

**International Roundtable Conference on “Food Safety: International Trade, Sustainable Production, Social Responsibility”**

**RESEARCH PAPER**

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Attached to the paper is an overview of a recent public opinion poll by Media Interactive in Tokyo, Japan. The results of the poll were influenced by the outbreak of a food scandal in Japan regarding contaminated dumplings (frozen) from China.

Further information can be found on the websites of The Tokyo Foundation ([www.tkfd.or.jp](http://www.tkfd.or.jp)) and Public Advice International Foundation ([www.pa-international.org](http://www.pa-international.org)).

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## **Introduction**

It is hard to imagine that the recent year's success of the Chinese economic development has gone unnoticed by anyone. The country's economy has expanded and grown by impressive numbers, and virtually every part of the economy increases each year, showing an average annual increase in GDP since 2000 of 10 percent. When looking more specifically at China's role in world exports, the numbers tell an even more impressive story, showing an average annual increase for the same period mentioned above of 25 percent in the total value of the country's export. In 2004, China contributed one-third of world total economic growth.<sup>i</sup>

China already has a, by international standards, strong agricultural and manufacturing sector, with a service sector on a steady increase in recent years. The agricultural sector employs approximately 40 per cent of the country's work force, making it the largest agricultural sector of any country in the world. Despite of this, the country's main export is manufacturing products, accounting for roughly 92 per cent of China's export. Furthermore, China's cheap labour cost have turned the country into "the world's factory", manufacturing most of the world's clothing, electronics and household items<sup>ii</sup>.

These impressive numbers have a darker backside attached to them. Rapid growth has been accompanied by effects on the environment, and huge increases in the pollution of air, land and water. Also, following the fast economic and industrial growth is an increase in urbanization, further affecting the country's energy intensity.

These less encouraging effects of the Chinese rising economy does of course affect the population of China, lack of access to clean water and air increases the amount of people falling victims to diseases as a direct result of poor air and water quality. This

water and air in turn affects the soils used for agriculture, damaging the quality of produced foods and crops, posing a very real threat to the health for the citizens of the Republic of China, both in what they eat, in what they drink and even the air they breathe.

This is especially the case for China's poorer rural population. For instance, according to WHO statistics, the rural population of China with access to improved sanitation is only 28 per cent (compared to the urban population's 69 per cent).

The problem is in no way isolated to China though. Economic figures tell that these, which at a first glance might seem as a problem for China and its citizens, affect other countries directly. With the rising of the Chinese economy, the country's part of world trade and its role in production for export has increased as well, the food sector being no exception. As a dominant supplier on the world's food market, this bears an immediate effect on China's trading partners. This is especially the case between Japan and China, where Japan is directly dependant on its bigger western neighbour for supply of food. Especially evident in the last year with food-related scandals catching the Japanese media's attention, most recently in the "Gyoza incident", it is very clear that this is not a problem limited to China only. Also, pollution from Chinese factories, coal plants and the increased pollution of Chinese rivers, affect the country's neighbours, and in turn the problems of China could spread in the nearby region. Solving these issues is therefore in everyone's interest.

### **China's trade with the U.S., the EU and Japan – general<sup>iii</sup>**

In 2006, China ranked third in the world for export in world merchandise, behind Germany and the United States, with an 8 per cent of world total export (10,7 per cent if intra-EU trade is excluded), having surpassed Japan and a number of European countries in the early 2000's. Furthermore, the country showed the highest annual increase in the value of its exports, with an increase of 27 per cent in total value, only matched by countries ranked further down the list (first country to show a higher increase is Islamic Republic of Iran, with 31 per cent, ranking at 37<sup>th</sup> place and with a total value of export just roughly 8 per cent of China's equivalent).

Out of the export and share in the American, European and Japanese market respectively, China is represented in the top three and is increasing its share and total value in all three markets.

Between these three markets, the value of Chinese exports are highest in the US, accounting in 2006 of a total value of 305,8 billion US\$. The E.U. and Canada still have more share of the American import (339,8 and 307,7 billion US\$ respectively), but China shows the more impressive annual growth, with a 18 per cent increase in 2006. This can be compared to the annual percentage change of the E.U. and Canada, reaching only 7 per cent and 5 per cent respectively. The Chinese share of total U.S. imports have risen from 8,5 per cent in 2000 to 15,9 per cent in 2006, while the share of both E.U. and Canada are declining (as is the case of Japan, ranking 5<sup>th</sup>, while Mexico ranking 4<sup>th</sup> shows virtually a stand-still).

In the E.U., the situation is similar, China ranking 2<sup>nd</sup> only to inter-EU trade. Among the top 5 importers to the EU, the situation of rising Chinese share of the total import is less dominant than in the U.S., total share only increasing from 2,7 per cent in

2000 to 5,1 per cent in 2006, and in annual percentage change in total share, being outmatched by the Russian Federation. The annual percentage change is still impressive with a 22 per cent increase in Chinese exports to the EU. The trend of recent years is that the U.S. and Japan are losing shares to mainly Russia and China, but also to inter-European trade.

China became Japan's largest trading partner in 2007, surpassing the U.S. for the first time, and the countries are today strongly interlinked in trade with each other. Although the Japanese exports to China are larger than in both cases of the U.S. and the EU, valued at 112 billion US\$, Japan, as is the case of both the U.S. and EU as well, has a negative trade balance with China (i.e., import from China is valued more than the country's in question export). Out of the three markets examined, China has the largest share in imports on the Japanese market, consisting of slightly above 20 per cent of total imports. In contrast however, China's annual percentage export value to Japan seems to be slowing down, decreasing from a 15 per cent in 2005 to a more modest 9 per cent in 2006. Also, among the top 5, other actors seem to be increasing their share in the Japanese market, most noticeably Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, showing increases in 2006 of 29 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. The total value of these countries export to Japan are still not anywhere near China's though, China's export trade to Japan being valued at 119 billion US\$, compared to Saudi Arabia's 37,2 and UAE's 31,6 billion US\$.

China's export also has a highly exceptional impact on carbon emissions, compared to other countries. A report conducted by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change estimated that China's exports make up a quarter of the country's total emissions. Other developed countries bears a part of the responsibility on this

particular issue, countries as for instance Great Britain exported its smokestack industries to China in the early 1990's and is now importing products it would have produced itself. The total amount of emissions due to export and transport of products related to these exports, accounted for 1.1 billion tons of carbon dioxide, which is the equivalent of Japan's total carbon dioxide emission<sup>iv</sup>.

#### **Manufactures Trade – China showing great increase in office and telecom exports<sup>v</sup>**

Looking closer at manufacture, China's most important trade industry, the numbers continue to tell a story of impressive growth and economic achievements. In 2000, China's manufacture export was valued at slightly over 200 billion US\$, less than the U.S., the EU and Japan. Since then, the increase has been fast and big, being valued slightly under 900 billion US\$ in 2006, a value-increase that surpasses the other three mentioned economies during the same period by far.

Furthermore, the Chinese manufactured exports are now valued second to the EU, having surpassed Japan in 2004 and the U.S. in 2006.

Especially interesting is the case of office and telecom equipment exports. The sector represents 18 per cent of total manufactured exports, and is an expanding market. The European Union is the leading exporter and further expanded its exports, although this increase and share is entirely due to intra-European exports. Extra-European exports have on the other hand declined since 2005, only showing a relatively weak annual increase since 2003.

In this market, China has established a strong position, and ranking second to the European Union (world leading if intra-European trade is unaccounted for). Since 2002, China's export value on this particular market has had an annual increase value of

roughly 50 billion US\$. In 2006, China supplied 16 per cent of the EU's import needs in this particular group and 37 per cent of the U.S.'s. Furthermore, 34 per cent of the U.S. trade deficit with China could be attributed to this particular group.

#### **Agricultural trade, Japanese dependency on China for food?<sup>vi</sup>**

Of what is labelled as agricultural trade, an average of 80 per cent is made up of trade in food products. When examining the economical figures of the agricultural market, and the case of China, both the absolute value and share of this market in comparison with total Chinese exports do not seem significant. Although, as this report hopes to demonstrate, there are more important implications regarding this particular market, and that is especially the case when examining the China – Japan trade relations in this sector.

Despite of large annual increases in the total value of agricultural exports, the Chinese exports of agricultural products to the EU and U.S. remain small, partly because of the nature of food products (expiration issues for instance, and the political barriers towards exporting agricultural products in regard to the EU and U.S.). China is in the top 5 exporters in both cases, but with just a 5 per cent of the U.S. market and 1,3 per cent in the European. In the U.S. case however, the annual increase of the Chinese exports are higher than any other of the top 5, showing a trend towards more food in the U.S. being imported from China. The EU is largely depending on its own agricultural sector, but although not as clear as in the US, the Chinese export of food shows a relative high increase in shares, partly because of agreements reached in the WTO aimed at relaxing European import rules regarding food, especially in its bilateral dealings with China.

The Japanese case stands out in this particular sector of trade with China. Being China's neighbour, the export of food products have been easier to pursue for the country. Whereas the U.S. and EU have large agricultural sectors and intra-state agreements (NAFTA in the case of the U.S.) for supply with food in the near-region area, Japan has no such equivalent. Also, the EU and the US imports to a greater extent food additives and preservatives (e.g. wheat gluten, lactic acid, ascorbic acid) than actual food and these are thus not shown in statistics of food trade.

Japan is also a highly unique case, being the world's biggest net-importer of food, and importing an approximate of 60 per cent of the country's consumed food. Out of this imported agricultural products, the U.S. still has the largest share with 24 per cent, but as well as a decline in total value, the amount that makes up food products are less than in the case of China, where out of the agricultural exports to Japan, almost 98 per cent consists of food products.

China's share of the Japanese import market is 17 per cent, and the annual average increase in the last decade is about 5 per cent, which might not sound much, but it is important to remember that this particular sector of trade, compared with for instance manufacturing, has been going on for a longer period of time, and is therefore stabilizing. Japan is clearly dependent on China for food<sup>vii</sup>.

### **Japan's food imports, data, trends and the decline in self-sufficiency<sup>viii</sup>**

Examining the trends in Japanese food imports, it seems to be a push towards trying to increase imports from other countries as well, mainly South-East Asian ones and a handful of South American countries, although, with the exception of Thailand, actual share in the Japanese food market remains small. That these countries pose a

serious threat to China on the Japanese food market also has reasons for doubt, seeing how China has comparative advantages in regard to trade with Japan. The countries are relatively close, making transportation costs favourable in comparison to countries like Argentina or Australia.

Concerning what specific food products Japan imports, the four most important items are seafood, meat, grain and vegetables (making up 28, 18, 13 and 7 per cent of total food imports), where products from China in all these products, except meat (where China is the strongest player if you look strictly at chicken products). Worthy of notice is also that the import of especially seafood, where China is the biggest exporter to Japan, the amount imported by Japan has been on a steady increase during the 2000's.

Furthermore, the food produced in China is to a greater extent staple-food important in the daily diet of the Japanese. Alternatives to the type of food products produced in China lies further a field, in some cases the alternative being the EU or U.S., where both transportation costs and actual costs of the products are higher. Also, which will be further discussed in detail, the Chinese agricultural policy gives China a further comparative advantage on the Japanese market. The liberalization of the Chinese economy has not reached the agricultural sector, noticeable in issues such as land ownership, price and supply controls and subsidizing.

Japan's food self-sufficiency ratio has been declining over a long period of time. Measured on a calorie-basis, Japan had a 73 per cent self-sufficiency ratio concerning food products in 1965, which can be compared with 40 per cent in 2005. Even more drastic is the figures if you look at self-sufficiency ratio of grains, where measured over the same period of time the figures have dropped from 62 to 28 per cent. Among

developed countries, Japan's food self-sufficiency measured on a calorie basis is the lowest in the world.

This has in turn affected the structure of the Japanese agricultural sector. Japanese agricultural production has been decreasing since 1985. Significant factors such as total number of people engaged in farming, the cultivated land area and the utilization rate of cultivated land have decreased annually. This development can be traced to several reasons, namely; labor force outflow, farmland diversion and an increase in abandoned cultivated land.

Also of importance in the changed diet of the Japanese people in recent years. The Japanese has over a long period of time started consuming more fats and meat, especially on the expense of the consumption of rice. Wide agricultural land is needed to produce the feed grains necessary for production of livestock products and fat seeds as the raw materials for vegetable fats and oils. The farmland needed for Japan to produce this by itself is estimated at 12 million ha, which is about 2.5 times as large as the actual farmland area of the country. Also, the Japanese agricultural production is still, despite of a decrease in local demand, strongly focused on rice production.

### **Water pollution in China\***

China has the world's largest population of 1.3 billion people. After 1980s the China's urbanization grows rapidly and the amount of water consumption became larger than before. Table 1 show the water availability of main river basins in China such as Song-Liao River basin, Hai-Luan River, Huang River basin(Yellow river), Huai River basin, Changjiang river (Yangtze river), Zhujian river (Pearl river), Southwest river basins, Southeast river basins, and interior river basins(rivers not discharging

into the sea). According to the World Bank report, China's total annual renewable water resources amount to between 2400 and 2800 billion m<sup>3</sup>/yr.

However, annual per capita water availability was only 1856 m<sup>3</sup> in 2004, which is about a quarter of the world average of 8,513 m<sup>3</sup>/yr. The south is relatively water abundant. Water scarcity is very severe in northern areas, where average annual per capita availability is only about 725m<sup>3</sup>. However, population growth will continue to undermine per capita water availability.

**Table 1.1. Main River Basins and Their Characteristic Features**

River Basin	Water availability % (1000 m <sup>3</sup> )	National Percentage		Water Availability per capita (to m <sup>3</sup> )			Water availability per ha (m <sup>3</sup> )
		Pop.	Arable Land	1997	2010	2050	
Northern Rivers							
Interior R.	4.6 (130.4)	2.1	5.7	4,876	4,140	3,331	23,835
Song-liao	6.9 (192.2)	9.6	20.2	1,646	1,501	1,287	9,900
Hai	1.5 (42.2)	10	11.3	343	311	273	3,885
Huai	3.4 (96.1)	16.2	15.2	487	440	383	6,555
Huang	2.7 (74.4)	8.5	12.9	707	621	526	6,000
<b>North Total</b>	<b>19.1 (535.3)</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>65.3</b>	<b>8,059</b>	<b>7,013</b>	<b>5,800</b>	
Southern Rivers							
Yangtze	34.2 (961.3)	34.3	23.7	2,289	2,042	1,748	41,745
Pearl	16.7 (470.8)	12.1	6.7	3,228	2,813	2,377	67,515
Southeast	9.2 (259.2)	5.6	2.5	2,285	2,613	2,231	80,160
Southwest	20.8 (585.3)	1.6	1.8	29,427	25,056	20,726	346,350
<b>South Total</b>	<b>80.9 (2277)</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>34,001</b>	<b>32,524</b>	<b>27,082</b>	

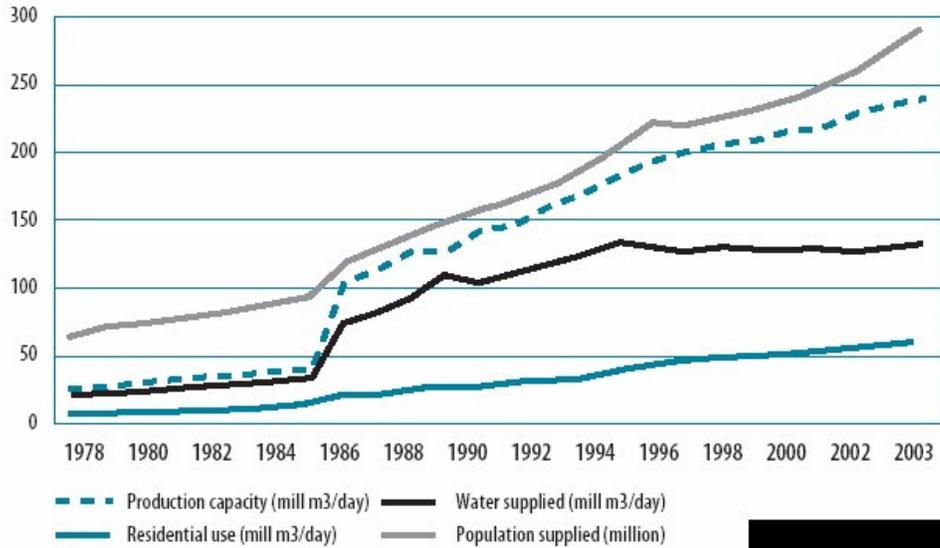
Source: Shen (2004).

Referred from World Bank(2006) [4]

Figure 1.5 shows the fact that the urban water supply from 1978 to 2003. It shows that the amount of water supply increases even though the per capita water availability becomes decreases. World Bank report focused that the water supply since 1994 slightly reduced. They suggested that this pattern is to be related to reductions in industrial water demand connected to government initiatives to address water use and pollution from this sector. However, it also shows how urbanization is quickly negating the gains

made in mitigating industrial water use.

**Figure 1.5. Urban Water Supply Statistics (1978–2003)**

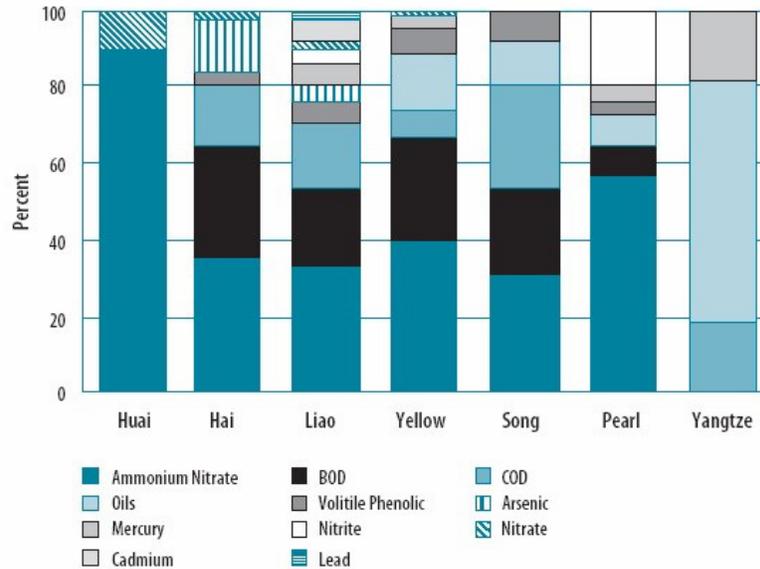


Source: China Urban Construction Statistics Yearbook (various years).

Concerning the water quality in China, World Bank report noted a water quality classification system established by China, and it follows the Environmental Quality standard GB 3838-2002 from Grade I to Grade V+.

Figure 1.9 shows the water pollution structure in main rivers based on the monitoring water quality with about 30 pollutants included in the overall water quality monitoring schemes.

**Figure 1.9. An Illustration of the Water Pollution Structure in Major Rivers**



Source: China Environmental Yearbook 2002.

### Health implications in China and abroad by pollution and contaminated foods\*

By value, China is the world's largest exporter of fruits and vegetables, and a major food exporter of various other food products. Chinese authorities has acknowledged the food safety problem, but there has so far been a discrepancy in rhetoric and actual implementations of policies concerning these matters, to some extent because of difficulties relating to governance and a lack of incentives for local governments to implement policies decided from Beijing and the continuation to ignore these concerns for further economic growth.

China has been especially poor at meeting international food safety standards, which a case from American import shows. Just a small fraction of the imports are inspected, but despite this, an average of 200 shipments from China are rejected each month. This is affecting both Chinese and the importing country's companies, with loss

of revenue, decrease in trust and further economic implications.

In Japan, as well as in the U.S., companies are under pressure from consumers to cut costs, and therefore have been increasingly dependent on cheap ingredients from China. Furthermore, Japan's food regulation and inspection system seems to be insufficient. For instance, according to the Health Ministry, out of the some 700 agricultural chemicals found in food distributed in Japan, only 229 have residue safety levels under the Food Sanitation Law, the in round numbers 500 remaining chemicals are not subjected to any kind of control under the current law.<sup>xi</sup>

According to the list of breach cases of Food Sanitation Law, China occupied 28% of them. According to the Tokyo-based Japan Frozen Food association, imported frozen food, excluding vegetables, amounted to 315,436 tons in 2006, including 200,634 tons from China. While about 5 per cent of frozen processed food are checked for colon bacillus and illegal additives at the government's quarantine stations, they are not tested for pesticide residue, according to the Health Ministry. Mr. Naoki Yoshihara, an official at the ministry's quarantine division said that it is technically too demanding to check frozen processed foods for pesticide residue, and that ultimately, we must depend on the parts involved (exporting country, importing company etc.) to import safe foods and follow the country's legal guidelines.<sup>xii</sup>

In the US and EU, a growing percentage of the Chinese exports are made up of food additives and preservatives, some of which can only be found these days in large quantities in China. China exported 2.5 billion US\$ worth of food ingredients to the rest of the world in 2006, which is an increase of 150 per cent in value compared to just two years earlier, and China has become the world's leading supplier of food additives including flavourings, vitamins and preservatives. Some illustrating examples are the

cases of citric acid (increasing in export value from China to the US from 18.8 million US\$ in 1998 to 46.8 million US\$ in 2006), sorbic acid (from 3 million US\$ to 18.9 million US\$), vanillin (from 6.3 million US\$ to 17.8 million US\$) and xylitol (from 0.1 million US\$ to 8.2 million US\$). These additives are used in varying products such as soda, fruit-flavoured syrups and beverages, dairy products, chocolates and candy.<sup>xiii</sup>

China's fish, meat, and poultry exports have continued to be the focus of many bans from U.S., European, and Japanese food regulators. However, with the April 2007 melamine-tainted dog food scandal in the United States, the issue of toxic food additives in Chinese exports gained worldwide attention. As a major food exporting nation, improving the conditions of food safety in China has both safety and trade-related incentives, seeing how the losses for Chinese manufacturing companies in unsold products, bans and loss of confidence for the products in importing nations, the impact on Chinese industries involved in the trade could be huge.<sup>xiv</sup>

Henk Bekedam, the World Health Organization representative in China, said the situation is complicated by poor co-ordination among 17 government agencies involved in food safety in the country. In China there is no unified administrative organ with the authority to deal with all the issues relating to food safety, making implementation of a coherent policy difficult, and cause problems of co-ordination from enactment to enforcement. The State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) was created by the Chinese government in 2003 with the mandate to integrate the administration and supervision of food safety, co-ordinate and organize investigations and impose penalties for serious violations of the law.<sup>xv</sup>

While all this sounds like a most positive improvement and a step in the right direction, the SFDA has no power in reality. The mandate of the Administration are

held by other ministries and agencies, thus it has to co-ordinate among several ministries that has a higher rank. When there is a conflict of interest, the SFDA's opinions or decisions are unlikely to be executed. As long as there exists such overlap and separate jurisdiction in Chinese politics relating to food safety, it is almost impossible for the SFDA to fulfil its mandate. Furthermore, local governments has little incentives to comply with these policies if they conflict with other policies advocating further economic growth.<sup>xvi</sup>

Another problem is the fact that the policy aimed toward food security currently applied in China is mainly through a policy of inspection and punishment. The government does not attach enough importance to supervise the course of food production, or to help food producers to ensure food safety by own capacity, thus not improving the situation on most important issues such as food traceability and standard operation procedures for food products. A large amount of unsafe food is produced in areas that are between rural and urban, and as a consequence the governance from both city and countryside is weak. Governance by the municipal administrations has not expanded accordingly with city boundaries, and many illegal food producers (lacking permit for instance) rent houses in these areas of less control to produce or process food products and sell them on the city markets.<sup>xvii</sup>

This problem of lack of control over food production combined with over-administration, where several organs have the power to administrate the production and sale of food and mandates overlap or are not orderly in place at all, is a major underlying problem when looking at increasing the food safety of Chinese products.

In order to increase income from their production, Chinese farmers use more

chemicals (fertilizers and pesticides), and also uses chemicals to manipulate especially vegetables (of which a large portion are exported to Japan) shapes and colors.<sup>xviii</sup> This leads us to the next section, the farmer’s situation in China.

**The Chinese farmer’s situation – poor situation resulting in poor food quality?<sup>xix</sup>**

Especially in the rural area of China, the rapid growth has significant effects for the Chinese population itself. Emerging health threats related to the environment are on the increase in China, and the case is particularly evident in the rural areas. Air pollution, water contamination and overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticide cost the economy in excess of 9 per cent of GDP. The poor Chinese farmers in these areas also lack social security benefits to a higher extent than their urban counterparts, and the per capita health expenditure tends to be lower in provinces where there are more of the rural population represented, posing a “double health threat” to Chinese rural poor. The economic incentives built into the Chinese health system have led to an over-provision of specialized services for those who are able to pay, and under-provision for those who cannot.

Table 1, Comparison Agricultural Systems between China and Japan

	China	Japan	China/Japan
Population (million)	1,300	130	10
Land (million ha)	960	38	25.5
Arable land and Permanent crops (million ha)	155	5	31
Farm households (million)	246	3	82
Farm land per households (ha)	0.63	1.6	0.38
Grain self-supporting ratio (%)	95	28	3.4

Referred from Table 2 of SATO, J. [1]

Table 1 show that the comparisons of farm size an situation between China and

Japan. Total population in china is 10 times larger than in Japan. Land area in China also 25.5times larger than Japan. However, the average agricultural land, which includes arable land and permanent crops (except for meadows and pastures) per farm households in china shows only 0.63 ha in comparison with Japan as 1.6 ha.

The income gap between urban and rural residents becomes wider. Total, urban and rural population and income are shown in Figure 1. It indicates that the average income of urban in 2006 is more than 3 times larger than rural residents.<sup>xx</sup>

The discrepancy between the growth in income between the rural and the urban population in China is most notable. The economy of China is displaying one of the world's worst disparities between rural and urban incomes. In 2006, according to a study by the US-based Cato Institute, income polarization accelerated, with the average Chinese farmer making only US\$450 annually, and 35.5 million rural residents earning less than US\$120 against US\$1,586 a year for urban residents.

Although most of the Chinese economy has been opened up for international trade and investment since the 1980's, the agricultural sector and the farmers situation lags behind. Most Chinese farmers still lack secure and marketable land rights that would allow them to make long-term investment in land, decisively increase productivity and accumulate wealth.

Because the farmers cannot own land, they also cannot mortgage their own plots to obtain bank loans, in other words, they have very few liquid assets at their disposals to gather capital in form of for instance loans, resulting in the disability of the farmers to invest in supplies and equipment to raise production and increase the quality of the food produced. Also, local authorities have the power to confiscate land in "the public interest," a loophole that enables officials to simply take land for commercial, industrial

or residential use

China has more than 200 million farmers working one- to two-acre plots. Studies implicate that these farmers often have very little understanding of correct chemical and antibiotic usage. The marketing of food and food-related goods in China is also dominated by small-time traders. Small farmers typically take their food to wholesale markets, get cash for their wares but do not exchange documentation with buyers. Their products are mixed with those of other small farmers, making the issue of traceability very poor.

China has traditionally advocated a food security policy especially in regard to grain self-sufficiency, which further complicates the farmers situation. In order to achieve this goal, Chinese policy-makers hinders policies that would discourage the production of what is considered strategic foods. However, the food products that are considered strategic by Chinese politicians are often less profitable than other crops produced by Chinese farmers. If free trade rules applied to this sector furthermore, Chinese traders would most probably be even worse off producing these goods, and therefore not producing these strategic foods.

Looking at the situation from the perspectives described above, it seems highly relevant to both increase the education of farmers of China, the incentives (by giving them land rights and increase the potential profitability of farming) and also implementations of standard operation procedures concerning the handling of food products, mainly increasing traceability and reforming the procedures from how food is put out on the market.

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