



# EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes

## The Joint Coordination Platform

September 2023

### Solidarity lanes

Following the blockade of Ukrainian Black Sea ports, the Solidarity Lanes have established alternative logistics routes using all transport modes, linking the EU to Ukraine. In May 2022, the European Commission put forward an action plan for EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes to facilitate Ukraine's agricultural export and bilateral trade with the EU which were severely impacted by Russia's war of aggression.

Solidarity lanes are reaching the required capacity to allow Ukraine to export to third countries, even in the absence of the Black Sea corridor.

### Coordination platform

In May 2023, Commission President von der Leyen and President Zelenskyy of Ukraine announced setting up a coordination Platform to improve the flow of trade of Ukrainian grain and ensure the full functioning of the Solidarity Lanes. Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis is leading this process at the political level. The Platform coordinates the efforts of the Commission, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, as well as Ukraine and Moldova, to improve the flow of trade between Ukraine and the EU, including the transit of goods along corridors to the rest of the world.

A constructive attitude of all participants in the Joint Coordination Platform helped to solve concrete problems and ensured that exports to third countries outside the EU are flowing and even increasing.

### Temporary preventive measures

On 15 September 2023, the exceptional preventive measures introduced (2 May 2023) on imports of wheat, maize, rapeseed and sunflower seed from Ukraine under the exceptional safeguard provision of the Autonomous Trade Measures Regulation expired.

The European Commission has analysed the data related to the impact of the exports of four categories of agricultural products on the EU market. It has concluded that, thanks to the work of the Coordination Platform and to the temporary measures, there are no longer market distortions in the 5 Member States bordering Ukraine.

At the same time, Ukraine has agreed to introduce measures within 30 days to avoid a renewed surge in EU imports of grain. Until then, Ukraine is to put in place effective measures to control the export of 4 groups of goods in order to prevent any market distortions in the neighbouring Member States.

### Black Sea Grain initiative

On 17 July, the Russian Federation refused to renew the Black Sea Grain Initiative, which since July 2022 had allowed the safe export of nearly 33 million tonnes of grain (40% of all Ukrainian grain exports when the Initiative was at full capacity) and foodstuffs to 45 countries.

The Platform provides a forum for the regular exchange on all issues of relevance between the neighbouring Member States, Ukraine and Moldova. It has identified short-term actions and keeps track of their progress:

#### 01.

The platform has given rise to operational plans

- to upscale capacity on the Danube corridor towards the Black Sea to reach **4 Mt/month**;
- to increase the use of the Common Transit Convention;
- to minimise non-essential sanitary and phytosanitary and other checks and move controls away from the border; improve infrastructure at the main border crossing points with Ukraine and Moldova.

#### 02.

Concrete guidance and best practice for transit procedures has been disseminated

#### 03.

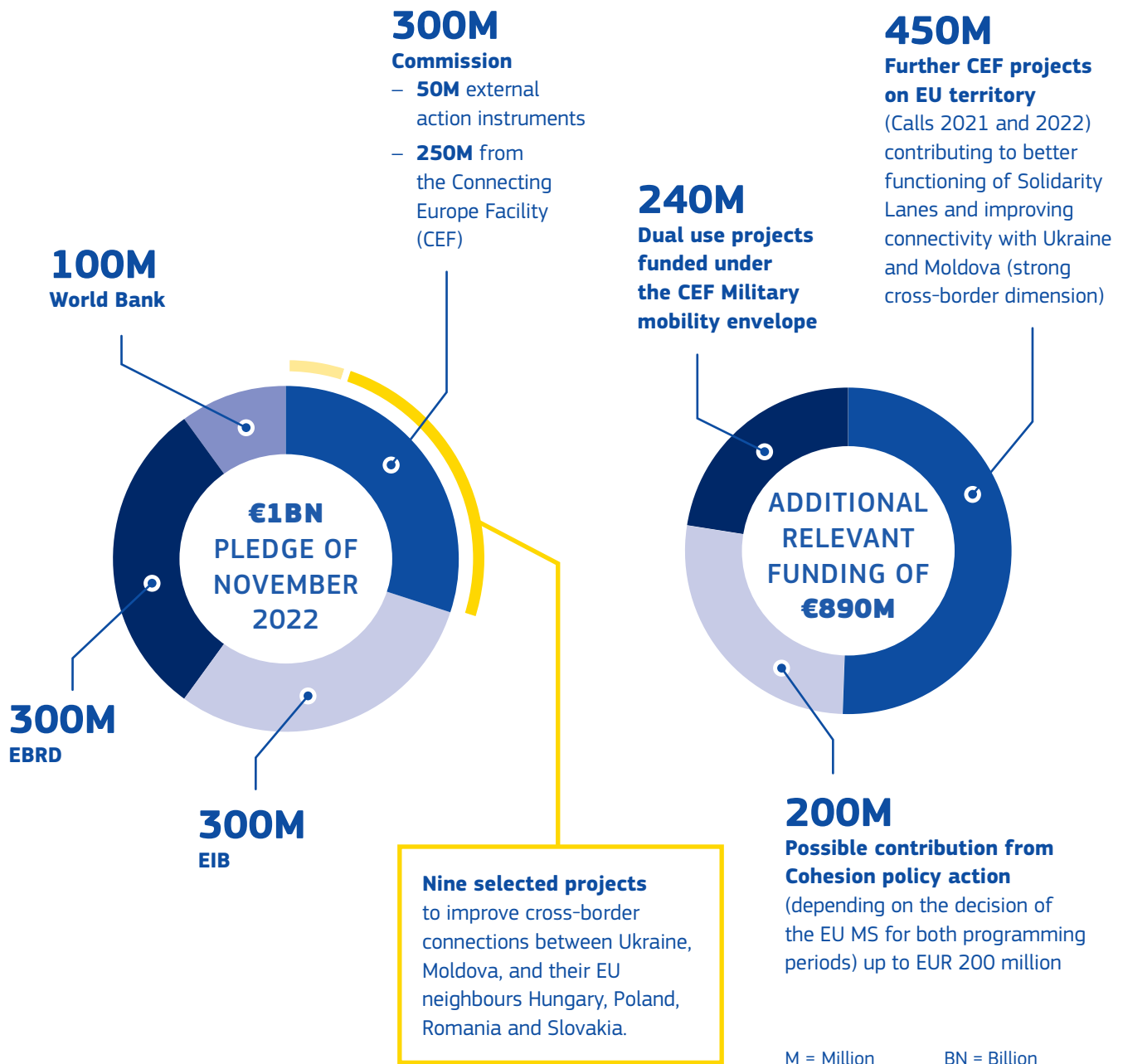
Monitoring harvest projections, trade flows, and storage capacity, among others

#### 04.

Addressing the waiting times at border control posts

# Funding for the Solidarity Lanes

[See the Declaration](#)

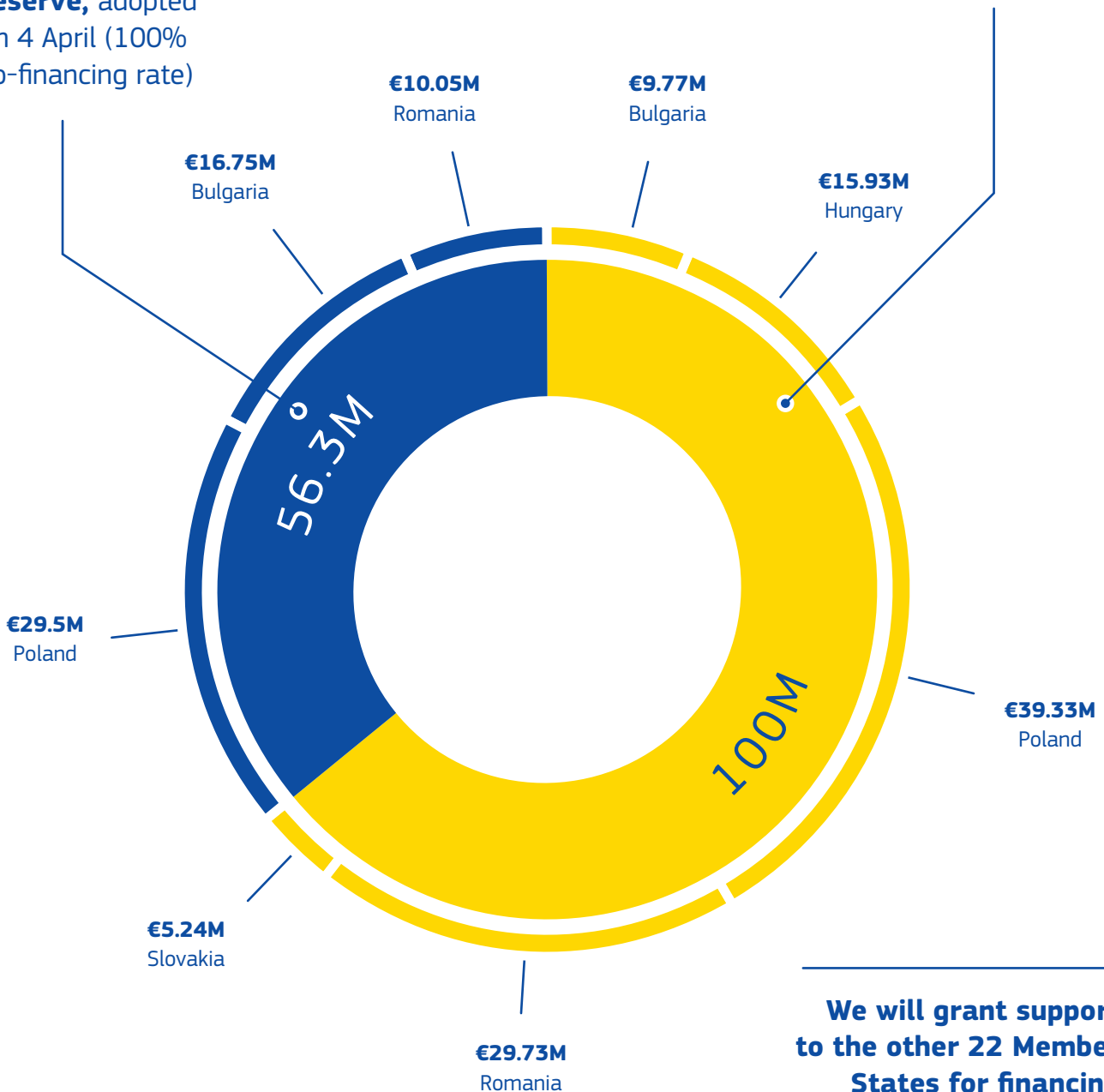


The association of [Ukraine and Moldova to CEF](#) would provide additional opportunities in the next CEF Call opening in September. Looking to the future, the objectives of the proposed Ukraine Facility include rebuilding and modernising infrastructure damaged by the war, such as internal and cross-border transport networks, including border crossing points.

# Financial support for agriculture in EU Member States

**Support package from the agricultural reserve, adopted on 4 April (100% co-financing rate)**

**Adopted on 26 June (200% co-financing rate)**

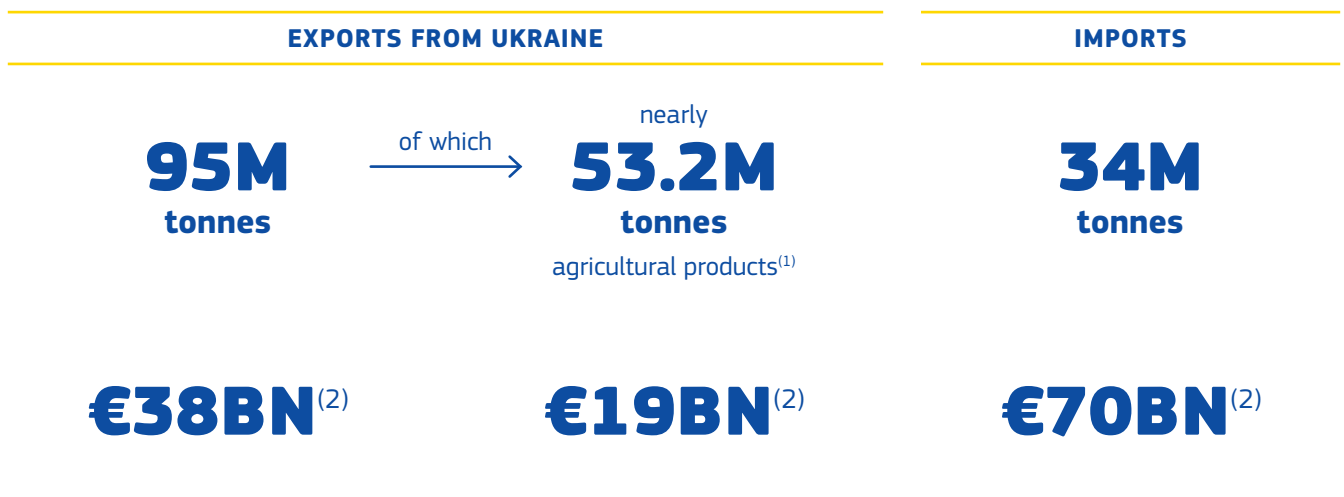


**We will grant support to the other 22 Member States for financing exceptional measures**

# Trade through the solidarity lanes



Between May 2022 and the end of August 2023, the Solidarity Lanes have allowed:



(1) All agricultural goods, including cereals, oilseeds, oil products and related products

(2) Based on the €/€ exchange rate of 11 September 2023