I. COUNTRY PROFILE

Political system
- Nicaragua is a presidential Republic. The President is both Chief of State and Head of Government
- Chief of State: President Jose Daniel ORTEGA Saavedra (since 10 January 2007); Vice President Rosario MURILLO Zambrana (since 10 January 2017).
- Minister of Foreign Relations: H.E. Mr Denis Rolando MONCADA COLINDRES

Statistical figures (source: UNDP Human Development Report 2020)
- Total population (million): 7.4
- Human Development Index: 0.660 / Rang 128
- Life expectancy at birth (years): 74.5
- Gross national income (GNI) per capita (2017 PPP$): 5,284
- Internet users (% of population): 27.9
- Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (tonnes): 0.9

Education (source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics)
- Compulsory education (years): 7 (from age 5 to 11)
- Net enrolment ratio in primary education (%) in 2010: 94.9

II. NICARAGUA/UNESCO COOPERATION

1. Membership in UNESCO: Since 22 February 1952


3. Current Membership on Intergovernmental Councils/Committees and Commissions:
   - 2021: Legal Committee

4. DG’s visit to Nicaragua: none to date

5. Former Director Generals’ visit to Nicaragua: 4
   - 8 - 9 May 2013 (Irina Bokova)
   - February 2006 (Koichiro Matsuura)
   - 1993 and 1999 (Federico Mayor)
   - 1979 (Amadou-Mahtar M’Bow)

6. Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:
   - Mrs Sylvia Miranda Paniagua, Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Delegate Chargé d'affaires a.i.

7. UNESCO Office: None. Nicaragua is covered by the UNESCO Cluster Office in San José, Costa Rica. Ms Esther Kuisch-laroche (the Netherlands) has been the Director since August 2018.

8. National Commission for UNESCO:
• Established in 1952
• Ms Miriam Soledad Raudez Rodriguez, Minister of Education, President (since 2010)
• Mr Rumaldo Arturo Collado Maldonado, Secretary General (since December 2020)

9. **Personalities linked to UNESCO’s activities:** none

10. **UNESCO Chairs:** 1

• 2017: UNESCO Chair on Indigenous Native Wisdom and Knowledge, The University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua, Managua

11. **Associated Schools:** 14 institutions

• 1 pre-school, 7 primary, 2 primary and secondary, and 4 teacher training institutions

12. **Category 2 Institutes and Centres:** none

13. **UNESCO Clubs:** none

14. **Biosphere Reserves:** 3

• 1997: Bosawas
• 2003: Río San Juanm
• 2010: Ometepe Island

15. **UNESCO Global Geoparks:** 1

• 2020: Rio Coco

16. **World Heritage Sites:** 2 Cultural sites

• 2011: León Cathedral
• 2000: Ruins of León Viejo

17. **Tentative List:** 5 sites

• 2003: City of Granada and its natural environment
• 1995: Fortress of the immaculate Conception
• 1995: The Natural Reserve “Miskitos Keys”
• 1995: The Natural Reserve “Bosawas”
• 1995: Volcan Masaya National Park

18. **Intangible Cultural Heritage List:** 2 elements

• 2008: El Güegüense
• 2008: Language, Dance and Music of the Garifuna

19. **Memory of the World Register:** 1 element

• 2007: Archives of the National Literacy Crusade

20. **Creative Cities Network:** none
### 21. UNESCO's standard-setting instruments: 14 ratified

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 January 2010</td>
<td>International Convention against Doping in Sport. Paris</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 July 1997</td>
<td>Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. Ramsar</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
22. **Anniversaries with which UNESCO was associated in 2018-2019:** none

23. **Participation Programme:**

For the biennium 2020-2021, Nicaragua has submitted seven requests under the Participation Programme. So far, two requests have been approved by the DG for a total of US$34,480. These requests will be implemented by the San José Office.

Following hurricanes Eta and Iota, Nicaragua submitted a request for emergency assistance which was approved by the DG on 28 January. The approval letter to the National Commission was sent on 3 February 2021.

24. **Fellowships:**
- Since 2010, no fellowship has been awarded to Nicaragua

25. **NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO:** none

26. **IGOs in official relations with UNESCO:** none

27. **Payment of assessed membership fees for 2021:**
- Assessment rate: 0.006%

28. **Staff members’ status:** under-represented with 1 Professional Staff on Geographical post (min. 2, max. 4).