

Ukraine's recovery: EU transfers €150 million for food security, school meals and infrastructure projects

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On 20 December, the European Union transferred a second tranche of €150 million in budget support to Ukraine, with a significant focus on ensuring food security for children through the provision of hot meals in schools.

A total of €65 million from this funding will directly support Ukraine's school nutrition policy, ensuring that more than 700,000 primary school children, particularly in grades 1-4, will receive a hot meal once a day at no cost to their families.

The remaining €85 million will support critical infrastructure, food security, and reconstruction projects vital to Ukraine's recovery. It includes €50 million for

repairing and upgrading port infrastructure in Odesa, damaged during Russian attacks in autumn 2023, €15 million for the implementation of various infrastructure projects vital for recovery, and €20 million to support policy actions that ensure food security for the Ukrainian population.

Katarína Mathernová, EU Ambassador to Ukraine, said this support once again reflected the EU's commitment to Ukraine – *“not just through today's challenges but in building a stronger tomorrow”*.

“We firmly believe in Ukraine's future, which lies within the EU, and that future starts with its children. By funding school meals, we give children the care, safety, and hope they deserve, one meal at a time,” she said.