

## **Successful Intermediary Partnerships: Biographies**

**USAID relies heavily on intermediary partnerships to implement many of its programs. Join current USAID prime partners and subpartners to explore how to successfully apply for and execute intermediary partnerships.**

### **Ken Isaacs- Moderator**

Mr. Ken Isaacs currently serves as the Vice President of Programs and Government Relations for Samaritan's Purse. He has over 22 years experience working in the relief and development community, has served in dozens of countries, and has traveled to more than 120 countries. He served as the Director of the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) within the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in 2004 – 2005. Prior to his work at OFDA, Ken served as the International Director of Projects for Samaritan's Purse for 17 years. He has testified before House and the Senate committees, including the House International Relations Committee, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations. Ken and his wife, Carolyn, have two sons and one grandson.

### **Bruce Wilkinson- Panelist**

Mr. Wilkinson is currently serving in Zambia as Chief of Party for RAPIDS which stands for Reaching HIV/AIDS Affected People with Integrated Development and Support. It is a six-year \$41m United States Emergency Fund program aimed at scaling up activities and applying good practices in support to orphans and vulnerable children, palliative care for People Living with HIV/AIDS, youth livelihood and food security for vulnerable households. RAPIDS works in consortium with Catholic Relief Services, the Salvation Army, Expanded Church Response, CARE, Africare and with World Vision serving as the lead agency.

### **Sarah Ford- Panelist**

Sarah Ford is currently serving as the Senior Technical Advisor for Partnership and Capacity Strengthening at Catholic Relief Services. Sarah has over 25 years of experience in international development, with particular expertise in capacity strengthening, non-formal education, and working in partnership. Prior to joining CRS, Sarah was the Director for Public Policy and Community Engagement for Lutheran World Relief in Baltimore MD. Sarah also served as the Senior Director for Programs at the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (Boston MA) and as the Director for Capacity Building at CEDPA, in Washington DC. Sarah has also been an adjunct professor in non-formal education at the American University and in organizational management in Southern New Hampshire University's Community Economic Development program. Additionally, Sarah worked at the Peace Corps, as the Director of Training and the Country Director in the Central African Republic. Sarah has a BA in Geography (U-WI) and an MS in Organizational Development (AU-NTL). Sarah has a son who lives in Massachusetts and recently became a grandmother.

### **Robin Weekley - Panelist**

Robin Weekley works as a member of the advancement team at Living Water International, where she focuses on forming strategic partnerships and alliances to help promote the cause of clean water around the world. Robin has been a passionate advocate for social justice and development throughout her professional career. Since first coming upon Living Water International nearly 10 years ago, her heart has been taken for the global water crisis and the people who suffer daily from a lack of clean water. Living Water International, a Houston-based 501c-3, currently works in 26 countries. The LWI approach-- to train, equip, and consult nationals-- ensures that the energy and resources contributed by volunteers and donors result in sustainable, participatory water systems that meet long-term needs of communities. Since its inception in 1990, Living Water International has completed more than 6,500 water projects serving over 9.5 million every day.

### **Jean Duff – Panelist**

Jean Duff currently serves as Executive Director of the Center for Interfaith Action on Global Poverty, a new initiative that aims to increase the collective impact of the religious sector on global poverty and disease. From 2005 to 2008, Ms Duff served at the Washington National Cathedral's Center for Global Justice and Reconciliation as its Managing Director, and Deputy Director, Global Justice and Global Poverty programs. She directed the Center's Malaria and Gender Justice Programs. Ms Duff helped the leaders of 11 faith communities in Mozambique organize a national faith based campaign against malaria, and secured the necessary partners and funds to launch the Together against Malaria program in July 2007. In April 2008, Ms Duff was the lead manager for the Breakthrough Summit that launched the new Women Faith and Development Alliance and secured over \$1billion in commitments of new resources for women and girls. ([www.wfd-alliance.org](http://www.wfd-alliance.org)). For the past 17 years she has worked exclusively with organizations serving the poor and advocating for social justice.

### **Susan Adams - Panelist**

Ms. Susan Adams serves as Director of New Partner Outreach for the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) at the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC). In this capacity, she runs the \$200 million New Partners Initiative, serves as co-chair of the Community and Faith-based Organizations Technical Working Group, and is the liaison to organizations interested in partnering with PEPFAR. Ms. Adams previously served at OGAC as Senior Advisor for Public-Private Partnerships. Prior to joining OGAC, Ms. Adams served at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and twice in the U.S. Senate as Committee and Member staff.