

THIS IS
Nicaragua

WITH

CABEI

Central American
Bank for
Economic
Integration



Contributing to
the development
and integration of
the Caribbean
Coast of
Nicaragua



Human development

Improved road connectivity, better access to clean water and sanitation, and improvements in the health system are some of the benefits provided by CABEL programs on Nicaragua's Caribbean Coast.

The Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua is a region with beautiful landscapes, a fascinating cultural tradition and wide ethnic diversity, and is home to numerous indigenous and Afro-descendant communities. It is composed of two main zones: the Autonomous Region of the North Caribbean Coast (RACCN) and the Autonomous Region of the South Caribbean Coast (RACCS), which together occupy 47% of the national territory.

Despite its natural beauty and cultural richness, it is one of the poorest regions of the country and faces a series of challenges and problems that

affect its people and environment. The causes are multifactorial; however, the communities continue to struggle to improve their living conditions and preserve biodiversity, which is why the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEL) is promoting initiatives of great relevance to the well-being of families in this area of the country.

CABEL, in its mission to promote human development, ensures that the region's most vulnerable populations are guaranteed basic services to improve their quality of life and generate opportunities.

CABEL-DRIVEN INITIATIVES IN THE NICARAGUAN CARIBBEAN

One of the main reasons for the economic backwardness of the Nicaraguan Atlantic zone was the difficult access and limited road infrastructure, which hindered trade and investment, limiting opportunities for the inhabitants of this area.





WAWA BRIDGE. THE NEW STRUCTURE OVER THE WAWA BOOM RIVER MEASURES 255 METERS IN TOTAL LENGTH.

ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

CABEI supports the improvement and modernization of road, maritime and air infrastructure with high-impact works that connect the Caribbean with the rest of the country. From 2013 to date, 477.85 kilometers of roads have been built.

One of the works already completed is the Wawa Bridge, a work that for the first time in history has permanently, safely and modernly connected the land route to the northern Caribbean Coast with the entire country. This will directly benefit 43,945 inhabitants and indirectly another 149,666.

Similarly, the improvement of roads has been of great help to the communities of the South Caribbean, highlighting the works in the municipality of El Rama - Kukra Hill - Laguna de Perlas junction. Also, in the Northern Caribbean, 44.61 kilometers of road were built and improved between Mulukukú and Siuna.

CONSTRUCTED OR REHABILITATED SEGMENTS	KM
Rio Blanco - Mulukuku	39.00
El Rama - Kukra Hill Junction - Pearl Lagoon	80.49
Mulukuku - Siuna	44.61
Siuna-Rosita	76.63
Rosita-Sahsa	52.36
Kukra Hill - Kukra Hill Junction	5.00
Sahsa-Puerto Cabezas	85.65
Wanawana Junction - San Pedro del Norte	64.28
Rosita-Bonanza	29.83
Total	477.85

THESE HIGHWAYS ARE USED BY AN AVERAGE OF **MORE THAN 188,000 PEOPLE PER DAY.**

Progress is also being made on the construction of the Wapi-El Tortuguero Phase II segment, on the South Caribbean Coast, with 45.9 kilometers, which will benefit 53,673 people.

These works are included in the X Road Improvement Expansion Program approved in 2021.

AIRPORT AND PORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Progress is also being made with the rehabilitation and construction of infrastructure at the Bluefields and Corn Island airports on the South Caribbean Coast, which will improve conditions and safety levels, with the acquisition of equipment and furniture, as well as adequate maintenance of both airports.

In addition, a project for the development of maritime and land infrastructure for the construction of a deep water port in Bluefields, which would greatly impact the development of national and international trade in the area, is in the process of analysis and approval.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS



The wellbeing of the population is one of CABEL's priorities and forms part of the fulfillment of its mission and its Human Development axis, which is why it supports relevant projects to improve health care.

The **replacement of the Nuevo Amanecer Hospital, in Bilwi in the Northern Caribbean**, is one of the projects with the greatest current impact, as it provides quality health services to indigenous, Afro-descendant and mestizo communities for the first time in the history of this area.

The new hospital will have state-of-the-art equipment, in addition to offering seven new medical specialties

and specialized outpatient and emergency services, among others, to meet the demand for health services of the 515,469 people.



Beneficiaries: **515,469** people

CABEL investment: US\$52.9 million

Employment generation:

261 permanent jobs and 266 additional direct jobs

ANNUAL SERVICE CAPACITY



80,000
emergency
consultations



More than
100,000
outpatient
visits



3,200 deliveries
and about
**5,200 major
surgeries**

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

In the next few years, the city of Bluefields will go from 0% to 54% in the use of sanitation systems thanks to a CABEL-supported program that will improve the quality of life and health of 27,955 inhabitants of the area.

The Bluefields Sanitation Program includes the construction of a sanitary sewer system and a treatment plant to collect, convey and treat wastewater from the urban area.

ACCESS TO HOUSING

Facilitating access to home ownership is another of the benefits provided by CABEL programs on the Caribbean Coast. The Social Interest Housing Construction and Improvement Program, which ended in 2022, enabled 30 families in this area to acquire their own home through affordable loans. Currently, with the National Program for the Construction of Social Interest Housing, another 38 houses have been delivered and 34 are under

construction. According to the approval of this program, the goal is to deliver 670 homes for families in the Caribbean Coast.

ELECTRICAL COVERAGE

The communities that lacked electricity service in the Nicaraguan Caribbean have also benefited from the National Sustainable Electrification and Renewable Energy Program (PNESER), which focuses on increasing the rate of electricity coverage, electrification of communities and, at the same time, normalization of supply in the settlements. This will benefit more than 14,000 families in the RACCN and RACCS.

Segment A of this program, which covers all of Nicaragua, includes the construction of 5 Micro Hydroelectric Power Plants in the Northern Caribbean in the municipalities of Bonanza and Rosita, and a Hybrid Solar-Thermal System in Puerto Cabezas. In addition to a Hybrid Wind Thermal System in Corn Island, as well as the construction and equipping of ENEL's Isolated Systems Agencies in the Southern Caribbean.

Conditions have also been created to meet future energy demand and improve the reliability of the electricity transmission system in the municipality of Bluefields and surrounding areas, with the Nicaraguan Electricity Transmission System Expansion Program.

Under this program, 68.15 kilometers of transmission lines will be installed, a new 138 kilovolt substation



will be built and an existing substation will be expanded, and the National Load Dispatch Center (CNDC) will be modernized, all of this for the benefit of 10,842 families, including 2,545 families that will be new users.

RESILIENCE

CABEI also contributes significantly to building more resilient communities, with direct actions in 10 indigenous and Afro-descendant communities through the recently completed **Infrastructure and Social Accompaniment Program in the Northern Caribbean Coast**, which benefited 68,000 Nicaraguans through the construction, rehabilitation, replacement and expansion of 11 social infrastructures; five community centers, two health centers and four religious infrastructures, which also serve as shelters for the population in the event of natural phenomena in the area.

In addition to these works, there are others of great relevance and impact in the country, benefiting more than 6 million Nicaraguans, in order to contribute to the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of Nicaragua.

