**WFP News Video:**

**First Ship Carrying Humanitarian Food Assistance Reaches Djibouti port en route to Ethiopia**

Shot: 30Aug22 / 16Aug22 Specific dates indicated below

Doralleh Multi Purpose Port, Djibouti

Dabat, Amhara, Ethiopia

Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) Port, Odesa, Ukraine

TRT: 02:17

**SHOTLIST:**

**:00-:24**

The UN-chartered MV Brave Commander docking at the Djibouti Port.

It is loaded with 23,000 metric tons of WFP wheat, expected to go to Ethiopia.

**Shot:30Aug22**

**Doralleh Multi Purpose Port, Djibouti**

**:24-:43**

**SOT Mike Dunford. Regional Director WFP East Africa(English):**

“The food on the brave commander will feed 1.5 million people for one month in Ethiopia. So this makes a very big impact for those people who currently have nothing. And now WFP will be able to provide them with their basic needs.”

**Shot: 30Aug22**

**Doralleh Multi Purpose Port, Djibouti**

**:43-:58**

Wheat offloaded from the ship.

The 23,000 metric tons of wheat are in the process of being transported to WFP’s operations in Ethiopia.

**Shot: 30Aug22**

**Doralleh Multi Purpose Port, Djibouti**

**:58-01:23**

**SOT Mike Dunford. Regional Director WFP East Africa(English):**

“We've already seen a reduction of 15% in wheat prices globally since the Black Sea initiative commenced. What we want to see is more food flowing. We need, from WFP perspective, millions of tonnes in this region. In Ethiopia alone, three quarters of everything that we used to distribute originated from Ukraine and Russia.”

**Shot: 30Aug22**

**Doralleh Multi Purpose Port, Djibouti**

**1:23-02:02**

GVs of WFP food distribution in Wag Hemra zone of Amhara.

The wheat distributed here comes from Ukraine .

**Shot: 30Mar22**

**Dabat, Amhara**

**02:02-02:17**

WFP grain ship, MV Brave Commander, departs port of Odesa

**(these shots were provided by Ukraine Gov. Press Office)**

**Shot: 16Aug22**

**Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) Port, Odesa, Ukraine**

**ENDS**

**Black Sea Grain Initiative**

**30 August 2022**

**The Black Sea Grain Initiative and the reopening of Ukraine’s Black Sea Ports to commercial and humanitarian shipments are crucial to helping the world’s hungry. There is no single solution to the global food crisis but reintegrating Ukrainian food and Russian food and fertilizer into global markets is a step in the right direction.**

* Ukraine exported up to 6 million metric tons of food a month before the conflict erupted in February 2022 – that’s around 200 vessels leaving Ukraine’s ports each month. Export volumes had fallen to an average of 1 million tonnes per month prior to the signing of the Black Sea Grain Initiative.
* Since the Black Sea Grain Initiative was signed on 27 July, and the first vessel departed Odesa port on 3 August, the UN’s Joint Coordination Centre has facilitated the outbound passage of 114 vessels carrying just over 1.2 million mt of food commodities (as of 28 August).
* It is a positive signal that the Black Sea Grain Initiative is gaining momentum with a growing number of commercial vessels entering and leaving Ukraine’s port, but export volumes remain far below pre-conflict averages. We need this growth to continue to a scale that will help stabilize global food security and provide relief in the most fragile humanitarian contexts.

**Alongside the reopening of the commercial sector, WFP has procured 60,000 mt of wheat grain from Ukraine since the signing of the Black Sea Grain Initiative, with funding from the US and other donors, including private foundations. Getting Ukrainian grain to WFP’s humanitarian operations will ensure benefits to both Ukraine’s economy and to areas of the world hardest hit by the global food crisis.**

* The US has also funded a further 150,000 mt of wheat grain that will be purchased, loaded, and shipped from Ukraine in the coming weeks. WFP is hopeful this is just the beginning of regular shipments of food commodities from Ukraine for the agency’s humanitarian operations.
* The MV Brave Commander departed Ukraine’s Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) port on 16 August carrying 23,000 mt of Ukrainian wheat grain. The vessel docked in Djibouti on 30 August and the wheat is in the process of being transported to WFP’s operations in Ethiopia.
* WFP has chartered the MV Karteria to ship 37,000 metric tons of wheat grain out of Ukraine, the agency’s second shipment of humanitarian assistance under the Black Sea Grain Initiative. The MV Karteria will collect grain from both Chornomorsk and Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) Ports. She berthed at Chornomorsk Port on Tuesday 23 August. The exported wheat grain will go to WFP’s operation in Yemen.

**Global food prices have stabilized somewhat in recent weeks – falling by 12 percent from its peak in March – but remain significantly higher year on year (+13 percent) and well above the 5-year average. The deterioration of global food security is caused by multiple factors with the impact of the Ukraine crisis, including the loss of Ukrainian’s grain on global markets as well as the impact on fuel and fertilizer prices, adding further pressure. The Black Sea Grain Initiative, while a positive step, only addresses one of these drivers.**

* Overall, food prices are up by more than 15 percent in 51 countries while inflation is running into triple digits in Lebanon, Venezuela, Sudan and Zimbabwe. Domestic inflation is driven by more than just global food prices, so any correction/improvement on global market are unlikely to have any direct or immediate effect on the millions of people who facing an increasing struggle to afford food.
* Drought in many countries will affect upcoming harvests while fertilizer also remains very expensive, which will also impact crop yields. The Black Sea Grain Initiative also paves the way for Russian food and fertilizer, which are not subject to sanctions, to reach global markets. Without fertilizer in 2022, there may not be enough food in 2023.
* It is also essential that Ukraine can continue to export grain, both to ensure that the storage silos can be emptied so that this summer season’s crop can be harvested and to enable the commodity value of export to benefit the country’s economy.

WFP chartered vessels

* MV Brave Commander – 30,000 MT wheat grain for Ethiopia operation
  + Departed Yuzhny Port on 16 August and arrived at Djibouti Port on 30 August.
  + The grain will go to WFP’s operations in Ethiopia, where over 20 million people are facing a hunger crisis due to a combination of conflict in the north and severe drought in the south. This grain from Ukraine is critical to WFP’s support to refugees, communities displaced by conflict and affected by drought and will support 1.53 million people for one month.
* MV Karteria – 37,000 mt wheat grain for the Yemen operation loaded at Chornomorsk (30,000mt) and Yuzhny (Pivdennyi) (7,000 mt) Ports and departed Ukraine on 30 August.
* The Port of Djibouti is one of the main corridors that WFP uses for its operations across Eastern and Central Africa, with 960,000 mt of food commodities handled through the Djibouti Ethiopia corridor in 2021. The WFP Djibouti logistics hub is also used to support other humanitarian agencies to carry out their activities in the region.
* Ethiopia: WFP aims to deliver relief assistance to up to 2.1 million people in Tigray, and an additional 1.3 million people in the Afar and Amhara regions. In the Somali Region, WFP is supporting 2.4 million of the most severely drought-affected with regular relief assistance. Across Northern Ethiopia and in severely drought-affected areas, WFP also implements malnutrition treatment activities targeting children under five and pregnant and nursing women and girls.

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The United Nations World Food Programme is the world’s largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.

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