

## Ukraine, conflict

Global ETC Teleconference #12

Date: 25/08/2022 Time: 13:00 UTC

Further information related to the ETC Ukraine operation can be found on the website:

<https://www.etcluster.org/emergency/ukraine-conflict>

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: [Ukraine.ETC@wfp.org](mailto:Ukraine.ETC@wfp.org)

## Attendance

Chair	Brent Carbno	Global ETC
UNHCR RETS	Ekue Ayih Andrew Sentamu	WFP Ahmad Al-Mehdi Amirullah Syarif
UN OICT	Andrew Linehan	David Pickering
UNDSS	Mimi Huang Ali Solhjo	Prakash Muniandy Michael Dirksen

## Agenda

1. ETC Ukraine update
2. Partner updates
3. AOB

## Minutes

1. ETC Ukraine update

### Security situation & general update

- Over the past week there have been many security measures put in place in anticipation of potential attacks during the Independence Day holidays in Ukraine.
- There have been several security incidents in the eastern and southern parts of the country.
- Operation Black Sea, an agreement to resume shipments of Ukrainian grain from Odesa, began two weeks ago. As a result, there have been visits from leaders and high-level officials to Odesa over the past week, including by the United Nations Secretary-General.
- The security situation in Odesa is still relatively calm.

### Coordination

- The ETC coordinator has been on a mission in Odesa from 13-26 August.
- The main hub for coordination in Ukraine has moved from Lviv to Kyiv. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is also holding sub-cluster meetings in Lviv, Dnipro, Odesa, and several other oblasts.

### Data Connectivity

- The ETC is continuing to provide connectivity to 270 humanitarians from 12 different organisations in two interagency humanitarian workspaces, in Dnipro and Lviv.
- The interagency workspace in Lviv is expected to close at the end of August. The ETC will continue to provide secure connectivity to the backup United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) Security Operations Centre (SOC) in the same location.
- The ETC is planning to establish its secure network at the interagency humanitarian workspace in Odesa. The network equipment has already been deployed and the team is working to establish the connection with a local Internet Service Provider (ISP) in the coming weeks.

### Security Communications

- On 17 August, the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) office submitted the technical reply prepared by the ETC to the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the VHF frequency license request. The ETC is expecting to receive a response from the Ministry after a month.
- The VHF license would enable the ETC to establish a security communications network for humanitarians in the country.
- On 19 August, security communications training was provided to eight staff from UNHCR in Dnipro.
- The ETC has trained 85 UN personnel in security communications in total over the last month.
- The ETC is also performing vehicle checks for UN agencies to advise on security communications equipment based on Telecommunications Security Standards {TESS+} recommendations for UN agencies for their Armoured Vehicles (AVs) and soft-skin vehicles. So far, vehicle checks have been performed on 55 vehicles.
- The ETC is liaising closely with UNDSS in Kyiv regarding the setup of their SOC in Kyiv, Dnipro, Odesa, and the backup SOC in Lviv. The ETC is beginning to procure equipment for the SOCs, while the operators will be recruited by UNDSS.

### Services for Communities (S4C)

- A member of the global ETC team is on a mission in Ukraine for a month to liaise with cluster partners, and promote and further develop the chatbot
- The ETC is in discussion with the Accountability to Affected Populations Working Group on their plan to establish a humanitarian information centre.

### Staff

- The ETC has six staff members on the ground in Ukraine, in Kyiv, Lviv, Dnipro, and Odesa. They will remain at least until the end of October.
- The recruitment of three national staff for ETC positions is underway and will be finalised within the next month. A fourth national staff member has already been recruited.

### Funding

- A no-cost extension of the CERF funding provided to the ETC was approved.
- The ETC is liaising with the ETC and WFP budget and funding unit to spend the fund received from other grants before the expiry date.

## 2. Partner updates

### UNHCR

- Andrew Sentamu, UNHCR's new IT officer, has arrived in the country and is en route to Kyiv. He will be based in Vinnytsia.

### UNDSS

- Mimi Huang, Chief of the Security Information Operations Centre (SIOC), and Ali Solhjoo, Head of Operations of the SIOC joined the call.

## 3. AOB

**The next teleconference will be held on Thursday 22 September 2022 at 13:00 UTC**

13:00 UTC  
15:00 Rome/Cairo  
16:00 Kyiv  
17:00 Dubai

## Acronyms

CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
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IM	Information Management
SOC	Security Operations Centre
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDSS	United Nations Department for Safety and Security
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNRCO	UN Resident Coordinator's Office
WFP	World Food Programme

Minutes: Claire Roach, ETC Ukraine Information Management Officer