Nicaragua:

- ✓ has prioritized the health of its citizens, increasing the health sector budget by 274% since the Sandinistas came back into power in 2007.
- has dramatically decreased infant mortality, down 56% since 2007, with maternal mortality down by 66%.
- ✓ provides nutritious meals for all primary students and school supplies for those who need them
- ✓ has an enrollment in public education for 2023 of a record 1.8 million, an astonishing figure for a country with a population of 6.7 million people.
- ✓ increased its GDP by 53% since 2006, with another 4% increase expected in 2022.
- ✓ through government programs, supports the small farmers and cooperatives who produce 90% of food consumed in the country, with emphasis on ecological use of natural methods.
- ✓ has the best highways in Central America with new roads to all remote areas including two highways to the historically isolated Caribbean coast.
- ✓ has increased electrification to cover 99% of its families, compared to 43% in 2007.
- ✓ has also greatly increased potable water and sanitation for most rural communities.
- ✓ is providing legal titles for thousands of residents occupying land in cities and countryside.
- ✓ pursues a policy to guarantee and defend food sovereignty.
- ✓ has specific policies to combat hunger and ensure nutrition which have, since 2006, reduced general poverty from 48.3 to 24.9 percent and extreme poverty from 17.6 to 6.9 percent.
- ✓ provides a safety net to vulnerable groups through subsidies which nullify price increases in energy, transportation, and drinking water.
- ✓ has a disaster prevention program which meant that three recent hurricanes left almost no Nicaraguan deaths, compared with multiple victims in the rest of Central America.

Sources:

- (1) "<u>National Plan</u> for the Fight against Poverty and for Human Development, 2022" (available in English and Spanish)
- (2) A <u>review</u> of achievements up to 2021
- (3) More recent article from November 2022