• Severe damages to energy infrastructure are worsening the humanitarian crisis, and the disruption of electricity supplies has a direct effect on agricultural production, animal health and inland fisheries. Human health is also at risk through food-borne diseases.

• FAO conducted a rapid needs assessment in the newly accessible areas of Khersonska oblast to understand the levels of vulnerability in rural communities and priority needs of the agriculture sector. Under the current conditions, widespread support is urgently needed, however, the most prominent needs in the agriculture sector include access to seeds, fertilizers, livestock, and finance. There is also a significant need for power generators, tools, building materials and equipment for agricultural production.

• Preliminary findings of the recently conducted nationwide assessment that focused on the impact of the war on rural livelihoods, revealed that more than one in four respondents have reduced or ceased agricultural production, with one in every three respondents having done so in the front-line oblasts. The major difficulties expected in the coming months in terms of agricultural production include low benefits from the sale of products; access to fertilizers and pesticides; access to fuel and electricity to power equipment; and access to animal feed.

• Since the beginning of the war, approximately 64 percent of Ukraine’s agricultural exports have been transported through ports, 23 percent by railway and 12 percent by road. A new railway terminal opened in Hungary on the border with Ukraine with a capacity of one million containers per year will be used primarily to facilitate grain exports from Ukraine to the ports of the northern Adriatic.

• The harvesting of grain and leguminous crops has been carried out on an area of 9 million ha, or 81 percent, with a yield of 43.4 tonnes/ha. As of 24 November, 39.1 million tonnes of grain were harvested.

• Unexpected rainfall pattern has delayed the autumn sowing campaign for two–four weeks. As of 24 November, the sowing campaign of winter crops has been completed by 94 percent. Thus, 4.4 million ha of grains were sown, in addition to nearly 1 million ha that were sown with the winter rapeseed. Demand for fertilizers for the autumn sowing campaign has dropped by 50 percent compared with the previous year.

• Due to high prices of energy, the supply of greenhouse cucumbers sharply decreased pushing the prices up by 2 December 2022

• According to the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food (MAPF), since 24 February 2022, Ukraine exported 29.1 million tonnes of agricultural products. As of 28 November, in the 2022/23 marketing year, Ukraine exported 17.3 million tonnes of cereals (including about 50 000 tonnes of flour) compared with 25.3 million tonnes during the same period in the previous marketing year.

• The Government of Ukraine has developed a new initiative entitled “Grain from Ukraine”. Through this initiative, developed countries can now purchase Ukrainian grain for low-income countries in Africa and Asia to ensure food availability in these areas and support the Ukrainian economy.

• As of 27 October 2022, the estimated number of internally displaced people within Ukraine is 6.5 million.

• Through its Rapid Response Plan (RRP) and Grain Storage Support Strategy (GSSS), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) requires a total of USD 180.4 million to assist 979 320 people in Ukraine by the end of 2022; address 30 percent of the grain storage needs; and strengthen government capacity for food commodity testing and certifications necessary for export at border facilities.

• To date, FAO has mobilized USD 84.7 million, leaving a gap of USD 95.7 million, which must be filled urgently to support vulnerable households in rural areas during the winter season.

• FAO continues to work on the ground in Ukraine with a team of over 95 members, including technical and operational personnel deployed to support the scale-up.

1 As of 1 December, over 12 million tonnes of grain and foodstuffs have been exported so far through the Black Sea Grain Initiative. Approximately 20 percent of the cargo has gone to low and lower-middle income countries, 29 percent to upper-middle income countries, and 51 percent to high-income countries. Around 45 percent of the wheat exported is destined for low and lower-middle income countries.

About 17 million tonnes of grain, oilseeds and related products have been exported to or via the European Union since the start of the war until November 2022 using non-maritime transportation channels, supported by the EU-Ukraine “Solidarity Lanes” initiative.
FAO is providing technical support to the State Service for Food Safety and Consumer Protection of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection to strengthen the government’s capacity to carry out testing and certification for food commodities for export at border facilities. FAO is also supporting six national laboratories with the equipment required for the detection of nucleic acids of infectious diseases by the method of real-time polymerase chain reaction.

FAO will assist the National Academy of Agrarian Sciences to preserve a unique national collection of plant genetic resources, which is not only of national but also of global importance in terms of the volume and diversity of genetic materials. The intervention aims to relocate the multi-year collection to a safe storage place to improve the information system of plant genetic resources with modern information technology support and to ensure the longer-term conservation and safety-duplication of the genetic samples.

In the coming weeks, FAO will provide animal feed and health supplements to vulnerable livestock keepers in 13 oblasts of Ukraine. This will enable over 27 000 most affected households to meet their food and nutrition needs.

FAO will target approximately 2 200 vulnerable rural livestock-keeping households from Sumyska, Mykolayivska and Odesa oblasts with a livestock shelter winterization programme. Each household will receive a voucher worth approximately USD 300 to purchase tools and building materials for repairing damaged livestock shelters.

In the coming weeks, FAO will start a pilot agricultural input voucher programme targeting rural households in 11 hromadas of Lvivska oblast, including displaced households, host families, households who have lost livelihoods due to the war, and other vulnerable categories. This programme will benefit approximately 2 200 households with a voucher worth approximately USD 300 to enable them to purchase agricultural production inputs, including tools, machinery, building materials, seeds, pesticides, and other items.

FAO is also undertaking a number of assessments, including an assessment of front-line settlements to understand the impact of the war and the needs of these communities; a national assessment of micro- and small-scale farmers to analyse the impact of war on agricultural activities; and a damage and loss assessment focusing on fisheries and aquaculture as part of a broader effort with the Kyiv School of Economics.

FAO is in the process of formulating its RRP for 2023 to support the rural households and small-scale farmers with seeds, generators, and other agricultural production inputs. The revised appeal is estimated at USD 205 million and aims to support more than 520 400 agriculture-dependent households (1.353 million people). FAO will prioritize assistance to rural households and farmers in front-line oblasts and areas directly impacted by the war.
FAO requires USD 180.4 million
- USD 115.4 million to assist 979,320 people
- USD 65 million to address 30% of the grain storage needs in Ukraine

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

Partnerships
- FAO works in close collaboration with the Government of Ukraine, particularly MAPF and local administrations, as well as United Nations (UN) partners and non-governmental organizations (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 398 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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