

PROJECT PROGRESS SUMMARY

5240090-5  
524-L-027

Project Number: AID Loan 524-L-027  
Title: Education Sector Loan  
Date Signed: February 28, 1973  
Funding:  
USG: \$5.3 Million  
GON: \$6.9 Million  
Date of this Paper: January 19, 1977



2p.

PD-AAB-2771-C1

This summary covers the construction of 115 classrooms completed in December 1976 and represents the final phase of the 841 classroom construction program financed under Loan 524-L-027, which provided financing for the restoration of classrooms in the Managua area which were destroyed by the December 1972 earthquake. These 115 classrooms are at four sites serving 5,000 primary grade children of low income families.

One of the sites under which 24 additional classrooms with an 800 student capacity were constructed is located about five miles west of the old city of Managua in a residential cluster called OPEN 3\* which now consists of some 40,000 inhabitants who were relocated from earthquake damaged areas. The other three sites are located in neighborhoods within the city of Managua which are comprised mainly of low-income families with all of the classic problems of sub-standard housing and inadequate social services found in poor urban residential areas. All of these schools serve crowded areas where classroom space was desperately needed for learning opportunities for children who because of the earthquake had no access to primary education facilities or had

\*National Emergency Operation.

access only to very marginal facilities.

The classroom construction at OPEN 3 was the last of seven project sites and it is cited in this summary to illustrate distinct and successful efforts by the Ministry of Public Education (MPE) to provide schools to poor communities. This conceptual trend by the MPE is commendable and it is the result of renewed efforts by the GON to provide school facilities in areas of greatest need.

During the course of this last construction project, it is also well documented that the entire contract was supervised and monitored more effectively by the MPE; that the costs per classroom unit erected were lower than anticipated; and that the quality of the finished schools and contractor performance were of higher quality than in most of the previous six loan financed construction projects.