



International Development Projects in Nicaragua

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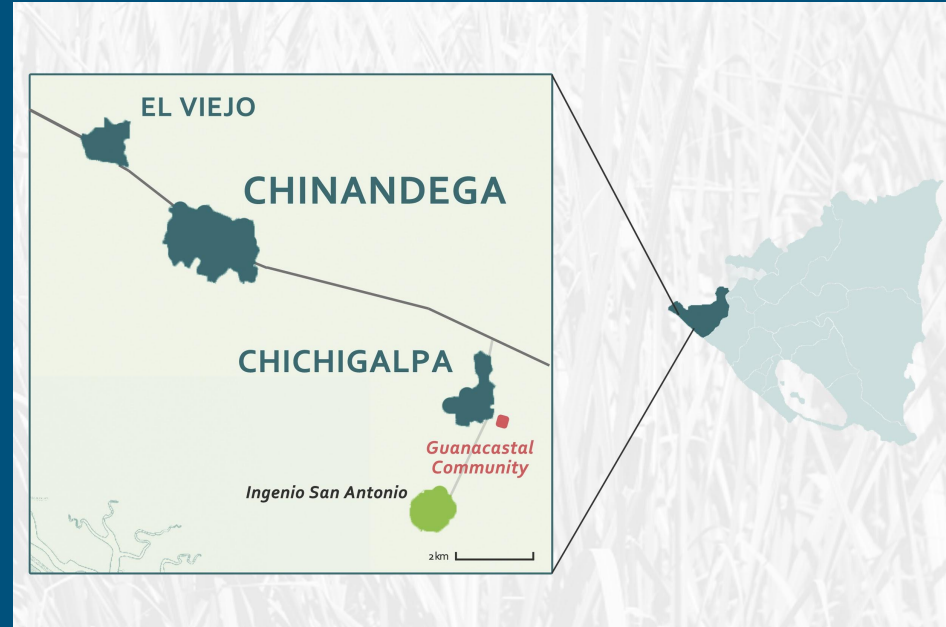


Introduction

- We have chosen three international development projects in Nicaragua
- We have analyzed some of their benefits and some challenges and negative consequences associated with these projects
- Our goal is to simply create awareness so that Nicaraguans can learn about the successes and failures associated with other projects in order for them to implement their own projects.

Sugar Plantations, The World Bank, and Chronic Kidney Disease

Chichigalpa- La Isla Nicaragua



Ingenio San Antonio



Sandinista-Pellas Group Relationship



- After the Sandinista revolution in 1979, the Pellas Group lost its real estate, bank, and sugar mill (biggest business in the country)
- During the Chamorro Presidency, Pellas built back the sugar mill and a new bank that was later sold to General Electric for 1.7 billion dollars.
- When Ortega was reelected in 2006, he vowed not to confiscate the property of big business. Since then Pellas and Ortega have had a strong relationship.



World Bank Loans to Nicaraguan Sugar Industry

- Several loans provided to Pellas and Ingenio San Antonio to increase aggregate output and expand the sugar industry in Nicaragua.
 - 2006: The International Finance Committee, the financial arm of the World Bank, provided 55 million dollars in loans.
 - 2013: The World Bank approved a 15 million dollar loan to the Montelimar plantation in Nicaragua to create 1,300 new rural jobs.
- In total the World Bank issued more than 100 million in loans to Nicaragua's sugar industry

Why do we care?

- The sugar industry is receiving the support it needs.
- More people are able to go to work and provide for their families.
- Nicaragua is able to develop faster given these foreign investments in business

Non Traditional Chronic Kidney Disease (CKDnT)

Chronic Kidney Disease

- A degenerative, progressive condition marked by the gradual loss of kidney functions.
- Older Age Females and Males
- Glomerulus: Hold Blood Sugar/ High Blood Pressure
- Risk Factors: Obesity, Hypertension, Diabetes
- High Proteins
- Worldwide, Highest in Rich Countries

Chronic Kidney Disease of non-traditional cause

- Associated with heavy labor in hot temperatures, especially among industrial agricultural workers particularly those that work in sugarcane production.
- Working-age Males
- Tubes, Interstitial Tissues
- Strenuous Labor , Farm Worker, Residence in Hot Lowland Climates
- Low Proteins
- Central America, Sri Lanka and India

An Epidemic

- While researchers scramble to find the sole cause and or cure of CKDnT, the disease continues to deplete the male population in Chichigalpa.
- As a result the area was nicknamed The Island of Widows. Why you ask?
 - In the past 10 years 46 percent of male deaths in Chichigalpa can be attributed to CKDnT
 - From 2002-2012 75 percent of male deaths 35-55 were caused by CKDnT



La Isla Foundation Field Studies

1. Hours worked during the harvest were reported between 2 and 15 hours a day. Most workers stated that they worked approximately eight hours per day.
2. Work arrangements were informal.
3. Unreasonable salary cuts.
4. Hazardous working conditions and the failure to provide equipment and proper training caused many injuries.
5. Exposure to extreme heat while at work.
6. Despite these high temperatures, ten workers stated they drank only two liters of water per day
7. No accessible to ISA medical facilities or medical benefits of any kind.
8. Hostile work environment.

Protest: La Isla Foundation



Education For Success Project

Summary

- Main goal of EFS is to develop and implement program for at risk youth in the (RAAS) that would provide opportunities.
- EFS was launched in 2010 as a seven-year, \$6.7 million effort by FADCANIC
- In September 2013 USAID requested a third-party to conduct a mid-term evaluation of the project
- Evaluation found that EFS has been successful in generating youth development opportunities in the RAAS



Findings- Increased skills of at-risk youth

- Vocational training was provided to at-risk youth and they were generally enthusiastic about what they had learned.
- Indicated that they were better prepared in terms of self-esteem, assertive communication, and decision-making.
- One major benefit was that they gained greater self-confidence and wider-vision of what was possible.
- However, there was mixed feelings about job availability after graduating courses
- Asserted that they would need further training

Findings- Improved family and community engagement in support of the EFS program

- Parent participated in “Charlas” on how to be better parents, how to treat children, and on gender related topics.
- As a result, parents addressed the positive behavioral changes that they and their children experienced from participating in these groups
- EFS has established relationships with 17 individuals or organizations to support the provision of services.
- CAYAC were established in order to assist at-risk youth but this has not worked out.

Findings- FADCANIC's organizational, technical and management system improved

- “learning by doing” process that has combined institutional strengthening with project implementation.
- FADCANIC improved its organizational development, particularly in certain aspects of human resource and financial management.
- Indicated plan to hire consultants and to carry out institutional and individual training plans.
- Faces sustainability challenges. Dependency on volunteers

Success Story

- Macrina was a 17 year old struggling youth
- Her mother was thinking of taking her out of school and helping her find a job
- Her scholarship provides her with books, a uniform, shoes , and other materials.
- Due to CAYAC and local leaders , Macrina's mother agreed to keep her in school



Nicaraguan Development Cooperation Strategy

Objective

1. “USAID/Nicaragua’s development objective to **increase citizens’ ability to engage in democratic governance** will allow civil society and media to **promote and participate** in policy dialogue as well as engage in improving the governance of public resources.” -- This requires the improvement of the education system.

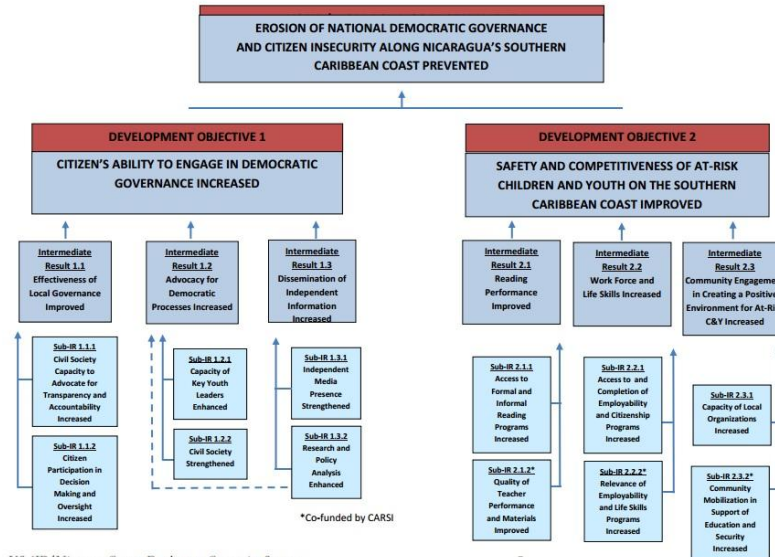
Pros

- addresses the issues of the local culture. “machismo”
- considers gender dynamics
- bridges gap of education
- claims to limit bias in media

Cons

- The US funding may be seen as having an impact on governances

FIGURE 1 - RESULTS FRAMEWORK GRAPHIC



Democratic Leadership Development Program

- Partnered with non-partisan non-profit
- 2010 to Now
- will train next generation of leaders
- Budget: Approximately 12 million dollars



Partnerships Continued

- facilitates discussion on women's leadership
 - 70 percent of population < 30 years old
 - more than 50 percent of the population <30 years old are women
- Works with FBOs (Faith-Based-Organizations) to promote civil engagement
 - 2005 Nicaraguan Census said 58 percent were R.C. Christian, 21.6 percent were Evangelical.
 - ex: Compassion

Findings

30 YEARS NDI The National Democratic Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that supports and strengthens democratic institutions worldwide through citizen participation and accountability in government.

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TRAINING PROGRAM PREPARES NICARAGUA'S NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS



Alumni from Nicaragua's leadership schools identify shared priorities.

Silvia Gutiérrez has been an active member of the Sandinista Renovation Movement (*Movimiento de Renovación Sandinista*, MRS) since she joined the party as a pollwatcher for Nicaragua's 2006 presidential elections. After her bid for city council in her hometown of Managua in 2008 was cut short when her party was denied participation, she decided to improve her leadership and communication skills by attending a training program aimed at getting more young people involved in politics and civic life. Shortly after completing the program in 2011, the party chose her to run for the National Assembly, and in November of that year she was elected.

Gutiérrez is one of nearly 1,000 young leaders ages 16-35 who have taken part in the Certificate on Leadership and Political Management (CLPM), an annual five-part training program launched by NDI and its partners in

SELECTED CLPM PROFILES

- working with the non-profit has led to unbiased results.
- Sylvia Gutierrez- member of Sandinista Renovation Movement Party
 - participated in the program
- Historical Sandinistas not supported by US so this is a step forward →
- a complication of the program is that it is still more difficult to get rural communities politically involved

Partnerships

NDI- National Democratic Institute

Promotes Non-Partisan Leadership training for youth

- identifies emerging leaders from local universities
- in the first five years 1850 leaders were trained and taught about democratic values, strategic plan
- since then 400 of those who have completed the program have been elected into official leaderships
- alumni follow-up for continued leaders

Need For USAID Involvement

- percent that votes
- 2011 Ortega was re-elected with 63 percent majority vote
 - he currently controls half of all Nicaragua TV stations
 - media is very divided among parties
 - missing a moderate approach that would make the journalism valid
 - Discreditable



Looking Ahead- Surveying Attitudes

It will ask questions more about what types of careers people are interested in, will they want to ever leave their community, how old they are, gender, political affiliation, satisfactory views on projects in their region etc.?

- we want to add a voice to the numbers
- Talk to URACAAN students
- Residents