

ESTEBAN ZOLEZZI

Country of birth: Chile

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Master in Public Administration, Master in Business Administration and Journalist with more than 10 years of experience in Latin America. Professional with practice in consulting, managing projects, researching, and editing publications in areas such as social development, governance, human migrations, entrepreneurship, discrimination, and education. Leads the Association of Chilean living in Costa Rica through projects aiming to give skills to the Chilean community, create spaces for cultural exchange, and promote entrepreneurship as a tool for social development.

WORK EXPERIENCE

FLACSO General Secretariat www.flacso.org

SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

Regional Finance and Administrative Coordinator

Jan 2020 - Today

- Manage FLACSO General Secretariat's finance as well as the consolidation of the financial results of the whole organization and work with counterparts in the 13 Academic Units of FLACSO.
- Provide financial and administrative reports, which present analysis of the global and regional context in FLACSO's official annual meetings, which allows Academic Units and Government Bodies to define strategies on financial management, cooperation, and academic efforts to create positive impact in the region.
- Lead administrative reforms. In 2020 led created and reformed indicators of the annual reports of the 13 Academic Units regarding budgets, financial results, internal audits, and human resources. In 2021 led a process to create new procedures to calculate and update the State Member's annual contributions to the General Secretariat of FLACSO, as well as establishing for the first time an annual contribution from the State Observers. In 2022 Co-led a reform of the institution's rules on human resources, which created or reforms articles on issues like inclusion and gender equality, reorganized categorization of employees, and improved systems for transparency and accountability.
- Design, approve, execute, and monitor cooperation agreements for research projects performed by FLACSO General Secretariat, including projects in several countries in Latin America financed by international organizations within the region and from the United States, Europe and Asia. This included creating relations with senior officials and researchers of international organizations (such as GIZ, AECID, CAF, IADB, among others), and representatives of Embassies and Governmental Institutions related to cooperation in Social Sciences.
- Formulated and applied an evaluation system for the technical and financial results of cooperation projects.

Editor of the regional annual research report of FLACSO

Jan 2020 – Today

- Edit the annual report in which the 13 Academic Units of FLACSO present the results of their country research on a unique issue of regional interest. This has included annual reports on issues such as Education, Migrations, and Gender Equality.
- Organize the presentation of the results of the regional report to representatives of state members of FLACSO, public institutions, researchers and public in general. This involved organize launch events, revise press releases and communications campaigns, and coordinate the production of short videos and podcasts with researchers.

Senior Researcher

Feb 2019 - Dec 2019

- Worked for the Coordination of International Cooperation and Research. Responsible for writing grant proposals, research articles on issues related to economy, education, public administration, and communications, editing books, and presenting books and studies.

- In charge of writing and revising project's contracts, hiring project researchers and consultants, and managing project's budgets, as well as managing the Coordination's budget and generating financial reports.
- Responsible for managing media communications for FLACSO General Secretariat and coordinating communications with the 13 Academic Units of FLACSO. In charge of a Communications Assistant.
- Conducted training seminars and workshops on social issues such as inclusion, education, and public policy for government officials of State Members, Observer States, and International Organizations.

**INCAE Business School www.incae.edu
Communications Manager.**

**ALAJUELA, COSTA RICA
Jul 2015 – Feb 2017**

- Led the team in charge of developing communications strategies to increase the influence and presence of our master and leadership programs, including our think tank's work on Social Progress, Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Gender Gap. All under the mission of developing better leaders and public policies.
- Developed relations with press, alumni, CEOs at multinational corporations, Directors of NGOs, government officials, employees and students all over Latin America.
- Managed the department's budget, expenditures and annual financial reports, as well as monthly reports.

**Magnolia Comunicaciones (PR Agency) www.magnolia-mediapr.com
Journalist.**

**SANTIAGO, CHILE
Jan 2010 - Jun 2013**

- Developed relations with local media to promote clients like Nike Chile Gacel, and small entrepreneurships.

VOLUNTEER WORK

President of the Association of Chileans in Costa Rica

Jan 2023 – Today

Lead actions, including a Fair on Chilean Entrepreneurship, Cultural activities, and skill development and informative online events to help Chileans in Costa Rica and promote social development in the Chilean community.

Communications Director of The Art of Living Foundation – Chile

Ago 2009 – Ago 2011

Promote activities dedicated to help reduce violence and mental illness with alternative methods in communities in Chile. This included active participation in meditation and conversations spaces with prisoners in "Prison Colina I", organizing events to promote a healthy lifestyle in young people, and visits to help in the reconstruction of areas devastated by the 2010's earthquake in the south of Chile, among others.

CONSULTING

Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investments and Fisheries. QUITO, ECUADOR

Sep 21-Dec 21

- Analyzed Ecuador from different areas related to Foreign Direct Investment.
- Elaborate a strategy for the country's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) promotion.
- Created proposals and policy papers to reform the public administration for FDI attraction.
- Organized a multisectorial workshop on FDI promotion with representatives of the private and public sectors.

Purdy Motor S.A. (Toyota Costa Rica) Consultant. SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA.

Oct 14 - Dec 14

- Analyzed feasibility of hydrogen stations in Costa Rica, by doing Montecarlo Analysis of alternatives and their risk levels by using data analysis and visualizations tools such as Gretl, Tableau, and @Risk.
- Researched the legal framework, negotiated with suppliers, and created a data analysis system that will show the best locations for the hydrogen stations around the country.

CINDE (Costa Rican Investment Promotion Agency) Consultant. SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA. Jun 14 – Ago 14

- Compared potential results for Medical Devices companies in different countries to attract them to invest.

- Recommended, based on agencies comparison analysis, which are the best practices that CINDE should follow.
- Analyzed different countries' Balance of Payments to recommend to the Costa Rican Government on the BMP6.

PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS

Presentation "New perspectives on Latin American Development" (FLACSO) URUGUAY	Nov 2022
Presentation of results: "Best Practices on Teachers Continued Education" (FLACSO) PARAGUAY	Jun 2019
Seminar on International Commerce: "IED & development in Costa Rica" (UNA) COSTA RICA.	Oct 2019
Second Economic International Forum of Hongqiao (CASS) CHINA	Nov 2019
South Corea–Costa Rica Cooperation Forum. (FLACSO-BCIE) COSTA RICA	Oct 2020

PUBLICATIONS

FLACSO. (2023, March). III Informe Regional de FLACSO: Política pública en igualdad de género en América Latina y el Caribe. <https://www.flacso.org/index.php/node/458>

Sáenz, S., & Zolezzi, E. (2022, November). Nuevas Miradas para el Desarrollo de América Latina y el Caribe. <https://www.flacso.org/index.php/node/456>

FLACSO. (2021, November). II Informe Regional de FLACSO: Una mirada sistémica sobre las migraciones de América Latina y el Caribe. <https://www.flacso.org/node/287>

Zolezzi, E. (2021, July). Gobierno digital: Cómo abordar una oportunidad compleja. Revista Rhombus. <https://www.ulacit.ac.cr/wp-content/uploads/Revista-Rhombus-junio-2021.pdf>

Zolezzi, E. (2020, October). Prensa, opinión pública y la percepción ciudadana sobre el tráfico ilícito de drogas. https://www.flacso.org/sites/default/files/trafico_ilicito_drogas.pdf

EDUCATION

Master in Public Administration. University of Michigan. ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, USA	Sep 17 – May 18
MBA in finance and sustainable development. INCAE. ALAJUELA, COSTA RICA	Aug 13 – May 15
BA in Journalism. Universidad Diego Portales. SANTIAGO, CHILE	Mar 05 – Dec 09

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

Diploma program in Governance and Public Innovation. FLACSO Costa Rica. 2022

Digital Marketing Laboratory. INCAE Business School. 2016

Behavioral Economics' Seminar. YALE University. 2015

Young Leadership Program. INCAE Business School. 2012

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

English (Fluent), Spanish (Native Language), Excel, Data Analysis (RapidMiner, Gretl, STATA, Tableau, and @Risk), Network Analysis (UCINET, Touchgraph, Immersion and InMaps), Social Work, Project Leader, Communication Planning, Entrepreneurship