



Photo Credit: IRD

A family readies for the winter, in Severodonetsk.

## In numbers



**850,000 +** displaced, increasing

### Activities to date:

**38,000** reached

**28,000** in-kind food

**10,000** vouchers

### Planned, through June 2015.

**188,000** individuals targeted

**108,000** in-kind food (one-off)

**80,000** receive C&V (x3 rounds)

**8 Months** duration

**Total Cost: US\$ 21.5m**



World Food Programme

# Emergency Response: Ukraine Crisis

## Highlights

- As the humanitarian situation continues to worsen, considering a significant increase in hostilities and its impact on those families who have struggled since the conflict began last year, WFP is scaling up its operations to provide food assistance to 188,000 individuals through the first half of this year.
- By the end of January, WFP will have reached 20,000 conflict affected individuals in Donetsk and Luhansk with in-kind food parcels. Another 20,000 food parcels will be repositioned.
- WFP plans to distribute food vouchers for 20,000 people in Donetsk in the coming weeks. Additionally, in Luhansk both cash and vouchers (C&V) will be used to reach another 10,000 people, beginning in early February.
- Of all in-kind food distributed to date, more than half has been provided in areas not under government control. For all upcoming assistance, the distribution of food parcels is planned in the buffer zones and areas not under the control of the Government. C&V activities will take place in more secure areas of Donetsk and Luhansk.

## Situation Update

- The number of the registered internally displaced (IDPs) has significantly increased since the Government of Ukraine announced the closure and withdrawal of all government services—including social payments—in areas not within its control. This surge of displacements further aggravates an already concerning situation—including a strained host community, drained volunteer support networks, and overloaded state social services.
- Food prices are increasing with rising inflation. This, coupled with the closure of state services and banks, inaccessible pensions, depleted savings and the overall lack of available hard currency, means that food access will continue to deteriorate. Additionally, physical access to markets within or near the buffer zone is complicated by ongoing security threats. It is also likely that current coping strategies are not sustainable for the coming months, with the risk of a worsening of household food security. This is especially true for the elderly, the institutionalized, and other vulnerable individuals.
- Food needs within state institutions in or near areas of conflict are of serious concern. To date, food supplies have been scarce and replenishments are unreliable—provided from the already-stretched local community. There are clear indications of an urgent need to reach these vulnerable groups.

## WFP Response

- WFP launched its Emergency Operation (EMOP) in November 2014 for an initial period of six months. A current budget revision has extended the EMOP through June 2015.
- The ongoing EMOP will reach 188,000 individuals with food assistance. Of this total, 108,000 will receive a one-off support of in-kind food parcels, and 80,000 individuals will receive three rounds of C&V assistance. The EMOP is valued at US\$ 21.5 million and follows the IR-EMOP.
- WFP's approach is designed to reach the most vulnerable internally displaced families (IDPs), returnees, host families and those trapped in conflict hotspots. Assistance is provided mostly in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts – areas most affected by months of fighting.
- In December 2014 the Food Security Cluster was activated in Ukraine. As co-leader of the Cluster, WFP is coordinating the food security and nutrition response in the country. WFP's response is "gap-filling" taking into account ongoing assistance provided mostly by the civil society, NGOs, private foundations and other key actors.
- The C&V component—valued around US\$45/person/month— provides beneficiaries access to food items available in local supermarkets. The modality will address short-term food needs in more secure IDP hosting areas with adequate food supply and where markets are functioning. In the initial phases of the EMOP, the voucher modality is mostly being used, in order to quickly initiate urgent support while cash mechanisms are still being finalized. The voucher system is continually being improved by strengthening the requirements for participating shops and thorough monitoring. WFP continues to lead the cash working group in Ukraine, assisting with lessons learned and providing support across the humanitarian community to ease cash and voucher based deliveries of assistance.
- Locally purchased food parcels are being provided to cover needs where C&V activities are not feasible. The current package is composed of canned meat, fish, buckwheat, pasta, beans, as well as oil, sugar, salt and tea. For the winter months, WFP has increased the food basket to feed one person for a 30 day period – including heightened daily caloric requirements for colder weather (2,600kcal/person/day).
- As comprehensive food security data has been unavailable to date, WFP conducted a rolling assessment throughout the five eastern oblasts. This data is being used to refine targets of future WFP programming. Results will be made available soon.
- Upholding high humanitarian standards, WFP continues to deliver impartial and neutral humanitarian assistance in order to reach more vulnerable individuals affected by the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

## Partnerships

- For the initial round of in-kind distributions through the EMOP, WFP is working with international NGOs, including International Relief and Development (IRD), People in Need (PIN), and Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). PIN and IRD are also WFP's partners for C&V activities.

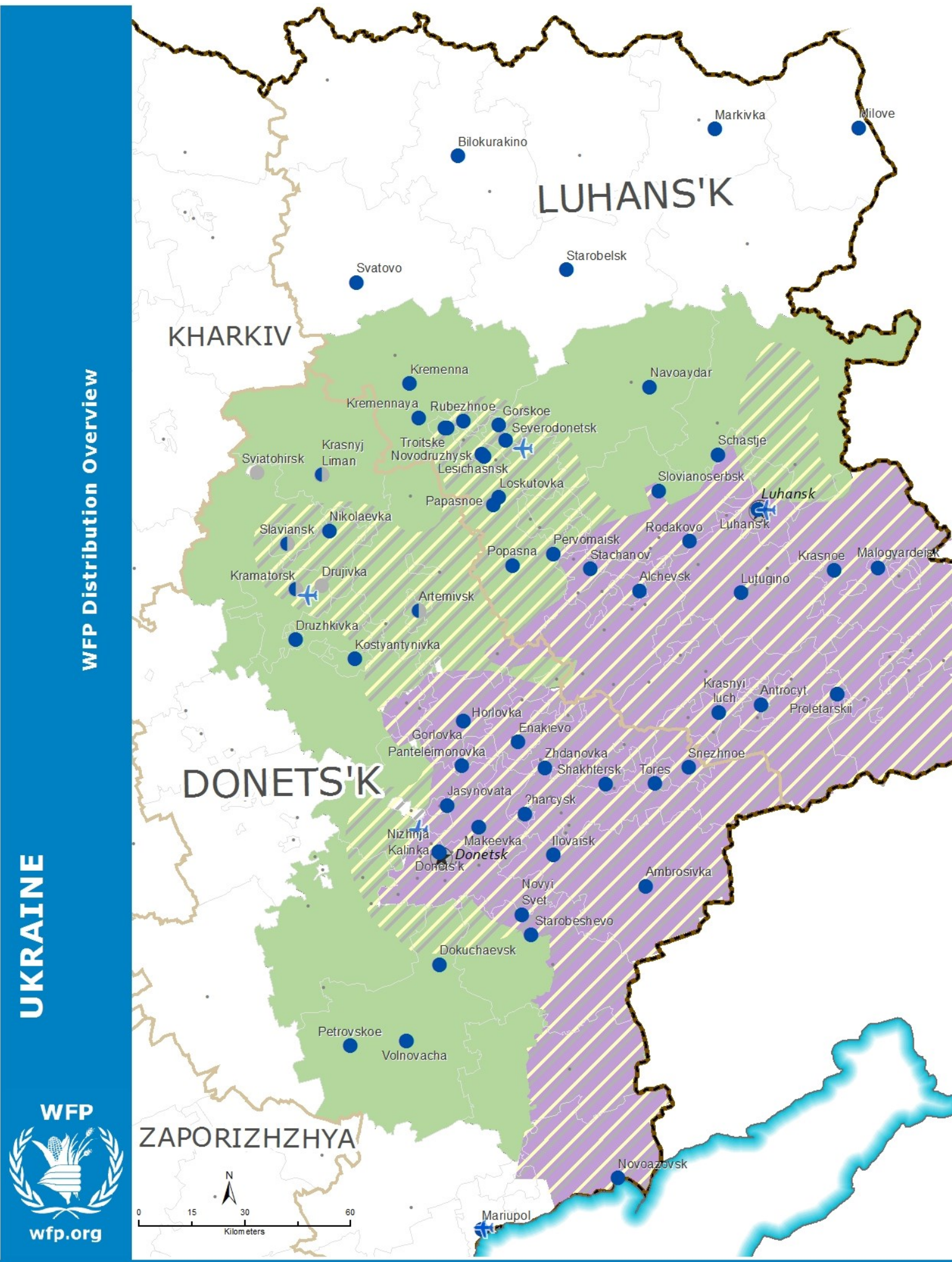
## Resourcing Update

- Since the approval of the EMOP, WFP has resourced 56 percent of the total requirements. However, given the implications of a protracted conflict, the effects of long-term displacements, spikes in new displacements, and the likelihood that recent government decisions will deepen the vulnerability of those populations most in need of assistance, WFP must remain flexible to increase the provision of food assistance as the situation demands.
- WFP's funding appeal is in line with the OCHA-led Strategic Response Plan (SRP) 2015, launched globally on 8 December. A local launch of the SRP will take place soon.

**For further information, please contact:**

**Mohamed Diab, Emergency Coordinator  
& Regional Director, Cairo  
Mobile: + 2 01093296848**

**Brian Kavanagh  
Deputy Head of WFP Office in Ukraine  
Mobile: +380 (63) 5190213**



WFP Distribution Overview

UKRAINE



Date Created: December 2014  
 OMC - VAM  
 Website: www.wfp.org

- State Boundary
- Raion Boundary
- Main Roads
- Oblast Capital
- Cities
- Airports
- In-kind distribution points
- Voucher distribution points
- Vouchers & In-kind distribution points
- Historical rebel held area
- Rebel held area
- Raions affected

Data Sources: WFP OCHA, GAUL  
 The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or