

WFP China Country Brief December 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 9 December, WFP, FAO and IFAD organised a Seminar on Strengthening South-South and Triangular Cooperation to Enhance Value Chain Development and Policy Dialogue on E-commerce during the 1st China-Africa Agricultural Cooperation Forum in Sanya, Hainan Province.

The event was jointly organized to deepen China-Africa agricultural cooperation. Insights and perspectives were shared through the discussion on value chain development and E-commerce in China and Africa.

Updates

- On 6 December, four emergency food assistance contribution agreements were signed by the Chinese Government and WFP. These projects will assist people with food needs in Dominican Republic, Lesotho, Republic of Congo, and Yemen.
- On 9 December, the annual WFP-CICETE review meeting was held in Hainan. During the meeting, both sides reviewed 2019 achievements and discussed further partnerships for ongoing projects in 2020.
- On 12 December, WFP met with Firstlook Media Company to discuss potential collaboration focused on free media resources as in-kind donation and cash contribution to WFP.
- On 18 December, Dr. Qu Sixi, WFP China Country Director, met with Ms. Dong Ruiping, Herbalife China Vice President. Herbalife introduced Zero Hunger as one of their CSR priorities.
- On 19-20 December, WFP China organised a study visit to Yuxi City, Yunnan Province for a Nepalese delegation. Ten participants from Nepal including agricultural officers and farmer leaders visited vegetable farms and solar-powered irrigation system in Yuxi and had a dialogue with local agricultural authority. This is part of WFP-UNOSS joint South-South cooperation project for Sustainable Agriculture Development in Khajura Rural Municipality, Nepal.
- On 22-29 December, a workshop of the WFP Sri Lanka SSC project was held in Nanjing, Jiang Su Province. A total of 12 farmers and officials were exposed to China's technology and experience of postharvest loss management, grain processing and access to markets through in-house training and field visit.

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	13.2 m	0

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 19 December, WFP China released a postcard to commemorate the 40th anniversary of WFP-China cooperation and distributed it to key partners. An online campaign was co-organized with Weibo.
- On 19 December, Dr. Qu Sixi, WFP China Country Director, held a bilateral meeting with Teck China, donor to WFP Smallholder Farmers Project in Gansu. WFP briefed the latest progress of the project in 2019 and the work plan for 2020. Both parties agreed to continue the joint efforts to improve livelihoods and nutrition of smallholder farmers in rural China.
- On 26 December, WFP China and the Chinese National Agricultural Technology Extension and Service Centre (NATESC) entered into a cooperation agreement for NATESC's technical support to Gansu project. NATESC will provide technical support to zincenriched potato production and marketing, social and behaviour change and communication on the importance of zinc to human health.

In the News

On 12 December, <u>China Daily</u> reported on the release of the *Asia and Pacific Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition*, launched by the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, the UN Children's Fund, and the World Health Organisation. The report states that 479 million people are still undernourished in Asia and the Pacific. It also reports that overweight and obesity are rising among both children and adults in the Asia-Pacific region, negatively affecting health and well-being.



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.