

Irene Espinosa-Cantellano

Irene Espinosa is an economist with more than 20 years of experience in the financial sector, both public and private. She was designated by President Felipe Calderón Hinojosa and ratified by the Senate as federal government Treasurer in April 16, 2009. In 2012, President Enrique Peña Nieto confirmed her appointment to continue in that post.

Irene Espinosa holds a bachelor's degree in economics and a master in public policy with a major in socioeconomic evaluation from Mexico's Autonomous Technological Institute (Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, ITAM), where she received the Miguel Palacios Macedo award for academic excellence.

She began her professional career in 1988 as a researcher at the Center for Economic Studies at Banco Nacional de México (Banamex).

From 1991 to 1994, she served as Deputy Director for International Affairs at Mexico's National Council for Science and Technology (Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología, CONACYT), where she was responsible for obtaining financing for CONACYT programs from international financial entities such as the Inter American Development Bank (IADB) and the World Bank.

From 1997 to 2000, she was Coordinator of the Center for Socioeconomic Evaluation at ITAM, where she also taught at the Economics undergraduate program and at the Public Policy master program.

In 2001, she was appointed by then Finance Secretary Francisco Gil Díaz as Head Advisor to the Office of the Executive Director for Mexico and the Dominican Republic at the Inter American Development Bank (IADB) in Washington, D.C., a post she held for six years.

In February 2007, she was invited by former Finance Secretary Agustín Carstens to serve as Coordinator of Advisors to the Treasury. Later, she held the post of Deputy Treasurer of Operations until April 2009, when she was appointed federal government Treasurer.

During her time as treasurer, her most significant achievements were:

- Designing and implementing a Single Treasury Account as an internationally recognized best practice;
- Obtaining the first certification of substantive processes at the Treasury under the ISO 9001:2008 standard;
- Writing and implementing the new Federal Treasury Law, which replaced the 1985 Treasury Service Law.

As Mexico's Treasurer she worked with 17 Latin American treasuries to establish the Latin American Government Treasuries Forum (Foro de Tesorerías Gubernamentales de

América Latina, FOTEGAL), constituted in March 2011 in Mexico City. She was voted as the forum's first president for the period 2011-2012. FOTEGAL continues to be a touchstone for regional treasurers and serves as a permanent dialogue for technical discussions and exchange of experiences.

Ms. Espinosa has represented the Finance Secretariat at government entities such as the National Banking and Securities Commission (Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores, CNBV), the Agency for the Administration and Liquidation of Assets (Servicio de Administración y Enajenación de Bienes, SAE), and the Government Workers' Social Security and Services Institute (Instituto Social y de Seguridad Social para los Trabajadores del Estado, ISSSTE).

A believer in the benefits of women's participation in the economy, she has sought to promote and increase the percentage of women in leadership and decision-making positions. These efforts led to her nomination as Coordinator of the Commission for Women Leaders for an Inclusive Economy (Comisión de Mujeres Líderes por una Economía Incluyente, MULEI), which is part of Mexico's Federation of Colleges of Economics (Federación de Colegios de Economistas de la República Mexicana, FCERM). She held this post from March 2016 to January 14, 2018.

Among the honors she has received are:

- Woman of the Year award granted by Congress in 2011, for her long service and contributions to Mexico's development;
- One of the 100 women leaders in Mexico award granted by newspaper El Universal in 2016;
- Professional merit award granted by ITAM in 2016 for her outstanding career in the public sector.

On January 24, 2018, the Congress' Permanent Commission approved her appointment as a member of Banco de México's Governing Board for the period from January 24, 2018 to December 31, 2024.

On May 20, 2019, Forbes Magazine included her in the list of Mexico's 100 most powerful women in 2019 in recognition of her outstanding career and for setting an example for future emerging women leaders.