, fostering cost-effective

and water-conserving vegetable cultivation. In 2023–2024, these families received multi-purpose cash assistance to cover their immediate needs.

- FAO plans to support 15 940 rural families with poultry production kits, containing 30 one-day-old poultry and 25 kg of starter feed, sufficient for two weeks. This support will enable the families to have a reliable supply of animal protein in about 42 days.
- In the coming weeks, FAO will provide training sessions on beekeeping, aquaculture and dairy for over 1 500 families in Sumska oblast involved in these sectors. The families that will pass the training will receive sectoral cash payments worth USD 1 000 to purchase equipment and construction materials to maintain their farming households.
- Seven laboratories of the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection (SSUFSCP) have received test kits for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (brain disease in cows) in an amount sufficient to carry out 122 940 tests.
- FAO has supported the SSUFSCP by providing 47 000 kg of disinfectants, required to carry out disinfection in centers of outbreaks of infections.
- To strengthen the fight against illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and to control overfishing activities, FAO provided the State Agency of Melioration and Fisheries of Ukraine with 250 000 tags for marking fishing gear, which were distributed to commercial fishers with official fishing permits.
- To safeguard and modernize Ukraine's Plant Genetic Resources (PGR) as well as to protect long-term collections, FAO will launch a Doublet Center. Additionally, the Germplasm Resource Information Network (GRIN-Global) database platform will be implemented to modernize the information technology system for PGR, supporting the maintenance and tracking of collections both within and outside Ukraine. Concurrently, a comprehensive strategy for the development of the PGR system of Ukraine is being prepared, aiming to ensure its sustainability and effectiveness.



Partnerships


- FAO works in close collaboration with the Government of Ukraine, particularly the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine and local administrations, as well as United Nations (UN) partners and NGOs.
- Through the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC), FAO, in collaboration with the World Food Programme, is coordinating inter-agency work on food security and agriculture. Currently, there are 209 FSLC partners, including national and international NGOs and UN agencies, among others.
- FAO works closely with implementing partners who play a crucial role in assisting with beneficiary selection, distributions, monitoring, and engagement with communities throughout the implementation of activities to ensure accountability and inclusion.



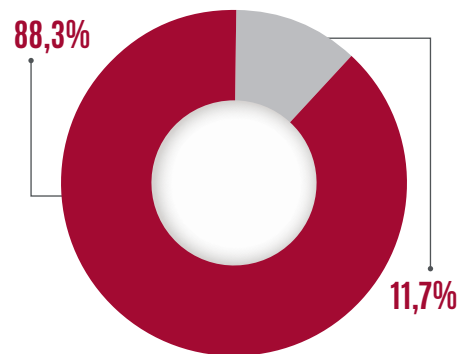
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Funding

 FAO requires **USD 150 million**

 to assist **821 050 people**

FUNDING GAP
USD 139.5 million



FUNDING TO-DATE
USD 17.5 million

Resource partners

Belgium, Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance of the United States Agency for International Development, Canada, Czech Republic, the European Union, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, the Minderoo Foundation, Norway, Poland, the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund, the Ukraine Community Recovery Fund, the city of Ulsan (Korea)

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REQUIRED CITATION: FAO. 2024. *Ukraine: Humanitarian response update*, 5 June 2024. Kyiv.



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