

October 7, 2022 / Update #8

Administrator Samantha Power Visits Farmers and Drone.UA site on 10/6

Administrator Power visited Ukraine this week to learn about the current situation, hear how USAID can best support the country's needs, and confirm USAID's support "for as long as it takes."

Administrator Power visited an AGRO activity site, where she had an opportunity to engage on several facets of AGRI-Ukraine's work.

Administrator Power met with AGRO subawardee Drone.UA to learn about AGRI-Ukraine's support for agricultural innovation, such as providing drone services to Ukrainian farmers. She then met with farmers to learn about the challenges they face and AGRI-Ukraine's support. Administrator Power observed and had the chance to test fly an agricultural drone used to apply agrochemicals.

The Administrator highlighted USAID's work to support Ukraine's agricultural sector during the war via AGRI-Ukraine. She also learned how the war has affected Ukrainian small and medium agriculture enterprises, and about farmers' immediate and long-term priorities. See [video](#) and [press remarks](#).



Implementation Progress

USAID's Agriculture Growing Rural Opportunities (AGRO), Credit for Agriculture Producers (CAP), and Economic Resilience Activity (ERA) implement AGRI-Ukraine. Highlights of its progress are:

Agricultural Inputs: AGRO ensures vegetable seed supply for spring planting, supports key winter food production. AGRO delivered high-quality vegetable seeds (broccoli, bell pepper, lettuce, carrot, onion, cucumber, zucchini, etc.) to its sub-awardee, the Ukrainian Agrarian Council (UAC), which will distribute them to 2,000 households and small farms in February-March 2023 to plant 345 ha. AGRO and the Ukrainian Berry Association also held a field day and home garden advising for 39 farmers growing beetroot and potato (borscht).

Export Logistics and Infrastructure: Priority Procurements Programmed and Moving. ERA defined timelines for its priority procurements, and anticipates that it will be able to launch a request for quotations for its first procurement, locally sourced Mega Big Bags for grain transport in open rail cars, in a few weeks. It expects to release Requests for Proposals in November for Radio frequency identification (RFID) to track grain shipments, and border crossing efficiency improvements.

Access to Financing: CAP Raises Awareness about AGRI-Ukraine and Support Needs. CAP's Chief of Party gave a keynote speech at the International Cooperative Impact Conference in Washington, DC, raising awareness about the challenges Ukrainian credit unions and their members face, and highlighting the need for further support from the credit union sector. Since Russia's unjust invasion into Ukraine, CAP-supported credit

unions have extended over 1,000 loans and supported over 500 farmers, leveraging funds from the global credit union community. AGRO also held an online session where nearly 800 participants learned how to take legal measures to avoid penalties for not being able to fulfill tax obligations during martial law.

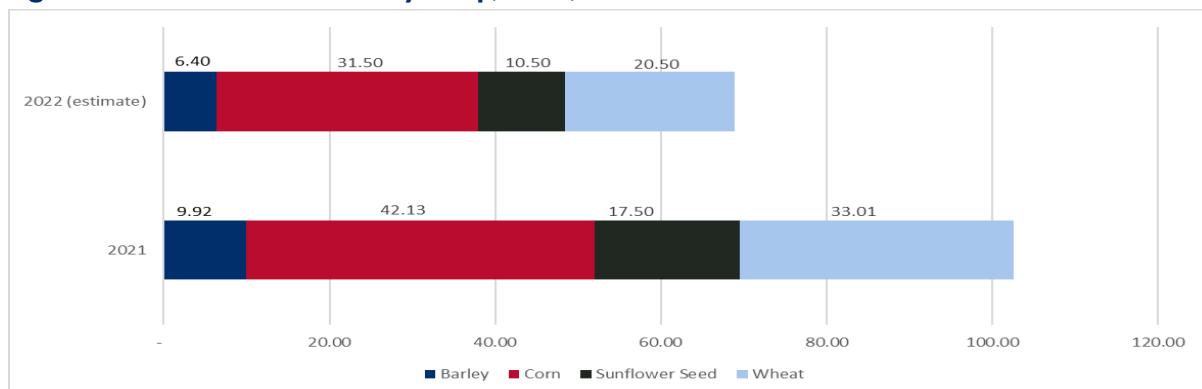
Drying, Storage, and Processing: Storage support for 2,000+ farmers launching this month. AGRO is on target to launch its storage support program in late October. It expects to serve 2,071 farms and allow them to export their harvest, thereby earning much needed revenue, creating jobs for Ukrainian workers, and easing the global food insecurity crisis caused by Russia’s war against Ukraine. AGRO will post real-time updates on geographic coverage, targeted crop volumes, and the number and location of silo bags and storage facilities online.

Profile on Progress from the Field: Aerhii Kotyk, a farmer from Khmelnytskyi Oblast, received high-quality corn seed from AGRO and sowed silage corn (animal feed this spring). Now, he is producing silage and expects to have 60 metric tons, enough to feed his 30 cattle for a season. Serhii is one of 378 farmers who received corn and buckwheat seed from AGRO and the Zernovyi Agricultural Cooperative, enough to produce 12.5 tons of silage and 10 tons of corn that will feed 2,500 cows for a year, and 750 tons of buckwheat that will feed 110,000 people

Production, Exports and Storage

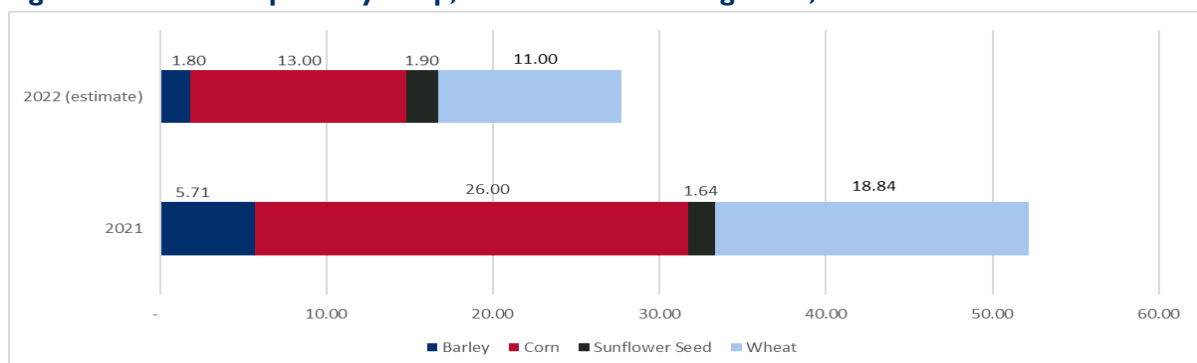
Production: Ukraine’s farmers have nearly completed harvesting early grains and are continuing to sow winter crops. **Figure 1** shows USDA’s September data for 2021 and 2022 (estimated) production for four key commodities.¹ USDA estimates 2022 production ranges from 60 to 74 percent of 2021 output per crop.

Figure 1: Ukraine Production by Crop, MMT, 2021-2022



Exports: Per the Black Sea Initiative Joint Coordinating Centre (JCC), as of 10/7, 285 ships left Ukrainian ports with 6,429,098 MT of grains and oilseeds. **Figure 2** shows USDA’s September estimates for exports for key commodities for the 2021 and 2022 marketing years (July-June).

Figure 2: Ukraine Exports by Crop, 2021-2022 Marketing Years, MMT



¹ [USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates](#). September 12, 2022.