



World Food Programme
GUATEMALA

THE VITACEREAL STORY

National and International Surveys reveal that Guatemala has the highest chronic undernutrition rate in Latin America and fourth in the world.

The National Food and Nutrition Security Policy is approved and the Food and Nutrition Security Secretariat is created

Government, WFP and other UN agencies and NGOs join efforts to design a National Strategy to reduce chronic undernutrition

The WFP requests Dr. Bressani to design Vitacereal®.



A local industry initiates production of Vitacereal® using imported yellow maize



WFP develops capacity to produce Vitacereal® in other local industries



WFP, FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture initiate purchase for progress projects to promote quality maize production and direct purchase from small farmers



Vitacereal® is made using locally produced white maize



WFP begins working with local maize farmers to produce high quality white maize



Two new industries join the first one in producing Vitacereal®...

What is chronic undernutrition?

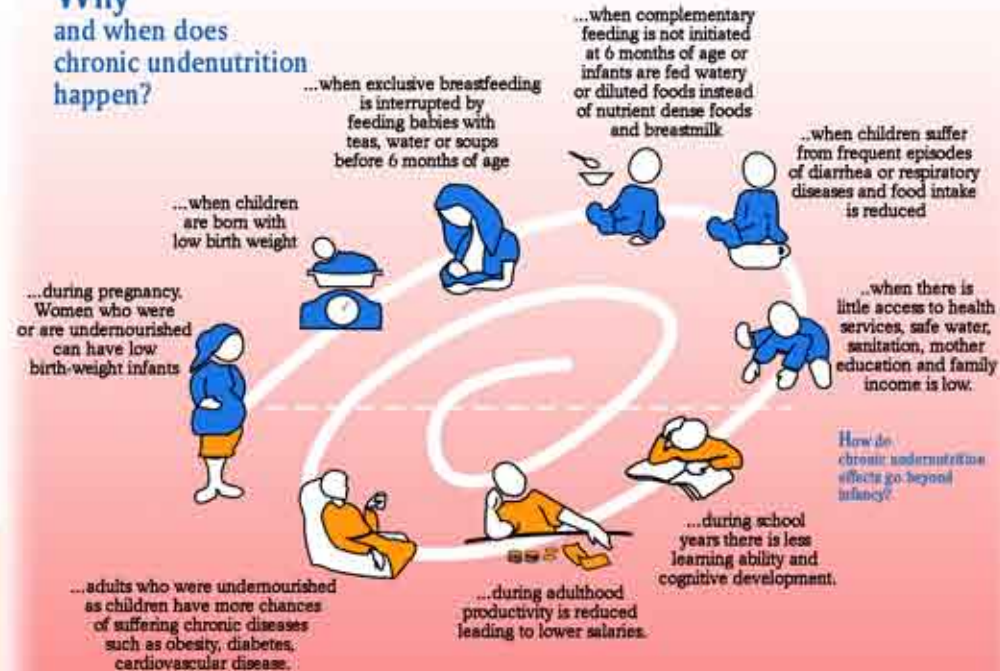


These two girls are the same age, but one of them did not grow properly.

It refers to stunting in children under five years of age, that is children do not reach the expected height for their age.



Why and when does chronic undernutrition happen?



What is Vitacereal®?

It is a blended food made with maize and soy flour and fortified with vitamins and minerals. It is provided to all children from 6 to 35 months of age, pregnant and lactating women living in municipalities with very high prevalences of chronic undernutrition (>65%). Complementary feeding is one of the six components of the National Strategy to reduce chronic undernutrition.

Vitacereal® is specially designed for growing children, it provides essential micronutrients such as iron, zinc, folic acid, and vitamin A - which play a very important role in growth, and protection against disease.



Who is Dr. Ricardo Bressani?
Guatemalan research scientist worldwide recognized for his contributions to the improvement of human nutrition in LAC. Recipient of many awards including The "Albert Einstein" World Award of Science. Member of the US National Academy of Science.