



**The Institute of
Mexicans abroad:
An effort to empower the
Diaspora**

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IME

1. Decentralized agency of the Foreign Ministry established in 2002
2. Operates through the Mexican Consular Network
3. Consultative Council- Assembly of 128 independent community leaders
4. Two agendas: service and information agenda

Ten basic lessons

1. Empowerment effort
 2. Immigrant integration: good for everyone
 3. Long term strategy
 4. Quiet work of institutionalizing
Mexico's relation with the diaspora.
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5. Democratic change, growing middle class & growing political influence
 6. The consultative council: a network building machine
 7. Public policy in another country: depends on strong local, pragmatic partners
 8. Key: Consular network

9. Conflictive relationship

10. Influence is a two-way street

