



Elsa M. Soto García de Beljean

Elsa Beljean is the Policy Planner II of the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG). She analyses data focused on economic policies and international trade. As a member of the Policy and Government Relations division of MAG, she supports regional projects and MAG's Economic Development Committee's initiatives with Mexico. Additionally, she coordinates the Ari-Son Megaregion Council annual meetings.

Prior to her position, Elsa worked in California as International Business Developer for the Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation, and focused on foreign direct investment attraction via the CaliBaja Binational Megaregion. She also formed a consulting firm called "Berlibel-Open Culture" and provided business and marketing solutions to companies expanding their market into the US and Mexico.

Elsa is a dual national of Mexico and the US. She was born in Mexico City and raised in Mexicali, Baja California. She completed one year of studies in France thanks to the Rotary International Youth Exchange program. At her return to Mexicali, she worked for four years as a French teacher for the French Alliance, an international non-profit organization.

She completed a Bachelor's degree in International Business from the Autonomous University of Baja California. During her studies, Elsa represented her university at Model of United Nations conferences in five different countries, and completed a training at the United Nations Headquarters, in New York. Furthermore, Elsa was part of two study abroad programs, the first at the Johannes Kepler University of Linz, in Austria, and the second at San Diego State University, in California.

In 2016, Elsa earned a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) with a minor in Marketing from CETYS University's Graduate School of Business.

She now holds a certification on US Political Institutions and US-Mexico Relations from the University of California San Diego and the US Embassy in Mexico City. She is currently completing a certificate program on International Trade Negotiations hosted by the College of Mexico and the Mexican Ministry of Economy.

Elsa is a member and past-president of the We Rotary Club of International Peace, District 5000, Hawaii. She is also member of the Arizona Association for Economic Development, the Phoenix Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's DATOS Committee.

She resides in Phoenix, Arizona with her husband and daughter.