





#### **The Evolution of Education in Nicaragua**



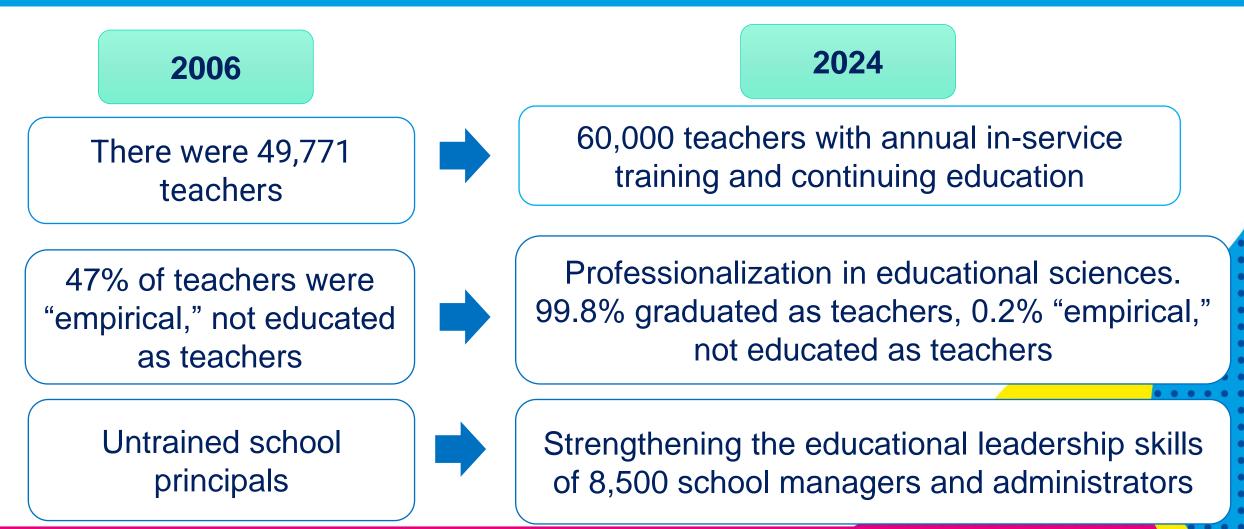
#### **Educational achievements and progress**



#### Free education, Restitution of a Fundamental Human Right



### Teacher training, professionalization and refresher courses



# Textbook distribution and curriculum updating

Between 2007 and 2023, after a shortage of textbooks in 2006, 20,590,788 textbooks and teachers' guides were provided for all subjects and programs.

The plan of study was updated, including curriculum and subjects that contribute to integral formation of students.

Growing in Values, Chess, English as a Second Language, Women's Rights and Dignity

As of 2018, the Early Education Model for Child Development (MEIDI), full and integral formation of the child, was implemented.

### Integral education, values formation, school sports, art and culture



Starting in 2015, Educational Community Councils were formed with the participation of 246,968 teachers, students, mothers and fathers, aimed at strengthening the practice of values, socioemotional skills, the culture of peace, human rights and care for life in all its forms.



In 2017, the learning and practice of chess was integrated into the curriculum, starting in third grade of elementary school. There are 2,360 chess clubs with 20,676 students.



8,087 student choirs were formed at the educational center level, and 100 Rubén Darío choirs, with the participation of 214,349 boys and girls.



45 student symphony orchestras have been formed, with the participation of 1,541 girls and boys, and 8 student bands with 472 students from schools of higher learning.



Starting in 2021, the creation of school gardens in educational centers was encouraged, with an annual average of 7,344 school gardens per year.

#### **English as a Second Language**

Starting in 2018, this moved from learning basic English in high school, to learning English as a second language in elementary school, and in 2024 moving to advanced English in high school.



We serve 400,271 students from first to sixth grade and 38,411 multigrade elementary students.

Textbooks have been provided as learning support tools.

We have strengthened the language skills of 1,857 regular elementary school teachers, 200 multi-grade elementary school teachers and 346 secondary school teachers who teach English.

#### **Teacher Training Colleges**

- Transformation as Teacher Training Colleges (Escuelas Normales de Formación Superior), with the beginning of the implementation of bachelor's degree programs to train teachers in specialties:
  - Child development
  - Educational Mediation
  - Multigrade Education
  - Intercultural Education
- Teachers with competencies in specific educational practices for care, with an inclusive and comprehensive approach

# Strengthening skills in mathematics and reading comprehension

As of 2022, the following were implemented:

National Strategy for the strengthening of learning in reading comprehension, oral and written expression, to strengthen the communicative and linguistic skills of the Spanish language.

National Strategy for math-friendly learning through olympics, fairs and festivals from a problem-solving approach.



#### Use of technology for educational purposes

Internet connection was expanded from 42 centers in 2006 to 638 educational centers by 2023.

- From 42 centers with technological equipment in 2006, 2,351 educational centers were equipped between 2007-2023, including 100% of secondary schools.
- Training of 25,113 teachers in the mastery of digital tools to integrate into educational practices.



#### **Dignifying school environments**



Improvement, rehabilitation and construction of 6,805 educational centers, providing better learning environments.



In 2007, we were confronted with 27,000 destroyed or dilapidated classrooms and a shortage of desks.

Between 2007 and 2023,

- 36,539 classrooms were rehabilitated.
- 1,252,225 new and repaired desks were provided.
- 8,218 complementary environments were rehabilitated and built, including sports fields, libraries, ICT (Integrated Co-Teaching) classrooms, warehouses and kitchens.



Together with teachers, students and families, actions are developed to strengthen the sense of belonging, culture of care and protection of facilities through the Beautiful, Clean and Safe Schools Program.

## Accompanying the participants and their families

- A
- There is a permanent School Snack program [lunches for elementary students], increasing from 845,992 students served in 2007 to 1,200,000 by 2024, improving their quality of life and nutrition levels.
- В
- Between 2007 and 2023, 8,066,936 solidarity school packages have been provided [to students needing school supplies].
- C
- Since 2014, 60,000 briefcases with educational supplies have been distributed annually to teachers.
- D
- Beginning in 2011, a Promotion Solidarity Bonus has been given to every high school graduate [now C\$3,000 córdobas, or about US\$81].



#### Flexible Coverage and Modalities

|  | 2006<br>School Autonomy Model                        | 2007.2023<br>Free Education Model   |
|--|--|---|
| Students enrolled                                      | 1,672,000 students                                   | 1,802,349 students  |
| Academic<br>retention rate                             | 69.5%  | 92.7%. Growth of 23.2 percentage points   |
| Coverage of<br>preschool children<br>3-5 years old     | 53.6%  | 67.1%. Growth of 13.5 percentage points   |
| Attention to<br>opportunity gaps<br>in the countryside | No attention was given to reducing opportunity gaps. | Beginning in 2016, the distance-learning elementary school modality was created in the countryside. 2,688 students  |
| Attention to young<br>people in rural<br>communities   | Lack of attention to young people                    | In 2014, the distance-learning high school was<br>created in the countryside, with<br>15,643 students. In 2023,<br>enrollment is 84,644. 49,060<br>students have graduated from<br>distance-learning HS |

#### Flexible Coverage and Modalities (continued)

|  | 2006<br>School Autonomy Model                                | 2007.2023<br>Free Education Model  |
|--|--|--|
| Attention to<br>young people in<br>rural communities | Lack of attention to young people                            | 2023, vocational production courses, with agricultural themes and entrepreneurship.  |
| Alternatives for vocational studies                  | No vocational study alternatives for agricultural production | <ul> <li>2023, National Vocational Production Program with agricultural and entrepreneurial themes.</li> <li>78,251 students participating in the courses</li> <li>58,766 students completed specialized courses.</li> <li>20,485 graduates of workshops in agricultural techniques and technologies.</li> </ul> |
| Alternatives for studies                             |  | Georgino Andrade Online High School Institute, to serve members of the National Police   |
| Illiteracy   | 22%  | 4.1% in 2009 Nicaragua Free of Illiteracy  |

#### Coordination among educational subsystems MINED, INATEC, CNU\*

Ministry of Education, National Technical & Technology Institute, National Council of Universities

From a culture of conflict between educational subsystems

\*

To joint & coordinated work among educational subsystems MINED, CNU, INATEC and SEAR [Caribbean Autonomous Regional Education System]

 In 2008, the Education Commission was formed to follow up on strategic educational issues and work together. From not having research and educational publications in 2006

- 1,500 educational research studies & publications
- Creation of Revista Índice research journal

#### Coordination among educational subsystems MINED, INATEC, CNU\* (continued)

Ministry of Education, National Technical & Technology Institute, National Council of Universities

#### **MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Reduction of teacher "empiricism," most teachers are now educated as professional teachers
- Learn, Undertake, Thrive Program
- Learning English as a second language
- Teleclasses
- Formation of Researchers Network
- Creation of Revista Índice research journal
- National Festival of Educational Publications
- Among others

#### **Budget for Basic and Secondary Education**



Budget approved in 2006: C\$3,869.5 million córdobas Budget approved in 2024: C\$ 17,214.3 million córdobas [about US\$465 million]

Approved investment in school infrastructure in 2006 C\$648 million córdobas Approved school infrastructure investment in 2024 C\$1,284.8 million córdobas [about US\$34.7 million]



### iMUCHAS GRACIAS!

### (THANK YOU VERY MUCH!)