Committee: United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

Country: Colombia

Agenda Item: Combating Malnutrition Among Children in Underserved Regions

**Colombia**, [country](https://www.britannica.com/topic/nation-state) of northwestern [South America](https://www.britannica.com/place/South-America). Its 1,000 miles (1,600 km) of coast to the north are bathed by the waters of the [Caribbean Sea](https://www.britannica.com/place/Caribbean-Sea), and its 800 miles (1,300 km) of coast to the west are washed by the [Pacific Ocean](https://www.britannica.com/place/Pacific-Ocean). The population is largely concentrated in the mountainous interior, where [Bogotá](https://www.britannica.com/place/Bogota), the national capital, is situated on a high plateau in the northern [Andes Mountains](https://www.britannica.com/place/Andes-Mountains).

In Colombia, several people especially children are suffering from food shortage. According to this, these children are not healthy and live in wellfare. While Colombia has reduced the national death rate of children under 5 years of age, the death rate of children in Colombia increased during that same period. The official death rate of children under 5 from malnutrition in the country was nearly six times the national rate in 2019. Yet the real rate may be even higher, according to doctors, nurses, government officials, and aid workers. The government does not register all deaths, in part because many children die at home. While the nationwide average child mortality rate due to malnutrition has dropped dramatically in recent years, the rate has not improved in Colombia, and the state currently has the highest number of childhood malnutrition deaths in the country.

The intervention comprised 1126 children living in the following territories in Bogotá: Kennedy, San Cristóbal, and Engativá. A total of 43.3% children presented delay in height for age, and 56.7% presented risk of short stature. In the final measurement, data were obtained from 686 children, identifying that 17% of the children progressed from stunting to a stunting risk and that 4.5% recovered their growth trajectory, achieving an adequate length for their age.

As the delegate of Colombia, we envision a world where all children are healthy and well-nourished. Good health and nutrition empower children, families and communities, enabling them to thrive. We suggest that the government should increase the national starvation line and support the employers to live in better conditions.

REFERENCES:

<https://www.britannica.com/place/Colombia/Settlement-patterns>

https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/08/13/colombia-indigenous-kids-risk-malnutrition-death