Edgar Ruiz is the Executive Director of the Council of State Governments – WEST (CSG-WEST), a position he has held since November 2011. His professional background expands over 20 years in the public and non-profit sectors that have provided him a strong organizational foundation and knowledge of local, regional, national and international policy issues and politics.

In his current role he oversees the strategic development, direction and implementation of the organization’s programs and services for legislators and legislatures of 13 Western states which provide a platform for regional cooperation, exchange of information and professional development opportunities. Moreover, he supervises the organization’s international programs and activities with Canada and Mexico, including the United States – Mexico State Alliance Partnership.

Before ascending to the role of Executive Director, Edgar held key positions within the organization, including deputy director and program manager of the Border Legislative Conference. Prior to joining CSG in 2001, Edgar served as Management Analyst in the Community Development Department of the City of Lake Forest, California, and as legislative staff in the California State Legislature.

He holds a Juris Doctor from Lincoln Law School of Sacramento, as well as a Master’s degree in Public Administration and Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from San Diego State University. He has written several publications on U.S. – Mexico relations and western water policy issues.