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The President of Colombia, Ivan Duque, has appointed Mauricio Villamizar and Bibiana Taboada, both prominent economists, to replace Gerardo Hernandez and Ana Fernanda Manguashca as new members of the Board of Directors of the *Banco de la República*. The Board of Directors welcomes them.

Bibiana Taboada is an economist from *Universidad de los Andes* and has a master's degree in Economics from the same university. She also has a master's degree in Public Administration in International Development from Harvard Kennedy School.

During her studies, she specialized in the design, implementation, and evaluation of social programs and has had experience in managing poverty reduction strategies, social safety nets, and targeting plans.

Taboada held the position of Deputy Director General for Overcoming Poverty at the Department for Social Prosperity. She has been a consultant to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Office of Strategic Planning and Development Effectiveness, and the World Bank in the Education Sector for Latin America and the Caribbean where she coordinated projects for the educational sector in Colombia.

She has also worked as a researcher for international entities such as the IDB and at universities such as *Universidad de los Andes* in the Center for Economic Development Studies.

Mauricio Villamizar, in turn, has worked as Chief Officer for Economic Studies since 2018 at *Banco de la República* where he began his career as an intern in 2004. He is an economist from *Universidad de los Andes* and has a master's degree and PhD in Economics from Georgetown University.

Villamizar was an economic analyst for one of the legislative work units at the Congress of the Republic. He also served as an economic specialist in the Economics Department of USAID Colombia. In this position, he contributed to the formulation and design of policies and reforms to expand microfinance and telecommunication services to low-income groups.

Since taking office as Chief Officer for Economic Studies, Mauricio Villamizar has been a member and co-founder of the *Red de Investigadores de Economía* (Economic Research Network), an initiative that, together with the Governor's Office of *Banco de la República* and in alliance with more than 20 universities around the country seeks to stimulate and foster economic research with an inclusive approach at the country and regional level.

He has been a professor at Georgetown University, *Universidad de los Andes*, *Universidad del Rosario*, and *Universidad Nacional de Colombia*. Furthermore, he has done more than 80 research projects in the field of economics including 20 articles published in indexed academic journals and 2 books.



Fuente: <https://www.banrep.gov.co/en/mauricio-villamizar-and-bibiana-taboada-appointed-new-members-board-directors-banco-republica>