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Summary of the annual implementation reports for the operational programmes co-financed by the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived in 2020

On 20 July 2022, the European Commission summary of the annual implementation reports for the operational programmes co-financed by the **Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) in 2020** has been published.

In 2020, **FEAD successfully delivered assistance in 27 EU Member States**, making good progress in achieving its objectives. Most Member States (23 of 27) distributed food and/or basic material assistance together with accompanying measures, while four continued to run social inclusion programmes. Almost **15 million people were supported with food aid**, approximately 1.96 million people with material assistance and 30,000 people with social inclusion measures.

FEAD helps address the worst forms of poverty in the EU, such as food deprivation, child poverty, and homelessness. For the programming period of 2014 – 2020, a total of **EUR 3.8 billion** (current prices) was available from the FEAD. The financing is composed of 85% EU funding and Member States' own resources, which increases the total funding up to around **EUR 4.5 billion**.

Member States can use the fund in two ways: for the Operational Programme providing food and/or basic material assistance (OP I) and/or the Operational Programme promoting social inclusion (OP II).

Regarding OP I, **food aid increased significantly** in 2020 reaching **428,000 tonnes** (up from 345,000 tonnes in 2019). In percentage terms, the rise was particularly strong in **Portugal** (+123%), **Italy** (+77%), **Poland** (+55%), **Estonia** (+36%), and **Romania**, which reported a positive amount for the first time since 2016. In 2020, Estonia implemented distribution of food donations for the first time, with the help of its partner organisation (**Estonian Food Bank**).

In 2020, over half (57%) of the total FEAD food redistributed across the EU consisted of **dairy products**, as well as **flour, bread, potatoes, and other starchy products**. The proportion of dairy products (31% of the total) was particularly high in **France** (50%), **Spain** (47%), and **Slovenia** (46%). The proportion of FEAD co-financed food products in the total volume of food distributed by the partner organisations was approximately 50% of the total.

Given these numbers, the pursue of the FEAD's objectives in 2020 is considered successful. However, a few **obstacles to implementation** persisted, such as capacity issues for partner organisations and logistical challenges mainly related to the COVID-19 pandemic. These were partly tackled through the **increased flexibility and reduced administrative burden** offered by the 2020 FEAD amendments, which allowed the use **electronic vouchers** to deliver food aid (PT, RO) and **basic material assistance** (LT, LU, RO), the provision of **personal protective equipment** (thus lowering the risk of contamination) and the **financing of measures at 100%** for the accounting year 2020-2021. Strong cooperation between Managing Authorities and partner organisations also proved to be essential to address new challenges.

Over 20 Member States reported **implementation obstacles** caused by the pandemic.

- **Suspension of the implementation of activities** caused by lockdowns and restrictions was observed in a large number of these Member States.
- **Delays and difficulties in implementing food redistribution and material assistance** were caused directly by the pandemic in BE, BG, CZ, DK, FR, EL, HR, MT, PL, PT and RO.

As in previous years, the flexibility of FEAD and the strong cooperation between the Managing Authorities and partner organisations helped countries overcome many of these obstacles. In some Member States (such as BE, DE, DK, FR,

IT, IE and SE), the Managing Authority held regular meetings, either in person or online, with partner organisations and relevant stakeholders to discuss and support the programme's implementation.

The pandemic-induced health crisis worsened the conditions for existing vulnerable people in receipt of FEAD support, while new people also sought food aid, **thus increasing overall demand for food and material assistance**. Also, partner organisations delivering support on the ground were affected by **capacity issues and logistical challenges** due to issues such as staffing shortages, disruptions in the redistribution of food and material goods and health restrictions such as lockdowns and new hygiene requirements. However, **FEAD has proven to be adaptable and responsive to emerging needs**.

From a regulatory point of view, the FEAD Regulation was amended in three occasions during the last two years:

1. As part of the **CRII+ initiative**, in April 2020 amendments made it possible to use **indirect delivery modes**, e.g. vouchers or cards (to lower the risk of contamination) and to buy personal protective equipment for organisations providing FEAD support. Moreover, liquidity in Member States was strengthened, making it possible to provide 100% co-financing rate for one accounting year.
2. As part of **REACT-EU**, in February 2021 amendments allowed Member States to allocate **additional funding** to FEAD to provide top-ups to existing support, such as food and/or basic material assistance or social inclusion actions. The knowledge of the target groups and outreach activities by partner organisations together with their strong cooperation with Managing Authorities also proved to be essential to address the pandemic-related challenges and exploit the new flexibilities.
3. As part of the **CARE (Cohesion's Action for Refugees in Europe)** initiative, in March 2022 the amendments allow Member States and regions to have more flexibility and liquidity to use the FEAD to provide **emergency support to people fleeing Ukraine** following the invasion by the Russian Federation.

As FEAD 2014-2020 draws to a close, **for the 2021-2027 programming period, FEAD will become an integral part of the ESF+**, thus further integrating the attention paid to tackling the worst forms of poverty within broader social inclusion strategies and funding. **The ESF+ programmes are key to supporting economic and social recovery after the pandemic, and to promoting a fair transition to a climate-neutral economy in line with the ambitions of the European Green Deal and in combination with the Just Transition Fund.** It will also be a key programme for delivering on the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Source: [EU COUNCIL](#)



One out of five people at risk of poverty or social exclusion in the EU

In 2021, 95.4 million people in the EU (21.7% of the population) were at risk of poverty or social exclusion, a slight increase compared with 2020.

Among the 95.4 million people in the EU that faced the risk of poverty or social exclusion, some 5.9 million (1.3% of the total population) lived in households experiencing all three poverty and social exclusion risks simultaneously. In 2021, 73.7 million people in the EU were at risk of poverty, while **27.0 million were severely materially and socially deprived**, and 29.3 million lived in a household with low work intensity.

The highest shares of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion were recorded in Romania (34%), Bulgaria (32%), Greece and Spain (both 28%),

In contrast, the lowest shares of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion were recorded in Czechia (11%), Slovenia (13%), and Finland (14%).

Source: [EUROSTAT](#)

Assessment of FEBA Members' Activities July 2021 to June 2022

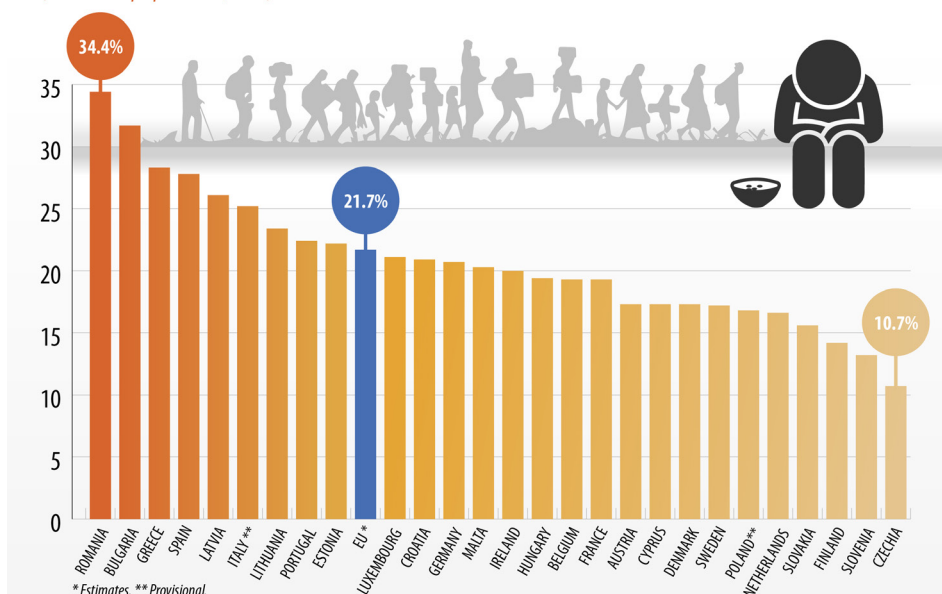
FEBA latest report on "Assessment of FEBA Members' Activities. July 2021 to June 2022" focuses on:

1. the impact of **COVID-19** in the period 1 July – 31 December 2021;
2. the impact of **external factors** such as **COVID-19**, the **Ukraine crisis**, **inflation growth**, **increase of food prices**, **food availability**, and **climate change** (flooding, heat waves, wildfires) among others in the period 1 January – 30 June 2022.

Read the report [here](#).

People at risk of poverty or social exclusion in the EU Member States

(% of total population, 2021)





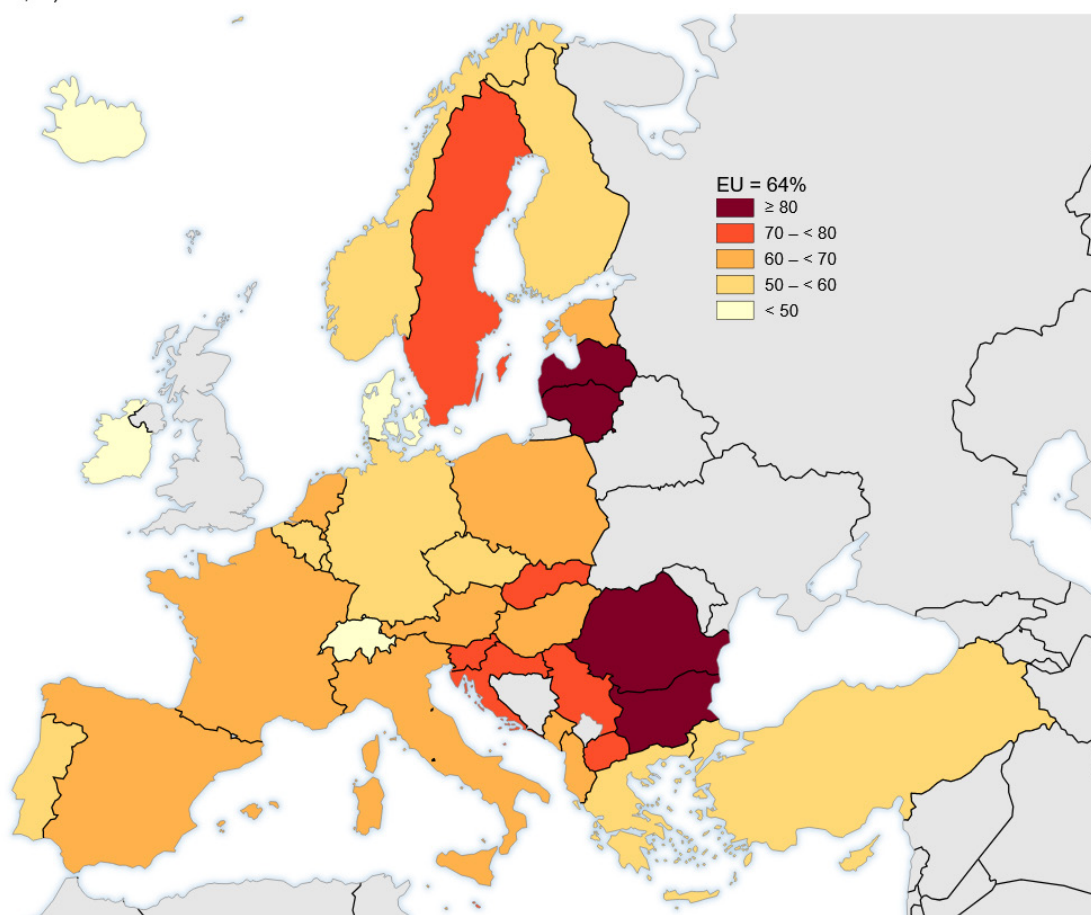
Risk-of-poverty in very low work intensity households at 64% in the EU

Work intensity reflects how much all working-age household members have worked as compared to their full potential. Generally, the higher the work intensity within a household (the closer people are to full employment), the lower the probability to be at risk of poverty. Work intensity is shown with three levels, ranging from very low to medium and very high.

In the EU, the **at-risk-of-poverty rate** for people aged less than 65 years living in households with very low work intensity was **64.0% in 2020**. This rate ranged from 48.7% in Denmark and 49.9% in Ireland to more than 70.0% of the population in nine EU Member States. It reached a peak of 85.4% in Lithuania, followed by Romania (84.2%) and Latvia (80.6%).

Source: [EUROSTAT](#)

At-risk-of-poverty rate for people aged less than 65 years living in households with very low work intensity
(2020, %)



Notes: Denmark, Germany, Ireland, France and Luxembourg: break in series. Iceland: 2018 data.
At-risk-of-poverty rate cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers.

Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat
Cartography: Eurostat – IMAGE, 08/2022

ec.europa.eu/eurostat



FAST-CARE: EU support to territories and partners receiving Ukrainian refugees

The EU Council adopted a negotiating mandate on 20 July 2022 to expand help for refugees from Ukraine and on addressing the consequences of Russia's aggression. The permanent representatives of the 27 EU Member States agreed on the Council's negotiating mandate for **further support to countries and regions hosting displaced persons from Ukraine, as well as for tackling some of the adverse economic effects of the war in Ukraine**. The legislative proposal known as **FAST-CARE (Flexible Assistance for Territories)** introduces new provisions for additional flexibility and maximum efficiency of cohesion policy investment. It extends the support already provided under Cohesion's Action for Refugees in Europe (CARE) and amends two basic regulations governing the rules of cohesion policy for the budgetary periods of 2014–2020 and 2021–2027. The measures follow a people-based approach and ring-fence 30% of the expenditure on refugees for local authorities and civil society organisations, as they are at the forefront of the migratory pressure, working within local communities.

Among other things, the proposal provides for:

- further **EUR 3.5 billion of pre-financing** for cohesion projects to provide additional liquidity;
- extending the possibility of **100% co-financing** for

investment in promoting the socio-economic integration of third-country nationals;

- **raising the newly established unit cost to support refugees** from €40 to €100 per person per week and extending its application from 13 to 26 weeks from the moment the person asks for protection;
- extending the possibilities for **transferring resources** for actions supporting refugees not only between the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund, but also from the Cohesion Fund; and
- **retroactively reimbursing** projects dealing with refugee-related needs that have already been completed.

In addition, the measures provide for **greater flexibility** in the phasing of cohesion policy projects from one budgetary period to the next to take into account delays in implementation caused by the increasing prices of materials and energy, as well as labour shortages. Following today's adoption of the Council's mandate, the European Parliament is expected to approve its position as soon as possible in the autumn, which will determine the next procedural steps for the adoption of the legislation.

Source: [EU COUNCIL](#)

FAST-CARE: Cohesion Policy support to territories and partners receiving Ukrainian refugees



Simplified support of
**€100 per refugee per
week for 26 weeks**

Additional **€3.5 billion
Cohesion pre-financing**

Full flexibility and simplification
of all Cohesion funds

30% of funding to go to local
authorities and civil society
organisations

**Flexibility for implementing
projects delayed** by shortage of
raw materials and workforce

#EUSolidarity #CohesionPolicy



Partnership Agreements between Member States and EU Commission, including ESF+ Programmes

→ Overview [here](#)



AUSTRIA

Austria has allocated around **EUR 130 million from the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)** and ERDF to promote social cohesion. Attention will be paid to **gender equality and equal opportunities** in education and employment by, for example, promoting women's and single parents' access to the labour market. Funds will also support investments in **infrastructures, jobs and education for persons with disabilities, people with migrant backgrounds and other disadvantaged groups**.

Furthermore, **the ESF+ will focus on social innovation**, with a Centre of Excellence, promoting knowledge sharing and **creating networks, participatory processes, and experimentation spaces to strengthen innovation capacity**.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

- **improve access to employment**, especially for those who face difficulties;
- promote a **gender balanced labour market**;
- increase the level of **skills of the labour force** to successfully master the **digital transition**;
- ensure equal access to **quality and inclusive education and training**;
- improve the **integration of third-country nationals**;
- **improve the living standards of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion**;
- increase the **availability of social services** and access to **healthcare services** in underserved areas and for the most disadvantaged groups of the population.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)



DENMARK

Denmark will promote a more inclusive labour market and a skilled workforce thanks to **EUR 120 million from the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)**. For example, Denmark will invest in increasing skills, by ensuring that more people receive and complete their **vocational training and higher education to match the labour market and business needs**. In addition, the **ESF+ will help people to develop the skills and competences for a fair and social green and digital transition**. Particular attention will be given to **skills development in the tourism and urban development domains** under both ERDF and ESF+. Finally, in line with the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan, the ESF+ will also **support people on the margins of the labour market by helping them into new jobs, promoting social integration and combatting homelessness**.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)



ESTONIA

EUR 534 million from the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) will be invested to address **social, health, lifelong learning and labour market needs**. Skills measures will be offered throughout all stages of life, ranging from support for school children, over upskilling measures, to helping people finding and advancing in their careers.

ESF+ resources will also address **child poverty, prevent**



BULGARIA

Bulgaria is **one of the first EU countries to adopt all its ESF+ Programmes**, which will invest in people and in a fair inclusive society. These programmes will **enhance employability, provide targeted support to young people, promote equal opportunities**, while also **delivering vital aid** to Bulgaria's most vulnerable. Additionally, ESF+ funding will allow Bulgaria to focus on modernising its education and training system and empower citizens for the green and digital transitions.

Under its partnership agreement with the European Commission, Bulgaria will implement ESF+ via three national programmes. With a total of **EUR 2.6 billion in ESF+** (EUR 3.14 billion with national co-funding) – an **increase of over 60%** compared to the amount invested under the ESF and FEAD in 2014-2020 – the financial allocations will ensure the country is able to face future economic and social pressure, while **reaching society's most vulnerable people**.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)



CZECH REPUBLIC

The European Social Fund Plus (ESF) and the ERDF Czechia will provide EUR 4.4 billion to:

early school leaving, support long-term care reform, match education to labour market needs, and promote healthy work life. Support for food and basic material assistance will be also provided to the most vulnerable groups in society. All ESF+ investments will contribute to further implement the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

FRANCE

EUR 6.7 billion from the European Social Fund Plus will enhance access to the labour market, in particular through measures combining social and employment support and work experience, up and re-skilling, quality education and vocational training as well as career guidance. Fight against poverty and social exclusion will also be supported, in particular through food and material assistance, including to children.

Territorial disparities in access to **healthcare, education and social services** will also be addressed, in particular in the Outermost Regions.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

GERMANY

Germany will strongly promote social cohesion, with more than 30% of overall funds being allocated to this goal. In particular, the ESF+ will support inclusive and high-quality vocational education and training, including apprenticeships, as well as lifelong learning. It will also support the **development of socially inclusive services**, such as **improving the employability of disadvantaged groups and creating assisting services for older people like care and companionship services**. Moreover, the funds will help the **workforce and businesses in growing more resilient by supporting investments in upskilling and reskilling to create a climate-neutral, more digital and inclusive society**. Particular attention will be given to measures in the field of social inclusion, for example combatting child poverty and the integration of migrants and refugees, including those fleeing the Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

GREECE

Promotion of social cohesion stands high on the agenda through **investments in employment, quality and inclusive education and training, green and digital skills as well as high-quality social inclusion services**, in line with the European Pillar of Social Rights. The delivery of investments will be accompanied by key reforms, as well as **capacity building mechanisms for beneficiaries and public administration**.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

ITALY

The European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) will be allocated to the **less developed regions in Southern Italy**. This stronger targeting is crucial to **reduce the (still large) gap among regions** in terms of economic activity, employment opportunities, education and access to services and healthcare.

Italy will dedicate EUR 9.5 billion to enhancing the competitiveness of industry in all regions, **the digitalisation and productivity of small and medium-sized businesses and to supporting research, development and innovation**.

EUR 15 billion from the ESF+ will be invested in social inclusion measures and active labour market and training measures to boost youth employment under the Youth Guarantee, for instance by apprenticeships, as well as self-employment and entrepreneurship.

To address the skills shortages and increase the flexibility of the labour market, Italy will invest in **up-skilling and re-skilling of workers**. Substantive efforts will be undertaken to help the most deprived, in particular, to lift children out of poverty, in line with the European Child Guarantee.

Funding will also address the **gender gap in the employment rate, which is the highest in the EU, by supporting female entrepreneurship, facilitating access to conciliation services, encouraging greater involvement of men in care duties, and promoting innovative corporate welfare solutions**.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

LITHUANIA

Lithuania will strongly promote social cohesion, with more than EUR 1.8 billion (corresponding to about 29%), allocated to this objective. The funds will help implement the country-specific recommendations to Lithuania of 2020 in the context of the European Semester. These include **recommendations on reducing poverty and income inequality by improving the design of the tax and benefit system and providing better access to good quality social and health services**.

Lithuania will also improve access to inclusive education services, especially for those most in need. The country plans to use the EU funds to continue the transition from **institutional to community-based care services**. The investments will allow more people to **acquire labour market relevant skills necessary for the digital and green transition**. Support for food and basic material assistance will be provided to the most vulnerable.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

MALTA

Young people and women will have better access to employment thanks to over EUR 124.4 million under the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+). This fund will also support innovative teaching methods and learning tools, inclusive education for vulnerable groups, such as children with

disabilities, and education in the green and digital transition fields.

Moreover, Malta will support active inclusion, equal opportunities and non-discrimination of disadvantaged groups, such as persons with disabilities. Food aid will also be offered to the most deprived. In addition, Malta will invest in its health systems, by providing training to workers in healthcare, social protection and care, rolling out awareness-raising campaigns on healthy lifestyles and wellbeing, and investing in health research.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

NETHERLANDS

With more than EUR 413 million, the European Social Fund+ will support people with difficulties finding and keeping a job by investing in training and re-training of workers. People will be supported through the development of basic, digital and other vocational skills, and through a broader set of social support measures. The ESF+ will also address child poverty by helping children going to school and participating in sport activities, will provide food and material aid for the most deprived and will invest in innovative measures to promote equal participation in the labour market, especially between men and women.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

POLAND

The European Social Fund Plus will provide EUR 12.9 billion in total, which will support employment and social measures, with a particular focus on the participation of women in the labour market and the provision of childcare services. The fund will also support the integration in the labour market of people with disabilities and with a migrant background. The funding will also contribute to improve peoples' skills, including digital skills.

Of the overall amount, EUR 3 billion will promote social inclusion by improving the quality of and access to social assistance and healthcare services. An important objective is to support long-term care services for older people and people with disabilities, primary health care and mental health services. These funds will also support the integration of third-country nationals and Roma.

Finally, around EUR 62 million will support capacity building of social partners and civil society organisations.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

ROMANIA

EUR 7.3 billion from the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) will improve access to employment, especially youth unemployment, quality and inclusive education, new skills and training. ESF+ will help modernising the Romanian Public

Employment Service, promote social inclusion, accessibility and effectiveness of public services.

EUR 3.5 billion will also develop social entrepreneurship and support capacity building for social partners and civil society organisations. The fund will improve the access to early childhood education and care, reducing early school leaving. The labour market relevance of vocational education and training (VET), and tertiary education will also be improved. EUR 3.3 billion will fight child poverty and address material deprivation. Funds will improve access to and quality of social services, and develop integrated social, educational and health services in 2,000 rural communities.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

PORTUGAL

The European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) will invest EUR 7.8 billion to improve access to the labour market, in particular through measures combining social and employment support and work experience, up and re-skilling, quality education, vocational training and career guidance. The fight against poverty and social exclusion will also be supported, in particular through food and material assistance, including for children, thereby contributing to implement the European Child Guarantee.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

SLOVAKIA

EUR 3.2 billion from the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) will support the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights. Around EUR 680 million, will be invested to improve the living conditions of the marginalised Roma communities in Slovakia and contribute to inclusive education and social services across all communities.

EUR 203 million will help workers to up and re-skill thereby allowing them to navigate the ever-changing needs of today's labour market.

The Partnership Agreement will also focus on children and young people with EUR 280 million to implement the Youth Guarantee and EUR 318 million will support the European Child Guarantee.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)

SLOVENIA

EUR 769 million from the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and the ERDF will help tackle the challenges of long-term unemployment and of an ageing population by investing in upskilling and lifelong learning, and improving the working environment and conditions of older workers by training employers and adapting workplaces.

For an active and healthy ageing, Slovenia will use some

of its ESF+ funds to invest heavily in its **long-term care system**. Community living will be supported by investments in **social and community services, recruitment of new staff and training and modern educational programmes**. Slovenia will equally invest in **healthcare and mental health services which are critical for the well-being of society**.

Money from the ESF+ will also help reduce social exclusion and the risk of poverty for vulnerable groups. For example, young people with special needs will get support to access education and the labour market. And, EUR 29.4 million will be used to purchase food packages for disadvantaged groups at risk of poverty.

Source: [EU COMMISSION](#)



Ukraine: FAO scales up efforts to save upcoming harvest and to ensure export of vital grains

The new Japan-funded USD 17 million project launched by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) aims to **address grain storage deficit and increase export of critical agricultural goods** to international markets. To mitigate the impacts of the war in Ukraine on the global agricultural sector, it aims to help Ukrainian farmers to save the upcoming harvest in July-August while ensuring export of critical agricultural goods to international markets. Implemented jointly with the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine, the project aims to **restore grain storage capacity and functionality of supply chains** from harvest to export as well as **maintain productive capacity** of Ukrainian farmers to enable continued future productions.

Ukraine is one of the top-five global grain exporters, supplying more than 45 million tonnes of grain yearly to the global market. According to the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine, due to the blockage of Black Sea ports,

the country still has 18 million tonnes of last year's cereals and oilseeds harvest in stores waiting for export. Alternative rail and river routes cannot make up for the lost exports through maritime transportation and bottlenecks along new, potential supply chains that have yet to be resolved. This year, Ukraine is expecting to harvest up to 60 million tonnes of grain. But the lack of export does not allow for the opening of available storage space for the new harvest, since 30% of the available capacity of granaries still remain filled with last year's harvest.

In addition, the project will provide technical support to the Government to operationalise **alternative transport routes** for grain export and foster the rapid expansion of technical capacities. The facility will enable farmers to meet international standards including veterinary and food safety testing and certification.

Source: [FAO](#)

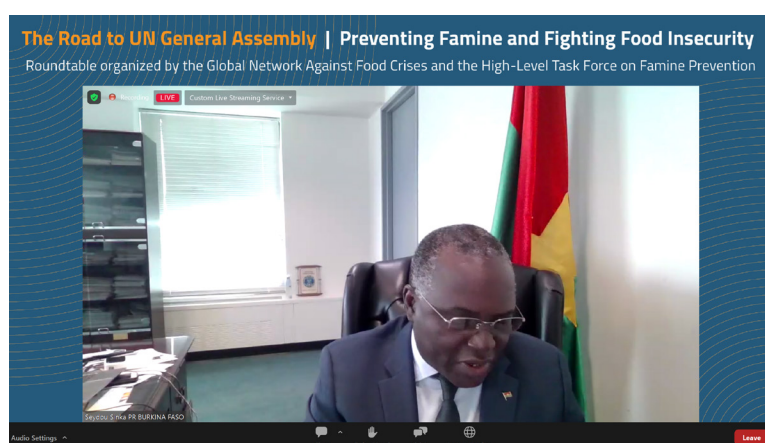


The Road to UNGA | Preventing Famine and Fighting Food Insecurity

The webinar on **“The Road to UNGA | Preventing Famine and Fighting Food Insecurity”** was a high-level panel, held online on 12 September 2022, to build momentum for the upcoming UN General Assembly (UNGA) and use this as an opportunity to reach the member states. Launched on the occasion of the webinar, the [Global Report on Food Crisis](#) showed data of from around the world. Opening remarks were given by Comfort Ero, President & CEO of the International Crisis Group. This was followed by a statement from Sara Pantuliano, Executive Director of the Overseas Development Institute, highlighting the urgent need for help in Somalia, which is once again threatened by famine. Olof Skoog, Head of the EU Delegation to the United Nations, emphasized the need for transformation of the agri-food systems and a clear commitment to the SDG on zero hunger. As the next speaker, Martin Griffiths, Under Secretary - General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordination, also referred to the threat of famine in Somalia, reiterating the need to invest in sustainable solutions, beyond the humanitarian relief. Finally, Sara McHattie from the Food Security Information Network presented the main outcomes of the Global Report on Food Crisis. The session was closed with the Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso to the United Nations, Seydon Sinka, who reiterated the interconnectedness of the climate crisis, economic crisis and humanitarian crisis the world is facing.

The recording of the webinar is available [here](#)

Source: FAO





World Resources Institute “Reducing Food Loss and Waste: A Vital Solution to the Food Crisis”

On 20 September 2022, the hybrid event **“Reducing Food Loss and Waste: A vital Solution to the Food Crisis”** was hosted by the [World Resources Institute](#) in New York and on zoom in anticipation of the UN General Assembly. The event focused on “Champions 12.3” referring to the SDG on responsible consumption and production, including food loss and waste. First speaker was Hans Hoogeveen, Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council, highlighting the growing number of people suffering from hunger, increasing impact of the climate crisis, and that the international community is clearly lacking behind the SDGs. As possible solution to this he mentioned the importance of four crucial sectors to work together on these issues and support each other: The private sector, which needs to take the lead in sustainability and technology and innovation and the governments

who need to incentivise these developments and make it attractive for the private sector to invest in the future. Lastly, he mentioned the important role of NGOs as well as International Organisations. This was followed by an intervention of Johan Swinnen, Director General of WRI, who presented the [Report on Creating a Sustainable Food Future](#). Next up was Karen Pflug from the Ingka Group/ IKEA, who announced that the set target in 2017 to reduce food waste at IKEA by half was achieved in 2021. Other initiatives from different countries and companies were presented and the event rounded up with a panel discussion.

Watch the recording of the event [here](#).

Source: World Resource Institute

CHAMPIONS  12.3



EP Register – Solutions to food waste

Ministers of the European Parliament had the opportunity to ask questions about food waste to Commissioner Stella Kyriakides. These were the answers she gave:

“To be effective, food waste prevention requires targeted measures and actions to address specific issues, such as the facilitation of food donation, which may vary according to the national situation. While the Commission is not intending, at this stage, to make it compulsory for retailers to donate food to charities, it has actively pursued the facilitation of food donation as an integral part of EU actions to reduce food waste since the adoption of the [2015 Circular Economy Action Plan](#) notably through the adoption of [EU food donation guidelines](#). The revised [EU waste legislation](#) lays down new obligations for Member States to prevent food waste. As part of measures taken to prevent waste generation, it calls on Member States to encourage food donation and other redistribution for human consumption, prioritising human use over animal feed and the reprocessing into non-food products. Under the [Farm to Fork Strategy](#), the Commission intends to propose EU-level targets for food waste reduction by end 2023, which will further mobilise Member States in the prevention of food waste. In line with the waste hierarchy, the facilitation of food donation is usually the first step in any national food waste prevention programme.

The revised EU waste legislation also calls on Member States to provide incentives for the application of the waste hierarchy, with fiscal incentives for food donation cited as an example. The experience of Member States in stimulating food donation through fiscal and other economic instruments is shared through the [EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste](#) and its dedicated [sub- group on food donation](#).”



Source: [EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT](#)



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