

# WFP China Country Brief October 2019

World Food Programme

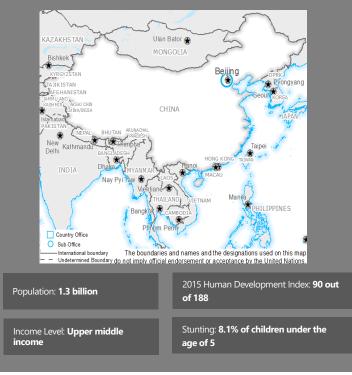
SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES



#### **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.



## Highlights

# On 7-10 October, WFP China conducted a monitoring mission for the preschool nutrition improvement project in Xiangxi Prefecture, Hunan province.

The mission visited seven preschools in Yongshun County and Longshan County, spoke with teachers and chefs about the project implementation, interviewed two smallholder farmers and held a meeting with the Project Management Office (PMO). The mission ensured the efficiency of implementation, the completion of target outputs, and the fulfilment of the planned immediate objectives.

## Updates

- On 16 October, WFP China and Meituan company jointly launched the "Say No to Hidden Hunger" Campaign on World Food Day. Vice President of Meituan, Ms Mao Fang and Deputy Country Director of WFP China, Ms Maha Ahmed, attended the launch ceremony of the offline campaign in Shanghai. More than 3,000 restaurants from 57 brands covering more than 270 cities participated the campaign. The online campaign was launched on Weibo and attracted more than 110 million views on Weibo with more than 20+ celebrities participating.
- On 16 17 October, the China Poverty Reduction International Forum and the Global Poverty Reduction and Development Forum were held. The events shared best practices on poverty reduction in the world and facilitated exchanges on global poverty governance. Dr Zhao Bing, WFP's Director of Purchase for Progress Coordination participated the China Poverty Reduction International Forum.
- On 18 October, WFP China convened a workshop on the Guangxi preschool nutrition improvement project to share progress in project preparation, including the selection of project townships, kindergartens and beneficiaries, project management structure and baseline study. The meeting discussed the meal provision modality, funding disbursement, supervision on food supplies, Sunshine School Meal Monitoring Platform, and the project inception.
- On 18 October, WFP China and Xiangnian Food jointly launched a Zero Hunger Campaign in Beijing. Xiangnian will donate one RMB (about 0.14 USD) for every noodle product sold during this campaign, with a minimum commitment of US\$ 250,000 dollars.
- On 22 October, the Gansu Smallholder Farmers Growing Zinc-enriched Potatoes Pilot Project was launched in Lanzhou City, Gansu Province. The fouryear project aims to improve the livelihoods of local poor farmers, address zinc deficiency, and support poverty alleviation and nutrition improvement.

### WFP Country Strategy



Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
31.3m	10.6 m	3.7m

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.

- On 25-27 October, WFP China conducted a monitoring mission for the Jinzhai Kiwi Smallholder Value Chain Project in Jinzhai County, Anhui Province. The mission found good results yielded from the project including enhanced smallholders' capacity, high quality and climateresilient orchard established, and most importantly a stable, equitable and inclusive pro-poor business model and profit-sharing mechanism established.
- On 30-31 October, Corinne Woods, WFP's Communications Director, met with some of WFP's key media partners including Xinhua, Kuaishou, Firstlook, Weibo, Meituan as well as some influencers during her visit in Beijing.
- On 31 October, a photo exhibition was held to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WFP-China partnership.

#### In the News

<u>Xinhuanet</u> reported on the launch of the book "Excellence in Poverty Reduction" by the Ministry of Commerce in Shanghai on 5 November. The book includes case studies from WFP's contributions to development in China.

The event was co-chaired by Zhang Shaogang, Director General of the Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs of China's Ministry of Commerce, and Nicholas Rosellini, UN Resident Coordinator in China, who said the story of UN presence in China is a story of change and of the remarkable transformation that has happened in China over the past 40 years and how the UN's role has evolved during the process.



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