

# MARÍA JOSÉ MORALES GARCÍA

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## **Please tell us a little about yourself.**

I am in charge of the Equality and Diversity Programme in the Federal Institute of Telecommunications in Mexico.

## **Could you tell us about your career journey and how you got to your current position?**

I studied Political Science and Public Administration at university, and did my Masters in Political Theory in the UK. When I returned to Mexico I worked as the editor of a newspaper, and then at the National Agency in Mexico that organises elections. Later I worked for the anti-discrimination agency. I am not an engineer, I now work in the Federal Institute of Telecommunications to promote the rights of people with disabilities, indigenous people and women.

## **Can you describe a particular challenge or set-back that you have faced in your career, and how did you overcome it?**

15 years ago I was working on a national policy programme to promote the rights of women, which included the topic of sexual diversity. The executive power cancelled our event saying that we couldn't talk about such a topic. As it was such an important subject we went and spoke with other agencies (public health, education) and my manager negotiated with them. He taught me how to communicate and negotiate with people who have influence. He taught me not to take things for granted, and never to give up. We eventually succeeded in being allowed to promote the programme as part of public policy.

## **Do you have an inspirational advice for people who may face similar challenges?**

You have to believe in yourself. Believe in your power and strength. This will help you achieve anything you want. Believe in the power of communication. Do what you love.

## **Why are the networking opportunities offered by INWES so valuable?**

INWES shows women around the world alternative ways of dealing with issues, and broadens their scopes. It is an excellent network to promote women's rights in STEM around the world.

This case study was developed in the frame of the Enhancing Research Culture [project](#)  
"Towards a Warwick STEM R&D People and Culture Hub: Empowering people's voices"

