



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

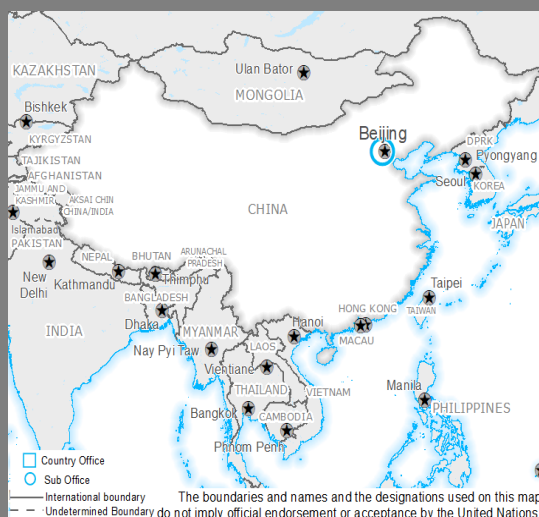
WFP China Country Brief June 2019



Operational Context

China attained all of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) ahead of the 2015 target, including reducing the number of hungry people by more than half. Since the initiation of reforms in 1978, China has lifted more than 800 million people out of poverty. Nonetheless, China faces challenges in reducing residual poverty, inequality and malnutrition. There are still 30.45 million people in China living below the national poverty line. The Chinese Government has set the ambitious goals of eliminating absolute poverty and substantially reducing relative poverty in China by 2020 and reducing stunting levels in children under 5 to 7 percent.

WFP has been present in China since 1979. Following the phase out of operations in 2005, WFP maintained a liaison office in Beijing until 2016. Recognising China's expertise in ending hunger and poverty, WFP and China entered a new era of partnership in 2016, including the establishment of the WFP China Centre of Excellence. In March 2017, the WFP China Country Strategic Plan 2017-2021 was launched; it focuses on sharing China's expertise through South-South and Triangular Cooperation; innovative small-scale demonstration projects inside China; and resource mobilization.



Population: **1.3 billion**

2015 Human Development Index: **90 out of 188**

Income Level: **Upper middle income**

Stunting: **8.1% of children under the age of 5**

Highlights

WFP outlined the implementation plan for a pilot initiative for smallholder farmers growing zinc-enriched potatoes in Gansu province. A project team visited the province on 9-23 June and met with smallholder farmers, cooperatives, primary schools, and other stakeholders to understand the value chain and plan a baseline survey.

WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Food and Strategic Reserves Administration at the Grain Trade Conference in Zhengzhou on 20 June. This will support China in sharing technology and expertise in reserve management and post-harvest loss reduction.

Updates

- On 17 June, WFP China held a review meeting for the Xiangxi Preschool Nutrition Pilot Project. The discussion focused on how to best use the funding of CNY 4 per child per day, and how to strengthen project monitoring. The meeting also reaffirmed the important role Project Management Offices have played so far and the need to build the capacity for WFP partners to further improve project management.
- Seven participants from WFP Egypt and the governments of Egypt and Sri Lanka attended the Second China Grain Trade Conference in Zhengzhou. In addition to an exhibition tour, they visited Zhengzhou Commodity Exchange, Henan Maosheng Machinery Manufacturing Co., Ltd. and Sino-Grain Depot Co., Ltd. to learn about Chinese food security solutions integrated with hi-tech and policy support. The visit served as an entry point for future South-South Cooperation between China and other developing countries.
- On 24-27 June, during the second Sandbox Immersive Festival in Qingdao, China, WFP showcased its humanitarian assistance for refugees in Jordan and Bangladesh using AR technology. According to Kristin Gutekunst, the lead producer of WFP's Interactive Exhibit, AR and VR can help WFP to raise awareness about humanitarian work and the goal of zero hunger. WFP China is exploring opportunities to use these technologies to mark the 40th anniversary of the organisation's work in China.
- On 26-28 June, the 1st China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo was held in Changsha, Hunan Province. Dr. Qu Sixi, Dr. Jia Yan, Programme Policy Officer, and Ms. Zhang Su, Programme Policy Officer, attended a series of events at the Expo, including the Ministerial Workshop on Food Security for Developing Countries and the Seminar on China-Africa Agricultural Cooperation and Development. Dr. Qu Sixi delivered keynote speeches at the events.

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Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
29.1m	10.2m	3.4m

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition.

Strategic Outcome 1: Malnutrition rates among children in targeted “poverty counties” reduced in line with national norms by 2020.

Focus area: Root causes.

Activities:

- Activity 1: Provide advice and technical assistance for extending nutrition programmes to hard-to-reach areas.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition.

Strategic Outcome 2: Year-round livelihoods among smallholder farmers in frequent need of food assistance in areas such as Anhui, Gansu, Guangxi, Hainan and Hunan provinces are enhanced.

Focus area: Root causes.

Activities:

- Activity 2: Advice on and assistance in integrating into national food supply chains.

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable.

Strategic Outcome 3: Populations regularly affected by natural disasters in Anhui, Gansu and Guangxi provinces and other poor disaster-prone areas better able to withstand and respond to shocks all year round.

Focus area: Resilience-building.

Activities:

- Activity 3: Advice on and assistance in strengthening response mechanisms for shocks –supply chain interventions asset creation in drought-affected areas and insurance systems.

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs.

Strategic Outcome 4: Selected developing countries assisted in enhancing food security and nutrition in line with their prioritized SDG2 targets by 2030.

Focus area: Root causes.

Activities:

- Activity 4: Provide government with expert advice and policy support on food security and nutrition issues.
- Activity 5: Knowledge-sharing through study-tours training technology transfer and online exchange platforms
- Activity 6: Foster leadership among a new generation of smallholder farmers.

Strategic Result 7: Developing countries access a range of financial resources for development investment.

Strategic Outcome 5: Work to enhance food security and nutrition in targeted “poverty counties” and selected developing countries supported year-round by increased private-sector resources and public-private partnerships

Focus area: Root Causes.

Activities:

- Activity 7: Development and formalization of partnerships.
- Activity 8: Facilitation of enhanced support from the Chinese Government.

- The 10th China Potato Expo was held in Beijing on 27 June by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. WFP China Deputy Director Caroline Legros attended the event along with more than 200 exhibitors. China is the world’s largest potato producer and its potato industry has contributed substantially to food security and poverty alleviation. Work on the Gansu zinc-enriched potato project aims to build on this and help to lift some of China’s poorest small-holder farmers out of poverty by improving their product and yield.
- On 12 June, WFP China met with the Meituan Corporate Social Responsibility team to discuss cooperation for 2019 World Food Day and new forms of online fundraising. Meituan is willing to mobilize high-end chain restaurants and users on its food ordering platforms to participate in the World Food Day fundraising campaign.
- On 19 June, Stanlake Samkange, Senior Director of WFP’s Strategy Unit, visited the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia. The two sides explored potential partnerships for collaboration. AIIB invited Stanlake to attend their annual meeting in Luxemburg on 11-13 July.
- On 20 June, WFP China and South-South Cooperation Unit met with New Hope Group (NPG). NPG is one of China’s top 500 enterprises mainly engaged in agriculture, animal husbandry and food processing. It has more than 600 subsidiaries in 30 countries, 80,000 employees and annual revenues of over USD 19 billion. NPG expressed willingness to cooperate with WFP to empower poor farmers and organize training for farmers from other developing countries in China. The two sides will continue discussions on the details of cooperation.

In the News

[China Daily](#) reported on WFP’s signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the National Food and Strategic Reserves Administration on 21 June. The newspaper quoted Zhang Wufeng, director of NFSRA: “The signing of the memorandum is aimed at intensifying grain cooperation between China and the WFP, and helping promote China’s technology and experiences in areas including management of grain storage and reserves, reducing waste, and facilitating market access for small farmers to other developing countries to ensure international food security.” UN Resident Coordinator Nicolas Rosellini said: “many developing countries seek to learn from China and find ways to mirror China’s success throughout the developing world.”

Donors

China International Development Cooperation Agency, China’s Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, AliExpress, Alibaba Group Ltd., General Mills, Teck Resources Ltd, Mastercard, Royal DSM, Meituan.com and the Chinese public.