



# Francisco Obando

## DIRECTOR

### ABOUT

Francisco Obando is a Director of BLP in San José, Costa Rica, with over 18 years of experience in Public Law, Administrative Contracting & Economic Regulation, Energy & Infrastructure, and Telecommunications, Media, and Technology. He specializes in administrative procedures, litigation, arbitration, and municipal advisory. Francisco is recognized for his role in projects such as managing Juan Santamaría International Airport and the concession of Route 27. He has been a university professor and regularly contributes to academic journals and media outlets. He served as Legal Manager of Aeris Holding Costa Rica S.A., and Legal Director of Globalvia Ruta 27. In 2012 Francisco joined BLP as an Associate for a year and returned to the Firm in 2017 as a Senior Associate, later being appointed Director in 2022.

### EXPERIENCE

**Permanent legal advisor to Globalvia** on all matters related to the Concession Contract for Route 27 San José-Caldera, the country's flagship road infrastructure project. Legal advice specialized in Public Law includes attention to administrative claims and administrative procedures before the National Concessions Council, arbitrations, and contentious administrative processes.

**The first issuance of international and local bonds for infrastructure financing in Costa Rica.** The BLP team advised Autopistas del Sol, a subsidiary of Globalvia, on issuing senior secured notes in international markets for \$300 million and \$50.75 million within local markets, the first time an infrastructure company has issued international and local bonds simultaneously in Costa Rica.

✉ [fobando@blplegal.com](mailto:fobando@blplegal.com)

☎ +506 2205 3818

📞 +506 8342 9219

📍 Costa Rica

#### PRACTICE AREAS

- Public Law, Public Procurement & Regulation
- Telecommunications, Media and Technology
- Energy & Infrastructure

#### ACCREDITATIONS

##### Education

- Diploma in Economic Regulation and Competition, Universidad de Valladolid, Spain, 2016
- Diploma in Business Administration for Lawyers, INCAE Business School, Costa Rica, 2012
- Specialization in Regulation in Telecommunications, Universidad para la Cooperación Internacional, 2010
- Master in Public Law, Universidad de Costa Rica, 2009
- Law Degree with honors, Universidad de Costa Rica, Costa Rica, 2003

# Francisco Obando

## DIRECTOR

### EXPERIENCE

**Cementos Progreso is expanding its presence in Central America.** BLP has advised Cementos Progreso Holdings, S.L. on the \$335 million acquisition of assets from Cemex, S.A.B of C.V. in Costa Rica and El Salvador. The acquisition includes a cement plant, a cement mill, various ready-mix concrete plants, an aggregates quarry, and distribution centers in Costa Rica and El Salvador. The transaction bolsters Cementos Progreso's expansion in Central America, consolidating operations in seven countries.

**Infrastructure project financing and development** BLP is public law counsel to The Central American Bank for Economic Integration – CABEL- (BCIE in Spanish) in a contract with the Costa Rica Government for financing, procurement, construction, lease, and transfer of government buildings.

**BLP represents GRUMA DEMASA in a Sanction before the national competition authority;** this is a much-followed case in the country.

**Historical intervention in Costa Rica.** As part of the BLP team, Francisco acted as expert legal advisor to the audit board of the National Institute for the Promotion of Cooperatives (INFOCOOP), being one of the only two such interventions in CR's history.

### RECOGNITIONS

- Recognized as a Recommended Lawyer in Public and Administrative Law by WWL (Lexology)

### LANGUAGES

- Spanish
- English

### ASSOCIATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

- Costa Rica Bar Association
- Ibero-American Association for Regulation Studies
- Member of the Public Procurement Commission of the Costa Rican Bar Association for the period 2024 to 2026
- International Bar Association: Member