

End hunger and eradicate all forms of malnutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

XXXV

**FAO Regional Conference for
Latin America and Caribbean**

Montego Bay, Jamaica, 5-8 March 2018



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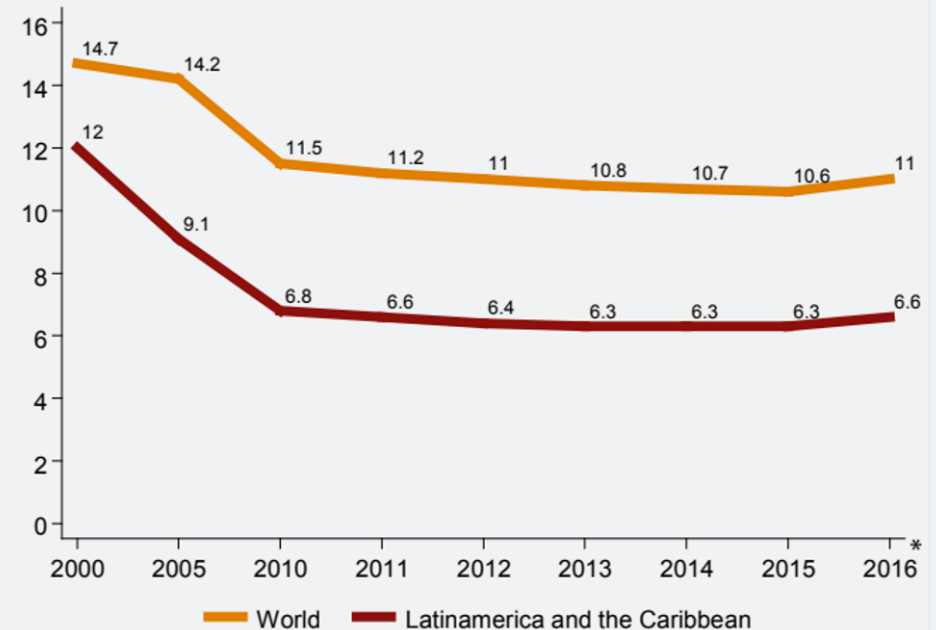
1. Hunger reduction slows down; while overweight and obesity is on the rise

Undernourishment increased in Latin America for the first time in two decades

- **42.5 million people** suffered from food insecurity in 2016, 2.4 million more than in 2015.
- Represents **6.6%** population of the región.



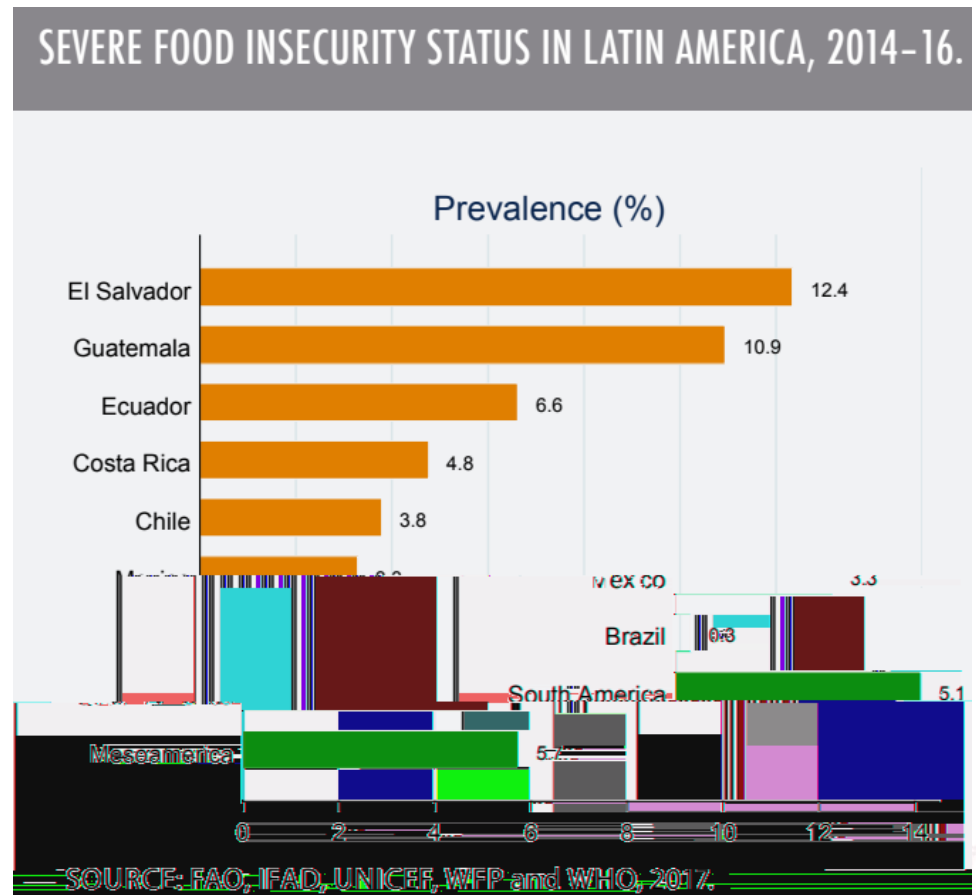
PREVALENCE OF UNDERNOURISHMENT, ANNUAL FIGURES, 2000-2016



SOURCE: FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP AND WHO, 2017.

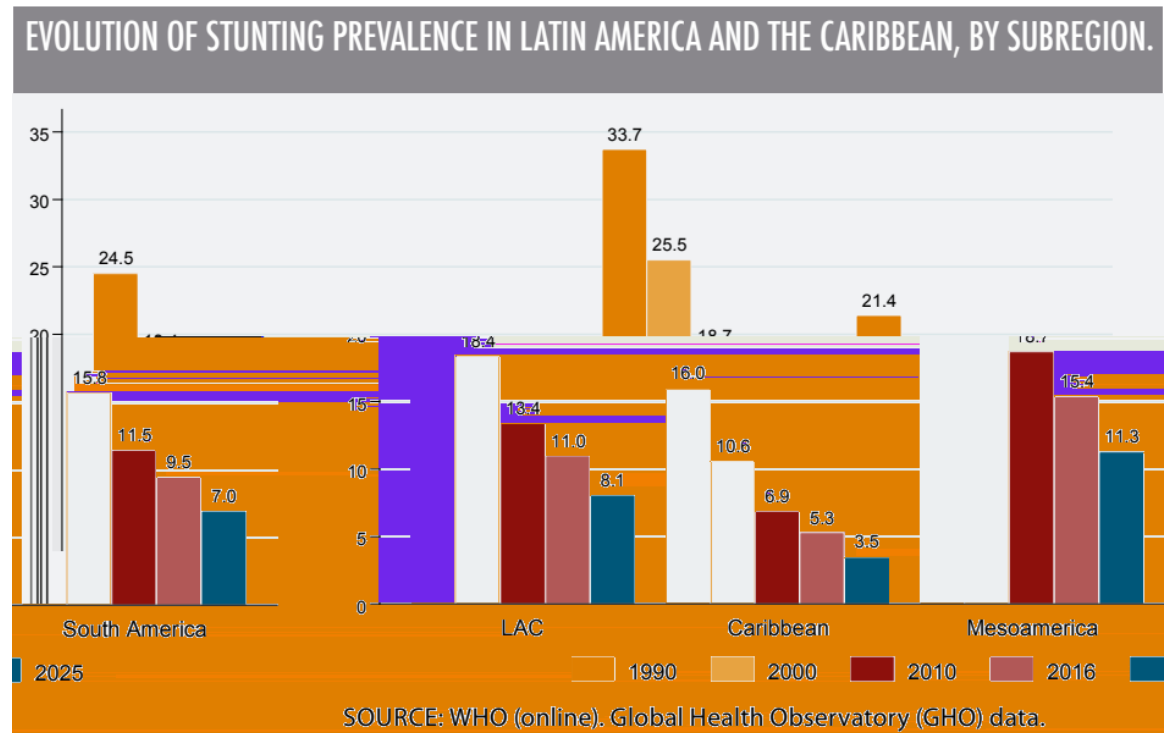
Severe food insecurity is at around 6.4%

- New SDG 2 indicator:**
 a broader view on food insecurity.



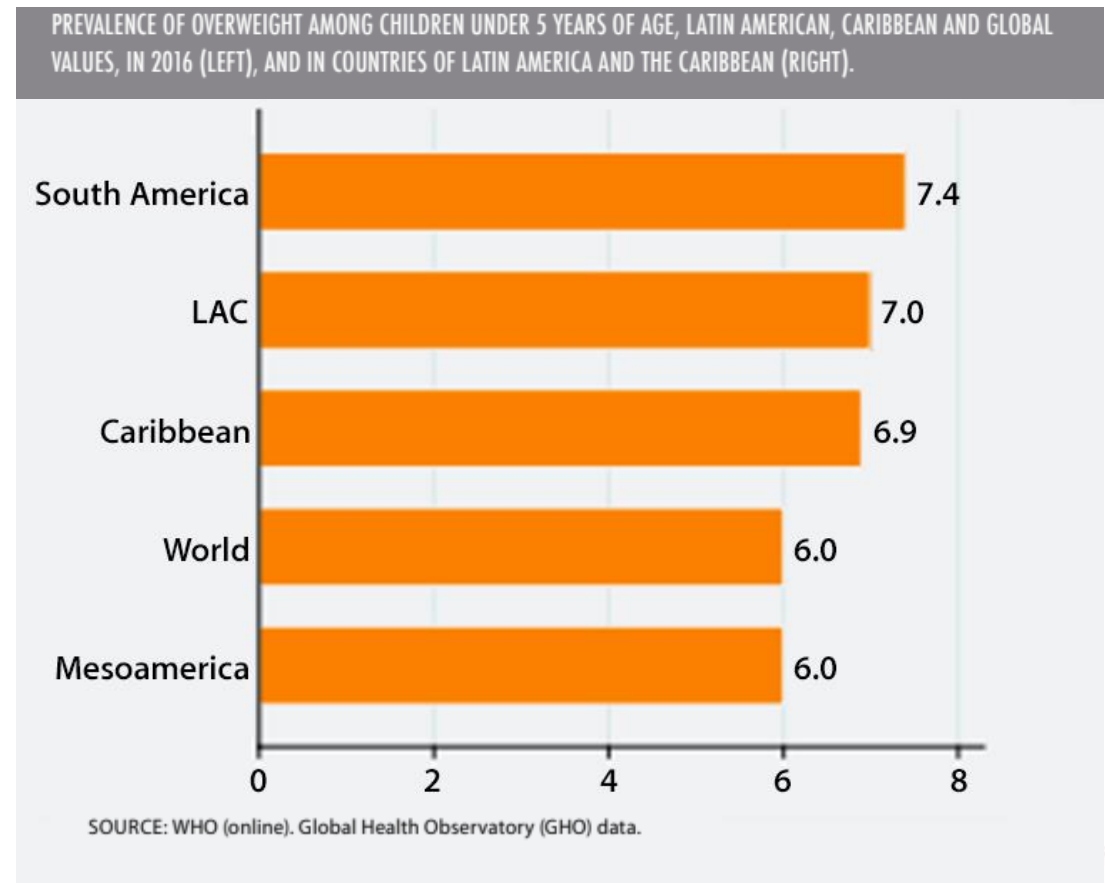
Chronic child malnutrition maintains a downward trend

- Stunting will still affect **4.1 million** children by 2025 in LAC, representing **8.1%** of children under 5 in the región.



Overweight and obesity have become a public health issue

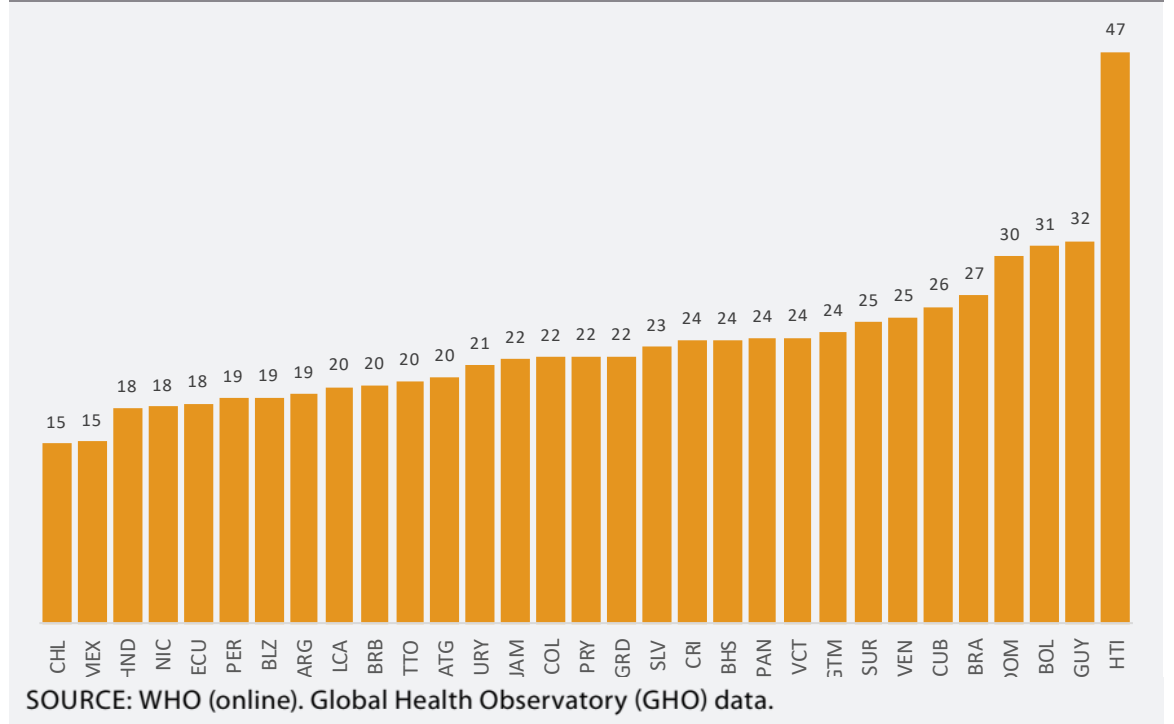
- Overweight in **childhood** affects **7%** of children under 5.
- **24 countries** in the region with adult obesity values close to or over **20%**.
- Overweight and obesity, **more prevalent in women.**



Micronutrient deficiency continues to be high and threatens food security

- **22% women of child-bearing age** suffered from lack of iron and anemia in 2016.
- Negative implications on the health of mothers and newborns and on the future development of children.

PREVALENCE OF ANEMIA AMONG WOMEN OF CHILD-BEARING AGE IN COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 2015





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2. Zero Hunger: eliminating hunger in the most disadvantaged territories

A. Renewed political commitment

- **Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030 and United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition.**
- **CELAC Plan for Food Security, Nutrition and Hunger Eradication; Hunger Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative**, and other regional agreements.
- Parliamentary Fronts Against Hunger and partnership with the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament (Parlatino).
- Civil society, consumers, private sector and academia.



B. Policies, programmes and strategies aimed at disadvantaged territories and communities

- Extending coverage of successful food security and nutrition programmes, and linking large scale social and productive policies.
- New generation of policies and programmes, innovative designs, better coordination and greater impacts on disadvantaged territories.



C. Investment and skills to improve policy implementation

From political commitment to **implementation**

- **More investment and financial resources.** Design initiatives to mobilize both public and private national resources and international cooperation. **South – South Cooperation.**
- **Strengthen capacities** for better implementation and management of food security and nutrition policies and programmes. **Improve initiative's impact on vulnerable territories.**



D. Monitoring, follow-up and evaluation systems: more targeted and transparent policies

- Data collection and analysis for better decision-making: **disaggregated data by gender, ethnicity and territories.**
- **SDG follow-up:** strengthen national statistics and information systems and capabilities for data analysis and interpretation:
 - National population surveys
 - Censuses and farming surveys
 - Indicators for food security and nutrition in **SDG 2** and food losses and waste in **SDG 12**
- Follow-up and evaluation of hunger eradication and malnutrition policies and programmes.





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3. Improve nutrition: addressing the challenge of excess weight and obesity

A. Availability of healthy and varied food



Food systems: from “feeding” to “nourishing” people:

- Incentivize healthy food production from **family farming**.
- **Create short food supply chains** and improve and modernize **access to food markets**.
- **Promote public purchase programmes and consolidate food supply systems** to guarantee safe and nutritive food.
- **Establish partnerships** with private sector to promote the availability of healthier and more diverse food in supermarkets and in other commercial chains.



B. Access and consumption of varied and healthy food

Facilitating access to more nutritious foods, healthier food environments and consumer access to dietary information and education:

- Promote social protection programmes to **close the urban-rural gap.**
- Integrate initiatives on food and nutritional education to encourage changes to the population's eating habits, especially in schools.
- Implement Nutrition Guides on public policies and programmes.
- **Regulate the sale, packaging and advertising of food** that has high levels of sugar, fat and salt, to reduce their consumption.





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4. Recommendations to the Regional Conference

Recommendations to the Regional Conference

- Recognize that LAC is addressing a **set back in the fight against hunger** and a worrying rise in overweight and obesity:
 - Enhance the role of **States** and society in tackling this double burden.
 - Recognize the opportunity of the **United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025** to implement national commitments agreed at the 2nd International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2).



Recommendations to the Regional Conference

- Entrust FAO to support Member States in the development of **national programmes focused on territories and communities more vulnerable to food insecurity, extreme poverty and climate change**, in the framework of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the implementation of the CELAC Plan for Food and Nutrition Security and Hunger Eradication (CELAC-FSN Plan).
- Urge FAO, in collaboration with other UN Agencies, to support countries in the development of policy tools for achieving substantial improvements in food security and nutrition in vulnerable communities, including rural women, indigenous peoples and other socially excluded groups.



Recommendations to the Regional Conference

- Instruct FAO, in partnership with other actors and institutions, to include in its help to countries, the identification, development and implementation of public policies to boost **food systems' transformation**, addressing the incidence of overweight and obesity in the region.
- Request FAO, along with the support provided to strengthen legal and institutional frameworks and information systems linked to food security and nutrition, **to prioritize capacity-building** for resource utilization and mobilization, and effective implementation and management of programmes.





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Thank you