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Cover: According to the Nicaraguan Ministry of Health, 25 percent of Nicaraguan children under the age of 5 suffer chronic malnutrition as a consequence of widespread poverty. With the help of the United Nations World Food Programme, this situation is being addressed. In this photograph, taken on January 9, 2003, in Matagalpa, located 150 kilometers north of Managua, Yolanda Torres packs food received from one of the World Food Programme's distribution sites. With her are her sons, Esquiel Mejia, 10, and Normal, 6 months old. The image on the wall behind Ms Torres and her children underscores the need for large-scale social programs that address the issues of childbirth and infant health by ensuring access to basic resources.

Robert Sember

(AP Photo/Esteban Felix)