



USAID
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CROATIA

BIOGRAPHY

Mission Director William Jeffers



“Over the past 12 years, the U.S. Government has invested \$405 million in Croatia, \$280 million to fund projects through USAID. Half of the funding was for reconstruction in war-affected regions; the other half was used to make the lives of Croatia’s citizens better in all other areas.”

Since September 2002, William Jeffers has served as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) mission director in Croatia. In this position, he directs a \$160 million project portfolio which is supporting economic and fiscal reform, expanding private-sector activity, improving political processes, strengthening civil society, and reintegrating war-affected populations. A major theme of U.S. assistance is helping Croatia prepare itself for joining the European Union.

USAID/Croatia has achieved notable success in the last two years including winning public support for the new national pension system, supporting the privatization of 800 companies, establishing a new Energy Regulatory Agency and engaging Croatia in the new regional energy market, rebuilding 144 war-affected communities, strengthening financial and asset management in 400 of Croatia’s 567 municipalities, and developing the legislative framework which created the new National Foundation for Non-Government Organizations.

A senior foreign service officer, Jeffers has served for more than 22 years at the USAID in four overseas posts and in Washington, DC. From 2000-2002, he was the office director for the Asia and Near East Bureau, Strategic Planning & Operations. In this position he was responsible for overseeing all ANE/Washington technical services, bureau-wide programs and budgeting, and the implementation of non-presence programs in the Middle East, South Asia, and East Asia.

Jeffers has served in various positions with USAID, including the office director with the Africa Bureau, Southern African Affairs, from 1996-1999; deputy director for the USAID mission in Ghana from 1994-1996; office director for the USAID mission in Sri Lanka from 1990-1994; office director in Washington, DC, for South Asia Projects from 1988-1989; and project director for the Eastern European Task Force from 1989-1990, and the Regional Economic Development and Services Office for Southern and Eastern Africa from 1983-1988.

A native of Kent, Ohio, Jeffers received his bachelor’s degree in economics from the California State University and a master’s degree in economics from Columbia University in New York. Jeffers, with his wife, Joanne, and daughter, Ann, are residents of Sarasota, Florida.