

The situation in Ukraine as driver for emerging risk with food/feed safety/animal health implications

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Outline

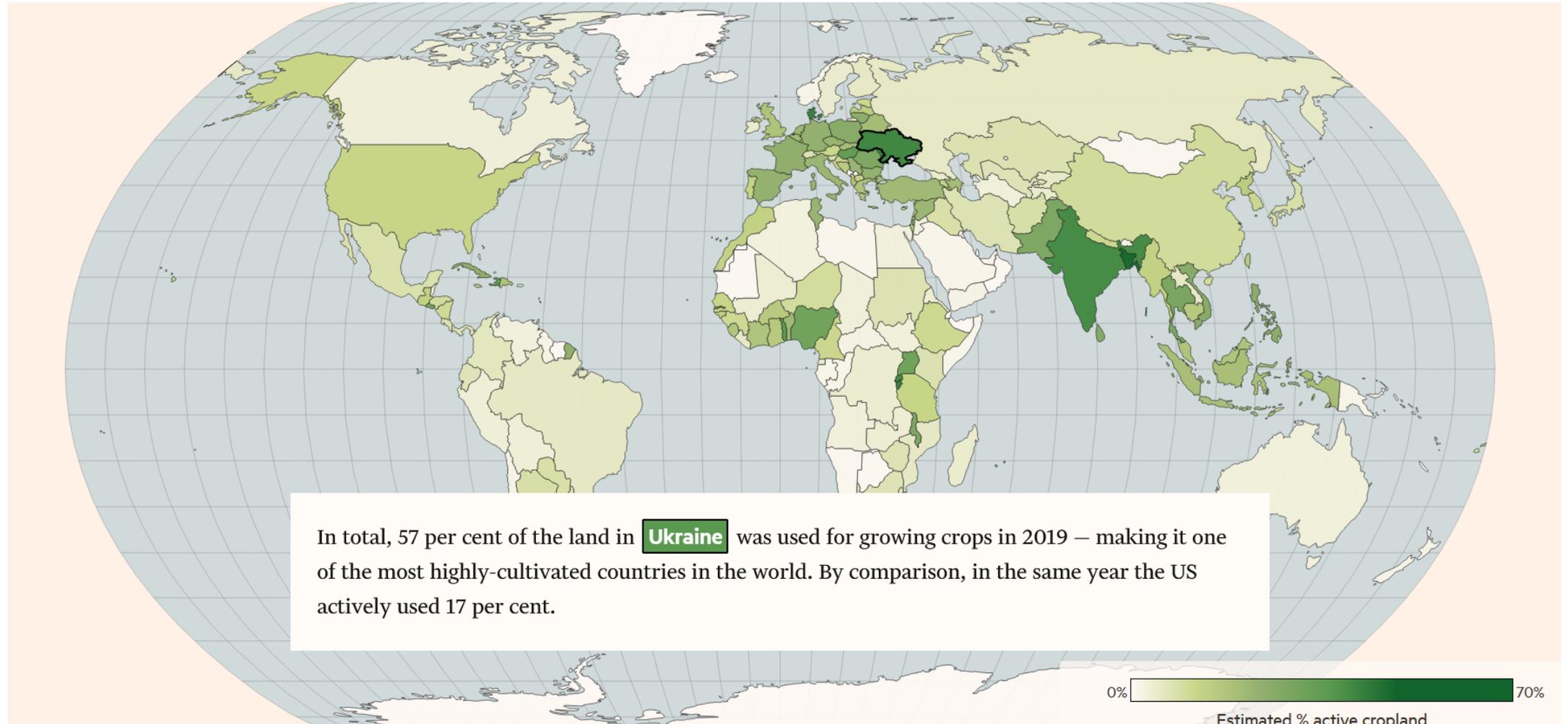
- Impact of on going Ukraine conflict on global food security (feed, energy, agricultural products)
- Emerging risk impacting the food supply chain in the EU and globally
- Emerging risk of food security/safety, animal health, environment protection
- How to address these risk?
 - EU action (The EFCSM, EFSA StaDG-ER, EREN)
 - Global action (FAO, WFP, Working Group of the UN Global Crisis Response Group)

Conflict in Ukraine: impact on global food security

- Ukraine war is severely disrupting already tight food, energy, and financial market
- Co-factors: Covid-19, climate change, poor countries, **previous rising food prices**
- projections by UNCTAD estimate that the world economy will be a full percentage point of GDP growth lower than expected due to the war (UNCTAD Trade and Development Report 2021).

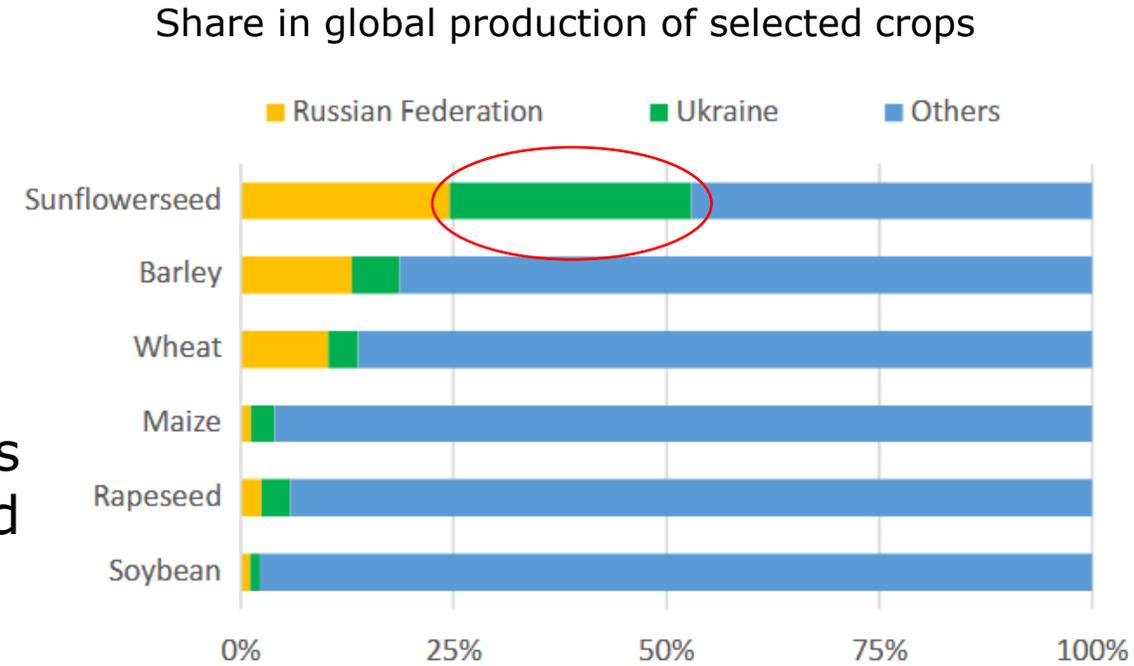


Conflict in Ukraine: impact on global food security



Conflict in Ukraine: impact on global food security

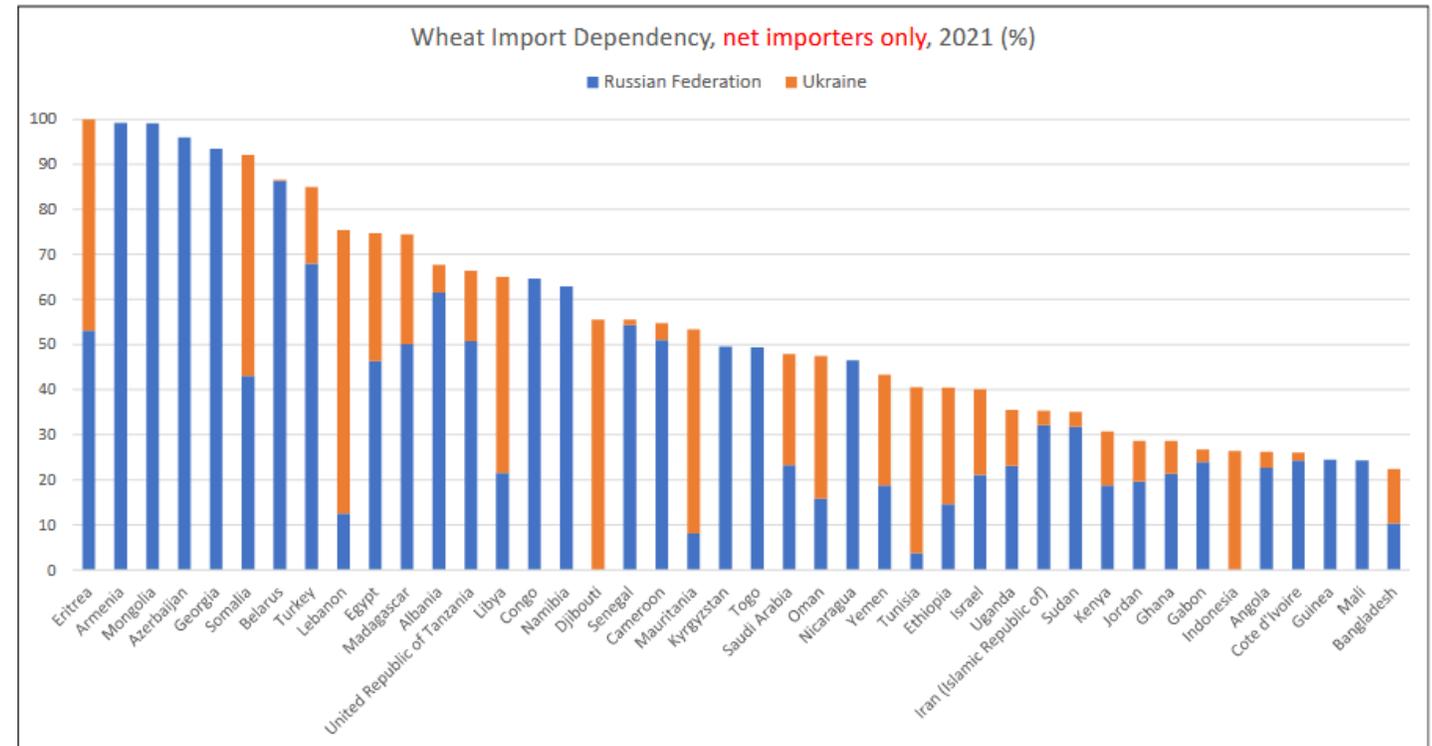
- The Russian Federation and Ukraine are among the most important producers of agricultural commodities in the world.
- Ukraine and the RF are among the world's breadbaskets
 - they provide around 30% of the world's wheat and barley, 1/5 of its maize, and over half of its sunflower oil.
- RF is the largest fertilizer exporter in the world (with neighbouring Belarus around a fifth of the world's fertilizers), and world's top natural gas exporter.



Source: FAO XCBS system

Conflict in Ukraine: impact on global food security

- Some countries are heavily reliant on wheat imports from Ukraine and the RF
- Egypt, Turkey, Bangladesh and the Islamic Republic of Iran: 60% or more of their wheat imports from Ukraine and the RF.
- Libya: 44 per cent of the wheat supply used domestically came from Ukraine in 2018.



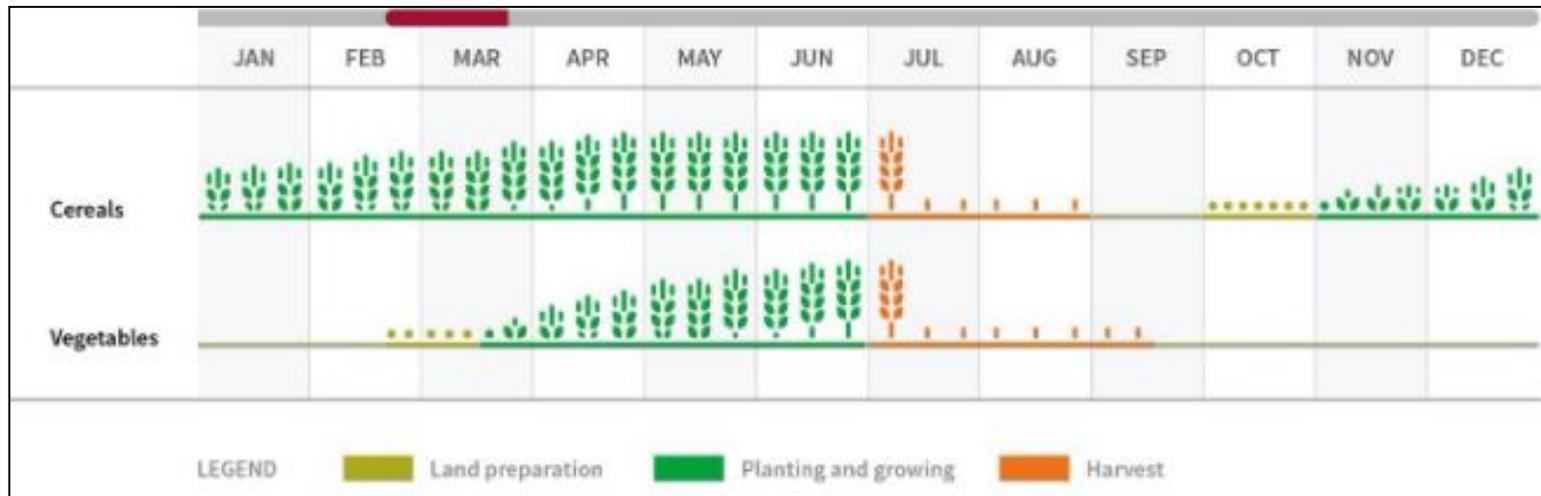
State of play: food security impact of input price increase

- Global food crisis due to halting of the Ukraine's agricultural exports, including livestock feed and fertilizer
- Prices have soared for wheat, vegetable oil, corn, grains, threatening food shortages and hunger crises.

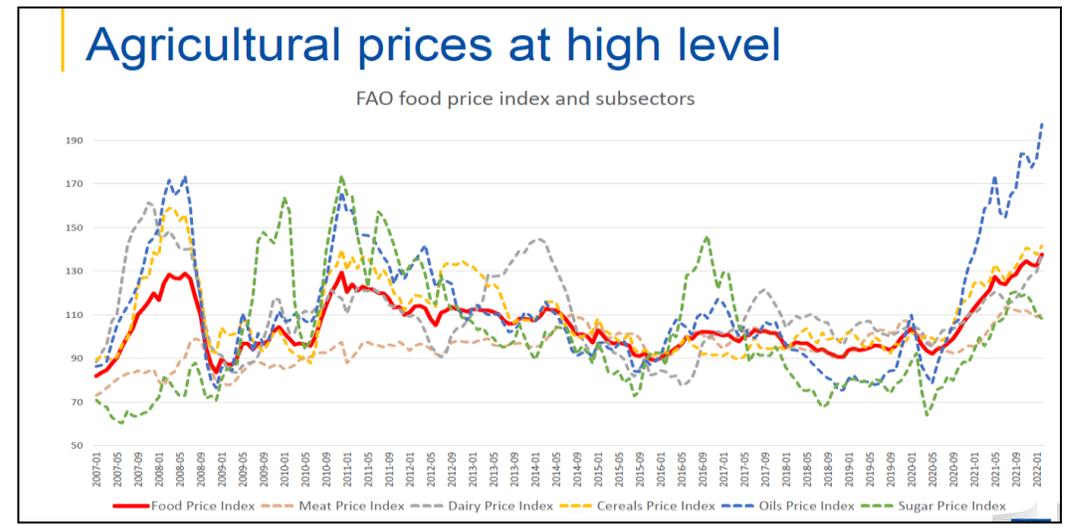
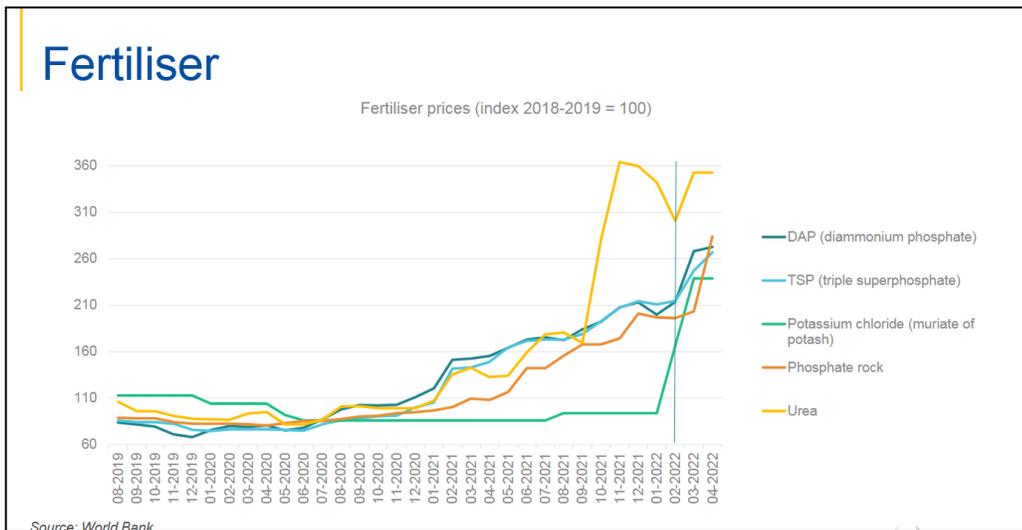
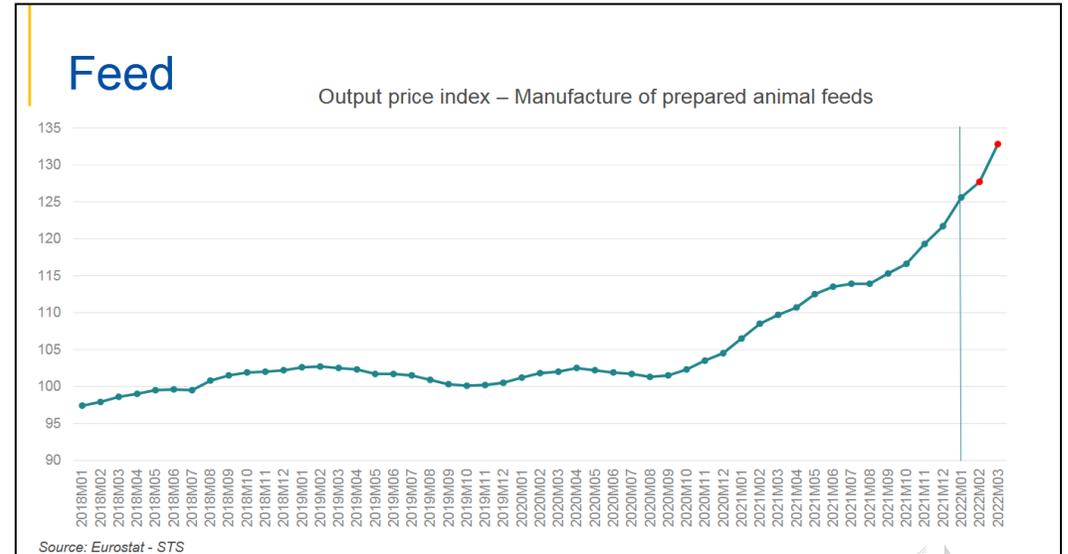
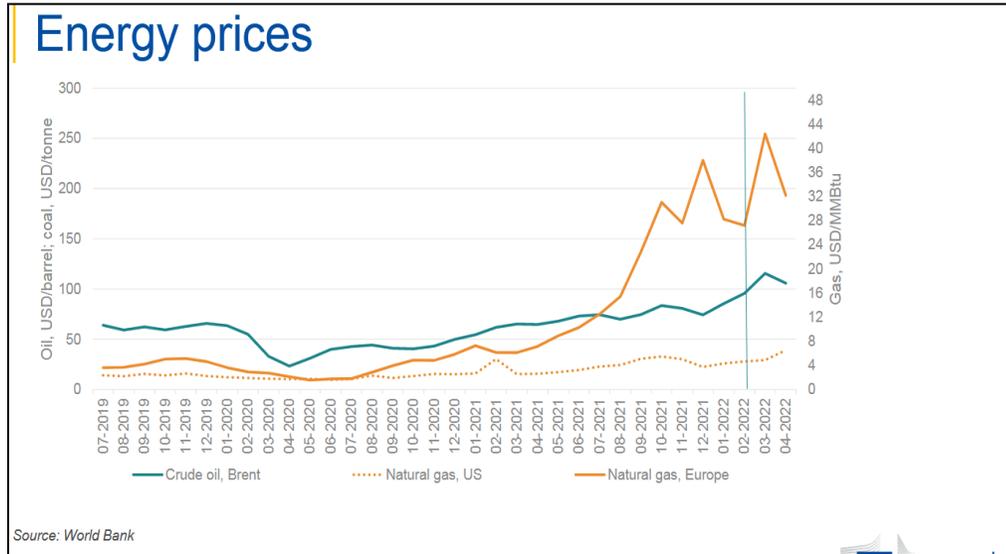


State of play: food security impact of input price increase

- The 2022 sowing season has already been deeply affected due to extensive and targeted damage to farm and food systems infrastructure, and severe environmental pollution from the use of weapons.



State of play: food security impact of input price increase



Emerging risk for food safety, animal health, environment protection in UKR

- serious and long-lasting implications of UKR compromised agriculture production
- winter crops
 - access to fields remaining difficult
 - higher abandonment
 - decreased yield potential
 - lack of machinery
 - uncertainties on fertilization
 - transport issues
- supply chains for feeds, veterinary medications and product transportation have been massively impacted
- uncertainties on animal **disease control**



Increase in food security/safety risk

- food security key concerns stemming from destruction of ports and infrastructure in UKR, rising congestion costs of shipping grain
- the fertile plains were compromised
- farmers are struggling to find fuel, fertilizer and seeds due to Russian block of ports and halted imports from Russia and Belarus.
- limited number of cases where culling of animals was accelerated due to risks of unavailability of feed.



Increase in food security/safety risk

- **risk of unregulated diversification** of import, which could heighten the chemical and/or microbiological risk (Maximum Residue Levels-LMR?)
 - feed supply: flexibility on (MRLs) decided in some MS
 - flexibility on labelling vegetable oils may differ from one MS to the other, thus creating some need for coherence and/or coordination.
 - import from MERCOSUR: non equivalent standard?
- ramping up food production at all costs by expanding lands under cultivation, increasing water and agrochemical use...could set back F2F goals on protecting biodiversity, regenerating soils and reducing carbon emissions?

Increase in risk of animal diseases

- **Drivers** of transmission and spread of the animal contagious diseases and zoonosis
 - disruption of animal health services and surveillance
 - porous borders, uncontrolled movement of animals
 - destruction of wildlife habitats increase interface human-wildlife-domestic animals lead to increase in the likelihood of spillover of pathogens
 - **risk of spread** of transboundary animal diseases, zoonoses and wildlife related diseases **in neighbouring countries**



Increase in risk of animal disease

- abandoned livestock, cats and dogs in the areas affected by military activities leading to increased contact with other feral and domestic animals, and with humans
- increased slaughter and uncontrolled trade in pork
- breaches in biosecurity of commercial poultry and livestock farms, especially in the southern regions (lack of water, electricity..).



Increase in risk of animal disease

- pork is a vital source of protein to the Ukrainian people representing 34% of meat consumption there
- pig farmers mostly lack inputs (feed ingredients, veterinary products, vaccines and antibiotics) plus there has been destruction of many pig houses and transport to processors is difficult
- risky for maintaining operations due to high possibility of war escalation as well as the forced displacement of the labour force and consumers.
- hundreds of supermarkets are closed or destroyed now, so the **supply chains are broken**



Increase in risk of animal disease

- Ukraine war could heightens risk for **African Swine Fever (ASF)**
- potential spread of infection via:
 - personal movement of ASF contaminated pork products
 - large number of abandoned domestic animals (pigs)
 - movement of wild boars crossing Ukraine's borders into the EU and Belarus.
 - consequences for the EU pig farming
 - disruption of the pig meat chain

OIE-WAHIS



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

The Conflict in Ukraine and Animal Health

Increase in risk of animal disease

- **Highly pathogenic avian influenza**
 - February-April is the high-risk seasons for its introduction from wild birds (natural reservoirs)
 - disruption of surveillance in wild birds and poultry interface areas
 - the disease spillover may quickly spread in the country.
- **Rabies**
 - in 2018, 1704 cases of rabies were detected with 58% of domestic animals and 42% in wild
- **Leptospirosis**
- **Foot and mouth disease (FMD)?**
- **re-emergence and upsurge of many other zoonotic diseases**



How to address these animal health risk?

- **FAO Recommendations for UKR**

- setting up multi-disciplinary panel of national and international experts to further work on risk evaluation and monitoring of the situation jointly with the government of UKR
- setting up system of collecting information on the problems and issues related to animal production and health in UKR (e.g. risk based surveillance for specific diseases, enhance disease reporting and detection)

- **Recommendations for neighbouring countries**

- Assess the risk of introduction and spread of diseases
- Vaccination of all dogs and cats against rabies entering
- Activate early warning system applying the One Health approach.

How to address these risk? The EU

- The EU crisis management measures
- Commission established the European Food Security Crisis Preparedness and Response Mechanism (EFSCM) Expert Group



EFSCM activities 2022-2024

- a study on mapping risks and vulnerabilities of the food supply chain
- foresight, risk assessment and monitoring
- coordination, cooperation and communication (sharing information, best practices, national contingency plans, etc..)

European Food Security Crisis Preparedness and Response Mechanism (EFSCM)

4 Sub-groups main objectives: prepare recommendations

- on the review of ways to improve the diversity of sources of supply between shorter and longer food supply chains.
 - diversifying domestic production (sustainably)
 - diversifying through trade
 - diversifying consumption
- on the development of guidelines for crisis communication on food supply and food security
- on the development of a dashboard for the monitoring of food supply and food security (e.g. objective: strengthen preparedness, support response and monitor food security)

How to address these risk? Global action

- **FAO Global Policy recommendations (April 2022)**
 - keep trade in food and fertilizers open
 - find new and more diverse food supplies
 - support vulnerable groups, including internally displaced people.
 - avoid ad hoc policy reactions.
 - **contain the spread of african swine fever (ASF) and other animal diseases (biosecurity)**
 - strengthen market transparency and dialogue.



169th session of FAO's Council

How to address these risk? Global action

- UN Global Crisis Response Group: includes heads of UN agencies, development banks and other international organizations
- **three dimensional crisis:** prices of food, energy, and fertilizer
- Overall recommendations
 - call on all countries to keep engaging in multilateral fora to address urgent global food, energy and financial issues.
 - make immediate and efficient use of all the existing mechanisms
 - call also on the private, civil society and the philanthropic sectors to help the most vulnerable populations around the world.



 **United Nations** | Global Crisis Response Group

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Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance

The war in Ukraine, in all its dimensions, is producing alarming cascading effects to a world economy already battered by COVID-19 and climate change, with particularly dramatic impacts on developing countries. The world's most vulnerable people can not become collateral damage.

Take home message

- EU food security is not at stake at the moment
- the impact of the Ukraine conflict can therefore hardly be considered a food security crisis - more an **animal feed crisis**.
- ongoing discussion on the opportunity to postpone the sustainability targets of the Green Deal and to (temporarily) watering down some of the ambitions of the F2F strategy
- **Clear COM message**: F2F must remain the key stone to food security
- the F2F strategy is not an obstacle, rather is a key to create a crisis-proof and resilient food system.