



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

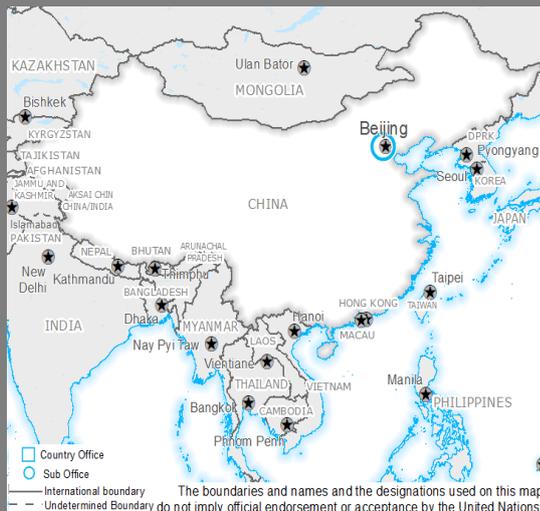
WFP China Country Brief May 2020



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

On 30 May, Hunan Satellite TV aired a One-on-one video interview with Dr. Qu Sixi, WFP China Representative through a program called People in News. The programme highlighted the global messaging on food crisis report and China innovative programmes.

WFP China is working closely with the Government of China for the development of the Humanitarian Response Depot. China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) is pleased to see the COVID-19 emergency response Hub has now been set up and is in operation and supports the establishment of Humanitarian Response Depot in China.

Updates

On 20 May, the President of China announced that China will provide US\$2 billion over two years to help with COVID-19 response and with economic and social development in affected countries, especially developing countries. This includes China's continuous and broader cooperation with the UN through a Global Humanitarian Logistics Hub to be established in China in order to ensure anti-epidemic supply chains, as well as to foster "green corridors" for fast-track transportation and customs clearance. WFP is working closely with the Government of China for the development of the hub in the long run.

WFP China is cooperating with the Government of China to promote the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan and Multi-Partner Trust Fund initiatives. At both the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting and the Pledge Conference held in March, China expressed its support for the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan and Multi-Partner Trust Fund initiatives. The plan of Chinese contribution is still under internal discussion of the government and WFP requests will be well considered.

WFP China continues to negotiate with the Government of China to mobilize funding to enable life-saving assistance in emergencies for 16 countries, including South Sudan, Somalia, Dominican Republic, Timor-Leste, etc, totalling more than USD 44 million. WFP China is also liaising closely with the Government of China in relation to proposed development projects in Liberia, Djibouti, Zimbabwe, and Republic of Congo. Negotiating the project budget breakdowns requirements, addressing the inquiries on the rationale of project design, project activities relevance, etc.

WFP China continues to negotiate with Government of China regarding potential for debt swaps. During a recent meeting, China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) informed WFP about China's loans to developing countries which are mainly commercial bank loans, and that the Government of China has provided very few concessional loans. However, debt swap is an innovative approach worth exploring, and the relevant departments are now conducting an internal study.

Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
31.3m	13.4 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 15 May, WFP China had a meeting with Kuaishou, a Chinese short-video sharing platform, reviewing and discussing the details of their partnership agreement.

Kuaishou will share its access to consumers on both online and offline platforms, its reach of users and their experience in logistics. Kuaishou also attempts to support WFP financially, by donating funds and network traffics.

Through fostering partnership between Amway Charity Foundation (a non-public foundation with multinational corporate background) and Guangxi local government, WFP was able to mobilize additional resources from Amway to complement the nutrition and health education component in WFP’s in Guangxi.

The contribution from Amway will mainly include pro-bono nutrition education resources, capacity strengthening to the schoolteachers on child nutrition, and health education provided to the kindergartens. The partnership built on the WFP platform is an example of WFP efforts to augment resources and capacities from different partners in an innovative way with the aim of contributing to the SDG localization.

From 18-20 May, WFP China conducted a monitoring mission to the Gansu project in support of smallholder farmers.

The local government has distributed production materials including seed potatoes, fertilizers, pesticides and plastic mulching that are essential inputs for the spring farming season. WFP China has provided technical training and demonstration plot to the smallholders to enhance their knowledge and skills on zinc-enriched potato production, as well as to visit and learn the modern technologies.

WFP China is preparing to launch “Missing This Meal Campaign in China” by the end of June.

WFP developed a proposal explaining the campaign and proposing local adaptations of its implementation, and shared it with potential partners such as Weibo, Meituan, Tencent and Kuaishou. In attempt to get support from celebrities and influencers, the proposal has also been shared with PR companies NewRanking and Firstlook. WFP China is now discussing with them the promotional resources.

In response to COVID-19 and to assist smallholder farmers in China, WFP China and the China Merchant Foundation met to explore cooperation.

China Merchant Foundation extended their willingness in donating RMB 1-2 million (USD 140,000 – 280,000) in logistics and warehousing to Weining County, Guizhou Province. To facilitate the cooperation, WFP contacted MARA in order to reach the Guizhou local government for support and more information.

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.