

# WFP China Country Brief December 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.



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# Highlights

On 9 December, Mr. Amer Daoudi, Senior Director of Operations, held a meeting with several ministries of Chinese Government.

Director General of the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Mr. Pengfei Sui hosted the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the plans for the next steps on the establishment of UNHRD. The meeting was also attended by Dr. Sixi Qu, WFP China Representative.

## **Updates**

From 2 to 5 December, the South-South Cooperation Technical Training Seminar organized by the Centre of International Cooperation Service of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs was held in Chengdu, Sichuan Province. Dr. Yan Jia, WFP China Programme Policy Officer, participated in the discussion virtually and shared WFP's SSC work.

On 3 December, the Embassy of the Kingdom of Denmark and the World Resources Institute organized a conference on "Contributing to a More Sustainable Society– Reducing Food Loss and Waste" in Beijing. Dr. Yan Jia, WFP China Programme Policy Officer, delivered a keynote speech through Zoom.

On 9 December, WFP China visited China Charities Aid Foundation for Children (CCAFC), one of the leading Chinese charity foundations and an online individual funding platform, to discuss potential collaborations in domestic projects and fundraising campaigns. CCAFC is willing to support WFP in connecting to more potential Chinese private sector donors, since the organization is also a charity platform connecting needs and resources in helping needy children and youth in China. As a qualified NGO to raise funds from the public in China, CCAFC will be able to function as another pass-through organization for WFP in China in terms of funds transfer. WFP China wish to leverage CCAFC's strength in online individual fundraising and outreach to improve its engagement with the general public.

On 10 December, <u>Xinhua</u> and <u>UN News</u> aired interviews with the WFP China Representative on Nobel Peace **Prize.** People's Daily, China News Service and International Financial News also published WFP China Representative's interview on poverty alleviation during Boao Forum for Asia.

On 11 December, the UNCT Policy Dialogue: UN China's Experience in Strengthening Food Systems amid the Response to COVID-19 was held both online and inperson in the UN compound. Dr. Sixi Qu, WFP China Representative, chaired the WFP session-building resilience of food systems, from the South-South cooperation perspectives, and joint the discussion with Mr. Xie Jianmin, Counsel (Director General Level), from the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

### 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	13.47 m	N/A

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 14 December, Dr. Sixi Qu, WFP China Representative, and Ms. Maha Ahmed, Deputy Country Director, met with the management team of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The ICRC expressed their interests in the cooperation with the future UNHRD in China.

From 15 to 16 December, International Forum on Sharing Poverty Reduction Experience organized by China Development Bank and IPRCC was held online. Mr. Stanlake Samkange, Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships Division, participated in the Forum and delivered a keynote speech.

**On 16 December, Ms. Amakobe Sande, the Resident Coordinator a.i., visited the interim hub in Guangzhou.** She expressed that United Nations will continue the cooperation of UNHRD.

On 17 December, China Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC) hosted the first China and International Development Forum. The major players of China international development cooperation and foreign assistance, including government, UN, international organizations, NGOs, academia and other stakeholders attended the meeting. WFP joined the sub forum on Food Security, Poverty Reduction and Agricultural Development in the new era.

On 22 December, the Belt and Road Forum for Building Beautiful Countryside was held in Longnan, Gansu Province. Dr. Sixi Qu, WFP China Representative, and Dr. Yan Jia, WFP China Programme Policy Officer, participated in the Forum and the field visit. Dr. Qu delivered a keynote speech.

**On 14 January 2021, a Post-harvest Loss Management Workshop organized by WFP PROF will be unfolded.** SSC team will participate in the workshop.

In January 2021, an external meeting with Bytedance, parent company of short video sharing platform Tiktok and Douyin, regarding the proposal contents will be arranged. WFP China has developed the first draft of the cooperation proposal between WFP and Bytedance. Based on the draft proposal and previous exchanges with Bytedance, WFP China had internal discussions with relevant units from HQ to request inputs concerning WFP's needs.

#### 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.