

in the region. Rising relative wages for the most educated and most skilled fuels an already extreme inequality of income in the region.

3. Participatory democracy in Central America result of an almost universal transition from dictatorship in the region, combined with an increasingly civil society, and growing problems of violence and crime translate into another new demand on the educational system – that of encouraging social cohesiveness and civic participation.
4. The role and organization of the state have changed in most countries of Central America, resulting in subnational governments having substantial educational responsibilities and the private sector having an increasingly important role in the finance and provision of education, especially at the technical level. The resulting challenge for the region is to reengineer central government ministries, develop capacity at the local level, and formulate public policies for private sector development in education.
5. The major demographic transition that the region is experiencing will result in a stable-sized school-age population by 2010 and a decreasing percentage of young people in the population over the first half of the 21st century. The result is a unique opportunity to focus on the quality of instruction over simply expanding enrollments, and a need for a increment in human capital of a shrinking share of young people.

BENEFITS THAT NAIT CAN OFFER TO CENTRAL AMERICA

With more than 34 years of international experience, in many occasions NAIT has developed projects in conjunction with international funding institutions such as CIDA, ACCC, WBCD, ADB, CDB, etc.; subsequently, many of the factors mentioned above have already been part of the objectives when completing these projects. On the private side, NAIT has worked in joint projects with corporations such as Sherritt International, Exxon Mobile Global Services Company, Umm-All Jawaby Oil Services, Wintershall BASF, NAFTOGAZ, etc. This is why we believe that NAIT is exceptionally well suited for entering the Central American market while fulfilling the socioeconomic requirement faced by these populations. Please find attached examples of international training projects in Appendix 1.

The private sector is becoming increasingly involved in providing educational services, managing public schools, and supporting specific school programs in Central American countries. In general, private initiatives are more evident in those areas of the education sector where public coverage has historically been limited. In the Central American countries, many governments see the involvement of private sector as a potential solution to many educational problems. NAIT can play an important role because one of its strengths lies in developing and strengthening relations between industry and technical education institutions through its Institutional Development Program. NAIT's level of training is best done in-country, to develop systems and institutes to produce a modern, skilled workforce trained in country, with curriculum linked to local industry needs, and