

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE) 2016 Country Data - Nicaragua

Energy Access

Indicator	Score
Existence and monitoring of officially approved electrification plan	100
Scope of officially approved electrification plan	50
Framework for grid electrification	100
Framework for minigrids	81.67
Framework for stand-alone systems	55.56
Consumer affordability of electricity	100
Utility Transparency and Monitoring	58.33
Utility Creditworthiness	0
Total	68.19

Energy Efficiency

Indicator	Score
National energy efficiency planning	66.67
Energy efficiency entities	71.43
Information provided to consumers about electricity usage	62.5
EE incentives from electricity rate structures	62.96
Incentives & mandates: large consumers	33.33
Incentives & mandates: public sector	50
Incentives & mandates: utilities	0
Financing mechanisms for energy efficiency	33.33
Minimum energy efficiency performance standards	44.44
Energy labeling systems	41.67
Building energy codes	30
Carbon Pricing	0
Total	41.36

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Renewable Energy

Indicator	Score
Legal framework for renewable energy	100
Planning for renewable energy expansion	73
Incentives and regulatory support for renewable energy	100
Attributes of financial and regulatory incentives	42
Network connection and pricing	53
Counterparty risk	19
Carbon pricing and monitoring	0
Total	55.29
Overall Score	54.95

Energy Access

Existence and monitoring of officially approved electrification plan	Score	100
Is there an officially approved national electrification plan?		Yes
If not, is there a draft electrification plan that has been prepared but not yet been approved?		No
Name of the electrification plan		National Program for Sustainable Electrification and Renewable Energies (Programa Nacional de Electrificación Sostenible y Energías Renovables - PNER)
Are the electrification plan and the updates publicly available?		Yes
When was the last update of the electrification plan?		2012

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Is there an institution responsible for tracking progress of the plan?	Yes
Name of the tracking institution	Comisión Nacional de Energía (CNE) / Empresa Nacional de Transmisión Eléctrica (ENATREL)
Is there a timeframe defined in the electrification plan?	Yes

Scope of officially approved electrification plan	Score	50
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Does the plan target a service level (e.g., power availability, number of guaranteed hours of power supply, etc.)?	Yes
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Details on service level target

Framework for grid electrification	Score	100
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Does the government have a dedicated funding line or budget for electrification (e.g., funded national program, budget item, rural electrification fund to finance grid extension)?	Yes
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Are there capital subsidies paid to the utilities to provide distribution systems to rural areas/villages?	Yes
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Details on funding support for grid electrification	Decreto No. 6-2006
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Are there consumer financing mechanisms (i.e., utility loans, on bill financing, micro-loans, etc.) and/or direct subsidies available to support the payment of connection fees by consumers?	No
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Details on mechanisms to support the payment of connection fees	0
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Does the government specify standards of performance on reliability along with new connections (e.g., number of guaranteed hours per day, etc.)?	Yes
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Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Framework for minigrids	Score	81.67
Are minigrids legally allowed to operate in the country?		Yes
Name and date of the regulation for minigrids		Decree 42-98 / Electric Industry Law - 1998 (Decreto 42-98 Reglamento a la Ley de Industria Eléctrica)
Can minigrids be owned and operated by private operators?		Yes
Do regulations clarify what will occur when the interconnected grid reaches a mini-grid?		Yes
To convert from a power producer to a power distributor that buys electricity from the interconnected grid and resells to its local customers		No
To sell electricity to the interconnected grid operator and no longer sell electricity to retail customers		No
To sell its distribution grid to the interconnected grid operator and receive compensation for the sale of the asset		Yes
Other		Yes
Do the regulations detail procedures for consumers to get connected to minigrids?		No
Do the regulations differ by size of minigrids?		No
Are mini-grid operators legally allowed to charge a different tariff from the national tariff?		Yes
Is there a retail electricity tariff schedule for minigrids?		No
Examples of minigrid tariffs		Mini-grid systems charge different tariffs agreed upon with the regulator. As an example, HISMOW S.A. agreed to a tariff schedule with INE for

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

	distribution purposes in the Rama Municipality in the locality of Huapi.
Name of the regulation on minigrid tariffs	Concession agreements with INE
Are there publicly funded mechanisms to secure viability gap funding for operators?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for minigrids?	Yes
Details on subsidies for minigrids	Capital subsidies for renewable and non-renewable projects. provided by the State of Nicaragua through the Fund for the Development of the National Electric Industries (FODIEN)
Name of the document referring to minigrid subsidies	Decree No. 6-2006 (article 6)
Do subsidies exist for power generators?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for energy storage systems?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for distribution systems?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for monitoring systems?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for other equipment related to minigrids?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for minigrid systems?	Yes
Details on duty exemptions for minigrids	0
Name of the document referring to mini-grid duty exemptions	Law 532 for the Promotion of Electricity Generation from Renewable Sources (Ley

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

	532 para la Promoción de Generación Eléctrica con Fuentes Renovables)
Do duty exemptions exist for power generators?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for energy storage systems?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for distribution systems?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for monitoring systems?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for other equipment related to minigrids?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for stand-alone systems?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for solar modules?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for batteries?	No
Do subsidies exist for charge controllers?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for power conditioning equipment?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for safety equipment?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for other equipment related to stand-alone systems?	Yes
Details on subsidies for stand-alone systems	Subsidies provided by the State of Nicaragua through the Fund for the Development of the National Electric Industry (FODIEN) to cover investment needed in rural electricity projects (including stand-alone systems). Provision for eligibility of project included in the Rules of the Fund and includes the

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

	amount of subsidy by individual beneficiaries and the fulfillment of social policy criteria stated in the National Development Plan.
Name of the document referring to subsidies for stand-alone systems	Decree No. 6-2006 (Política de precios y subsidios para el sector eléctrico)
Do duty exemptions exist for stand-alone systems?	Yes
Details on duty exemptions for stand-alone systems	Duty exemption for renewable energies including standalone systems (all equipment for generation, transmission and distribution including solar modules and batteries)
Name of the document referring to duty exemptions for stand-alone systems	Law 532 for the Promotion of the Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources, 2005
Do duty exemptions exist for solar modules?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for batteries?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for charge controllers?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for power conditioning equipment?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for safety equipment?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for other equipment related to stand-alone systems?	Yes
Are there legal restrictions that limit the prices standalone home	Yes

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

system retailers or service providers can charge?	
Are there specific financing facilities available to support operators/consumers to develop/purchase stand-alone home systems?	Yes
Are there specific market financing facilities available to support operators to develop stand-alone systems?	Yes
Are there specific government financing facilities available to support operators to develop stand-alone systems?	No
Are there specific market financing facilities available to support consumers to purchase stand-alone standalone systems?	Yes
Are there specific government financing facilities available to support consumers to purchase stand-alone standalone systems?	No
Are there technical standards detailing the requirements for minigrids to connect the grid?	Yes
Are technical standards made publicly available?	Yes
Name of the document detailing technical standards	RES 001-03-2013 Operation Norms
Are there safety standards for minigrids?	Yes
Are these safety standards made publicly available?	Yes
Name of the document detailing safety standards	RES 001-03-2013 Normas de Operación
Does the government implement certification programs for minigrid installers?	No
Does the government provide or endorse certification programs for one or more components or equipment required for minigrids?	No
Has the government adopted international quality standards for stand-alone systems?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Name of the document detailing quality standards	0
Has the government adopted international testing methods?	No
Does the regulation accept testing done elsewhere/in another country (vs in-country testing required)?	No
Is there a governmental certified program for solar equipment installers?	No
Are there environmental regulations on the disposal of solar devices and standalone home system products or components?	No
Name of document detailing environmental regulations	0

Framework for stand-alone systems	Score	55.56
Are there publicly funded mechanisms to secure viability gap funding for operators?	Yes	
Do subsidies exist for minigrids?	Yes	
Details on subsidies for minigrids	Capital subsidies for renewable and non-renewable projects. provided by the State of Nicaragua through the Fund for the Development of the National Electric Industry (FODIEN)	
Name of the document referring to minigrid subsidies	Decree No. 6-2006 (article 6)	
Do subsidies exist for power generators?	Yes	
Do subsidies exist for energy storage systems?	Yes	
Do subsidies exist for distribution systems?	Yes	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Do subsidies exist for monitoring systems?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for other equipment related to minigrids?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for minigrid systems?	Yes
Details on duty exemptions for minigrids	0
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Do duty exemptions exist for monitoring systems?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for other equipment related to minigrids?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for stand-alone systems?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for solar modules?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for batteries?	No
Do subsidies exist for charge controllers?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for power conditioning equipment?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for safety equipment?	Yes
Do subsidies exist for other equipment related to stand-alone systems?	Yes

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

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Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Do duty exemptions exist for batteries?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for charge controllers?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for power conditioning equipment?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for safety equipment?	Yes
Do duty exemptions exist for other equipment related to stand-alone systems?	Yes
Are there legal restrictions that limit the prices standalone home system retailers or service providers can charge?	Yes
Are there specific financing facilities available to support operators/consumers to develop/purchase stand-alone home systems?	Yes
Are there specific market financing facilities available to support operators to develop stand-alone systems?	Yes
Are there specific government financing facilities available to support operators to develop stand-alone systems?	No
Are there specific market financing facilities available to support consumers to purchase stand-alone standalone systems?	Yes
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Are there safety standards for minigrids?	Yes
Are these safety standards made publicly available?	Yes

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

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Does the government provide or endorse certification programs for one or more components or equipment required for minigrids?	No
Has the government adopted international quality standards for stand-alone systems?	No
Name of the document detailing quality standards	0
Has the government adopted international testing methods?	No
Does the regulation accept testing done elsewhere/in another country (vs in-country testing required)?	No
Is there a governmental certified program for solar equipment installers?	No
Are there environmental regulations on the disposal of solar devices and standalone home system products or components?	No
Name of document detailing environmental regulations	0
Are there national programs which aim to develop stand-alone systems or support the development of stand-alone systems?	Yes
Details on the national program promoting stand-alone systems	National Sustainable Electrification and Renewable Energy Program (PNESER) with the development of Wind Generation Systems in Small Stand Alone Electrical Systems in Nicaragua

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Consumer affordability of electricity	Score	100
What is the annual cost of subsistence consumption (30kWh/month) as a percentage of GNI per household of bottom 20 percent of population?		1.66632032148269%
Tariff schedule / tariff structure taken into account		Tariff schedule, INSTITUTO NICARAGÜENSE DE ENERGÍA ENTE REGULADOR, December 2012
Is there a mechanism to support low-volume consumers such as cross-subsidization, social or lifeline tariff?		Yes

Utility Transparency and Monitoring	Score	58.33
Are the financial statements of the largest generation company publicly available?		No
Are the financial statements of the largest transmission company publicly available?		Yes
Are the financial statements of the largest distribution company publicly available?		No
Are the financial statements of the largest retail electricity sales company publicly available?		No
Are the financial statements of the largest generation company audited?		No
Are the financial statements of the largest transmission company audited?		Yes
Are the financial statements of the largest distribution company audited?		No
Are the financial statements of the largest retail electricity sales company audited?		No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Is the transmission loss rate published in a primary official document (by the utility, regulator or ministry and/or government)?	Yes
Is the distribution loss rate published in a primary official document (by the utility, regulator or ministry and/or government)?	Yes
Is the bill collection rate published in a primary official document (by the utility, regulator or ministry and/or government)?	No
Is the amount of electricity available for sale to end-users published in a primary official document (by the utility, regulator or ministry and/or government)?	Yes
Is the utility operating an incidence/outage recording system (or SCADA/EMS with such functionality)?	Yes
Is the utility measuring the SAIDI and SAIFI or any other measurements for service reliability?	Yes
Are the measurements reported to the regulatory body?	Yes
Are the measurements available to public?	Yes

Utility Creditworthiness	Score	0
Current ratio (working capital ratio) of selected utility		0
EBITDA margin of selected utility		0
Debt service coverage ratio of selected utility		0
Days payable outstanding of selected utility		0

Energy Efficiency

National energy efficiency planning	Score	66.67
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Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Is there legislation or a national action plan that aims to increase EE?	Yes
Name of EE legislation or action plan	Decree 13-24, Establishment of the National Energy Policy.
Is there an energy efficiency goal or target at the national level?	Yes
Natonal target details	20% energy consumption reduction (electricity and fuel) within 3 months for State Ministries, Decentralized Entities, State Companies and other institutions of the executive branch.
Is there a target for the residential sector?	No
Target details	N/A
Does the target have a milestone or deadline?	No
Is there a commercial servcies sector target?	No
Target details	N/A
Does the target have a milestone or deadline?	No
Is there an industrial sector target?	No
Target details	N/A
Does the target have a milestone or deadline?	No
Is there a power sector target?	No
Target details	N/A
Does the target have a milestone or deadline?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Energy efficiency entities	Score	71.43
Are there governmental and/or independent bodies dedicated to setting EE strategy?		Yes
Name of entity		MEM
Are there governmental and/or independent bodies dedicated to setting EE standards?		Yes
Name of entity		MEM
Are there governmental and/or independent bodies dedicated to regulating EE activities of energy suppliers?		No
Name of entity		0
Are there governmental and/or independent bodies dedicated to regulating EE activities of energy consumers?		No
Name of entity		0
Are there governmental and/or independent bodies dedicated to certifying compliance with equipment EE standards?		Yes
Name of entity		MEM
Are there governmental and/or independent bodies dedicated to certifying compliance with building EE standards?		Yes
Name of entity		MEM
Are there governmental and/or independent bodies dedicated to selecting and/or approving third party auditors tasked with certifying EE standards?		Yes
Name of entity		MEM

Information provided to consumers about electricity usage

Score

62.5

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Residential customers	
Is it mandatory for utilities to provide reports of their energy usage, in a bill or by other means?	Yes
Commercial customers	
Is it mandatory for utilities to provide reports of their energy usage, in a bill or by other means?	Yes
Industrial customers	
Is it mandatory for utilities to provide reports of their energy usage, in a bill or by other means?	Yes
Residential customers	
At what intervals do customers receive these reports (times per year)?	12
Do the reports include the price levels customers pay for energy usage?	Yes
Commercial customers	
At what intervals do customers receive these reports (times per year)?	12
Do the reports include the price levels customers pay for energy usage?	Yes
Industrial customers	
At what intervals do customers receive these reports (times per year)?	12
Do the reports include the price levels customers pay for energy usage?	Yes
Does the regulator track utilities' compliance with laws for providing energy usage information to customers?	Yes

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Residential customers	
Do customers receive a bill or report which compares them to other users in the same region and/or usage class?	No
Method of comparison	N/A
Commercial customers	
Do customers receive a bill or report which compares them to other users in the same region and/or usage class?	No
Method of comparison	N/A
Industrial customers	
Do customers receive a bill or report which compares them to other users in the same region and/or usage class?	No
Method of comparison	N/A
Residential customers	
Do customers receive a bill or report that shows their energy usage compared to previous bills or reports over time?	Yes
Commercial customers	
Do customers receive a bill or report that shows their energy usage compared to previous bills or reports over time?	Yes
Industrial customers	
Do customers receive a bill or report that shows their energy usage compared to previous bills or reports over time?	Yes
All customers	
Can customers access real time feedback on energy usage (for either prepaid or post-paid systems)?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Do customers have the ability to manage energy usage levels remotely (through apps or other technology mediums that can track real time usage?)	No
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EE incentives from electricity rate structures	Score	62.96
Residential customers		
Are customers charged a flat fee (per connection)?		No
Are customers charged constant block rates?		No
Are customers charged declining block rates?		No
Are customers charged increasing block rates?		Yes
Commercial customers		
Are customers charged a flat fee (per connection)?		No
Are customers charged constant block rates?		Yes
Are customers charged declining block rates?		No
Are customers charged increasing block rates?		Yes
Industrial customers		
Are customers charged a flat fee (per connection)?		No
Are customers charged constant block rates?		Yes
Are customers charged declining block rates?		No
Are customers charged increasing block rates?		No
Residential customers		

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Do customers pay energy charges (per kWh)?	Yes
Do customers pay demand charges (per kW)?	No
Do customers pay reactive power charges (per kVAR)?	No
Commercial customers	
Do customers pay energy charges (per kWh)?	Yes
Do customers pay demand charges (per kW)?	Yes
Do customers pay reactive power charges (per kVAR)?	No
Industrial customers	
Do customers pay energy charges (per kWh)?	Yes
Do customers pay demand charges (per kW)?	Yes
Do customers pay reactive power charges (per kVAR)?	No
Residential customers	
Are customers charged based on real-time pricing?	No
Are customers charged based on variable peak pricing?	No
Are customers charged based on critical peak pricing?	No
Are tariffs adjusted according to seasons?	No
Do customers pay according to time-of-day electricity use or receive peak-time rebates?	No
Commercial customers	
Are customers charged based on real-time pricing?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are customers charged based on variable peak pricing?	No
Are customers charged based on critical peak pricing?	No
Are tariffs adjusted according to seasons?	No
Do customers pay according to time-of-day electricity use or receive peak-time rebates?	No
Industrial customers	
Are customers charged based on real-time pricing?	No
Are customers charged based on variable peak pricing?	No
Are customers charged based on critical peak pricing?	Yes
Are tariffs adjusted according to seasons?	No
Do customers pay according to time-of-day electricity use or receive peak-time rebates?	No

Incentives & mandates: large consumers	Score	33.33
What is the threshold for classifying large consumers?		A consumer with a voltage connection greater than 13.8 kV and a power demand greater than 1,000 kW.
Large consumer EE mandate/incentive regulations		
Is it required for the consumption and/or savings of large-scale energy users to be tracked and documented on a regular basis?	No	
Are efficiency targets mandated for large consumers?	No	
Details		N/A

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are energy audits mandated for large consumers?	No
Are energy efficiency progress reports mandated for large consumers?	No
Interval of reports	N/A
Are energy-management systems mandated for large consumers?	No
Details	0
Are there penalties in place for non-compliance with regulatory obligations for large consumers?	No
Is there a measurement and verification program in place?	No
Is verification done by a third party?	No
Are there financial incentives for large consumers to invest in energy efficiency?	No
Details	0
Are there tax incentives for large consumers to invest in energy efficiency?	No
Are there other incentives for large consumers to invest in energy efficiency?	No
Details	0
Is there a program to publicly recognize large-scale users that have achieved significant energy savings measures?	Yes
Are energy savings and/or financial savings publicized?	Yes
Does the program offer assistance (from a government or independent entity) to large-scale users to identify energy savings investments opportunities?	Yes

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Primary Energy Consumption (MJ - latest GTF data from 2012)	34823.60802
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Incentives & mandates: public sector	Score	50
Are there binding energy savings obligations for public buildings?		Yes
Are energy savings from efficiency activities at public buildings tracked (either in-house or by a third party)?		Yes
Are there binding energy savings obligations for other public facilities (may include water supply, wastewater services, municipal solid waste, street lighting, transportation, and heat supply)?		Yes
Are energy savings from efficiency activities at other public facilities tracked?		Yes
Is there a specific policy or mandated guidelines for public procurement of energy-efficient products and services?		No
Public procurement guidelines for EE		No. Decree 2-29
Do public budgeting regulations and practices allow public entities to retain energy savings?		No
Public budgeting regulations for EE		No. Decree 2-29

Incentives & mandates: utilities	Score	0
Name of utility energy efficiency regulation program		Nicaragua_Incentives for energy efficiency in the power sector in Central America
Electricity generation		
Are utilities required to carry out energy efficiency activities in this area?		No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Details	N/A
Are energy savings or other target indicators measured to track performance in meeting EE requirements?	No
Are the requirements measured/validated by an independent third party?	No
Are there penalties in place for non-compliance with EE requirements?	No
Are there mandates or incentives for new and/or brownfield co-generation?	No
Transmission & distribution	
Are utilities required to carry out energy efficiency activities in this area?	No
Details	N/A
Are energy savings or other target indicators measured to track performance in meeting EE requirements?	No
Are the requirements measured/validated by an independent third party?	No
Are there penalties in place for non-compliance with EE requirements?	No
Demand-side management -	
Are utilities required to carry out energy efficiency activities in this area?	No
Details	N/A
Are energy savings or other target indicators measured to track performance in meeting EE requirements?	No
Are the requirements measured/validated by an independent third party?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are there penalties in place for non-compliance with EE requirements?	No
Is there a demand-side management department within the selected utility?	No
Do utilities provide customers incentives for demand response, such as peak-time rebates?	No
Is there public budget funding available for utilities to recover costs associated with or revenue lost from mandated energy efficiency activities?	No
Is there compensation for revenue losses via a tracking account available for utilities to recover costs associated with or revenue lost from mandated energy efficiency activities?	No
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Are there credit lines available for utilities to recover costs associated with or revenue lost from mandated energy efficiency activities?	No
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Are there partial risk guarantees available for utilities to recover costs associated with or revenue lost from mandated energy efficiency activities?	No
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Is there program cost recovery available for utilities to recover costs associated with or revenue lost from mandated energy efficiency activities?	No
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Is there ESCO financing available for utilities to recover costs associated with or revenue lost from mandated energy efficiency activities?	No
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Is there on-bill financing/re-payment available for utilities to recover costs associated with or revenue lost from mandated energy efficiency activities?	No
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Are there any other financing mechanisms available for utilities to recover costs associated with or revenue lost from mandated energy efficiency activities?	0
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
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Financing mechanisms for energy efficiency	Score	33.33
Residential sector		
Are there tax incentives available for energy efficiency investments?	No	
Are there discounted "green" mortgages available for energy efficiency investments?	No	
Is on-bill financing/re-payment available for energy efficiency investments?	No	
Are credit lines available for energy efficiency investments?	No	
Are energy services agreements or ESCOs available for energy efficiency investments?	No	
Are green bonds available for energy efficiency investments?	No	
Is vendor credit and/or leasing available for energy efficiency investments?	No	
Are partial risk guarantees available for energy efficiency investments?	No	
Are there any other financing mechanisms available for energy efficiency investments?	No	
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No	
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
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Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Details	
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Commercial services sector	
Are there tax incentives available for energy efficiency investments?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are there discounted "green" mortgages available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Is on-bill financing/re-payment available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are credit lines available for energy efficiency investments?	Yes
Are energy services agreements or ESCOs available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are green bonds available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Is vendor credit and/or leasing available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are partial risk guarantees available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are there any other financing mechanisms available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
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Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
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Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Details	
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
Industrial sector	
Are there tax incentives available for energy efficiency investments?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are there discounted "green" mortgages available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Is on-bill financing/re-payment available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are credit lines available for energy efficiency investments?	Yes
Are energy services agreements or ESCOs available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are green bonds available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Is vendor credit and/or leasing available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are partial risk guarantees available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are there any other financing mechanisms available for energy efficiency investments?	No
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No
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Details	
Are these available as solely market-driven financing mechanisms without any direct government approval, subsidy, authorization or other mediation procedure?	No
Are these available as government-driven financing mechanisms?	No

Minimum energy efficiency performance standards	Score	44.44
EE standards regulations		Nicaragua_Decree 2-28

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

	Regulation of the use energy
Refrigerators	
Have minimum energy performance standards been adopted?	Yes
Details of standards	See table in reference for minimum standards, measured in kWh/liter
Is there a verification program in place?	Yes
Is it carried out by a third party?	No
Is there a penalty for non-compliance with energy efficiency standards?	No
Are the standards based on external/international standards?	No
Air conditioners	
Have minimum energy performance standards been adopted?	Yes
Details of standards	Energy Efficiency Ratio expressed as the ratio of thermal power by electrical power
Is there a verification program in place?	Yes
Is it carried out by a third party?	No
Is there a penalty for non-compliance with energy efficiency standards?	No
Are the standards based on external/international standards?	No
Lighting equipment	
Have minimum energy performance standards been adopted?	Yes

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Details of standards	0
Is there a verification program in place?	Yes
Is it carried out by a third party?	No
Is there a penalty for non-compliance with energy efficiency standards?	No
Are the standards based on external/international standards?	No
Industrial electric motors	
Have minimum energy performance standards been adopted?	Yes
Details of standards	0
Is there a verification program in place?	Yes
Is it carried out by a third party?	No
Is there a penalty for non-compliance with energy efficiency standards?	No
Are the standards based on external/international standards?	No
Other industrial equipment	
Have minimum energy performance standards been adopted?	No
Details of standards	N/A
Is there a verification program in place?	No
Is it carried out by a third party?	No
Is there a penalty for non-compliance with energy efficiency standards?	No
Are the standards based on external/international standards?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Light duty vehicles	
Have minimum energy performance standards been adopted?	No
Details of standards	N/A
Is there a verification program in place?	No
Is it carried out by a third party?	No
Is there a penalty for non-compliance with energy efficiency standards?	No
Are the standards based on external/international standards?	No
Heavy duty vehicles	
Have minimum energy performance standards been adopted?	No
Details of standards	N/A
Is there a verification program in place?	No
Is it carried out by a third party?	No
Is there a penalty for non-compliance with energy efficiency standards?	No
Are the standards based on external/international standards?	No

Energy labeling systems	Score	41.67
Refrigerators		
Have energy efficiency labeling schemes been adopted?	Yes	
Is the labeling scheme mandatory?	Yes	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Is the labeling scheme based on external/international standards?	No
Air conditioners	
Have energy efficiency labeling schemes been adopted?	No
Is the labeling scheme mandatory?	No
Is the labeling scheme based on external/international standards?	No
Lighting equipment	
Have energy efficiency labeling schemes been adopted?	Yes
Is the labeling scheme mandatory?	Yes
Is the labeling scheme based on external/international standards?	Yes
Industrial electric motors	
Have energy efficiency labeling schemes been adopted?	Yes
Is the labeling scheme mandatory?	No
Is the labeling scheme based on external/international standards?	No
Other industrial equipment	
Have energy efficiency labeling schemes been adopted?	No
Is the labeling scheme mandatory?	No
Is the labeling scheme based on external/international standards?	No
Light duty vehicles	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Have energy efficiency labeling schemes been adopted?	No
Is the labeling scheme mandatory?	No
Is the labeling scheme based on external/international standards?	No
Heavy duty vehicles	
Have energy efficiency labeling schemes been adopted?	No
Is the labeling scheme mandatory?	No
Is the labeling scheme based on external/international standards?	No

Building energy codes	Score	30
Are there energy efficiency codes for new residential buildings?	Yes	
Are there energy efficiency codes for new commercial buildings?	No	
Is the energy efficiency code for new residential buildings its own stand-alone, separate code or part of the overall building code?	No	
Is the energy efficiency code for new commercial buildings its own stand-alone, separate code or part of the overall building code?	No	
Is there any provision for regular updates to the code for new residential buildings?	No	
Is there any provision for regular updates to the code for new commercial buildings?	No	
EE building code regulations	Nicaragua NTON 12 12-15 dwellings and urban housing development	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

When was the code last updated for residential buildings?	2015
When was the code last updated for commercial buildings?	0
Is there a system to ensure compliance with building energy efficiency codes?	Yes
Is it carried out by a third party?	No
Are renovated residential buildings required to meet a building energy codee?	Yes
Are renovated commercial buildings required to meet a building energy code?	No
Is the energy efficiency code for renovated residential buildings different from the code for new buildings?	No
Is the energy efficiency code for renovated commercial buildings different from the code for new buildings?	No
Is the energy efficiency code for renovated residential buildings its own stand-alone, separate code or part of the overall building code?	No
Is the energy efficiency code for renovated commercial buildings its own stand-alone, separate code or part of the overall building code?	No
Is there any provision for regular updates to the code for renovated residential buildings?	No
Is there any provision for regular updates to the code for renovated commercial buildings?	No
Is there a mandatory standardized rating or labeling system for the energy performance of existing buildings?	No
Is the labeling scheme or rating adopted from external standards?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are commercial and residential buildings required to disclose property energy usage at the point of sale or when leased?	No
Are large commercial and residential buildings required to disclose property energy usage annually?	No
Are there mandates or targets for new building stocks to achieve high quality energy efficiency certifications, such as LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) (e.g. percentage of new building stocks that must be LEED certified)?	No
Details	N/A
LEED incentives	No
Local program details	0

Carbon Pricing	Score	0
Is there a carbon pricing mechanism in place?	No	
For any carbon pricing mechanism (e.g. carbon tax, emission trading system), what is the portion of national GHG emissions covered)?	0	
Is there a monitoring, reporting and verification system for greenhouse gas emissions in place?	No	

Renewable Energy

Legal framework for renewable energy	Score	100
Does a legal framework for renewable energy development exist?	Yes	
Name of the Law	Law 532 for the Promotion of the Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources.	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Is private sector ownership of renewable energy generation legally authorized?	Yes
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Planning for renewable energy expansion	Score	73
Does an official renewable energy target exist?		Yes
Overall target		1,022 MW (2013 plan with a 2027 horizon) to 1,354 MW (2014 objective with a 2028 horizon) of renewable energy capacity added for wind, solar, geothermal and biomass energy. This power generation plan will lead to an estimated share of RE generation of 91% by 2027.
Solar target		100 MW
Wind target		430 MW
Hydro target		737 MW
Biomass target		114 MW
Geothermal target		131 MW
Does a renewable energy action plan or strategy to attain the target exist?		Yes
Name of the action plan		0
Does the plan or strategy define the amount of investment necessary to meet the RE target?		Yes
The amount of investment identified		0

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Is there an institution responsible for tracking progress in renewable energy development?	Yes
Name of the institution	0
Does an electricity generation plan that includes renewable energy development exist?	Yes
Name of the generation plan	0
Is the expansion plan based on a probabilistic approach?	Yes
Does the current transmission planning consider renewable energy scale-up?	No
Name of the transmission plan	0
Has the country conducted a variable renewable energy integration study?	Yes
Name of the integration study	0
Year of the integration study	NA
Does the country have sufficient resource abundance to warrant a solar resource atlas?	Yes
Does the government publish or endorse a solar resource atlas or other data on the abundance and quality of the resource?	Yes
Solar atlas is validated by at least 5 ground-based measurements taken for a period of at least a year;	No
Solar atlas has a spatial resolution of 5km or less;	No
Solar atlas is based on modeling inputs covering at least a 10 year period;	No
Solar atlas is accompanied by an explanation of the methodology and instrumentation	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Has the country carried out strategic planning or produced zoning guidance to inform the commercial development of solar resources?	No
Has the solar resource planning or zoning guidance been undertaken as part of a strategic environmental and social assessment or equivalent process?	No
Are the solar resource planning or zoning guidance outputs publically available?	No
Does the country have sufficient resource abundance to warrant a wind resource atlas?	Yes
Does the government publish or endorse a wind resource atlas or other data on the abundance and quality of the resource?	Yes
Wind atlas is validated by at least 5 ground-based measurements taken for a period of at least a year;	Yes
Wind atlas has a spatial resolution of 5km or less;	Yes
Wind atlas is based on modeling inputs covering at least a 10 year period;	Yes
Wind atlas is accompanied by an explanation of the methodology and instrumentation	No
Has the country carried out strategic planning or produced zoning guidance to inform the commercial development of wind resources?	Yes
Has the wind resource planning or zoning guidance been undertaken as part of a strategic environmental and social assessment or equivalent process?	No
Are the wind resource planning or zoning guidance outputs publically available?	No
Does the country have sufficient resource abundance to warrant a hydro resource atlas?	Yes

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Does the country publish or endorse a national hydro resource map or atlas?	No
Hydro atlas is validated by ground-based water run-off data and/or site surveys from potential sites;	No
Hydro atlas is accompanied by an explanation of the methodology and instrumentation	No
Has the country carried out strategic planning or produced zoning guidance to inform the commercial development of hydro resources?	Yes
Has the hydro resource planning or zoning guidance been undertaken as part of a strategic environmental and social assessment or equivalent process?	No
Are the hydro resource planning or zoning guidance outputs publically available?	No
Does the country have sufficient resource abundance to warrant a biomass resource atlas?	Yes
Does the country publish or endorse a national biomass resource map or atlas?	No
Biomass atlas is validated by ground-based survey or officially reported data;	No
Biomass atlas is accompanied by an explanation of the methodology and instrumentation.	No
Has the biomass resource planning or zoning guidance been undertaken as part of a strategic environmental and social assessment or equivalent process?	No
Are the biomass resource planning or zoning guidance outputs publically available?	No
Does the country have sufficient resource abundance to warrant a geothermal resource atlas?	Yes

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Does the country publish or endorse a national geothermal resource map or atlas?	Yes
The government has collected and recorded well data at potential geothermal sites?	Yes
Does the government publish a national geological map?	Yes
The government has supported surface exploration (geological; geochemical; temp; gradient) at potential sites?	Yes
The government has supported test drilling at at least one site (slim bore or full well)?	Yes
The government has supported the creation of a reservoir model at at least one site?	Yes
Has the country carried out strategic geothermal resource planning or produced zoning guidance to inform the commercial development of the resource?	Yes
Has the geothermal resource planning or zoning guidance been undertaken as part of a strategic environmental and social assessment or equivalent process?	Yes
Are the geothermal resource planning or zoning guidance outputs publically available?	Yes

Incentives and regulatory support for renewable energy	Score	100
Is there at least one scheme to support renewable energy per unit of electricity generated? (e.g., feed-in tariff, competitive bidding/auction, mandates, generation premiums, production tax credits)?	Yes	
Feed-in tariff	Yes	
Feed-in tariff - Solar	Yes	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Feed-in tariff - Wind	Yes
Feed-in tariff - Hydro	Yes
Feed-in tariff - Biomass	Yes
Feed-in tariff - Geothermal	Yes
Government body in charge	Instituto Nicaragüense de la Energía (INE)
Projects guaranteed off-take	Yes
Solar Feed-in-tariff Price (\$ cents/kWh)	12
Solar Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (single)	NA
Solar Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (total)	NA
Solar Feed-in-tariff Closing date	Jan. 1, 2018
Wind Feed-in-tariff Price (\$ cents/kWh)	8
Wind Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (single)	NA
Wind Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (total)	NA
Wind Feed-in-tariff Closing date	Jan. 1, 2018
Hydro Feed-in-tariff Price (\$ cents/kWh)	11
Hydro Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (single)	NA
Hydro Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (total)	NA
Hydro Feed-in-tariff Closing date	Jan. 1, 2018
Biomass Feed-in-tariff Price (\$ cents/kWh)	11

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Biomass Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (single)	NA
Biomass Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (total)	NA
Biomass Feed-in-tariff Closing date	Jan. 1, 2018
Geothermal Feed-in-tariff Price (\$ cents/kWh)	9
Geothermal Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (single)	NA
Geothermal Feed-in-tariff Max. capacity (total)	NA
Geothermal Feed-in-tariff Closing date	Jan. 1, 2018
Competitive bidding	Yes
Auction 1 - Year	2010
Auction 1 - Technology	Wind
Auction 1 - Project-specific tender and size (MW)	40
Auction 1 - Auction for total and size (MW)	Unknown
Auction 1 - Standard PPA and Term	20 years
Auction 1 - Price ceiling	No
Auction 1 - Winning bid (\$ cents/kWh)	10
Auction 1 - Government body in charge	This bidding was conducted by the distribution company. However, the contract must be approved by the governing authorities.
Auction 2 - Year	2011
Auction 2 - Technology	Wind

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Auction 2 - Project-specific tender and size (MW)	38
Auction 2 - Auction for total and size (MW)	Unknown
Auction 2 - Standard PPA and Term	20 years
Auction 2 - Price ceiling	No
Auction 2 - Winning bid (\$ cents/kWh)	10
Auction 2 - Government body in charge	This bidding was conducted by the distribution company. However, the contract must be approved by the governing authorities.
Winning bid guaranteed off-take	Yes
Mandates	Yes
Generation premium	No
Production tax credit	No
Does the government offer other direct fiscal incentives for renewable energy (e.g. capital subsidies, grants or rebates, investment tax credits, tax reductions?)	Yes
Investment tax credit	No
Accelerated depreciation	No
Reduction in import taxes	Yes
Reduction in sales tax or other taxes	Yes
Does the country provide prioritized access to the grid for RE?	Yes
Do RE projects receive priority in dispatch?	Yes

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are there provisions to compensate seller if offtake infrastructure is not built in time?	Yes
Are there mechanisms to compensate RE projects for lost generation due to certain curtailments after project commissioning?	Yes

Attributes of financial and regulatory incentives	Score	42
Is the market entry mechanism for private RE projects defined? (e.g. 1st come 1st served; tenders)	Yes	
Details		0
Are projects subject to development timelines or milestones?	Yes	
Are tariffs indexed (in part or in whole) to an international currency or to inflation?	Yes	
If there is a guaranteed tariff, is there a mechanism to adjust the level of the tariff for new entrants (e.g., declination)?	Yes	
If there is a guaranteed tariff, is there a mechanism to differentiate tariffs based on the size of the generation plant?	No	
If there is competitive bidding/auctions, are there provisions to ensure full and timely project completion (e.g., bid-bonds, project milestones, eligibility requirements)	No	
If there is a renewable energy mandate, can it be met with tradable certificates (e.g., RECs, ROCs, TECs)?	No	
Is the price subsidy/benefit implied by a renewable energy incentive program passed through in full or in part to the final electricity consumer?	No	

Network connection and pricing	Score	53
Are there rules defining the allocation of connection costs?	Yes	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

What is the type of the connection cost allocation policy (i.e. shallow/deep)?	Deep
Are there rules that allow electricity customers to purchase power directly from a third party (i.e. an entity other than the designated utility in a service area)?	Yes
Do the rules define the size and allocation of costs for transmission and distribution wheeling charges? (e.g., wheeling charges, locational pricing?)	No
Do the rules consider customer type/size in determining eligibility for purchasing electricity from a third party?	Yes
connection cost document	Nicaragua_Resolution 04-2000_Electric System Transport Regulations
Does the country have a grid code that includes measures or standards addressing variable renewable energy?	No
Is there more than one balancing area in the country?	Yes
Are there rules for exchanging power between balancing areas that penalize variable renewable energy (e.g. through imbalance penalties)?	Yes
Are there provisions in the power exchange rules that allow for plant forecasting?	Yes

Counterparty risk	Score	19
Does the government offer or allow backing of utility payments (e.g. through a letter of credit, escrow account, payment guarantee, or other)?	No	
Information disclosure	17	
Are the financial statements of the largest utility publicly available?	0	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are the financial statements of the largest generation company publicly available?	No
Are the financial statements of the largest transmission company publicly available?	Yes
Are the financial statements of the largest distribution company publicly available?	No
Are the financial statements of the largest retail electricity sales company publicly available?	No
Are the following metrics published in a primary official document (by the utility, regulator or ministry and/or government)?	0
Is the transmission loss rate published in a primary official document (by the utility, regulator or ministry and/or government)?	Yes
Is the distribution loss rate published in a primary official document (by the utility, regulator or ministry and/or government)?	Yes
Is the bill collection rate published in a primary official document (by the utility, regulator or ministry and/or government)?	No
Is the amount of electricity available for sale to end-users published in a primary official document (by the utility, regulator or ministry and/or government)?	Yes
Information Auditing	8
Financial statements independently audited?	0
Are the financial statements of the largest generation company audited?	No
Are the financial statements of the largest transmission company audited?	Yes
Are the financial statements of the largest distribution company audited?	No

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

Are the financial statements of the largest retail electricity sales company audited?	No
Monitoring Reliability	0
Is the utility operating an incidence/outage recording system (or SCADA/EMS with such functionality)?	Yes
Is the utility measuring the SAIDI and SAIFI or any other measurements for service reliability?	Yes
Are the data reported to the regulatory body?	Yes
Are the data available to the public?	Yes
Name of the selected utility	DISNORTE - DISSUR
data - 17.1. Current ratio (working capital ratio)	no data
data - 17.2 Debt Service Coverage Ratio	N/A
data - 17.3 Days payable outstanding	no data
data - 17.4 EBITDA margin	no data
Current ratio (working capital ratio) of selected utility	0
Debt Service Coverage Ratio of selected utility	0
Days payable outstanding of selected utility	0
EBITDA margin of selected utility	0

Carbon pricing and monitoring	Score	0
Is there a carbon pricing mechanism in place?	No	
For any carbon pricing mechanism (e.g. carbon tax, emission trading system), what is the portion of national GHG emissions	0%	

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)

covered)?	
Is there a monitoring, reporting and verification system for greenhouse gas emissions in place?	No