



# WFP China Country Brief March 2020

World Food Programme

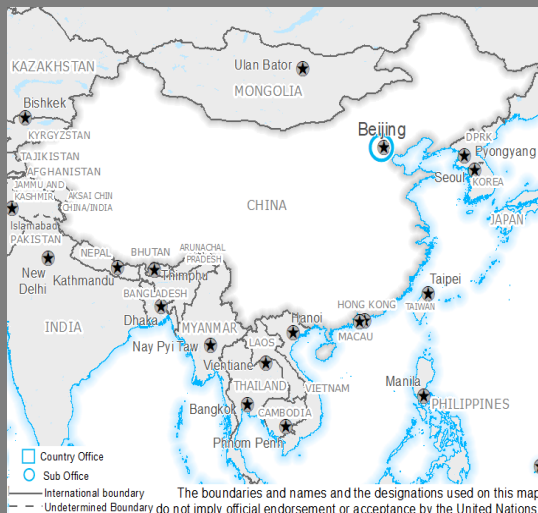
SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## 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.



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 provided extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) equipment and non-invasive ventilators (NIV) for treating critically-ill patients**, in support of the Chinese Government's efforts to treat COVID-19. Fifty NIVs and an ECMO equipment were handed over to Hubei Charity Federation and distributed to China's frontline hospitals in 13 counties of Hubei Province.

As a follow up to the ED COVID-19 request letter for funding support from the Government of China, WFP has reached out to both the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs and the China International Development Cooperation Agency regarding the COVID-19 funding needs.

## Updates

- **WFP is responding to requests for logistics support** from the China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE) and the China National Health Commissions (NHC) to assist in the onward transport of personal protection equipment (PPE) to several African countries.
- **WFP China is supporting Djibouti and Sierra Leone in requesting new funding proposals from the contribution of China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA).** WFP is also working with CIDCA and CICETE on some cases where receiving Country Offices seek to use existing funding for new needs caused by the COVID-19 crisis.
- **WFP is providing backstopping logistics and supply chain management support in local handling and onward shipment of the PPE donation from the Jack Ma Foundation and Alibaba Foundation** to 54 recipient countries in Africa in support of COVID-19 response.
- **WFP is working on the establishment of an International Humanitarian Staging Hub in China;** Alibaba, JD, SF, Sinotrans and other logistics enterprises are attending the bidding process.
- **WFP China is seeking opportunities to raise funds or in-kind donation for the response of COVID-19 crisis.** Discussions are ongoing with more than 5 companies/ organizations who are showing their willingness to provide in-kind donation to WFP.
- **WFP met with Ernst & Young which provides Huawei with consulting services on CSR strategy.** This is an opportunity to help Huawei better understand WFP's work and feed into Huawei's CSR strategy. Huawei's TECH4ALL team expressed their interests in helping WFP's projects through its technology, and also discussed how Huawei can help cope with COVID-19 crisis through WFP's global humanitarian system.

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**Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)**

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>31.3m</b>	<b>13.4 m</b>	<b>0</b>

**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.

- **WFP China has expanded the Tencent fundraising page from Cambodia to both Cambodia and Laos.** This is under the review of the Tencent charity team and China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation and will be officially launched in April.
- **On 24 March and 26 March respectively, two Baseline Debriefing Workshops were organized by WFP China to share findings of two Baseline Studies,** one on the Smallholder Farmers Growing Zinc-enriched Potatoes Project in Gansu, and the other on the Preschool Nutrition Improvement Pilot Project in Guangxi. Project management authorities, implementing partners and external expert groups from the two projects were brought together online to review the process of the baseline survey, to comment on the methodologies and triangulation, to share views and suggestions on the report as well as propose recommendations for the follow-up project activities. The two baseline reports will be further refined and validated by the survey teams and shared with concerned stakeholders in due course.

**In the News**



In its Communique on COVID-19 on 3 April, the African Union Bureau of Heads of State and Government noted the logistics support provided by WFP in the efforts to move personal protective equipment (PPE) to countries and regions in need.

It noted: “Lifesaving supplies including PPEs, masks, gowns, and ventilators and other support devices are urgently needed. The Bureau commended the rapid action coordinated by Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and the Jack Ma Foundation in mobilising and distributing, with the support of the World Food Programme (WFP) and Africa CDC, over one million diagnostic tests, six million masks and 600,000 PPE items to all African Union member states in less than a week.”

**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.