



Existing rates of: **Wasting: 2.3%** **Stunting: 9.4%** **Proportion of population underweight: 3.4%**

Source: Gov. of China (Nutritional Status of Children, 2010)

### Strong Performance

**Government investment** in the health sector is comparatively high at 12.5% of total public spending in 2012.

**Government of** China has ensured tenure security for rural populations. Land titling is common and land markets function well. Policy promotes equitable access to common property resources.

**The Government** encourages varied agricultural research and extension services, and local farmer organisations are involved in setting policy priorities. The extension system is effective and properly reaches out to poor farmers. Government policies, strategies and mechanisms seek to ensure gender equity in access to extension services.

**China has** devised a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.

**The Government** has enshrined aspects of the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.

**The Government** of China promotes complementary feeding practices.

**91.9%** of the population of China in 2012 has access to an improved drinking water source.

**In China** 95% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2012.

**In China**, constitutional protection of the right to social security is strong.

### Areas for improvement

**In China**, the law gives women and men equal economic rights and equal legal access to agricultural land. However, these laws are not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.

**Relative to** other HANCI countries, China's medium/long term national development policy (12th Five Year Plan) places weak importance to nutrition.

**China does** not have a separate budget line for nutrition; this prevents transparency and accountability for spending.

**Even though** China has developed a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy and clear time-bound nutrition targets, a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism is still lacking.

**Policymakers in** China do not benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2010.

**The Government** of China has only achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 29% of children in 2011.

**Weak access** to improved sanitation facilities (65.3% in 2012) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.

**In China**, constitutional protection of the right to food is weak.



# Key data for China



## Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

| Public spending  | Score*                  | Year | HRCI Rank of 45 |
|--|-------------------------|------|-----------------|
| Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>  | 8.78%                   | 2011 | 8th             |
| Public spending on health as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>       | 12.5%                   | 2012 | Joint 13rd      |
| <b>Policies</b>  |                         |      |                 |
| Access to land (security of tenure) <sup>2</sup>                               | Strong                  | 2013 | 9th             |
| Access to agricultural research and extension services <sup>2</sup>            | Strong                  | 2013 | Joint 12nd      |
| Civil registration system — coverage of live births                            | 92.8%                   | 2011 | Joint 4th       |
| Functioning of social protection systems <sup>2</sup>                          | Moderate                | 2014 | Joint 6th       |
| <b>Laws</b>  |                         |      |                 |
| Level of constitutional protection of the right to food <sup>3</sup>           | Weak                    | 2011 | Joint 20th      |
| Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) <sup>4</sup> | In Law, not in Practice | 2014 | Joint 4th       |
| Equality of women's economic rights <sup>4</sup>                               | In Law, not in Practice | 2011 | Joint 5th       |
| Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)                  | Yes                     | 2006 | Joint 1st       |

<sup>1</sup> No benchmark

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong

<sup>3</sup> Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong

<sup>4</sup> Possible scores are: ● Not in Law ● In Law Not in Practice ● In Law & Practice

## Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

| Public spending  | Score*            | Year      | NCI Rank of 45 |
|--|-------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Separate budget for nutrition (No/Sectoral only/Yes)           | No                | 2012      | Joint 28th     |
| <b>Policies</b>  |                   |           |                |
| Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children                | 29%               | 2011      | 40th           |
| Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)             | Yes               | 2012      | Joint 1st      |
| Population with access to an improved water source             | 91.9%             | 2012      | 6th            |
| Population with access to improved sanitation                  | 65.3%             | 2012      | 8th            |
| Health care visits for pregnant women                          | 95%               | 2012      | 10th           |
| Nutrition features in national development policy <sup>1</sup> | Weak              | 2011-2015 | Joint 42nd     |
| National Nutrition Policy/Strategy (yes/no)                    | Yes               | 2014      | Joint 1st      |
| Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)  | No                | 2012      | Joint 39th     |
| Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)                          | Yes               | 2012      | Joint 1st      |
| National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)             | No                | 2010      | Joint 34th     |
| <b>Laws</b>  |                   |           |                |
| ICMBS <sup>^</sup> Enshrined in domestic law <sup>2</sup>      | Aspects Enshrined | 2014      | Joint 33rd     |

<sup>1</sup> Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are: ● Not Enshrined in Law ● Voluntary Adoption ● Fully enshrined.

<sup>^</sup> International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

\*For full details visit:  
[www.hancindex.org](http://www.hancindex.org)

