



## Supporting businesses in the agri-food sector in Ukraine

The original goal of the Ukraine Agri-Food Value Chain TA (UAFATA) project was to support the disbursement of the European Investment Bank (EIB) EUR 400-million loan to eligible investments in the target value chains and to provide complementary services to project participants including financial institutions and borrowers. The initiative was motivated by the great significance of the agri-food sector for Ukraine and the fact, that the majority of players in the sector are farmers, SMEs, Mid-Caps or cooperatives, which were largely underserved by the financial sector.

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 had a significant impact on the Project. The EIB repurposed the remaining funds of several of its outstanding loans to provide EUR 668 million of rapid financial support to the Government of Ukraine. UAFATA project shifted its focus to awareness and capacity building for the agriculture sector through a bi-weekly digest of key developments in the sector, a series of webinars, and an e-learning platform for agriculture extension service providers.

# #8

Decent work and economic growth

# #9

Industry, innovation and infrastructure

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### Donor:

European Investment Bank

### Recipients of the project:

Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine and Private and public sector operators along the Ukrainian cereals, oilseeds and aquaculture / fisheries value chains.

### Location(s): Ukraine

### Contract value:

€ 5 994 950

### Duration:

Jan 2019 - July 2023

### Bi-weekly Information Briefs

The Project prepares bi-weekly information briefs to track the fast-changing situation in the agri-food sector in all important aspects and prepares brief descriptions of the key developments and trends.

They are useful for those who want to follow the key news of the agri-food sector of Ukraine but are unable to spend time on constant monitoring of primary sources.

Information is collected from open sources: reports of government bodies, news feeds of information and analytical agencies, reports of companies, etc.



*"[The info briefs are] remarkable and very useful for understanding Ukrainian situation in the terrible context of the Russian aggression"*

**Jean-Jacques Hervé, President of the French Academy of Agriculture, Member of the French Board of Counsellors for Trade and Economy**

### Webinar series "Agribusiness in times of war"

The Project runs a series of webinars to reach out to actors in the agri-food sector and provide knowledge and skills to help them orient in the new environment and improve their capacity to succeed. In this series, the Project shares information on how agricultural enterprises could adjust their operations to work more effectively, where to find financing, how to or-





ganize new logistics channels, which technology optimizations to choose, what changes have taken place in the legislation, how to relocate a business or open an office in the EU, and more. The primary focus is on agriculture producers, but they are also helpful for other actors of the mentioned value chains, agriculture extension service providers, financial institutions, public sector players, and other stakeholders.

Each webinar is moderated with a Project member and delivered by invited speakers. Each webinar is structured in such a way, that key points are reinforced by case studies. The Project orients on the feedback from the audience to pick each new topic.

*"I am very grateful for today's webinar, where we learned about a system for agricultural producers to register the need to demine fields. There is indeed a low level of awareness among farmers about such initiatives. It is important to talk about the availability of solutions to facilitate demining for small farmers, who work in de-occupied territories, where there is no internet today. If this problem has already begun to be discussed at such a level, then I hope that everything will work."*

**Nadiya Ivanova, head of "Zoloty Kolos" farm, Mykolaiv region (5,000 ha land bank) about the Project webinar "Demining of arable land: challenges and solutions"**

## E-Learning Platform

The e-learning platform "eDorada" is aimed at sustainable improvement of the capacity of agriculture extension service providers (AESPs) in Ukraine to serve as finance advisors for agribusiness with the goal of improving access to finance for farmers. On the platform, interested AESPs will be able to improve their knowledge about financing and crediting of agriculture through a training program "Financial and credit resources for the agricultural industry". The platform is located at [fk.uafata.org.ua](http://fk.uafata.org.ua).

eDorada was created by the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine – a leading agriculture university of Ukraine – in partnership with the National Association of Agricultural Advisory Services of Ukraine with the support of the Project.

*"[The Ministry endorses the platform, since] providing affordable financing to Ukrainian farmers, primarily small and medium-sized producers, is a priority of the Government and the Ministry in particular. There are and will be other programs for obtaining funding. But practice shows that very often farmers who meet the criteria cannot take advantage of the programs due to lack of relevant knowledge"*

**Taras Vysotsky, First Deputy Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food**

