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THE WEEK IN FOCUS



CENTRO
DE ESTUDIOS
DEL DESARROLLO
Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann

N.6 A review of the leading news on Nicaragua
from 16 - 20 May 2022



**Nicaragua launches national
vaccination drive against influenza**

16 MAY



**School gardens and school snacks,
education partners in Nicaragua**

17 MAY



**President Daniel Ortega and
Vice President Rosario Murillo Pay
Tribute to General Sandino**

18 MAY



**Nicaragua is the best performer in
CABEI-financed projects**

19 MAY



**The founding of the Polisario Front of the
Saharawi Arab Republic is commemorated
in Nicaragua**

20 MAY

NICARAGUA



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Nicaragua launches national vaccination drive against influenza

16 May

On Monday Nicaragua inaugurated its' vaccination campaign for the prevention of human influenza. [Authorities] expect to apply more than 844 thousand doses to children from six months to 23 months of age, as well as children over 6 years of age and pregnant women.

"[It is] excellent against influenza. I get the vaccines every year and it is an excellent campaign, necessary for the health of the Nicaraguan people. And above all, this vaccine is expensive but here it costs [us] nothing. We really have to tell it like it is", said lawyer Mauricio Martinez, who came with his wife to get vaccinated at the Pedro Altamirano health center in Managua.

This campaign, which will conclude on May the 27th, is an effective tool for the prevention of diseases, especially during the rainy season when vulnerable groups such as children and the elderly are most affected.

"It's all good, I feel good coming here because I was looking for a place where they are vaccinating and I found one. And we got vaccinated for the prevention of influenza and COVID-19"; said the resident Alberto Olivera, who said that he has already received other vaccines for free.

Nicaragua has been carrying out mass vaccination campaigns since 1981 and to date has 17 types of vaccines, including for the prevention of coronavirus.

"We, as SILAIS, already have plans to vaccinate 201,576 people in Managua. To vaccinate them against influenza," said Dr. Daritza Perez, head of the SILAIS Managua's immunization expansion program.

Influenza affects more people with asthmatic problems, although it is also necessary to vaccinate people suffering from chronic diseases.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

<https://www.tn8.tv/nacionales/nicaragua-arranca-jornada-nacional-de-vacunacion-contra-la-influenza/>



School gardens and school snacks, education partners in Nicaragua

17 May

School gardens and school lunch programs are key partners for education in Nicaragua. At the beginning of the production cycle, strategies are being launched by the Ministry of Education (MINED) to strengthen these initiatives.

Juan Salvador Méndez, member of the Board of Directors at MINED, pointed out that it is all about green schools. It forms part of a national strategy promoted by the Government of Daniel Ortega and Rosario Murillo to be implemented in schools throughout the country, and in particular before the onset of the rainy season.

"With every activity we undertake, we are concerned about the educational objective of these steps. In this case, the educational objective is for students in all schools to learn a little more about the dynamics of the earth. We exist on a living planet and the rains bring life, allowing all of nature to flourish.

So, it is important for our students to learn about the dynamics of the earth, and from there, to understand the significance of the beginning of the agricultural cycle," he said.

Méndez said that in Nicaragua we are trying to strengthen food sovereignty, and the country [already] produces 90% of its food. For this reason, an effort is being made at the educational level through strategies such as school gardens and the enhancement of the school lunch program, in order to continue progressing in this regard.

In the field, it is [easy] to see the impact of this type of program. At the Guillermo Ampié Institute, in La Concepción Masaya, students and parents are fully engaged in the program, making it a model school.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

<https://www.el19digital.com/articulos/ver/titulo:128128-huertos-escolares-y-merienda-escolar-aliados-de-la-educacion-en-nicaragua>



President Daniel Ortega and Vice President Rosario Murillo Pay Tribute to General Sandino

18 may

On Wednesday, at the Olof Palme Convention Center in Managua, President Daniel Ortega and Vice President Rosario Murillo commemorated the 127th anniversary of the birth of National Hero General Augusto C. Sandino.

The General of Free Men and Women is remembered for his legacy in defense of Nicaragua's sovereignty, as well as for his struggle against foreign interventionism and in defense of the self-determination of peoples.

The official ceremony was also presided over by Dr. Gustavo Porras, President of the National Assembly, Army General Julio Cesar Aviles, Chief of the Nicaraguan Army, First Commissioner Francisco Diaz Madriz, Director General of the National Police, and Brenda Rocha, President of the Supreme Electoral Council.

President Ortega, recalled the history and struggle of General Sandino.

"Today on this day, we commemorate the birth of our General of Free Men. He was born here on 18 May 1895, in what was then called Villa Victoria, as if to announce that from there would come forth the man who was going to defeat the [foreign] invaders. Later the town was given the name of Niquinohomo. But it was there in Villa Victoria that our General Augusto Nicolás Calderón Sandino was born", he said.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

<https://www.el19digital.com/articulos/ver/titulo:128175-presidente-daniel-y-companera-rosario-rinden-homenaje-al-general-sandino>



Nicaragua is the best performer in CABEL-financed projects

19 May

The Executive President of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (known by its acronym in Spanish as BCIE), Dante Mossi, said that the private sector must begin to do its part and support the development of the country and for this the multilateral body will support them with substantial millionaire credits so that the national economy, agriculture, livestock continue to be sustainable, as well as continue with free trade zones, electricity coverage and the construction of low-income housing.

"For us, Nicaragua is a country that is not only a founding member that demands resources from the Bank, it is also potentially its best client in the sense that what it is demanding, it demands because it needs [the funds] now. It needs funding for investments that generate change. So, [Nicaragua] is one of the largest programs in the entire region and really works very well," he said.

Mossi noted that Nicaragua is a good executor of a varied portfolio of projects such as roads, "really historic roads that are genuinely connecting La Mosquitia of Nicaragua with the mainland".

"Some mayors of Honduras tell me that we envy our Nicaraguan brothers who are connecting to the mainland. They consider themselves to be practically isolated. So, for them, all these infrastructure works that are being carried out [in Nicaragua] are quite an achievement. What they call the 'sticking points', I understand that here they are being eliminated", he said.

Mossi emphasized that "Nicaragua truly is the country with the best roads and it is actually expanding that network. And this is very important for [addressing] the country's logistical issues".

The BCIE Executive President said that Nicaragua is also building first-world hospitals.

"They are hospitals with control of services that are good practices. In fact, people have come from other countries to see how these hospitals are being run," he pointed out, recalling that in the past they would just erect a building, buy machinery and God be with us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

<https://radiolaprimerisima.com/noticias-generales/destacado/nicaragua-es-el-mejor-ejecutor-de-proyectos-financiados-por-bcie/>



The founding of the Polisario Front of the Saharawi Arab Republic is commemorated in Nicaragua

20 May

On Friday, the Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, Denis Moncada hosted a meeting with the Minister Counselor of the Embassy of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, Abderrahman Yeslem, to commemorate the 49th anniversary of the founding of the Polisario Front.

The diplomatic meeting was attended by the Members of the Nicaragua-Saharawi Parliamentary Friendship Group and diplomats representing Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia, Cuba, Russian Federation, Iran, Palestine, Libya, Mexico, Panama, as well as the presidential delegate, Rafael Ortega Murillo.

Foreign Minister Moncada, on behalf of the Government of Nicaragua, President Daniel Ortega Saavedra and Vice President Rosario Murillo, greeted the people and government of Democratic Sahara on this new anniversary.

He made a review of the experiences of the brother country, showing solidarity against the military invasion of Morocco and the remnants of Spanish colonialism.

"On a day like today 49 years ago begins the struggle of the heroic brotherly Saharawi people against the last vestiges of Spanish colonialism and against the military invasion of Morocco.

These historic events took place a few days after the Saharawi people announced to the world the birth of the Polisario Front as a political-military organization responsible for achieving their legitimate aspirations to end the occupation and obtain the self-determination and independence of their nation," said Moncada.

The friendly diplomatic relations between Nicaragua and Saharawi date back to September 1980.

"The Government of National Reconciliation and Unity of the Republic of Nicaragua has reiterated its solidarity in support of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic in its struggle for self-determination and sovereignty in different international spaces and fora. The sister party of the Sandinista National Liberation Front has had a long-standing relationship with the Polisario Front, dating back to the time of the struggle against the Somoza dictatorship", stressed Moncada.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

<https://diariobarricada.com/fundacion-del-frente-polisario-de-la-republica-arabe-saharaui-es-conmemorado-en-nicaragua/>



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**CENTRO
DE ESTUDIOS
DEL DESARROLLO**
Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua Managua, UNAN-Managua
Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann Center for Development Studies



cedmeb@unan.edu.ni



Centro de Estudios del Desarrollo
Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann



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